

**AMERICA’S MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS® 2019**

**Nomination Form**

**NOMINATIONS DUE NOVEMBER 16, 2018**

Every year, American Rivers releases its annual report, *America’s Most Endangered Rivers®*. The report has a proven track record of combining the power of national and local partners to focus media and public attention and secure positive actions for rivers and communities at risk.

We welcome your nominations for our 2019 report. Please note that nominations are judged by the following primary criteria:

* A major decision (that the public can help influence) in the coming year on the proposed action
* The significance of the river to human and natural communities.
* The magnitude of the threat to the river and associated communities, especially in light of a changing climate

### \*\*\* Complete the nomination form below in Microsoft Word. All forms must be typed and submitted electronically.

### Completed nomination forms are required for all rivers, including previously nominated and listed rivers.

### Submission of a nomination does not guarantee inclusion in the 2019 report, therefore you must not disclose your nomination to the public, post it on the internet, or notify the media at this time.

### We encourage you to view past reports at <https://www.americanrivers.org/threats-solutions/endangered-rivers/> to learn what kinds of rivers make strong candidates. Review last year’s report on the website to see model language for your nomination. Note that your nomination will provide the basis for the information included in our report, so ensure that it is well thought out and presented clearly and concisely. Please address all of the bulleted issues listed in the form in your narrative.

### Please thoughtfully consider involving partners with a variety of talents in your nomination. In order to increase our ability to influence decision-makers, we will be looking for nominations that bring new people to the table. We will also be looking for motivated groups willing to try different avenues to promote their listing locally.

### For additional information on nominating a river for inclusion in this program, please contact Emily Harris, Conservation Program Assistant, at eharris@americanrivers.org or (202) 347-7550.

**Guidelines for Lead Nominating Groups**

*Who should be listed as the lead nominating group?*

* This is the group (or person) taking primary responsibility for compilation and review of materials and coordinating other activities associated with the listing. This point of contact should be prepared to spend time working on the listing, should the river be selected for inclusion in the report.

*What types of things will the lead nominating group (and supporting groups, as appropriate) be expected to do if the river is included on the list?*

* Complete nomination form and answer any questions from the reviewers
* Compile first draft of two page report write-up, based on information provided in the nomination form
* Compile first draft of action alert letter to decision makers
* Gather input from your partner groups on materials and combine into one draft to submit to American Rivers
* Review near-final drafts of materials before they are posted to the website
* Gather high resolution photos of the river
* Review press release, provide quotes, and help determine who spokespersons should be
* Help to identify appropriate local contacts for our press outreach list
* Call press contacts (this can be divided up amongst partner groups, as appropriate)—press like to hear from local voices
* Write (or arrange for the writing of) a blog talking in more anecdotal terms about why people should care about your endangered river—this will be used to promote actions
* Generally coordinate with your partner groups, ensuring that everyone knows what is going on and is on board with messaging
* Stay in communication with American Rivers for at least one year following your river’s listing and share any major updates
* If interested, develop a short video about the river (not required)
* If interested, plan an event or press conference to highlight the river listing (or perhaps include in existing events) (not required)

We do expect our partners who nominate rivers to be actively involved in developing materials for the river listings and promoting the listings with media and others, as appropriate. By working together, we can leverage our resources and make the biggest splash for *America’s Most Endangered Rivers®*!



**AMERICA’S MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS® 2019**

**Nomination Form**

**I. GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Name of River** Click here to enter text.

**States Crossed and Geographic Limits (please attach a map)**

Click here to enter text.

**U.S. Congressional Districts Crossed** Click here to enter text.

**Lead Nominating Group** Click here to enter text.

**Lead Point of Contact** Click here to enter text.

AddressClick here to enter text.

PhoneClick here to enter text.

Website Click here to enter text.

Email Click here to enter text.

\* Note: This is the group taking primary responsibility for compilation and review of materials and coordinating other activities associated with the listing.

**Supporting Partner/Organization 1** Click here to enter text.

**Supporting Partner/Organization 2** Click here to enter text.

\*Note: Two to three “official” partners/organizations for each listing are ideal, but not required. Please only list groups here who intend to be involved in the MER process.

**II. RIVER, THREAT(S) AND DECISION POINTS**

Using this form, please present a narrative that describes the river, the threat it faces, and a major action or decision being made in the coming 1-2 years that will determine the fate of the river. **Please limit your narrative to the word limits provided for each section.**

**Summary (100-word limit)**

* Briefly summarize the river’s significance, the threat, and the decision point to highlight the most important information

Click here to enter text.

**The River (150-word limit)**

**Why is the river important to the community, region, and nation as a whole? Please discuss the following:**

* Number of people who use the river for drinking water (or population of key cities/towns in the watershed)
* Outline other uses (e.g., recreation, irrigation, power generation, etc.) — note the economic value of uses, if possible
* Highlight remarkable features (natural, cultural, or historic) that make the river locally, regionally, or nationally significant
* Note any threatened or endangered species found in the river

Click here to enter text.

**The Threat (300-word limit)**

**Why is the river’s future uncertain? Please discuss the following:**

* Many rivers are threatened by more than one activity. However, please **choose one threat** that best fits the criteria for this report and provide detailed information on that issue (e.g., proposed development, water withdrawals, pollution, land use conflicts, dams, energy generation, water projects, over-allocation, etc.).
* Articulate the magnitude, seriousness, and imminence of the threat to the river and associated communities, and how that may be exacerbated by a changing climate
* Identify the agency or other entity responsible for the threat

Click here to enter text.

**Decision Point (200-word limit)**

**How will the river’s fate be determined in the coming year? Please discuss the following:**

* Describe **the best protective action** that can be taken to eliminate the threat
* Provide information on major legislation, policy change, permit issuance, or similar action anticipated in the next 1-2 years that could magnify or lessen the threat
	+ For example, if the specific threat will require permits, list the permits required, the agencies that will issue/deny the permits, when the proponent of the project is expected to apply for the permits, when the permits are expected to be issued, and if/when there will be an opportunity for public comment (e.g., hearings, meetings, etc.)
* Identify interests that will be opposed to taking action to improve the river’s condition

Click here to enter text.

### III. CONNECTION WITH MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES

American Rivers values the inclusion of issues disproportionately impacting marginalized communities in our *America’s Most Endangered Rivers®* report. While a diversity connection is not a requirement for this program, we would like to highlight these issues where applicable. Please describe below if your nomination has a connection to a marginalized community (based on any factor, including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, class, etc.). Do you have any partner groups who represent marginalized communities (or does your own group have a diverse community of supporters)?

Click or tap here to enter text.

### IV. MAKE YOUR CASE (200-word limit)

Please describe why you think this would make a compelling listing for our MER 2019 report. Do you have dynamic and savvy partners? Are you working on a well-known river? Is this part of a major campaign? Do you expect a big bang for our buck? Will the media find this irresistible? Tell us why WE MUST list this river in 2019.

Click here to enter text.

### V. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Please provide a map of your river. Additional materials like video, press clippings, brochures, and photos are not necessary at this time. If there is something that you really think we need to know that we have not asked about above, please briefly note below. Please email your completed nomination form (and address any questions) to eharris@americanrivers.org.

### Click here to enter text.

### VI. WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

American Rivers staff may follow up to get more information and clarify facts and issues. Groups submitting successful nominations will be asked to proofread report language for their river, provide photographs and video for the report, assist in the preparation of press and web materials, answer media inquiries, plan press conferences or other events, and maintain year-round contact with American Rivers staff regarding developments on your river. We anticipate selection of the 2019 list of rivers in January 2019.