



**PO Box 734, Townsend, MA 01469**

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

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace:

The Townsend Conservation Land Trust (TCLT) is fortunate to have as its service area a town with a large percentage of open space and the Squannacook River flowing across its mid-section, parallel to our Main Street. It's doubtful our town would be here without either its protected lands or waters. Needless to say, we welcome and support the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit River Wild and Scenic designation. So do the townsfolk as evidence in the recent overwhelming show of support at our Spring 2018 Annual Town Meeting.

Townsend residents are deeply attached to the Squannacook River: it defines our town geographically and, perhaps more than that, it brings a certain and real sense of pride to have such a "wild and scenic" river in our midst. Recently, there has been a community effort to provide for enhanced recreational boating on the river through judicious pruning of the many blow-downs that block a paddler's way. With respect for the riverine and riparian ecological values the most minimal openings are cut to "open the way" while keeping large woody material in the river where it belongs.

In our estimation, a Partnership Wild and Scenic River designation is justly deserved and we will do what we can to participate in future activities that help make the recommendations in the Stewardship Plan come to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Veronica Kell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Veronica Kell  
President , TCLT Board of Directors

*Dedicated to the preservation of open space, which helps to protect the natural resources that, in part, define the character of Townsend.*

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[www.townsendconservationlandtrust.org](http://www.townsendconservationlandtrust.org)