

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources



RECEIVED AUG - 4 2010

David A. Johnson
Director

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

203 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219-2010
(804) 786-2556 FAX (804) 371-7899

July 29, 2010

Mr. Michael W. Johnson
Southampton County Administrator
Post Office Box 400
Courtland, Virginia 23837

RE: Extension of Scenic River Designation on the Nottoway River

Dear Mr. Johnson:

At your request, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) conducted an evaluation of the Nottoway River from Careys Bridge, the terminus of the existing Scenic River designation, to its confluence with the Blackwater River at the North Carolina line (a distance of approximately 33 miles). On the basis of a field study on May 19 and 20, 2010, this river segment was found to qualify as an extension of the existing designated portion of the Nottoway.

Background work conducted during the winter of 2009-10 laid the ground work for the field evaluations, and on May 19, DCR staff, along with Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) staff and citizens, paddled the first segment of the Nottoway River from Careys Bridge to the Cypress Bridge Natural Area Preserve. On May 20, the remaining segment was evaluated via powerboat provided by DGIF. In addition to DCR staff, those participating in the fieldwork were local citizens, including adjacent landowners; DGIF representatives; and Bryon Carmean, a local citizen involved in the Champion Tree program.

Should your localities wish to continue with the designation process, the next step will be to obtain a resolution of support for the designation from the County Board of Supervisors. When that is secured, please send a copy to me at the address on this letterhead.

Following adoption of the resolution, the County will need to contact your local legislators to ask that they serve as patrons for legislation in the 2011 General Assembly session to codify the extension. A suggested amendment to the *Code of Virginia* is attached.

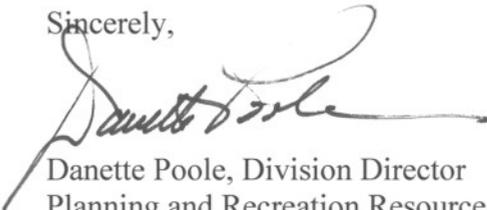
DCR will present the designation legislation to the Virginia Scenic River Advisory Board at their next meeting and will recommend that the Board endorse it.

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With the addition of this new segment, the total designated Nottoway River mileage will be 72.5 miles.

DCR staff is looking forward to working with Southampton County to complete the designation process. Any additional questions can be directed to Lynn M. Crump, Environmental Programs Planner, (804) 786.5054 or Lynn.Crump@dcv.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,



Danette Poole, Division Director
Planning and Recreation Resources

Attachment

C: David A. Johnson, Director, Department of Conservation and Recreation
Richard G. Gibbons, Chairman, Virginia Scenic River Advisory Board
James A. Randolph, Southampton County Assistant Administrator
Jeff Turner, Blackwater-Nottoway Riverkeeper
Eric M. Brittle, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Lynn M. Crump, Environmental Programs Planner

§ 10.1-414. Nottoway Scenic River

The Nottoway River in Sussex County and Southampton County, from the Route 40 bridge at Stony Creek to the North Carolina line, a distance of approximately 72.5 miles, is hereby designated a component of the Virginia Scenic Rivers System. Nothing in this section shall preclude the Commonwealth or a local governing body from constructing, reconstructing, operating, or performing necessary maintenance on any road or bridge project.