



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members
From: Nathan Lavery, Senior Fiscal Analyst
Date: October 20, 2014
Subject: Grant Request #2715

Enclosed please find one (1) item that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration.

JFO #2715 – Donation of 80 acres (estimated value: \$110,000) from Ronald Baruzzi to the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife. The easement is located in the Town of Whitingham. The purpose of this donation is to conserve significant wildlife habitat and protect public access for hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing. \$5,000 of federal Pittman-Robertson funding will be used to cover the legal costs associated with this acquisition.

[JFO received 10/17/14]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Daniel Dickerson at (802) 828-2472; ddickerson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for legislative review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by November 3 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.



State of Vermont
 Department of Finance & Management
 109 State Street, Pavilion Building
 Montpelier, VT 05620-0401

[phone] 802-828-2376
 [fax] 802-828-2428

Agency of Administration

JFO 2715

**STATE OF VERMONT
 FINANCE & MANAGEMENT GRANT REVIEW FORM**

Grant Summary:	Donation of 80 acres of land to add to the Atherton Meadow Wildlife Management Area				
Date:	10/9/2014				
Department:	ANR F&W 612000000				
Legal Title of Grant:	Ronald Baruzzi Land Donation				
Federal Catalog #:	N/A				
Grant/Donor Name and Address:	Ronald Baruzzi, 73 Knollwood Drive, Tinton Falls NJ 07724				
Grant Period:	From:		To:		
Grant/Donation	80 Acres in the Town of Whitingham to add to the Atherton Meadow Wildlife Management Area, thereby protecting public access for hunting, fishing, trapping and wildlife viewing, and conservation of wildlife habitat. This has been approved by the Whitingham Select Board.				

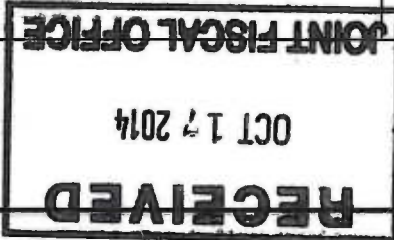
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$110,000	\$0	\$0	\$	Land value only.

Position Information:	# Positions	Explanation/Comments
	0	

Additional Comments: The only budgetary effect is \$5,000 for appraisal and legal costs. Pittman=Robertson funds are available.

3/10/14

Department of Finance & Management	<i>[Signature]</i> 10/13/14	(Initial)
Secretary of Administration	<i>[Signature]</i> 10/13/14	(Initial)
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office	10/15/14	Date



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Natural Resources			
2. Department:	Fish and Wildlife			
3. Program:	Lands and Habitat			
4. Legal Title of Grant:				
5. Federal Catalog #:				
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address:	Ronald Baruzzi 73 Knollwood Drive Tinton Falls, NJ 07724			
7. Grant Period:	From:		To:	
8. Purpose of Grant:	The purpose of this grant is for the Department to accept 80 acres of land to add to the Atherton Meadow Wildlife Management Area to protect access and important natural communities.			
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted:	If the Department does not accept the donation it will not be able to provide permanent protection of public access for hunting trapping, fishing and other wildlife related recreation. It will also limit the Department's ability to protect 80 acres of significant wildlife habitat.			
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 2015	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$5,000	\$	\$	Appraisal contract
Operating Expenses	\$110,000	\$	\$	Value of land (assessment)
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$115,000	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:				
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$110,000	\$	\$	Donation value
Federal Funds:				
(Direct Costs)	\$5,000	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:				
Grant (source)	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$115,000	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:		Amount:		\$
				\$
				\$
				\$

SEP 25 2014

STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)

			\$
			\$
			\$
		Total	\$

Has current fiscal year budget detail been entered into Vantage? Yes No

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: _____ Agreed by: ML (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
Total Positions		

12a. Equipment and space for these positions: Is presently available. Can be obtained with available funds.

13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

I/we certify that no funds beyond basic application preparation and filing costs have been expended or committed in anticipation of Joint Fiscal Committee approval of this grant, unless previous notification was made on Form AA-1PN (if applicable):	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>9-23-14</u>
	Title: Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources	
	Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>	Date: <u>9/22/14</u>
	Title: Commissioner, Vermont Fish and Wildlife	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

Approved: [Signature] (Secretary or designee signature) Date: 10/13/14

15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

Check One Box:
 Accepted [Signature] (Governor's signature) Date: 10/15/14
 Rejected

16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Required GRANT Documentation

<input type="checkbox"/> Request Memo	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Donation (if any)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. project approval (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> Grant (Project) Timeline (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Extension (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Form AA-1PN attached (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	

End Form AA-1

(*) The term "grant" refers to any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value to be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of state government (see 32 V.S.A. §5).

Department of Fish and Wildlife
1 National Life Dr., Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3702
www.vtfishandwildlife.com

[phone] 802-505-0561
[fax] 802-828-1250

Agency of Natural Resources

MEMORANDUM

To: Sarah London, Governor's Legal Counsel
From: Jane Lazorchak, Land Acquisition Coordinator
Date: August 18, 2014
RE: Governor's Approval Needed for a Land Donation in Whitingham.

Enclosed is an approval to be signed by Governor Shumlin for the acceptance of a donation of 80 acres from the Baruzzi family to the State of Vermont. The addition of these 80 acres located in the Town of Whitingham to the Atherton Meadows Wildlife Management Area will provide permanent protection of public access for hunting, trapping, fishing and wildlife viewing, and the conservation of significant wildlife habitat. Total costs for this project are approximately \$5000 and reflect the legal costs associated with the closing and researching legal access to the property.

Funding for this acquisition will come from Pittman-Robertson funds. Included with the Governor's approval memo are a map of the property, a copy of the review and approval by the Agency Land Acquisition Review Committee and a copy of the letter signed by the town of Whitingham stating town support for the state acquisition of this parcel.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me directly at 505-0561 or at jane.lazorchak@state.vt.us, thank you.

cc: Louis Porter, Commissioner
John M. Austin, Lands and Habitat Program Director



Department of Fish and Wildlife
Commissioner's Office
103 South Main Street
10 South
Waterbury, VT 05671-0501
802-241-3730

TO: Peter Shumlin, Governor

THROUGH: Deb Markowitz, Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources

FROM: Louis Porter, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife

SUBJECT: Donation of the 80-acre Baruzzi parcel to provide additional conservation and public access opportunities at Atherton Meadows Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Recommendation: That you approve the acceptance of the donation of 80 acres from the Baruzzi family to be added to the Vermont Wildlife Department's Atherton Meadows WMA located in the town of Whitingham.

Description

Atherton Meadows WMA is located in the town of Whitingham approximately 8 miles west of the village of Jacksonville. The property consists of two separate parcels situated on either side of Route 100. The larger parcel, 794 acres, lies between Route 100 and the southern end of Harriman Reservoir. The northwest boundary of this parcel abuts Power Company (USGen) land, which is also open to the public via a Vermont Land Trust conservation easement.

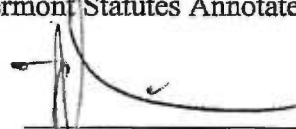
The topography of the Atherton Meadows WMA is quite variable. The elevation at Route 100 is 158 feet – the lowest on the parcel. An old beaver pond sits in the center of the parcel at an elevation of 1,840 feet. The hills surrounding it, which average 2,000 feet in elevation, create the impression of standing in the bottom of a bowl. Approximately 120 acres is a mixed hardwood/softwood forest type; the remaining acreage is predominantly northern hardwoods. Virtually the entire parcel is forested. In some areas apple trees are scattered in the understory, remnants from previous agriculture. Beech and black cherry are the predominant mast-producing trees. Wintering deer use the 120 acres of softwood forest on the property. There is abundant evidence throughout the area - tracks, trails, beds, bark scars and browsing can all be observed. The large beaver flowage located in the middle of the 794-acre parcel, and the alder swamp associated with No. 9 Brook; provide rich habitats for a variety of furbearing mammals and waterfowl.

The Baruzzi family is interested in donating two 40-acre tracts which straddle Route 100 to the Department. The Department is interested in acquiring the Baruzzi property because of the significant wildlife habitat on the property, as well as the potential to increase public and management access on our current ownership. The parcels are mostly

APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF LAND

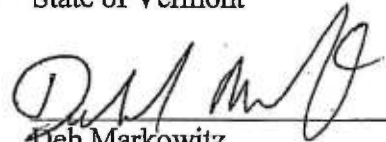
We the undersigned, hereby approve the acceptance of land by the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife to protect public access and the natural resources on the 80 acres belonging to the Baruzzi family in Whitingham, VT. This approval is required by 10 V.S.A. §4144 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated.

9/3/14
Date




Peter Shumlin
Governor
State of Vermont

8-24-14
Date



Deb Markowitz
Secretary
Agency of Natural Resources

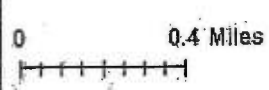
8/18/14
Date



Louis Porter
Commissioner
Fish and Wildlife Department

**Baruzzi Donation at
Atherton Meadows WMA
Whitingham, VT**

 Baruzzi Parcel



Harriman Rese

Atherton Meadows WMA
Atherton Meadow

100

Atherton Meadows V



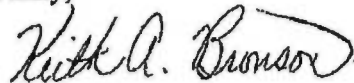
Town of Whitingham
Select Board

January 22, 2014

Dear Ms. Lazorchak,

After reading your letter that summarized the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (DFW) involvement and discussing the project further at our Select Board meeting on January 22, 2014, we are writing to offer our full support for the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (DFW) involvement in the acquisition of Baruzzi family's property in Whitingham to be added to Atherton Meadows WMA. More specifically, the town supports the DFW acquiring this property to conserve the significant natural resource values on the property as well as public access. Thank you for meeting with us.

Sincerely,



Chair of the Whitingham Select Board