

# The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

## BUDGET REQUEST - FISCAL YEAR 2017

**Proven, cost-effective protection for 770 miles of rivers and thousands of acres of riparian land**



Westfield River,  
MA (L) and  
Farmington  
River, CT (R)



**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 effective alternative to direct federal management and administration.

**Leveraging Federal Dollars** ~ Congress-designated river protection anchored by federal funds leverages substantial additional state, local, and private funding. 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 24-Year Success Story** ~ Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers have a 24-year track record of successful partnerships, with 13 designated rivers in 8 states covering 770 river miles. In 2007, the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government named PWSRs one of the top 50 government innovations linking citizens with important public services. It was one of only six federal programs selected for the award.

## **Congressional Action Is Needed!**

To support

**Full funding for Partnership Wild & Scenic River protection: \$3.026 million**

Full federal funding for each river's W&S Management Plan is the key to unlocking the far greater contributions of all of our local partners.

**The President's budget appropriation: \$2.280 million**

FY 2016 Budget Line Item: Department of Interior/National Park Service/ Operation of the National Park System/Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers

# The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

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Great Egg  
Harbor River,  
NJ (L) and  
Maurice River,  
NJ (R)



## 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** ~ 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 purchase of land and development rights for open space preservation.



Musconetcong  
River, NJ (L)  
and Eightmile  
River, CT (R)



# The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

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Lower Delaware River, PA & NJ (L) and SuAsCo River, MA (R)



## What Is Federal Funding Needed For?

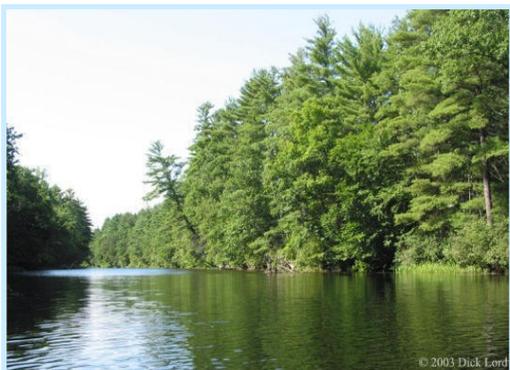
**Wild and Scenic Management Plan Implementation** ~ The requested funding of \$3.026 million is the total federal funding needed to fully support the management plan recommendations for the 13 designated Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers. With this funding, the National Park Service and its partners 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 budget.

**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** - Matching funds from National Park Service are provided to partnering agencies and local environmental organizations.

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



Lamprey River, NH (L) and White Clay Creek, DE & PA (R)



# The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

**Eightmile River, CT (26 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY 2017: \$206,000**

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

**Farmington River, CT (14 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY 2017: \$200,000**

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

**Great Egg Harbor, NJ (129 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY 2017: \$255,000**

**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)

**Lamprey River, NH (24 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY 2017: \$226,000**

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

**Lower Delaware River, PA & NJ (78 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY 2017: \$350,000**

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

**Maurice River, NJ (36 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY 2017: \$210,000**

**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 (new) (46.1 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2017: \$175,000**

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

**Musconetcong River, NJ (29 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2017: \$400,000**

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

**Sudbury, Assabet, & Concord Rivers, MA (29 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2017: \$200,000**

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

**Taunton River, MA (40 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2017: \$200,000**

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

**Westfield River, MA (78 Miles Designated) ~ Funding Requested FY2017: \$200,000**

**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 FY2017: \$150,000**

**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 FY2017: \$200,000**

**Outstanding Resources:** Scenic, recreational, historical, geological, and biological resources including the federally listed endangered Bog Turtle and Delaware’s most extensive remaining Piedmont Forest.



Taunton River,  
MA (L) and  
Missisquoi/  
Trout River, VT  
(R)



# The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

## Budget Request Individual Rivers--Fiscal Year 2017

| Partnership Wild & Scenic River                  | FY2016 Funding Enacted | FY2017 President's Request | FY2017 Full Funding Requested |
|--|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Eightmile River, Connecticut                     | \$67,000               | \$170,000                  | \$206,000                     |
| Farmington River, Connecticut                    | \$172,000              | \$172,000                  | \$200,000                     |
| Great Egg Harbor River, New Jersey **            | \$172,000              | \$172,000                  | \$255,000                     |
| Lamprey River, New Hampshire                     | \$171,000              | \$171,000                  | \$226,000                     |
| Lower Delaware River, Pennsylvania & New Jersey  | \$172,000              | \$172,000                  | \$350,000                     |
| Maurice River, New Jersey                        | \$173,000              | \$173,000                  | \$210,000                     |
| Missisquoi & Trout, Vermont (new)                | \$125,000              | \$170,000                  | \$175,000                     |
| Musconetcong River, New Jersey                   | \$111,000              | \$170,000                  | \$400,000                     |
| Sudbury, Assabet & Concord Rivers, Massachusetts | \$173,000              | \$173,000                  | \$200,000                     |
| Taunton River, Massachusetts                     | \$30,000               | \$170,000                  | \$200,000                     |
| Wekiva River, Florida                            | \$114,000              | \$170,000                  | \$150,000                     |
| Westfield River, Massachusetts                   | \$134,000              | \$170,000                  | \$200,000                     |
| White Clay Creek, Pennsylvania & Delaware        | \$173,000              | \$173,000                  | \$200,000                     |
| NPS Coordination of National Partnership Program | \$54,000               | \$54,000                   | \$54,000                      |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>\$1,841,000</b>     | <b>\$2,280,000</b>         | <b>\$3,026,000</b>            |

\*\* The Great Egg Harbor River is listed separately as a "Unit" but is still managed as a PWSR

**Full support for Wild & Scenic River protection on ALL rivers:**

**\$3.026 million needed**

**Minimum support for equitable Wild & Scenic River protection:**

**\$2.280 million needed**

This will allow all Rivers to have comparable funding, relative to their River Management Plans that were approved by Congress.

**Current appropriation in President's budget:**

**\$2.280 million**

3/1/2016