

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed H.R. 13372 - Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Amendment (New River). This bill amends the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to (1) include a segment of the New River within the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and (2) prohibit Federal licensing of water resource development projects adversely impacting the designated area.

Under provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, certain rivers in the nation possessing outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, are to be preserved in free-flowing condition, and their immediate environments protected for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations.

The New River flows from North Carolina through Virginia and West Virginia eventually merging with tributary waters of the Ohio River.

The bill is intended to provide specific statutory recognition of the Secretary of the Interior's earlier designation of a 26.5 mile segment of the New River as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

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