



THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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CHRISTOPHER D. CLEMENT, SR.
COMMISSIONER

JEFF BRILLHART, P.E.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance
March 4, 2013

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Transportation to enter into an agreement totaling \$80,000 with the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Vendor #175773 (sub-recipient) to provide funding and services under the Federal Public Lands Highways Discretionary Program (PLHD) through a local project administration process, effective upon Governor and Council approval, through June 30, 2014. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available as follows for FY 2013 and is contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds for FY 2014:

	<u>FY 2013</u>	<u>FY 2014</u>
04-96-96-963515-3054		
Consolidated Federal Aid		
400-500870 Highway Contract Payments - DOT	\$65,000	\$15,000

EXPLANATION

This agreement is between the State and the sub-recipient to delineate responsibilities for providing services necessary to provide oversight supervision for this Federal Aid project. This project will complete planning and design for three quality wildlife observation, environmental interpretation, and recreation sites on the refuge. These locations have long been thought of as opportunities to enhance visitor opportunities on the refuge, as well as to improve the transportation system as a whole. One location is planned for the east side of Rt. 16 and two locations are planned for the west side of Rt. 16 in the Town of Errol north of the junction Rt. 16 and Rt. 26 and south of the Town of Wentworth's Location. These are all located in Coos County. Route 16 is a State of New Hampshire Scenic Road titled the "Moose Path Trail".

Characteristics common to all proposed project sites include improvement of vehicle parking areas close to NH Route 16, interpretative kiosks, pedestrian and handicap-accessible paths leading from the parking area to an observation platform or blind with interpretative signage about the refuge, fish, wildlife, and habitats in the greater Northern Forest area.

- Steamer Diamond Boat Launch Site will have improvements to the existing boat launch that will improve traffic flow, the creation of a bathroom facility, and a sign detailing the history of the boat launch and the history of forest management in the Androscoggin River Watershed.
- The Round Pond Site will include a handicap-accessible path that leads from the developed parking area (a former log landing) to an observation platform with interpretive signage at Round Pond, as well as a pedestrian path around Round Pond for additional observation opportunities.
- The Bear Brook Site will include a developed parking lot (a former abandoned campsite), a handicapped-accessible path to an observation platform with interpretative signage that will also facilitate fishing, and a moose observation blind.

The Trust for Public Land submitted a Fiscal Year 2012 PLHD Grant Application for the project to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and was awarded \$80,000. This PLHD grant was one of several competitively-chosen grants. FHWA headquarters made the decisions on which projects were to be funded, based on criteria used within FHWA. The Department is a pass-through agency for the funding and was not involved in the project selection process.

Authorization is requested to allow the Department to enter into an agreement with the sub-recipient to ensure compliance with Federal Aid program requirements and to permit State personnel to supervise this project and the Department to expend Federal funds.

Expenses incurred will be charged against the designated project account number and reimbursement for costs shall be borne by the Federal Aid Highway Fund in the amount of \$80,000 in accordance with Federal Aid program requirements.

Your approval of this submission is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,



Christopher D. Clement, Sr.
Commissioner
NH Department of Transportation

**PUBLIC LANDS HIGHWAYS DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM
PROJECT AGREEMENT
FOR**

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

STATE VENDOR #: 175773

STATE PROJECT #: 22975

FEDERAL PROJECT #: X-A002(440)

THIS AGREEMENT, executed in *triplicate*, is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 2013, between the NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, hereinafter called the "DEPARTMENT", and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, hereinafter called the "PROJECT SPONSOR".

WITNESSETH that,

WHEREAS, the DEPARTMENT and the PROJECT SPONSOR have determined that a project to complete planning and design for three quality wildlife observation, environmental interpretation, and recreation sites on the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge in the town of Errol is an eligible project for funding under the Public Lands and Highways Discretionary Program created by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, (ISTEA); and

WHEREAS, the DEPARTMENT has established Public Lands and Highways Discretionary Project #22975 (the "Project") for the aforesaid project in the amount of Eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) with one hundred percent (100%) of that cost coming from Federal Highway funds, such amount being Eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000); and

WHEREAS, the PROJECT SPONSOR desires to act as Sponsor and Manager of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the DEPARTMENT desires to cooperate with the PROJECT SPONSOR in accomplishing the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the above premises and in further consideration of the agreements herein set forth by and between the parties hereto, it is mutually agreed as follows:

I. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROJECT SPONSOR:

- A. The PROJECT SPONSOR shall comply with all Federal and State of New Hampshire laws and rules, regulations, and policies as applicable under the Federal-aid Highway Program for Federal Aid Construction Contracts.
- B. The PROJECT SPONSOR shall manage the design of the Project. This management is described in the current version of the DEPARTMENT's document titled "Local Public Agency Manual for the Development of Projects", as it may be amended from time to time, and, by reference, is hereby made a part of this AGREEMENT.
- C. The PROJECT SPONSOR shall submit monthly progress reports and invoices to the DEPARTMENT for reimbursement of its share of the amounts paid to engineering consultants for the performance of the work set forth in the Application or agreed upon at the scoping meeting. The invoice structure shall include details of work completed

consistent with the Scope of Work as defined in the Application, as well as backup information to support the charges. The PROJECT SPONSOR shall certify that the invoices properly represent payment for work that has been completed and paid for by the PROJECT SPONSOR.

- D. The PROJECT SPONSOR is required to maintain all project and financial records pertinent to the development of the Project for three (3) years beyond the date of the DEPARTMENT's final voucher. The DEPARTMENT will send a letter to the PROJECT SPONSOR with the date of this approval. If there is a failure to maintain this documentation, NHDOT and/or Federal Highway Administration could take an action up to and including requesting a refund of all reimbursed project costs.
- E. The PROJECT SPONSOR shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the DEPARTMENT and its officials, agents and employees from and against any and all claims, liabilities or suits arising from (or which may be claimed to arise from) any act or omission of the PROJECT SPONSOR or its subcontractors in the performance of this AGREEMENT. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State of New Hampshire or the DEPARTMENT, which immunity is hereby reserved. This covenant shall survive the termination of this AGREEMENT.
- F. Non-Discrimination:
1. The PROJECT SPONSOR agrees that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. 2000d—2000d-4 (referred to as the ACT), and all requirements imposed by or pursuant to Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, US Department of Transportation, Subtitle A, Office of the Secretary, Part 21, "Non-discrimination in Federally-Assisted Programs of The Department of Transportation – Effectuation of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" (referred to as the "REGULATIONS"), the Federal-aid Highway Act of 1973, and other pertinent directives, to the end that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the PROJECT SPONSOR receives Federal financial assistance extended by the State of New Hampshire. This AGREEMENT obligates the PROJECT SPONSOR for the period during which Federal financial assistance is extended.
 2. The PROJECT SPONSOR hereby gives assurance as required by subsection 21.7(a)(1) of the REGULATIONS that it will promptly take any measures necessary to effectuate this AGREEMENT, including but not limited to the following specific assurances:
 - a. That each "program" and each "facility" as defined in subsections 21.23(e) and 21.23(b) of the REGULATIONS will be conducted or operated in compliance with all requirements of the REGULATIONS.
 - b. That the PROJECT SPONSOR shall insert the following notification in all solicitations for negotiated agreements or bids for work or material made in connection with this Project: *The PROJECT SPONSOR hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in consideration for an award.*

- c. That the PROJECT SPONSOR shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, or sex in the award and performance of any DEPARTMENT-assisted contract or in the administration of its DBE program or the requirements of 49 CFR part 26. The PROJECT SPONSOR shall take all necessary and reasonable steps under 49 CFR part 26 to ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DEPARTMENT-assisted contracts. The DEPARTMENT's DBE program, as required by 49 CFR part 26 and as approved by the United States Department of Transportation, is incorporated by reference in this AGREEMENT. Implementation of this program is a legal obligation and failure to carry out its terms shall be treated as a violation of this AGREEMENT. Upon notification to the PROJECT SPONSOR of its failure to carry out its approved program, the DEPARTMENT may impose sanctions as provided for under part 26 and may, in appropriate cases, refer the matter for enforcement under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and/or the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act of 1986 (31 U.S.C. 3801 *et seq.*)
- d. That the PROJECT SPONSOR shall include the following assurance in each contract signed with a contractor, and each subcontract the prime contractor signs with a subcontractor: *The contractor or subcontractor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in the performance of this contract. The contractor shall carry out applicable requirements of 49 CFR Part 26 in the award and administration of DEPARTMENT-assisted contracts. Failure by the contractor to carry out these requirements is a material breach of this contract, which may result in the termination of the contract or such other remedy, as the recipient deems appropriate.*

- G. If there is a default of any nature to this AGREEMENT, the PROJECT SPONSOR shall be required to reimburse the DEPARTMENT and/or the Federal Highway Trust Fund for all funds expended under this Project.

II. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT:

- A. The DEPARTMENT shall review the Project engineering plans applicable to the Federal Highway Administration and State of New Hampshire requirements for a Federally-funded project and submit appropriate documentation to the Federal Highway Administration to receive Federal approval.
- B. The DEPARTMENT shall reimburse its share to the PROJECT SPONSOR after receipt and approval of properly documented invoices that have been certified by the PROJECT SPONSOR as properly representing work that has been completed and paid for by the PROJECT SPONSOR.
- C. The DEPARTMENT shall use its best efforts to obtain authorization of the Project from the Federal Highway Administration.

III. IT IS FURTHER UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE PROJECT SPONSOR:

- A. That the PROJECT SPONSOR will not incur any Project costs nor enter into any agreement with any third party, including but not limited to consultants, contractors, or engineers until such time that it receives a written notice to proceed from the DEPARTMENT to do so.

- B. That the maximum amount of funds available for this Project for reimbursement under this AGREEMENT from the DEPARTMENT shall be as set forth in paragraph 4 of page 1. Neither the DEPARTMENT nor the Federal Highway Administration will be responsible for any expenses or costs incurred by the PROJECT SPONSOR under this AGREEMENT in excess of the above amounts unless the DEPARTMENT expressly authorizes additional funding prior to the work being performed.
- C. That the PROJECT SPONSOR shall invoice the DEPARTMENT for incurred costs on a monthly basis and the DEPARTMENT will process these invoices for payment in an expeditious manner.
- D. That the PROJECT SPONSOR agrees to commence the Project within three (3) months after the date of this AGREEMENT and substantially complete the Project by September 30, 2015. Failure to meet either deadline without good cause may cancel the DEPARTMENT's participation in this Project at its discretion. Any remaining funds will be forfeited.
- E. That the PROJECT SPONSOR will attend a meeting with the DEPARTMENT's representative after signing this AGREEMENT to discuss the Project's scope, budget and schedule. The PROJECT SPONSOR will subsequently provide a schedule showing project milestones with dates.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION**

By: W.D. W
Commissioner
Department of Transportation

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

By: _____
Refuge Roads Coordinator, Region 5
United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Authorized to enter into Agreement as
approved by Governor & Council on

_____.