



Partnership Rivers News is published by the Partnership Rivers in the Wild & Scenic Rivers Program.

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The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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What is a Partnership Wild and Scenic River?

Over the past 20 years, river conservation interests at the local, state, and federal levels have worked collaboratively to use the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in an effective, partnership-based approach to national river conservation and designation. Once dubbed "Private Lands Rivers," this growing collaborative of rivers has been recognized by the US Congress as a distinct and locally responsive application of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers, as they are now referred to, are federally designated components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System that share the following:

- No lands are federally owned, and federal ownership and management are not authorized in legislation or recommended in the River Management Plan (see below).
- Administration of the designation and implementation of the Management Plan are accomplished through a broadly participatory "Council" or "Committee" organized on each river specifically for this purpose.
- Land use continues to be governed by local communities and state statutes, as prior to designation.
- On designated rivers the National Park Service is responsible for reviewing federally funded, sponsored or licensed projects to ensure federal consistency in pre-

serving the identified "Outstandingly Remarkable Values" for which the river was designated. This responsibility is coordinated with each river's council or committee. NPS is also authorized to provide technical and financial assistance to the river organizations.

- The River Management Plan is locally developed and implemented through a broadly participatory process. The plan is locally approved and endorsed by relevant state and federal authorities prior to federal designation. The plan forms the basis of the designation and guides post-designation management.

- The costs and responsibilities associated with managing and protecting river resources are shared among all of the partners—local, state, federal, and non-governmental. Landowner participation and volunteerism are essential elements of the partnership.

Outside of this basic, shared framework, Partnership Rivers vary widely in the details of their administration and management, which are based on their wide-ranging physical, biological, and political characteristics.

As new rivers are designated, the model will evolve and adapt. We hope and believe that the basic tenets outlined above can continue to serve as a guide for existing and future Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers.

—A Message From the Partnership Rivers



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Great Egg Harbor River	The Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association www.greategg.org
Lamprey River	Lamprey River Advisory Committee www.lampreyriver.org
Lower Delaware River	Delaware River Greenway Partnership www.state.nj.us/drbc/wild_scenic.htm
Maurice River	Citizens United www.cumauricriver.org/pages/maurice.html
Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers	River Stewardship Council www.sudbury-Assabet-Concord.org
Wekiva River	FL-DEP, Wekiwa Springs State Park www.floridastateparks.org/wekiwasprings
White Clay Creek	White Clay Creek Watershed Association http://mercury.ccll.org/~wcwa/

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Helping communities preserve and manage their own rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System