



STATE OF VERMONT
LEGISLATIVE JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Fiscal Committee Members

FROM: Maria Belliveau, Associate Fiscal Officer *MB*

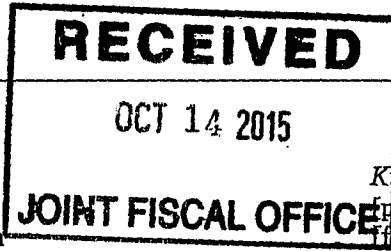
DATE: October 14, 2015

SUBJECT: JFO #2789 – Request from the Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation

The Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation has submitted a request to authorize the acceptance of \$185,000 donation from the Vermont land Trust to staff, manage, and steward the Molly's Falls Pond Property that will be acquired by the Department by November 1, 2015. The property will be purchased with federal Forest Legacy Funds. This purchase and donation of funds by the Vermont land Trust has been in negotiation for several months. The agreement is that the State will own the property and the Vermont land Trust will provide funds for the first five years of management. The Department will assume responsibility for funding the management after the initial five year period.

Please review the enclosed materials and notify the Joint Fiscal Office (Maria Belliveau at (802) 828-5971; mbelliveau@leg.state.vt.us) if you have questions or would like this item held for legislative review. Unless you respond to the contrary by October 28, 2015 it will be assumed that you agree to consider as final the Governor's acceptance of this grant.

JFO # 2789



State of Vermont
Agency of Natural Resources
Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3801
www.vtfpr.org

Kristin Freeman, Financial Manager
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Joint Fiscal Committee
FROM: Kristin Freeman, Financial Manager, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation *K. Freeman*
THROUGH: Jason Aronowitz, Budget Analyst, Department of Finance and Management
DATE: September 23, 2015
RE: AA-1 Request for Acceptance of Vermont Land Trust Funds

The Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation is seeking acceptance of funding from The Vermont Land Trust (VLT) to assist with the management and operation of the Molly's Falls Pond property in Marshfield. The Department anticipates acquiring the Molly's Falls Pond property by November 1, 2015. The VLT funds will be used to staff, manage and steward the property.

Following please find our AA-1 Form along with responses to the Joint Fiscal Committee standard questions for AA-1 grant approval and a project timeline. Please let me know if we can provide additional information.



SEP 23 2015



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

Agency of Administration

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

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

Grant Summary:	To assist in funding the operation and management of a new state park (Molly's Falls Pond property).				
Date:	6/26/2015				
Department:	ANR - FPR 6130030000				
Legal Title of Grant:	Molly's Falls Pond				
Federal Catalog #:	N/A				
Grant/Donor Name and Address:	Vermont Land Trust				
Grant Period:	From:		To:		
Grant/Donation	\$185,000				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Total	Comments
Grant Amount:	\$105,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$185,000	SFY4 \$20K, SFY5 \$20K.
Position Information:	# Positions	Explanation/Comments			
	0				
Additional Comments:	FPR expects that revenue from this new park will exceed its operating expenses on an ongoing basis once this grant is complete.				

10/2/15

Department of Finance & Management		(Initial)
Secretary of Administration		(Initial)
Sent To Joint Fiscal Office		Date



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

BASIC GRANT INFORMATION				
1. Agency:	Agency of Natural Resources			
2. Department:	Forests, Parks and Recreation			
3. Program:	Lands Administration			
4. Legal Title of Grant:	Molly's Falls Pond			
5. Federal Catalog #:	n/a			
6. Grant/Donor Name and Address: Vermont Land Trust, 8 Bailey Ave., Montpelier, VT 05602				
7. Grant Period:	From:	11/1/2015	To:	11/1/2020
8. Purpose of Grant: To provide funding to FPR for necessary "start-up" costs associated with operating and managing a new state park (Molly's Falls Pond property) and to help pay for estimated on-going costs associated with operating this new park for a five year period.				
9. Impact on existing program if grant is not Accepted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If this grant is not accepted, the costs of management and operations of this new park could not readily be assimilated into the department's existing or anticipated state parks budgets. The result would be that we would not be able to fully operate and manage the Molly's Falls Pond property until we can build the state parks budget and/or that funding needs at other state parks would go unmet for a period of time. 				
10. BUDGET INFORMATION				
	SFY 1	SFY 2	SFY 3	Comments
Expenditures:	FY 16	FY 17	FY 18	
Personal Services	\$43,320	\$15,000	\$15,000	
Operating Expenses	\$61,680	\$5,000	\$5,000	
Grants	\$0	\$	\$	
Total	\$105,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	
Revenues:				
State Funds:				
Cash	\$	\$	\$	
In-Kind	\$	\$	\$	
Federal Funds:				
(Direct Costs)	\$	\$	\$	
(Statewide Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
(Departmental Indirect)	\$	\$	\$	
Other Funds:				
Grant (source)	\$ 105,000 <i>h</i>	\$ 20,000 <i>h</i>	\$ 20,000 <i>h</i>	
Total	\$ 105,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$20,000 to be received from VLT per year for FY19 and FY20

SEP 23 2015

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

Appropriation No:	6130030000	Amount:	\$185,000
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
			\$
		Total	\$

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

PERSONAL SERVICE INFORMATION

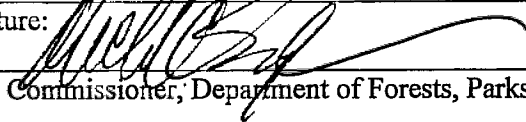
11. Will monies from this grant be used to fund one or more Personal Service Contracts? Yes No
 If "Yes", appointing authority must initial here to indicate intent to follow current competitive bidding process/policy.

Appointing Authority Name: Michael Snyder 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.

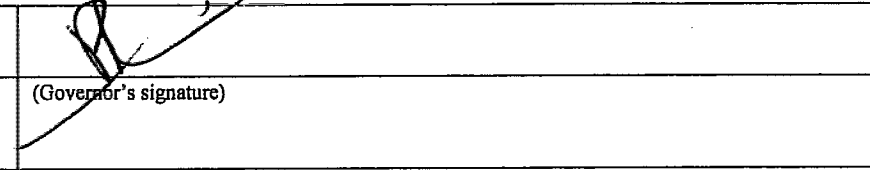
13. AUTHORIZATION AGENCY/DEPARTMENT

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: 9/23/2015
	Title: Commissioner, Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation	
	Signature:	Date:
	Title:	

14. SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved:	(Secretary or designee signature) 	Date: 10/8/15
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15. ACTION BY GOVERNOR

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accepted	(Governor's signature) 	Date: 10/12/15
<input type="checkbox"/> Rejected		Date:

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)

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Budget	
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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).

State of Vermont
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1 National Life Drive, Davis 2
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Agency of Natural Resources

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Standard Questions for AA-1 Grant Approval

1. Are there any matching fund requirements or contributions?

There are no matching fund requirements associated with this funding. This funding is provided to the Department by the Vermont Land Trust as a supplemental source of funds to assist with the management and operation of the Molly's Falls Pond Property. Funding from the state parks special fund will be used to supplement and eventually replace this new funding.

2. Is the State already performing the function for which the funds are intended?

No, the State will not incur any costs or expenses associated with the management and operation of the Molly's Falls Pond property until the property is acquired from the Vermont Land Trust.

3. After the term of the grant expires, what is the intent of the underlying activity?

The intent is to manage and operate the Molly's Falls Pond property as a new state park.

Does the grant funded activity cease to exist?

No, the supplemental funding only would pay for some initial "start-up" costs and estimated operations costs for a period of five years. The Department would continue to operate and manage the new state park after this initial five year period.

Will the State be asked to assume financial responsibility?

The Department will be responsible for assuming all ongoing operations, management, and capital costs associated with the Molly's Falls Pond property after the five-year period associated with the supplemental funding expires. The Department feels confident that we can secure ongoing funding to manage and operate this new state park as part of its normal budget process after the five-year transition period for the supplemental funding has ended.

4. What are the measurements that are going to be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the expenditure?

Number of park visitors, number of boaters on pond, amount of trash removed from property, amount of impacted land restored to its natural condition, amount of shoreline revegetated.

5. How will the grant funds be expended?

Grant funds will be used to pay for necessary upfront costs associated with staffing, managing, and stewarding the Molly's Falls Pond property and would assist in paying estimated annual operating costs associated with this property for five years.

What is the budget for the grant funds, including all the funding sources, for the duration of the grant?



Up to \$85,000 in grant funding will be used initially for essential start-up costs associated with managing the Molly's Falls Pond property as a new state park. These start-up costs include the purchase of a truck, trailer and boat, development of long-range management plan, site restoration, and entering into a contract with local law enforcement. Up to an additional \$20,000 will be provided annually to the Department from the Vermont Land Trust for a period of five years to help pay for estimated annual operating costs. Operating costs would include seasonal staff, cell phone, vehicle and boat registration and maintenance, equipment, supplies, etc.

A preliminary budget is provided below:

Estimated Upfront Costs

Equipment Costs – boat, trailer, motor, truck, radios, containers, tools	51,700.00
Long Range Management Plan Development	20,000.00
Site Restoration	4,000.00
Washington County Sheriff Contract (for first year of State ownership)	4,320.00
Miscellaneous	<u>4,980.00</u>
Total	85,000.00

Estimated Annual Operating Costs

Staffing	15,000.00
Cell Phone	600.00
Vehicle and Boat Registrations/Inspections/Maintenance	1,250.00
Miscellaneous	<u>3,150.00</u>
Total	20,000.00

6. What entities are collaborating on this grant; departments, community organizations?

These supplemental funds are being provided to the Department by the Vermont Land Trust as part of an overall agreement regarding the State's purchase of the Molly's Falls Pond property from the Vermont Land Trust.

7. What is the intended staffing level for the grant funded activity?

The grant funding will be used to hire a seasonal park ranger to provide a necessary presence, visitor contact, and perform needed maintenance and management activities at the Molly's Falls Pond property. Funding to continue this staffing level would be provided by the Department through its normal budgeting process after the five year period for this supplemental funding has passed.

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**Molly's Falls Pond Project Timeline
For Vermont Land Trust Funding**

November 1, 2015	Property acquisition, receive \$85,000 from Vermont Land Trust for start-up costs and an additional \$20,000 for annual operating costs
November 1, 2016	Receive \$20,000 from Vermont Land Trust for annual operating costs
November 1, 2017	Receive \$20,000 from Vermont Land Trust for annual operating costs
November 1, 2018	Receive \$20,000 from Vermont Land Trust for annual operating costs
November 1, 2019	Receive \$20,000 from Vermont Land Trust for annual operating costs