

State of Indiana

Senate

Senator Karen Tallian
200 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 232-9849
s4@iga.in.gov

Committees:
Appropriations, RMM
Corrections & Criminal Law
Environmental Affairs
Pensions & Labor, RMM
Rules & Legislative Procedure

March 24, 2015

Ms. Corita Waters
National Park Service
National Recreation Trail Coordinator
1849 C Street, NW, Org. Code 2220
Washington, D.C. 20240

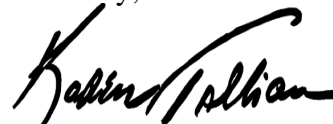
Dear Ms. Waters:

It is with great enthusiasm that I support the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association and the Illinois representatives' application to designate the entire 133 miles of the Kankakee River as a National Water Trail.

The Kankakee River starts in rural St. Joseph County, Indiana and runs until it joins with the Des Plaines River in Illinois. A designation of a National Water Trail will be the first in both states, and the recognition will promote better public health, increase community-based recreational opportunities, improve public access, and boost tourism—which should spur economic growth. Additionally, as a National Water Trail, the Kankakee will expand the environmental research and educational opportunities that this group of rivers provides to our nation.

I enthusiastically support the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association and their counterparts from Illinois in their decision to apply for a National Water Trail designation. Please feel free to contact my office if you have any further questions for me about this great opportunity for Indiana.

Sincerely,



Karen Tallian
Indiana State Senator
Senate District 4