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Seth Hopkins, Selectboard Chair
c/o David Atherton, Town Manager
Town of Brandon
49 Center St.
Brandon, VT 05733

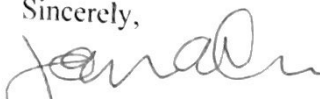
Dear Mr. Hopkins,

On behalf of the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), I'm writing to request a letter of support from the Selectboard for DFW's acquisition of a 116.3 acres (by survey) parcel in Brandon, in Brandon Swamp. The property was restored and permanently conserved with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service a number of years ago. It will be added to the Brandon Swamp Wildlife Management Area (WMA), and in addition to further protecting its ecological values, will ensure permanent public access for fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, and other activities. The parcel has no development or agricultural potential.

The land is owned by Paul and Frances Stone of Orwell. On the enclosed town tax map 6, it's Parcel 02-11. As with our earlier acquisitions, the property will remain on the town's tax rolls, with the state making a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) equal to your municipal tax.

It's the state's long-standing policy to ask Selectboards to indicate their support for these acquisitions. I would appreciate receiving a brief letter signed by you, confirming the Board's support. I'd be happy to attend an upcoming meeting, virtually or by telephone, if you would like to discuss this request.

Sincerely,



Joan Allen