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

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October 6, 2026

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

REQUESTED ACTION

The New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), Division of Forests and Lands requests **Retroactive** renewal of a membership with the Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission (NFFPC) (VC#158407), Gilford, NH in the amount of $6,885.62 for Fiscal Year 2027 annual assessment effective upon Governor and Council approval for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027. **100% General Funds.**

Funding is available in account, Forest Protection, as follows:

	FY 2027
03-035-035-351010-35200000-026-500251 Organizational Dues	$6,885.62

EXPLANATION

This request is **Retroactive** because, while the invoice covers the timeframe beginning July 1st, the department could not submit this request until the invoice was received in September.

NFFPC is a compact of seven northeastern states, five Canadian provinces and five associate members, formed seventy-seven years ago to coordinate the sharing of Compact agency information, technology and resources to prevent and control wildfires in an effective, efficient manner throughout the Compact area. The NFFPC was established as a central agency to coordinate the services needed by member states and provinces and provides an efficient and established means to support mutual aid among members and establish procedures to facilitate this aid, and to support the development of integrated wildfire plans and the maintenance of appropriate wildfire fighting services by its members. Through this approach, the states uphold their collective wildland fire management responsibilities in a cost effective, timely and responsive manner.

The compact parties agreed to make annual appropriations to support the Commission with consideration of the amounts of forestland and the extent of the forest fire problem within in each state.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?
Since 1949, 77 years.

2. Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?
No

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?
The seven original members continue to benefit from membership in the NFFPC and are the states of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York. This is shared with the Canadian Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland & Labrador. DNCR Is the only New Hampshire state agency which is a member.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.)
The member assessment formula has two components; a protected acres portion and a fixed portion. The total member assessment is determined by dividing the proposed budget in half, with the first component of the assessment based on the total protected acres within each member area and the second component is determined by dividing the remaining half of the budget by the total number of members to calculate the member fixed share.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?
Cooperative interjurisdictional wildland fire management as well as coordination and resource sharing. New Hampshire has access to other agencies for specialized aircraft, wildland fire engines, and expert firefighters during times of wildfire emergencies.

6. Are training or educational/ research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.
Yes, as a member, training and awareness meetings are made available to employees. These include high level fire management and operational courses which allow employees to operate on in-state incidents at a high incident command level.

7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.
No, however, cooperation with other wildland fire organizations is an important component to some federal grants the state receives, such as the State Fire Capacity Grant from the USFS.

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.
Travel is not covered and is required for one meeting per year for the 3 NH state Commissioners (State Forester, Governors appointee, and Legislative appointee) and an additional three meetings for the Chief of the Forest Protection Bureau. Meetings take place throughout the NFFPC member agencies and involve decisions for wildland fire management and the sharing of resources across borders.

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.
The state Forester is a voting member of the Commission. The Chief of the Forest Protection Bureau is a member of the Operations Committee and multiple forest rangers participate on technical working teams where information for effective wildland management is shared.

10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization. **If the state was not a member of the NFFPC then it would not have the surge capacity to help deal with wildland fire emergencies. Sharing of resources across state and international borders has been a cornerstone of the NFFPC and occurs rapidly and efficiently when needed. High level training and the sharing of new technologies, information and procedures allows the state to benefit. Failure to maintain membership in the NFFPC would reduce the state's wildfire response capacity.**

Respectfully submitted,



Adam J. Crepeau
Commissioner

Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Commission

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nffpc.org

INVOICE

BILL TO
NH Division of Forests and Lands
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
172 Pembroke Road
Concord, NH 03301

INVOICE	1230
DATE	09/15/2026
DUE DATE	12/31/2026

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
09/15/2026	NFFPC Assessment - FY26 - Jul 1, 2026-Jun 30, 2027; as approved at the Commissioner's meeting in St. John's, NL, August 27, 2026.	6,885.62

If paying by credit card: https://square.link/u/XkCpdJpl

BALANCE DUE **$6,885.62**