

## TOWN OF GROTON

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## **Groton Trails Committee**

July 18, 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 goal of the Groton Trails Committee is to provide a user-friendly trail system that encourages residents to enjoy the open spaces and conservation land in Groton. Our trail network is the second largest in the Commonwealth (total of 130 miles), and Groton is also home to one of the most biodiverse and dense habitats of any non-coastal town. Thus our trail network provides unique opportunities for both recreation and education.

The Plan delves into the maintenance and enhancement of trails in all eleven participating towns. While our focus is primarily local, regional trail networks require local support and we strongly support any such efforts.

At our July 17 meeting, the Groton Trails Committee voted unanimously to support the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit River Stewardship Plan and its recommendation to seek Partnership Wild and Scenic River designation. We look forward to any opportunities for us to interface with the entity that implements the Stewardship Plan.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Funch

Chair