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January 26, 2016

Ms. Corita Waters
National Park Service
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
1849 C St., NW, Org. Code 2220
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Waters,

Please accept this letter of support to designate the Kankakee River as a National Water Trail.

As the Representative for Illinois' 16th Congressional District – I know firsthand; a great number of constituents utilize the Kankakee River for outdoor recreation and to explore the scenic beauty it has to offer. These constituents are proud of their natural resources and their stewardship is top notch.

Many Communities find themselves blessed with remarkable local waterways for which the community – as well as tourists – can take advantage of. The Kankakee River – all 133 miles – is no exception. However, designating the Kankakee River as a National Water Trail will grant constituencies even greater access to this resource leading to increased recreation, tourism, benefits to the local as well as the surrounding economies, and responsible stewardship. Perhaps, most importantly, designating the Kankakee River as a National Water Trail will foster a greater sense of community for villages and cities along the Kankakee. As a result, I strongly support this application.

With this in mind, I ask you and the National Park Service to give every consideration to supporting the application designating the Kankakee River as a National Water Trail.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If my office can be of further assistance, please contact Greg Ridenour: Field Representative (815/431/9271; greg.ridenour@mail.house.gov) in my Ottawa District Office.

Sincerely,



Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress
IL-16