



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Joint Fiscal Committee Members
From: Nathan Lavery, Fiscal Analyst
Date: December 5, 2012
Subject: Grant Requests

Enclosed please find three (3) items that the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration, including the establishment of 1 limited service position.

JFO #2599 – \$50,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets. These funds will be used to recognize farms that have adopted conservation practices and motivate small farms to develop water quality management plans in order to improve water quality in Vermont.

[JFO received 11/30/12]

JFO #2600 – \$4,198,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services to the Vermont Department of Health. These funds will be used to promote wellness in children through age 8 through Project LAUNCH. This pilot project is designed to support the physical, mental, and behavioral development of children through the establishment of a comprehensive, coordinated system of evidence-based programs and services. The pilot project will operated in Chittenden County. **One limited service position** is associated with this request

[JFO received 11/30/12]

JFO #2601 – Donation of \$46,000 from Jane Harding of Springfield, Vermont, to the Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife. The value of this donation represents the difference between the appraised value of a conservation easement on 91.8 acres of land in Bristol and New Haven (\$184,000) and the price to be paid by the State of Vermont (\$138,000) for this easement.

[JFO received 11/30/12]

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Nathan Lavery at (802) 828-1488; nlavery@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like an item held for Joint Fiscal Committee review. Unless we hear from you to the contrary by December 19 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 2601

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

Grant Summary:		Donation of 25% of the appraised value towards the purchase of a conservation easement for the 91.8 acre Harding property in the Towns of Bristol and New Haven			
Date:		11/16/2012			
Department:		ANR F&W 6120000000			
Legal Title of Grant:		Harding Property Land Donation			
Federal Catalog #:		N/A			
Grant/Donor Name and Address:		Jane Harding, 351 West Camp Hill Road, Springfield, VT 05156			
Grant Period:		From:	To:		
Grant/Donation		\$46,000 difference in value between appraised value of \$184,000 and purchase price to the State of Vermont of \$138,000 for a conrevation easement.			
Grant Amount:	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
	\$46,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	Net value of land donation; no funds are being donated to the State.
Position Information:		# Positions	Explanation/Comments		
		0			
Additional Comments:					
Department of Finance & Management				11/19/12	(Initial)
Secretary of Administration				11/15/12	(Initial) <i>me</i>
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office					Date 11/28/12

RECEIVED
 NOV 30 2012
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE



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

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Natural Resources			
2. Department:	Fish and Wildlife			
3. Program:	Land donation			
4. Legal Title of Grant:				
5. Federal Catalog #:				
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address:				
Jane Harding 351 West Camp Hill Road Springfield, VT 05156				
7. Grant Period:	From:		To:	
8. Purpose of Grant:				
Jane Harding will sell for \$138,000 a conservation easement on 91.8 acres in Bristol and New Haven Vermont, valued at \$184,000. This provides a \$46,000 donation. Total cost, including legal fees and appraisal is \$150,000.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted:				
Loss of permanent public access for hunting, trapping, fishing and wildlife viewing and the loss of a significant wildlife habitat.				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 13	FY	FY	
Personal Services	\$	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$150,000	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$150,000	\$	\$	
Revenues:				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$46,000	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Grant (source)	\$	\$	\$	
Total	\$46,000	\$	\$	
Appropriation No:		Amount:	\$	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	

NOV 02 2010

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

			\$
			\$
			\$
		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: 	Date: 10/31/12
Title: Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife	
Signature: 	Date: 11-1/12
Title: ANR Secretary	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

Approved: _____ (Secretary or designee signature) Date: 11/19/12

15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

Accepted Rejected
 _____ (Governor's signature) Date: 11/27/12

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).

Fish and Wildlife Department
Barre District Natural Resources Office
5 Perry Street, Suite 40
Barre, VT 05641
www.vtfishandwildlife.com

[phone] 802-479-4405
[fax] 802-476-0129

Agency of Natural Resources

MEMORANDUM

To: Sarah London
From: Jane Lazorchak
Date: September 28, 2012
RE: Governor's Approval Needed for the Purchase of a Conservation Easement on Jane Harding's Property in Bristol and New Haven, VT.

Enclosed is an approval to be signed by Governor Shumlin for the purchase of a conservation easement by the State of Vermont. The conservation easement will be held solely by the Fish and Wildlife Department (FWD). This property is in the Town of Bristol and New Haven and is owned by Jane Harding. Total costs for this conservation easement project are approximately \$138,000. The appraised value for the conservation easement is \$184,000 and the landowner is therefore giving the FWD a bargain sale of 25% or \$46,000. Total costs for the entire conservation project are estimated at \$150,000.

Funding for this acquisition will come from Landowner Incentive Program funds provided to the Department from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the protection of at-risk species and state-significant natural communities and totals \$150,000. Included with the Governor's approval memo are a map of the project, a copy of the approval from the Agency Land Acquisition Review Committee and copies of the letter signed by the Chairs of the New Haven and Bristol Select Board stating town support for the state acquisition of this easement.

If you have any questions regarding this easement project, please contact me directly at 479-4405 or at jane.lazorchak@state.vt.us, thank you.

cc: Patrick Berry, 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 **DM**

FROM: Patrick H. Berry, Commissioner, Department of Fish and Wildlife **PHB**

DATE: October 3, 2012

SUBJECT: Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department, Conservation Easement Acquisition, Harding Property, Bristol and New Haven, VT.

Recommendation: Approve the acquisition of a conservation easement on 91.8-acres on the Harding property to protect significant wildlife habitat and provide public access for wildlife-based activities.

Description of Project

The Harding property is largely comprised of a diversity of forest types including Dry Oak-Hickory-Hophornbeam Forest and Northern Hardwoods. The most noteworthy feature on the property is an 8-acre pond known as Lost Pond. The entire parcel contains significant habitat for the federally-endangered Indiana bat as the forest is mature and possesses the necessary dead or dying trees needed for summer roosting habitat. A colony of bats occurs just north of the parcel on A. Johnson's property. Lastly, the parcel provides significant recreational opportunities with access along North Street in New Haven.

The Harding property abuts property owned by Jason Bacon consisting of 194 acres that the Department conserved through a similar conservation easement in 2010 using LIP funding (See Exhibit 1 for a map of the project area). The Department has worked with a small non-profit in Bristol called The Watershed Center (TWC) to conserve the Bacon Property. They raised \$40,000 that was used as matching funds to the LIP funds for the purchase of the easement. TWC has a vested interest in the area as they own the adjoining 634 acres. In addition they keep their land open for the public to use for recreation, hunting, fishing, trapping, and educational opportunities. Located where the towns of Bristol, Monkton and New Haven come together, this forested hillside is one of the most intact areas left in Addison County and as such, contains some significant resources. Spanning across the Harding Gurney property, Jason Bacon's property, TWC's lands and two other privately owned parcels are six state-significant natural communities, a state-threatened snake (the Eastern ratsnake) and a known maternity roost colony for the federally-endangered Indiana bat.

The Department is working with the landowner and TWC to purchase a conservation easement that will be drafted to protect the significant resources on the property and allow public access. TWC is raising funds to acquire the conserved Bacon property and is interested in also acquiring the Harding property after it is conserved with an easement by the Department. TWC committed \$6,000 in funding for the appraisal on our behalf. This contribution can be used as match later to the federal funds and cuts down on our administration of the project. Other funding for the project will come from the landowner's generous bargain sale.

Need and Cost

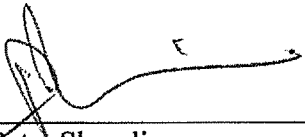
The Department is acquiring this conservation easement to provide permanent protection of public access for hunting, trapping, fishing, wildlife viewing, other wildlife dependent activities and conservation of significant wildlife habitat. The estimate set for the total project costs are approximately \$150,000 and reflect the total cost of the conservation easement (\$138,000) and associated project costs. The appraised value for the conservation easement is \$184,000. Therefore, the landowner is providing a bargain sale of 25% or \$46,000 to the Department. Funding for this project will come from LIP (\$150,000), with the match being generated by the landowner's generous bargain sale.

Your approval of this acquisition is required by 10 V.S.A. §4144, which states in part "the secretary, with approval of the governor, may exchange, sell or lease lands under the secretary's jurisdiction when, in his or her judgment, it is advantageous to the state to do so..." The Agency's Land Acquisition Review Committee reviewed this conservation easement project at their meeting in March 2012. Secretary Markowitz subsequently approved this project on June 6, 2012 (See Exhibit 2). In addition, the towns of Bristol and New Haven support this acquisition as documented in the letters from the Select Boards dated 8/30/12 and 8/23/12 respectively (Exhibits 3 and 4).

APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF LAND


We the undersigned, hereby approve the purchase of a conservation easement on the Harding Property by the Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife to protect public access and the natural resources on the 91.8 acres belonging to Jane Harding in Bristol and New Haven, VT. This approval is required by 10 V.S.A. §4144 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated.

10-16-12
Date



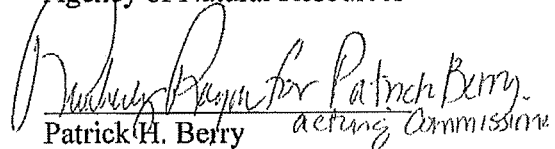
Peter Shumlin
Governor
State of Vermont

10-5-12
Date



Deb Markowitz
Secretary
Agency of Natural Resources

Oct. 3, 2012
Date



Patrick H. Berry *acting*
Commissioner
Fish and Wildlife Department

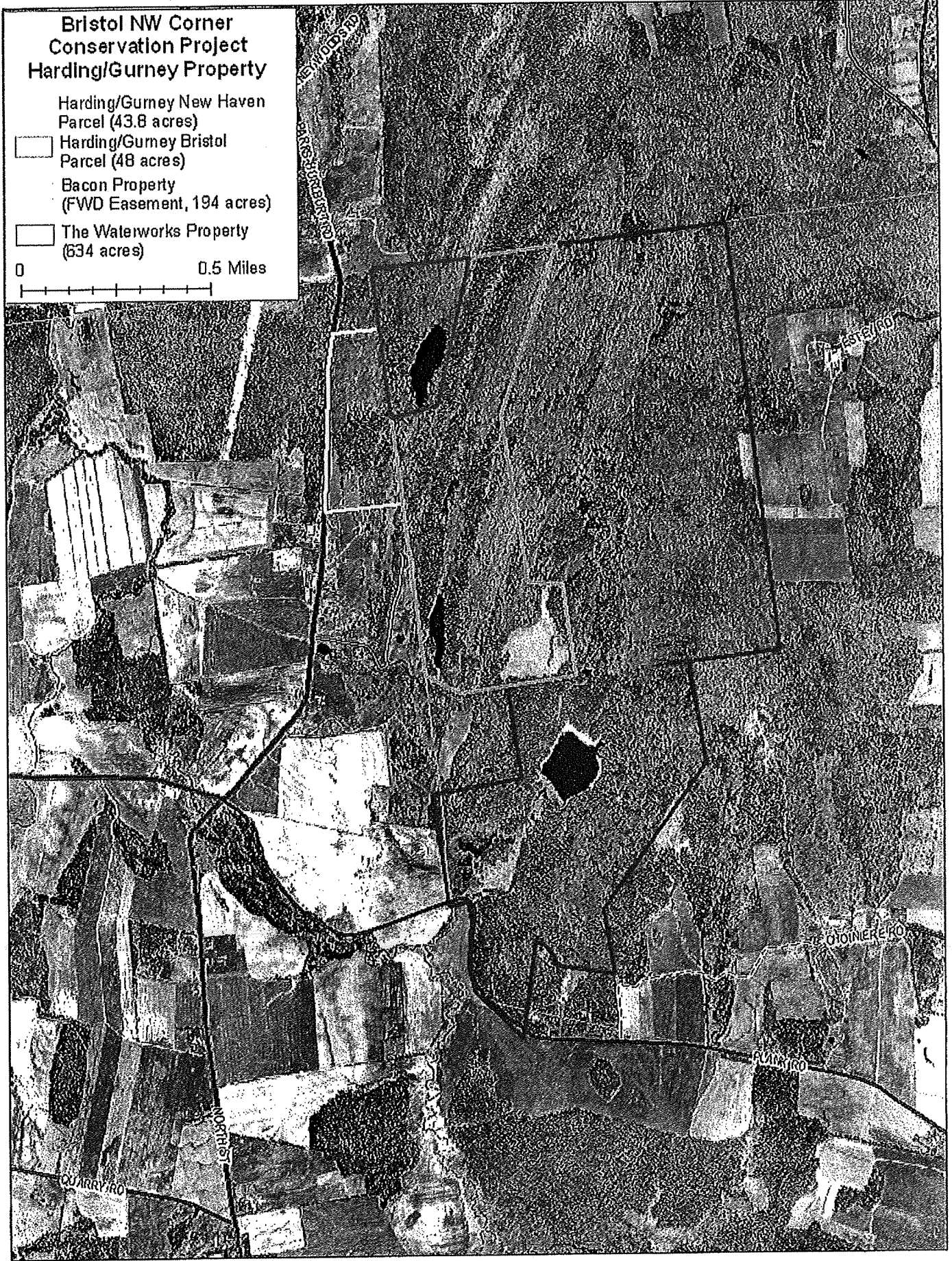
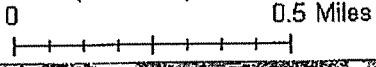
**Bristol NW Corner
Conservation Project
Harding/Gurney Property**

Harding/Gurney New Haven
Parcel (43.8 acres)

□ Harding/Gurney Bristol
Parcel (48 acres)

□ Bacon Property
(FWD Easement, 194 acres)

□ The Waterworks Property
(634 acres)





Town of Bristol
Holley Hall
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 • Fax 453-5188

August 30, 2012

Jane Lazorchak
Vermont Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
5 Perry Street, Suite 40
Barre VT 05641

Dear Ms. Lazorchak:

Thank you for visiting with the Bristol Selectboard on Monday August 27th to discuss the proposed conservation easement on the property of Jane Harding Gurney in the towns of Bristol and New Haven. The Selectboard appreciated learning more about this project as outlined in your letter of August 20th.

By motion, the Board voted to express its support for the project and for the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife to hold a conservation easement on this property. The Selectboard expressed its support for the purchase of this easement by the State that will conserve natural resource values on the property and assure public access to the land for wildlife based recreation.

We wish you the best in implementing this project. Please let us know if there is anything further that the Town of Bristol can do to be of assistance with this project.

Sincerely,

William Bryant
Town Administrator

Town of New Haven
78 North St.
New Haven, VT 05472
(802) 453 – 3516

August 23, 2012

To: Jane Lazorchak
Department of Fish & Wildlife
5 Perry Street, Suite 40
Barre, VT 05641

From: The New Haven Selectbaord

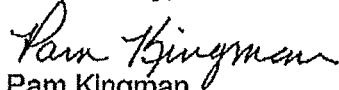
Re: Jane Harding Gurney Property

Thank you for coming to the Selectboard meeting on August 21, 2012 to discuss the purchase of Jane Harding Gurneys property by the Watershed Center and your plan for a conservation easement.

The Selectboard does not oppose the purchase of this parcel or the plan for the conservation easement.

Thank you for informing the Board about this project.

Respectfully,



Pam Kingman
Selectboard Clerk