

June 20, 2018

Jamie Fosburgh, NPS, Manager, Northeast Region Rivers Program
Lucy Wallace, Chair, NRWSR Study Committee
Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Committee
c/o Nashua River Watershed Association
592 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

RE: "Wild and Scenic" Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace:

I am writing on behalf of the Massachusetts Chapter of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in support of the purposes and goals of the "Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan" and to endorse its recommendation to seek designation as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Founded in 1951, TNC's mission is to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends. For more than 50 years, we've been working in Massachusetts to do just that. We have over 36,000 members in Massachusetts and over one million members around the world.

We are very pleased to learn that two New Hampshire towns and nine Massachusetts towns through which the proposed Wild and Scenic river section runs all voted affirmatively to accept the Stewardship Plan and its recommendation that the rivers be designated Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers at their Spring Annual Town Meetings.

Boston office staff have sat on the Taunton Wild and Scenic Stewardship Council since 2005 and view the effort to designate the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers with great enthusiasm. This is an important opportunity to highlight the valuable natural, cultural, and recreational resources along the rivers and to engage the communities in stewarding a future where river-related resources are protected and their quality of life and connection to the rivers is maintained and enhanced.

We support the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers designation as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers and are happy to provide additional comments, as needed. Thank you for your consideration of this great opportunity.

Sincerely,



Steve Long
Director of Government Relations