



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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IA

Scott R. Mason
Executive Director

January 3, 2024

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to MOP 1301, VI (D), authorize the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to allow the Waterfowl Project Leader, Jessica Carloni, to travel over 300 miles, one way, in a state vehicle to Niagara Falls, NY to participate in the Winter Meeting of the Atlantic Flyway Council Technical Section from February 25 through March, 1, 2024 upon Governor and Executive Council approval. Funding is 75% Federal, 25% Other (Game Management Account).

Funding is available in the following account:

03 75 75 751520-2158 WILDLIFE PROGRAM-Game Management

20-07500-21580000-080-Out-of-State Travel

FY24

\$1,357.50

EXPLANATION

New Hampshire Fish and Game is requesting permission for one Department biologist to attend the Winter Meeting of the Atlantic Flyway Council Technical Section held in Niagara Falls, New York via state vehicle. This meeting is attended by waterfowl biologists across the Atlantic Flyway. While there, biologists and Federal partners from the USFWS discuss the status of waterfowl populations and the 2025-26 season setting packages of numerous waterfowl species. Recent waterfowl research projects are also shared and discussed. Given the increasing complexity of impacts to our natural world it is essential that our biological staff have access to the most recent research and management initiatives and be able to discuss the results and implications of both our own and other new initiatives with their peers.

We are requesting that staff be allowed to drive instead of fly 480 miles each way. The total cost for flying, including staff time, would be \$2,044.59 versus \$1,305.73 for driving, resulting in a savings of \$738.86. Please see attached cost comparison spreadsheet and meeting agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott R. Mason
Executive Director

Kathy Ann LaBonte
Chief, Business Division

REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Date: 1/3/2024

TO THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR & COUNCIL:

The Department of Fish and Game requests permission for 1 employees or their designees to travel to Niagara Falls, NY for 6 days of out-of-state travel status February 25, 2024 to March 1, 2024 between the dates of _____

Conference/Workshop/Seminar Title

Winter Meeting of the Atlantic Flyway Council Technical Sections

Purpose of Travel

The Fish and Game Department requests a waiver from MOP 1301, VI, D, which requires travel outside a 300 mile radius by tourist class air passage and authorization for one Department staff to travel via state vehicle to Niagara Falls, NY. The purpose of this meeting is to attend professional meetings, participate in workshops, and obtain information pertinent to the hunting season setting process for waterfowl.

Attendees and their Titles

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Jessica Carloni, Waterfowl Project Leader | 5. |
| 2. | 6. |
| 3. | 7. |
| 4. | 8. |

Fiscal Information - Summary

<u>Objt</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>		<u>Amount</u>
0710	Common Carriers	\$ _____	Appropriation of Out-of-State Travel	\$ <u>12,000.00</u>
0711	Per Diem in Lieu	\$ _____	Amount Expended to date	\$ <u>4,925.64</u>
0712	Meals	\$ <u>379.50</u>	Available Balance	\$ <u>7,074.36</u>
0713	Hotel	\$ <u>448.00</u>	Amount requested this authorization	\$ <u>1,357.50</u>
0714	Mileage	\$ _____	Estimated Balance Available	\$ <u>5,716.86</u>
0715	Operation State Car	\$ _____		
0717	Miscellaneous	\$ <u>180.00</u>	Appropriation Code	<u>020 - 075 - 2158 - 080</u>
0719	Registration Fees	\$ <u>350.00</u>	Source of Funds	<u>75% Federal (W89RP5), 25% Other (Game Management Account)</u>
		\$ <u>1,357.50</u>		

Authorized Signature _____

Scott R. Mason, Executive Director

**COMPARISON OF AIR TRAVEL VS. STATE VEHICLE
TO NIAGARA FALLS, NY**

AIR TRAVEL (Manchester to Niagara Falls, NY and return)		STATE VEHICLE TRAVEL Durham, NH to Niagara Falls, NY	
Airfare	\$878.36	480 miles one-way	
Airport parking	\$84.00		
Travel to airport (state vehicle)		State vehicle operation cost:	
84 mi x \$0.67 =	\$56.28	960 mi x \$0.67 =	\$643.20
CAR RENTAL	\$280.33	TOLLS	\$15.00
Rental car gas (Estimate)	\$60.00		
TRAVEL TIME FLY (INCLUDES TRAVEL TO/FROM AIRPORT, ROUNDRIP AIRPORT TIME, LAYOVERS, FLIGHT)		TOTAL DRIVE TIME	
18 Hrs. x \$38.09 =	\$685.62	8.5 hours one-way	
		17 Hrs. x \$38.09 =	\$647.53
TOTAL TIME COST =	\$685.62	TOTAL TIME COST =	\$647.53
TOTAL AIR & RENTAL CAR TRAVEL COST =	\$1,358.97	TOTAL VEHICLE OPERATION COST =	\$658.20
TOTAL:	\$2,044.59	TOTAL:	\$1305.73

Total Savings to State: \$738.86

The Fish and Game Department requests a waiver from MOP 1301, VI, D, which requires travel outside a 300 mile radius by tourist class air passage and authorization for Jessica Carloni to travel via State vehicle to Niagara Falls, NY.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Division of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Wildlife
625 Broadway, 5th Floor, Albany, NY 12233-4754
P: (518) 402-8883 F: (518) 402-8925
www.dec.ny.gov



MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation cordially invites you to join us in Niagara Falls, New York for the 2023 Winter Meeting of the Atlantic Flyway Technical Sections.

DATES: Sunday, February 25 through Thursday, February 29, 2024

LOCATION: Niagara Falls Sheraton, Niagara Falls, NY (If you end up at the Sheraton in Niagara Falls, Canada, you've gone too far!). Room rates are \$98/night (federal per diem) plus room and sales taxes. Free parking.

Reserve your hotel room at the link, no special code is required.
<https://sheratonatthefalls.com/group/decatlanticflyaway2024>
Reservations must be booked by 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 5th to receive the AFC rate.

REGISTRATION: Full registration is \$350, virtual attendance is \$250. Single-day (in-person) registration is \$100. Registration includes morning, mid-morning and afternoon drinks and snacks, and Wednesday evening banquet.

Please register no later than February 5th at:
<https://cvent.me/9LQ5Oy?RefId=AtlanticFlyway2024>

TRAVEL: By car: 300 Third Street, Niagara Falls, NY, 14303, US. Parking is complimentary.

By plane:

- [Niagara Falls International Airport](#) (limited flights available) – 8 miles
- [Buffalo International Airport](#) – 25 miles
- [Toronto International Airport](#) – 79 miles

All major rental car companies are available at the airports. No shuttle service available.

ACTIVITIES:

- The hotel is located just 0.2 miles from the [Niagara Falls State Park](#).
- The winter is a great time for [birding in the area](#), the Niagara River winters large concentrations of waterfowl (>100,000 in cold winters) and up to 19 species of



gulls. It was the first site in North America to be recognized as a Globally Important Bird Area in 1966. If you monitor eBird there should be some good up-to-date scouting information as the annual [Birds on the Niagara International Bird Festival](#) takes place the week prior to the meeting. Some close by birding opportunities include:

- [Three Sister's Island](#)
- [Waterfowl overlook](#) along the Niagara Scenic Parkway
- [Devil's Hole State Park](#) (crampons or mini-spikes recommended in the winter as the trail down into the gorge can get icy)
- Fishing – If you pack warm, there are shoreline fishing opportunities for winter steelhead, brown trout, and lake trout during the winter months on the lower Niagara River. There are also many fishing guides that run trips all winter long and the fishing on the Niagara Bar can be outstanding that time of year.

QUESTIONS:

Matt Palumbo, matthew.palumbo@dec.ny.gov

Josh Stiller, joshua.stiller@dec.ny.gov

**ATLANTIC FLYWAY MIGRATORY BIRD TECHNICAL SECTIONS
2024 Preliminary Winter Meeting Schedule and Agenda
MONDAY, February 26**

JOINT Technical Section Meeting

8:00 - 8:10	Welcome, announcements, etc.
8:10 - 8:15	SRC Report -
8:15 - 8:40	USFWS Report -
8:40 - 9:05	CWS Report -
9:05 - 9:25	BBL Report -
9:25 - 9:45	Local Perspective on Birding in New York -
9:45 - 10:05	Local Perspective on Waterfowling in New York -
10:00 - 10:30	BREAK
10:30 - 12:00	Technical sections meet independently

Game Bird Technical Section Meeting

10:30 - 10:45	TBD
10:45 - 11:10	TBD
11:10 - 11:20	TBD
11:20 - 11:25	TBD
11:25 - 11:40	TBD
11:40 - 12:00	TBD

Nongame Bird Technical Section General Session

10:30 - 11:15	TBD
11:15 - 12:00	TBD

**ATLANTIC FLYWAY MIGRATORY BIRD TECHNICAL SECTIONS
2024 Preliminary Winter Meeting Schedule and Agenda**

TUESDAY, February 27

8:00 am	Announcements, etc., 8:00 - 8:15 Room:		
8:15 am	<u>Joint Env. Issues Committee</u> 8:15 - 10:00 am Room	<u>Joint Env. Issues Committee</u> 8:15 - 10:00 am Room	<u>Joint Env. Issues Committee</u> 8:15 - 10:00 am Room
9:00 am			
9:30 am			
10:00 am	Break 10:00 - 10:30		
10:30 am	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 10:30 - 12:00 Room:	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 10:30 - 12:00 Room:	<u>NGTS Committee</u> 10:30 - 12:00 Room:
11:00 am			
11:30 am			
12:00 pm	Lunch 12:00 - 1:30		
1:30 pm	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:	<u>Human Dim. Committee</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:	<u>NGTS Committee</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:
2:00 pm			
2:30 pm			
3:00 pm	Break 3:00 - 3:30		
3:30 pm	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 3:30 - 5:30 Room:	<u>NG General Session</u> 3:30 - 5:30 Room:	
4:00 pm			
5:00 pm			
5:30 pm	Dinner 5:30 - 7:00; On your own		
7:00 pm	Committee Meetings as Needed Room:		
9:00 pm			

WEDNESDAY, February 28

8:00 am	Announcements, etc., 8:00 - 8:15 Room:		
8:15 am	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 8:15 - 10:00 Room:	<u>NG General Session</u> 8:15 - 10:00 Room:	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 8:15 - 10:00 Room
9:00 am			
9:30 am			
10:00 am	Break 10:00 - 10:30		
10:30 am	<u>GBTS Committee</u> 10:30 - 12:00 Room:	<u>NG General Session</u> 10:30 - 12:00 Room:	
11:00 am			
11:30 am			
12:00 pm	Lunch 12:00 - 1:30		
1:30 pm	<u>GB General Session</u> 1:30 - 2:45 Room:	<u>NG General Session</u> 1:30 - 2:45 Room:	
2:00 pm			
2:30 pm			
3:00 pm			
3:30 pm			Field Trip? 3:00 - 5:30
4:00 pm			
4:30 pm			
5:00 pm			
5:30 pm			
6:30- 9:00 pm	Banquet Dinner		

MONDAY, February 26

7:00 am	Registration 7:00 - 12:00 Room:		
8:00 am	Welcome, announcements, etc., 8:00 - 8:15 Room:		
8:15 am	<u>Joint Session of Game Bird and Nongame TS</u> (general presentations - see next page) 8:15 - 10:00 Room:		
9:00 am			
9:30 am			
	Break 10:00 - 10:30		
10:30 am	<u>Game Bird and Nongame TS General Sessions</u> (general presentations - see next page) 10:30 - 12:00 Room:		
12:00 pm	Lunch 12:00 - 1:30		
1:30 pm	<u>GBTS</u> <u>Committee</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:	<u>GBTS</u> <u>Committee</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:	<u>NGTS</u> <u>Committee</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:
3:00 pm	Break 3:00 - 3:30		
3:30 pm	<u>GBTS</u> <u>Committee</u> 3:30 - 5:30 Room:	<u>GBTS</u> <u>Committee</u> 3:30 - 5:30 Room:	<u>NGTS</u> <u>Committee</u> 3:30 - 5:30 Room:
4:00 pm			
5:00 pm			
5:30 pm	Dinner 5:30 - 7:00; On your own		
7:00 pm	Committee Meetings as Needed Room:		
9:00 pm			

ATLANTIC FLYWAY MIGRATORY BIRD TECHNICAL SECTIONS
2024 Preliminary Winter Meeting Schedule and Agenda

SUNDAY, February 25

4:00 pm	Registration 4:00 - 6:00 Room:
4:00 pm	
5:00 pm	
6:00 pm	Dinner 6:00 - 8:00
7:00 pm	On your own
8:00 pm	<u>GB and NG EXECUTIVE Committee</u>
9:00 pm	<u>and Committee Chairs</u>
9:30 pm	8:00 - 9:30 Room:

**ATLANTIC FLYWAY COUNCIL
2024 Preliminary Winter Meeting Schedule and Agenda**

THURSDAY, February 29

8:00 am	Announcements, etc. 8:00 - 8:15 Room:
8:15 am	<u>Joint GB/NG Meeting - Joint Committee Reports</u> <u>(Env. Issues, MSUGB, Banding)</u> 8:15 - 10:00 Room:
9:00 am	
10:00 am	Break 10:00 - 10:15
10:15 am	<u>GB General Session</u> 10:15 - 12:00 Room:
11:00 am	
11:30 am	
12:00 pm	Lunch 12:00 - 1:30
1:30 pm	<u>GB General Session</u> 1:30 - 3:00 Room:
2:00 pm	
2:30 pm	
3:00 pm	Break 3:00 - 3:30

Re: Airfare Quote

Carloni, Jessica <Jessica.M.Carloni@wildlife.nh.gov>

Tue 1/2/2024 1:19 PM

To: Carloni, Jessica <Jessica.M.Carloni@wildlife.nh.gov>

From: State of New Hampshire Travel Team <nhtravel@travelctm.com>

Sent: Tuesday, January 2, 2024 11:26 AM

To: Carloni, Jessica <jessica.m.carloni@wildlife.nh.gov>

Subject: Re: Airfare Quote

EXTERNAL: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi Jessica,

These are the closest times I could find. Price is \$878.36 round trip, non-refundable.

AIR								
Southwest Airlines	Flight Number WN1738	Class: Y- Economy	From: Manchester-Boston Regional, Manchester, NH	Leaving: Sun 25 Feb 10:35AM	Destination: Baltimore Washington, Baltimore, MD	Arriving: Sun 25 Feb 12:10PM	Flying Time: 1h35m	Stops: 0
AIR								
Southwest Airlines	Flight Number WN3484	Class: Y- Economy	From: Baltimore Washington, Baltimore, MD	Leaving: Sun 25 Feb 01:50PM	Destination: Niagara, Buffalo, NY	Arriving: Sun 25 Feb 03:00PM	Flying Time: 1h10m	Stops: 0
AIR								
Southwest Airlines	Flight Number WN0998	Class: Y- Economy	From: Niagara, Buffalo, NY	Leaving: Fri 01 Mar 11:05AM	Destination: Baltimore Washington, Baltimore, MD	Arriving: Fri 01 Mar 12:20PM	Flying Time: 1h15m	Stops: 0
AIR								
Southwest Airlines	Flight Number WN1755	Class: Y- Economy	From: Baltimore Washington, Baltimore, MD	Leaving: Fri 01 Mar 01:25PM	Destination: Manchester-Boston Regional, Manchester, NH	Arriving: Fri 01 Mar 02:50PM	Flying Time: 1h25m	Stops: 0

Regards,

Vanessa Lasater

Corporate Travel Management

On January 02, 2024 09:20 AM, "Carloni, Jessica" <jessica.m.carloni@wildlife.nh.gov> wrote:

Hello-

I need a quote for a flight to Buffalo NY Airport from Manchester NH Airport. I will be departing on Sunday Feb 25 and need to arrive by 2 or 3pm to be on time for a meeting that evening. I will be returning on March 1 and would like a 9-10am flight.

Thank you,
Jessica