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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION of HISTORICAL RESOURCES

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September 12, 2023

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Historical Resources to budget and expend $24,157 of balance forward revenue to support New Hampshire's State Conservation and Rescue Archaeology Program (SCRAP) effective upon Governor and Executive Council approval through June 30, 2024. 100% Other Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted in Fiscal Year 2024 as follows:

03-035-035-354010-22790000, Archaeology Program SCRAP

Class-Account-RG	Description	FY24 Adjusted Authorized	Requested Change	Revised FY24 Adjusted Authorized
005-403635-20	Private Local Funds	0	24,157	24,157
	Total Revenue	**0**	**24,157**	**24,157**
020-500200	Current Expenses	0	19,157	19,157
103-502664	Contracts for Ops Services	0	5,000	5,000
	Total Expenses	**0**	**24,157**	**24,157**

EXPLANATION

The Division of Historical Resources is requesting $24,157 in carry forward funds from the SCRAP account to be appropriated through Fiscal Year 2024 in order to carry out avocational archaeological training and certification.

SCRAP is a public participation program for archaeological research, management, and education administered by the Division of Historical Resources (DHR) of the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The program is supported by state and federal funds, donated private funds, and the volunteered services of trained and certified avocational archaeologists.

As a part of its research and management responsibilities, DHR conducts workshops to train interested members of the public in archaeological research skills, interpretation, conservation, and education. By making more people aware of archaeology, and by involving the public in its practice, SCRAP seeks to

increase the rate of site discovery and evaluation, reduce the rate of site destruction, recover information from archaeological sites about to be destroyed, and conduct original research.

Avocational training and certification have a long history in the state. New Hampshire began one of the nation's first certification programs in 1978, and in 1981 the General Court passed legislation, RSA 227-C:10, which made New Hampshire the first state in the country to mandate the training and certification of avocational archaeologists. Since then, SCRAP has gained national exposure from papers presented at professional meetings and from articles in publications.

SCRAP is also integral in carrying out the DHR's responsibilities under Section 227-C:8-a-j; legislation dictating procedures to be employed during the discovery, documentation, and recovery of unmarked human remains in New Hampshire.

The following appropriation authorities are being requested:

Class 020 – Current Expenses – Appropriation established to purchase needed supplies such as batteries, woven wire mesh, shovels, and other archaeological sitework items

Class 103 – Contracts for Op Services – Appropriation established for needed operational services such as radiocarbon dating, flora or fauna analysis, and other similar anticipated support services as part of field work activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin H. Wilson
Director / State Historic Preservation Officer

Concurred,

Sarah L. Stewart
Commissioner