



# New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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Scott R. Mason  
Executive Director

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March 23, 2023

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

### Requested Action

In accordance with Administrative Rule Adm 611.08 (g), the NH Fish & Game Department, Wildlife Division respectfully requests permission to increase their fleet size by one vehicle effective upon Governor and Council approval.

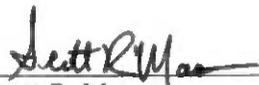
### Explanation

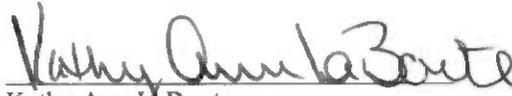
The Wildlife Division's Habitat Program is charged with conserving and managing over 60,000 acres of state-owned wildlife lands across the state. An identified gap in stewarding those lands was a lack of a staffer to ensure boundaries are well marked and monumented. Boundary maintenance is required to ensure forest and habitat improvement projects initiated by state lands staff stay within state lands, visitors to those lands understand the extent of state ownership, and perhaps most importantly, to ensure public lands are not inadvertently or purposely used by abutting landowners for their own private use (e.g., extending their yard, pet kennels, outbuildings, or other activities onto state lands). The Fish & Game Commission realized this gap and asked the Wildlife Habitat Program to address it. The state law that established and guides the use of wildlife habitat license revenue used by the Wildlife Habitat Program was amended in 2017 to require 25% of that revenue be used to pay the cost of Fish & Game Department boundary survey work (RSA 214:1-f).

To address that requirement and better fulfill our land stewardship responsibilities, we reclassified a land agent position to a licensed land surveyor to coordinate boundary maintenance of state wildlife lands and to address encroachments from abutters. This is the first position of its kind in the Department's history. This position is mostly field based and given the significant amount of costly field equipment required, the surveyor should have a dedicated vehicle that will be available to him every day. The Wildlife Habitat Program currently has one dedicated vehicle shared by three field staff. There are no other vehicles available within the Wildlife Division nor the Fish & Game Department that are available for the surveyor to use on a daily basis. The lack of vehicles results in severe inefficiencies and less boundary work getting done. Given this, we seek Governor and Executive Council approval to expand our vehicle fleet by one 4 WD pickup truck with a quad cab. The 4WD will provide the power necessary to traverse Class VI and woods roads often associated with state wildlife lands. The quad cab will protect expensive survey equipment from weather and theft.

Funding for the vehicle is available (#20-07500-21550000-030-500311). Source of funds is 75% federal and 25% wildlife habitat account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Scott R. Mason  
Executive Director

  
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Kathy Ann LaBonte  
Chief, Business Division



# State of New Hampshire

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

25 Capitol Street – Room 100

Concord, New Hampshire 03301

(603) 271-3201 [Office@das.nh.gov](mailto:Office@das.nh.gov)

Charles M. Arlinghaus  
Commissioner

Catherine A. Keane  
Deputy Commissioner

Sheri L. Rockburn  
Assistant Commissioner

March 22, 2023

Attn:  
James Oehler  
Wildlife Habitat Program Supervisor  
NH Fish and Game Department  
11 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03301

SUBJECT: Response to Fleet Increase Request 3/9/23

James Oehler:

Please accept this as acknowledgement and receipt of your request to increase the NH Fish and Game Department fleet size by one (1) motor vehicle prior to submission to the Governor and Executive Council for formal consideration.

It is the position of the DAS Division of Procurement and Support Services Fleet Management that the request is reasonably justified and compelling enough to merit consideration by the Governor and Executive Council in a near future meeting.

Thank you for your proactive request to involve us in your fleet review in support of statewide efforts to maintain fleet efficiency.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Bennett  
State Fleet Manager, DAS Division of Procurement and Support Services

Gary S. Lunetta  
Director, DAS Division of Procurement & Support Services

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Date: 2023.03.22 15:57:04 -04'00'