



State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX  
*Governor*

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON  
*Lieutenant Governor*

## Department of Government Operations Division of Facilities Construction and Management

JENNEY REES  
*Executive Director*

JAMES R. RUSSELL  
*Division Director*

To: Department of Natural Resources  
From: Jim Russell, DFCM Director  
Date: August 8, 2023  
Subject: **DNR Snowcat Shed, Non-State Funded Project**  
Requester: Jason Curry, DNR Division Director

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### **Authorization**

DFCM has approved the Snowcat Shed for the Utah Department of Natural Resources, a non-state funded project to proceed as authorized by UCA 63A-5b-404 and as detailed in this document.

### **Background**

The Snowcat Shed will be constructed northeast of Soapstone Trailhead in Summit County, and will house 1-2 snowcats with utilities. The proposed project budget is \$1,000,000 and will be funded from DNR's Off-Highway Vehicle Restricted Account Funds.

The completed project will provide a safe storage space for snowcats for the department and ensures their longevity and reduces maintenance costs while providing vital transportation infrastructure from heavy snowfall and avalanches, enhancing accessibility to remote recreational sites and supporting ecological conservation efforts. Overall, the Snowcat Shed project optimizes resource management and safety for the DNR.

DNR has indicated that they have ongoing funding to provide for all operation and maintenance and capital improvements for this building and have confirmed that they will not seek additional funds from the Legislature for this project, nor will they seek to increase their state funding for operational and maintenance costs or capital improvements. Consequently, all future operational and maintenance costs, as well as any improvements, associated with this project will be assumed by DNR.

### **DFCM Authority**

**63A-5b-404. Exceptions to requirement of legislative approval for capital development projects.**

- (1) (a) Except as provided in this section, a capital development project may not be constructed on state property without legislative approval.
- (b) The division may authorize a capital development project on state property without legislative approval only as provided in this section.
- (2) (a) Legislative approval is not required for a capital development project that consists of the design or construction of a new facility if:
  - (i) the division determines that the requesting agency has provided adequate assurance that state funds will not be used for the design or construction of the facility;
  - (ii) the agency provides to the division a written document, signed by the head of the agency:
    - (A) stating that funding or a revenue stream is in place, or will be in place before the project is completed, to ensure that increased state funding will not be required to cover the cost of operations and maintenance for the resulting facility or for immediate or future capital improvements; and
    - (B) detailing the source of the funding that will be used for the cost of operations and maintenance and for immediate and future capital improvements to the resulting facility; and
  - (iii) the division determines that the use of the state property:
    - (A) is appropriate and consistent with the master plan for the property; and
    - (B) will not create an adverse impact on the state.
- (b) For a facility constructed without legislative approval under Subsection (2)(a), an agency may not request:
  - (i) increased state funds for operations and maintenance; or
  - (ii) increased state capital improvement funding.


**R23-24-4. Policy**

Utah Administrative Code R23-24-4 applies, provided that references therein to the Utah State Building Board shall mean DFCM.

DFCM is confident that the Department of Natural Resources has met the requirements as indicated above and can move forward with this non-state funded project.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

  
Jim Russell (Aug 8, 2023 10:38 MDT)

James R. Russell, Director  
Division of Facilities Construction and Management

jr:cn



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## Department of Natural Resources

JOEL FERRY  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

Division of Outdoor Recreation  
JASON CURRY  
*DIVISION DIRECTOR*

Mr. Jim Russell,

The Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation is seeking re-approval for the construction of 1 snowcat shed to be constructed at the following location.

- NorthEast of Soapstone Trailhead, Summit County, UT
- GPS: 40.581184, -111.045043

This project will be funded by Off-Highway Vehicle Restricted Account Funds. The snowcat shed is designed to house 1-2 snowcats with utilities.

The Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation commits to fund all future O&M and Capital Improvement expenditures ongoing and will not seek future CI or O&M funds from DFCM for this facility in the future. These funds will be covered by the OHV Restricted Account for any on-going costs associated with this facility.

An initial construction budget estimate has an all-in budget of \$1,000,000 and we are utilizing a previous appropriation of \$350,000 from the OHV Restricted Account. The additional \$650,000 will be provided from the OHV Grant Fund that is also from the OHV restricted account.

The Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation appreciates your consideration of approving our request to construct these facilities. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Regards,

Jason Curry,  
Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation  
Division Director  
jasoncurry@utah.gov

