

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers Program
Region 1 North Atlantic-Appalachian



Housatonic River Wild and Scenic River Evaluation Public Comment Summary Report November 2021



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Introduction

The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was established by Congress in 1968 to protect certain outstanding rivers from the harmful effects of new federal projects such as dams and hydroelectric facilities. Each river designated into the National System receives permanent protection from federally authorized or assisted dams, diversions, channelization, or other water projects that would have a direct and adverse effect on its free-flowing condition, water quality, or outstandingly remarkable values. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1271-1287) also explicitly prohibits any new hydropower dam or related facilities licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on or directly affecting a designated river segment.

In November 2016, the Governor of Connecticut submitted a nomination to the Secretary of the Interior to include 40.3 miles of the Housatonic River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a state-administered component under Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA).

This segment of the Housatonic River was previously studied for potential designation through a congressionally authorized study completed in 1979 and recommended as a state-administered component of the National System subject to local support and development of a locally based management structure. The 2016 nomination is thus a fulfillment of the designation recommendation from 1979.

Pursuant to established delegations of authority, National Park Service (NPS) Region 1 developed an evaluation of the nomination, the *Housatonic River Wild and Scenic River Evaluation: Findings Regarding the State of Connecticut's Application for the Housatonic River Wild and Scenic Designation as a State Administered Unit*. The NPS evaluation noted that the nominated 40.3-mile segment of the Housatonic River meets the criteria for designation as either a state-administered Wild and Scenic River (under section 2(a)(ii) of the WSRA) or a congressionally designated Wild and Scenic River (under 3(a) of the WSRA) based on the Partnership Wild and Scenic River model.

Public and Agency Comment Activities

The *Housatonic River Wild and Scenic River Evaluation* was posted for 90-day public and agency comment through the Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) system, consistent with the requirements of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The comment period closed October 8, 2021.

The NPS evaluation noted that the nominated segment of the Housatonic River meets the criteria for designation as either a state-administered Wild and Scenic River or a congressionally designated Wild and Scenic River based on the Partnership Wild and Scenic River model.

Forty comments and letters were received regarding the NPS evaluation report (with three of those being duplicates). All comments received supported Wild and Scenic River designation. Letters included all abutting local governments (Town Councils), the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), the Governor of Connecticut, and a variety of individuals and organizations associated with the river and its environs.

Many respondents, including the Governor, expressed a desire to support congressional designation, rather than a 2(a)(ii) "state-administered" option.

No comments were received from pertinent federal agencies who had received notice of the comment period.

Nature of the Comments Received during 90-Day Public Comment Period

All of the comments received during the public comment period expressed support for Wild and Scenic River designation. Almost all of the comments expressed support specifically for congressional designation of the Housatonic River using the Partnership Wild and Scenic River model as opposed to designation as state-administered wild and scenic river designated by the Secretary of the Interior. One comment suggested edits and improvements to the *Housatonic River Wild and Scenic River Evaluation* document itself.

Nature of Comments from Organizations and Citizens

The following is a list and excerpts of representative and unedited comments from organizations and citizens:

Appalachian Mountain Club - Protection of the river by this designation is like work we have done with our partner the Appalachian Trail Conservancy to protect (and improve) the 53 miles of Appalachian Trail in Connecticut. We join the Housatonic Valley Association, Trout Unlimited, Audubon Connecticut, The Nature Conservancy and other environmental groups to ask that the river receive the wild and scenic designation.

CT Land Conservation Council - CLCC joins the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) and other conservation, economic, and civic partners, including the CT Department of Environmental Protection, in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford. This designation would provide national acknowledgement of the river's unique and important characteristics and offers a formal platform for cooperative decision-making amongst stakeholders at the local, state, and federal level to best protect the ecological, historic, cultural and recreational attributes of the river and region.

CT Rivers Alliance - This segment of Housatonic River qualifies for congressional designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River with the local support, local administrative structure, locally adopted river management plan and remarkable, demonstrated local commitment to river protection that is essential for this designation. This designation would provide national acknowledgement of the river's unique and important characteristics and offers a formal platform for cooperative decision-making amongst stakeholders at the local, state and federal level to best protect the ecological, historic, cultural and recreational attributes of the river and region.

CT Forest and Park Association - CFPA has been working closely with the National Park Service on the management of the New England National Scenic Trail and has found the NPS to be a fantastic federal partner to our trail efforts. I am also familiar with the partnership efforts of the NPS in the designation of both the Upper Farmington River and Lower Farmington River/Salmon Brook as Partnership Wild & Scenic Rivers, which has generally been fantastic. ...Designation of the Housatonic River as Wild & Scenic would provide a partnership based upon local support, local administrative structure, locally adopted river management plan, and a demonstrated local commitment to river protection that is essential for this designation.

FirstLight Power - FirstLight Power is the owner and operator of several hydroelectric generation facilities along the Housatonic River in Connecticut. We are happy to submit this comment to the National Park Service in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic River from the Massachusetts/Connecticut border to Boardman Bridge in New Milford as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River. We look forward to participating in the process as it moves ahead.

Northwest Conservation District - The designation afforded by the Wild and Scenic River program will elevate awareness about the Housatonic River and its watershed and lead to greater effectiveness of efforts to obtain

funding to address the threats to the River. The application for recognition as a Wild and Scenic River is Congressionally nominated and supported. This recognition connects Housatonic River to the River Partnership, a critical element that increases efforts to protect water resources in this time of unprecedented pressure on ecosystems and the availability of clean water resources.

Upper Housatonic National Heritage Area - We firmly believe that this section of the Housatonic River qualifies for congressional designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River with the local support, local administrative structure, locally adopted river management plan and demonstrated local commitment to river protection that is necessary for this designation. . . . We wholeheartedly supports the congressional designation of this section of the Housatonic River as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River.

Kent Land Trust - Designation would bring needed resources to our town of Kent, which has seen an uptick in visitors in recent years. Our economic sustainability depends on our ability to meet this demand and provide for the safety and enjoyment of our community members and visitors. PLEASE RECORD OUR ORGANIZATION'S WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL DESIGNATION.

Harwinton Land Trust - joins the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), the Housatonic River Commission, and other conservation, economic, and civic partners, including the CT Department of Environmental Protection and Governor Lamont, in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford. This segment of the Housatonic River qualifies for congressional designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River with the local support, local administrative structure, locally adopted river management plan and demonstrated local commitment to river protection that is necessary for this designation.

Housatonic Valley Association - Our interest in securing Wild and Scenic designation for this stretch of Housatonic River dates back to the congressionally authorized Housatonic Wild and Scenic River Study completed by the National Park Service in 1979. We are pleased that the NPS 2021 Evaluation document continues to affirm that this stretch of Housatonic River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic including the eligibility criteria for Partnership Wild and Scenic River criteria.

The Nature Conservancy in CT - We are very pleased to support Wild and Scenic designation of the Housatonic River for several key reasons. One, the river clearly meets the requirements for containing outstandingly remarkable values which we elaborate on below. Secondly, the proposal for 24 miles to be designated as scenic and 16.3 miles to be designated as recreational is appropriate for the characteristics of the river in these areas relative to our understanding of meeting eligibility requirements for the types of designation being sought. We note that designation is supported by both the congressionally authorized National Park Service Housatonic Wild and Scenic River Study (1979) and its updated 2021 Housatonic River evaluation. Thirdly, we are impressed with the level of demonstrated local and state support for conservation and wise management of the river needed for designation to meet suitability requirements. This includes support by all of the affected towns for designation, local and regional entities (e.g. Northwest Hills Council of Governments), partner and conservation organizations (e.g. Housatonic Valley Association) and the State of Connecticut along with a locally adopted river management plan to ensure ongoing local protection (e.g. Housatonic River Commission's River Management Plan). This is aided by a high level of existing protection of riverfront land at 34.3 miles. . . . Finally, we believe the type of support a Partnership Wild and Scenic designation would afford the river is exactly what is needed to meet the challenges the river faces and to enable the river to sustain its remarkable characteristics over time for people and nature. We know how uniquely helpful and effective Partnership Wild and Scenic river designation can be from our direct experience in helping achieve Wild and Scenic designation for the Upper and Lower Farmington River, the Eightmile River and the Pawcatuck River in Connecticut. Designation motivates and facilitates a high level of cooperation and coordination between federal, state and local interests and brings resources, expertise, motivation and action to bear on protecting and managing the outstanding resources of the designated river system.

Middlebury Land Trust - ...understand the vital importance of the effort by Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), the Housatonic River Commission, and other conservation, economic, and civic partners, including the CT Department of Environmental Protection and Governor Lamont, in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford.

Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative - The Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative is a network of 33 conservation organizations working in 28 towns in Northwest Connecticut. We are evidence of the power of partnership in approaching conservation challenges and management across a shared region. We join the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), the Housatonic River Commission, and other conservation, economic, and civic partners, including the CT Department of Environmental Protection and Governor Lamont, in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford.

Upper Farmington River Wild and Scenic Coordinating Committee - This is written in support of the Congressional Nomination of the Housatonic River in Connecticut as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River... Without the administrative and financial assistance from the National Park Service we would not be able to conduct our River Seward Program, give assistance to local Land Trusts and provide educational opportunities throughout the segment. It should be noted that parties that were hostile to each other prior to Designation are now sharing information and collaborating.

Citizen from Canton, CT - The Wild and Scenic designation has been instrumental in preserving the Farmington and affording the same protections to the Housatonic would be a huge step in the right direction. The Housatonic is amazing resource for northwest Connecticut and we should do anything we can to make sure it is properly protected.

Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy - This river segment meets the requirement of having been designated into a state river protection system via the Connecticut General Assembly Public Act No. 16-38, May 25, 2016. This was done at the request of 7 communities within the Housatonic River Commission, the Housatonic Valley Association, and regional and statewide conservation organizations, and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. Today, these same entities are supporting congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River.

Cornwall Conservation Trust, Inc. - strongly endorses the Federal recognition of the Housatonic River as Wild & Scenic from the Boardman Bridge in New Milford, Connecticut to the Connecticut - Massachusetts border in the north. Our mission is to promote the conservation of forests and farmland in Cornwall and the Northwest Corner of Connecticut. The Housatonic River borders the entire length of Cornwall's western boundary and flows through important conserved forests. The river is an important source of habitat for wildlife and recreation for our community and our visitors.

Citizen from Warren, CT - I am writing to express my strong support for congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford. As a resident of Warren, CT and an avid biker and paddler, I am pleased to see that the NPS Evaluation document concludes that this segment of Housatonic River meets the criteria as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River. This designation would honor the strong local support and commitment to river protection that exists along this stretch. It would also support a platform for cooperative decision-making among stakeholders at the local, state, and federal level to protect the River's outstanding ecological, scenic, cultural, and recreational attributes. Thanks for this opportunity to add my support!

Connecticut Council Trout Unlimited - Thousands of our members not only fish the Housatonic, we contribute countless volunteer hours to preserving it and tributaries in the watershed. We welcome any action that further protects this crucial fishery.

Trout Unlimited - Trout Unlimited is pleased to submit these comments to the National Park Service, and to join the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), the Housatonic River Commission (HRC), and other conservation, economic, and civic partners, including the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and Governor Lamont, in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford. Over the last nine years, TU in partnership with the USFWS have been working on the restoration of wild and native trout habitat on Salmon Creek, an important tributary to the Housatonic in CT. The designation and commitment to the Housatonic goes hand in hand with our work and goals for the watershed.

Housatonic River Commission - I write on behalf of the Housatonic River Commission to enthusiastically support the study for the 41 mile reach of the Housatonic from the Massachusetts border to Boardman Bridge in New Milford to become a Congressionally nominated Wild and Scenic River and a part of the Rivers Partnership Program. Our Commission, representing the Towns bordering the River, has spearheaded these efforts, and there is no question that the River deserves such designation, a status which would provide us so much assistance as we strive to manage and protect our River. The added resources from our inclusion are particularly needed as we face increased challenges in our efforts. We appreciate the great help from the Parks Service as we come to a successful conclusion in our quest to achieve the goal of becoming Wild and Scenic.

The Warren Land Trust - joins the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA), the Housatonic River Commission, and other conservation, economic, and civic partners, including the CT Department of Environmental Protection and Governor Lamont, in support of congressional designation of the Housatonic as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River from the MA/CT border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford.

Citizen from Hendersonville, North Carolina - "Outstanding remarkable" is exactly what this corridor area is....And there is national significance in the unique defining character of this region that the preservation of the River Corridor will enhance....This designation is a unique opportunity that should not be neglected or rejected....I was privileged as an American to experience this area and its character. The memory lasts with me to this day....Future generations should have a similar opportunity.

Summary of State Agency Comments

The NPS received two letters from the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) stating the agency's support for the designation and clarifying comments and suggested improvements for the evaluation document. The NPS will incorporate edits and corrections as suggested by DEEP and will refer broader comments that might be useful to the Housatonic River Commission for use in anticipated future revision of the River Management Plan.

Summary of Letter Received from Honorable Ned Lamont, Governor of Connecticut

The NPS received a letter from Governor Ned Lamont expressing support for congressional designation of 41-miles of the Housatonic River from the Massachusetts/Connecticut border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River. The Governor stated:

"Although initially proposed to the Department of the Interior in 2016 by then Governor Dannel Malloy as a state-administered Wild and Scenic River under Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, river circumstances have changed and I believe that congressional designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River is the best approach for Housatonic River management and protection.

The Housatonic River's popularity has dramatically increased since 2016, and community leaders are working with state and federal officials to provide safe, equitable and environmentally sound river access. Designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River will qualify the Housatonic River for resources to assist in this endeavor."

Summary of Federal Agency Comments

The NPS did not receive any correspondence from federal agencies during the 90-day comment period.

ATTACHMENTS

Letters Received

- A. Honorable Ned Lamont, Governor of Connecticut*
- B. Commissioner Katie Dykes, Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP)*
- C. Towns*



Ned Lamont
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

September 17, 2021

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20240

RE: Support for Congressional Designation of the Housatonic River from the Massachusetts/ Connecticut Border to Boardman Bridge in New Milford as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River

Dear Secretary Haaland:

I write to express my support for congressional designation of 41-miles of Housatonic River from the Massachusetts/Connecticut border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River.

Although initially proposed to the Department of the Interior in 2016 by then Governor Dannel Malloy as a state-administered Wild and Scenic River under Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, river circumstances have changed and I believe that congressional designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River is the best approach for Housatonic River management and protection.

Connecticut's 2016 request was built on the 1979 National Park Service (NPS) Housatonic Wild and Scenic Study determination that the Housatonic River met eligibility criteria under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 due to its outstanding scenic and recreational resources. The Park Service's recent Housatonic River Wild and Scenic Evaluation reaffirms that this 41-mile stretch of Housatonic River continues to meet the eligibility criteria under Section 2(a)(ii) of the Act, and further states that "the River also satisfies the requirements for congressional designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River" which include "local support; local administration structure; locally adopted management plan; and demonstrated local commitment to river protection."

The Housatonic River's popularity has dramatically increased since 2016, and community leaders are working with state and federal officials to provide safe, equitable and environmentally sound river access. Designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River will qualify the Housatonic River for resources to assist in this endeavor.

I believe that inclusion of this 41-miles of Housatonic River in the National Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers System will protect this natural treasure for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ned Lamont".

Ned Lamont
Governor



Connecticut Department of

**ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**

Katherine S. Dykes, Commissioner

September 24, 2021

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N.W.
Washington D.C. 20240

RE: Support for Congressional Designation of the Housatonic River in Connecticut as a Partnership Wildlife and Scenic River

Dear Secretary Haaland:

It is with pleasure and enthusiasm that I write to support congressional designation of 41-miles of the Housatonic River in Connecticut as a Partnership Wildlife and Scenic River.

The reach proposed for designation stretches from the Connecticut-Massachusetts border south to the Boardman Bridge section of the town of New Milford. This reach has long attracted citizens from throughout the state and beyond to enjoy the scenic beauty and vibrant waters. Whether for the blue-ribbon trout fishing, the thrilling whitewater paddling, or family picnics, the upper Housatonic River attracts from the bustling urban centers of Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, Stratford, Stamford and more.

The river and the many public benefits it provides is a direct reflection of the partnership between the many agencies, organizations and individuals that have come together to nurture it. The lasting partnerships between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Park Service, each of the towns along the corridor, the Housatonic Valley Association, the Housatonic River Commission, and CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection are testament to the shared commitment to the river and the public benefits it provides.

In summary, I heartily encourage your support for congressional designation of the 41-miles of the Housatonic River in Connecticut, from the Connecticut-Massachusetts border to the Boardman Bridge in New Milford. It is a national treasure that needs to be protected for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Katie S. Dykes
Commissioner

1732



1739

TOWN OF SHARON
OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

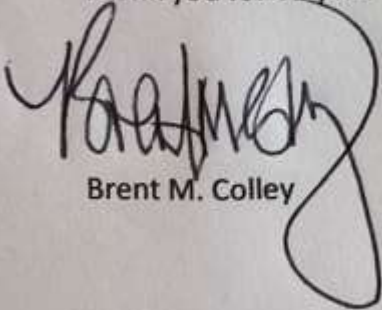
June 08, 2021

Board of Selectmen
P.O. Box 385
Sharon, Connecticut 06069

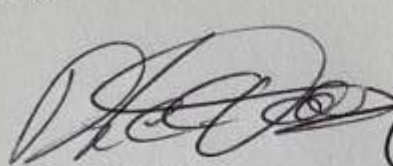
To: The Housatonic River Commission

The Town of Sharon's Board of Selectmen unanimously and enthusiastically support the inclusion by Congress of the 41-mile reach of the Housatonic River (CT/Mass state line to Boardman Bridge in New Milford) in the Wild and Scenic Rivers system as a Partnership River. We encourage our Congressional delegation to sponsor this legislation and move it forward so that our beautiful Housatonic River will have the protections and resources to insure that we can locally manage the expectations and challenges of the future.

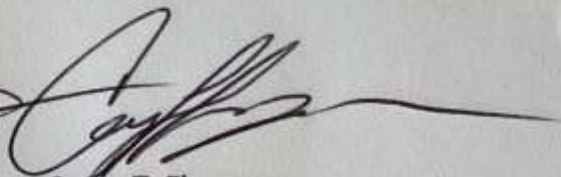
Thank you for all your efforts.



Brent M. Colley



Dale C. Jones



Casey T. Flanagan



TOWN OF CANAAN

108 Main Street
P.O. Box 47
Falls Village, CT 06031-0047

Connecticut Tax Town 021
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
PROVIDER AND HOUSING ADVOCATE

Telephone: 860 824-0707
Fax: 860 824-4506
E-mail: selectmen@canaanfallsvillage.org

June 21, 2021

Board of Selectmen

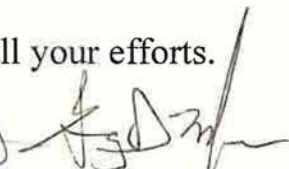
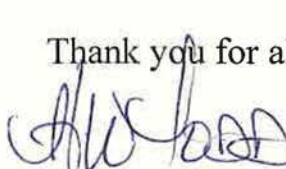
108 Main Street, PO Box 47

Falls Village, Connecticut 06031

To: The Housatonic River Commission

The Town of Canaan's Board of Selectmen unanimously and enthusiastically support the inclusion by Congress of the 41-mile reach of the Housatonic River (CT/Mass state line to Boardman Bridge in New Milford) in the Wild and Scenic Rivers system as a Partnership River. We encourage our Congressional delegation to sponsor this legislation and move it forward so that our beautiful Housatonic River will have the protections and resources to ensure that we can locally manage the expectations and challenges of the future.

Thank you for all your efforts.



Henry W. Todd

Greg Marlowe



David Barger

First Selectman

Selectman

Selectman

TOWN OF CORNWALL

P.O. Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06753
(860) 672-4959 Fax (860) 672-4068
cwlselectmen@optonline.net

June 16, 2021

Via Email wrtingley@gmail.com, susanfran4@gmail.com,
Housatonic River Commission
West Cornwall, Connecticut 06796

Re: Support for Congressional Designation of Housatonic River
under Wild & Scenic Act of 1968

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Town of Cornwall Board of Selectmen strongly supports the inclusion of the 41 mile stretch of the Housatonic River from the Massachusetts/Connecticut border in the north to the Boardman Bridge in the Town of New Milford, Connecticut in the south in the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 by an act of Congress as a Partnership River.

We ask that our Congressional delegation sponsor, and seek passage of, the Federal legislation needed to accomplish this goal to ensure that this stretch of the Housatonic River has the resources to be managed and protected locally for our benefit and that of future generations.

Sincerely yours,
Board of Selectmen of the Town of Cornwall

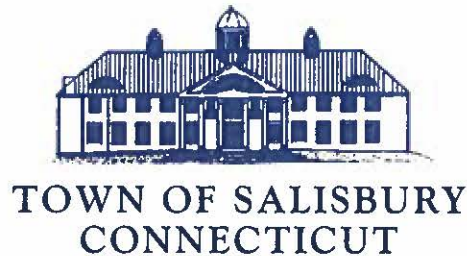
By  Date: June 16, 2021
First Selectman, Gordon Ridgway


Selectwoman, Marina Kotchoubey


Selectman, Priscilla Pavel

CURTIS RAND
FIRST SELECTMAN

Telephone: 860-435-5170
Fax: 860-435-5172
Email: townhall@salisburyct.us



Christian Williams
Donald Mayland
Selectmen

Town Hall
P.O. Box 548
27 Main Street
Salisbury, Connecticut 06068

Housatonic River Commission (HRC)
William Tingley, Chairman
Gordon Whitbeck and Stacie Weiner, Salisbury Representatives HRC
Jocelyn Ayer, Administrator HRC

7/12/2021

To the Housatonic River Commission,

The Salisbury Board of Selectmen unanimously endorses the Congressional designation and inclusion of the Connecticut's 41-mile section of the upper Housatonic River into the Wild and Scenic Rivers system as a Partnership River. We understand that this includes the river from the CT/Mass boundary south to Boardman Bridge in New Milford. We support and are grateful to our federal Congressional delegation in sponsoring this legislation.

We believe that the words Wild and Scenic are important guideposts for management of the river, and we are unanimous in our goal to preserve local, cooperative control through our Housatonic River Commission representatives.

Thank you for your continued efforts to preserve and manage this beautiful river.

On behalf of the Salisbury Board of Selectmen,



Curtis Rand
First Selectman
Town of Salisbury

c/Salisbury Board of Selectmen

To: Housatonic River Commission
West Cornwall, Connecticut 06796

From: Town of New Milford, Connecticut

**Re: Support for Congressional Designation of Housatonic River
under Wild & Scenic Act of 1968**

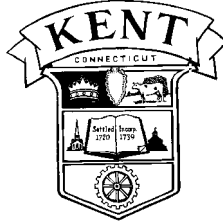
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Town of New Milford's Town Council strongly supports the inclusion of the 41 mile stretch of the Housatonic River from the Massachusetts/Connecticut border in the north to the Boardman Bridge in the Town of New Milford, Connecticut in the south in the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 by an act of Congress as a Partnership River.

We ask that our Congressional delegation sponsor, and seek passage of, the Federal legislation needed to accomplish this goal to ensure that this stretch of the Housatonic River has the resources to be managed and protected locally for our benefit and that of future generations.

Sincerely yours,
Town Council of the Town of New Milford

By Paul A. Hanson 6-28-2021
Christine D. Cox 6/28/21
[Signature] 6/28/21
[Signature] 6/28/21
[Signature] mayor 6/24/21
[Signature] Steve Espinoza



TOWN OF KENT

13 July, 2021

Housatonic River Commission
SENT VIA EMAIL

To Whom It May Concern;

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Kent, this letter serves to support the inclusion by Congress of the 41-mile stretch of the Housatonic River, spanning from Boardman Bridge in New Milford to the Connecticut/Massachusetts state border, in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a Partnership River.

We encourage our Congressional delegation to sponsor and move forward this legislation to safeguard this stunning natural wonder and ensure protections and resources are in place to locally manage expectations and challenges of the future.

The people of Kent are very grateful for your commitment and efforts to protect the river.

Sincerely,

Jean C. Speck
First Selectman
Town of Kent

July 13th, 2021

Town of North Canaan Board of Selectmen

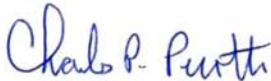
100 Pease Street

North Canaan, CT 06018

To: The Housatonic River Commission

The undersigned Board of Selectmen of the Town of North Canaan unanimously and enthusiastically support the inclusion by Congress of the 41-mile reach of the Housatonic River, from the Connecticut/Massachusetts state line to Boardman Bridge in New Milford, in the Wild and Scenic Rivers system as a Partnership River. We, along with many of our neighboring towns, encourage our Congressional delegation to sponsor this legislation and move it forward so that our beautiful Housatonic River will have the protections and resources to ensure that we can locally manage the expectations and challenges of the future.

Thank you for all your efforts.



Charles P. Perotti, First Selectman



Craig Whiting, Selectman

Christian Allyn, Selectman