

June 28, 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:

As an avid hunter, angler, and paddler, I welcome the designation of the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers. The recreational opportunities in the eleven riverfront towns are unparalleled in our part of the New England, so close to the cities of Boston, Worcester, and Nashua.

I served as the Massachusetts Secretary of Environmental Affairs from 1999-2002 during a time when the Squannassit and Petapawag Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs) were nominated and designated, so I am also very well aware of the extraordinary biological diversity and cultural richness of these towns. I also represented many of these communities in the Ma. State Senate. Combined with the Central Nashua River Valley ACEC, the three contiguous ACECs total approximately 76,000 acres – about 28% of the ACECs throughout the Commonwealth. Each of nine Massachusetts riverfront towns that are participating in the effort to seek designation are wholly, or in large part in the ACECs. The “Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan” outlines many worthy, voluntary steps that can be taken to preserve and enhance the outstanding recreation, biological diversity, scenery, and cultural and historical resources. I would add as an avid angler and sportsmen the many fishing and hunting opportunities that exist along these watersheds is unprecedented in this part of Ma.

Thank you,



Bob Durand

President, Durand & Anastas Environmental Strategies
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