



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
St. Croix National Scenic Riverway
401 Hamilton Street
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin 54024-0708

IN REPLY REFER TO:

May 2, 2011

A3823(SACN)

Scott Peterson
Executive Director, Friends of the St. Croix Headwaters
P.O. Box 276
Gordon, WI 54838

Dear Scott:

As superintendent of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the Canoes on Wheels program. The Friends of the St. Croix Headwaters are to be commended for the creation and continued development of this program.

Canoes on Wheels is a wonderful example of the process of building future stewards of our natural world. The effort to put middle and high school-aged kids in canoes not only provides a way for young people to experience the outdoors, but also leads to increased appreciation and understanding of the St. Croix River and its watershed. As we know, it is only through the love of a place that people will take action to care for it.

This program also fully supports the goals of the National Scenic Riverway, which is a unit of the National Park System and is also protected under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968. In addition to protecting and enhancing the natural, scenic, and cultural resources of the St. Croix and Namekagon rivers, the National Park Service provides a diverse range of recreational opportunities along the Riverway, as well as opportunities for learning about the rivers' geologic, cultural, ecological, and aesthetic values in order to promote stewardship.

I wish you continued success with Canoes on Wheels. If there are additional ways in which the National Park Service can provide support or assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Christopher E. Stein
Superintendent