



# New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

1A - 7/29/26

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Stephanie L. Simek, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

June 1, 2026

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

## REQUESTED ACTION

Pursuant to MOP 1301, VI, D, authorize the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department to allow Dan Ellingwood and Brett Ferry, Turkey and Small Game Project Leaders respectively, to travel outside of a 300-mile radius of their office headquarters, by vehicle rather than economy class airfare on commercial airline, in the amount of \$1,850.25 to Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, Quebec to attend the annual Northeast Upland Game Bird Technical Committee meeting from October 5-8, 2026 effective upon Governor and Council approval. Funding is 75% Federal (W89R22) and 25% Other (Game Management Funds).

Funding is available for this request and will be expended as follows:

### **03 75 75 751520-2158 WILDLIFE PROGRAM - Game Management**

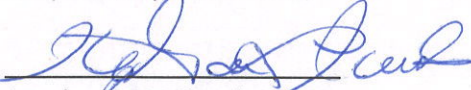
|                                                  | <u>FY27</u> |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 20-07500-21580000-080-500710 Out-of-State Travel | \$1,850.25  |

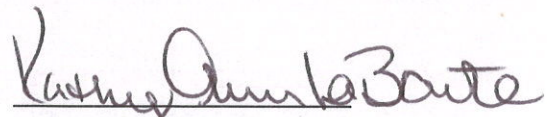
## EXPLANATION

Upon approval, we are planning to attend the Northeast Upland Game Bird Technical Committee's annual meeting in Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, Quebec on October 5-8, 2026. Given that two project biologists will be attending the same meeting, they can share a ride utilizing a state vehicle which would significantly reduce travel expenses for the agency. We are seeking permission to drive to the meeting rather than fly as it would be less expensive and streamline logistics.

Based on current prices, estimated airfare for two employees would cost \$4,214.74. Due to layovers and indirect flights, the time spent traveling by air versus vehicle would be 5 additional hours which represents an additional expense of \$338.75 in staff salary. When the expense of airfare, rental car and associated costs, and staff salary are combined, travel by air would cost the agency an additional \$4,414.35. A full comparison comparing the cost of air travel to travel via a state vehicle is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Stephanie L. Simek, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

  
Kathy Ann LaBonte, Chief  
Business Division

**REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL**Date: 6/1/2026**TO THE HONORABLE GOVERNOR & COUNCIL:**

The Department of Fish and Game requests permission  
for 2 employees or their designees to travel to Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, QC  
for 4 days of out-of-state travel status October 5 to October 8, 2026  
between the dates of \_\_\_\_\_

**Conference/Workshop/Seminar Title**

Northeast Upland Game Bird Technical Committee Annual 2026 Meeting

**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 two Department staff to attend and participate in meetings, presentations, and have discussions with peer upland game bird biologists from the northeast and eastern Canadian provinces regarding current status and management issues specific to wild turkey, ruffed grouse, and woodcock.

The driving distance between the NH Fish and Game Headquarters in Concord, NH and the meeting location in Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, QC is 345 miles (690 miles round trip). Having these two employees share a ride utilizing one state vehicle is significantly less expensive compared to airfare for two and a rental vehicle (see attached documentation). Additionally, the drive will take an estimated 5.5 hours which results in shorter travel time given indirect flights, travel to and from the airport, and other factors associated with air travel.

**Attendees and their Titles**

1. Daniel Ellingwood – Wild Turkey Project Leader
2. Brett Ferry – Small Game Project Leader

**Fiscal Information - Summary**

| <u>Objt</u> | <u>Description</u>  | <u>Amount</u> |                                      | <u>Amount</u>                                               |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0710        | Common Carriers     | \$ 500.25*    | Appropriation of Out-of-State Travel | \$ 18,000                                                   |
| 0711        | Per Diem in Lieu    | \$            | Amount Expended to date              | \$ 0                                                        |
| 0712        | Meals               | \$ 352        | Available Balance                    | \$ 18,000                                                   |
| 0713        | Hotel               | \$ 748        | Amount requested this authorization  | \$ 1,850.25                                                 |
| 0714        | Mileage             | \$            | Estimated Balance Available          | \$ 16,149.75                                                |
| 0715        | Operation State Car | \$            |                                      |                                                             |
| 0717        | Miscellaneous       | \$ 50**       | Appropriation Code                   | 020 - 075 - 2158 - 080                                      |
| 0719        | Registration Fees   | \$ 200        | Source of Funds                      | 75% Federal (W89R22)/25% Other<br>(Game Management Account) |
| Total       |                     | \$ 1,850.25   |                                      |                                                             |

\* Estimated fuel cost for state vehicle

\*\* Taxes

**Authorized Signature**

Stephanie L. Simek, Ph.D., Executive Director

**COMPARISON OF AIR TRAVEL VS. STATE VEHICLE  
TO SAINTE-CATHERINE-DE-LA-JACQUES-CARTIER, QC**

*The meeting location will be referred to as "QC" in remainder of document*

|                                                                                                                |                     |                                         |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>AIR TRAVEL</b>                                                                                              |                     | <b>STATE VEHICLE TRAVEL</b>             |                   |
| (Manchester, NH to QC and return)                                                                              |                     | (Concord, NH to QC)                     |                   |
| Airfare                                                                                                        | \$4,214.74          | 345 miles one-way                       |                   |
| Airport parking                                                                                                | \$56.00             |                                         |                   |
| Travel to airport (state vehicle)                                                                              |                     | State vehicle operation cost:           |                   |
| 52 mi x \$0.725 =                                                                                              | \$37.70             | 690 mi x \$0.725 =                      | \$500.25          |
| <b>CAR RENTAL</b>                                                                                              | <b>\$252.41</b>     | <b>TOLLS</b>                            | <b>\$0.00</b>     |
| Rental car gas (Estimate)                                                                                      | \$15.00             |                                         |                   |
| <b>TRAVEL TIME FLY (INCLUDES<br/>TRAVEL TO/FROM AIRPORT,<br/>ROUNDTRIP AIRPORT TIME,<br/>LAYOVERS, FLIGHT)</b> |                     | <b>TOTAL DRIVE TIME</b>                 |                   |
| 16 Hrs. x \$67.75* =                                                                                           |                     | 5.5 hours one-way                       |                   |
| \$1,084.00                                                                                                     |                     | 11 Hrs. x \$67.75* =                    | \$745.25          |
| *Represents combined hourly salary for two employees                                                           |                     |                                         |                   |
| <b>TOTAL TIME COST</b>                                                                                         | <b>= \$1,084.00</b> | <b>TOTAL TIME COST</b>                  | <b>= \$745.25</b> |
| <b>TOTAL AIR &amp; RENTAL CAR<br/>TRAVEL COST</b>                                                              | <b>= \$4,575.85</b> | <b>TOTAL VEHICLE<br/>OPERATION COST</b> | <b>= \$500.25</b> |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                                                                                  | <b>\$5,659.85</b>   | <b>TOTAL:</b>                           | <b>\$1,245.50</b> |

**Total Savings to State: \$4,414.35**

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 Dan Ellingwood and Brett Ferry to travel via State vehicle to Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier, QC.

### **NEUGBTC Meeting Announcement**

When: October 5-8, 2026

Nearest Airport: **Aéroport international Jean-Lesage de Québec**

Where: 140, montée de l'Auberge

Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier (Québec) G3N 2Y6

Registration Cost: \$100 USD, link to follow

Hotel and meals cost: 766.89 CAD or ~\$550 USD

This includes (prices in CAD):

Logging is 174 + tx per night (3 nights)

Food is 244,86 + tx for 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches on site, 1 lunch box, 1 dinner

Booking link to follow

### **Draft Agenda**

\* Please use the following to begin your travel approval processes for this international meeting.

The topics and arrangement of topics may change, but the general structure will not. Please

send presentation and discussion topics to Andrew Ward at andward@pa.gov.

### **Northeast Upland Gamebird Technical Committee Meeting**

**October 5-8, 2026**

#### **October 5:**

6:00 - Arrival and check in

7:00 - Dinner (on your own - those arriving early enough may coordinate to socialize)

#### **October 6:**

8:00 - **Breakfast (provided)**

8:30 - 10:00: **Welcome and Group discussions**

Welcome and housekeeping (Max)

Meeting structure and charges review (Andrew)

State Reports (5 min. limit for general updates, productive conversation less limited)

10:00-10:30: **Break**

10:30-12:00: **Quail/Woodcock/Ptarmigan program updates and discussions**

12:00 - 1:00 **Lunch (provided)**

1:00 - 4:00: **Turkey Program updates and research**

4:00 - 5:00: **Regional issue discussion**

6:00 - **Dinner (provided)**

**October 7:**

8:00 – Breakfast (provided)

8:30 – 10:00: Grouse discussions

10:30-12:00: State Reports

12:00 – 1:00: Lunch (provided)

1:00 – 4:30: Site visit to aboriginal site and Old Quebec

6:30: Dinner (provided)

**October 8:**

8:00 – Breakfast (provided)

8:30 – 10:00: Closing discussions, Business Meeting

What do we want to accomplish in the coming year?

10:00-10:30: Break

10:30-12:00: Business Meeting cont.

12:00 – Adjourn and depart (lunch box provided)

## Departure flight details

**10:30 AM - Mon, Oct 5**

Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT)MHT, US

### **American Airlines:6032**

Embraer RJ145

1h 39mMain cabinMain Cabin Flexible1 carry-on

Traveler 1**Adult**

Traveler 2**Adult**

In-seat power outlet

Free wi-fi

**12:09 PM - Mon, Oct 5**

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL)Philadelphia, US

1h 19m layover

**1:28 PM - Mon, Oct 5**

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL)Philadelphia, US

### **American Airlines:5308**

Canadair (Bombardier) Regional Jet 900 and Challenger 890

1h 52mMain cabinMain Cabin Flexible1 carry-on

Traveler 1**Adult**

Traveler 2**Adult**

**3:20 PM - Mon, Oct 5**

Québec City Jean-Lesage International Airport (YQB)YQB, CA

## Return flight details

**1:55 PM - Thu, Oct 8**

Québec City Jean-Lesage International Airport (YQB)YQB, CA

### **American Airlines:5888**

Embraer RJ145

2h 2mMain cabinMain Cabin Flexible1 carry-on

Traveler 1**Adult**

Traveler 2**Adult**

In-seat power outlet

Free wi-fi

**3:57 PM - Thu, Oct 8**

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL)Philadelphia, US

1h 33m layover

**5:30 PM - Thu, Oct 8**

Philadelphia International Airport (PHL)Philadelphia, US

**American Airlines:4492**

Embraer 175

1h 35mMain cabinMain Cabin Flexible1 carry-on

Traveler 1**Adult**

Traveler 2**Adult**

**7:05 PM - Thu, Oct 8**

Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT)MHT, US

Total (USD)

**\$4,214.74**

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Flight fare

**\$3,702.78**

Taxes

**\$496.96**

Service fee

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**\$15.00**

Traveler 1\$7.50

Traveler 2\$7.50

## Rental Details

### Dates & Times

- Mon, Oct 05, 2026 @ 8:00 AM
- Thu, Oct 08, 2026 @ 8:00 AM

### Pick-up & Return Location

- Quebec International Airport
- 507 Rue Principale
- Ste 118
- Quebec, QC G2G 0L4

### Additional Details

- Renter Age: 25+
- Corporate Account Number or Promotional Code: -

### Vehicle Details

#### Intermediate SUV

Ford Escape or similar

Automatic



### Vehicle

- time & distance 3 Day(s) @ \$ 59.13 / Day

\$ 177.40\*

- Unlimited Mileage

Included

Taxes and Fees

\$ 75.01\*

• • • • • **Estimated Total**    \$ **252**.41\*\*

Estimated total converted to your local currency. Pay later charges will be in **CAD (CAD 349.33)**.

\*Rates, taxes and fees do not reflect rates, taxes and fees applicable to non-included optional coverages or extras added later.

\*\*Converted amounts are estimates and are subject to changes as exchange rates vary. View Currency Conversion Details