

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chair
Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior,
Environment and Related Agencies
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington DC 20515

Dear Chair McCollum and Ranking Member Joyce:

As supporters of the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program, we write to respectfully request \$3.576 million for the National Park Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program within the Operations of the Park System account in the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2020.

The program currently protects 16 nationally-significant rivers and watersheds that flow through privately-owned or state-owned lands within the United States by preserving them in a natural, free-flowing condition. The program, which is quite unique in engaging private interests and all levels of government in studying, planning, and managing the rivers for the benefit of future generations, includes the Eightmile River (CT), Farmington River (CT), Great Egg Harbor River (NJ), Lamprey River (NH), Lower Delaware River (NJ/PA), Maurice River (NJ), Missisquoi and Trout Rivers (VT), Musconetcong River (NJ), Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers (MA), Taunton River (MA), Wekiva River (FL), Westfield River (MA), and White Clay Creek (DE/PA); and the newly-designated Lower Farmington River/Salmon Brook (CT), Nashua River (MA/NH), and Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers (RI/CT). Providing sufficient funding for the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program will ensure that the approved conservation plans of these rivers continue to be effectively and efficiently implemented.

The Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program has succeeded and thrived due to its collaborative, locally-driven planning and management approach which we believe is a highly effective and economical alternative to direct federal management and administration. This approach, in conjunction with adequate federal funding, has allowed for the leveraging of substantial additional state, local, and private funding. In addition, this approach has encouraged and resulted in the invaluable contribution of thousands of volunteer hours and donations of professional and other much-needed services.

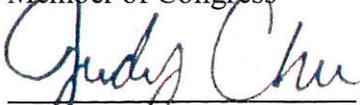
In order to continue to effectively manage these rivers and sustain these strong local-state-federal partnerships, we respectfully ask that \$3.576 million be included for the National Park

Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program in your FY 2020 bill. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

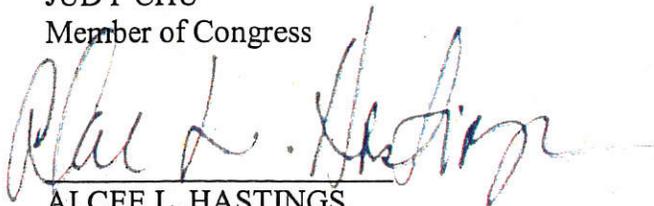
Sincerely,



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress



JUDY CHU
Member of Congress



ALCEE L. HASTINGS
Member of Congress



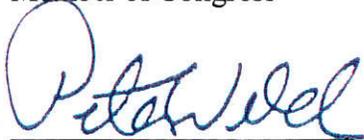
MARC VEASEY
Member of Congress



RICHARD E. NEAL
Member of Congress



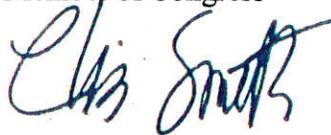
ALBIO SIREs
Member of Congress



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress



DONALD NORCROSS
Member of Congress



CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH
Member of Congress



WILLIAM R. KEATING
Member of Congress



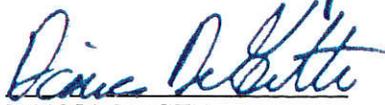
SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
Member of Congress



NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ
Member of Congress



GERALD E. CONNOLLY
Member of Congress



DIANA DEGETTE
Member of Congress


STEPHEN F. LYNCH
Member of Congress


STEVE COHEN
Member of Congress


JAMES R. LANGEVIN
Member of Congress


LORI TRAHAN
Member of Congress


LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER
Member of Congress


RAUL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress


DARREN SOTO
Member of Congress


JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress

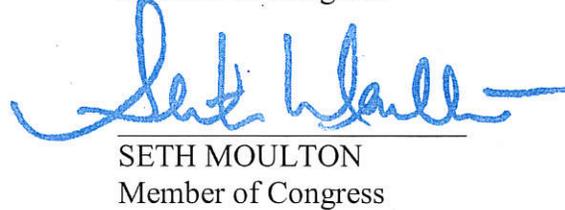

TULSI GABBARD
Member of Congress

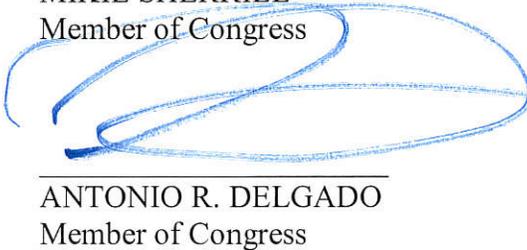

JAHANA HAYES
Member of Congress


CHRISSEY HOULAHAN
Member of Congress


JENNIFER WEXTON
Member of Congress


MIKIE SHERRILL
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SETH MOULTON
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ANTONIO R. DELGADO
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JAMES P. MCGOVERN
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A. DONALD MCEACHIN
Member of Congress



ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ
Member of Congress



MADELEINE DEAN
Member of Congress



ALAN LOWENTHAL
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JEFF VAN DREW
Member of Congress



ANN MCLANE KUSTER
Member of Congress



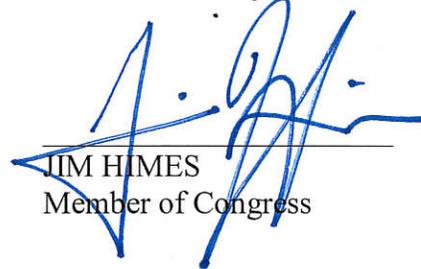
JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III
Member of Congress



JOSH GOTTHEIMER
Member of Congress



RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY
Member of Congress



JIM HIMES
Member of Congress