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MATTHEW A. BEATON SECRETARY

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June 4, 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

RE: Wild and Scenic River Designation

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace:

As Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs I strongly support the purposes and goals of the "Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan" and endorse its recommendation to seek designation as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers. These rivers are both eligible and suitable for designation.

Eleven communities voted to support designation at their recent town meetings, including two towns in neighboring New Hampshire. With Congressional approval of the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers designation, these communities will continue to work together to implement their voluntary Stewardship Plan.

It is my hope that in this year celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Program that these rivers will be awarded designation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Matthew A. Beaton

Secretary