

# Executive Summary

An essential part of the lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook Study process was development of this Management Plan (Plan). This Plan is a **non-regulatory, advisory document**, reflecting a partnership in which local, state and federal interests voluntarily participate in its implementation and the realization of its purpose and goals. The plan was developed by the locally-led Wild and Scenic Study Committee, with the help of many others. A working draft of the Management Plan was distributed to town land use commissions, local citizens, the state and other key stakeholders, and also posted on the Study Committee’s website, to solicit input and comments prior to submitting it to the National Park Service and Congress for approval.

The Management Plan provides a vision and action strategy for the cooperative management and protection of the lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook and their ORVs.

The development of the management plan was guided by three fundamental principles:

1. Resource conservation and protection relies on existing authorities.
2. Management of the corridor is based on a cooperatively developed plan that is implemented through the cooperation of all river interests.
3. Any land conservation initiatives related to a Wild and Scenic designation will be based solely on voluntary willing seller arrangements.

The roles and responsibilities of land use planning and regulatory commissions and agencies do not change with a Wild and Scenic designation. *There are no federal mandates or new regulatory powers created with a designation.*

This Management Plan details the “**Outstandingly Remarkable Values**” that are associated with the lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook and their immediate environments. For the purposes of this document and for the sake of concision, the Outstandingly Remarkable Values are referred to as **Outstanding Resource Values (ORVs)** within.