

Lancaster Land Trust

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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 Lancaster Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1997. Its purposes are to assist in and promote the preservation of the rural character of the Town of Lancaster in order to permanently preserve and maintain areas for conservation of public water resources, animal and plant life, areas of historical significance or natural beauty, areas for outdoor education and areas for public recreation and enjoyment. Part of fulfilling this mission is introducing our neighbors to the wonderful ecological, historical, and cultural resources abundant in Lancaster and the Nashua Valley and educating them about the value of these resources.

We wholeheartedly support the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Wild and Scenic River designation in no small part because it too does much to acquaint us with the "outstandingly remarkable resource values" that make the area eligible for this designation.

Our town's motto is "Lancaster on the Nashua"; it has been such since 1653. Our connection to the river is nothing less than long-standing; it is our proverbial "life-blood". We are one of a very few communities in the entire Commonwealth to create a marked, signed "blue trail": on the North Nashua River just upstream of the "Meeting of the Waters" (the confluence of the North and South Nashua River branches which forms the start of the mainstem Nashua). We are proud to be where the Nashua's headwaters originate and we are as proud of the possibility that these will, we hope, someday soon be justly designated as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Robert K. Lidstone

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President, Lancaster Land Trust