



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

January 20, 2015

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and The Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Environmental Services to award a grant to the University of New Hampshire, Sponsored Programs Administration (VC #177867- B046), Durham, NH, in the amount of \$73,656 to build natural resilience to coastal hazards through the restoration of dune habitat in the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary, effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2016. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding is available in the account as follows with the authority to adjust encumbrances in each of the State fiscal years through the Budget Office if needed and justified. Funding for FY 2016 is contingent upon continuing appropriation and availability of funds.

Table with 4 columns: Account Number, FY 2015, FY 2016, Total. Row 1: 03-44-44-442010-3642-72-500573, \$25,043, \$48,613, \$73,656.

EXPLANATION

The New Hampshire Coastal Program (NHCP) issued a request for letters of intent (LOI) for potential coastal resilience technical assistance projects in the fall of 2014. The LOIs were used to select applicants with projects warranting further development, who were then asked to develop full scopes of work with Coastal Program staff. Eight eligible LOIs were received and ranked based on selection criteria, which included how closely the project aligned with the following: informing communities about the threats of coastal hazards; developing projects that reduce future damage from coastal hazards; and implementing projects that have been identified in a polluted runoff management plan. Three LOIs were selected to develop full scopes of work for funding, including the LOI submitted by NH SeaGrant/University of New Hampshire-Cooperative Extension (NHSG/UNHCE). A scoring matrix that includes a list of the staff who participated in the LOI review, along with their titles and level of experience, is provided as attachment B.

Sand dunes provide a natural buffer that protects the coastline from flooding and erosion associated with storms. The once extensive dune system in the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary has been


significantly reduced in extent and quality due to development. Those dunes that remain are patchy in distribution, as they have been damaged from trampling as beachgoers create alternate walking paths in lieu of using designated access points. Thus these ecological systems as well as the structures behind them are at increasing risk of loss. Given the increase in frequency and severity of storms, restoring dunes where they have been destroyed or degraded is a critical shoreline management practice for increasing coastal resiliency.

NHSG/UNHCE will work with NH State Parks, NH Fish and Game Department and the towns of Hampton and Seabrook to restore several dune habitats in the Hampton-Seabrook Estuary. NHSG/UNHCE will implement a community supported re-vegetation program on highly impacted dunes. The project will also pursue improved dune management through outreach and education about the functions and values that sand dunes provide to the community.

Total project costs are budgeted at \$147,312. DES will provide \$73,656 of the project costs through a federal grant. UNH will provide \$73,766 in matching funds.

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support the project. This agreement has been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to form, execution and content.

We respectfully request your approval.


Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

COOPERATIVE PROJECT AGREEMENT

between the

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, **Department of Environmental Services**

and the

University of New Hampshire of the UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

- A. This Cooperative Project Agreement (hereinafter "Project Agreement") is entered into by the State of New Hampshire, **Department of Environmental Services**, (hereinafter "State"), and the University System of New Hampshire, acting through **University of New Hampshire**, (hereinafter "Campus"), for the purpose of undertaking a project of mutual interest. This Cooperative Project shall be carried out under the terms and conditions of the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002, except as may be modified herein.
- B. This Project Agreement and all obligations of the parties hereunder shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire approve this Project Agreement ("Effective date") and shall end on **06/30/16**. If the provision of services by Campus precedes the Effective date, all services performed by Campus shall be performed at the sole risk of Campus and in the event that this Project Agreement does not become effective, State shall be under no obligation to pay Campus for costs incurred or services performed; however, if this Project Agreement becomes effective, all costs incurred prior to the Effective date that would otherwise be allowable shall be paid under the terms of this Project Agreement.
- C. The work to be performed under the terms of this Project Agreement is described in the proposal identified below and attached to this document as Exhibit A, the content of which is incorporated herein as a part of this Project Agreement.

Project Title: **Hampton-Seabrook Estuary Sand Dune Restoration**

- D. The Following Individuals are designated as Project Administrators. These Project Administrators shall be responsible for the business aspects of this Project Agreement and all invoices, payments, project amendments and related correspondence shall be directed to the individuals so designated.

State Project Administrator

Name: Cathy Coletti
 Address: NH Coastal Program
 Dept. of Environmental Services
 222 International Drive, Suite 175
 Portsmouth, NH 03801
 Phone: 559-0024

Campus Project Administrator

Name: Dianne Hall
 Address: University of New Hampshire
 Sponsored Programs Administration
 Service Building/51 College Road
 Durham, NH 03824
 Phone: 862-1942

- E. The Following Individuals are designated as Project Directors. These Project Directors shall be responsible for the technical leadership and conduct of the project. All progress reports, completion reports and related correspondence shall be directed to the individuals so designated.

State Project Director

Name: Kevin Lucey
 Address: NH Coastal Program
 Dept. of Environmental Services
 222 International Drive, Suite 175
 Portsmouth, NH 03801
 Phone: 559-0026

Campus Project Director

Name: Alyson Eberhardt
 Address: University of New Hampshire
 Cooperative Extension/NH SeaGrant
 122 Mast Road
 Lee, NH 03861
 Phone: 862-6709

F. Total State funds in the amount of \$73,656 have been allotted and are available for payment of allowable costs incurred under this Project Agreement. State will not reimburse Campus for costs exceeding the amount specified in this paragraph.

Check if applicable

Campus will cost-share 50 % of total costs during the term of this Project Agreement.

Federal funds paid to Campus under this Project Agreement are from Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement No. NA13NOS4190042 from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration under CFDA# 11.419. Federal regulations required to be passed through to Campus as part of this Project Agreement, and in accordance with the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002, are attached to this document as Exhibit B, the content of which is incorporated herein as a part of this Project Agreement.

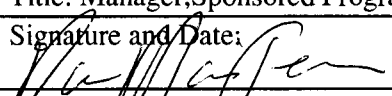
G. Check if applicable


Article(s) of the Master Agreement for Cooperative Projects between the State of New Hampshire and the University System of New Hampshire dated November 13, 2002 is/are hereby amended to read:


H. State has chosen not to take possession of equipment purchased under this Project Agreement.
 State has chosen to take possession of equipment purchased under this Project Agreement and will issue instructions for the disposition of such equipment within 90 days of the Project Agreement's end-date. Any expenses incurred by Campus in carrying out State's requested disposition will be fully reimbursed by State.

This Project Agreement and the Master Agreement constitute the entire agreement between State and Campus regarding this Cooperative Project, and supersede and replace any previously existing arrangements, oral or written; all changes herein must be made by written amendment and executed for the parties by their authorized officials.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the University System of New Hampshire, acting through the University of New Hampshire and the State of New Hampshire, Department of Environmental Services have executed this Project Agreement.

By An Authorized Official of:
University of New Hampshire
Name: Karen M. Jensen
Title: Manager, Sponsored Programs Administration
Signature and Date:  12/1/14

By An Authorized Official of:
Department of Environmental Services
Name: Thomas S. Burack
Title: Commissioner
Signature and Date:  1/20/15

By An Authorized Official of: the New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General
Name: Christopher G. Astin
Title: Attorney
Signature and Date:  1/28/15

By An Authorized Official of: the New Hampshire Governor & Executive Council
Name:
Title:
Signature and Date:

EXHIBIT A

- A. **Project Title:** Hampton-Seabrook Estuary Sand Dune Restoration
- B. **Project Period:** Upon G&C Approval through June 30, 2016
- C. **Objectives:** NH Sea Grant/UNH Cooperative Extension (NHSG/UNHCE) and the University of New Hampshire (UNH) will work to build coastal resilience to climate change and enhance landforms and wildlife habitat through the restoration of several dune habitats in the Hampton.
- D. **Scope of Work:**

PROJECT PLANNING AND AUTHORIZATION

1. Convene planning meetings with relevant towns and state agencies
2. Develop restoration plans, including narrative and maps of the proposed on-the-ground work. The narrative will describe general restoration practices, methods, planting and harvesting techniques, and planting species lists. The maps will depict location of restoration practices (fencing and plantings), monitoring locations, and locations of jurisdictional resources including: rare, threatened and endangered (RTE) species, wetlands and/or other areas that are regulated.
3. Pursue and obtain compliance authorization from necessary agencies including, but not limited to: NH State Parks, NH DES Wetlands Bureau, NH Natural Heritage Bureau, NH Fish and Game Department, NH Division of Historical Resources, and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

OUTREACH AND TRAINING

4. Recruit community members, schools, and citizen scientists to participate
5. Create outreach materials on dune function and restoration, including factsheets (on dune functions and values, and dune planting techniques) press releases to local newspapers, and information via social media (Twitter and Facebook)
6. Organize a community meeting to discuss dune function and project goals
7. Deliver a volunteer training about dune ecology and function, project goals, and project methods prior to field activities
8. Develop and install interpretative signs for Hampton Beach State park and Hampton Harbor Wildlife Management Area/Seabrook dunes that discuss dune function, role in protecting coastlines and current restoration efforts

FIELD ACTIVITIES

9. Continually communicate with NH Fish and Game to ensure that project activities benefit, and do not disturb, piping plover nesting activity
10. Harvest native dune species from donor sites in the Seabrook dunes
11. Propagate dune species at a "beachgrass garden" in the storage area at Hampton Beach State Park (see attached location map)
12. Plant native dune species in Hampton Beach State Park, Hampton Harbor Wildlife Management Area and the adjacent dunes owned by the Town of Seabrook
13. Install sand fencing to accrete sand, protect newly planted vegetation, and direct pedestrians

to designated walking paths

14. Regrade the dune at Hampton Beach State Park that is encroaching upon the building

MONITORING

15. Use photo stations to document planting and fencing efforts and changes in dunes over time at each restoration location.

16. Evaluate survival of plants used in revegetation efforts

E. Deliverables Schedule: Reports. Campus Project Director shall provide Progress Reports on June 30, 2015 and December 31, 2015, summarizing work to date. Campus Project Director shall submit a Final Report due on June 30, 2016 (one electronic version in PDF format) documenting the results of the project. The Final Report shall include a final budget summary and detailed documentation of the required matching funds.

F. Budget and Invoicing Instructions: Using standard Campus invoices Campus shall submit an invoice on 6/30/15, 12/31/15 and 06/30/16 and will specify actual expenses, by major budget categories, and shall document cumulative cost sharing through the end of the invoicing period. Upon receipt and approval by the State Project Director of the progress report, final report and invoices, State shall issue payment to Campus based on the costs documented by Campus. The final billing must be received by the State no more than 30 days after the completion date.

Budget Items	State Funding	Cost Sharing (if required)	Total
1. Salaries & Wages	34,453	8,984	43,437
2. Employee Fringe Benefits	9,604	691	10,295
3. Travel	0	2,465	2,465
4. Supplies and Services	14,400	28,453	42,853
5. Equipment	0	0	0
6. Facilities & Admin Costs	15,199	10,555	25,754
Subtotals	73,656	51,148	124,807
In Kind Contribution	22,508		22,508
Total Project Costs:			147,312

G. Other

Funding Credit: All work products intended for public distribution, including the Final Report, websites, flyers, newsletters, signage etc., shall include the logos of the project's sponsoring organizations as follows: NOAA, NHDES Coastal Program, and NHDES. Additionally, all work products intended for public distribution shall include the following funding credit statement: "This project was funded, in part, by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management under the Coastal Zone Management Act in conjunction with the NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program."

EXHIBIT B

This Project Agreement is funded under a Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement to State from the Federal sponsor specified in Project Agreement article F. All applicable requirements, regulations, provisions, terms and conditions of this Federal Grant/Contract/Cooperative Agreement are hereby adopted in full force and effect to the relationship between State and Campus, except that wherever such requirements, regulations, provisions and terms and conditions differ for INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, the appropriate requirements should be substituted (e.g., OMB Circulars A-21 and A-110, rather than OMB Circulars A-87 and A-102). References to Contractor or Recipient in the Federal language will be taken to mean Campus; references to the Government or Federal Awarding Agency will be taken to mean Government/Federal Awarding Agency or State or both, as appropriate.

Special Federal provisions are listed here: None or .

Attachment A

Budget Estimate

Item	Federal (NHCP)	Non-Federal	Match Type	Total
Personnel	34,453	8,984	Cash (UNH)	43,437
Fringe Benefits	9,604	691	Cash (UNH)	10,295
Travel	0	2,465	Cash (UNH)	2,465
Supplies	14,400	28,453	In-kind (UNH/Seabrook),	42,853
Equipment	0	0	0	0
Contractual				
Construction	0	0	0	0
Other - Volunteers	0	22,508	In kind (volunteers)	22,508
Indirect	15,199	10,555	Cash (UNH)	25,754
Subtotals	73,656	73,766		147,312

Attachment B

Grant Scoring Matrix

	Rockingham Planning Commission	UNH-Cooperative Extension	UNH-Stormwater Center	Trout Unlimited	The Nature Conservancy	Town of Exeter	Town of Newmarket	Town of Dover
Reviewer "A"	85	95	90	85	100	95	92.5	80
Reviewer "B"	85	95	86.5	65	75	80	80	70
Reviewer "C"	80	93.5	82.5	74	87	90	90	82.5
Reviewer "D"	82	92.5	87.5	72.5	90	88	88	74.5
Reviewer "E"	78.5	86.5	77.5	71	86	87.5	80.5	67
Reviewer "F"	62.5	84.5	64.5	58	71	54	64	61
Reviewer "G"	86.5	98	87	81	97.5	83	92	73.5
Reviewer "H"	78.5	95.5	97	79.5	98	97.5	96	74.5
Reviewer "I"	71.5	90	78.5	74.5	90.5	86	86	77
AVERAGE	78.8	92.3	83.4	73.4	88.3	84.6	85.4	73.3
RANK	6	1	5	7	2	4	3	8

Review Team Members:

- Steve Couture, Coastal Program Manager, 15 years of experience in environmental planning and grants management
- Rebecca Newhall, Northeast Regional Liason, NOAA Office for Coastal Management, 12 years of experience in grants management
- Chris Williams, Federal Consistency Coordinator, 15 years of regulatory and coastal management experience
- Cathy Coletti, Communciations and Grants Coordinator, 12 years of communications and regional planning experience
- Kevin Lucey, Restoration Coordinator, 12 years experience with environmental assessment, project management, and watershed restoration
- Kirsten Howard, Coastal Management Fellow, 5 years coastal policy and management and resiliency experience
- Sally Soule, Coastal Watershed Supervisor, 20 years experience in water quality project implementation and management
- Barbara McMillan, Watershed Outreach Coordinator, 20 years experience in environmental planning, project management and outreach
- Rachel Rouillard, Director, Piscataqua Region Estuaries Partnership, 15 years experience in environmental program management