

GEHR Watershed Minute #2

Wild & Scenic Designation: (175 words)

Established by Congress as part of the National Wild & Scenic River System in 1992, the Great Egg Harbor National Scenic and Recreational River includes three free-flowing segments totaling 39.5 miles of the main stem of the river, plus 89.5 miles in 17 tributaries. The 129-miles of designated river corridors meander through 12 municipalities and four counties in southern New Jersey on their way to the Great Egg Harbor Bay.

This Unit of the National Park System is unusual in that local units of government continue to administer the lands. The National Park Service and the Great Egg Harbor River Council manage this federally designated river in partnership with the state, four counties, 12 municipalities, and the Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association to protect the corridor's valuable natural and cultural resources for present and future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

The Great Egg Harbor River is home to several threatened and endangered species, provides resting, breeding and feeding areas for waterfowl and fishes, has a rich culture and history, and has an abundance of scenic vistas and recreational opportunities.