

STATE OF VERMONT JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members

From: Daniel Dickerson, Fiscal Analyst

Date: September 22, 2017

Subject: Grant Request #2896 – 2899

Enclosed please find four (4) items, including two (2) limited-service positions, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration.

JFO #2896 – \$198,000 from the VT Housing and Conservation Board to the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. The funds will be used to acquire a 50-acre parcel in the town of Benson adjacent to the Pond Woods Wildlife Management Area and abutting Sunset Lake. The grant funds will be combined with \$172,000 in federal funding to achieve the total \$370,000 cost of the land (including legal fees and survey work). The Department would be responsible for the costs of future PILOT, kiosks and signage. [JFO received 9/8/17]

JFO #2897 – \$50,000 from the VT Housing and Conservation Board to the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. The funds will be used to acquire a 281.4-acre parcel in the town of Fair Haven adjacent to the Green Mountain Conservation Camp. A new wildlife management area would be created in association with the camp. The grant funds will be combined with funding from multiple special fund sources within the Department to achieve the total \$235,000 cost (including legal fees and survey work). The Department would be responsible for the costs of future PILOT, kiosks and signage.

[JFO received 9/12/17]

JFO #2898 – \$41,550 from the U.S. Forest Service to the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. One (1) limited-service position is associated with this request. The funds will be used to hire a position titled Forester I in a limited-service capacity to fulfill increasing land management demands in Southern Vermont. The position would collaborate closely with U.S. Forest Service staff. The federal grant will cover 50% of the position costs and the State would be required to fund the remaining 50%. The Department intends to utilize Land and Facilities Trust Fund dollars to cover the match. The position would be funded by federal dollars through 9/30/2019.

[JFO received 9/20/17]

JFO #2899 – \$190,000 from the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation. The funds would be used to

improve the collection and interpretation of water use data to facilitate future water delivery infrastructure replacement in order to reduce the risks of delivery interruption from drought, contamination and other hazards. **One (1) limited-service position is associated with this request.** The funding would allow the Department to hire an Environmental Scientist III in a limited-service capacity to develop GIS and 3-D subsurface datasets and improve the listing of well locations in the Well Driller database, among other related duties. The grant funding would run through 9/30/2019, and no State match would be required. [*JFO received 9/20/17*]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Daniel Dickerson at (802) 828-2472; <u>ddickerson@leg.state.vt.us</u>) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by <u>October 6, 2017</u> we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.



Fish & Wildlife Department

www.vtfishandwildlife.com

1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 Montpelier, Vermont 05620

RECEIVED

SEP 12 2017

Agency of Natural Resources

JFO 2897

JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

| TO: | Sam Winship, Budget Analyst | | | | |
|----------|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| FROM: | Elizabeth Stratton, Financial Manager | | | | |
| SUBJECT: | Grant Acceptance Request | | | | |
| DATE: | July 6, 2017 | | | | |

Enclosed is a Request for Grant Acceptance (Form AA-1) for \$50,000 from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) that will help fund the acquisition of a 281.4-acre parcel adjacent to the Green Mountain Conservation Camp in Fair Haven, Vermont. The property includes Bullhead Pond, a natural pond, that supports a good bass fishery and upland forests that are home to a variety of wildlife. The property will be used as the outdoor classroom for the Green Mountain Conservation Camp and will become a new wildlife management area.

The total project cost for this acquisition is \$235,000 of which \$50,000 will be funded by VHCB, \$85,000 from the Green Mountain Camp Endowment Fund, \$15,000 from the habitat fund, and \$85,000 from receipts of hunting and fishing licenses.

These grant funds and the associated acquisition are one-time expenses that will cease once the project is complete. The department will assume future PILOT payment costs and maintenance of signage and kiosks in the future.

The department will measure the success of this project by the metric of increasing the percentage of high habitat protected through acquisition or easement in Vermont.

The funds for this project will be spent on the acquisition costs, legal fees, and survey work. There are no staff costs associated with this budget.

A response can be returned to my attention at:

Fish & Wildlife Department 1 National Life Drive, Davis 2 Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Please let me know if you need any further information. I can be reached at 802-377-5602.

RECEIVED AUG 0 3 2017

Protecting and conserving our fish, wildlife plants, and their habitats for the people of Vermont.



State of Vermont

Department of Finance & Management 109 State Street, Pavilion Building Montpelier, VT 05620-0401 Agency of Administration

[phone] 802-828-2376 [fax] 802-828-2428

STATE OF VERMONT FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM

| Grant Summary: | | Acquisition of 281.4 acres, known as the Kehoe property, for the Green Mountain Conservation Camp | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--|--|-----|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Date: | | | 8/22/2017 | | | | | | |
| Department: | | | Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department | | | | | | |
| Legal Title of Grant: | | Vermont Housing and Conservation Board Funds | | | | | | | |
| Federal Catalog #: | | | N/A | | | | | | |
| Grant/Donor Name and Address: | | | Vermont Housing and Conservation Board 58 State Street #101, Montpelier, VT 05602 | | | | | | |
| Grant Period: From: | | 7/6/2 | 017 | To: | | | | | |
| Grant/Donation | | | \$50,0 | 00 | | | | | 2 |
| SFY 1 | | 1 | | SFY | 2 | SFY 3 | Total | Comment | S |
| Grant Amount: | \$50,0 | 000 | \$ | | | \$ | \$50,000 | | |
| # Pos | | | | | | | | | |
| Position Information | | | 0 | | Total acc | uisition cost | \$235K (\$50K | VHCB, \$85K Green | Mountai |
| | | | | | fishing a Green M | nd hunting lie ountain Cons | censes). This preservation Camp | at Fund, and \$85K re irchase will ensure t will have access to ect permanent public | that the their |
| | | | | | | | WA | | |
| Department of Fina | nce & Mai | nageme | ent | | | | 20 | (Initial) | |
| ecretary of Admini | istration | | | | | | -D/ | (Initial) | |
| ent To Joint Fiscal | Office | | | | | | | Date | 2 |
| 6 | | | | | | | | but | 1-5 |
| | | | | | | | | 2.0 | 24 |

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

| 1. Agency: | Agency of Natural Resources | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| 2. Department: | Vermont Fish and Wi | and the second se | | | | |
| oput monte | vormone r ion und wi | iante Dopurtment | | | | |
| 3. Program: | Lands and Habitat | | | | | |
| 4. Legal Title of Grant: | Vermont Housing and | Conservation Board F | unds | | | |
| 5. Federal Catalog #: | N/A | Conservation Dourd 1 | unus | | | |
| 5. Federal Catalog #. | 11/21 | | | | | |
| 6. Grant/Donor Name and | Address: | | | | | |
| | nd Conservation Board | | | | | |
| 58 State Street #101 | | 2 | | | | |
| Montpelier, Vermon | it 05602 | | | | | |
| | om: | To: | | | | |
| 9 Durmone of Current | | | | | | |
| 8. Purpose of Grant: | the 281 / nore acquisiti | on for the Green Marrie | tain Concernation C | omn in Ecie Horse | | |
| Vermont. | the 281.4 acre acquisition | on for the Green Mount | tain Conservation Ca | amp in rair Haven | | |
| 9. Impact on existing progr | ram if grant is not A an | anted. | | | | |
| | the associated benefits : | | t and Vermonters | vill not occur | | |
| 10. BUDGET INFORMAT | | | it, and vermonters v | | | |
| | SFY 1 | SFY 2 | SFY 3 | Comments | | |
| Expenditures: | FY 2018 | FY FY | FY | Comments | | |
| Personal Services | \$15,000 | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Operating Expenses | \$220,000 | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Grants | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Tot | | \$ | \$ | - | | |
| Revenues: | μ235,000 | Ψ | Ψ | | | |
| State Funds: | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Cash | \$185,000 | \$ | \$ | | | |
| In-Kind | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| | Ψ | Ψ | Ψ | | | |
| Federal Funds: | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| (Direct Costs) | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| (Statewide Indirect) | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| (Departmental Indirect) | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Other Funds: | \$ | \$ | \$ | | | |
| | * | Ψ | Ψ | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont | | | | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation | \$50.000 | \$ | S. | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation Board) | \$50,000 | <u>\$</u> | \$ | | | |
| | | \$\$ | \$ | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation Board) Tota | | | | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation Board) Tota Appropriation No: | | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation Board) Tota Appropriation No: | al \$235,000 | \$ | \$ | | | |
| Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation Board) Tota Appropriation No: | al \$235,000 | \$ | \$ \$ \$235,000 | | | |

4

.

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

| | | | \$ | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------|------------------|--|--|
| | | | \$ | | | |
| | | Tota | \$ | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| PERSONAL SERVICE IN | FORMATION | | | | | |
| | | e or more Personal Service | Contracts? X Ye | s No | | |
| | y must initial here to ind | icate intent to follow current of | | | | |
| 12. Limited Service Position Information: | # Positions | Title | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| • | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total Positions | | | | | | |
| 12a. Equipment and space | for these | presently available. | n be obtained with | available funds. | | |
| positions: | | | | | | |
| 13. AUTHORIZATION AC | GENCY/DEPARTMEN | <u>T</u> | | | | |
| I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application | Signature: | | Date: | | | |
| preparation and filing costs | | cy of Natural Resources | | | | |
| have been expended or | | | | | | |
| committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee | Signature: | | Date | | | |
| approval of this grant, unless | /////// | | | | | |
| previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if | Title: Commissioner, V | Vermont Fish and Wildlife | | | | |
| applicable): | | | | | | |
| 14. SECRETARY OF ADM | Λ. | | | | | |
| | (Scoretary or designee signature | R | | Date: | | |
| Approved: | (b'l' | 0 | | \$8917 | | |
| 15. ACTION BY GOVERN | IOR | | | | | |
| Check One Box: | m- | | 1.2.4.4.1 | T | | |
| Accepted | 110C | | | | | |
| | (Governor signature) | | | Date: | | |
| Rejected | 1 mx jun | | | 1/8/1 | | |
| 16. DOCUMENTATION R | EQUIRED | | | 11 | | |
| Required GRANT Documentation | | | | | | |
| Request Memo Donation (if any) | | | | | | |
| Dept. project approval (if | applicable) | Grant (Project) Timeline (if | | | | |
| Notice of Award Request for Extension (if applicable) Grant Agreement Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable) | | | | | | |
| Grant Budget | | | | | | |
| End Form AA-1 | | | | | | |
| (*) The term "grant" refers to an department, commission, board, | | um of money or thing of value to ment (see 32 V.S.A. §5). | be accepted by any a | agency, | | |

.

1



| Department of Fish and Wildlife |
|---------------------------------|
| 1 National Life Dr., Davis 2 |
| Montpelier, VT 05620-3702 |
| www.vtfishandwildlife.com |
| |

[phone] 802-505-0561 [fax] 802-828-1250 Agency of Natural Resources

| TO: | Philip B. Scott, Governor |
|----------|---|
| THROUGH: | Louis Porter, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| FROM: | Steve Gomez, Director of Operations |
| SUBJECT: | Joint Fiscal Committee Approval Needed for Acceptance of a \$50,000 Grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (VFWD) |

<u>Recommendation</u>: That you approve the acceptance of a grant of \$50,000 from VHCB to the VFWD to apply towards the acquisition the 281.4-acre Business Loan Center LLC. property at the Department's Green Mountain Conservation Camp located in Fair Haven.

Description

The Bullhead Pond Parcel is 281.24 acres, and is currently owned by Business Loan Center LLC after it was foreclosed by the previous owner. This area plays a vital role in the conservation education programs at the Green Mountain Conservation Camp: Edward F. Kehoe. It is used primarily during the camp season, as this is the camp's main "classroom connection" to wild terrestrial and aquatic habitats. The property is east of Scotch Road in Fair Haven and west of a parcel that is currently owned by the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department that is directly across Point of Pines Road from the Green Mountain Conservation Camp: Edward F. Kehoe (GMCC). There is easy access to the property, as all trails are located on Department-owned land.

All of Bullhead Pond is included on this parcel. It is a natural pond, a good largemouth bass fishery, and is across the road from the old slate quarry where many black rat snakes and other herps find habitat (five-lined skinks most likely inhabit the area which are state-endangered). The forest surrounding the pond is primarily mixed deciduous, and based on sign and trail cameras, home to white-tailed deer, moose, a variety of small furbearers, songbirds, and upland game birds.

Without access to the parcel, GMCC could lose its ability to provide hands-on learning opportunities about natural ecosystems, as the fields and wooded area near the education center and cabins at Kehoe are too small and do not include a diversity of ecosystems. Furthermore, the Bullhead Pond parcel is necessary to provide campers with an extended hiking experience that would not be possible on the small area currently owned by the Department. If this parcel is purchased by another party, the Department will most likely lose access to this vital outdoor learning space. In addition to the learning opportunities on the property, ownership would also give the Department the opportunity to manage a new Wildlife Management Area associated with the camp, similarly to our other education center at Buck Lake.



S.VERMONT

The property is currently on the market. The property was appraised at \$220,000 in February of 2017 at the expense of the landowner and the Department is under contract to buy it for that amount.

Need and Cost

The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (VFWD) is acquiring this property to ensure our Green Mountain Conservation Camp has continued access to their outside learning center while also providing permanent protection of public access for wildlife-based recreation and conservation of significant wildlife habitats. The total preliminary project budget is \$235,000, of which the purchase price is \$220,000, and the remainder includes surveying the property and closing costs. The VFWD proposes to purchase the property with funding from our camps budget, funds from the sale of our habitat stamp and a grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB). VFWD was awarded \$50,000 at the June Board meeting for VHCB to apply towards this project. VFWD anticipates closing on the property in the fall of 2017.

Your approval of this grant is required by 32 VSA § 5, which states in part "No original of any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value may be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of State government except as follows: (1) All such items must be submitted to the Governor who shall send a copy of the approval or rejection to the Joint Fiscal Committee through the Joint Fiscal Office together with the following information with respect to said items...".



