

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Ingalls, Chair  
Senate Institutions Committee

FROM: Christopher Herrick, Commissioner  
Fish & Wildlife Department

DATE: April 9, 2024

RE: Proposed House cut to Fish and Wildlife capital funds

The House Committee on Corrections and Institutions has reduced the Fish and Wildlife capital appropriation in SFY25 (line 72) by \$244,150. The concurrence of this cut in Senate Institutions will result in a reduction of funding specifically for the Green Mountain Conservation Camps\* in Woodbury and Castleton. Below are a list of those projects:

GMCC location	Project title	Project estimate
Both Buck Lake and Kehoe	Kitchen equipment upgrades	\$20,000
Both Buck Lake and Kehoe	ADA facility updates	\$10,000
Kehoe	Pavilion tree maintenance and planting	\$125,000
Kehoe	Walk-in cooler maintenance	\$5,000
Kehoe	Education Center new flooring – carpet	\$40,000
Both Buck Lake and Kehoe	GMCC bunk replacements	\$44,150
		\$244,150

\*Green Mountain Conservation Camp (GMCC) offers hands-on learning experiences about fish, wildlife, ecology, botany, forestry, hunter firearm safety, outdoor first aid, and so much more. GMCC offers opportunities for hiking, canoeing, fishing, archery, .22 rifle and shotgun shooting, orienteering, and other fun activities. Campers have a unique opportunity to meet Vermont State Game Wardens, foresters, fisheries and wildlife biologists, and others who work in the outdoors. Wildlife education and outdoor skills are the focus of GMCC and the program’s goal is to cultivate a caring attitude among our youth for Vermont’s fish and wildlife resources.

