

United States Department of the Interior

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

New England Water Science Center 331 Commerce Way, Suite 2 Pembroke, NH 03275

June 12, 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: National Park Service Wild and Scenic River Designation for the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers

Dear Mr. Fosburgh and Ms. Wallace:

As the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) New England Water Science Center, I am writing to indicate USGS support for the goals defined in the "Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Stewardship Plan", including support for the recommendation of the Stewardship Plan to seek designation as Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers.

The Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers represent important water resources for the northeastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire region because of its headwaters status, and many unique ecological, cultural and recreational resources. USGS remains willing to assist as possible in future work that would further characterize and enhance our understanding of these valuable water resources. USGS will continue to participate in the Nashua River Wild and Scenic River Study Committee, as Jeff Barbaro has done for the past few years.

We look forward to continue our participation after designation is achieved and implementation of the Plan begins. Much success in moving the designation forward.

Yours truly,

Keith Robinson

Director, New England Water Science Center