

DATE: 1/8/2019

TO: GSD/SAF Membership

FROM: Gabe Roxby, Treasurer

RE: Additional Information about 2018 Budget Report and 2019 Proposed Budget

In preparing this year's year-end budget report and the proposed budget for next year, I thought a written document explaining some of the more confusing aspects of the budget might be helpful.

Item #2 – NESAF Winter Meeting. The income and expenses for this meeting were split between the 2017 and 2018 calendar years, and this report only contains information for 2018. The 2018 NESAF Winter meeting took in about \$23,000, which is split between NESAF and GSD (the hosting division). In total, GSD took in about \$11,000 in net income, split between 2017 (\$3,000) and 2018 (\$8,000). This was \$4,000 higher than the \$7,000 that we budgeted to net from the meeting.

Item #5a – 2018 Forester's Fund project on forest cover mapping and forest loss. We applied for, and received, a grant from SAF National to fund a research project on forest cover mapping that is being completed by a UNH graduate student. The project had a total cost of \$6,000, some of which has been paid out in 2018 (\$2,400) and some of which will be paid out in 2019 (\$3,600) when the project is complete. The Forester's Fund grant from SAF National will bring in a total of \$4,500, 80% of which (\$3,600) has been received. The remaining \$900 will be received when the project is complete in early 2019. The remaining project cost was partially raised through solicitations from The Nature Conservancy (\$500) and SAF membership (one contribution of \$250). The remaining \$750 of the project's expenses has not yet been raised, and will come out of the general budget unless further gifts are received from membership.

Item #5b – 2019 Forester's Fund project application. The Executive Committee would like the opportunity to apply for another Forester's Fund grant in 2019, and have been working on several ideas. The 2019 budget contains \$1000 in both the income and expense line items for this project. The idea is that to make our application more competitive, we offer to contribute \$1000 toward the project. As with the 2018 project, we will solicit membership in an attempt to cover or partially cover this expense. The Executive Committee feels the Forester's Fund grants are a good way to bring in money that's available from SAF National and use it to help accomplish our mission locally here in New Hampshire.

Income Item 6 – Dues. Each year, we receive two dues checks from SAF National. In my 2018 budgeting, I assumed they came in March and December, and that we'd have a higher than usual year because the December 2017 check came in January 2018. After the March 2018 check, the check I was expecting in December 2018 came in January 2019. After checking with the NESAF Treasurer, it makes sense to just budget to get two checks each year (January and March), for a total of about \$2300.

Expense Item 3c – Forestry Internships. Our email to membership advertising these internships went out a bit late this year, and we believe this is the reason we didn't get any applications. At around the same time, there was an opportunity to send interested members to a Regional SAF Leadership Academy. After an email to GSD membership, two members expressed interest, and the Executive Committee decided to use \$1000 of the unspent Forestry Internship money to help send them to the leadership academy. The remaining \$2000 of unspent money was added to next year's budget, for a total of \$5000 of money we plan to make available to forestry internships in 2019. We will get the email out earlier!

**Total Net Income Item #10** – On the surface, spending almost \$10,000 more than we take in seems concerning. However, when looking at that number, consider the following: (1) two of the larger 2019 expenses were carry-overs from line items that were budgeted for but not spent in 2018 and (2) the fact that our bank balance was about \$9,000 higher at the end of 2018 than we budgeted. Please see below for a graph of our year-end balances since 2001. This provides a longer-term picture of our finances. Years where we hosted NESAF meetings are noted in the horizontal axis labels.

