

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 19, 2013

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
B-308 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Moran
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment,
and Related Agencies
2252 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Moran:

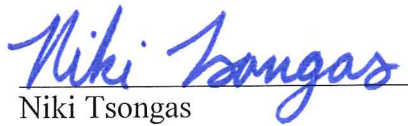
As Members from states which are home to the Eastern Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers and supporters of the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program, we write to respectfully request \$2.822 million for the National Park Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program within the Operations of the Park System account in the Interior Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2014.

The program currently protects nationally-significant rivers that flow through privately-owned or state-owned lands within the United States by preserving them in a natural, free-flowing condition. The program, which engages private interests and all levels of government in studying, planning, and managing the rivers for the benefit of future generations, includes the Eightmile River (CT), Farmington River (CT), Great Egg Harbor River (NJ), Lamprey River (NH), Lower Delaware River (NJ/PA), Maurice River (NJ), Musconetcong River (NJ), Sudbury, Assabet and Concord Rivers (MA), Taunton River (MA), Wekiva River (FL), Westfield River (MA), and White Clay Creek (DE/PA). Adequate funding for the national Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers Program will ensure the effective implementation of the approved conservation plans of these designated eastern rivers and planned additions like the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in Vermont and the Lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook in Connecticut.

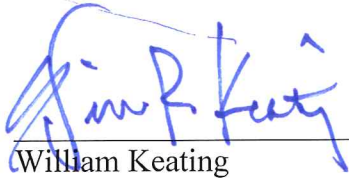
The Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program has succeeded and thrived due to its collaborative, locally-driven planning and management approach which we believe is a highly effective and economical alternative to direct federal management and administration. This approach, in conjunction with adequate federal funding, has allowed for the leveraging of substantial additional state, local, and private funding. In addition, this approach has encouraged and resulted in the invaluable contribution of thousands of volunteer hours and donations of professional and other much-needed services.

In order to continue to suitably manage these rivers and adequately sustain these strong local-state-federal partnerships, we respectfully ask that \$2.822 million be included for the National Park Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program in your FY2014 bill. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



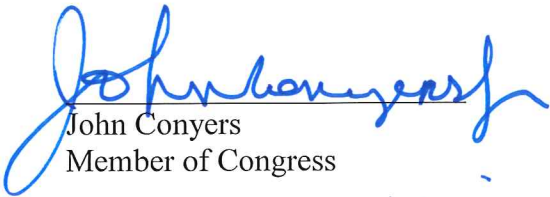
Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



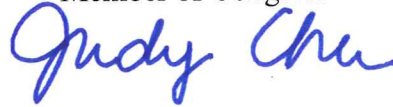
William Keating
Member of Congress



Edward Markey
Member of Congress



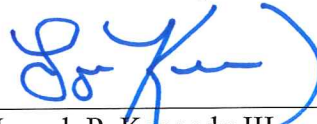
John Conyers
Member of Congress



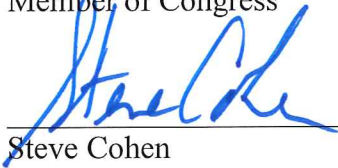
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



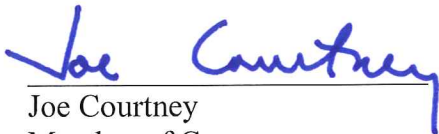
Joseph P. Kennedy III
Member of Congress



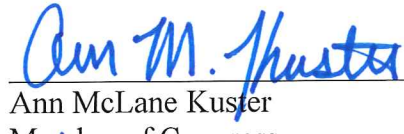
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



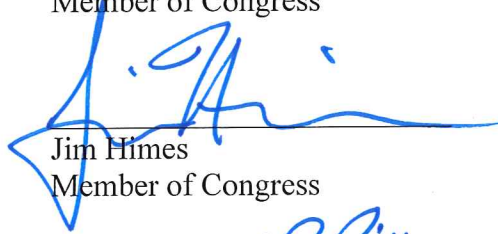
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Rush Holt
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Jim Langevin
Member of Congress



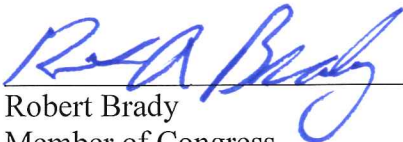
Joe Pitts
Member of Congress



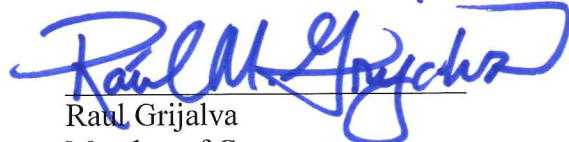
Robert Andrews
Member of Congress



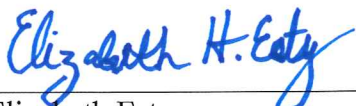
Gerald Connolly
Member of Congress



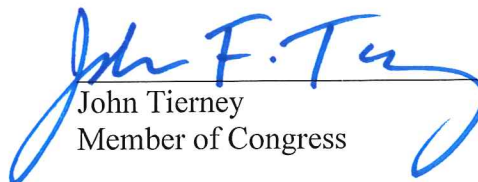
Robert Brady
Member of Congress



Raul Grijalva
Member of Congress



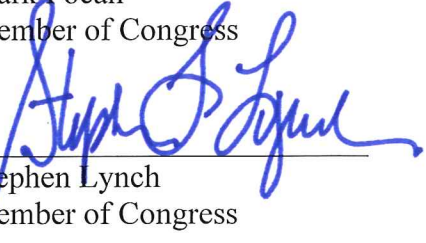
Elizabeth Esty
Member of Congress



John Tierney
Member of Congress



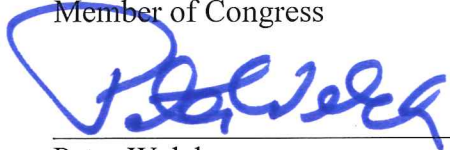
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Stephen Lynch
Member of Congress



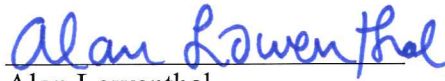
Matthew Cartwright
Member of Congress



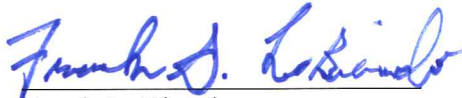
Peter Welch
Member of Congress



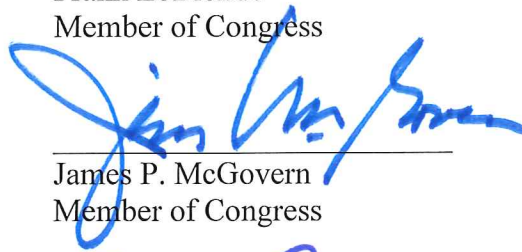
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Frank LoBiondo
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress