



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members
From: Sorsha Anderson, Senior Staff Associate
Date: July 10, 2024
Subject: Grants – JFO #3206

Enclosed please find one (1) item, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the Administration.

JFO #3206: Land donation to the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife from the Virginia Brooks Estate. The parcel of land is undevelopable and abuts two existing department parcels. Acceptance will allow an expanded area of protection of the diverse wetland habitats along the Barton River in Glover, Vermont. The parcel is valued at \$10,300.00. Closing costs of \$4,000.00 are funded by budgeted federal funds. Estimated annual payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) is \$58.99 annually. *[Received July 1, 2024]*

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Sorsha Anderson: sanderson@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like this item held for legislative review. Please submit concerns by **July 25, 2024**, or we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this request.



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

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

Grant Summary: To allow F&W to accept a donation of land assessed at \$10,300 in Glover, VT. The parcel is undevelopable and abuts two existing DFW parcels. Acceptance of this donation will expand wildlife and fish habitats and improve public access.

Date: 5/23/2024

Department: Fish & Wildlife

Legal Title of Grant: N/A

Federal Catalog #: N/A

Grant/Donor Name and Address: Vivian Brooks Estate
 C/O William E. Brooks
 10926 Cedar Oaks Lane
 Columbia, MD 21044

Grant Period: **From:** 4/19/2024 **To:** 12/31/2099

Grant/Donation: \$10,300

	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$10,300	\$	\$	\$10,300	Land donation value

Position Information:	# Positions	Explanation/Comments

Additional Comments: <\$4k closing costs funded by budgeted federal funds. Ongoing management costs to be federally funded. Estimated PILOT payment is \$58.99 annually.

Department of Finance & Management	Adam Greshin Digitally signed by Adam Greshin Date: 2024.06.03 DocuSigned by: (Initial)
Secretary of Administration	Sarah Clark Digitally signed by Sarah Clark Date: 2024.06.03 04AB832CD55C438... (Initial)
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office	Date
	



STATE OF VERMONT REQUEST FOR GRANT (*) ACCEPTANCE (Form AA-1)**Acceptance of Real Property as a Grant, Pursuant to 10 V.S.A. §4144 and §4147**

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Agency of Natural Resources			
2. Department:	Department of Fish and Wildlife			
3. Program:	Fisheries			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	N/A			
5. Federal Catalog #:	N/A			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address:	Vivian Brooks Estate C/O William E. Brooks 10926 Cedar Oaks Lane Columbia, MD 21044			
7. Grant Period:	From:		To:	
8. Purpose of Grant:	The purpose of this grant is for DFW to accept a donation of land assessed at \$10,300 in Glover, VT. The parcel is undevelopable and abuts two existing DFW parcels. Acceptance of this donation will expand wildlife and fish habitats and improve public access.			
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted:	If DFW does not accept this donation it would not be able to provide permanent protection of the diverse wetland habitats along the Barton river.			
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY25	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$14,300	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$14,300	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$4,000	\$	\$	Great Lakes Fisheries Commission via VHCB for survey and closing costs

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

Grant (source Private Landowner)	\$10,300	\$	\$	\$10,300 = town assessed value
Total	\$14,300	\$	\$	

Appropriation No:	Amount:	\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
		\$
Total		\$

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: _____ (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: <i>Charlyte A. Bennett</i>	Date: 4/19/2024
	Title: Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife	
	Signature: <i>J. Steen</i>	Date: 5/1/2023
	Title: Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved:	(Secretary or designee signature) <i>Sarah Clark</i> <small>DocuSigned by: Sarah Clark 04AB832CD55C438</small>	Date: 6/7/2024 10:28
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15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted <input type="checkbox"/> Rejected	(Governor's signature) <i>[Signature]</i>	Date: 6/29/24
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16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

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

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) (see also, 10 V.S.A. §4144, and §4147).

Town of Glover
51 Bean Hill Road
Glover, VT 05839
(802) 525-6227

July 13, 2023

TO:

Pete Emerson
Fisheries Biologist
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department
374 Emerson Falls Road Suite #4
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819

RE: Brooks Property donation to Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

Dear Mr. Emerson,

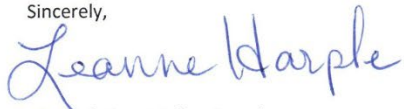
The Town of Glover Selectboard is pleased to submit this letter in support of the proposed property donation by the Brooks' family to the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department. We understand the donation will place the property, SPAN 243-077-10087, under permanent conservation protection for use and enjoyment by the residents of Glover and the public in perpetuity. The Selectboard recognizes that the property is abutted by the State-owned Clark Pond Fishing Access (SPAN 243-077-10223) to the south and a Barton River Streambank Management Area to the north (Lot: 401-705). Furthermore, we understand the property is vacant, devoid of any structures or improvements, and has approximately 275-feet of water frontage and 325-feet of road frontage. As such, the Selectboard recognizes and supports the goal of permanently conserving the property to provide quality fish habitat, protect water quality, promote flood resilient land uses, and enhance public access for recreational activities in the region.

We recognize the property belonged to Vivian H. Brooks for many years and that after her passing, the parcel went to probate as part of her estate proceedings. As the executor of the estate, Mr. William Brooks obtained a license to sell or convey the property which was approved by a Vermont judge on February 2, 2023. As part of this process, Mr. Brooks also obtained an approved Notice of Commencement of Estate, an approved Motion to Waive Notice to Creditors, and an approved Certificate of Appointment of Fiduciary.

Sustaining excellent water quality and a robust recreational fishery in the Barton River is important for Glover as visitors and residents flock to the area because of our abundant and pristine waterbodies. The conservation of this undeveloped parcel will help maintain clear, cold water in the watershed by reducing sediment and nutrients entering the Barton River and ultimately Lake Memphremagog. As outlined in the Memphremagog Tactical Basin Plan, reducing nutrient loading into the watershed can be attained by permanently protecting lakeshores and rivers. We are pleased to hear the Vermont Fish and Wildlife plan to steward the property in a manner that optimizes natural ecosystem services while providing public access.

Additionally, the Board is pleased to know that the multi-generational family landowner, Mr. William Brooks, is an enthusiastic proponent of this project. We recognize and appreciate his eagerness to protect the valuable natural resources associated with this land and open it up for the enjoyment by the public.

Sincerely,



Chair of Glover Select Board



Department of Fish and Wildlife

Agency of Natural Resources

1 National Life Dr., Davis 2

Montpelier, VT 05620-3708

www.vtfishandwildlife.com

[phone] 802-828-1000

[fax] 802-828-1250

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Jaye Pershing Johnson, Governor's Legal Counsel

From: Peter Emerson, Fisheries Biologist

cc: Will Duane, Land Acquisition Coordinator

Date: April 19, 2024

RE: Governor's approval requested for a donation of land in Glover, VT

Dear Jaye,

Enclosed is an approval memo for Governor Scott's consideration authorizing the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to receive a donation of 0.72 (+/-) acres in the town of Glover to expand the existing Barton River Streambank Management Area (SMA).

The DFW is accepting this property as a donation, with funds for closing from the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission (GLFC) and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB). The Town of Glover supports this donation; a copy of an approval letter from their select board is attached. Funding for the continued management and stewardship will come from the DFW's existing USFWS Sportfish Restoration Grant, Aquatic Habitat Project. As with previous ANR land acquisitions via donation, the included AA-1 Grants Acceptance form follows the memo to Governor Scott and will serve as the signature page for the required administrative approvals. The following documents and information are included in this memo:

- Property description
- Maps of the property and surrounding area
- Legal authority for the transactions





- Nature of the legal property interest to be acquired
- Clear statement of purpose of the acquisition
- Description of current uses, anticipated uses and limits on use
- Description of existing motorized and/or mechanized uses, including VAST trails on the property and surrounding areas
- Source of funds for the acquisition
- Long term plan for funding of management expenses
- Evidence of local approval
- Anticipated PILOT Expenses
- Other relevant information

Please review and respond within two weeks from receipt of the documents if possible. If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact me directly at Peter.Emerson@Vermont.gov. Thank you.

cc: Christopher Herrick, Commissioner
Eric Palmer, Director of Fisheries



Department of Fish and Wildlife
Commissioner's Office
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2
Montpelier VT 05620-3208
802-828-1454

TO: Philip B. Scott, Governor, State of Vermont

THROUGH: Julie Moore, Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources

FROM: Christopher Herrick, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife

SUBJECT: Fee acquisition of 0.72 acres in Glover, VT to add to Barton River Streambank Management Area.

Recommendation: Approve the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (VDFW) acquisition of the 0.72 acre Brooks parcel in Glover to add to the existing Barton River Streambank Management Area (SMA).

Description

VDFW is seeking approval to conserve 0.72 acres of wetlands in Glover to expand the existing Barton River Streambank Management Area (SMA). The acquisition will provide access to public lands for hunting, trapping, angling, and wildlife viewing.

The purchase of this site is an ideal opportunity for wetland and floodplain forest restoration for the conservation of wild salmonids and will have the added benefit of providing access to VDFW land for hunting, trapping and angling. For **0.72 acres** of wetlands the total purchase price is **0** and the PILOT payments estimate is **\$58.99** annually.

There are no VAST trails on the property currently. Due to the sensitivity of the wetland habitat, VDFW is not planning to create new trails on this parcel at this time.

The closing costs for this project will be paid with funding from the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission through the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board and are expected to be less than \$4,000. In consideration for the funding, VDFW will grant a right of first refusal to VHCB to maintain public access if the parcel is ever sold. No state general fund monies will be used for this acquisition or the related work. Like all SMAs, the long-term management of the parcel will be paid for with USFWS federal funds. The town Selectboard supports this acquisition by the Department; a signed letter of support is attached.

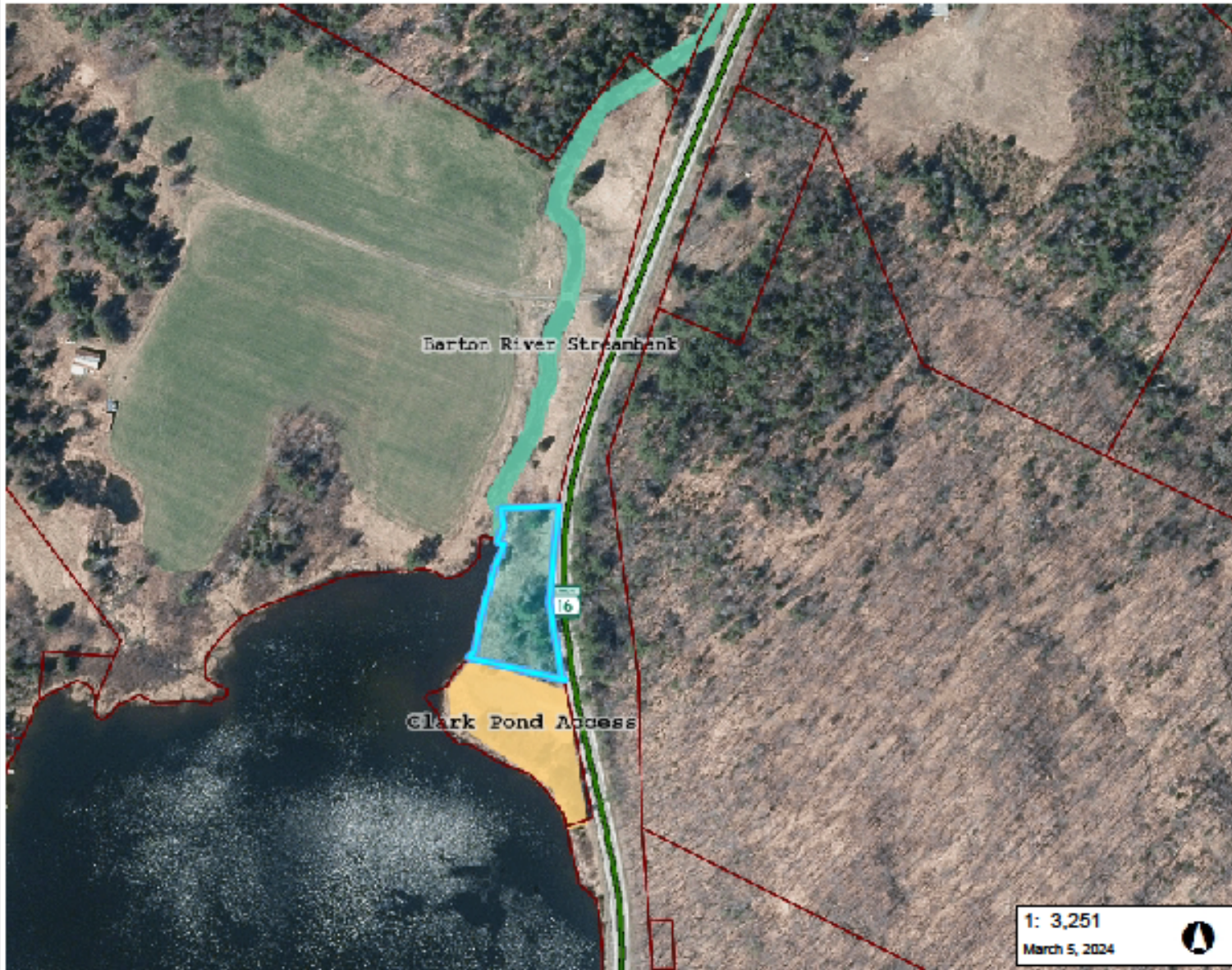
Approval is requested pursuant to 32 V.S.A. § 5(b)(2), for the approved acceptance of a "grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value" to a state Agency. And 10 V.S.A. §4147 to convey the right of first refusal.

[SIGNATURES REQUESTED ON THE FOLLOWING AA-1 FORM]



Natural Resources Atlas
Vermont Agency of Natural Resources

vermont.gov



LEGEND

Wildlife Management Areas

- Fee ownership
- Non-fee interest

Riparian Lands

- Fee ownership
- Non-fee interest

Other FW Lands

- Fee ownership
- Non-fee interest

Parcels (standardized)

Roads

- Interstate
- US Highway; 1
- State Highway
- Town Highway (Class 1)
- Town Highway (Class 2,3)
- Town Highway (Class 4)
- State Forest Trail
- National Forest Trail
- Legal Trail
- Private Road/Driveway
- Proposed Roads

Town Boundary

1: 3,251
March 5, 2024

165.0 0 82.00 165.0 Meters

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere 1" = 271 Ft. 1cm = 33 Meters

© Vermont Agency of Natural Resources THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

DISCLAIMER: This map is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. ANR and the State of Vermont make no representations of any kind, including but not limited to, the warranties of merchantability, or fitness for a particular use, nor are any such warranties to be implied with respect to the data on this map.

NOTES

Map created using ANR's Natural Resources Atlas



**Brooks Property (0.72 acres) - Glover, VT
Proposed Land Acquisition**

Map generated on 7/3/2023 by Gabriel Gianoni - Merrimack Valley Watershed Association, Newport, VT

