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LETTER: Group supports Neches proposal

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Bruce Walker, Co-Chair, Citizens Protecting the Neches River, Beaumont

Citizens up and down the Neches River are rallying to support the study of the Neches as a National Wild and Scenic River.

“Citizens Protecting the Neches River” has been organized on the lower Neches and “Friends of the Neches River” on the upper Neches to speak out in support of the study. Having the Neches River designated as a Wild and Scenic River would be a tremendous draw for Texas tourism.

This designation will ensure healthy forests, lakes, estuaries and bays. In turn, this would mean sustained eco-tourism, hunting and fishing, as well as water for our communities and industries. It’s all about keeping the water flowing downstream to nourish our precious eco-systems and the economies of East and Southeast Texas. Special interest that are against the study of the Neches River like to use the phrase “unintended consequences” as cover.

Support the study and learn the real answers about restrictions, land use and ownership. The Wild and Scenic River proposal is not a land acquisition project. It is a designation that prohibits additional dams from being built on the river while allowing other activities to continue.

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