The following are records of support and endorsement for Wild and Scenic Designation.

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic Study - Berkshire, VT

TOWN OF BERKSHIRE, VERMONT

CHARTERED IN 1781 4454 WATERTOWER ROAD ENOSBURG FALLS, VT. 05450 PHONE (802) 933-2335 FAX (802) 933-5913

October 16, 2006

Missisquoi River Basin Association 2839 Vt. Route 105 East Berkshire, VT. 05447

Dear MRBA,

The Berkshire Town Selectboard are hereby giving their support to the Mississquoi River Basin Association in applying for the Missisquoi River's individualism as a "Wild and Scenic River". The river is a great natural resource and this would be a fitting label

The project requires a study as the first step to acquiring the label "Wild and Scenic which would also be very beneficial to the community.

If there is anything else that the Town Of Berkshire can do, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Rober a Rombert

Selectboard of Berkshire Robert Archambault

Chairman

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 Montpelier, VT 05620-3901

> Tel: (802) 828-1294 Fax: (820) 828-1250

www.anr.state.vt.us



State of Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Deborah L. Markowitz Agency Secretary

> Justin G. Johnson Deputy Secretary

May 1, 2013

Missisquoi/Trout Rivers Wild & Scenic Study Committee c/o Missisquoi River Basin Association 2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Dear Members of the Wild and Scenic Study Committee,

On behalf of the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, allow me to express my enthusiasm and appreciation for your efforts over the last several years to carefully examine the land and water related features of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers. The Committee's recently finalized and issued Management Plan regarding those waters is truly an impressive piece of work.

The purpose of this letter is to give the Agency's whole hearted support for the Committee's efforts to seek Congressional authorization for designating defined segments of the upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers as Wild and Scenic. Agency support for Wild and Scenic designation is for affected segments endorsed by town voter approval during town meeting day in early March 2013.

The Agency looks forward to continuing its work with the Study Committee and to celebrating actions taken by Congress which result in official Wild and Scenic designation.

Thank you and congratulations for all your time and efforts, production of a meaningful management plan and the successful endorsement by the affected towns.

Sincerely,

Deb Markowitz, Secretary

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Department of Fish & Wildlife

Respect. Protect. Enjoy.

Department of Environmental Conservation

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Enosburgh Conservation Commission

April 29, 2013

Wild and Scenic River Study Committee

2839 VT Route 105

East Berkshire, VT 05447

Dear Wild and Scenic River Study Committee,

We the Enosburgh Conservation Committee strongly support the designation of the Mississquoi River as Wild and Scenic. We have supported the effort from its beginnings through personal contacts and a public meeting to educate the community about the benefits and misconceptions of the wild and scenic designation. We feel that this designation will benefit the river and the town of Enosburgh.

Our recent conservation and education efforts have been on the river corridor. We were actively involved in helping conserve a 7 acre parcel on the river last year. We know that the Mississquoi River is a jewel in our community and are rigorously working to conserve land and preserve the water quality of the river and educate our citizens about the importance of the river.

The Wild and Scenic designation meshes with our mission as a conservation commission. We appreciate all the work that your committee is doing to make this possible for us.

Sincerely,

Sarah Downes

Chairperson/Enosburgh Conservation Commission

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Richford Conservation Commission

Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Study 2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447 802-393-0076 info@vtwsr.org http://www.vtwsr.org/

May 30, 2013

Wild and Scenic River Study Committee

The Town of Richford is located on the Missisquoi River. The vitality of the River is transmitted to its surroundings, and the sights and sounds of the Missisquoi River are thoroughly appreciated by the Richford community.

At Town Meeting on March 4 2013, the voters of Richford showed their support of the Missisquoi River as part of the Wild and Scenic River Program.

The members of the Richford Conservation Commission proudly and fully support designation of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers as part of the Wild and Scenic River Program.

Richford Conservation Commission Members

Gregg Campbell Debbie Foote Carrie Garrow Annette Goyne Mary Robinson

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)



Missisquoi River Basin Association

Our goal is to restore and maintain the ecological integrity of the Missisquoi River system so that the uses and values desired by the community are supported by the river and quality of its water.

May 1, 2013

Wild & Scenic Rivers Study Committee 2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire VT 05447

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express the Missisquoi River Basin Association (MRBA)'s enthusiastic support for the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers to be included in the National Parks Service's Wild and Scenic Rivers Program. This 61-mile stretch of river (25 miles of the Missisquoi from Lowell, VT to Canada, 25 miles of the Missisquoi from Richford to Enosburg Falls, and 11 miles of the Trout River from Montgomery to East Berkshire) has been recognized by the voters of the 8 municipalities through which the rivers pass as having unique values and resources which make them worthy of inclusion as Wild & Scenic Rivers.

We are a volunteer-based watershed organization, working since 1996 to improve water quality in the MIssisquoi River, and to increase community interest in and use of this treasured resource. Having the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers designated Wild & Scenic would complement our efforts and would recognize the valued place this part of the Missisquoi River and its tributary, the Trout River, hold in this community, both for recreational and tourism purposes.

We wish the Wild & Scenic River Study Committee every success in acquiring Wild & Scenic designation and will help in the process in whatever way possible.

Sincerely,

John Little Chair

2839 VT Route 105, East Berkshire, VT 05447 Tel: (802) 933-9009 E-mail: mrba@pshift.com

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail



MISSISQUOI VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

NORTHWEST VERMONT RAIL TRAIL COUNCIL

c/o Northwest Regional Planning Commission 155 Lake Street • St. Albans, VT 05478 Phone: 802-524-5958 • Fax: 802-527-2948

APPOINTED MEMBERS

St. Albans City

St. Albans Town

Swanton Alan Lampson

Fairfield Jane Williams

> Sheldon Vacant

Enosburg Town Robert Gervais, Sr.

Enosburg Falls Michael Manahan

> Berkshire Carol Hickey

Richford Phyllis Tiffany

VAST Mark Bushey

At Large Don Mueller Alisha Sawyer David Stanley Nini Worman

Ex-Officio

VT Agency of Transportation

Northwest Regional Planning Commission

VT Dept. of Forests, Parks, & Recreation May 1, 2013

Wild & Scenic Rivers Study Committee 2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire VT 05447

Dear Wild & Scenic Committee:

The Northwest Vermont Rail Trail Council is pleased to offer its support for Wild & Scenic Rivers designation of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers as decided by the voters of the 8 municipalities affected.

The Rail Trail Council is always looking for ways to attract more trail users, from providing amenities such as information kiosks and benches/tables to creating trail loops off the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail. Wild & Scenic designation of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers will undoubtedly increase visitor traffic to this area of the State and many of these people will be participating in the recreational opportunities of Franklin County, including the Rail Trail.

The Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail (MVRT) is a 26.4 mile crushed-stone multiseason multi-use recreational trail on a rail corridor extending from St. Albans to Richford. Hiking, biking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing are permitted. While the State of Vermont owns the MVRT, the Council advises the State on trail management issues.

Good luck with acquiring Wild & Scenic designation for 2 very deserving rivers. We look forward to working with you on future recreation-related projects involving the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers.

Sincerely,

David L. Stanley

Dand I Stanley

Chair

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Northern Forest Canoe Trail (NFCT)



P.O. Box 565 Waitsfield, VT 05673 June 17, 2013

The Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Study Committee 2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Dear Wild and Scenic Committee,

On behalf of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail Board of Directors and Staff, I'm thrilled to write this letter in support of Wild and Scenic designation for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers. A section of our 740-mile paddling trail is included in the study area, and we are entirely supportive of the work to protect this section as a Wild and Scenic River.

The fact that all towns within the study area except for Lowell voted in support of designation is to the credit of your work as a committee and also to the merit of the idea. The Northern Forest Canoe Trail works with rural communities along the entirety of our four-state route to demonstrate the economic and community value of healthy rivers that are actively used by recreational paddlers. Wild and Scenic designation would facilitate greater awareness and would support appropriate access in ways that are beneficial to both the rivers and those who live and work along its banks.

We look forward to continuing to support and promote this project. Please keep us posted and let us know how we can be of help as the project moves forward.

Sincerely,

Kate Williams
Executive Director

Kate Williams

802.496.2285 Fax: 802.496.2785 E-mail:

info@NorthernForestCanoeTrail.org www.NorthernForestCanoeTrail.org

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club

April 12th, 2012



Vermont Sierra Club Supports Upper Missisquoi and Trout River Wild and Scenic River Designation

To Whom It May Concem,

The Executive Committee of the Vermont Sierra Club, on behalf of our three thousand members, has unanimously voted to support the classification of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers as wild and scenic waterways. We, along with Vermonters in general, understand these rivers to be important natural and cultural resources for our state and the nation.

If we are to deliver a Vermont to our grandchildren which is recognizable to our forbearers, it is essential that we place a high conservation value upon such beautiful rivers as the Missisquoi and the Trout.

Therefore, we are happy to lend our full support to the fine efforts of our friends conducting the Wild and Scenic River study concerning these majestic waters ways.

Sincerely, Executive Committee of the Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club

Vermont Serra Club, Montpelier, Vermont, (802) 522-5812, www.wermont.siernælub.org

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Vermont Council of Trout Unlimited



Vermont Council

November 14, 2013

Ms. Shana Stewart Deeds Study Coordinator Upper Missisquoi and Trout River Wild and Scenic Study 2839 Vermont Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Dear Ms. Deeds:

The Vermont Council of Trout Unlimited supports the inclusion of the proposed Missisquoi River and Trout River reaches to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. As the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act was implemented to protect our waterways, the inclusion of these reaches will add a layer of protection afforded by this federal designation against riparian development and to help restore fisheries habitat.

The vast majority of our rivers in Vermont are obstructed. The Vermont Council believes that obstructing or diverting a river flow for hydropower is environmentally harmful and fragments aquatic habitat, thereby diminishing what some consider a 'clean' source of power. It is important that all levels of state and federal protection be employed to protect our rivers as wildlife habitat, for recreation and as drinking water sources.

Because of this, we support the Wild and Scenic designation of these reaches of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers in the hopes that this designation will further protect these rivers from future hydropower construction, be it a traditional dam, run-of-river, a diversion project, or otherwise. It is also our hope that any future federal support will include consideration of removal of existing, unutilized dams, as well as bank stabilization, stream crossings, culvert modernization, fish passage through existing dams, and other means to protect aquatic habitat. This will protect these rivers for today's anglers and recreationists, as well as for future generations.

Sincerely,

Vermont Council of Trout Unlimited

Support Letter for the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers

Wild and Scenic River Designation - Montgomery Historical Society



Montgomery Historical Society
P.O. Box 47 Montgomery, VT 05470

<u>pratthall@gmail.com</u>

www.montgomeryhistoricalsociety.org

November 20, 2013

Shana Stewart Deeds Study Coordinator Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic Study 2839 VT Route 105 East Berkshire, VT 05447

Shana,

As you know the Town of Montgomery enthusiastically supported and endorsed the designation of the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers as part of the Wild and Scenic River Program at Town Meeting in March of 2013. The Society took great pride in supporting your work researching the area's history and identifying the Outstandingly Remarkable Values of the study area, and were pleased to host a Study Group meeting at Pratt Hall.

The Montgomery Historical Society has members from: 20 VT towns including 8 in Franklin County, 16 states & the District of Columbia, 2 Canadian Provinces, and 3 foreign countries other than Canada. We enthusiastically add our organizations' voice to all of those others in support of the designation and its goals of preserving this unique national resource, and enhancing our community's and region's quality of life.

For the Board of Directors who unanimously approved this letter:

Scott Perry Chairman

The Montgomery Historical Society Board is...
Scott Perry, Bill Branthoover, Marijke Dollois, Sue Wilson, Bill McGroarty, Tim Chapin
Ken Secor, Elsie Saborowski, Parma Jewett, John Beaty, Jo Anne Bennett, Pat Farmer & Patricia Perl