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State of New Hampshire
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF FORESTS & LANDS

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MAR 04 2026



January 28, 2026

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court *and*

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte
 and the Honorable Executive Council
 State House
 Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to RSA 9:16-c, I, authorize the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), Division of Forests and Lands, Natural Heritage Bureau to transfer funds in the in the amount of \$8,600 for the purpose of funding post-retirement benefit costs and establish a new appropriation class, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2026. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds are to be budgeted as follows:

03-035-035-351010-21040000- NATURAL HERITAGE - FEDERAL

Class-Account- RG	Description	FY26 Current Adjusted Authorized	Requested Action	Revised FY26 Adjusted Authorized
000-404713-16	Federal Funds	538,390		538,390
Total Revenue		538,390	0	538,390
020-500200	Current Expenses	5,058		5,058
029-500290	Intra-Agency Transfer	248,992		248,992
030-500311	Equipment New Replacement	6,211		6,211
039-500190	Telecommunications	1,580		1,580
040-501587	Indirect Costs	51,100		51,100
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	312		312
042-500620	Additional Fringe Benefits	0	8,600	8,600
050-500109	Personal Service Temo Posit	48,308		48,308
057-500531	Books Periodicals Subscrip	775		775
059-500117	Temp Full Time	74,474		74,474
060-500601	Benefits	43,335		43,335
070-500705	In State Travel Reimburseme	5,843		5,843
080-500710	Out Of State Travel Reimb	12,088		12,088
103-502674	Contracts For OP Service	39,927	(8,600)	31,327
211-501530	Catastrophic Casualty Ins	387		387
Total Expenses		538,390	0	538,390

EXPLANATION

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), Division of Forests and Lands, Natural Heritage Bureau is requesting a transfer of available funding to establish a new class appropriation in order to meet obligation to pay for post-retirement benefit costs for as assessed for a non-general funded account.

This class was not originally budgeted as the position that is now in this account was originally budgeted in the NHB operations account but was moved to the federally funded account as a result of changes necessitated by the transfer of personnel to the Department of Environmental Services by NHB to support the consolidated permitting initiative as passed into law per Chapter 141, laws of 2025 Section 141:6.

For this reason, a new fund appropriation for class 42 is needed to support post-retirement cost for a FT Temp position.

The funds are being requested for the following purposes:

Class 042 – Additional Fringe benefits – New appropriation needed to pay for FT Temp staff post-retirement cost assessment.

Class 103 – Contracts for Ops Services – Reduced appropriations due to less anticipated operational contract activities.

The following information is provided in accordance with the Budget Officer's instructional memorandum dated April 17, 1985.

1) Does the transfer involve continuing programs or one-time projects? This transfer makes available post-retirement appropriations to support costs assessed for current staff conducting ongoing programs.

2) Is this transfer required to maintain existing program level or will it increase the program level? This transfer is not required to maintain or increase existing program levels.

3) Cite any requirements which make this program mandatory. This program is administered under the authority of [RSA 217 A Native Plant Protection](#).

4) Identify the source of the funds on all accounts listed on this transfer. This source of funding for this account is 100% Federal Funds via Grant award as authorized to accept under RSA 217-A:6, III

5) Will there be any effect on revenue if this transfer is approved or disapproved? There will be no effect on revenue as a result of this transfer.

6) Are funds expected to lapse if this transfer is not approved? No. Funds will be carried forward as authorized under RSA 9:16-c,II

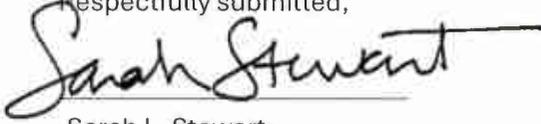
7) **Are personnel services involved? If yes, answer the following:** No personnel services are involved with this transfer.

- a. **Number of positions budgeted in each account.** N/A
- b. **Number of positions filled in each account.** N/A
- c. **Reason for vacant positions.** N/A
- d. **Have any positions been transferred previously in these accounts?** N/A
- e. **Will any positions be transferred as a result of this request?** N/A

Funding for this requested action is 100% Federal Funds.

In the event that federal funds are no longer available, general funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah L. Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sarah L. Stewart
Commissioner