



**STATE OF VERMONT**  
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Joint Fiscal Committee members  
From: Daniel Dickerson, Fiscal Analyst *DD*  
Date: September 22, 2017  
Subject: Grant Request #2896 – 2899

Enclosed please find four (4) items, including two (2) limited-service positions, which the Joint Fiscal Office has received from the administration.

**JFO #2896** – \$198,000 from the VT Housing and Conservation Board to the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. The funds will be used to acquire a 50-acre parcel in the town of Benson adjacent to the Pond Woods Wildlife Management Area and abutting Sunset Lake. The grant funds will be combined with \$172,000 in federal funding to achieve the total \$370,000 cost of the land (including legal fees and survey work). The Department would be responsible for the costs of future PILOT, kiosks and signage.

*[JFO received 9/8/17]*

**JFO #2897** – \$50,000 from the VT Housing and Conservation Board to the VT Dept. of Fish & Wildlife. The funds will be used to acquire a 281.4-acre parcel in the town of Fair Haven adjacent to the Green Mountain Conservation Camp. A new wildlife management area would be created in association with the camp. The grant funds will be combined with funding from multiple special fund sources within the Department to achieve the total \$235,000 cost (including legal fees and survey work). The Department would be responsible for the costs of future PILOT, kiosks and signage.

*[JFO received 9/12/17]*

**JFO #2898** – \$41,550 from the U.S. Forest Service to the VT Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. **One (1) limited-service position is associated with this request.** The funds will be used to hire a position titled Forester I in a limited-service capacity to fulfill increasing land management demands in Southern Vermont. The position would collaborate closely with U.S. Forest Service staff. The federal grant will cover 50% of the position costs and the State would be required to fund the remaining 50%. The Department intends to utilize Land and Facilities Trust Fund dollars to cover the match. The position would be funded by federal dollars through 9/30/2019.

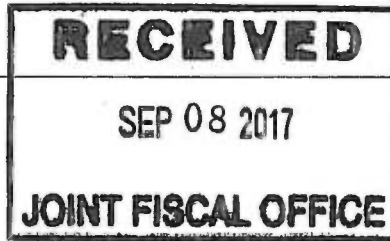
*[JFO received 9/20/17]*

**JFO #2899** – \$190,000 from the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to the VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation. The funds would be used to

improve the collection and interpretation of water use data to facilitate future water delivery infrastructure replacement in order to reduce the risks of delivery interruption from drought, contamination and other hazards. **One (1) limited-service position is associated with this request.** The funding would allow the Department to hire an Environmental Scientist III in a limited-service capacity to develop GIS and 3-D subsurface datasets and improve the listing of well locations in the Well Driller database, among other related duties. The grant funding would run through 9/30/2019, and no State match would be required.

*[JFO received 9/20/17]*

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Daniel Dickerson at (802) 828-2472; [ddickerson@leg.state.vt.us](mailto: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 October 6, 2017 we will assume that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of these requests.



JFO 2896

**Fish & Wildlife Department**  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620  
[www.vtfishandwildlife.com](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com)

*Agency of Natural Resources*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Sam Winship, Budget Analyst

FROM: Elizabeth Stratton, Financial Manager

SUBJECT: Grant Acceptance Request

DATE: July 6, 2017

Enclosed is a Request for Grant Acceptance (Form AA-1) for \$198,000 from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) that will help fund the acquisition of a 50-acre parcel adjacent to the Pond Woods Wildlife Management Area. This property abuts Sunset Lake, which will allow for the development of public access.

The total project cost for this acquisition is \$370,000 of which \$198,000 will be funded by VHCB and \$172,000 from federal funds.

These grant funds and the associated acquisition are one-time expenses that will cease once the project is complete. The department will assume future PILOT payment costs and maintenance of signage and kiosks in the future.

The department will measure the success of this project by the metric of increasing the percentage of high habitat protected through acquisition or easement in Vermont.

The funds for this project will be spent on the acquisition costs, legal fees, and survey work. There are no staff costs associated with this budget.

A response can be returned to my attention at:

Fish & Wildlife Department  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620

Please let me know if you need any further information. I can be reached at 802-377-5602.

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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**

<b>Grant Summary:</b>		Acquisition of 50 acres, known as the Boy Scout Property, adjacent to Pond Woods Wildlife Management Area			
<b>Date:</b>		8/22/2017			
<b>Department:</b>		Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department			
<b>Legal Title of Grant:</b>		Vermont Housing and Conservation Board Funds			
<b>Federal Catalog #:</b>		N/A			
<b>Grant/Donor Name and Address:</b>		Vermont Housing and Conservation Board 58 State Street #101, Montpelier, VT 05602			
<b>Grant Period:</b>	<b>From:</b>	7/6/2017	<b>To:</b>		
<b>Grant/Donation</b>		\$198,000			
	<b>SFY 1</b>	<b>SFY 2</b>	<b>SFY 3</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Grant Amount:</b>	\$198,000	\$	\$	\$	
<b>Position Information:</b>		<b># Positions</b>	<b>Explanation/Comments</b>		
		0			
<b>Additional Comments:</b>		Total acquisition cost \$370K (\$198K VHCB, \$172K federal funds). This purchase will secure conservation along the northern shoreline of Sunset Lake and prevent further degradation of water quality.			
<b>Department of Finance &amp; Management</b>		[Signature]		(Initial)	
<b>Secretary of Administration</b>		[Signature]		(Initial)	
<b>Sent To Joint Fiscal Office</b>		9/1/17		Date	



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

<b>BASIC GRANT INFORMATION</b>				
<b>1. Agency:</b>	Agency of Natural Resources			
<b>2. Department:</b>	Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department			
<b>3. Program:</b>	Lands and Habitat			
<b>4. Legal Title of Grant:</b>	Vermont Housing and Conservation Board Funds			
<b>5. Federal Catalog #:</b>	N/A			
<b>6. Grant/Donor Name and Address:</b> Vermont Housing and Conservation Board 58 State Street #101 Montpelier, Vermont 05602				
<b>7. Grant Period:</b>	<b>From:</b>		<b>To:</b>	
<b>8. Purpose of Grant:</b> To fund a portion of the 50 acre addition to the Pond Woods Wildlife Management Area located in Benson, Vermont.				
<b>9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted:</b> The acquisition and the associated benefits for fish, wildlife, habitat, and Vermonters will not occur.				
<b>10. BUDGET INFORMATION</b>				
	<b>SFY 1</b>	<b>SFY 2</b>	<b>SFY 3</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY</b>	<b>FY</b>	
Personal Services	\$19,247	\$	\$	
Operating Expenses	\$350,753	\$	\$	
Grants	\$	\$	\$	
<b>Total</b>	\$370,000	\$	\$	
<b>Revenues:</b>				
State Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
(Direct Costs)	\$172,000	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:	\$	\$	\$	
Grant (source Vermont Housing and Conservation Board)	\$198,000	\$	\$	
<b>Total</b>	\$370,000	\$	\$	
<b>Appropriation No:</b>		<b>Amount:</b>	\$	
	6120000000		\$370,000	
			\$	
			\$	
			\$	

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

	\$
	\$
<b>Total</b>	\$

**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: Louis Porter Agreed by: LP (initial)

12. Limited Service Position Information:	# Positions	Title
<b>Total Positions</b>		

**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: [Signature] Date: 07/11/17

Title: Secretary, Agency of Natural Resources

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7/11/17

Title: Commissioner, Vermont Fish and Wildlife

**14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION**

Approved: (Secretary or designee signature) [Signature] Date: 8/20/17

**15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR**

Check One Box:  
 Accepted (Governor's signature) [Signature] Date: 8/31/17  
 Rejected

**16. DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED**

**Required GRANT Documentation**

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

**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](http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com)[phone] 802-505-0561  
[fax] 802-828-1250*Agency of Natural Resources*

TO: Philip B. Scott, Governor

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

FROM: Steve Gomez, Director of Operations

SUBJECT: Joint Fiscal Committee Approval Needed for Acceptance of a \$198,000 Grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) to the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (VFWD)

**Recommendation: That you approve the acceptance of a grant of \$198,000 from VHCB to the VFWD to apply towards the acquisition the 50-acre Green Mountain Council of Boy Scout property at the Department's Pond Woods Wildlife Management Area located in Benson.**

Description

The Green Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts own a diverse property in the historic and picturesque western portion of Rutland County known as the Lakes Region. This part of the state features the pastoral charm of New England with diverse forests and lakes scattered throughout. The lakes, ranging in size, diversity and development, make this region feel more like our neighboring states, as nowhere else in Vermont do you have so many waterbodies concentrated in a region.

The area consists of a number of large state ownerships including Bomoseen State Park, Blueberry Hill Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and most notably for this application, Pond Woods WMA. This roughly 2,400-acre WMA is located in the towns of Benson and Orwell and abuts the 50 acres the VFWD is interested in acquiring from the Boy Scouts. It was largely purchased from A Johnson Timber Company in 1962 who retained the timber rights on the majority of the acreage. Since then, the VFWD has acquired a few smaller properties, most recently a 119-acre parcel which included the majority of Walker and Cranberry Swamps in 2012. The acquisition of the 51-acre Boy Scouts parcel will complement the VFWD's current ownership by protecting the water quality of Sunset Lake and Lake Champlain ultimately, adding natural community diversity to the WMA, and providing the public with access to Sunset Lake.

Sunset Lake is a very scenic lake with extremely high water quality despite the intense development along the southern shores. The dramatic, steep and undeveloped northern shores are owned almost entirely by the Green Mountain Council of the Boy Scouts. Monitoring by the Lakes Division in the Department of Environmental Conservation has determined that Sunset Lake has low phosphorus concentrations making it oligotrophic. Only about 15% of lakes in Vermont are oligotrophic and while that makes oligotrophic lakes in Vermont unique, they are even more unique for this area of Vermont where, with the exception of Perch Pond, all the other lakes are either mesotrophic or eutrophic (nutrient rich). While Sunset Lake is one of a relatively few oligotrophic lakes, it also has another distinguishing feature that sets it



apart from all other lakes in Vermont. On August 6th, 2002 the citizen lay monitor measured the greatest Secchi depth ever recorded in Vermont, 16 meters. Secchi depth is a measure of water clarity and clear water is a value everyone can appreciate. Careful shoreland and watershed management are needed to maintain such clarity, and conservation of the remaining undeveloped shoreline will contribute significantly to this goal.

There is currently no public access on the lake but the town does grade the road on the eastern side in a way that the public can put in a boat and then leave their car along the road. This creates a problem with traffic and is definitely a safety concern. Securing the conservation of the northern shoreline will prevent further degradation of water quality in the lake while also providing the public with a way to safely access the lake both as a pedestrian and also via a small car-top boat launch the VFWD plans to develop. At this point in time, no motorboat access is envisioned.

The total preliminary project budget is \$370,000, of which the purchase price is \$350,752.80 and the remainder includes surveying the property and closing costs. We are under contract for the full appraised amount and anticipate closing in the Fall of 2017.

#### Need and Cost




The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department (VFWD) is acquiring this property to provide permanent protection of public access for wildlife-based recreation and conservation of significant wildlife habitats. The total preliminary project budget is \$370,000, of which the purchase price is \$350,752.80. The VFWD proposes to purchase the property with federal funding from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and a grant from the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB). VFWD was awarded \$198,000 at the June Board meeting for VHCB to apply towards this project. VFWD anticipates closing on the property by September 30, 2017.

Your approval of this grant is required by 32 VSA § 5, which states in part “No original of any grant, gift, loan, or any sum of money or thing of value may be accepted by any agency, department, commission, board, or other part of State government except as follows: (1) All such items must be submitted to the Governor who shall send a copy of the approval or rejection to the Joint Fiscal Committee through the Joint Fiscal Office together with the following information with respect to said items...”.



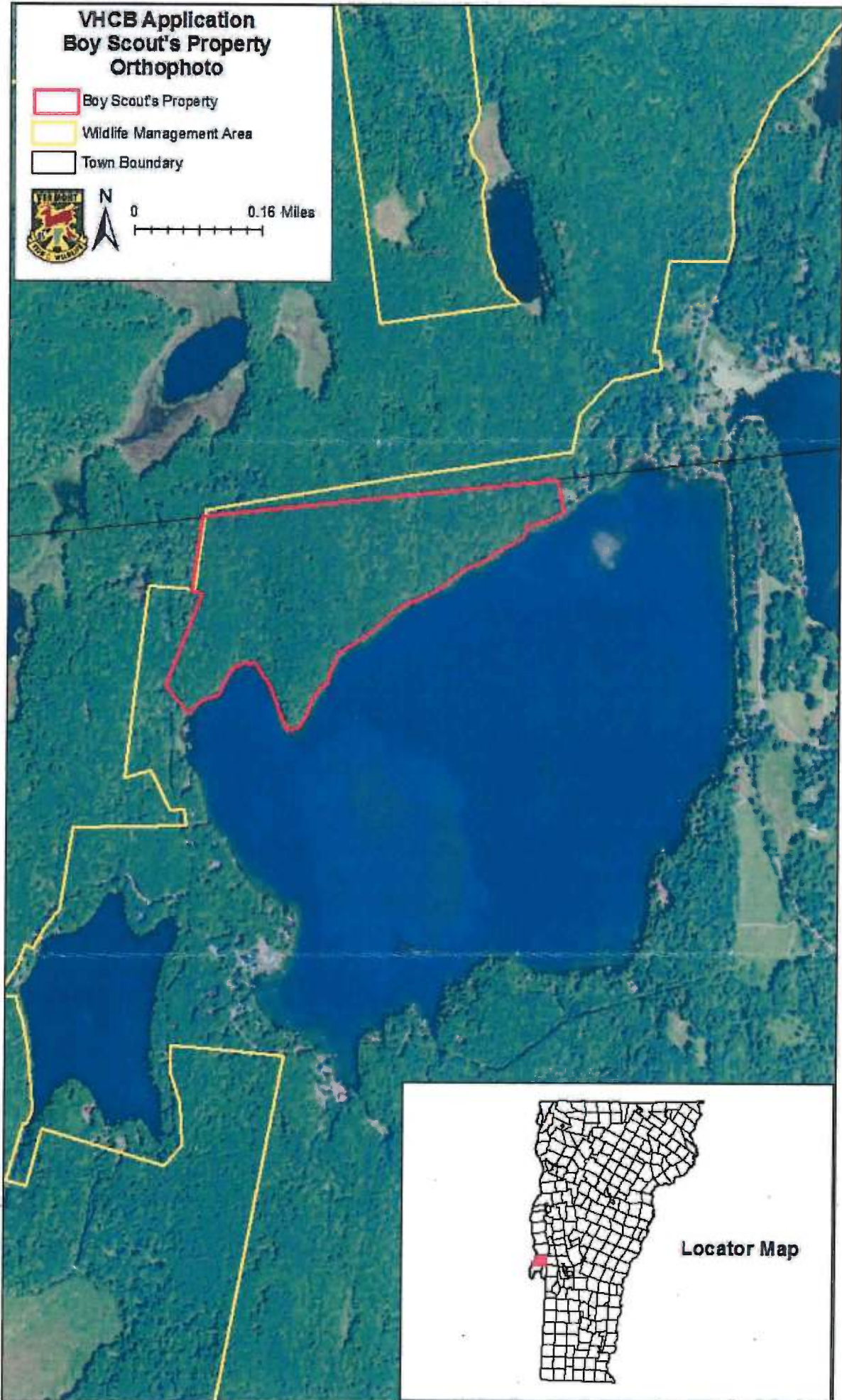


# VHCB Application Boy Scout's Property Orthophoto

-  Boy Scout's Property
-  Wildlife Management Area
-  Town Boundary



0 0.16 Miles



Locator Map