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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS  
172 Pembroke Road P.O. Box 1856 Concord, New Hampshire 03302-1856

603-271-2214  
FAX: 603-271-6488  
www.nhdf.org

October 5, 2015

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

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorization is requested for the Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands to expend \$8,800 for membership dues in the National Association of State Foresters upon Governor & Council approval through September 30, 2016. 100% General Funds

Funding in Fiscal Year 2016 is available as follows:

	<b><u>FY2016</u></b>
03-35-35-351010-35000000	
Forests and Lands Administration	
026-500251 Organizational Dues	\$8,800

**EXPLANATION**


Membership in the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) is beneficial to the State of New Hampshire by providing a forum for sharing information and problem solving; allowing members to identify and discuss emerging issues and trends, and share ideas on innovative approaches to topics from forest sustainability to agency management. Only NASF members have the license authority to use Smokey Bear images in wildfire prevention materials and programs.

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization? *NASF has been in existence since 1920 and NH has always been a member.*
2. Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to? *No, there is not.*
3. How many other state's belonging to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member? *All 50 states, Washington DC, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the US Territories are all members of the organization. Our agency is the only NH state agency that is a member.*



4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc) *Membership dues are standard. All states pay the same amount of dues.*
5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership? *NASF keeps members informed on national legislation and administrative policies affecting state and private forest lands. NASF is one of the leading organizations that provide support at the federal level for forestry programs such as the Farm Bill that provides funding to the States. The division receives about 13% of its budget from these federal programs.*
6. Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? *Yes.* If so, is the cost included? *Yes.* Explain in detail. *Information is disseminated to members through various communication methods including: member updates, website, publications, and action alerts.*
7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain. *No, but members have received federal funds through NASF for their states.*
8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? *Yes.* Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips. *Travel costs for members to attend committee meetings, trainings, partner organizations meetings, and meeting with the US Forest Service.*
9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization) *The State Forester (division director) is a member, committee member, voting member and can be an officer.*
10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if Agency did not belong to this organization. *The State Forester would not have the support needed on national issues related to State and Private forest lands that affect New Hampshire. In addition, we would not be allowed to use Smokey Bear for fire prevention.*

Respectfully submitted,

  
Brad W. Simpkins, Director

Concurred,

  
Jeffrey J. Rose, Commissioner

National Association of State Foresters

444 North Capitol Street, NW

Suite 540

Washington, DC 20001

# Invoice

Date	Invoice #
10/1/2015	216

Bill To
Brad Simpkins Division of Forest & Lands P.O. Box 1856 172 Pembroke Road Concord, NH 13302-1856

P.O. No.	Terms	Project
	60 Days	

Quantity	Description	Rate	Amount
	FY 2016 Membership Dues	8,800.00	8,800.00

Please issue payment to the National Association of State Foresters EIN #51-0141374	<b>Total</b>	8,800.00
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10/1/2015 10:00 AM