



TOWN OF WARNER

Planning Board

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May 16, 2017

Tracie Sales, Rivers Coordinator
NH Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Subject: Warner River Nomination for Inclusion in New Hampshire's Rivers Management and Protection Program

Dear Ms. Sales:

On behalf of the Warner Planning Board, I am writing in support of the Warner River being a "Designated River" in accordance with RSA 483. The Warner River flows through five towns, providing habitat for a variety of plants and animals; two-thirds of its tributaries support native brook trout populations. The Warner River corridor also hosts a number of rare, threatened, and endangered plant and animal species. The river also helps to supply drinking water to the Warner Village Water District through the stratified-drift aquifer beneath the river.

Warner's residents identified the Warner River corridor as a high priority for conservation and protection efforts in our Master Plan. Inclusion of the Warner River into the Rivers Management and Protection Program will help to protect one of Warner's most valuable assets so that future generations can benefit from its exceptional natural, cultural, and economic resources.

Once the Warner River has been incorporated into the Rivers Management and Protection Program as a "Designated River," we understand that the five river towns will establish a Local River Management Advisory Committee to prepare and implement a plan for managing and preserving the river's natural and cultural resources. Designation of the Warner River as a "Designated River" will also enhance the public's awareness of the river and its resources, and will lead to creation of an inter-municipal forum, which will be used to address river-related concerns and balance the competing interests of residents, business owners, and other river stakeholders.

The Warner Planning Board is pleased to support inducting the Warner River into the Rivers Management and Protection Program as a "Designated River."

Sincerely,

Benjamin D. Frost, Chair
Warner Planning