The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

BUDGET REQUEST - FY2022, Full Funding at \$3.925 million

Proven, cost-effective protection for 1,011 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers and thousands of acres of riparian lands.

https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1912/partnership-wild-and-scenic-rivers.htm





Wekiva River, Florida

Farmington River, Connecticut

Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers ~ A unique category of designated Wild & Scenic Rivers managed through long-term partnerships between the National Park Service and local, regional and state stakeholders. This collaborative, locally-driven planning and management approach to river conservation is an <u>effective alternative</u> to direct federal management and administration.

Leveraging Federal Dollars ~ Congress-designated river protection anchored by federal funds <u>leverages</u> <u>substantial additional state</u>, <u>local</u>, <u>and private funding</u>. Federal funds also unlock thousands of volunteer hours to help implement the river conservation plans every year.

Protection Through Public Partnerships ~ Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers and the land surrounding them benefit from hundreds of committed people contributing thousands of volunteer hours and donating professional and other in-kind services to protect, manage and enhance our national Outstanding Resource Values: scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, and cultural.

A 29-Year Success Story ~ Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers have a 29-year track record of successful partnerships, with 16 designated rivers in 9 states covering 1,011 river miles. Given the programmatic and growing success of PWSRs, in FY2021 Congress provided a significant funding increase and NPS continued funding parity in the federal investment in each of these rivers at \$240k per river. This very small per river amount to effectively manage and protect 16 Congressionally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers demonstrates the high value of the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers Program.

Congressional Action Is Needed

Continued funding at the FY21 level for FY22 for this nationally-recognized public-private partnership program will sustain the federal government's ability to protect river resources and leverage millions of dollars in local, non-government investment.

(For the FY2021 funding distributions per river see page 5 & 6 for details)







Westfield River, Massachusetts

What Makes the Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Unique?

Cooperation and Partnership ~ Through the cooperative efforts of the National Park Service, state and local government, and citizen groups, an effective strategy is developed for each designated river that supports both resource protection and river use. Federal funding through the NPS's Park Support Budget ensures that river-specific conservation management plans are carried out with care and foresight.

Leveraging Federal Funding Locally \sim Federal support helps in leveraging additional funding from state, local, and private sources. For example, on the Great Egg Harbor River in FY2013, a federal investment of \$174,000 leveraged \$9,700,000 of local and state funding to preserve 5,079 acres of watershed lands by direct state purchase of land and development rights for open space preservation.



Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River, Massachusetts



Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers, Rhode Island/Connecticut







Eightmile River, Connecticut

What Is Federal Funding Needed For?

Wild and Scenic Management Plan Implementation ~ The requested funding of \$3.925 million is the total federal funding needed to fully support the management plan recommendations for the 16 designated Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers. With this funding, the National Park Service and its partners from each designated river will ensure that the national Outstanding Resource Values for which the rivers were designated will remain undiminished.

Local Initiatives ~ Each river organization has a conservation management plan with goals, objectives, recommended activities, and budgets and work plans.

Interpretation/Education ~ Local citizens, landowners and visitors are informed about the unique values of each river, helping to ensure river protection.

Protection through Public-Private Partnerships ~ Appropriated funds are provided to local partnering agencies and environmental organizations through Cooperative Agreements.

National Park Service Staff ~ Park Service personnel are our partners. They provide coordination, expertise, and on-going technical assistance.



Lamprey River, New Hampshire



White Clay Creek, Delaware/Pennsylvania



Great Egg Harbor River, New Jersey



Taunton River, Massachusetts



Maurice River, New Jersey



Missisquoi and Trout Rivers, Vermont



Farmington River-Salmon Brook, Connecticut



Nashua-Squannacook-Nissitissit Rivers Massachusetts/New Hampshire

Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program full funding, by river

Eightmile River, CT (26 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000**

Outstanding Resources: Watershed hydrology, water quality, unique species and natural communities, geology, watershed ecosystem, and cultural landscapes.

Farmington River, CT (15.1 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Rich history, recreation, fish and wildlife.

Great Egg Harbor, NJ (129 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Threatened and endangered species, resting, breeding and feeding areas for water fowl, rich history, recreation, and scenic vistas. (Listed separately as a "Unit" but managed as a PWSR)

<u>Lamprey River, NH</u> (24 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Anadromous fish, including river herring, historical sites, and diverse habitats.

Lower Delaware River, PA & NJ (78 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Water quality, natural resources, historic resources, recreation, and open space.

<u>Lower Farmington River/Salmon Brook, CT</u> ($60.4 \ Miles \ Designated$) \sim **Funding Requested FY2022:** \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Geological diversity, water quality, biological diversity, historical, archaeological, and recreational.

Maurice River, NJ (36 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Part of the Atlantic Flyway, pristine habitats that support endangered species and are vital for the migration of birds, waterfowl, rails, and fish.

Missisquoi & Trout, VT (46.1 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Scenic and Recreational Resources including swimming holes and paddling; Natural Resources including waterfalls, cascades and gorges; Historic and Cultural Resources including covered bridges.

Musconetcong River, NJ (29 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Wildlife and critical habitats, historic and prehistoric, scenic and recreational.

Nashua-Squannacook-Nissitissit Rivers, MA & NH (52.8 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested

FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Biological diversity, historical, cultural, scenic, and recreational.

Sudbury-Assabet-Concord Rivers, MA (29 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: History, scenery, recreation, ecology and value to American literature. Birthplace of the American Revolution.

Taunton River, MA (40 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Agriculture, ecology and biological diversity, estuary, fisheries, history and archaeology, and recreation.

Westfield River, MA (78 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Native trout fishery, geology including falls and gorges, spectacular mountain scenery, unique dry stone arch railway bridges.

Wekiva River, FL (42 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000

Outstanding Resources: Scenery, recreation, geology, and diverse habitats support threatened and endangered species including one of the few remaining Florida Black Bear populations.

White Clay Creek, DE & PA (199 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000 Outstanding Resources: Scenic, recreational, historical, geological, and biological resources including the federally listed endangered Bog Turtle and Delaware's most extensive remaining Piedmont Forest.

<u>Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers, RI & CT</u> (110 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2022: \$241,000 **Outstanding Resources:** Geological, hydrological, exceptional ecosystems, cultural and recreational.

Budget Request Individual Rivers--Fiscal Year 2022

FY 2022 Budget Line Item: Department of Interior/National Park Service/ Operation of the National Park System/ Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers

Partnership Wild and Scenic River:	FY2021 Funding Enacted	FY2022 Expected Presidents Request	FY2022 PWSRs Request
Farmington River, Connecticut	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Great Egg Harbor River, New Jersey *	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Lamprey River, New Hampshire	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Lower Delaware River, Pennsylvania & New Jersey	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Lower Farmington River/Salmon Brook, Connecticut	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Maurice River, New Jersey	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Missisquoi & Trout Rivers, Vermont	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Musconetcong River, New Jersey	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Nashua-Squannacook-Nissitissit Rivers, MA/NH	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Sudbury, Assabet & Concord Rivers, Massachusetts	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Taunton River, Massachusetts	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Wekiva River, Florida	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Westfield River, Massachusetts	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
White Clay Creek, Pennsylvania & Delaware	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
Wood-Pawcatuck Rivers, Rhode Island & Connecticut	\$241,000	\$241,000	\$241,000
NPS Coordination of National Partnership Program	\$69,000	\$69,000	\$69,000
Totals	\$3,925,000	\$3,925,000	\$3,925,000

<u>Full</u> support for Wild & Scenic River protection on all rivers: \$3.925 million needed