## **Little Manistee Natural Rivers Program Letter of Support**

This document serves as a Letter of Support between various individuals, interest groups, non-profit organizations, private businesses, units of government and others interested in maintaining the pristine quality of the Little Manistee River and its watershed into the future. It does not convey any specific responsibilities or commitments to those signing this agreement. It is simply an expression of support for the goals described in this document.



## **PROPOSED ACTION**

The undersigned believe that the health of the Little Manistee River is critical to the well-being and economic health of the area and that the local watershed community should support the best use and development of the watershed – now and for future generations.



Accordingly, those signing this agreement support the following:

- That the local watershed community recognizes an impending threat to the river and its corridor by unchecked development and land use along the Little Manistee River and its tributaries. As part of this community, we seek to achieve the designation of the little Manistee River as a "Natural River" under the Michigan Natural Rivers Program.
- The development by a citizens committee of a Natural Rivers Management Plan which creates rules for land use and development specific to the Little Manistee River and conforms to the Michigan Natural Rivers program through an open, inclusive process that includes representation of all interests. This would include public hearings in each of the affected counties and in Lansing, and a survey of riparian property owners within the watershed.
- > The Natural Rivers Management Plan will aid the community and Michigan DNR in establishing zoning rules specific to the Little Manistee River corridor to provide for the wise use of the land and manage development to sustain a healthy, thriving river.

When the Natural Rivers Management Plan and rules are complete and support from the community is clear we ask the Director of the DNR to designate the Little Manistee a Natural River under the Michigan Natural Rivers program.

We, the undersigned, concur that the designation of the Little Manistee River as a Natural River under the Michigan Natural Rivers program is in the best long-term interest of property owners, individuals, groups, organizations, businesses, schools, students, and other interests concerned with the Little Manistee River Watershed – now and in the future. We express our support of this designation in accord with the objectives and principles contained in this Partnership Agreement.

Organization / Signee	Address	Phone/Email	Date
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