



# INVESTING IN VERMONT'S PUBLIC LANDS: FY27 PROPOSED & FY26 UPDATE

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# Overview

- **FY27 Capital Budget Proposal**
  - Clean Water: Forest Roads
  - Parks Infrastructure
- **FY26 Updates**
  - Parks Infrastructure
  - Public Lands Access Infrastructure
  - Clean Water: Forest Roads

**Investing in Stewardship: FY27 Proposal and FY26 Progress**



# FPR Capital Investments



## Park Infrastructure and Rehabilitation: **Within State Parks**

This funding provides structured, **lifecycle-based reinvestment** in park facilities and utility systems to protect state assets and ensure long-term functionality.



## Public Lands Access Infrastructure: **Outside State Parks**

This investment strengthens trails, roads, and safety infrastructure across nearly **200,000 acres of state land** to manage increasing public use, protect natural and historic assets, and ensure safe public access.



## Clean Water: **Forest Roads Improvements**

These projects upgrade forest roads to meet **modern water quality standards** — reducing erosion, protecting streams, and strengthening infrastructure resilience.

A scenic view of a lake between mountains with large rocks in the foreground. The sky is blue with some clouds. The water is dark blue. The mountains are dark green and brown. The rocks are dark grey and brown.

# **FY27 PROPOSED CAPITAL INVESTMENTS**

## SECTION 10: LINE 91

Forestry Access Road Water Quality Improvements

FY26 – \$200K

FY27 – \$200K (Proposed)

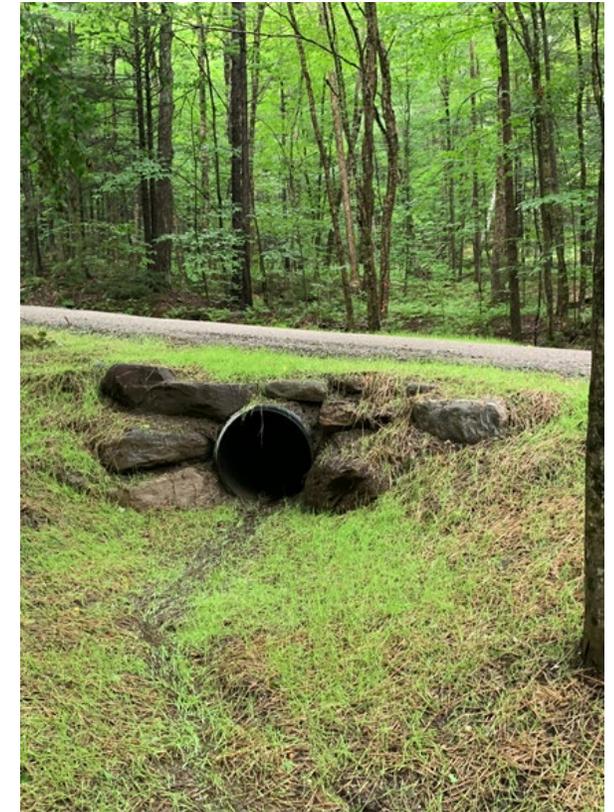
Advancing water quality compliance and long-term road resilience.



Before

### Water Quality and Resilience Improvements

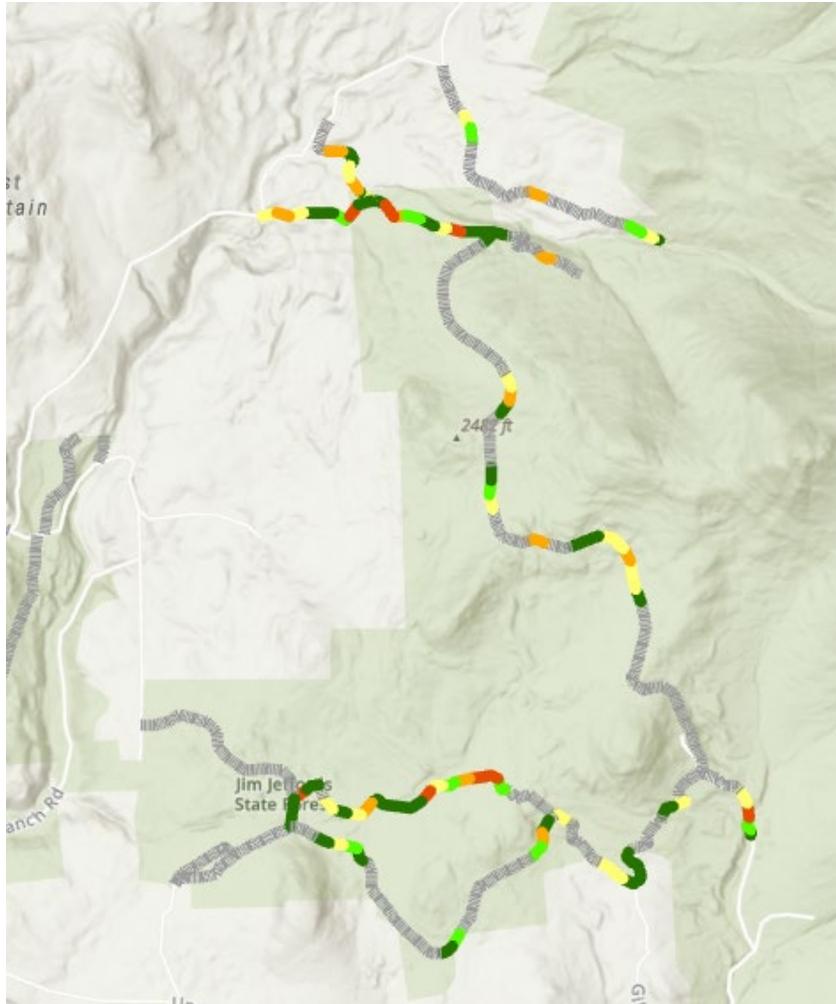
- Ditch relief culverts
- Ditch disconnection culverts
- Armored culvert outlets
- Properly sized culverts
- Re-crowning & grading road surface
- Upgraded road surface material



After

# Road Erosion Inventory & Prioritization

Targeting the segments with the greatest water quality risk.



Inventory identifies erosion risk and surface water connectivity to prioritize investment

- Very High Priority
- High Priority
- Moderate Priority
- Low Priority
- Meets AMP Standards
- Not Hydroconnected

## SECTION 9: LINE 76

Park Infrastructure and Rehabilitation, Improvement & Three-Acre Rule Compliance

FY26 – \$3.5M

FY27 – \$2.5M → \$2.9M (+\$400K proposed)



**Smaller Scale  
Infrastructure**



**Emergency Wastewater  
Reserve**



**Major Capital  
Projects**

## SECTION 9: LINE 76

Park Infrastructure and Rehabilitation, Improvement & Three-Acre Rule Compliance

FY26 – \$3.5M

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**Gifford Woods Operations Facility – Completed Summer 2025**  
**Groton Operations Facility – Construction Next**

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FY26 – \$3.5M

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### Three-Acre Rule

- 4 parks fully complete
- 15 parks still require some work
- One year pause
- Next up: Little River and Branbury
- Planning estimate: ~\$5.8M remaining through 2035

## SECTION 9: LINE 76

Park Infrastructure and Rehabilitation, Improvement & Three-Acre Rule Compliance

FY26 – \$3.5M

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- **Standardized replacement model** restroom design funded in FY26
- **FY27 expansion:** Lake St. Catherine added using same design
- **Over 100+ restroom facilities** statewide require phased reinvestment



# FY26 INVESTMENT PROGRESS & UPDATES

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## SECTION 9: LINE 76

Park Infrastructure and Rehabilitation, Improvement & Three-Acre Rule Compliance

FY26 – \$3.5M

FY27 – \$2.5M → \$2.9M (+\$400K proposed)



- **FY26 remaining balance: \$2,965,144** (*fluctuates weekly as projects advance*)
- Flexible funding structure allows movement between projects and fiscal years to maintain project delivery and optimize cash flow
- Six currently funded projects are matched with **approved federal funding** totaling \$2,937,401
- Additional federal funding forecast: **up to \$3 million** for eligible state projects — flexibility ensures we can fully leverage these opportunities

# SECTION 9: LINE 76

## Park Infrastructure and Rehabilitation, Improvement & Three-Acre Rule Compliance

**FY26 – \$3.5M    FY27 – \$2.5M → \$2.9M (+\$400K proposed)**



Projects	Total Budget	6130992301 FY 24	6130992401 FY 25	LWCF Federal \$	6130992501 FY 26	613099260# FY 27
<b>Remaining Balance as of 02.11.26</b>		<b>322,295</b>	<b>2,080,639</b>	<b>2,937,401</b>	<b>2,965,144</b>	<b>2,900,000</b>
Mt. Ascutney - Roads (design for phased construction)	111,234		65,000		46,234	
Gifford Woods Shop	99,628	99,628				
Regional (Small Scale) Infrastructure (Four Regions)	1,761,402				761,402	1,000,000
Ascutney South Septic	216,780			108,390		108,390
Mt Philo Summit	668,500			318,500	350,000	
Grand Isle Old Solar TB replacement w/ design	983,841			583,841	400,000	
Groton Shop	3,237,020	31,000	1,014,520	1,601,500	590,000	
Groton Shop Campus sitework	600,000		600,000			
Groton Nature Center Parking	82,000		82,000			
Waterbury Day Use and Shoreline Restructure	200,000					200,000
A&E and Construction oversight for Shops	164,000		164,000			
Wastewater System Emergency Repair / Improvements (state wide)	175,000				25,000	150,000
Past Service Billings for Facilities Engineers	193,680	191,680			26,318	
PIPELINE FY 22 Forest City Trail Bridge Replacement	8,919		8,919			
PIPELINE FY 23 Cobb Brook Road	6,710		6,710			
PIPELINE FY 23 Morrison Road Upgrade	26,890		26,890			
PIPELINE FY 20 Cotton Brook 2019 FEMA storm	25,000		25,000			
PIPELINE FY 22 Brownsville 4 season parking design	1,600		1,600			
Little River 3 Acre Stormwater	316,000					316,000
Branbury 3 Acre	55,000					55,000
3 Acre Engineering and Permitting	150,000		50,000		50,000	50,000
Townshend Drinking water system replacement	365,000				365,000	
Maidstone Day Use Water System	402,379			201,190	201,190	
Kettle Pond Water system	247,880			123,980		123,900
Water Wastewater ongoing A&E	100,000				50,000	50,000
Silver Lake Septic Pump Station with Electrical Service	186,710					186,710
MCM Review (Mitigation for North Hero Removal)	36,000		36,000			
St Catherine Toilet Building (replacement) -	360,000				100,000	260,000
New Discovery and Lake Carmi Cabins	668,684					
<b>The following projects are currently proposed for the additional \$400,000 included in the budget adjustment for FY 2027</b>						
Supplement Carmi Cabin Numbers for economy of scale	80,000					80,000
New Discovery Field Site Hookups	50,000					50,000
St Catherine Toilet Building (replacement) - supplement \$	140,000					140,000
Planning/Remediation and removal for multiple structures	50,000					50,000
Duplex Grand Isle (single family to two Apts)	40,000					40,000
Duplex Alburgh (single family to two Apts)	40,000					40,000



# SECTION 9: LINE 77

**PLAI: Public Land Access Infrastructure - FY26: \$700,000**

**20 Projects | 5 Complete | 12 Active | 3 in Review**



Project Name	Budget	Project Status
Hamilton Falls Master Plan Implementation	\$161,000.00	Active
Okemo Mountain Road assessment	\$25,000.00	Active
Historic lime kiln stabilization	\$10,000.00	Active
Camel's Hump Hanley Parcel Water Access	\$9,400.00	<b>Complete</b>
Ledges Trail Boardwalk	\$112,000.00	Active
Sunset Ridge Trail Bridges	\$46,752.00	<b>Complete</b>
Lake Carmi State Park Nature Trail Puncheon Replacement	\$26,975.00	Active
D-4 Existing gate replacement	\$3,000.00	Active
Ainsworth Gate and Parking	\$18,000.00	Active
Bear Hill Trail Steps Phase 2	\$1,350.00	Active
Stowe Pinnacle Erosion Control Overhaul	\$500.00	Active
D-5 Existing gate replacement	\$3,000.00	Active
Willoughby State Forest Accessible Paddlecraft Launch	\$60,000.00	Active
Willoughby State Forest South End Maintenance	\$15,000.00	Active
D-5 Northern Trail Improvements	\$9,400.00	<b>Complete</b>
D-5 Shelter Maintenance	\$50,500.00	<b>Complete</b>
Sentinel Rock SP Trail Maintenance and Bridge Construction	\$1,000.00	<b>Complete</b>
Okemo Mt. Fire Lookout Painting	\$80,000.00	Historical Review in Progress
Statewide bundled roads non-connected segments	\$64,623.00	Historical Review in Progress
D-2 Existing gate replacement	\$2,500.00	Historical Review in Progress



## SECTION 9: LINE 77

**PLAI: Public Land Access Infrastructure - FY27 - \$700,000**

**17 Planned Projects | \$700,000 Allocated | Finalized Through Annual Stewardship Planning**



Project Name	Budget
Fort Dummer Off Season Lot Implementation	\$178,500.00
Lowell Lake Parking Lot Implementation	\$40,500.00
Hamilton Falls Master Plan Implementation	\$73,963.00
Maidstone Trails Maintenance	\$8,008.00
Lyndon State Forest Multi-Use Trail Maintenance	\$29,200.00
Peacham Bog Boardwalk Reconstruction	\$22,016.00
Wheeler Mountain Trail Maintenance	\$46,600.00
Mount Pisgah Trail Restoration	\$56,750.00
Forest City Trail Bridge II	\$84,026.00
Tin Shanty Road Access	\$38,292.00
Burrows-Forest City Connector Trail Bridges	\$86,000.00
Spruce Mountain - Excessive Grade Trail Hardening	\$18,145.00
D-1 Existing gate replacement	\$5,000.00
D-2 Existing gate replacement	\$2,500.00
D-3 Existing gate replacement	\$3,000.00
D-4 Existing gate replacement	\$3,000.00
D-5 Existing gate replacement	\$4,500.00



## SECTION 10: LINE 91

### Clean Water Capital: Forestry Access Road Water Quality Improvements

### FY26 Update | \$200,000 Leveraging Additional Funding



Project Name	Budget	Project Status
Willoughby State Forest CCC Road Culvert	\$17,500	Active
Winchester Hill Town Highway	\$40,000	Active
Coolidge State Forest CCC Road Switchbacks	\$215,696	Active
Victory State Forest Portland Pipeline	\$235,708	Active
Bundled Roads Contract (Multiple Locations) – 7.7 miles	\$314,292	Active



**Meeting water quality standards while reducing long-term infrastructure risk.**

## SECTION 10: LINE 91

### Clean Water Capital: Forestry Access Road Water Quality Improvements

FY27 Proposed | \$200,000 Leveraging Additional Funding



Project Name	Budget
Bundled Roads Contract (Multiple Locations) – 25.5 miles	\$600 – 800K
McCall Pasture C-100 Stabilization	\$60,000
Remainder of Coolidge State Forest CCC Road Switchbacks	\$157,000



Meeting water quality standards while reducing long-term infrastructure risk.



**FORESTS, PARKS & RECREATION**

**VERMONT**



**AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

