



Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Ms. Corita Waters  
National Park Service  
National Recreation Trail Coordinator

Dear Ms. Waters,

On behalf of the National Parks Conservation Association, I am writing to express our support for designation of the Kankakee River Water Trail as a National Water Trail.

NPCA supports National Water Trail designations throughout the Great Lakes and we are highly supportive of the Kankakee River National Water Trail designation.

We support the designation of a National Water Trail for the entire 133 miles of the Kankakee River from the headwaters of the Kankakee River in rural St. Joseph County, Indiana, to the Des Plaines River in Illinois.

There are numerous benefits key to the life and wellness of communities along the Kankakee River by designating this place as a National Water Trail. Opportunities to increase public access and education of the Kankakee River have the potential to increase tourism and economic development for the region. NPCA supports the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association and the Illinois Representatives who have worked so diligently to successfully designate the Kankakee River National Water Trail.

Sincerely,

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Midwest Region, NPCA

**Midwest Field Office**