**AMERICA’S MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS® 2026**

[**Online Nomination Form**](https://forms.gle/Zx8KZrvXMYqqhZDeA)

**NOMINATIONS DUE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2025**

Rivers make life possible. They provide our drinking water, sustain ecosystems and local economies, and connect communities across the country. But too many of America’s rivers are in crisis, facing threats that impact our health and safety, wildlife, and our future.

This is why, every year, American Rivers announces *America's Most Endangered Rivers®*—the campaign that shines a national spotlight on rivers at risk, galvanizing the public to take action, and securing lasting victories for people and clean water.

Is your river facing an urgent threat, with a decision in the coming year that will impact its fate? Please consider nominating your river for the 2026 report.

**Dates and deadlines**

**All nominations must be received by Friday, September 30, 2025.**

Nominators will be informed of the selection decision by January 16, 2026.

American Rivers will release the report on April 14, 2026, in a media and public engagement campaign coordinated with the nominating partners.

**We will select rivers based on the following criteria:**

1. The significance of the river to people, wildlife, and nature.
2. A decision in the coming year that will impact the river’s fate.
3. The magnitude of threat to the river and its communities, especially in light of climate change and environmental injustice.

***What partners can expect from American Rivers***

* National visibility for your river
* Kickoff call and regular meetings to provide information about process and needs
* Content creation support (report, press release, action alert, social media toolkit)
* Outreach to regional and national media
* Project management: Ongoing communication, updates, and general support from American Rivers’ Project Manager (Chantel Dominguez, Director of Conservation Partnerships)
* American Rivers staff liaison assigned to support your specific river listing

***What American Rivers expects from partners***

* Approximately 5-10 hours per week from February – April (please note this is an estimate and may depend on your specific river listing and requirements)
* Collaboration in crafting the communications strategy for your river
* Participation in required virtual meetings and kickoff calls (at least 3, but no more than 5 mandatory)
* Photos and video production (7-10 high resolution photos and video content)
* Writing and editing contributions (support and/or lead the creation of approximately 2-3 pages of written information about your river listing)
* Availability to answer clarifying questions about your river, threat, decision point, etc.
* Outreach to local media outlets
* Timely correspondence, feedback, and general responsiveness
* Participation in brief post-feedback survey

**Additional Information**

Learn more about American Rivers and the America's Most Endangered Rivers® campaign: [americanrivers.org/about-mer](https://americanrivers.org/about-mer). For more information, please refer to the list of  [FAQs](https://www.americanrivers.org/americas-most-endangered-rivers-frequently-asked-questions/) or contact Chantel Dominguez at cdominguez@americanrivers.org.

* Completed nomination forms are required for all rivers, including previously nominated and listed rivers.
* Please do not disclose nominations to the public, post it on the internet or notify media.
* Submission of a nomination does not guarantee inclusion in the 2025 report.
* All nominators will be informed of the selection decision by January 6, 2025.

**Nomination Submission**

To submit a nomination, please either:

1. Fill out and submit the [online nomination form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdgU78gMurYfsOhOu4PTJxT5TjN9WDvGDNkzh-W1ij8jm1hag/viewform) (preferred method)

**or**

1. Download this Nomination Form and email the completed document to Chantel Dominguez at cdominguez@americanrivers.org. If any accommodations are needed, please contact Chantel.

**All nominations must be received by Friday, September 30, 2025**.

**AMERICA’S MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS® 2026 NOMINATION FORM**

**Contact Information**

Please indicate the group (or person) taking primary responsibility for activities associated with *America’s Most Endangered Rivers®*. Primary contacts should expect to spend time working with American Rivers if your river is selected.

*Your Email Address:*

*Your Name (first and last):*

*Name of the Organization/Entity You Represent:*

*Will you or your organization be the primary responsible partner if your river is selected for the campaign (see above partner expectations)? If not, who or which organization would be expected to lead as the primary partner?*

**General Information:** Please provide general background and geographical information about the river you are nominating.

*Name of River:*

*State(s):*

*Cities/towns/communities impacted, and geographic boundaries (if not entire river):*

*U.S. Congressional Districts crossed:*

*Top 3 reasons why this river is significant regionally and/or nationally. For example – history, culture, biodiversity, drinking water source, etc. (1-3 sentences per reason.)*

*Reason 1:*

*Reason 2:*

*Reason 3:*

**Threat**

Answer the questions below to describe the threat to the river and an upcoming decision that could impact the river's future. **Please choose one primary threat** that best fits the *America’s Most Endangered Rivers*® criteria and provide information on that issue.

*In one sentence — what is the biggest threat to your river right now?*

*Who or what is posing this threat? (40 words or less)*

*Who/what will be (or is being) harmed and in what way? (100 words or less)*

*Will/do threats to this river impact a community that has been marginalized based on any factor, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, income, or other systemic disadvantage? If so, briefly explain how. (150 words or less)*

*What is currently being done to address the threat to this river? Are there any recent or current local initiatives?*

*What is your organization's (or individual) current involvement with this river and this issue?*

*Is there anything else you think we need to know about this threat to provide clarity?*

**Decision**

*What is the ONE decision coming up this year that the public can influence? E*XAMPLE: all permits for “x” construction must be revoked. *(200 words or less)*

*Who is the decision maker? (i.e. who has the power/responsibility to decide on this specific action for the river?) (50 words or less)*

*Within what approximate timeframe do you expect this decision to be made?*

**Additional Information**

*List partners that will be involved in America’s Most Endangered Rivers® activities, should your river be selected.*

*Are any of the groups or individuals listed above led by (or serve on behalf of) systemically marginalized or under-resourced communities, as defined above?*

*What else do you want us to know as we consider this nomination?*