



GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

BECKY KELLEY
DIRECTOR

August 29, 2016

Ms. Liz Sparks
Paddling Trail Coordinator
Office of Greenways & Trails
Division of Recreation & Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

RE: Letter of Support for Designation of Suwannee River as National Water Trail

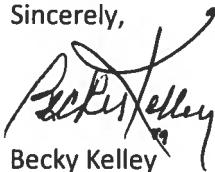
Dear Ms. Sparks,

I am contacting you as the Director of the Parks, Recreation & Historic Sites Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to enthusiastically support the efforts of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails application to the Department of the Interior for designating the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Abundant natural resources, rich history, and cultural heritage combined with endless recreation opportunities make the iconic Suwannee River an outstanding candidate for this prestigious designation. National Water Trail designation will increase awareness of the river, provide economic benefits to local communities and provide an opportunity to educate the public about the significance of supporting conservation of natural resources.

The GA DNR is committed to working across the state line to partner with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails and fully supports the application to designate the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Sincerely,



Becky Kelley



STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

BECKY KELLEY
DIRECTOR

August 26, 2016

Ms. Liz Sparks
Paddling Trail Coordinator
Office of Greenways & Trails
Division of Recreation & Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

RE: Letter of Support for Designation of Suwannee River as National Water Trail

Dear Ms. Sparks,

I am contacting you as Region Manager on behalf of Georgia State Parks & Historic Sites to enthusiastically support the efforts of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails application to the Department of the Interior for designating the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Abundant natural resources, rich history, and cultural heritage combined with endless recreation opportunities make the iconic Suwannee River an outstanding candidate for this prestigious designation. National Water Trail designation will increase awareness of the river, provide economic benefits to local communities and provide an opportunity to educate the public about the significance of supporting conservation of natural resources.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, State Parks & Historic Sites is committed to working across the state line to partner with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails and fully supports the application to designate the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Sincerely,

Tommy Turk
Region 2 Manager

TT/njj



**United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service**



Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
2700 Suwannee Canal Road
Folkston, Georgia 31537
(912) 496-7366 x226

August 25, 2016

Ms. Liz Sparks
Paddling Trail Coordinator
Office of Greenways & Trails
Division of Recreation & Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

RE: Letter of Support for Designation of Suwannee River as National Water Trail

Dear Ms. Sparks,

I am contacting you as Project Leader of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge on behalf of the refuge and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to enthusiastically support the efforts of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails application to the Department of the Interior for designating the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Abundant natural resources, rich history, and cultural heritage combined with endless recreation opportunities make the iconic Suwannee River an outstanding candidate for this prestigious designation. National Water Trail designation will increase awareness of the river, provide economic benefits to local communities and provide an opportunity to educate the public about the significance of supporting conservation of natural resources.

The staff of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge are committed to working across the state line to partner with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails and fully supports the application process to designate the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 912-496-7366 ex 226 or Susan Heisey at 912-496-7366 ex 233.

Sincerely,

for
Michael Lusk
Project Leader
Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge



August 31, 2016

Ms. Liz Sparks
Paddling Trail Coordinator
Office of Greenways & Trails
Division of Recreation & Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Blvd., MS 795
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

RE: Letter of Support for Designation of Suwannee River as National Water Trail

Dear Ms. Sparks,

I am contacting you as Park Manager on behalf of Stephen C. Foster State Park to enthusiastically support the efforts of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails application to the Department of the Interior for designating the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Abundant natural resources, rich history, and cultural heritage combined with endless recreation opportunities make the iconic Suwannee River an outstanding candidate for this prestigious designation. National Water Trail designation will increase awareness of the river, provide economic benefits to local communities and provide an opportunity to educate the public about the significance of supporting conservation of natural resources.

Stephen C. Foster is committed to working across the state line to partner with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails and fully supports the application to designate the Suwannee River as a National Water Trail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan S. Gray". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Bryan S. Gray
Park Manager