



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS

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November 24, 2021

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Executive Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Forest and Lands (Department) to accept and expend federal funds in the amount of \$130,259 from the US Environmental Protection Agency to document wetlands on public lands with high ecological value to inform environmental reviews, mitigation, and conservation effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council approval through June 30, 2023. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in the following account:

03-035-035-351010-21040000, Natural Heritage - Federal, as follows:

Class-Account	Class Description	FY22 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	Revised FY22 Adjusted Authorized
000-404713	Federal Funds	(\$132,075)	(\$130,259)	(\$262,334)
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>(\$132,075)</b>	<b>(\$130,259)</b>	<b>(\$262,334)</b>
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$4,968	\$500	\$5,468
029-500290	Intra-Agency Transfers	\$60,209	\$115,966	\$176,175
030-500311	Equipment New/Replacement	\$6,860	\$0	\$6,860
039-500190	Telecommunications	\$859	\$0	\$859
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$10,088	\$10,163	\$20,251
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$302	\$130	\$432
057-500535	Books Periodicals Subscript	\$200	\$0	\$200
070-500702	In State Travel Reimbursement	\$2,806	\$3,500	\$6,306
080-500710	Out of State Travel Reimbursement	\$4,088	\$0	\$4,088
103-502664	Contracts for Op Services	\$41,695	\$0	\$41,695
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$132,075</b>	<b>\$130,259</b>	<b>\$262,334</b>

The following appropriation authorities are being requested:

**Class 020 - Current Expenses - To purchase a new Garmin handheld Geographic Positioning System (GPS) unit, replacing an inaccurate older Garmin model over 8 years old. Priced at \$250. Other supplies include compass, tatum, plant press and pressing supplies, dissection kit, reticle for microscope and loupe.**

**Class 029 - Intra Agency Transfers – Increase appropriations to allow for funding of costs incurred in the non-federal NHB account for staff salaries and benefits.**

**Class 040 - Indirect Costs – To pay for eligible cost recovery utilizing 13.17% negotiated cost rate.**

**Class 041 - Audit Set Aside – To pay required audit fees**

**Class 070 - In State Travel – For per diem, hotel costs as well as fuel and fleet vehicle insurance and maintenance costs (fleet insurance (\$256/year)).**

### EXPLANATION

The Department was awarded a Wetlands Program Development Grant of \$130,259 to significantly improve the accuracy of wetland records in the Natural Heritage Bureau's (NHB's) database. NHB's database is a part of the DataCheck Tool, which is used to screen permit applications to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) for impacts to rare, threatened and endangered plant, natural community and wildlife species. This project will better inform environmental reviews, wetland mitigation, and conservation. NHB will accomplish this by documenting new high priority wetlands in the field on public lands and on private land with prior landowner permission. NHB will also survey and reevaluate the ecological integrity of known exemplary wetlands with outdated records using the latest data standards and condition assessment method.

The approved budget for FY 2022 is \$78,584. A balance forward amount of \$53,491 from FY 2021 brings the current FY 2022 budget to \$132,075. The requested additional amount of \$130,259 brings the revised FY 2022 budget to \$262,334.

In the event that Federal Funds are no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this project.

Respectfully submitted,



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Patrick D. Hackley  
Director

Concurred,



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Sarah L. Stewart  
Commissioner

State of New Hampshire  
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Division of Forests and Lands

**FISCAL SITUATION**  
**03-035-035-351010-21040000**  
**Natural Heritage - Federal**

Approved Budget for FY 2022	\$ 78,584
Balance Forward From FY 2021	<u>\$ 53,491</u>
Current Budget for FY 2022	\$132,075
Additional Federal Funds Budget Request	<u>\$130,259</u>
Total Revised Budget for FY 2022	\$262,334