

## Protecting our water, our land, our communities

## **Executive Committee**

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July 13, 2018

Vice President Melissa Maranda Fitchburg, MA Jamie Fosburgh Manager, Northeast Region Rivers Program **National Park Service** 15 State Street

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Boston, MA 02109

Secretary Robert Pine Groton, MA

Dear Mr. Fosburgh,

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**Founding Director Emeritus** Marion Stoddart

**Executive Director** Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell

I am writing to affirm the Nashua River Watershed Association's continuing commitment to offer leadership, expertise, and support to the current Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Committee and to the Stewardship Council that will be formed when the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers are designated as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers.

From the beginning of this project in 2009 when the Association first discussed the possibility of designation with the towns, to the painstaking research accomplished during the Study, and throughout the development of the Stewardship Plan with extensive public input, we have recognized the importance of this opportunity and embraced it with whole-hearted enthusiasm. The Association's Directors have followed the effort closely, and formally endorsed the Stewardship Plan at their March 12, 2018 Board of Directors meeting.

Founded in 1969, the Association has always been apolitical and has always fostered strong partnerships at the local, state, and federal levels. Our work to protect natural resources has always gone hand in hand with work to further economic development. Looking ahead, the designation of the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers will surely enable a new era for these riverfront towns and their many, many partners - an era of deepened cooperation and heightened local accomplishment.

Thank you for all you do for our rivers and the rivers throughout the northeast region.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Ainsley Campbell

**Executive Director**