

# Outdoor Recreation Sector Economic Recovery Grants

VT FPR Report to Senate Economic Development Committee

September 10, 2020

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**Purpose:** Throughout Vermont's response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic, outdoor recreation has been demonstrated to be of core importance to Vermont's economy and the health and well being of its residents. In recognition of the value outdoor recreation businesses and non-profits contribute to the economy and stewardship of recreational assets in Vermont, the legislature authorized (H.966/Act 137) the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) to grant \$1.5 million of federal CARES Act funding to the outdoor recreation sector.

Grants could be awarded to Vermont based outdoor recreation businesses and non-profits that among other eligibility criteria experienced a 50% or greater drop in total revenue in any one-month period from March 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020, when compared with the same month in 2019. According to Act 137, grant funds could be used to cover costs and expenses necessary to comply with or implement COVID-19 public health precautions.

**Process:** ANR partnered with the Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) to launch the outdoor recreation grant program through ACCD's existing emergency economic recovery grant portal. Doing so allowed ANR to begin awarding grants within weeks of passage of H.966. ANR also partnered with the Vermont Trails & Greenways Council and the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance to design the grant program, promote and provide technical assistance to the outdoor recreation sector, and to review applicants for eligibility.

**Results:** Since July 7, 2020, ANR has awarded grants to 35 eligible outdoor recreation applicants in the amount of \$1,453,464. This includes \$132,340 in supplemental awards made to two businesses previously awarded grants. In addition to those awarded funding from the outdoor recreation sector allocation, 19 outdoor recreation businesses and non-profits have received grants in the amount of \$630,667 from ACCD's allocation of emergency economic relief funding and 67 outdoor recreation businesses and non-profits have received grant awards in the amount of \$1,739,765 from the Department of Taxes. ANR expects to award the remaining \$46,536 as a new grant or supplemental award before the end of September.

## Outdoor Recreation Economic Recovery Grant Award Recipients as of September 10, 2020

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Award Amount</b>
Above the Clouds Inc.	\$ 50,000.00
Adaptive Sports at Mount Snow	\$ 2,693.70
Bitter Lacrosse LLC	\$ 50,000.00
Boundless Journeys, Inc	\$ 50,000.00
Bumwraps, Inc.	\$ 50,000.00
Camp Sangamon	\$ 50,000.00
Camp Sarsaparilla	\$ 7,372.50
Camp Thorpe Inc.	\$ 25,121.00
Discovery Bicycle Tours	\$ 50,000.00
Girls on the Run of Vermont, Inc.	\$ 48,430.10
Grand Slam Tennis Tours	\$ 50,000.00
Great River Outfitters LLC	\$ 24,577.90
Green Mountain Camp, Inc.	\$ 15,654.60
Green Mountain Council	\$ 50,000.00
High 5 Adventure Learning Center	\$ 50,000.00
Killooleet Inc.	\$ 50,000.00
Kombi Ltd.	\$ 50,000.00
Local Motion Inc.	\$ 42,961.90
Lotus Lake Corporation	\$ 42,486.40
Middlebury Area Land Trust	\$ 6,995.45
Mountainsong Expeditions	\$ 2,680.55
New Camp Betsy Cox Inc	\$ 50,000.00
Nordic Spirit Soccer Club	\$ 82,340.59
Northstar Publishing LLC	\$ 22,113.12
Pale Morning Media LLC	\$ 50,000.00
Running Bear Camping Area	\$ 39,978.70
Stoner-Andrews, Inc	\$ 50,000.00
Stowe Trails Partnership	\$ 7,724.21
The Keewaydin Foundatoin	\$ 50,000.00
Timber & Stone, LLC	\$ 50,000.00
Tyler R. Wren	\$ 50,000.00
UnTapped LLC	\$ 50,000.00
Upper Valley Trails Alliance	\$ 5,178.00
Vermont Wilderness School, Inc	\$ 27,155.22
Wanderlust Adventures, Inc	\$ 150,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,453,463.94</b>

### Outdoor Recreation Grant Award Totals by County and Business Type as of September 10, 2020

