

**Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation Forestry Water Quality Assistance Program,
Interim Report FY 2019**

ERP Funding Amount: \$50,000.00

Total Project Costs: \$50,000.00

The 2019 funding will be allocated in two ways:

\$27,000 will be spent on three cost share grants, for up to \$9,000 each for the purchase of heavy-duty steel, portable, temporary skidder bridges. These bridges will be purchased by the loggers and foresters, and they will be reimbursed for 75% of the cost, up to \$9,000. These bridges must meet minimum specifications and are available from steel fabricating companies. Homemade bridges will not be accepted.

These steel bridges are relatively new to Vermont. They are more expensive per bridge, but they are repairable, and much more durable than the wooden bridges, having more than double the life span. They are 20 feet long and 12 feet wide. Examples below.



Union Hill Bridge



ADM Bridge

The remaining funding (\$23,000) will be spent on a cost share program for the purchase of temporary wooden skidder bridges. Loggers and Foresters will be able to purchase a completed bridge or purchase the material for a bridge and include the cost of constructing the bridge. They will be eligible to receive 80%, up to \$1,800 towards the new bridge.

The bridges will follow the standard design for portable laminated timber bridges. They will have to be 3 panels, 20 feet long and 4 feet wide, and 10 inches thick.

We will be able to fund up to 12 new bridges under this program.



Portable laminated timber bridges

Education and outreach will continue in 2019 through the Watershed Forestry Program. There will be several LEAP (Logger Education to Advance Professionalism) workshops in the spring of 2019 that will cover the new AMP rules, and in particular, stream crossings and wetland rules. These workshops will be presented by the Watershed Forester, with assistance from other ANR staff.