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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS
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August 10, 2023

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), Division of Forests and Lands to budget and expend prior year carry forward funds from the Communication Site Ops account in the amount of $55,000, for the purpose of funding the purchase of a new vehicle for field staff to support the Communication Tower Lease Program effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2024. 100% Other Funds (Agency Income).

Funds are to be budgeted in fiscal year 2024 as follows:

03-035-035-351010-86820000, Communication Site Ops

Class-Account-RG	Description	FY24 Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	Revised FY24 Adjusted Authorized
008-403073-44	Agency Income	$512,079	$55,000	$567,079
	Total Revenue	**$512,079**	**$55,000**	**$567,079**
010-500100	Personal Services Perm Class	$68,931		$68,931
018-500106	Overtime	$515		$515
020-500200	Current Expenses	$16,960		$16,960
023-500291	Heat Electricity Water	$44,134		$44,134
027-582703	Transfers to DoIT	$4,942		$4,942
030-500311	Equipment New Replacement	$75,261	$55,000	$130,261
039-500190	Telecommunications	$2,820		$2,820
040-501587	Indirect Cost	$5,500		$5,500
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	$10,390		$10,390
049-584923	Transfers to Other Agencies	$27,645		$27,645
050-500109	Personal Service Temp Appt.	$19,427		$19,427
059-500117	Temp Full Time	$60,944		$60,944
060-500602	Benefits	$85,237		$85,237
066-500543	Employee Training	$1,500		$1,500
070-500705	In State Travel Reimbursement	$3,000		$3,000
103-500737	Contracts for Op Services	$84,461		$84,461
211-501530	Property and Casualty Insurance	$412		$412
	Total Expenses	**$512,079**	**$55,000**	**$567,079**

EXPLANATION

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources is requesting to appropriate funds from an existing carried forward balance of available funds to provide a new vehicle for field staff use in their ongoing efforts to respond to needed technical maintenance at various communication tower sites in state reservations.

The Division of Forests and Lands currently employs a Communications Technician for the primary purpose of maintaining and servicing 18 radio communications sites and Parks and Recreation radio systems. This position requires use of vehicle transportation to carry out the duties and responsibilities as assigned. Additionally, this position requires a vehicle equipped with the ability to go off road to navigate the mountain roads and be able to carry communications equipment and respond to potential emergencies in all weather.

The Communications program is responsible for managing and maintaining our 18 communications sites and the tenants occupying the towers. Revenue supporting this purchase is derived from fees received by DNCR from communication site leases, licenses, and special use permits as authorized under RSA 227-G:5, I(b). The Communications program generates roughly a million dollars annual revenue for the State and adding this vehicle is vital to our operations.

The following appropriation authorities are being requested:

Class 030 – Equipment New Replacement – Appropriations increase to cover cost for purchase of a new vehicle to be used by technical field staff

If funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support the program expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick D. Hackley

Patrick D. Hackley
Director

Concurred,

Sarah Stewart

Sarah L. Stewart
Commissioner