

## Chris Korbolic

In June 2016 I made a descent of the Napeequa River by whitewater kayak. Alone, I carried my kayak along much of the wild river to avoid hazards of the descent. Off the river, I walked the amazing valley and forest nurtured by the backbone of the river. Four years later, late in the summer of 2020 I returned with a small group to attempt to paddle more of the river. While we were able to paddle much more and enjoy some amazing whitewater, the nature of the river still kept us walking the bank along many of its steepest parts. Still, it remains one of the most beautiful rivers and valleys I have seen in almost 20 years traveling the globe in search of beautiful rivers. Though I would not expect it to become a frequented stretch of river, it is certainly a unique recreational opportunity and an invaluable pristine section of river.

I can't say "places like this" should be protected, because the opportunity has passed for the places that used to be like this. Now is the time to protect these waters from future degradation. Thank you for considering designating the Napeequa as an Outstanding Resource Water.