



HVA
PROTECTING YOUR BACKYARD

3/27/06

Housatonic River Natural Resource Trustees
c/o Woodlot Associates
30 Park Drive
Topsham, ME 04086-1737



Re: Late Letters of Support

Dear Housatonic River Natural Resource Trustees,

I fully realize that the deadline was March 21 for the NRD proposal packets, but just in case we can additional information, I am sending these two additional letters of support which I just received and I am also enclosing a detailed internal HVA budget for our Old Mill Trail construction proposal. This is the budget that we used to compile the NRD requested budget, and I am enclosing it in the hopes that it can be included in the full proposal package. As you will see, one of the letters of support is for the Old Mill Trail project and the other is for the river access proposal which we submitted with ESS.

I hope that this additional information can be included, but I understand that it is past the official deadline.

Enjoy your reading.

Sincerely,

Dennis Regan
Berkshire Director



Tri-Corner Community Development Corporation, Inc.

March 23, 2006

Housatonic River Natural Resource Trustees
c/o Woodlot Associates
30 Park Drive
Topsham, ME 04086-1737

Re: Proposal for the Development of Housatonic River Access Sites

Dear Housatonic River Natural Resource Trustees,

I am writing to express enthusiastic support for the Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) and ESS Group, Inc. (ESS) NRD proposal to develop additional river access sites along the Housatonic River.

As Executive Director of the Tri-Corner Community Development Corporation, I am excited about this opportunity to provide the public with opportunities to experience first-hand the power and beauty of the Housatonic River. We are especially interested in this project as it relates to our organization's mission of creating healthy, diverse and sustainable communities. The Housatonic River drainage largely defines this region, and nurturing our ties with it by increasing appropriate public access, will greatly enrich our sense of place.

As a non-profit organization active in affordable housing and economic development in the southern Berkshire region, we are often involved in sites that front the Housatonic River. HVA and ESS proposes to work with river communities and local organizations such as ours in reviewing and updating the existing HRR list of potential river access sites and choosing between 4- 6 sites for development. This kind of local input will help ensure local "ownership" and long-term caring for the access sites.

Some of these sites would be for limited access improvements, while other sites would be targeted for canoe access, river bank fishing access, handicap access, etc. Handicap access may include improved shoreline access in the form of a boardwalk along a limited section of riverbank to allow for fishing, birding, wildlife viewing, and general aesthetic enjoyment. Educational signage will also be considered as a potential design element of each access facility.

Thank you for giving this project proposal your highest consideration. We very much look forward to helping HVA and ESS improve the accessibility of this great watershed recreational resource.

Sincerely,



Timothy Geller
Executive Director