

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2018

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
B-308 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As supporters of the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program, we write to respectfully request \$3.051 million for the National Park Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program within the Operations of the Park System account in the Interior Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2019.

The program currently protects nationally-significant rivers that flow through privately-owned or state-owned lands within the United States by preserving them in a natural, free-flowing condition. The program, which is quite unique in engaging private interests and all levels of government in studying, planning, and managing the rivers for the benefit of future generations, includes the Eightmile River (CT), Farmington River (CT), Great Egg Harbor River (NJ), Lamprey River (NH), Lower Delaware River (NJ/PA), Maurice River (NJ), Missisquoi and Trout Rivers (VT), Musconetcong River (NJ), Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers (MA), Taunton River (MA), Wekiva River (FL), Westfield River (MA), and White Clay Creek (DE/PA). Providing sufficient funding for the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program will ensure that the approved conservation plans of these rivers continue to be effectively and efficiently implemented.

The Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program has succeeded and thrived due to its collaborative, locally-driven planning and management approach which we believe is a highly effective and economical alternative to direct federal management and administration. This approach, in conjunction with adequate federal funding, has allowed for the leveraging of substantial additional state, local, and private funding. In addition, this approach has encouraged and resulted in the invaluable contribution of thousands of volunteer hours and donations of professional and other much-needed services.

In order to continue to effectively manage these rivers and sustain these strong local-state-federal partnerships, we respectfully ask that \$3.051 million be included for the National Park Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program in your FY 2019 bill. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Niki Tsongas

Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Elizabeth H. Esty

Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hastings

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Keith Ellison

Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

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Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connelly

Gerald E. Connelly
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer

Josh Gottheimer
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Peter Welch

Peter Welch
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Joe Courtney

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

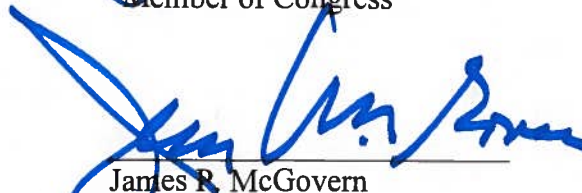
Albio Sires

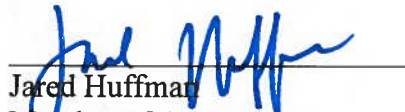
Albio Sires
Member of Congress


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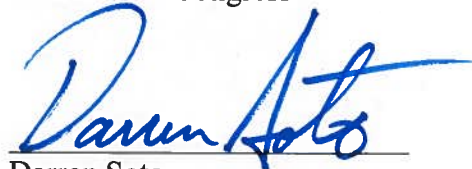

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Member of Congress

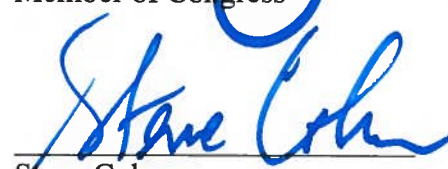

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Member of Congress

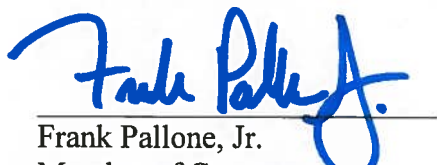

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

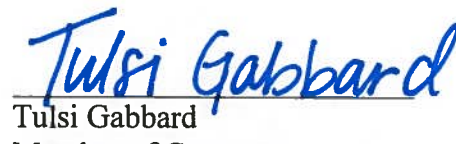

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Member of Congress


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Tulsi Gabbard
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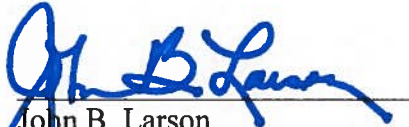
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Member of Congress



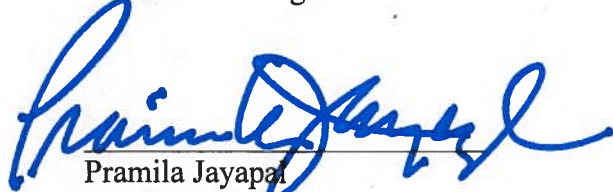
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



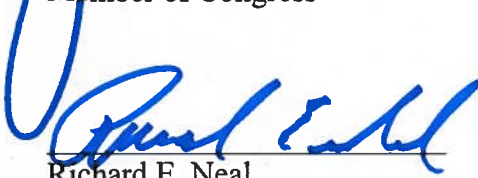
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Member of Congress



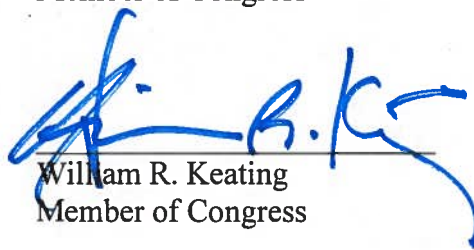
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



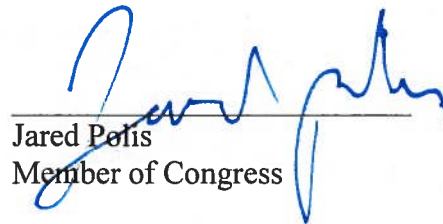
Richard E. Neal
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