

# The Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program

## *Wild & Scenic Rivers Program - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1968 to 2018*

### BUDGET REQUEST - FY 2019

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



**Maurice River, New Jersey**



**Missisquoi and Trout Rivers, Vermont**

**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 25-Year Success Story** ~ Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers have a 25-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 Kennedy School 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**

**The President's budget would cut back a nationally-recognized public-private partnership program, reducing the federal government's ability to leverage millions of dollars in local, non-government investment.**

**Full federal funding for each river's Management Plan is the key to unlocking the far greater contributions of all of our local partners: \$3.051 million**

**FY19 President's Request: \$2.024 million**



Lower Delaware River, Pennsylvania/New Jersey



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** ~ 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.



Wekiva River, Florida



Farmington River, Connecticut



**Musconetcong River, New Jersey**



**Eightmile River, Connecticut**

## **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.

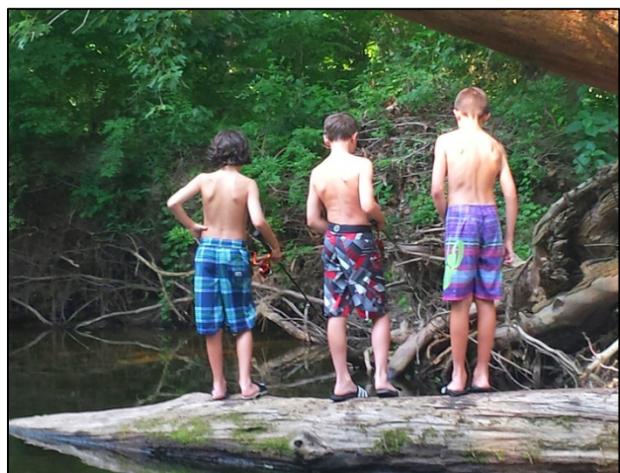
**Interpretation/Education** ~ Local citizens, landowners and visitors are informed about the unique values of each river, helping to ensure river protection.

**Protection through Public-Private Partnerships** ~ Matching funds from the 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, New Hampshire**



**White Clay Creek, Delaware/Pennsylvania**

## Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program funding, by river

**Eightmile River, CT** (26 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY 2019: \$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 2019: \$200,000**

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

**Great Egg Harbor, NJ** (129 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY 2019: \$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 2019: \$226,000**

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

**Lower Delaware River, PA & NJ** (78 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY 2019: \$350,000**

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

**Maurice River, NJ** (36 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY 2019: \$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 FY2019: \$175,000**

**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 FY2019: \$400,000**

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

**Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River, MA** (29 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY2019: \$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 FY2019: \$200,000**

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

**Westfield River, MA** (78 Miles Designated) ~ **Funding Requested FY2019: \$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 FY2019: \$175,000**

**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 FY2019: \$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.

## Budget Request Individual Rivers--Fiscal Year 2019

FY 2019 Budget Line Item: Department of Interior/National Park Service/ Operation of the National Park System/Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers

Partnership Wild & Scenic River	FY2017 Funding Enacted (\$)	FY2019 President's Request (\$)	FY2019 Full Funding Requested (\$)
Eightmile River, Connecticut	170,000	151,000	206,000
Farmington River, Connecticut	172,000	153,000	200,000
Great Egg Harbor River, New Jersey *	172,000	153,000	255,000
Lamprey River, New Hampshire	171,000	152,000	226,000
Lower Delaware River, Pennsylvania & New Jersey	172,000	153,000	350,000
Maurice River, New Jersey	173,000	154,000	210,000
Missisquoi & Trout Rivers, Vermont	170,000	151,000	175,000
Musconetcong River, New Jersey	170,000	151,000	400,000
Sudbury, Assabet & Concord Rivers, Massachusetts	173,000	154,000	200,000
Taunton River, Massachusetts	170,000	151,000	200,000
Wekiva River, Florida	170,000	151,000	175,000
Westfield River, Massachusetts	170,000	151,000	200,000
White Clay Creek, Pennsylvania & Delaware	173,000	151,000	200,000
NPS Coordination of National Partnership Program	54,000	48,000	54,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,280,000</b>	<b>2,040,000</b>	<b>3,051,000</b>

\* 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:**

**\$3.051 million needed**

**Current appropriation request in President's FY2019 budget:**

**\$2.040 million, a \$1.01 million shortfall**



**Great Egg Harbor River, New Jersey**



**Taunton River, Massachusetts**



**Sudbury-Assabet-Concord River, Massachusetts**



**2018 Wild & Scenic Film Festival Selection, CA**