River Nomination Form

New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program

Instructions: Before beginning any work on a river nomination, sponsors should contact the State Rivers Coordinator at the NH Department of Environmental Services. The rivers coordinator can provide initial guidance by identifying local and regional contacts and other sources of information and can give advice throughout the preparation of a river nomination. Refer to the publication, "A Guide to River Nominations," for a step-by-step explanation of the nomination process and a directory of federal, state, regional and private sources of information and technical assistance. The River Coordinator's address and telephone number are: PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095; (603) 271-8801.

I. NOMINATION INFORMATION

1. Name of River:

2. River/River Segment Location (and start/end points) and Length (miles):

3. (a) Sponsoring Organization or Individual:

   (b) Contact Person:

   (c) Address:

   (d) Daytime Telephone Number:

II. SUMMARY: RESOURCES OF STATEWIDE OR LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

Explanation: In order to be eligible for designation to the Rivers Management and Protection Program, a river must contain or represent either a significant statewide or local example of a natural, managed, cultural, or recreational resource.

Instructions:

By checking the appropriate boxes below, indicate the resource values that you believe are present in the nominated river and its corridor and whether you believe these values are present at a level of significance that is statewide or local. If the value is not present, leave the box blank.

Natural Resources

	Value Present/ Local Significance	**Value Present/ Statewide Significance**
Geologic or Hydrologic Resources		
Wildlife Resources		
Vegetation/Natural Communities		
Fish Resources		
Rare Species or Habitat		
Water Quality		
Open Space		
Natural Flow Characteristics		

Managed Resources

Impoundments		
Water Withdrawals/Discharges		
Hydroelectric Resources		

Cultural Resources

Historical/Archaeological
Resources
Community River Resources

Recreational Resources

	Value Present/ Local Significance	**Value Present/ Statewide Significance**
Fishery Resources		
Boating Resources		
Other Recreational Resources		
Public Access		

Other Resources

Scenic Resources		
Land Use		
Land Use Controls		
Water Quantity		
Riparian/Flowage Rights		
Scientific Resources		

2. Briefly describe the most important resource values that are present in the nominated river and why you believe these values are significant from either a statewide or local perspective. For example, if the river contains a segment of whitewater that attracts kayakers from throughout the state and is identified in a regional boaters' guide as a premier whitewater boating segment, you should identify recreational boating as a significant statewide resource and include one or two sentences in support of this statement. In addition, if you feel that a resource value is threatened, explain why.

III. COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

Explanation: The level of community and other public support which is demonstrated for a river nomination will be an important factor in determining whether that river will be recommended for legislative designation.

Such support may be shown by the adoption of a town resolution, a letter from selectmen, master plan excerpts, or documented support from other groups, either public or private (if private, explain the group's purpose and who is represented).

Instructions: Describe the type of community and other public support that exists for the river nomination and attach appropriate documentation. Include copies of any letters of support from local elected and appointed officials. Include documentation of notification of the nomination to elected public officials of all municipalities through which each nominated river or segment flows.

IV. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Explanation: In addition to the information provided on this nomination form, sponsors are encouraged to submit any other information which believe will support the nomination of the river. This information may include a visual presentation, for example, a slide program or a map showing the location of significant resources, or studies and reports on the river.

Instructions: List what, if any, additional supporting information has been submitted with this river nomination.

V. RIVER CLASSIFICATIONS

Explanation: Each river or river segment that is designated by the state legislature will be placed into a river classification system. This classification system consists of four categories: natural, rural, rural-community and community rivers. Refer to Appendix A in the Guide to River Nominations, for a complete description and explanation of the river classification system and the instream protection measures which have been adopted by the state legislature for each classification. In this part of the nomination form, DES and the state Rivers Management Advisory Committee are interested in learning which river classification(s) you believe is most appropriate for your river.

Note: If tidal or tidally influenced sections of river are included in your nomination be sure to include the recommended downstream extent of the section(s) suggested by the NH Fish and Game Department and the Piscataqua Regional Estuaries Project.

Instructions:

1. For each classification criteria listed below (a-d), check the one box that most accurately describes the nominated river or segment. Please note if any section of the river is tidal or tidally influenced.

(a) General Description

The river or segment is free-flowing and characterized by high quality natural and scenic resources. The river shoreline is in primarily natural vegetation and the river corridor is generally undeveloped and development, if any, is limited to forest management and scattered housing. (Natural Rivers)

The river or segment is adjacent to lands which are partially or predominantly used for agriculture, forest management, and dispersed or clustered residential development. Some instream structures may exist, including low dams, diversion works and other minor modifications. (Rural Rivers)

The river or segment that flows through developed or populated areas of the state and which possesses existing or potential community resource values such as those defined in official municipal plans or land use controls. Such a river has mixed land uses in the corridor reflecting some combination of open space, agricultural, residential, commercial and industrial land uses. It is readily accessible by road or railroad and may include impoundments or diversions. (Rural-Community Rivers)

The river or segment flows through populated areas of the state and possesses actual or potential resource values, with some residential or other building development near the shoreline. The river or river segment is readily accessible by road or railroad, and may include some impoundments or diversions. (Community Rivers)

(b)Length
The river or segment is at least 5 miles long. (Natural Rivers)
The river or segment is at least 3 miles long. (Rural and Rural-Community Rivers)
The river or segment is at least 1 mile long. (Community Rivers)

(c) Water Quality

The actual water quality of the river or segment meet Class A standards under the state's water quality standards. (Natural Rivers) The actual water quality of the river or segment meets Class B standards under the state's water quality standards. (Rural, Rural-Community and Community Rivers)

(d) Distance to Roads

The minimum distance from the river shoreline to a paved road open to the public for motor vehicle use is at least 250 feet, except where a vegetative or other natural barrier exists, which effectively screens the sight and sound of motor vehicles for a majority of the length of the river. (Natural Rivers) There is no minimum distance from the river shoreline to an existing road. Roads may parallel the river shoreline

2. Based on the boxes checked above, and your knowledge of the river or segment, identify those segments of the river that you believe should be classified as either a Natural, Rural, Rural-Community, or Community River. Be sure to include the start and end point of each segment and the length of the segment in miles (for example: Natural

River: headwaters, Z miles, to the Town of ABC town line; Rural River: Town of ABC town line, Y miles, to the state border). Although a river or segment may be given more than one classification, the number of differently classified segments should be kept to a minimum. If your recommendation is incompatible with any of the above-listed criteria for a particular river classification, and you believe the classification is nevertheless appropriate and justified, explain why.

Natural River:

Rural River:

Rural-Community River:

Community River:

VI. Maps

A map of the river must be appended to this resource assessment. This map should be taken from a U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle (scale 1:24,000) or equivalent in accuracy and detail. GIS maps produced to show river-related resources can serve this purpose. Include an inset or locator map showing the location of the river or segment within the state.

VII. RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

1. Natural Resources

(a) Geologic Resources

Briefly describe the significant geologic resources of the river and its corridor, including any unique or visually interesting features such as waterfalls, unusual rock formations, and areas of rapids. If you are unable to include such features, then simply describe the bedrock geology map. Consider geologic resources on the basis of natural history, visual, and economic interest. Indicate if the state geologist or a national or state resource assessment has identified these geologic resources as significant at a national, regional (New England), state, or local level.

(b) Wildlife Resources

(1) List the species of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians commonly found in the river and river corridor.

(2) List any endangered or threatened animals that are supported by the river and river corridor environment. Include location, if known. Check whether these animals are endangered [E] or threatened [T] species and if they are significant at a national [N] or state [S] level.

Animal Species Location E or T, N or S

(3) List significant wildlife habitat which is supported by the river or to which the river is integral, for game and non-game wildlife populations. Identify if the habitat has been determined to be exceptionally diverse, very diverse, or moderately diverse by the NH Fish and Game Department or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Significant Habitat Diversity Rating

(4) Determine if the river corridor is important for the movement of wildlife between large habitat areas. If it is, explain why.

Vegetation/Natural Communities

(1) List the plant species commonly found in the river and river corridor.

(2) List any endangered or threatened plant species that are supported by the river and river corridor environment. Include location, if known. Check whether these plants are endangered [E] or threatened [T] species and if they are significant at a national [N] or state [S] level.

Plant Species Location E or T, N or S

(3) List any vegetative communities supported by the river and the river corridor environment which have been identified as "exemplary natural ecological communities" by the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory. Include location, if known.

Exemplary Natural Ecological Community Location

(d) Fish Resources

(1) List the fish species commonly found in the river.

(2) List any endangered or threatened fish species which inhabit the river. Check whether these fish are endangered [E] or threatened [T] species and if they are significant at a national [N] or state [S] level.

Fish Species Location E or T ,N or S

(3) Describe the presence and location of spawning beds, feeding areas, and other significant aquatic habitat for warmwater, coldwater or saltwater fish populations of that is valued, but not necessarily rare, and as determined by the NH Fish and Game Department, based on the NH Wildlife Action Plan, or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Significant Habitat Diversity Rating

(4) Indicate whether the significant fisheries found in the river rely on natural reproduction or a stocking program. If fish populations rely on a stocking program,

indicate whether they are partly or wholly dependent on the program.

(5) Is the river a viable anadromous fish resource? If yes, identify any on-going or planned restoration programs.

Water Quality

(1) Check the state's water quality classification that applies to this river or segment under state law.

Class A Class B

(2) According to readily available information, what is the actual water quality of this river under the state's water quality standards?

Class A Class B

(3) If the river is not currently supporting its water quality classification, identify the existing major causes of deficient water quality, e.g., industrial or sewage pollutants, agricultural fertilizer run-off, and possible corrective measures, e.g., regulations, enforcement, local and use controls.

Natural Flow Characteristics

Briefly describe the natural flow characteristics of the river, including natural periodic variation in flow, e.g., spring run-off and summer flow amount, and frequency and duration of flood events. If applicable, describe purpose of and flow variations caused by impoundments, significant diversions, or channel alterations, including interbasin transfers. Indicate which segments of the river are free-flowing.

Open Space

Briefly describe, give the location and identify the type, e.g., floodplain, forested, etc., and type of ownership, i.e., public or private of significant areas of open space in the river corridor. Describe and include the location of any protected land parcels within the river corridor, e.g., state parks and forests, national forest lands, municipal parks and conservation easements.

2. Managed Resources

(a) Impoundments

List all of the dams that are present in the river, including any dams that are breached or in ruins. Identify their location, ownership, and purpose, i.e., flood control, low flow augmentation, or storage. Also indicate whether minimum flow requirements exist at any of the impoundments, if known. Include any proposals for new or reconstructed dams; indicate that this is a proposed dam by placing and asterisk (*) next to the name of the dam. Do not include existing or proposed dams which are used for hydroelectric energy

production. These will be listed separately in the managed resources category.

Minimum Name of Dam Location Ownership Purpose Flow Requirements

(b) Water Withdrawals and Discharges

(1) List any significant water withdrawals from the river, including withdrawals for public drinking water, industry, and agriculture. Identify the purpose (e.g., irrigation) and location of the withdrawal. Indicate if the river has been identified in a state, regional, or local study as a potential source of water supply and, if so, identify the study.

Withdrawal Purpose Location Potential Source (ID Study)

(2) List all known surface water and potential discharges to the river and identify the source, type (e.g., industrial wastewater) and location of the discharge. Indicate whether the discharge has been permitted by the state (yes or no).

Point Source Discharge Type Location Permit

(c) Hydroelectric Resources

List all known existing or potential (as cited in the NH River Protection and Energy Development Project -Final Report; New England Rivers Center, 1983) sites of hydroelectric power production. Record the owner, location and whether the site is regulated or exempt from regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

FERC Hydroelectric Facility Owner Location regulated or exempt

3. Cultural Resources

(a) Historical and Archaeological Resources

Describe any significant historical or archaeological resources or sites with significant potential for such resources (as determined by the state historic preservation officer) found in the river or river corridor. Identify whether the resource is listed or is eligible to be listed as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) or on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or is a recognized Historic District (HD) or Multiple Use Area (MUA). If known, indicate whether these resources are significant at a national, regional (New England), state, or local level. Below this listing, note any local town histories, oral histories, or general historical knowledge about the use of the river and its corridor.

Historical/Archaeological Resource Listing/Eligibility Significance

Local Town Histories, Oral Histories or General Historical Knowledge

(b) Community Resource

Briefly describe how the river is recognized or used as a significant community resource. If the river's importance is recognized in any official town documents, such as a master plan, include reference to such documents.

4. Recreational Resources

(a) Fishery

Identify the type and location of any high quality recreational fisheries or areas with such potential that are present in the river, as determined by the NH Fish and Game Department. Also indicate areas that have potential to be significant fisheries.

(b) Boating

Describe any significant recreational boating opportunities that are present on the river, including whether it is used for motorized boating. Indicate if the river is cited as significant for recreational boating in a publication of a national, regional or statewide recreation organization. Refer to the NH River Protection and Energy Development Project to determine the river's significance as a recreational boating river. Also note if boaters are attracted from beyond the local area and if there are areas with potential to be significant boating resources.

(c) Other Recreational Opportunities

List any other recreational areas, facilities, or opportunities or potential for such on the river or in the river corridor, e.g., hiking, camping, picnicking, etc. Indicate ownership, if known.

Recreational Area Ownership Location

(d) Public Access

List any existing public access sites located along the river. These may be formal or non-formal access points. Include the type of public access (e.g., canoe only), related facilities (e.g., parking), and if known, ownership at each site.

Location Type of Access Related Facilities Ownership

5. Other Resources

(a) Scenic Resources

Briefly describe any significant scenic focal points along the river including designated viewing areas and scenic vistas and overlooks. Indicate the location of the significant views to and from the river.

(b) Land Use

Briefly describe the general patterns of current land use in the river corridor. Include

location of significant developments within the river corridor including agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial developments, and solid waste management facilities. Also include location of lands used for forest management or which are undeveloped. Identify such features as roads along the river, railroads, bridges, and utility crossings. Describe the type and location of any proposals for major developments within the river corridor.

(c) Land Use Controls

Identify the municipalities with existing master plans and zoning ordinances within the river corridor. Identify existing or significant proposed land use controls which affect the river and the river corridor (e.g., zoning, easements, subdivision regulations).

(d) Water Quantity

List the location of all operating stream gauge stations maintained by the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Department of Environmental Services. Include the number of years of record and whether it is a partial or full record station.

(e) Riparian Interests/Flowage Rights

Under New Hampshire common law, owners of frontage on surface waters have riparian rights to divert or withdraw surface waters as long as the use is reasonable with respect to uses of other riparian owners and has no undue adverse effect on public trust uses of surface waters. Describe riparian interests within the corridor, including any existing or planned water withdrawals not previously listed under the Managed Resources section. Also describe any legislatively granted water rights such as a town given legislative authorization to surface waters for public water supply in the 19th century. DES has an inventory of legislatively granted water rights.

Include any known flowage rights. Flowage rights are recorded easements granted by property owners to dam owners to allow operation of a dam to flow or flood their land. Many older dams do not have recorded flowage rights.

VIII. RIVER POINT EVALUATION SUGGESTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Explanation: By law, the rivers coordinator must evaluate the nomination using a system that has been designed to both identify significant resources and to ensure consistency in the manner in which each river nomination is evaluated. The system consists of a general evaluation and the awarding of points for the presence of significant resources within each resource category. Sponsors of the nomination are requested to suggest the number of points they feel should be awarded for the significant resources contained within each resource category and a brief justification regarding why those points should be awarded.

Instructions: Complete the table below. Please note that if a resource is present that all points for that resource should be awarded, however, only these points may not exceed the maximum points in each resource category.

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
NATURAL RESOURCE CATEGORY		205		
(a) Geologic Resources		30		
(1) national or regional significance	30			
(2) statewide significance	20			
(3) local significance	10			
(b) Wildlife Resources		30		
(1) endangered or threatened species		15		
a. national significance	15			
b. statewide significance	10			
(2) significant wildlife habitat		10		
a. Habitat that is within a conservation focus area or that is known to have contained or currently contains state or federally listed endangered or threatened species	10			
b. Habitat that is within an area of highest quality habitat statewide or highest quality in the biological region and/or is a habitat for a species of special concern	5			

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
c. Habitat that is within an area of supporting landscapes or that contains other species of greatest conservation moderately diverse	3			
d. Adjacent habitat	1			
(3) wildlife travel corridor		5		
(c) Vegetation/Natural Communities		20		
(1) endangered or threatened plant		15		
a. national significance	15			
b. statewide significance	10			
(2) exemplary natural ecological community		5		
(d) Fish Resources		35		
(1) endangered or threatened fish		15		
a. national significance	15			
b. statewide significance	10			
(2) significant aquatic habitat		10		

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
a. Habitat that is within a conservation focus area or is known to have contained or currently contains state or federally listed endangered or threatened species.	10			
b. Habitat that is within an area of highest quality habitat statewide or highest quality in the biological region and/or is a habitat for a species of special concern	5			
c. Habitat that is within an area of supporting landscapes or contains other species of greatest conservation need.	3			
d. Adjacent habitat not located within any of the above.	1			
(3) fish reproduction		5		
a. natural reproduction	5			
b. some stocking	3			
c. stocking	1			
(4) anadromous fish		5		
a. reproducing populations of diadromous fish	5			
b. restoration begun	3			

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
c. documented restoration plan	1			
(e) Water Quality		30		
(1) Class A	30			
(2) Class B	15			
(f) Open Space	10 per occurrence	30		
(g) Natural Flow Characteristics		30		
(1) 100 percent free-flowing	30			
(2) largely free-flowing	15			
SUBTOTAL NATURAL RESOURCES		205		
MANAGED RESOURCE CATEGORY		90		
(a) Impoundments		30		
(b) Water Withdrawals and Discharges		30		
(1) water withdrawals		20		
a. existing public drinking water supply	10			
b. potential public drinking water supply	5			

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
c. existing industrial water supply	5			
d. potential industrial water supply	3			
e. existing agricultural water supply	5			
f. potential agricultural water supply	3			
(2) wastewater discharges		10		
a. wastewater treatment facility discharge	10			
b. industrial wastewater discharge	5			
(c) Hydroelectric Resources		30		
(1) existing hydroelectric power production	30			
(2) potential hydroelectric power site	15			
SUBTOTAL MANAGED RESOURCES		90		
CULTURAL RESOURCE CATEGORY		60		
(a) Historical or Archeological Resource		30		
(1) national significance	30			
(2) regional significance	15			

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
(3) statewide significance	10			
(b) Community River Resource	10 per occurrence	30		
SUBTOTAL CULTURAL RESOURCES		60		
RECREATIONAL RESOURCE CATEGORY		120		
(a) Fishery		30		
(1) Year-round coldwater, warmwater, and saltwater fish species fish habitat.	30			
(2) Year-round habitat for 2 or more coldwater, warmwater or saltwater fish species.	20			
(2) Year-round habitat for wither coldwater, warmwater or saltwater fish species.	10			
(b) Boating		30		
(c) Other Recreation	10 per occurrence	30		
(d) Public Access		30		
(1) on publicly-owned land	30			

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
(2) on privately-owned land	15			
SUBTOTAL RECREATIONAL RESOURCES		120		
OTHER RESOURCE CATEGORY		120		
(a) Scenery		30		
(b) Land Use		30		
(1)high quality scenic and natural resources; corridor generally undeveloped or limited to forest management or scattered housing	30			
(2)corridor partially to predominantly used for agriculture, forest management and residential housing	20			
(3)corridor populated; some residential or other building developments; readily accessible by road	10			
(4)corridor highly populated; contains significant development	5			
(c) Land Use Controls	10 per	30		

Category	Points Available	Maximum Points	Suggested Points to be Awarded	Justification for Points
	occurrence			
(d) Water Quantity		30		
SUBTOTAL OTHER RESOURCES		120		
TOTAL POINTS		595		

Final note: Before submitting the nomination, please check the form for completeness. Nomination forms are reviewed for completeness by the Department of Environmental Services. Be sure to consult RSA 483 and Env-Wq 1803.02 to make sure that all information requirements have been met. Incomplete nominations will be ineligible for consideration by the State Legislature in the next legislative session.

Nomination Checklist

The following is a checklist of required information for each river nomination, as described in RSA 483:6.

(a)_____ Name of the river

(b)_____ Location of the river or segment; _____ Length of the river or segment

(c)_____ Sponsor's name; _____ Address; _____ Daytime Telephone

(d)_____ Description of significant resources contained in the river or segment and its corridor

(e)_____ Description of community and public support for the nomination; _____ Copies of any letters of support from elected and appointed local officials

(f) _____ Documentation of notification of the nomination to elected public officials of all municipalities through which each nominated river or segment flows.

(g) _____ Recommendation on the classification(s) for the river or segment; _____ Start and End point of each segment; _____ Length in miles of each segment

(h)_____ USGS map of the river or segment and its corridor; _____ Inset or locator map showing location of river or segment within the state

(i)_____ Assessment of river or segment's resources, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1)_____ Geologic resources

(2)_____ Wildlife resources

(3)_____ Vegetation; _____ Natural communities

(4)_____ Fish resources

(5)_____ Water quality as designated pursuant to RSA 485-A:9 or as shown by actual water quality analysis, if available

(6)_____ Hydrologic resources, including natural flow characteristics

(7)_____ Open space

(8)_____ Dams/Impoundments

(9)_____ Existing withdrawals

_____ Potential withdrawals
_____ Existing discharges
_____ Potential discharges

(10)____ Existing hydroelectric resources

____ Potential hydroelectric resources

(11)____ Historical or archaeological resources

(12)____ Community river resources

(13)____ Existing recreational resources
_____ Fishery
_____ Boating
_____ Other
_____ Public access

____ Potential recreational resources
_____ Fishery
_____ Boating
_____ Other
_____ Public access

(14)____ Scenic characteristics

(15)____ Current land use
____ Current land use controls

(16)____ Water quantity

(17)____ Riparian interests/Flowage rights

(j)____ River point evaluation and justification

Please be sure your river nomination includes at least all of the above information. Include two hard copies and one electronic copy of the nomination when submitting nomination to NHDES. Thank you for participating in the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program.