

Department of Fish and Wildlife1 National Life Dr., Davis 2
Montpelier, VT 05620-3702www.vtfishandwildlife.com[phone] 802-828-1454
[fax] 802-828-1250*Agency of Natural Resources**Delivered Electronically***Memorandum**

TO: Reallocation Subcommittee for the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions
FROM: Andrea Shortsleeve, Interim Commissioner, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife
SUBJECT: Unspent Capital Funds
DATE: February 17, 2025

Dear Members of the Reallocation Subcommittee,

I have received the memo dated 2/5/25 from the Subcommittee regarding the Department of Fish & Wildlife's unencumbered funds. The memo listed two unencumbered balances:

Dept	Year	Description	Fund	Budgeted	Encumbered	Expended	Available
6120991902	2019	Fish Culture Stations	31500	(44,918.99)	-	25,471.27	(19,447.72)
6120992201	2022	FW-Infrastructure	31500	(902,439.88)	-	610,636.25	(291,803.63)

The \$19,447.72 remaining balance in the 6120991902 appropriation is obligated in a contract with Vanasse Hangen Brustlin. This contract expires 4/30/25 and all funds will be fully spent at that time. This contract supports operational practices at the Salisbury Fish Culture Station to meet water quality standards. Specifically, the contractor performs regular fish waste sampling, instream monitoring, and data reporting and analysis.

The \$291,803.63 remaining balance in 6120992201 has been spent. In the time that has passed since the memo was sent out, the Fish & Wildlife Department has received invoices for work done under a contract with Millbrook Building and Remodeling to rebuild the maintenance shop at the Dead Creek Wildlife Management Area. The project had been delayed multiple times for lack of funding, but the Department received enough capital funding in the last biennium to begin construction. The project is scheduled to be completed by 9/30/25. The balance in 6120992201 has been spent and is now at \$0.

With this update, I am happy to come in to provide testimony if necessary. If that is desired by the Subcommittee, please reach out to Abigail Connolly, Principal Assistant to the Commissioner, and she will facilitate scheduling a time for a meeting.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.



Respectfully,



Andrea Shortsleeve, Interim Commissioner
Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife

cc: Abigail Connolly, Principal Assistant
Elizabeth Stratton, FWD Director of Finance and Administration

