

10. SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION NOTTOWAY RIVER

In accordance with Supervisor Brown's request last month, I've placed this matter on your agenda for discussion. As you're aware, a 39.5 mile section of the Nottoway River north of Cary's Bridge (Route 653) is already a component of the Virginia Scenic Rivers System. Based on the original evaluation in 1988, the portion of the Nottoway River south of Cary's Bridge to its confluence with the Blackwater River at the North Carolina line qualified for inclusion in the system, but the Board of Supervisors at that time opted not to pursue the designation for the entire section.

As you know, there are essentially 5 basic steps involved with the designation process:

1. The river must be evaluated by state officials to determine if it qualifies for the designation based upon 11 defined criteria;
2. A report is prepared by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and distributed to the Virginia Scenic River Advisory Board for review and comment;
3. Copies of the report are then forwarded to the respective local governing bodies with proposed legislation to designate the river as scenic;
4. At the request of the local governing bodies, the legislation is introduced by a local member of the Virginia General Assembly; and
5. The legislation is passed and signed by the Governor.

As Ms. Crump shared last month, since the original evaluation is more than 20 years old, if this is something the Board is interested in pursuing, it is necessary for the Board to request DCR to re-study that portion of the river to determine if it still qualifies for inclusion.

MOTION REQUIRED:

If the Board is so inclined, a motion is required to officially request DCR to study and evaluate the Nottoway River south of Cary's Bridge for inclusion in the Virginia Scenic Rivers System.