

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Clyde E. Cristman
Director



Rochelle Altholz
Deputy Director of
Administration and Finance

Russell W. Baxter
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Deputy Director of
Operations

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OCT 19 2020

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

County of Albemarle
County Executive's Office

October 6, 2020

Ms. Rebecca S. Carter
Buckingham County Administrator
P.O. Box 252
Buckingham, VA 23921-0252

Mr. Jeffrey B. Richardson
Albemarle County Executive
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, VA 22902-4596

Mr. Eric M. Dahl
Fluvanna County Administrator
P.O. Box 540
Palmyra, VA 22963

Mr. Stephen A. Carter
Nelson County Administrator
P.O. Box 336
Lovingston, VA 22949

Re: Scenic River Study of the Middle James River between Allens Creek and Warren, and New Canton and Columbia

Dear Administrators:

At your request on behalf of the [county] Board of Supervisors, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) staff conducted a scenic river study of the Middle James River. The field evaluation was performed on September 9 through 13, 2020. James River Association and DCR staff along with interested local citizens traveled the study corridor by canoe and kayak. Based on the study, the segments totaling 45 miles from the confluence with Allen's Creek to Warren and from New Canton to Columbia has been found to qualify for Virginia Scenic River designation. These extensions will be added to the James River segment that was designated July 1, 2020 from Warren to New Canton to make a total of approximately 65 miles of the James River a designated Virginia Scenic River.

Should the Board wish to continue with the designation process, please notify Lynn Crump of my staff as soon as possible. The Board will ultimately need to pass a resolution of support for extending the designation of the James River. Once DCR receives a copy of the resolution, we will develop a report about the recommendation for designation, which will be posted at <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/srstudies>. The Counties will also need to contact its local General Assembly representatives to request that they serve as patrons for the legislation that will codify the designation.

For the full section of the James River from Allen's Creek to Columbia to be designated as a scenic river, all of the locality jurisdictions within this river span must provide a County resolution of support. Specifically Appomattox and Cumberland Counties, copied here, will also need to provide a resolution of support as described. DCR encourages all localities to work together to assure the full 45 qualifying miles can be processed for designation.

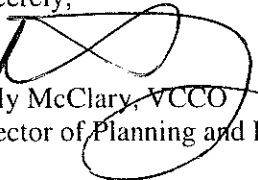
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor | Richmond, Virginia 23219 | 804-786-6124

State Parks • Soil and Water Conservation • Outdoor Recreation Planning
Natural Heritage • Dam Safety and Floodplain Management • Land Conservation

The Board of Conservation and Recreation will hear the proposal for this designation at its next meeting and will review and make a determination on the designation for the Middle James River. We look forward to hearing from you regarding your interest in pursuing the formal designation. Ideally, designation legislation could be introduced in the 2021 General Assembly session.

If you would like DCR staff to participate in any general or public informational meetings, please let Lynn Crump know and we will be happy to assist. We appreciate your interest in the Scenic Rivers Program and look forward to working with you to facilitate the extension of the designation of the Middle James River. If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Crump, Environmental Programs Planner, 804-786-5054, or Lynn.Crump@dcr.virginia.gov. In an effort to more effectively reduce our environmental impacts, all copies will be sent electronically.

Sincerely,



Kelly McClary, VCCO
Director of Planning and Recreation Resources

Attachment

- C: Susan M. Adams – Appomattox County Administrator
Don Unmussig, Cumberland County Administrator
Matt Lawless, Scottsville Town Administrator, Town of Scottsville
Anne Dixon – Appomattox County Director of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
Maureen A. Kelley – Nelson County Director of Tourism
Claire Richardson – Nelson County Director of Parks and Recreation
Dan Mahon – Albemarle Greenway/Blueway Supervisor
Chip Boyles, Executive Director, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission
Grace Leonard, Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission
Justin Doyle, James River Association
Rob Campbell, James River Association
Heidi Dhivya Berthoud, Friends of Buckingham
Lynn Crump, Scenic Resources Coordinator, DCR

Legend

— James River section designated July 1, 2020

— Qualified Sections

Scenic Rivers

Status

— Designated

— Qualified

— Potential

— Historic Resources

— James River State Park

— scenic roads

