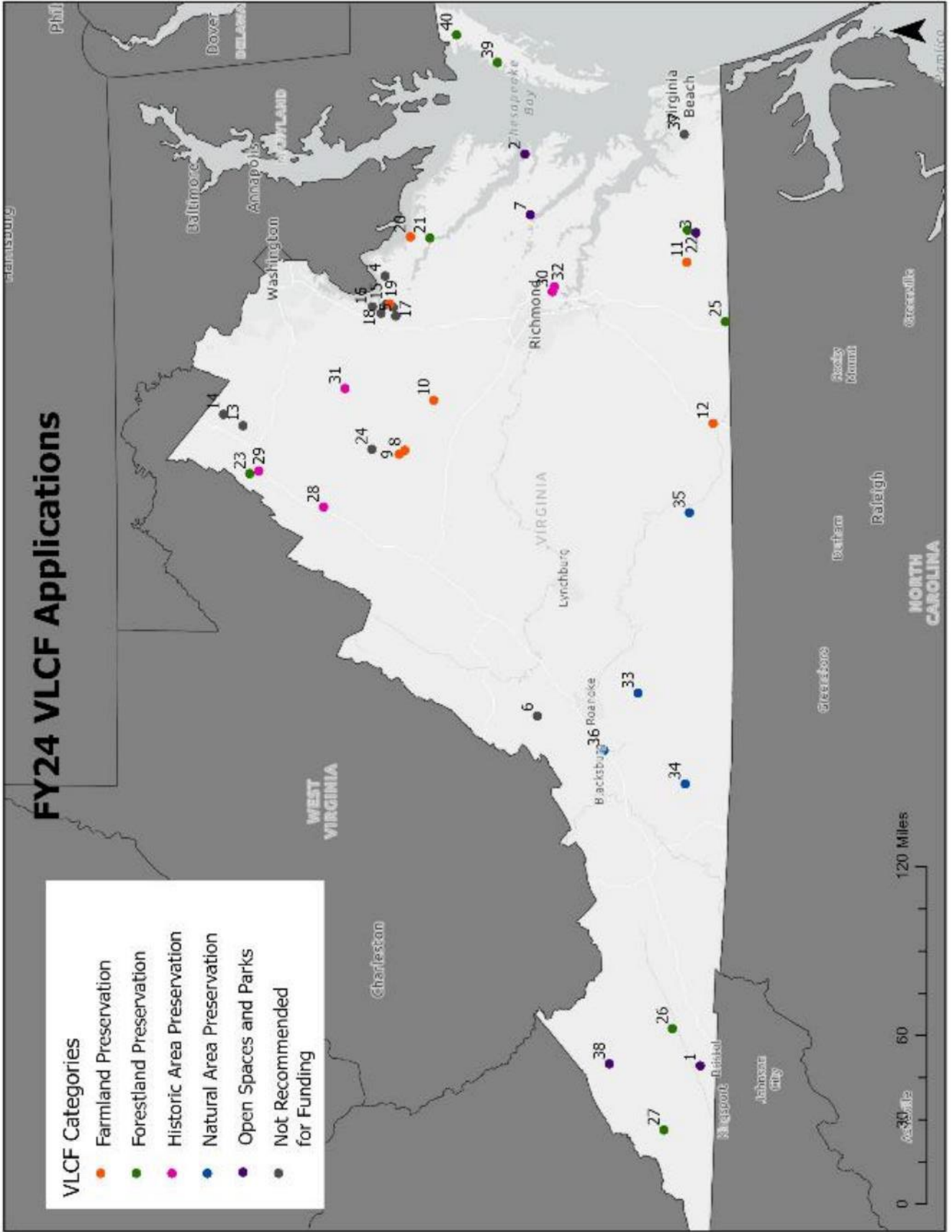


Fiscal Year 2024

**Virginia Land Conservation Foundation
Interagency Taskforce
Grant Round Recommendations
to the
Virginia Land Conservation Board of Trustees**

November 13, 2023





Project Number	Applicant	Project Name
1	Washington County	Abrams Creek Property Addition to Mendota Trail
2	Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission	Bushy Park Farm Acquisition
3	Franklin Parks Foundation	Deer Creek
4	The Trust for Public Land	Caledon State Park Expansion - Lake Caledon
5	Patowomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia	Patowomeck Tribe Land Grant
6	Land Savers United	Wilderness Adventures
7	Wildlife Foundation of Virginia	Marsh on the Mattaponi River
8	Piedmont Environmental Council	Farmland Protection near Barboursville
9	Piedmont Environmental Council	Farmland Protection along Rapidan River Tributaries
10	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Panamint Farm
11	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Nottoway 186
12	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	East West Creek Farms LLC
13	Clarke County	Fansler Farm
14	Clarke County	Lilly Farm
15	Stafford County	William Long Farm
16	Stafford County	Pagnotta Property
17	Stafford County	Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm
18	Stafford County	Schenemann Property
19	Stafford County	AP Legacy, LLC Farm
20	The Trust for Public Land	Lower Potomac River Corridor
21	Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia	Acquiring Rappahannock Tribe's Ancestral Homelands
22	Virginia Department of Forestry	Southampton 900
23	Virginia Department of Forestry	Poplar Hollow, Additional Funding Request
24	Virginia Department of Forestry	Madison 300

Project Number	Applicant	Project Name
25	Virginia Department of Forestry	Taylor's Mill Farm, Additional Funding Request
26	The Nature Conservancy	Clinch Mountain, Pinnacle Rock
27	Land Trust of Virginia	Huff Rock
28	Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation	Stanley Hall at New Market Battlefield
29	Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation	French Tract at Fisher's Hill Battlefield
30	American Battlefield Trust	Whitby Tract at Second Deep Bottom Battlefield
31	American Battlefield Trust	Brandy Rock Farm I Tract at Brandy Station BF
32	American Battlefield Trust	Welch-Penden Tract at Glendale Battlefield
33	Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation	Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve - Anderson Addition
34	Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation	Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve - LCI Addit
35	Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation	Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve - Browne Farm Easement
36	Virginia Dept. of Conservation and Recreation	Pedlar Hills Addition - Supplemental Funding
37	City of Chesapeake	City of Chesapeake Natural Area Preservation
38	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Highlands-Lonesome Pine
39	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative II - FY24
40	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative III - FY24

FY24 GRANT ROUND OVERVIEW

The FY24 Grant Round was open to accept applications from May 16 through August 18, 2023.

Funding provided in state budget: \$16 million appropriation - \$4 million to VOF Preservation Trust Fund, per Va. Code = **\$12 million**

Returned grant funds: **\$2,824,097**

TOTAL available grant funding: \$14,824,097

- Grant round announcements were emailed to localities, land trusts, interest groups, past applicants, conservation organizations and agencies.
- A virtual grant workshop was held on June 8, and posted to the VLCF webpage.
- The Interagency Taskforce met on September 12 and October 3 to discuss applications and make recommendations for each category.

Applications received: 40

13 in Farmland Preservation
9 in Forestland Preservation
5 in Historic Area Preservation
5 in Natural Area Preservation
8 in Open Spaces and Parks

Total requested funding: \$20,612,306

Total requested acreage: 57,173

Recommendations for funding to Board: 29

7 in Farmland Preservation
8 in Forestland Preservation
5 in Historic Area Preservation
4 in Natural Area Preservation
5 in Open Spaces and Parks

Total recommended funding: \$14,672,672

Total recommended acreage: 55,575

ConserveVirginia: 86% (25/29) are within

VLCF Grant Requirements are met:

1. The state budget requires at least 50% of funds be used for projects that provide public access; and
2. The Code requires at least 1/3 of funds be used for projects that secure easements to be held or co-held by a public body.
 - 19 of the recommended projects (80% of total funds) would provide public access
 - 22 of the recommended projects (51% of total funds) would have open-space easements

I. Farmland Preservation Applications

Amount of funding available: \$2,978,750

1. Piedmont Environmental Council; Farmland Protection near Barboursville; easement on 545 acres in Orange County; **total project cost: \$2,300,000; grant request: \$605,000; recommend: \$605,000**
2. The Trust for Public Land; Lower Potomac River Corridor; easement on 320 acres in Westmoreland County; **total project cost: \$2,955,000; grant request: \$585,000; recommend: \$585,000**
3. Virginia Outdoors Foundation; East West Creek Farms LLC; easement on 720 acres in Mecklenburg County; **total project cost: \$1,536,500; grant request: \$610,000; recommend: \$610,000**
4. Stafford County; AP Legacy, LLC Farm; easement on 73 acres in Stafford County; **total project cost: \$496,900; grant request: \$248,450; recommend: \$248,450**
5. Piedmont Environmental Council; Farmland Protection along Rapidan River Tributaries; easement on 229 acres in Greene County; **total project cost: \$1,010,000; grant request: \$282,500; recommend: \$282,500**
6. Virginia Outdoors Foundation; Nottoway 186; easement on 186 acres in Southampton County; **total project cost: \$1,362,000; grant request: \$537,500; recommend: \$537,500**
7. Virginia Outdoors Foundation; Panamint Farm; easement on 533 acres in Louisa County; **total project cost: \$1,017,500; grant request: \$550,000; recommend: \$110,300**
8. Stafford County; William Long Farm; easement on 69 acres in Stafford County; **total project cost: \$432,900; grant request: \$216,450; recommend: \$0**
9. Stafford County; Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm; easement on 20 acres in Stafford County; **total project cost: \$207,900; grant request: \$103,950; recommend: \$0**
10. Clarke County; Lilly Farm; easement on 43 acres in Clarke County; **total project cost: \$158,000; grant request: \$75,250; recommend: \$0**
11. Clarke County; Fansler Farm; easement on 89 acres in Clarke County; **total project cost: \$407,500; grant request: \$200,000; recommend: \$0**
12. Stafford County; Pagnotta Property; easement on 35 acres in Stafford County; **total project cost: \$106,900; grant request: \$53,450; recommend: \$0**
13. Stafford County; Schenemann Property; easement on 20 acres in Stafford County; **total project cost: \$206,900; grant request: \$103,450; recommend: \$0**

Farmland Preservation Totals: **acres: 2,883; project costs: \$12,198,000; requested: \$4,171,000; recommended: \$2,978,750.**

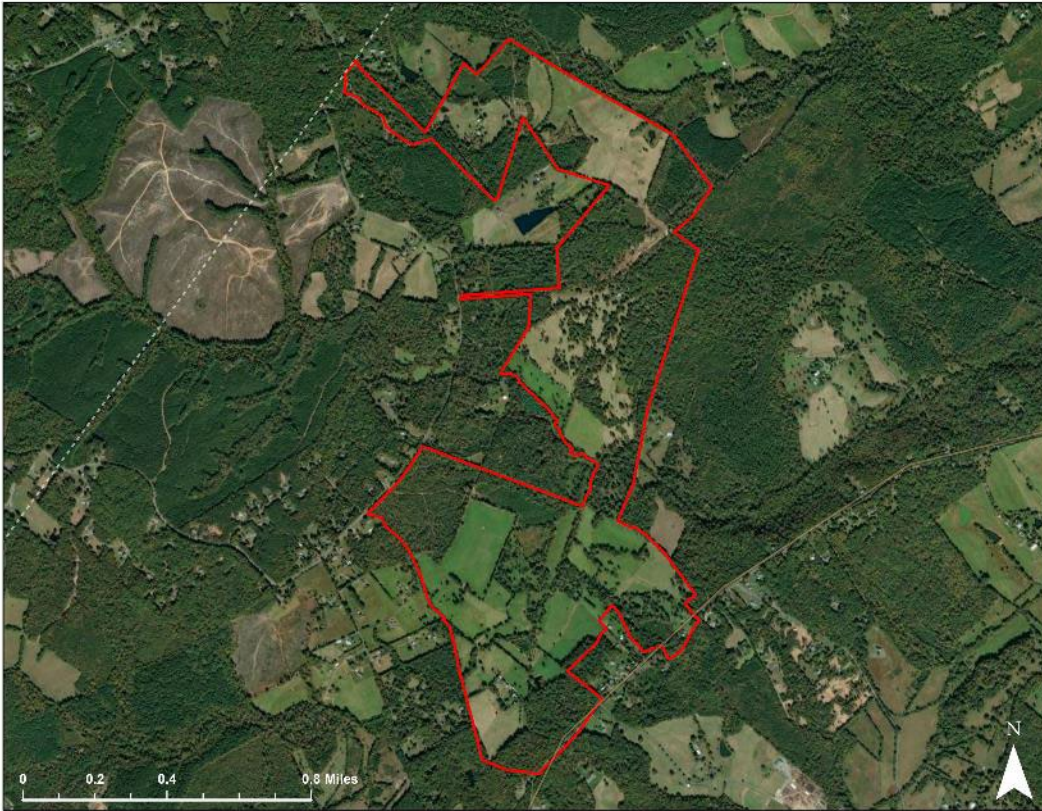
1. Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection near Barboursville

Farmland Protection near Barboursville (Orange County) advances farmland protection in the Rappahannock Basin, where Piedmont Environmental Council and Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District and Virginia Land Conservation Foundation have secured significant federal and private funding to protect high quality farmland and improve water quality. The specific objectives of this project are to conserve 544 acres of quality farmland and forestland, including 274 acres of prime and statewide significant soils and 245 acres of forest; to protect and improve water quality with approximately 3.3 miles of permanent forested riparian buffers along tributaries to the Rapidan River and Blue-Cedar-Barbour Runs Stream Conservation Unit; and to facilitate the transfer of a debt-free farm to the next generation.

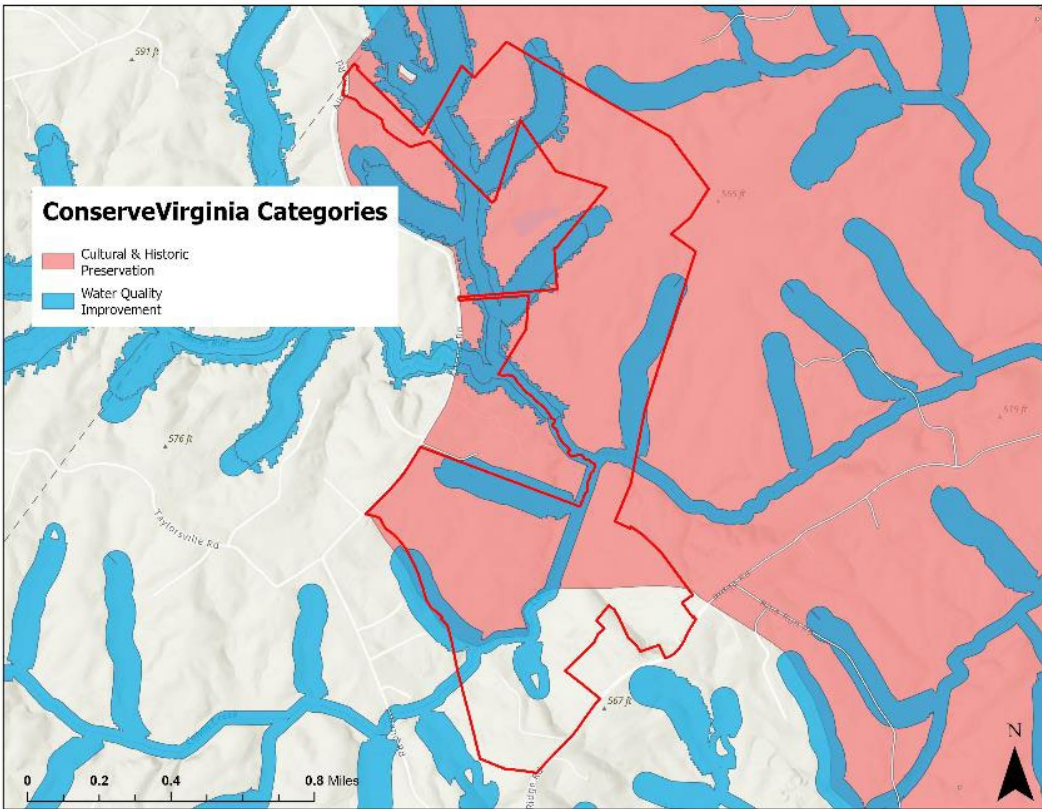
Total Project Cost: \$2,300,000. **Match:** NRCS-ALE and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$605,000. **Recommended amount:** \$605,000.



Aerial: Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection near Barboursville



ConserveVirginia: Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection near Barboursville



2. The Trust for Public Land – Lower Potomac River Corridor

The Lower Potomac River Corridor project will conserve 320 acres of farmland located along the Potomac River and Popes Creek directly across from and within the viewshed of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument, a unit of the National Park Service. The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is partnering with the landowners, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, and the US Navy to acquire open-space easements on two adjacent farms to be co-held by VOF and the Navy. When conserved, these farms will become part of an over 2,700-acre complex of contiguous farmland, forests and wetlands protected through conservation easements, and link to another 3,000 acres of public and privately conserved land, including the GW Birthplace National Monument, Westmoreland State Park, and Stratford Hall National Historic Landmark, extending for eight miles along the river.

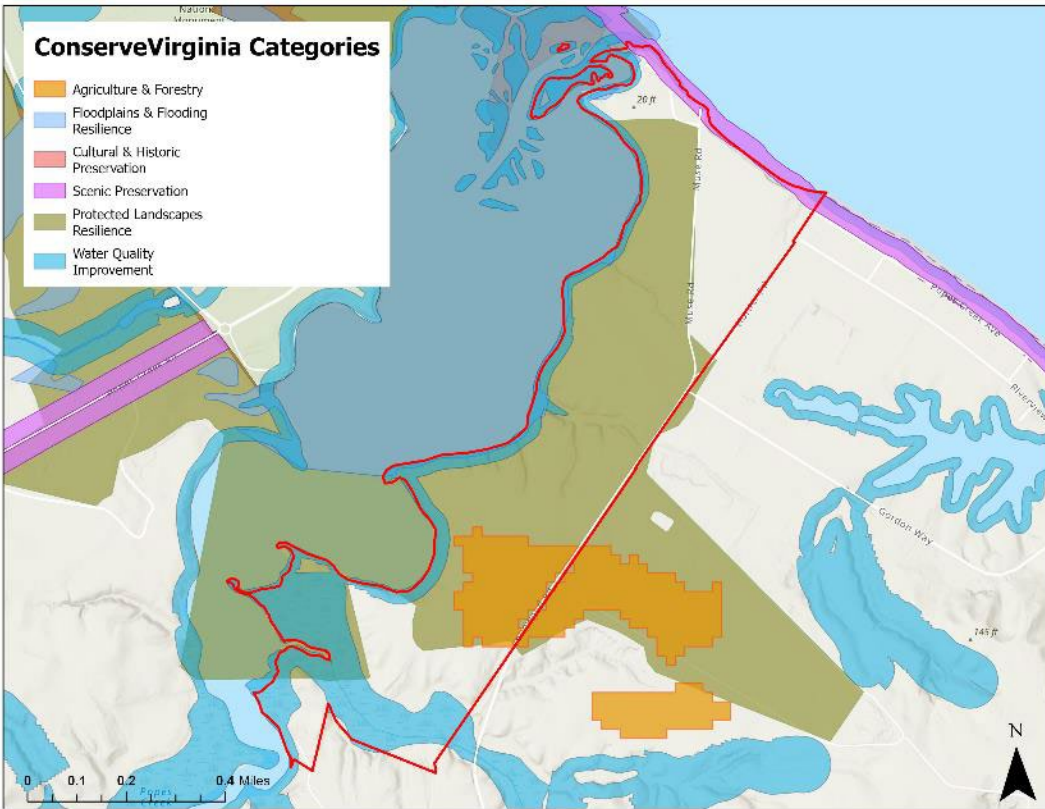
Total Project Cost: \$2,955,000. **Match:** Navy–REPI, TPL, and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$585,000. **Recommended amount:** \$585,000.



Aerial: The Trust for Public Land – Lower Potomac River Corridor



ConserveVirginia: The Trust for Public Land – Lower Potomac River Corridor



3. Virginia Outdoors Foundation – East West Creek Farms LLC

Virginia Outdoors Foundation is seeking VLCF funds for the partial purchase of an open-space easement on a 720.48-acre family farm in Mecklenburg County. The project will help to protect prime soils and statewide important farmland, on land included in ConserveVirginia's Agriculture and Forestry category. The property is part of a larger multi-generational family farming operation, in active production of corn, beans, and tobacco, as well as cattle pasture and hay production. In addition to its agricultural importance, the property contains two miles of frontage on Parham Creek and Flat Creek, which will remain protected with 50-foot forested buffers. The buffers benefit water quality plus serve as wildlife habitat and corridors as indicated in the VA Natural Landscape Assessment Ecological Cores and the proximity (within ~1,300 feet) of an Important Bird Area as designated by the National Audubon Society. The property is also bounded on two sides by permanently protected lands under easement, which will result in a block of 1,417 conserved acres.

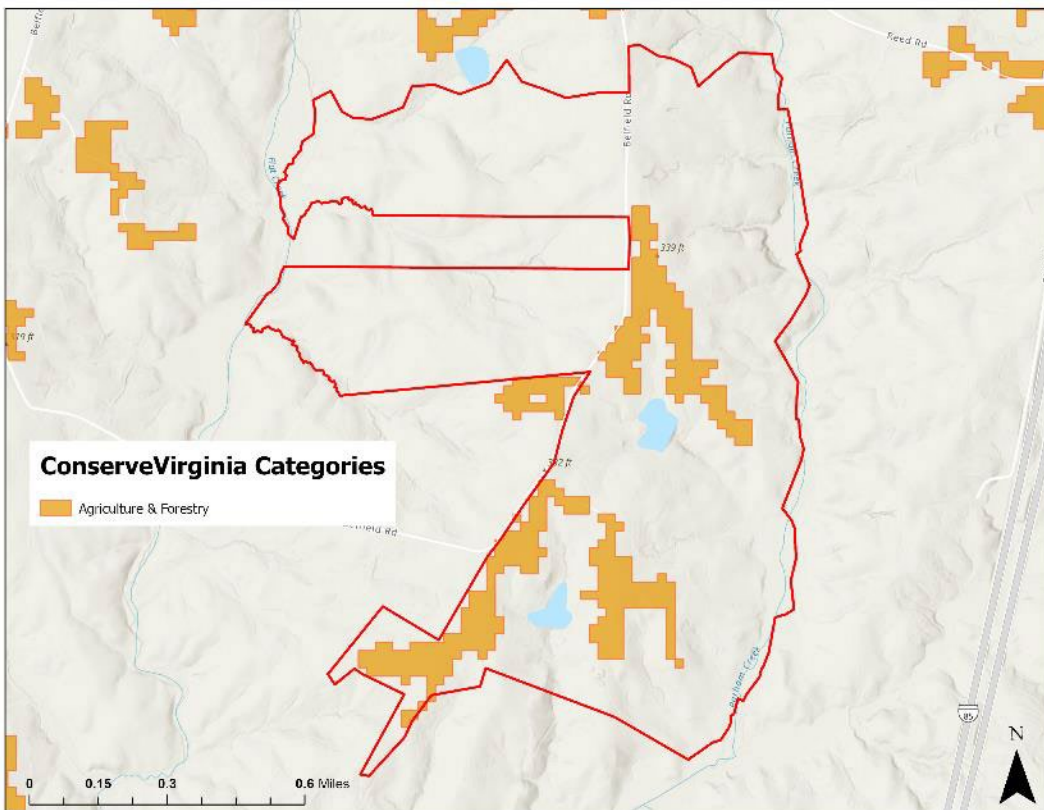
Total Project Cost: \$1,536,500. **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$610,000.
Recommended amount: \$610,000.



Aerial: Virginia Outdoors Foundation – East West Creek Farms LLC



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Outdoors Foundation – East West Creek Farms LLC



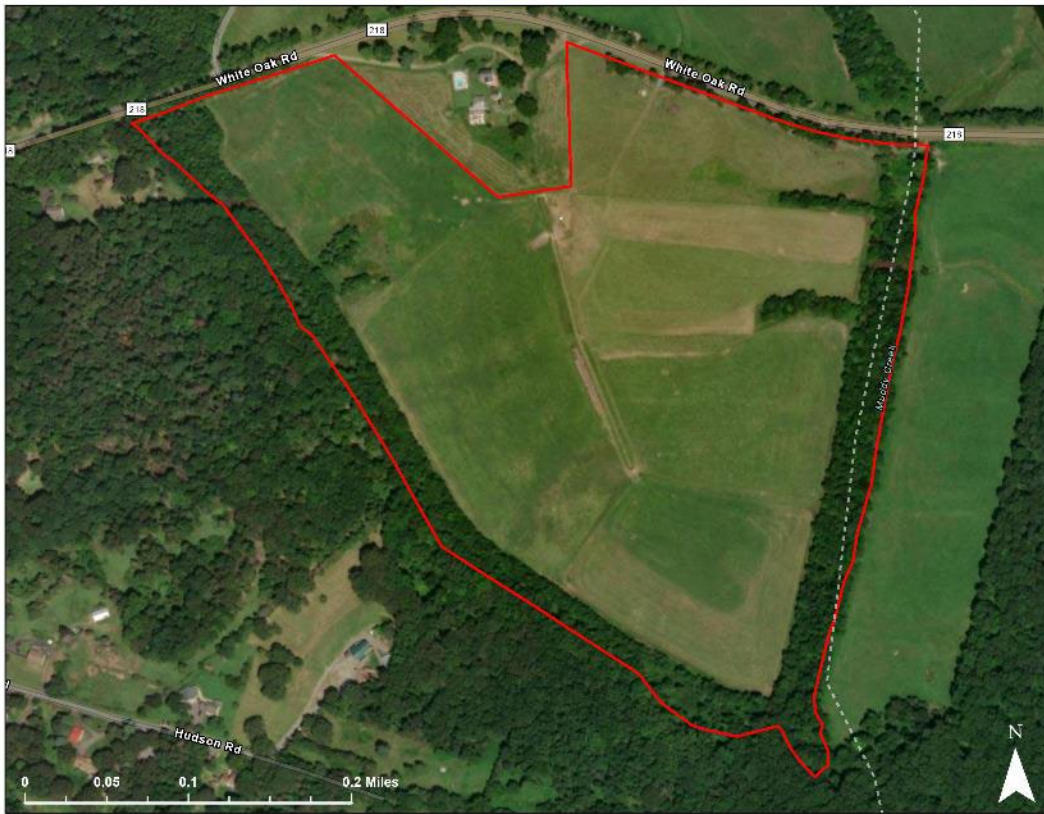
4. Stafford County – AP Legacy, LLC Farm

Stafford County is seeking a VLCF grant to assist in the placement of an open-space easement on a Century Farm, the AP Legacy Farm. The easement will be held by Stafford County, under the County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. The property totals 73.35 acres and the primary land use is hay production and keeping of livestock. The easement will protect 41.4 acres of prime farm soils and soils of statewide importance; 11.9 acres of mixed forestland; and environmental features including 7,120 linear feet of forested perennial streams, 3.5 acres of wetlands, and special flood hazard area. The property falls within an ecological core and is adjacent to two conserved parcels under easement with VOF. The property was the site of the Brunswick Parish Glebe, one of two 18th century glebes in Stafford, owned by Parson John Waugh (1630-1706). The property is located along White Oak Road, a Virginia scenic byway, providing visual access to the traveling public.

Total Project Cost: \$496,900. **Match:** Stafford County. **Grant Request:** \$248,450. **Recommended Amount:** \$248,450.



Aerial: Stafford County – AP Legacy, LLC Farm



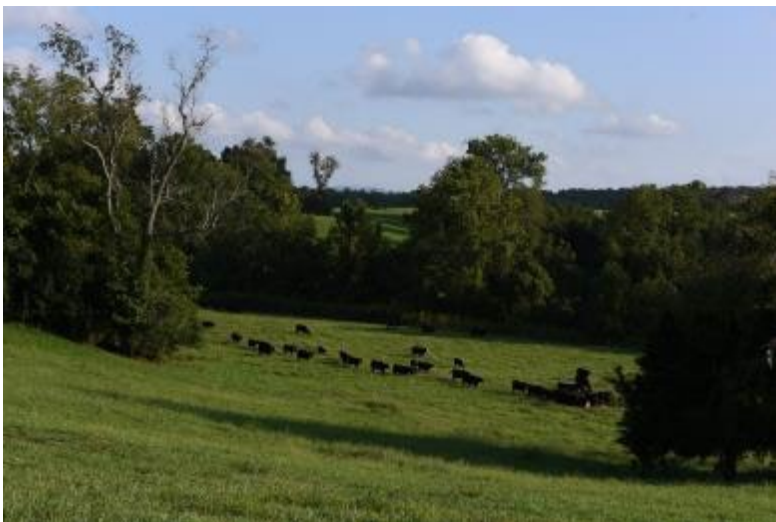
ConserveVirginia: Stafford County – AP Legacy, LLC Farm



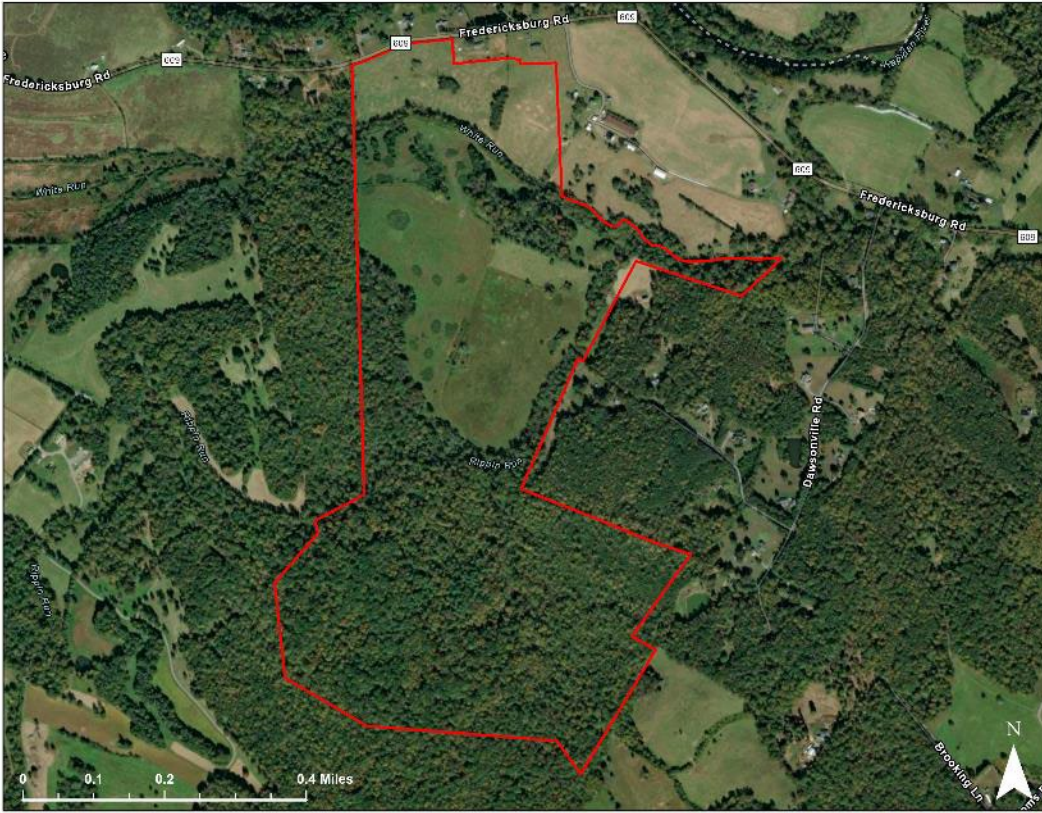
5. Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection along Rapidan River Tributaries

This project advances farmland protection in the Rappahannock Basin, where the Piedmont Environmental Council and Culpeper Soil & Water Conservation District have been awarded VLCF funds, which they have used to leverage significant federal and private funding to protect high quality farmland and improve water quality. This pioneering project also involves American Farmland Trust who provided bridge financing to a young farmer, so he could buy his aunt's share of the subject property and use easement proceeds for loan repayment. The young farmer currently runs a cow-calf operation on the farm within a matrix of pasture, hayfields and forest. This project will: conserve 229 acres of farmland and forestland, including 161 acres of prime and statewide significant soils and 135 acres of forest; protect and improve water quality by maintaining 35 to 50-foot forested riparian buffers along 1.2 miles of Rapidan River tributaries; and prevent subdivision by facilitating the transfer of the farm to the next generation.

Total Project Cost: \$1,010,000. **Match:** NRCS-ALE and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$282,500. **Recommended Amount:** \$282,500.



Aerial: Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection along Rapidan River Tributaries



ConserveVirginia: Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection along Rapidan River Tributaries



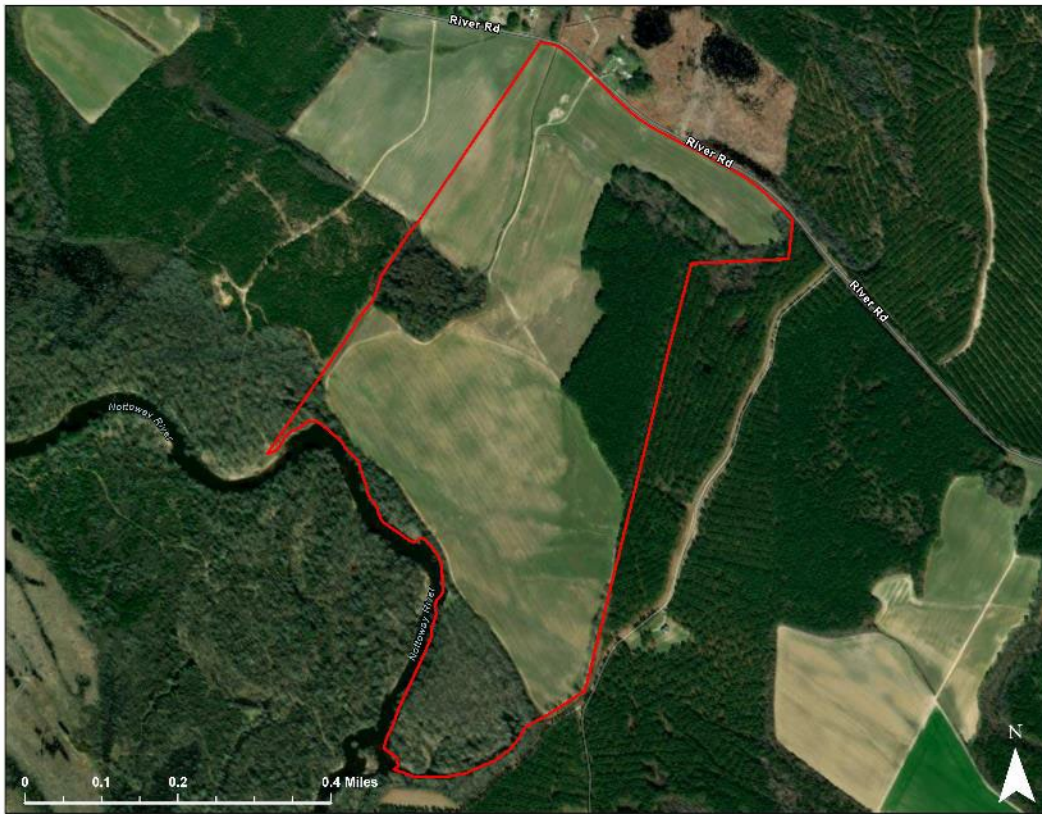
6. Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Nottoway 186

Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) is seeking to place an easement on a 186-acre farm in Southampton County with land in agricultural and forest use, wetlands, and more than 3,000 feet of frontage on the state scenic Nottoway River. The farm contains two center pivot irrigation installations as well as hydrants for rolling reel irrigation devices, which enable irrigation on nearly all of the fields. The property also contains working pine forest and old-growth Cypress and mixed hardwood stands along the river. The property is listed in six ConserveVirginia categories: Agriculture and Forestry, Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, Cultural and Historic Preservation, Scenic Preservation, and Water Quality Improvement. There are five species of conservation concern per DWR’s Wildlife Information Service. This property is located 1,000 feet from an 854-acre DOF-held conserved tract and is adjacent to a 235-acre tract funded with NAWCA funds for conservation by VOF with closing expected by end of 2023.

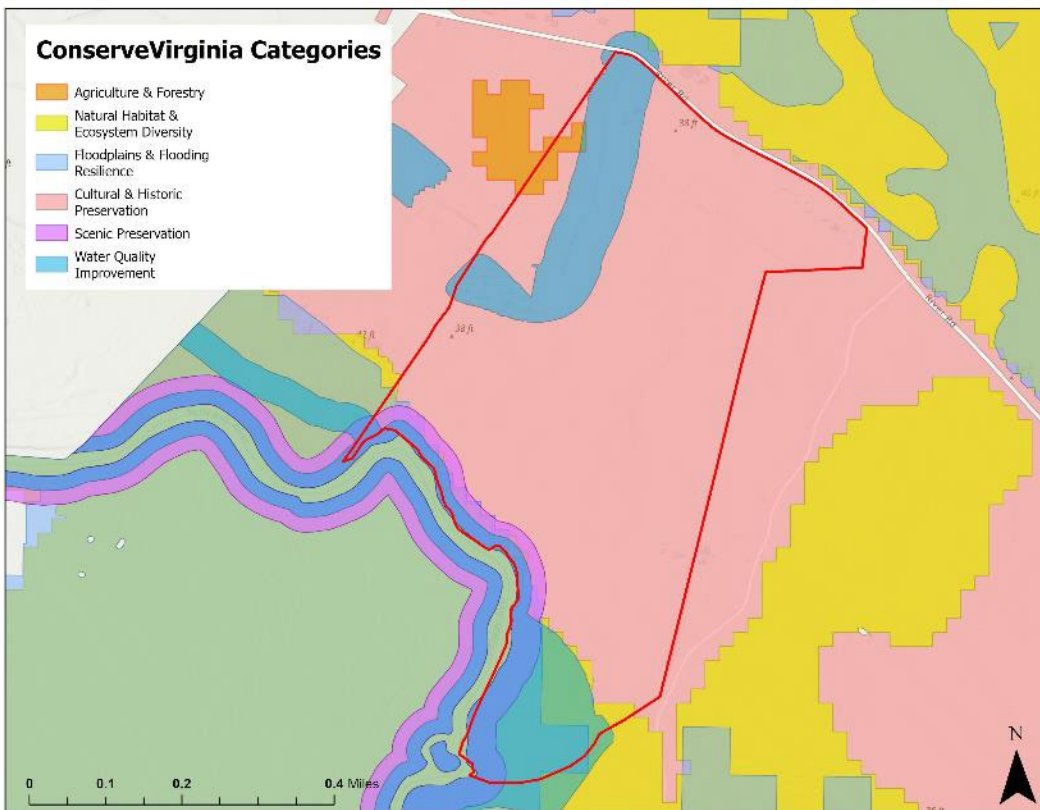
Total Project Cost: \$1,362,000. **Match:** US Endowment for Forestry, landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$537,500. **Recommended Amount:** \$537,500.



Aerial: Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Nottoway 186



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Nottoway 186



7. Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Panamint Farm

Virginia Outdoors Foundation is seeking grant funds for a partial purchase of an easement on Panamint Farm located in Louisa County. The 533-acre cattle farm currently supports pastures and grazing with gently rolling hills throughout with a mixture of open fields and woodland. Gold Mine Creek flows along the western property boundary. There are over 8,800 feet of perennial and intermittent streams with 35- to 50-foot fenced riparian buffers providing habitat and protection for wildlife. The property contains farmland and forest with roughly 200 acres of native Oak Hickory mixed forestlands.

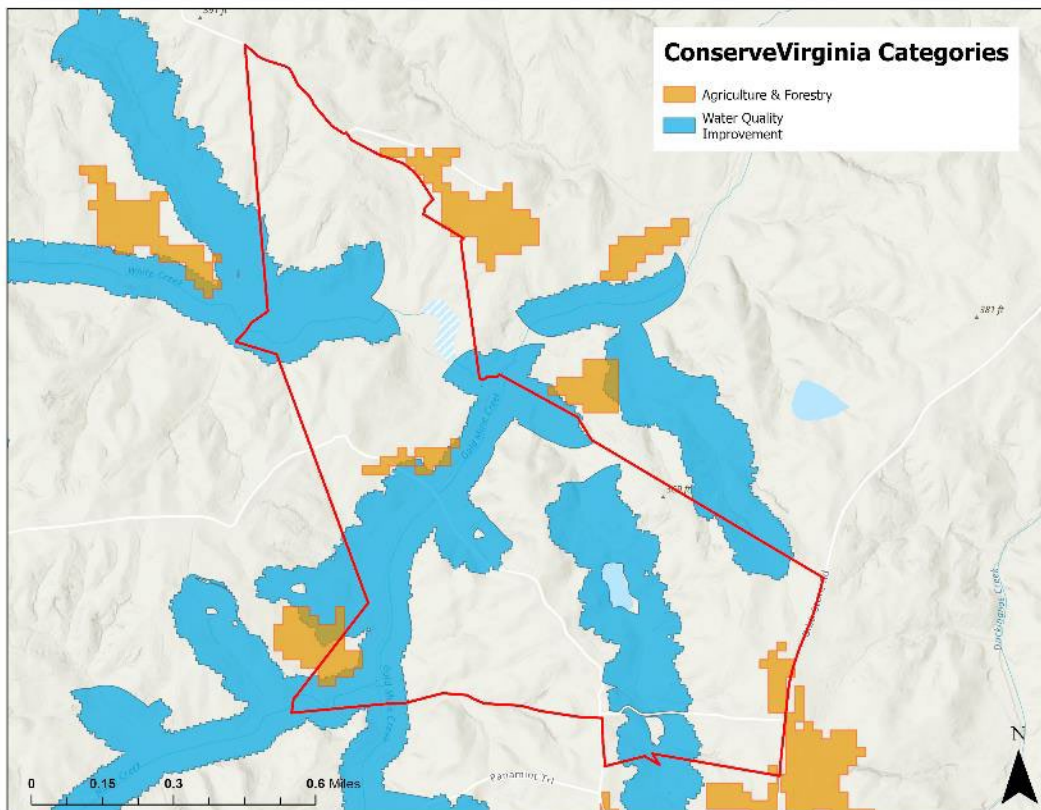
Total Project Cost: \$1,017,500. **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$550,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$110,300.



Aerial: Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Panamint Farm



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Panamint Farm



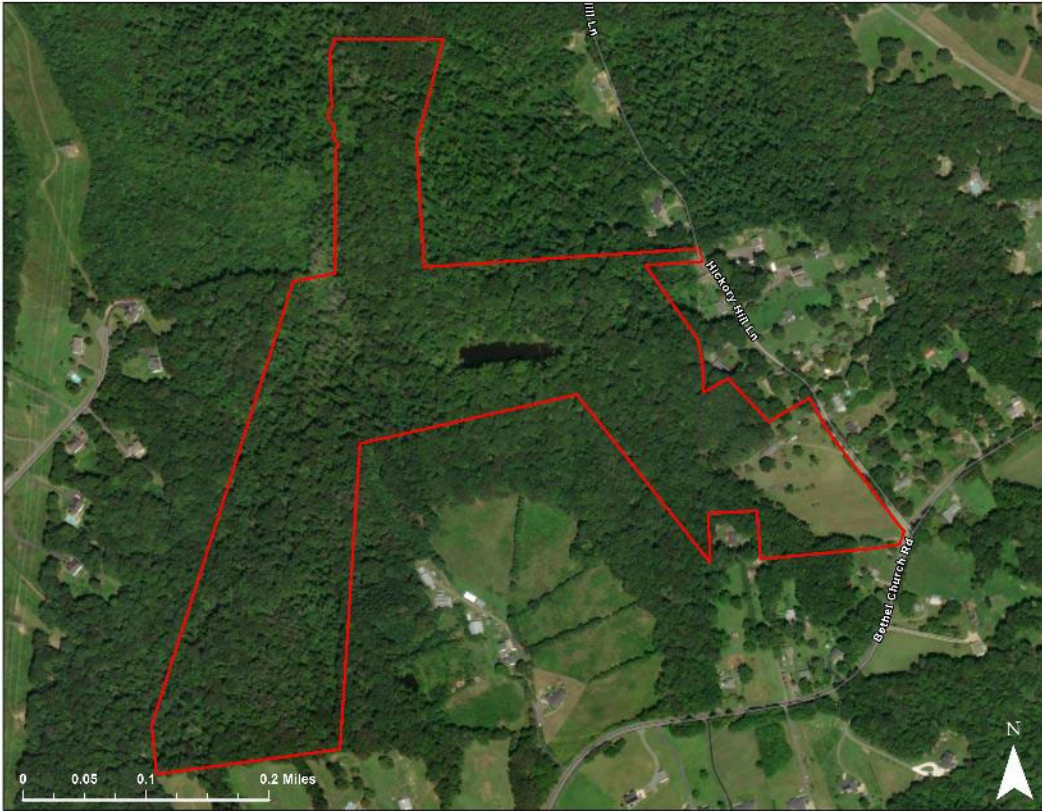
8. Stafford County – William Long Farm

Stafford County is requesting grant funds for the placement of an open-space easement on the William Long Farm. The easement will be held by Stafford County, under the County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. The property totals 69.25 acres and the primary land use is forest. The easement will protect 8.1 acres of soils of statewide importance; 60 acres of mixed forestland; and environmental features that include 4,950 linear feet of forested perennial streams with 100-foot-wide riparian buffers, 4.1 acres of wetlands, and a special flood hazard area. The property falls within an Ecological Core and has suitable habitat for T & E species and DWR species of Greatest Conservation. The property is adjacent to managed conserved lands under easement with Stafford County through the County PDR Program. The property is located along Bethel Church Road, a rural public road, providing visual access to the traveling public.

Total Project Cost: \$432,900. **Match:** Stafford County. **Grant Request:** \$216,450. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Stafford County – William Long Farm



ConserveVirginia: Stafford County – William Long Farm



9. Stafford County – Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm

Stafford County is seeking VLCF grant funds for the placement of an open-space easement on Bell Farm. The easement will be held by Stafford County, under the County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. The property totals 20 acres and the primary land use is pasture for livestock. The easement will protect 14.2 acres of prime farm soils and soils of statewide importance, and 1.3 acres of wetlands. The property is within 1/2 mile of managed conserved lands under easement with Old Dominion Land Conservancy. The property is located along Hollywood Farm Road, a rural public road, providing visual access to the traveling public.

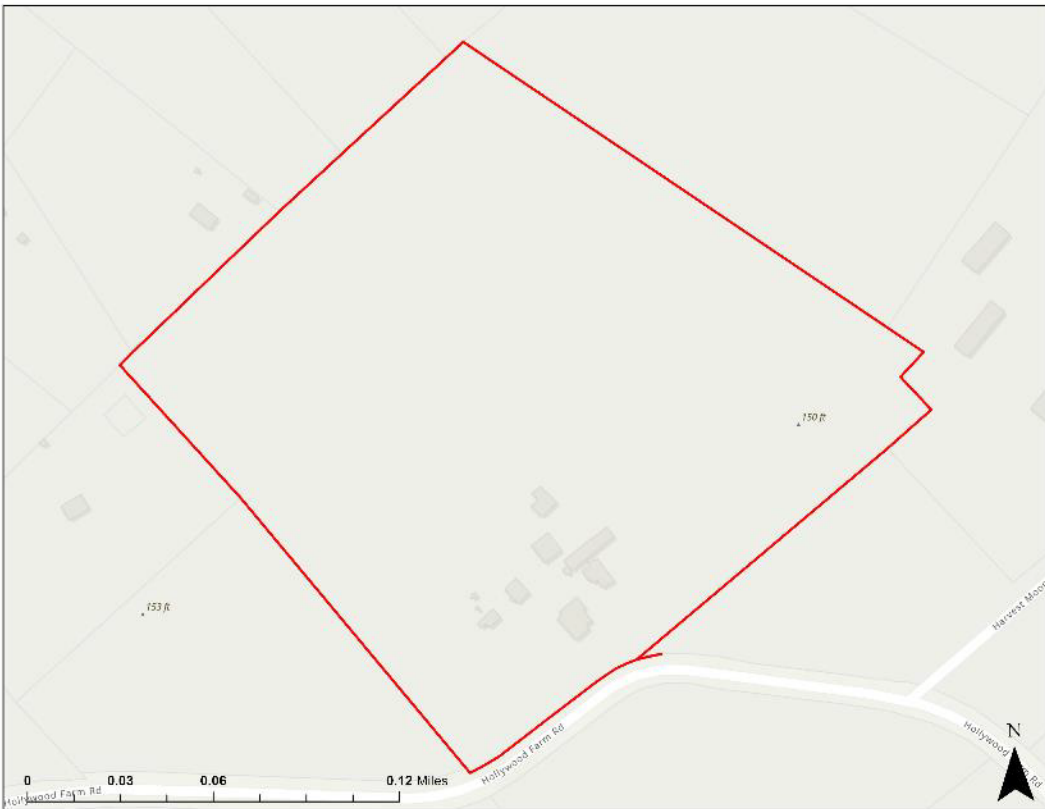
Total Project Cost: \$207,900. **Match:** Stafford County. **Grant Request:** \$103,950. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Stafford County – Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm



ConserveVirginia: Stafford County – Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm



10. Clarke County – Lilly Farm

Clarke County is requesting grant funds to help conserve Lilly Farm, 43 acres in west central Clarke County. The property is open, surrounded by other farmland, and its principal use is for agriculture as a beef cattle operation under a lease arrangement. The property is being actively farmed, contributing to the county’s agricultural economy, and is currently enrolled in land use value taxation. The landowner will retire the remaining division rights, keeping the parcel whole and limiting the parcel to one dwelling. The property is underlain by karst geology and protects the Madison Cave isopod (*Antrolana lira*, G2G4/S2/LT/LT), and is in an area where the County is seeking to add conserved land. The County Board of Supervisors, Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Piedmont Environmental Council are all partners in this easement purchase.

Total Project Cost: \$158,000. **Match:** VDACS, Clarke County, and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$75,250. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Clarke County – Lilly Farm



ConserveVirginia: Clarke County – Lilly Farm



11. Clarke County – Fansler Farm

The Fansler Farm consists of 88.95 acres located in southwest Clarke County, is actively farmed, and contributes to the local agricultural economy. The owner grazes cattle, grows corn, harvests hay, and has a forest management plan for approximately 21 acres of woodland. There are two small pond/wetland areas on the property. The land is enrolled in land use value taxation, located in one of the county's Agricultural-Forestal Districts, and is adjacent to other farms. The entire parcel is underlain by karst and has numerous sinkholes, intersecting the DCR predictive suitable habitat model for the Madison Cave Isopod. The applicant will retire development unit rights, limiting the parcel to one dwelling with no subdivision. The County Board of Supervisors, Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority, the Va. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Piedmont Environmental Council are partners in this project.

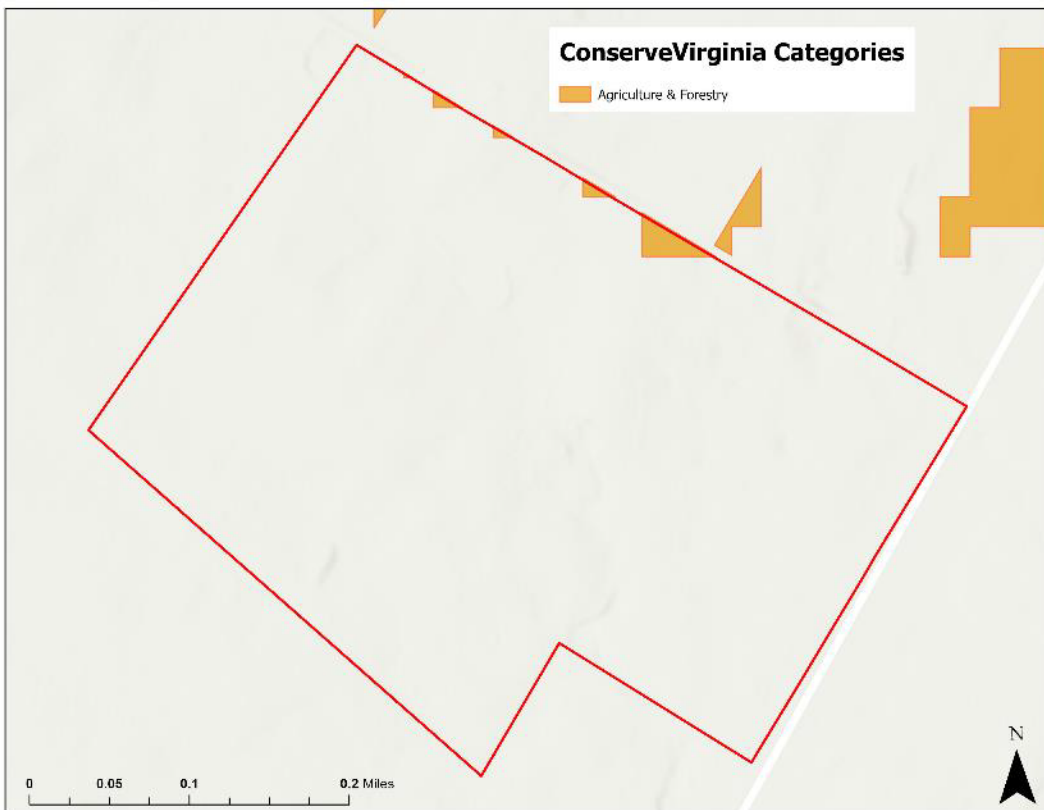
Total Project Cost: \$407,500. **Match:** VDACS, Clarke County, and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$200,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Clarke County – Fansler Farm



ConserveVirginia: Clarke County – Fansler Farm



12. Stafford County – Pagnotta Property

Stafford County is requesting VLCF funds to place an open-space easement on the Pagnotta Property. The easement will be held by Stafford County, under the County Purchase of Development Rights Program. The property totals 35.4 acres and the primary land use is forestland. The easement will protect 4.5 acres of soils of statewide importance; 35 acres of mixed forestland; and environmental features that include 1,750 linear feet of a forested perennial stream, and four acres of wetlands. The property falls within a DCR C4 (Moderate) Ecological Core. The property is approximately one-quarter mile from Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve.

Total Project Cost: \$106,900. **Match:** Stafford County. **Grant Request:** \$53,450. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Stafford County – Pagnotta Property

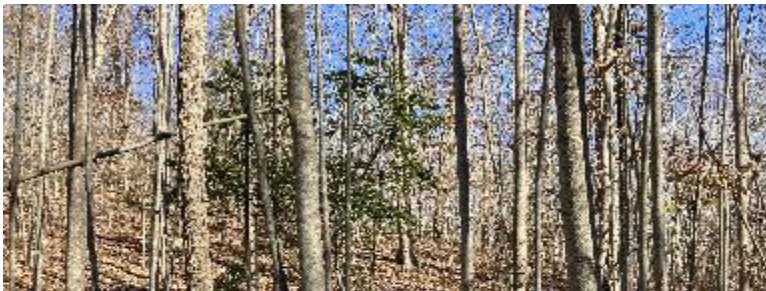


ConserveVirginia: Stafford County – Pagnotta Property

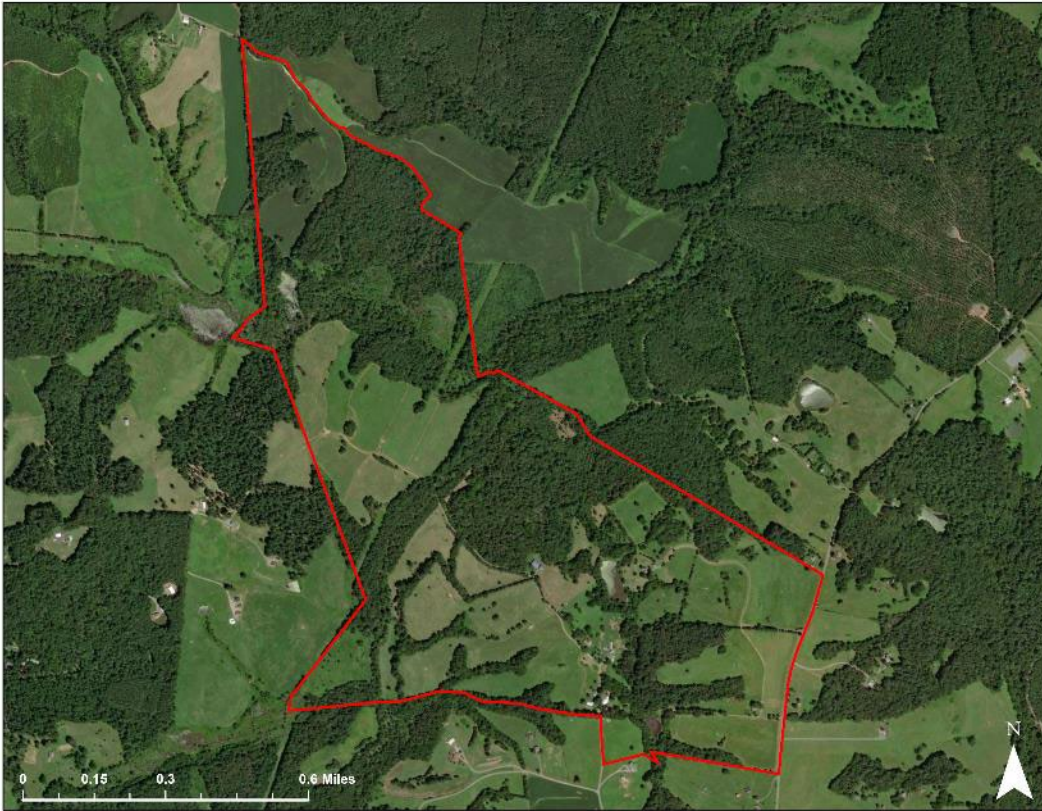


13. Stafford County – Schenemann Property

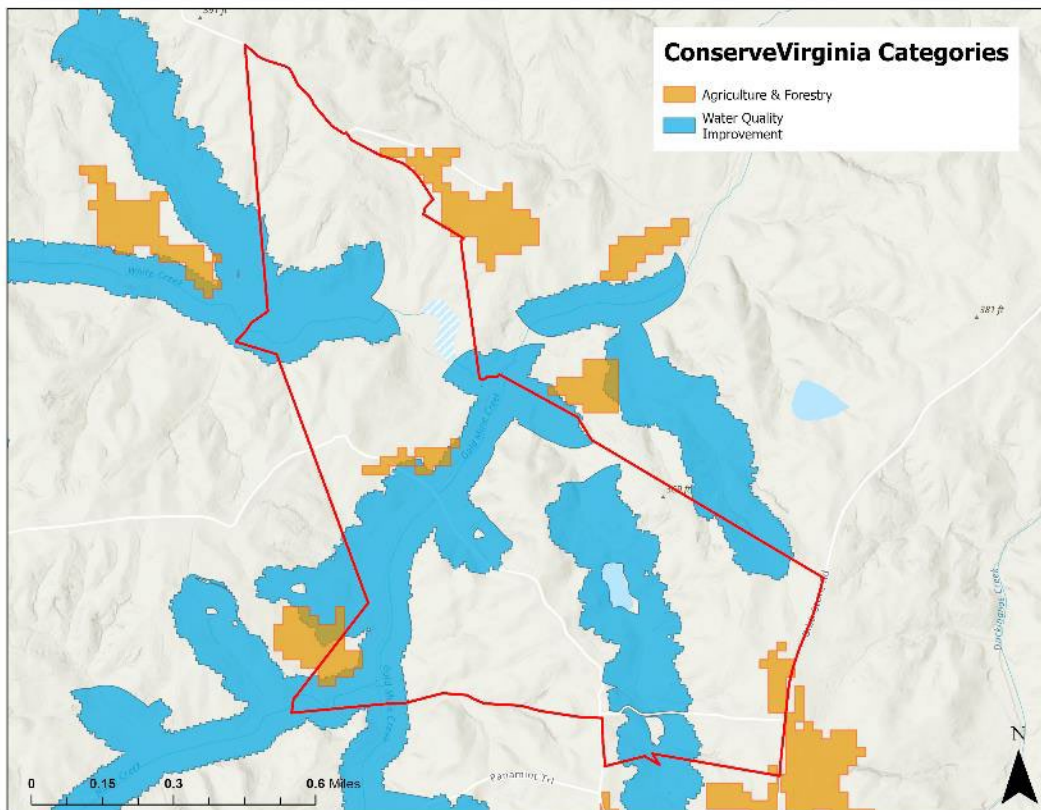
Stafford County is seeking VLCF grant funding to place an open-space easement on the 20-acre forested Schenemann Property. The easement will be held by Stafford County, under the County Purchase of Development Rights Program. The easement would limit subdivision allowing one dwelling, and protect 8.5 acres of prime farm soils; 20 acres of mixed forestland; and environmental features that include 90 linear feet of a forested perennial stream, and 1 acre of wetlands. The property falls within a DCR C4 (Moderate) Ecological Core. The property is approximately 0.6 miles from Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve and is located along Brooke Road, a rural public road, providing visual access to the traveling public. **Total Project Cost:** \$206,900. **Match:** Stafford County. **Grant Request:** \$103,450. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Stafford County – Schenemann Property



ConserveVirginia: Stafford County – Schenemann Property



II. Forestland Conservation Applications

Amount of funding available: \$2,400,000

1. The Nature Conservancy, Clinch Mountain, Pinnacle Rock; fee acquisition of 680 acres in Washington County; **total project cost:** \$1,134,500; **grant request:** \$567,250; **recommend:** \$567,250.
2. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources, Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative III; fee acquisition of 762 acres in Accomack County; **total project cost:** \$1,637,300; **grant request:** \$450,000; **recommend:** \$450,000 (\$441,300 from Forestland Conservation and \$8,700 from Open Spaces & Parks).
3. Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia, Acquiring Rappahannock Tribe's Ancestral Homelands Phase III; fee acquisition of 964 acres in Richmond County; **total project cost:** \$3,752,850; **grant request:** \$2,000,000; **recommend:** \$1,716,166 (\$450,000 from Forestland Conservation and \$1,266,166 from Historic Preservation).
4. Virginia Dept. of Forestry, Taylors Mill Farm Conservation Easement, Additional Funding; easement on 1,145 acres in Greensville County; **total project cost:** \$1,352,000; **grant request:** \$45,000; **recommend:** \$45,000.
5. Land Trust of Virginia, Huff Rock; easement on 660 acres in Wise County; **total project cost:** \$383,000; **grant request:** \$182,000; **recommend:** \$182,000.
6. Virginia Dept. of Forestry, Poplar Hollow Conservation Easement, Additional Funding; easement on 611 acres in Shenandoah County; **total project cost:** \$1,163,500; **grant request:** \$250,000; **recommend:** \$250,000.
7. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources, Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative II; fee acquisition on 476 acres in Accomack County; **total project cost:** \$1,081,150; **grant request:** \$300,000; **recommend:** \$300,000.
8. Virginia Dept. of Forestry, Southampton 900; easement on 900 acres in Southampton County; **total project cost:** \$1,603,500; **grant request:** \$750,000; **recommend:** \$164,450.
9. Virginia Dept. of Forestry, Madison 300 Conservation Easement; easement on 303 acres in Madison County; **total project cost:** \$963,000; **grant request:** \$400,000; **recommend:** \$0.

Forestland Conservation Totals: **acres:** 6,502; **project costs:** \$13,070,800; **requested:** \$4,944,250; **recommended:** \$3,674,866 (with \$1,266,166 from Historic Preservation and \$8,700 from Open Spaces & Parks).

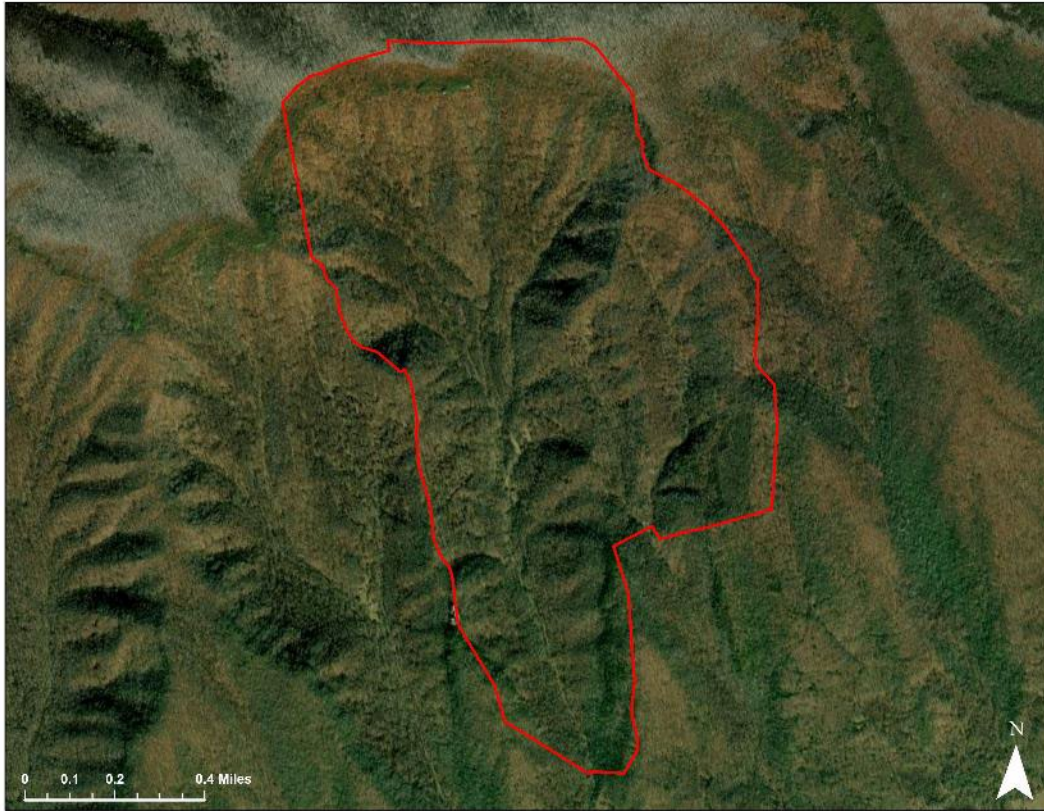
1. The Nature Conservancy – Clinch Mountain, Pinnacle Rock

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is seeking VLCF funding for the fee-simple purchase of 680 acres in the Brumley Gap Community of Washington County. This project is supported by the Department of Forestry and Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) and will provide daily public access. The property is predominantly covered by mixed Appalachian hardwood forests. Securing this property will provide protection and management that will halt the threats of additional fragmentation and unsustainable logging practices and enhance the condition of the land through improved forest management. This property shares over one mile of boundary with DWR's Hidden Valley Wildlife Management Area and its acquisition will contribute to the connectivity of more than 50,000 acres of forested land along the Clinch Mountain corridor. The property also contains the Pinnacle rock formation, that has high potential as an outdoor recreational feature. This project will protect nearly five miles of the Brumley Creek headwaters by the establishment of 100-foot riparian buffers. In addition to forest management, TNC will initiate planning for outdoor recreation, including hiking trail development and community stewardship. The objective of the community engagement will be to grow community volunteerism, ownership, and appreciation for the Clinch Mountain.

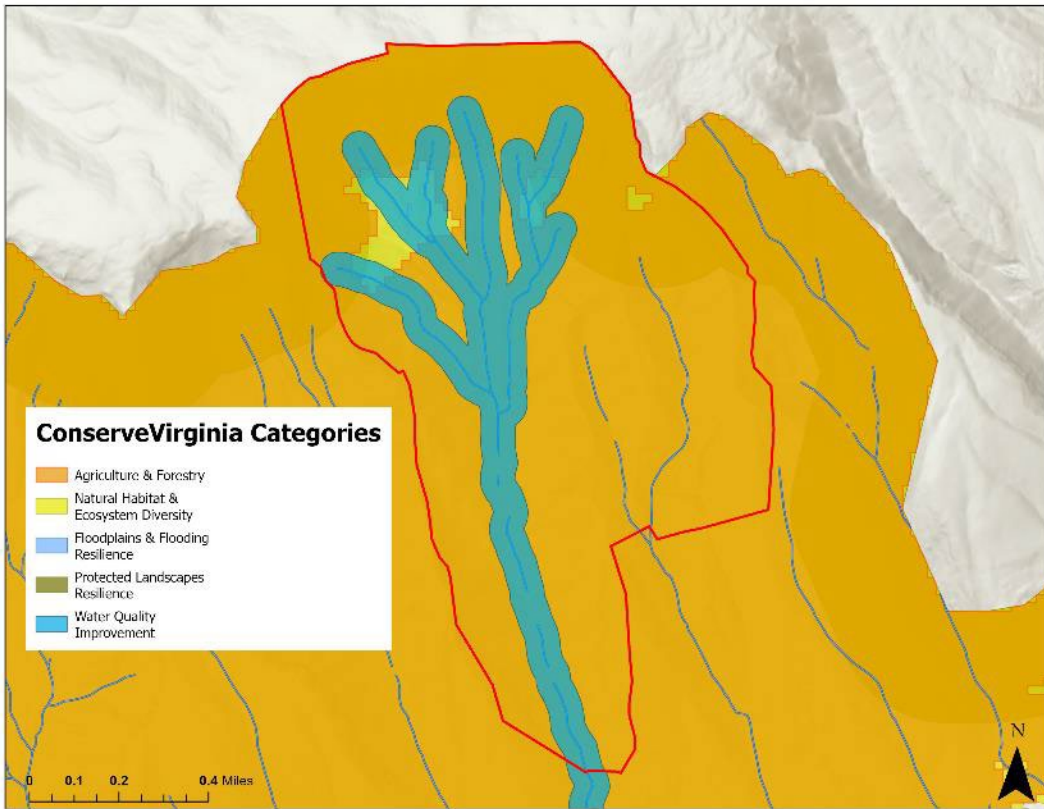
Total Project Cost: \$1,134,500. **Match:** The Nature Conservancy. **Grant Request:** \$567,250.
Recommended amount: \$567,250.



Aerial: The Nature Conservancy – Clinch Mountain, Pinnacle Rock



ConserveVirginia: The Nature Conservancy – Clinch Mountain, Pinnacle Rock



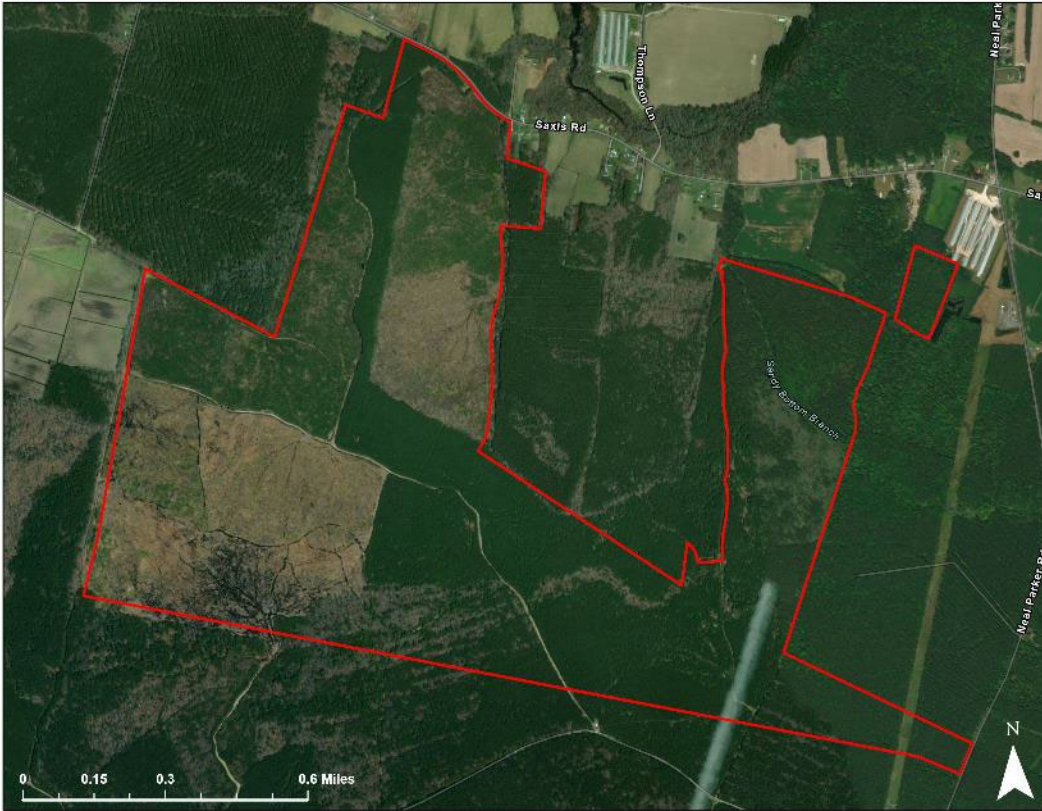
2. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative III

VLCF funding is requested to assist the Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) in acquiring, conserving, and improving 762 acres of forestland in Accomack County. This project complements a recently-completed VLCF-funded initiative to purchase 8,800 acres on the Eastern Shore. This fee-simple acquisition presents opportunities to facilitate natural marsh migration, support coastal resiliency, provide new public lands for wildlife-related recreation, and, importantly, improve habitat for migratory birds and species of greatest conservation need in an area of hemispheric importance. The lack of sufficient food and shelter in the Virginia portion creates an energy deficit for birds attempting to cross the Chesapeake Bay and continue southward migration. The DWR's purchase of this property will allow for strategic and targeted forest habitat improvements to facilitate marsh migration into this site. The addition of this acreage to the public land portfolio provides for daily public access to wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, hiking, and more.

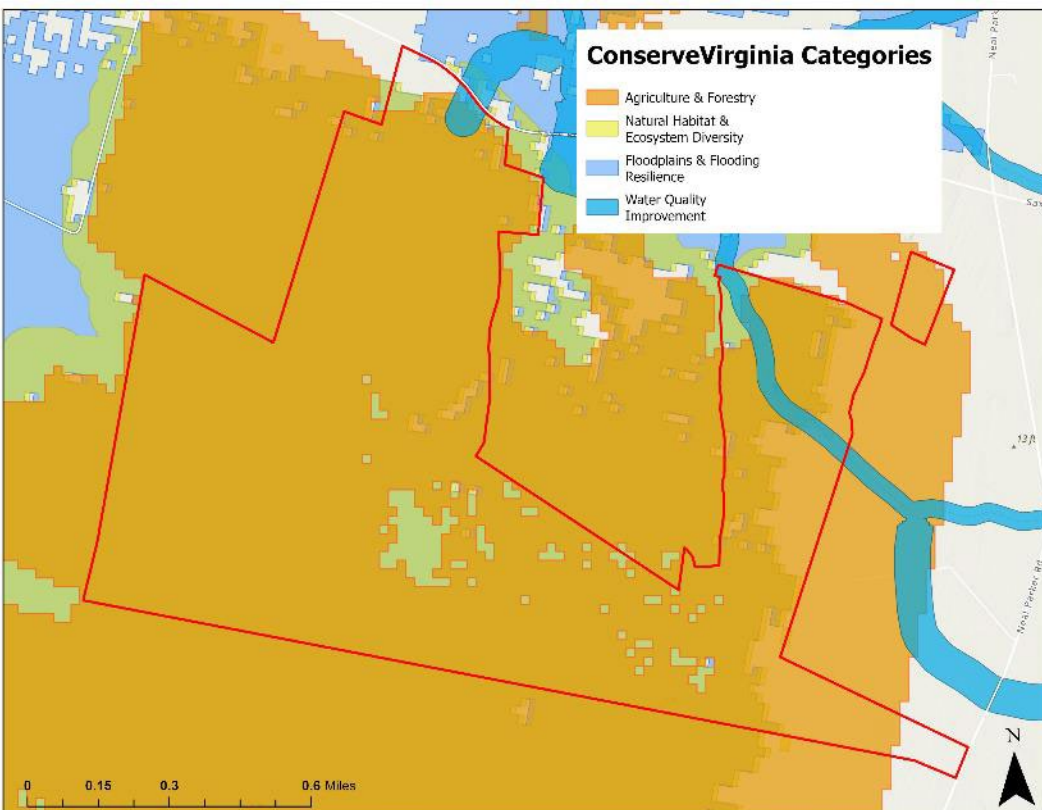
Total Project Cost: \$1,637,300. **Match:** Federal Wildlife Restoration grant program. **Grant Request:** \$450,000. **Recommended amount:** \$450,000 (\$441,300 from Forestland Conservation funds and \$8,700 from Open Spaces & Parks funds).



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative III



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative III



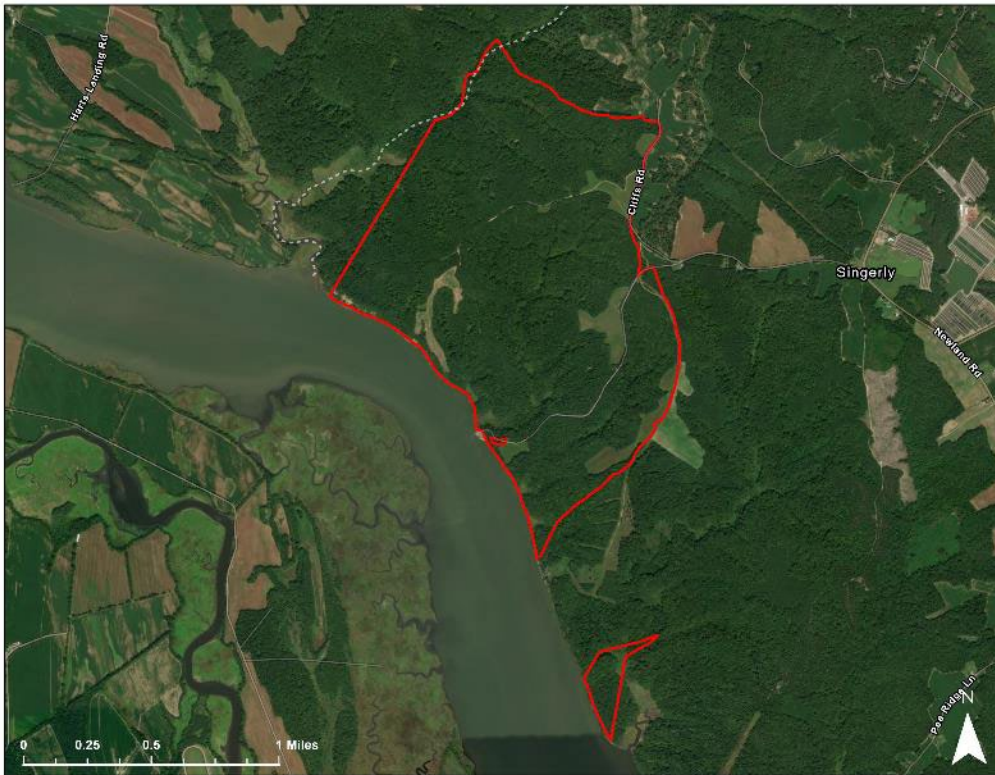
3. Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia – Acquiring Rappahannock Tribe’s Ancestral Homelands Phase III

The Rappahannock Tribe is seeking to acquire 964 acres of ancestral homelands on the Rappahannock River at Fones Cliffs (Phase III) to conserve it as a natural area and use it for educational purposes befitting the Tribe and the public. The Conservation Fund purchased the property, which the former owner had rezoned as a golf course community, and will convey a conservation easement to the US Fish and Wildlife Service and fee title to the Tribe. The property contains a mile of river frontage and is the largest of the remaining unprotected riverfront ownerships within the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge boundary. This project will create 2,454 acres of contiguous conserved habitat along three miles of riverfront, within a high priority Refuge focus area. The forested areas of the property are an example of Northern Coastal Plain/Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest. The tract is immediately adjacent to property owned by the Refuge, which is in turn adjacent to Phases I and II of the Tribe’s project.

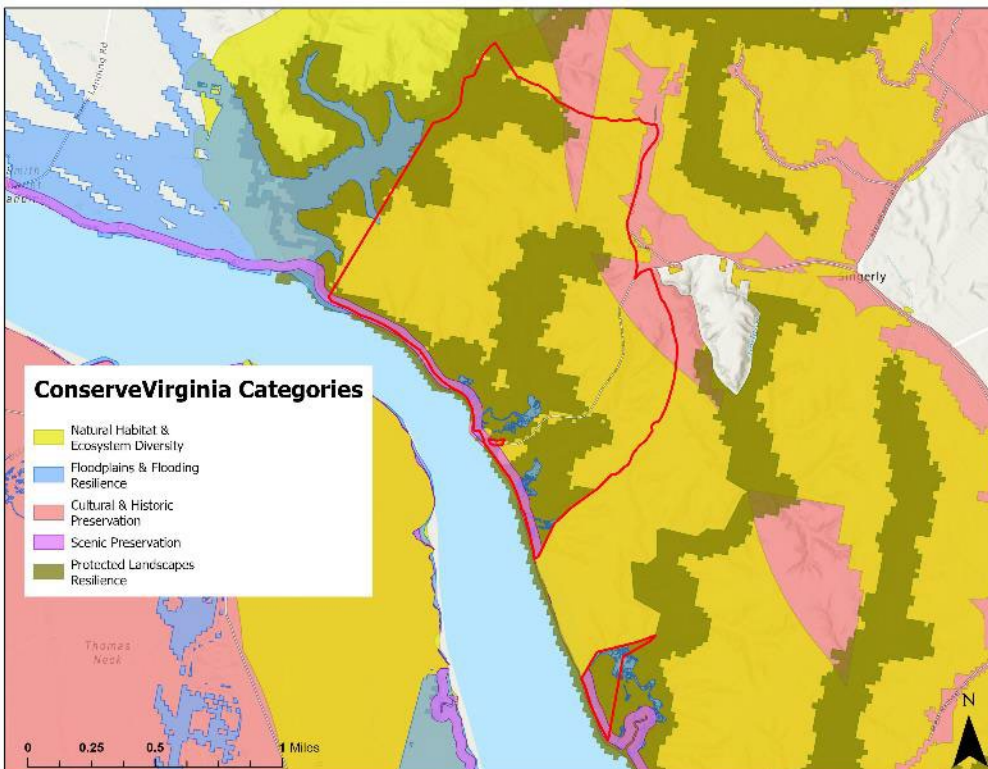
Total Project Cost: \$3,752,850. **Match:** National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, a private Richmond foundation, and Bureau of Indian Affairs. **Grant Request:** \$2,000,000. **Recommended amount:** \$1,716,166 (\$450,000 from Forestland Conservation and \$1,266,166 from Historic Preservation).



Aerial: Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia – Acquiring Rappahannock Tribe’s Ancestral Homelands



ConserveVirginia: Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia – Acquiring Rappahannock Tribe’s Ancestral Homelands



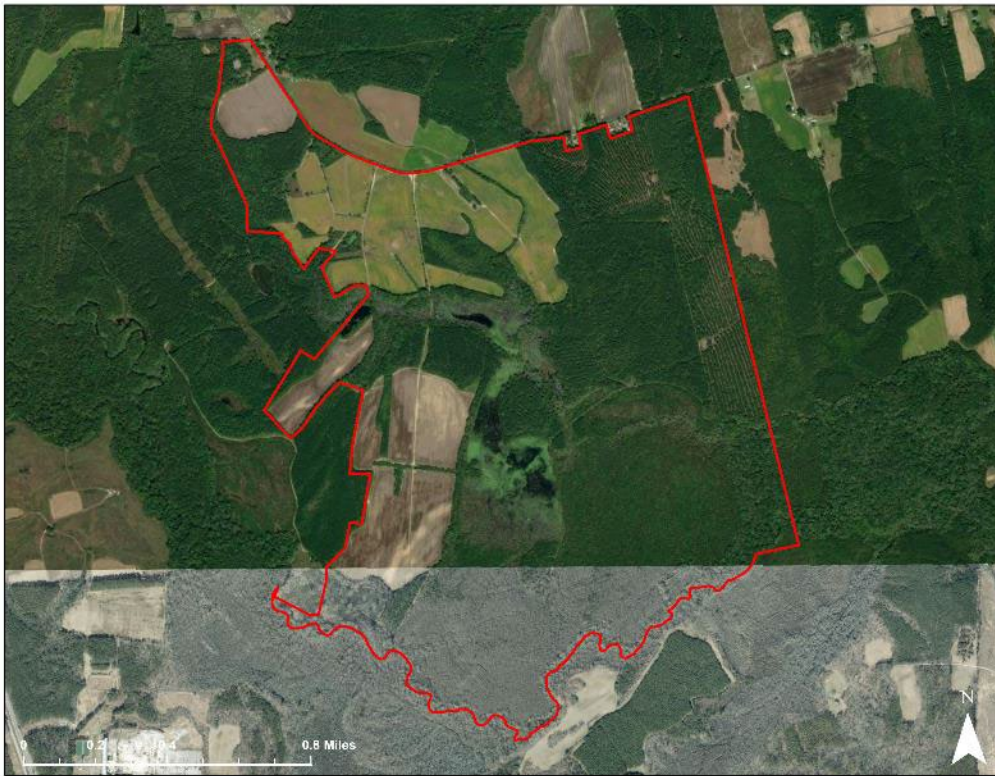
4. Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Taylors Mill Farm Conservation Easement, Additional Funding

The Taylors Mill Farm project received a VLCF grant in FY23 for \$400,000 and DOF is requesting additional funds to cover the unexpected higher cost of the required boundary survey due to the difficult terrain, lack of any prior survey, and limited number of bidders willing to undertake the work. The property is a family-owned farm that lies on the boundary of Fountains Creek, southeast of Emporia in Greenville County. This property is approximately 1,145 acres, of which 860 acres are forested with high conservation value forest (FCV 4/5). The property contains nearly seven miles of perennial and intermittent streams, and 640 acres of wetlands. Approximately 285 acres are in tillable farmland, the majority of which is Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance. Additionally, an Ecological Core is ranked C1 (Outstanding).

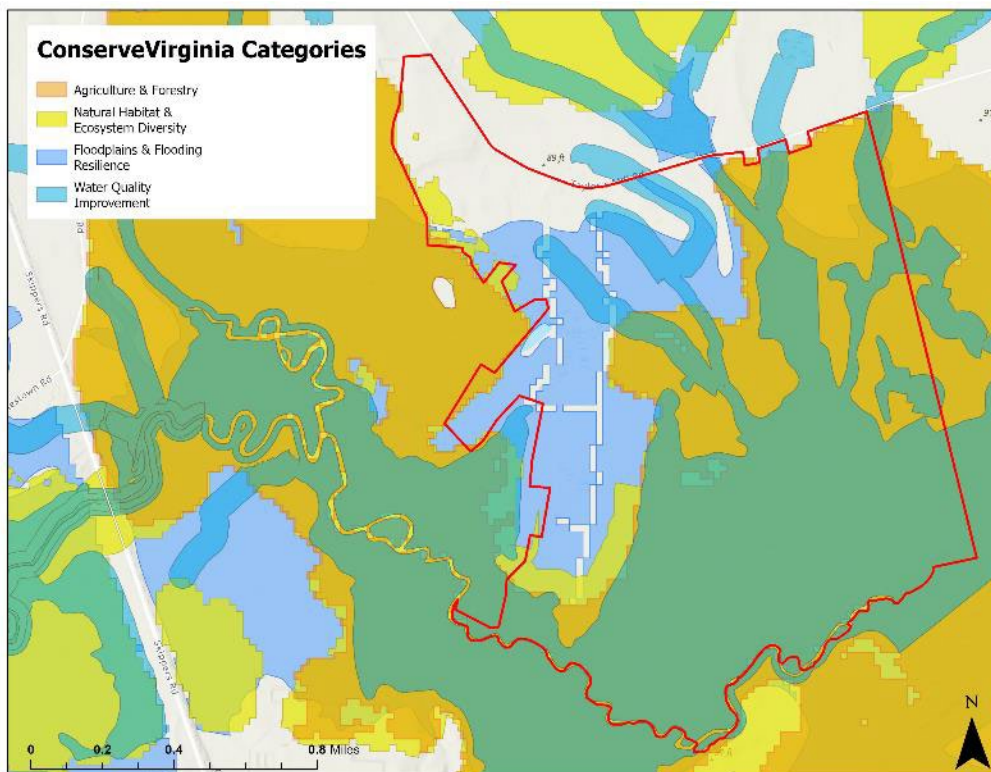
Total Project Cost: \$1,352,000; **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$45,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$45,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Taylors Mill Farm Conservation Easement, Additional Funding



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Taylors Mill Farm Conservation Easement, Additional Funding



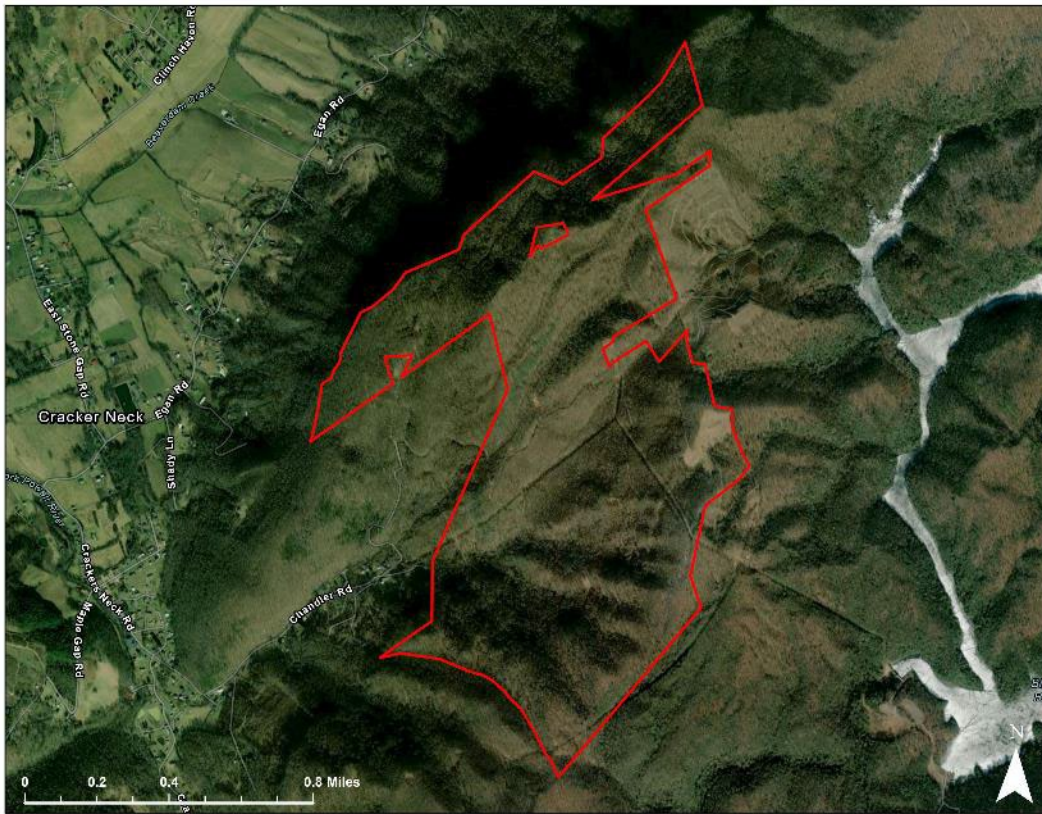
5. Land Trust of Virginia – Huff Rock

Land Trust of Virginia (LTV) is seeking VLCF funds to assist with placing a conservation easement on the 662-acre Huff Rock property located in Wise County six miles east of Big Stone Gap. The property is on Powell Mountain, which forms the eastern border of the Powell River Valley and is part of the High Knob Massif. Huff Rock contains numerous conservation values including: "Outstanding" Forest Conservation Value, a large amount of sensitive mountainside soils, 1.6 miles of perennial streams, "Outstanding" ecological core value, and potential endangered/threatened species. Additionally, the property is contiguous to the Big Cherry Reservoir, the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest, and a property conserved by the Cave Conservancy of Virginia. The property contains incredible geologic formations, such as cave portals that connect to the cave system of the adjacent protected property, and mountain top rock formations, such as the one known as "Huff Rock". A conservation easement on the property will be co-held by LTV and the Lonesome Pine Soil and Water Conservation District.

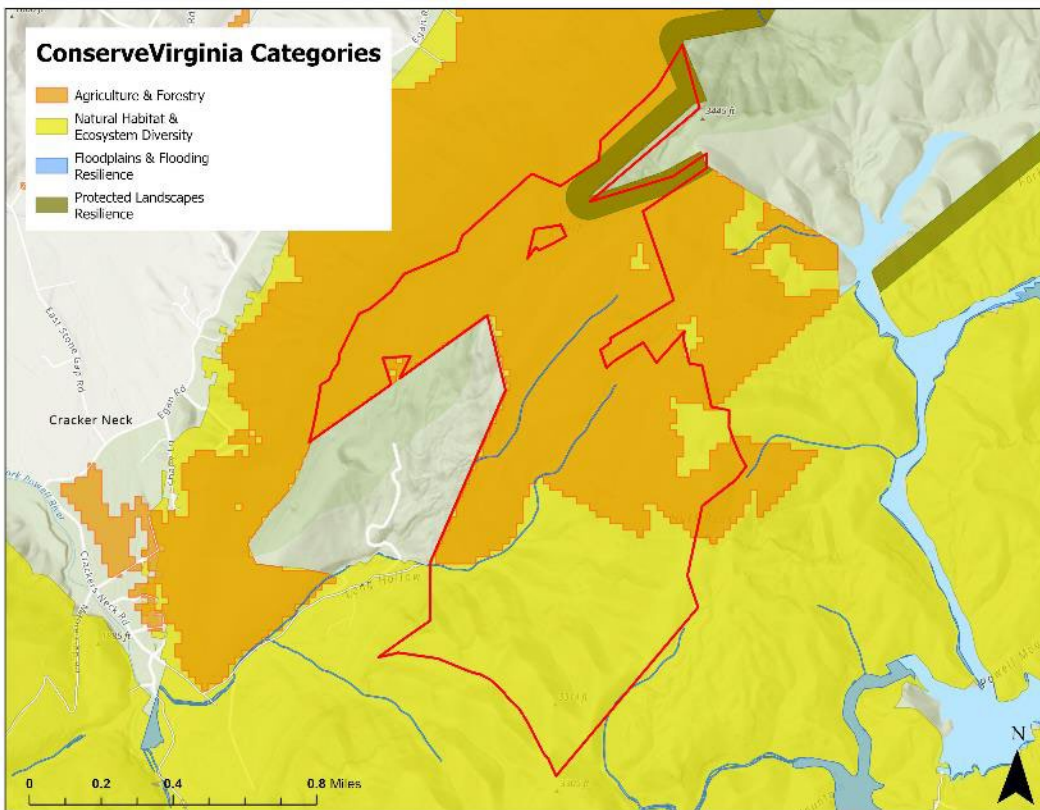
Total Project Cost: \$383,000; **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$182,000; **Recommended Amount:** \$182,000.



Aerial: Land Trust of Virginia – Huff Rock



ConserveVirginia: Land Trust of Virginia – Huff Rock



6. Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Poplar Hollow Conservation Easement, Additional Funding

The Poplar Hollow project received a VLCF grant for \$300,000 in FY22. DOF is seeking additional funds to supplement the prior grant award due to a pre-appraisal showing an easement value of \$1,100,000. Adding \$250,000 to the existing award would bring the total funding to 50% of the value of the easement. The remainder of the easement value will be a landowner donation. DOF will hold an easement on the 611-acre property in Shenandoah County containing High Conservation Value Forest. This forest is part of an Ecological Core that primarily scores C2 (very high). The property is within the Cedar Creek Stream Conservation Unit and adjoins the Devil's Backbone State Forest. Buffering state-owned forestlands preserves a conducive setting for forest management. It also reduces ecological edge effects, helping to protect core forests from invasive species, as well as maintaining large blocks of continuous habitat for wildlife. A DOF easement will ensure the permanent conservation of the high-quality forest canopy which contributes to habitat for state-threatened species and provides water quality protections to the streams.

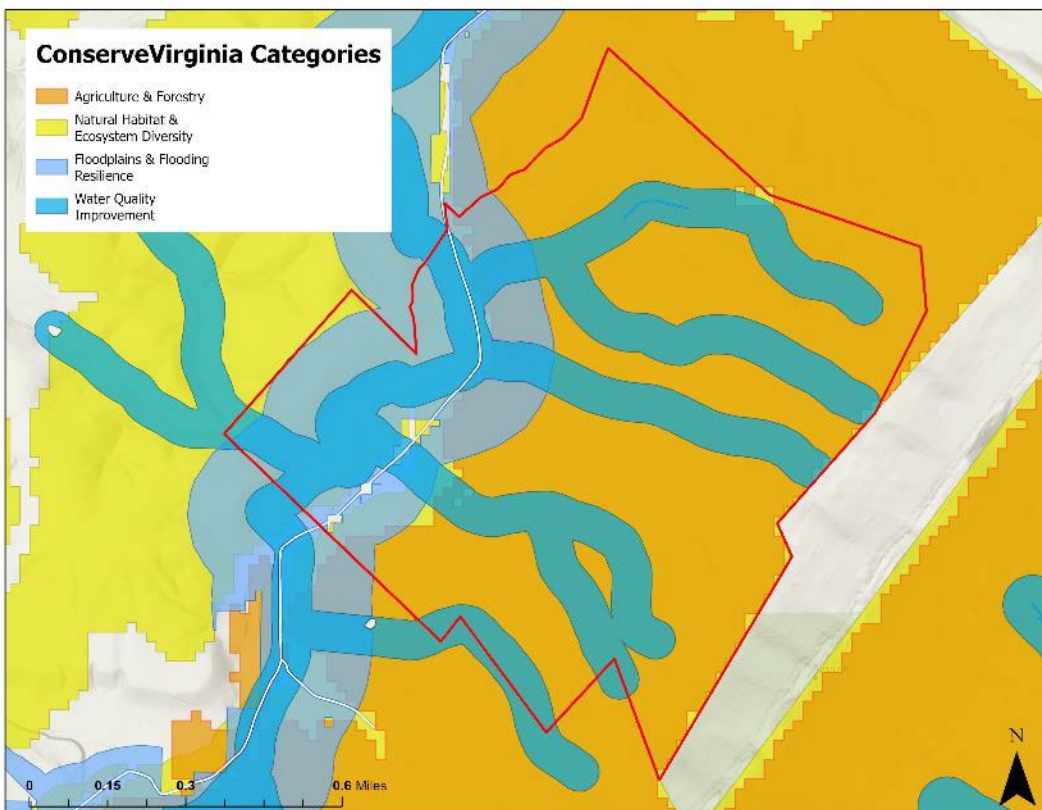
Total Project Cost: \$1,163,500; **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$250,000;
Recommended Amount: \$250,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Poplar Hollow Conservation Easement, Additional Funding



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Poplar Hollow Conservation Easement, Additional Funding



7. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative II

This funding request From DWR is for the acquisition, conservation, and improvement of 476 acres of forestland in Accomack County to complement a recently completed VLCF-funded initiative to purchase 8,800 acres on the Eastern Shore. These properties tie together three disjunct properties that the DWR currently owns, consolidating ownership and removing complicated boundary and access issues. This fee-simple acquisition presents opportunities to facilitate natural marsh migration, support coastal resiliency, provide new public lands for wildlife-related recreation, and, importantly, improve habitat for migratory birds and species of greatest conservation need in an area of hemispheric importance. The lack of sufficient food and shelter in the Virginia portion creates an energy deficit for birds attempting to cross the Chesapeake Bay and continue southward migration. Changes in population demographics and industrial agriculture in the area, along with loss of existing natural habitats, are additional stressors on wildlife. The addition of this acreage to the public land portfolio will provide for daily public access for wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, hiking, and more.

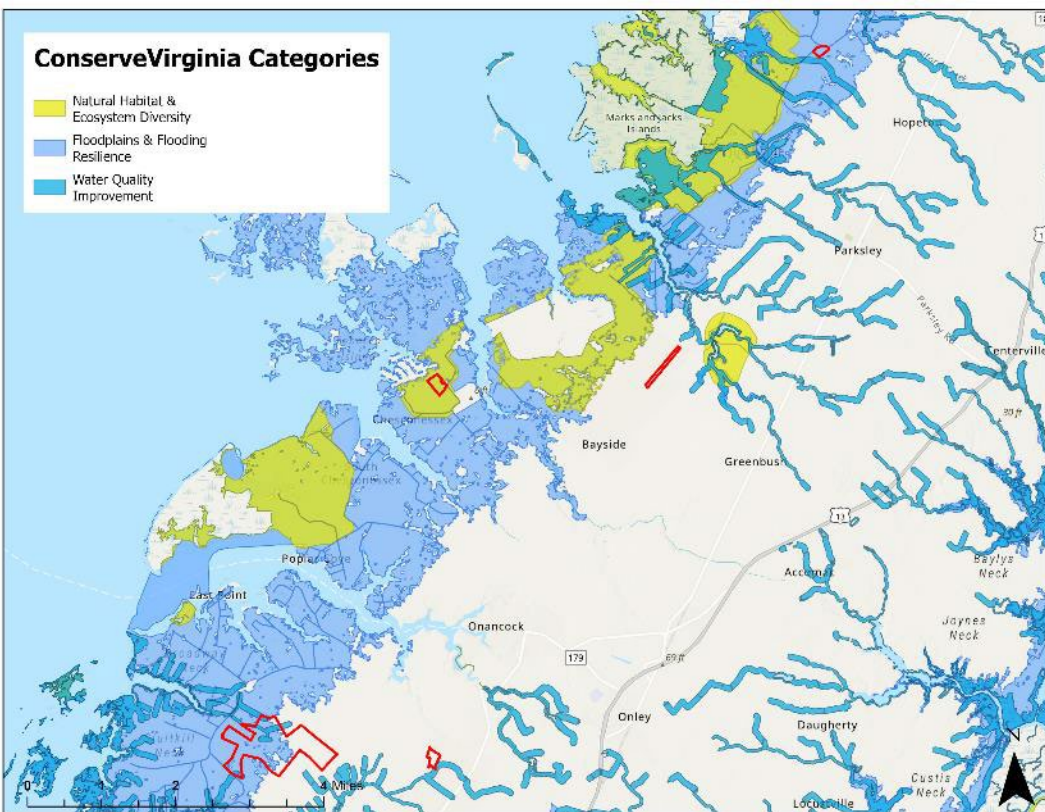
Total Project Cost: \$1,081,150; **Match:** Federal Wildlife Restoration Grant award. **Grant Request:** \$300,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$300,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources - Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative II



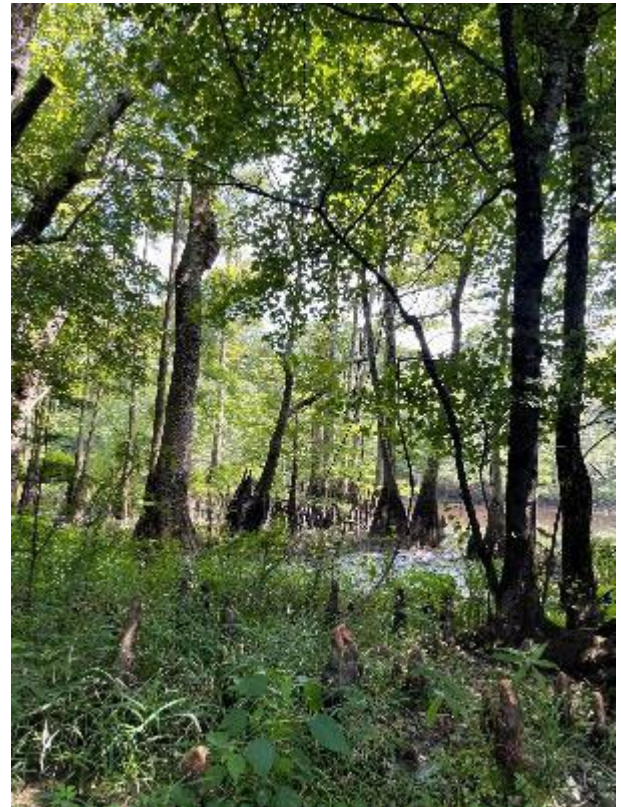
ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources - Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative II



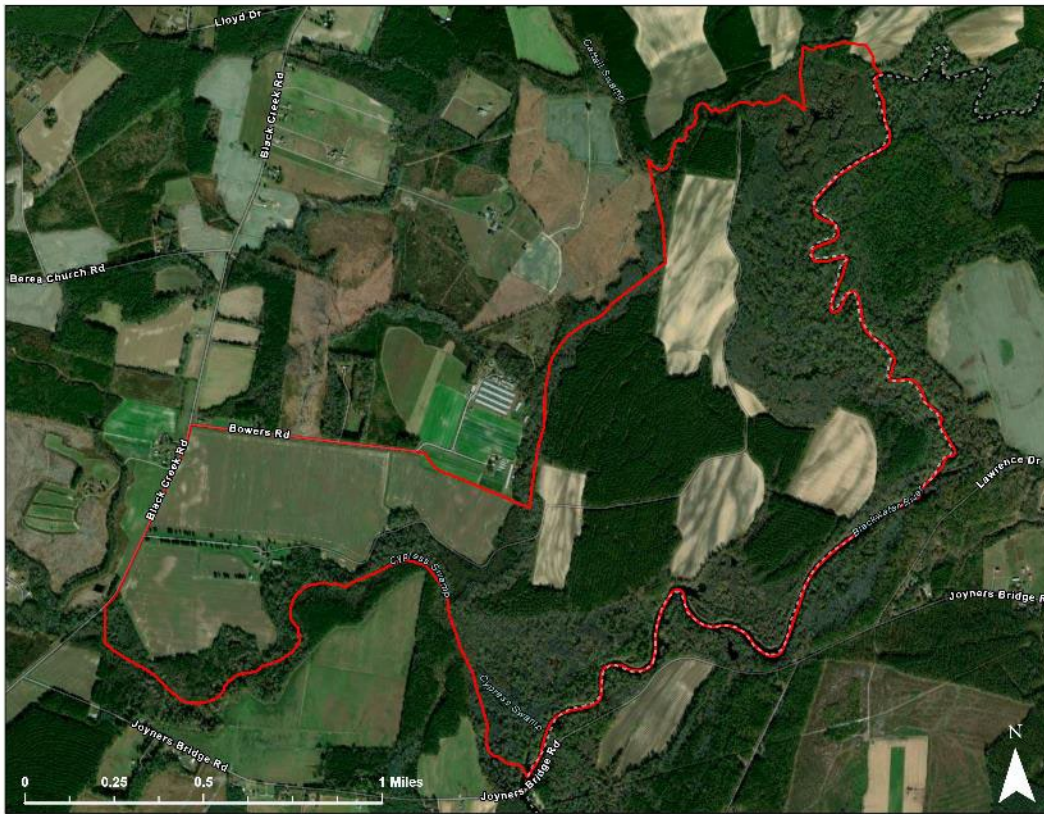
8. Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Southampton 900

The Southampton 900 tract makes up 900 acres of a larger 1,200 privately-owned property. The property has approximately 371 acres of riverfront wetlands and 3.57 miles of State Scenic Blackwater River frontage. The Department of Forestry is seeking a VLCF grant to conserve the property’s working forestlands. The bottomland forests along the Blackwater River are within areas designated by DCR's Virginia Natural Landscape Assessment (VaNLA) as ecological cores ranked C2 (Very High), with other forested areas on the property designated as C4 (Moderate) and C5 (General). ConserveVirginia indicates that the Blackwater River, Cattail Swamp, Black Creek, and Cypress Swamp and unnamed tributaries are important for Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Water Quality Improvement, Scenic Preservation, and Floodplains and Flooding Resilience. The easement will require 100-foot forested buffers along the main stem of the river.

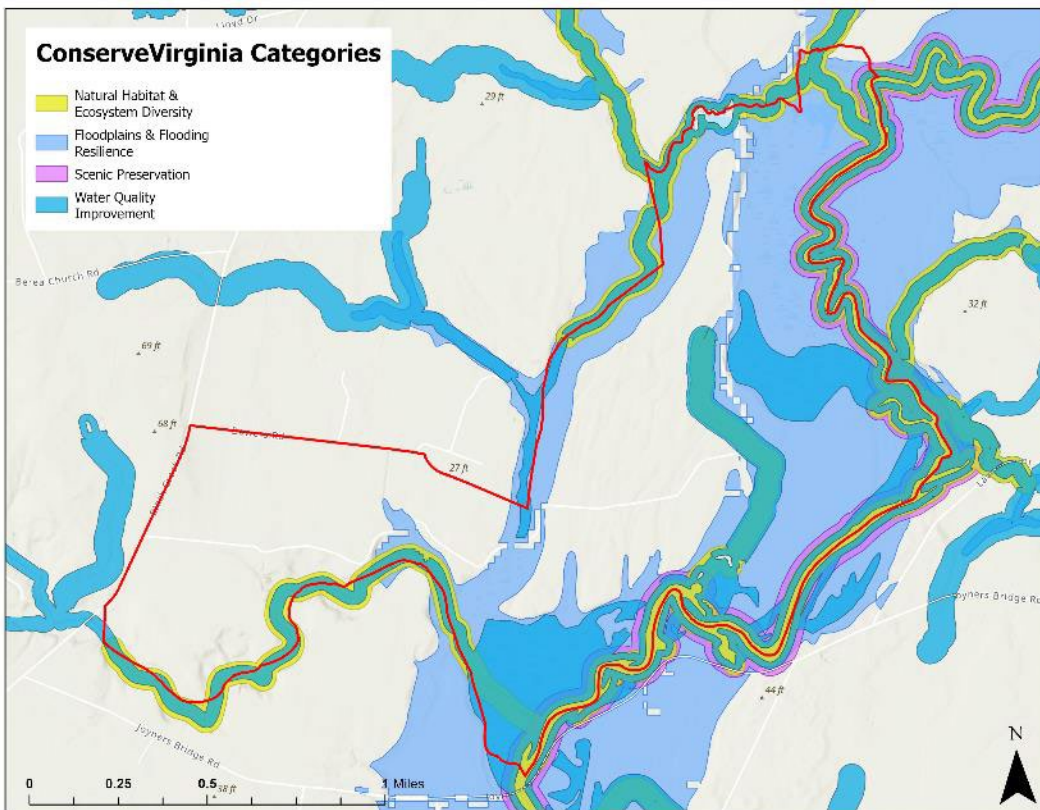
Total Project Cost: \$1,603,500; **Match:** Enviva Conservation Fund and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$750,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$164,450.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Southampton 900



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Southampton 900



9. Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Madison 300 Conservation Easement

Virginia Dept. of Forestry is seeking funds to place an easement on a 303-acre property in Madison County. The property contains 245 acres of Piedmont Oak/Hickory Forest, potential diabase woodland soils and low elevation outcrop barrens, and multiple species of greatest conservation need. The tract supports ConserveVirginia through the Water Quality Improvement category, and broad conservation goals through protection of prime farmlands, a Forest Conservation Value of 4 (very high) for forest lands, and an eco-core of C3 (high) on the majority of the site. The conservation of this property will provide continuity for wildlife and other conservation purposes because of its adjacency to a large block of other private lands that are under conservation.

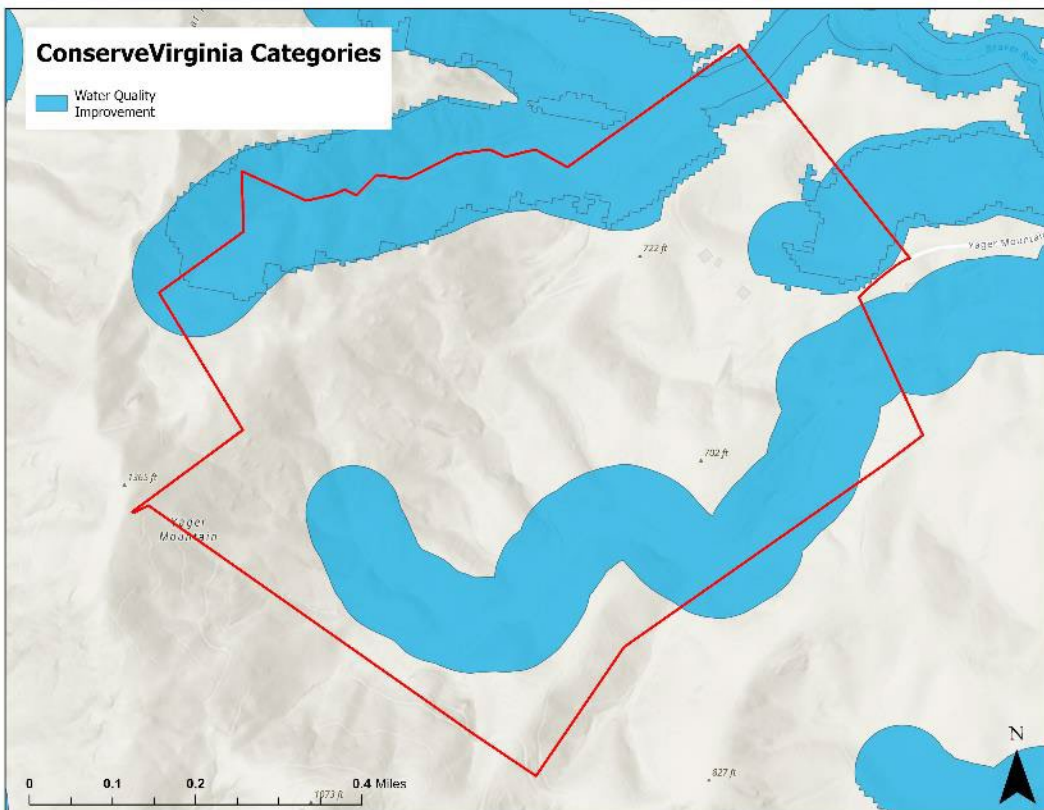
Total Project Cost: \$963,000. **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$400,000.
Recommended Amount: \$0.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Madison 300 Conservation Easement



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Forestry – Madison 300 Conservation Easement



III. Historic Area Preservation Applications

Amount of funding available: \$2,711,245

1. American Battlefield Trust; Whitby Tract at Second Deep Bottom Battlefield; fee acquisition of 8.87 acres in Henrico County; **total project cost: \$605,615; grant request: \$300,215; recommend: \$300,215.**
2. American Battlefield Trust; Welch-Penden Tract at Glendale Battlefield; fee acquisition of 12.46 acres in Henrico County; **total project cost: \$441,550; grant request: \$219,433; recommend: \$219,433.**
3. American Battlefield Trust; Brandy Rock Farm I Tract at Brandy Station Battlefield; an easement on 100 acres in Culpeper County; **total project cost: \$1,048,255; grant request: \$271,660; recommend: \$271,660.**
4. Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation; Stanley Hall at New Market Battlefield; fee acquisition of 9.54 acres in Shenandoah County; **total project cost: \$607,543; grant request: \$303,771; recommend: \$303,771.**
5. Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation; French Tract at Fisher's Hill Battlefield; fee acquisition of 146 acres in Shenandoah County; **total project cost: \$1,648,518; grant request: \$350,000; recommend: \$350,000.**

Historic Area Preservation Totals: acres: 277: project costs: \$4,351,481; recommend: \$1,445,079.

*Remaining Historic Preservation funds: \$1,266,166 are recommended for the Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia project in the Forestland Conservation category.

1. American Battlefield Trust – Whitby Tract at Second Deep Bottom Battlefield

The Trust seeks to preserve the 8.87-acre Whitby Tract in Henrico County via fee acquisition and the recordation of an open-space easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The tract is located entirely within the Core Area of the Second Deep Bottom Battlefield, a Priority I.3 (Class B) battlefield as defined by the 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields. The topography of this four-parcel tract is level and its natural features include 8 acres of woods. The property also includes 600 feet of undocumented earthworks. Following acquisition, the Trust intends to steward the tract until the easement is recorded; the Trust will then demolish the non-historic structures if required by DHR, install interpretive signage (if funding permits), and offer periodic tours. Eventually, the Trust may transfer the property to a conservation partner for long-term stewardship.

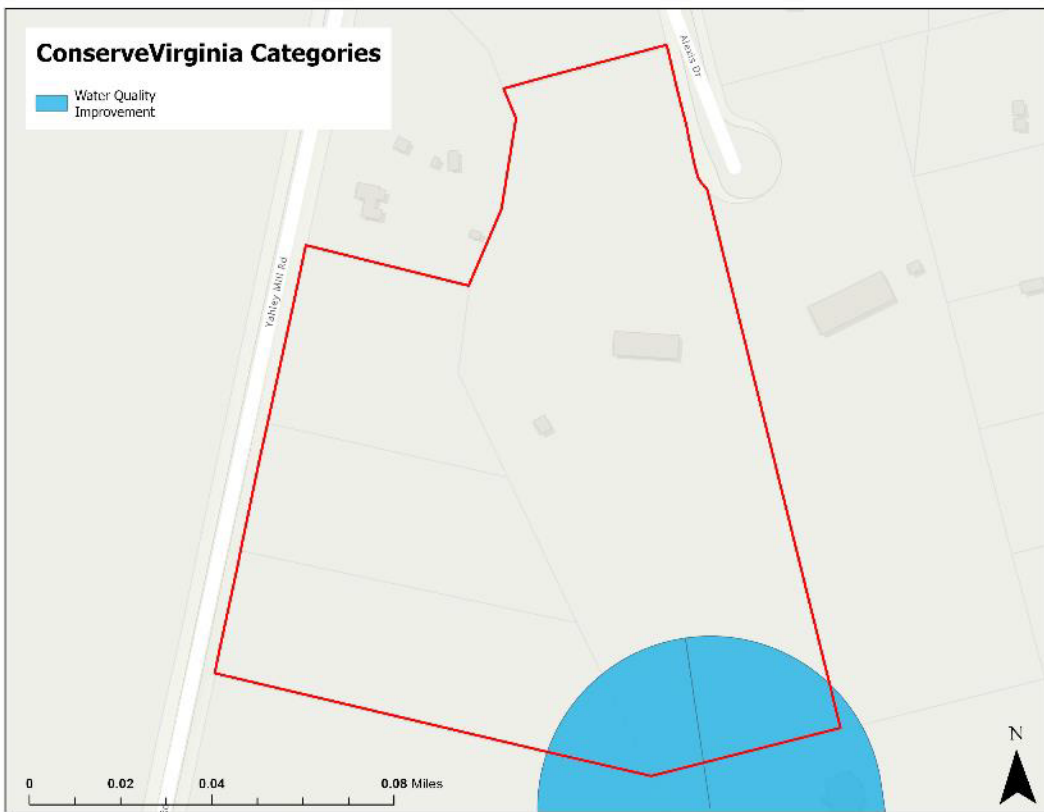
Total Project Cost: \$605,615; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program and American Battlefield Trust; **Grant Request:** \$300,215; **Recommended Amount:** \$300,215.



Aerial: American Battlefield Trust – Whitby Tract at Second Deep Bottom Battlefield



ConserveVirginia: American Battlefield Trust – Whitby Tract at Second Deep Bottom Battlefield



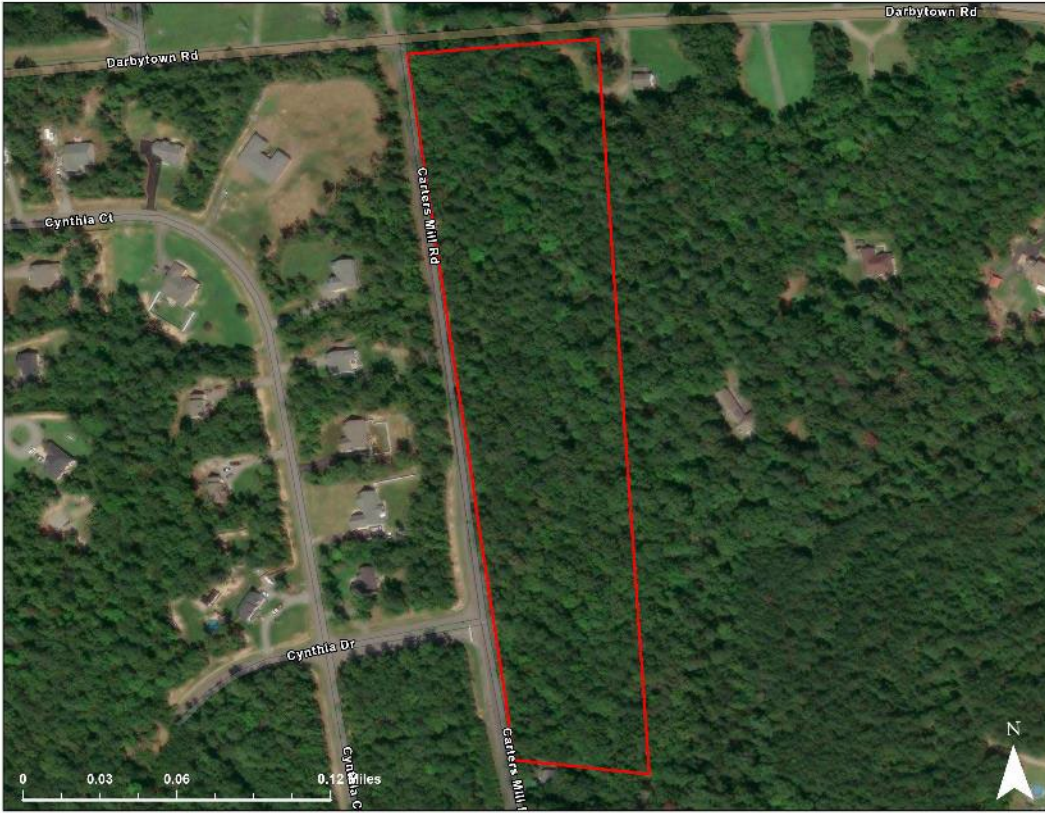
2. American Battlefield Trust – Welch-Penden Tract at Glendale Battlefield

The Trust seeks to preserve the 12.46-acre Welch-Penden Tract in Henrico County via fee acquisition and the recordation of an open-space easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The Welch-Penden Tract is located entirely within the Core Area of the Glendale Battlefield, a Priority I.3 (Class B) battlefield as defined by the 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields. The Welch-Penden Tract consists of two unimproved contiguous parcels at the southwest corner of Carters Mill Road and Darbytown Road. The property is fully wooded and undulating in topography. Following acquisition, the Trust intends to steward the Welch-Penden Tract until the easement is recorded. The Trust will then install interpretive signage (if funding permits) and offer periodic tours upon request. Eventually, the Trust may transfer the property to a conservation partner for long-term stewardship.

Total Project Cost: \$441,550; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Grant Request:** \$219,433; **Recommended Amount:** \$219,433.



Aerial: American Battlefield Trust – Welch-Penden Tract at Glendale Battlefield



ConserveVirginia: American Battlefield Trust – Welch-Penden Tract at Glendale Battlefield



3. American Battlefield Trust – Brandy Rock Farm I Tract at Brandy Station Battlefield

The Trust seeks to preserve the 100-acre Brandy Rock Farm I Tract in Culpeper County via an open-space easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The Brandy Rock Farm I Tract is unimproved and located entirely within the Core area of the Brandy Station Battlefield, a Priority I.3 (Class B) battlefield as defined by the 1993 Civil War Sites Advisory Commission Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields. The Brandy Rock Farm I Tract is part of a larger 539-acre tract that is currently in active agricultural use. The subject property includes 82 acres of open farming area, 9 acres of woods, 0.58 acres of freshwater emergent wetlands, and 1,084 feet of unnamed intermittent streams. Working with the landowner (who will retain fee simple ownership), the Trust will execute and record an easement that maintains the tract's agricultural productivity, preserves its natural and historic resources, and protects the viewsheds of both the Brandy Station Battlefield and the nearby Culpeper Battlefields State Park.

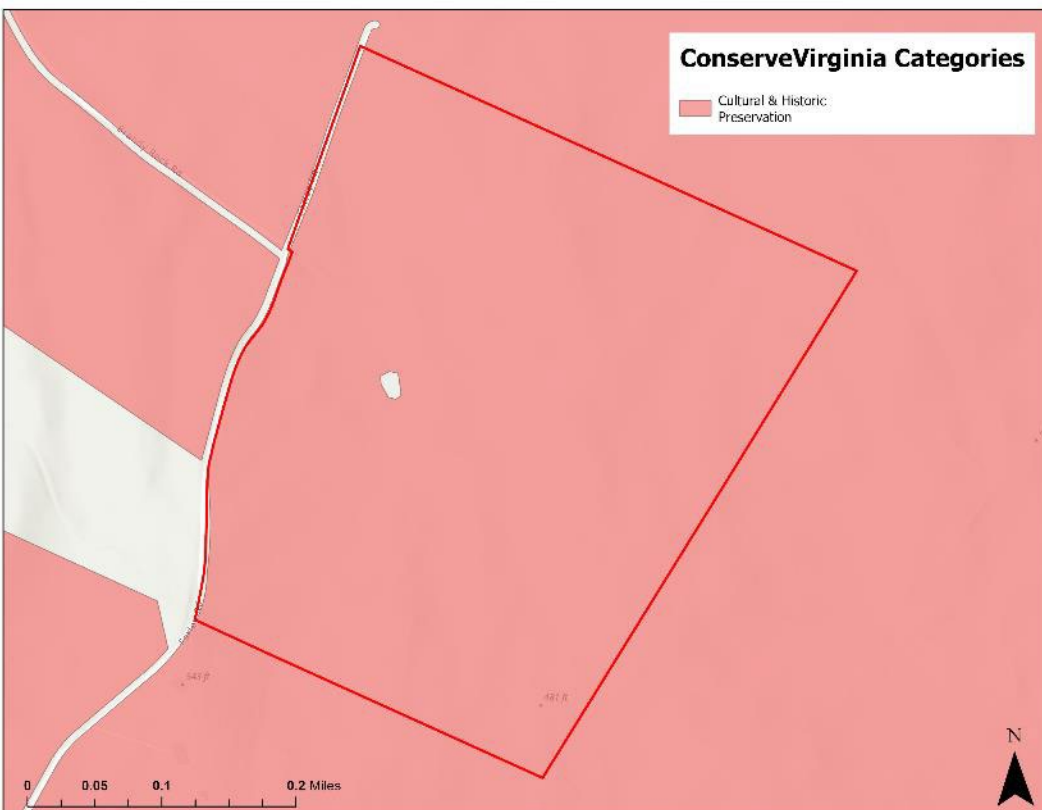
Total Project Cost: \$1,048,255; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program and landowner donation; **Grant Request:** \$271,660; **Recommended Amount:** \$271,660.



Aerial: American Battlefield Trust – Brandy Rock Farm I Tract at Brandy Station Battlefield



ConserveVirginia: American Battlefield Trust – Brandy Rock Farm I Tract at Brandy Station Battlefield



4. Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – Stanley Hall at New Market Battlefield

Stanley Hall sits on 9.54 acres in the Town of New Market, Shenandoah County. The property is believed to have been originally settled by Nicholas Seehorn in the late 19th century. A large spring on the property has been cited as the reason why Seehorn located his dwelling at or near where the present Stanley Hall house sits today. Sometime in the first quarter of the 19th century Samuel and Mary Hupp acquire the property and are believed to have had the Hupp House constructed on the site, which was later used as enslaved persons quarters. This structure is extant today and became one of the domestic support structures for Stanley Hall when it was constructed in 1834. It is important to note that the man who had Stanley Hall constructed, Dr. John W. Rice, had major impacts on the history of the region, the Commonwealth, and the country. The most significant and far reaching of these impacts was his role as the founder and long-time president of the Valley Turnpike company, that constructed what, at the time, was one of the most technically advanced roadways in the world and what became one of the most important transportation routes in US history.

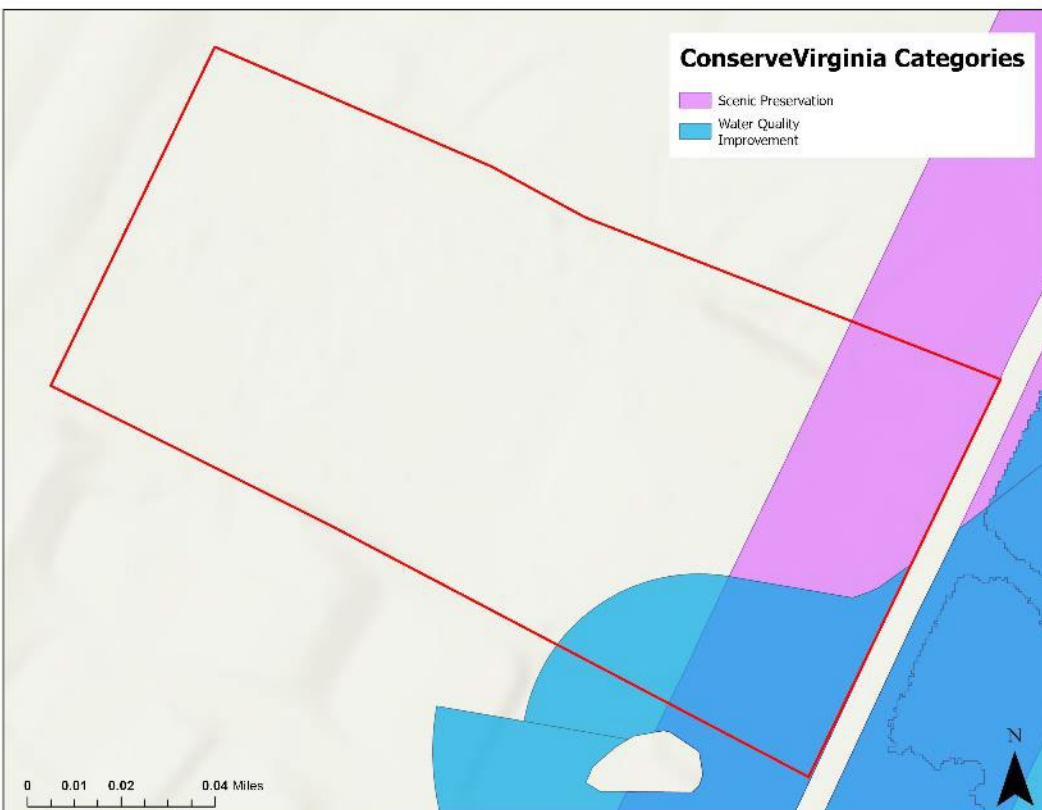
Total Project Cost: \$607,543. **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program. **Grant Request:** \$303,771. **Recommended amount:** \$303,771.



Aerial: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – Stanley Hall at New Market Battlefield



ConserveVirginia: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – Stanley Hall at New Market Battlefield



5. Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – French Tract at Fisher’s Hill Battlefield

The 146-acre French Tract, in Shenandoah County near Strasburg, is entirely within the core and study area of the Fisher's Hill Battlefield and the study area of the Cedar Creek Battlefield. Fishers Hill. During the Battle of Fisher's Hill, Union forces met their stiffest resistance on the French Tract as they attacked the left flank of the Confederate infantry line atop what is now known as Ramseur's Hill. The French Tract saw the heaviest sustained combat of the entire battle. The Foundation purchased the property in July 2022 to save it from being developed. The property is currently used for agricultural purposes and is also heavily forested. The South Fork of Tumbling Run passes through the property, stretching over 4,000 feet.

Total Project Cost: \$1,648,518. **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program. **Grant Request:** \$350,000. **Recommended amount:** \$350,000.



Aerial: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – French Tract at Fisher’s Hill Battlefield



ConserveVirginia: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – French Tract at Fisher’s Hill Battlefield



IV. Natural Area Preservation Applications

Amount of funding available: \$4,334,102

1. Dept. of Conservation & Recreation - Div. of Natural Heritage (DCR - DNH), Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve – LCI Addition, fee acquisition of 1,000 acres in Floyd County; **total project cost: \$3,617,677; grant request: \$3,617,677; recommend: \$3,617,677.**
2. DCR – DNH, Pedlar Hills Addition – Supplemental Funding, fee acquisition of 156 acres in Montgomery County; **total project cost: \$65,000; grant request: \$65,000; recommend: \$65,000.**
3. DCR – DNH, Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve – Anderson Addition, fee acquisition of 48 acres in Franklin County; **total project cost: \$250,000; grant request: \$250,000; recommend: \$250,000.**
4. DCR – DNH, Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve – Browne Farm Easement, easement over 45 acres in Halifax County; **total project cost: \$250,000; grant request: \$250,000; recommend: \$250,000.**
5. City of Chesapeake, City of Chesapeake Natural Area Preservation Application, fee acquisition of 96 acres in the City of Chesapeake; **total project cost: \$2,939,003; grant request: \$1,465,000; recommend: \$0.**

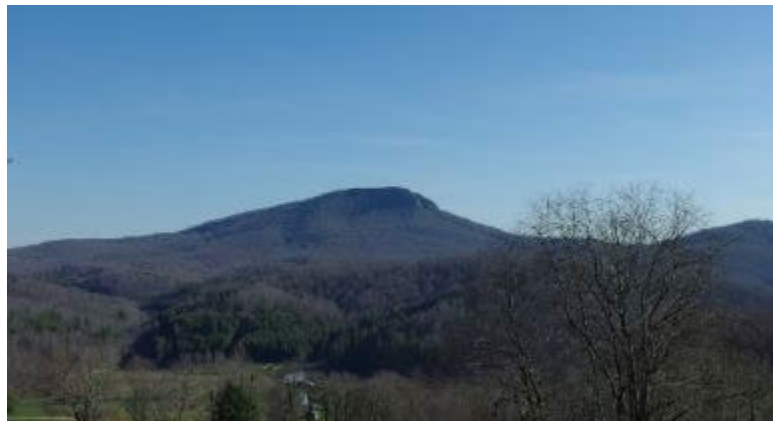
Natural Area Preservation Totals: **acres: 1,345; project costs: \$7,121,680; requested: \$5,647,677; recommend: \$4,182,677.**

Natural Area Preservation Remainder: \$151,425

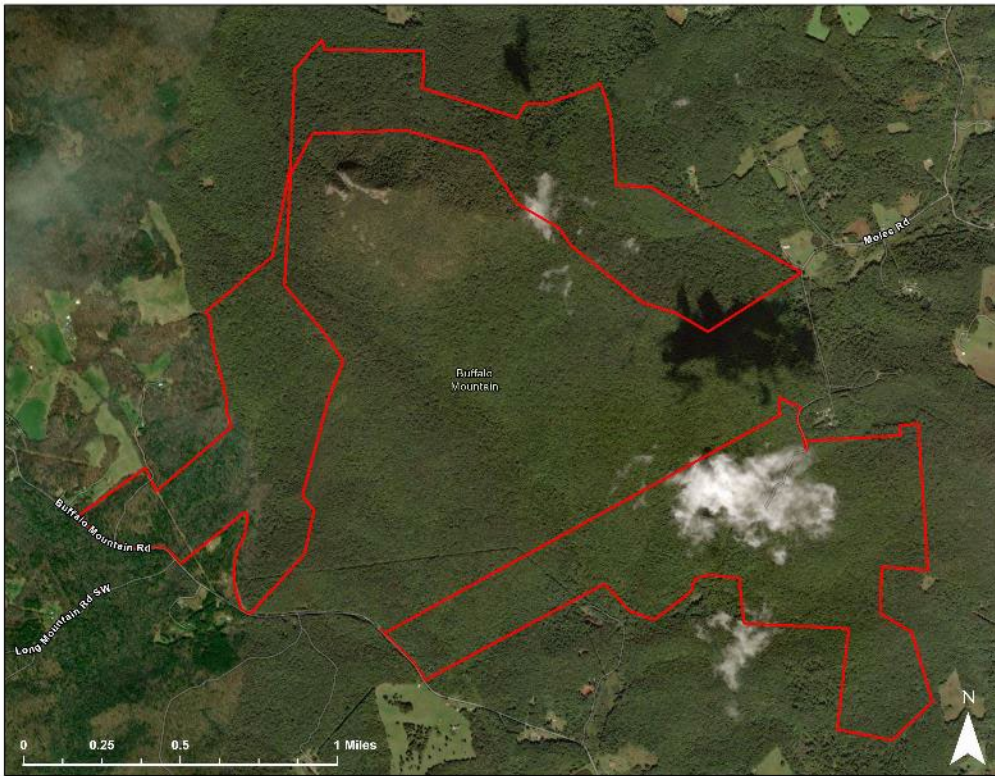
1. Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve – LCI Addition

DCR-DNH seeks funding to acquire in fee a 1,000-acre addition to the Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve in Floyd County and will provide daily public access. The subject property falls within multiple categories of ConserveVirginia and lies within one of the Commonwealth's Essential Conservation Sites and most significant biodiversity hotspots. The mapped site supports 29 documented natural heritage resources, including three found nowhere else in the Commonwealth (Irreplaceable), and four that are extant at only two locations in the Commonwealth (Critical). This property has been a long-standing protection priority for over 25 years and is now becoming possible through the public and private partnership with The Conservation Fund.

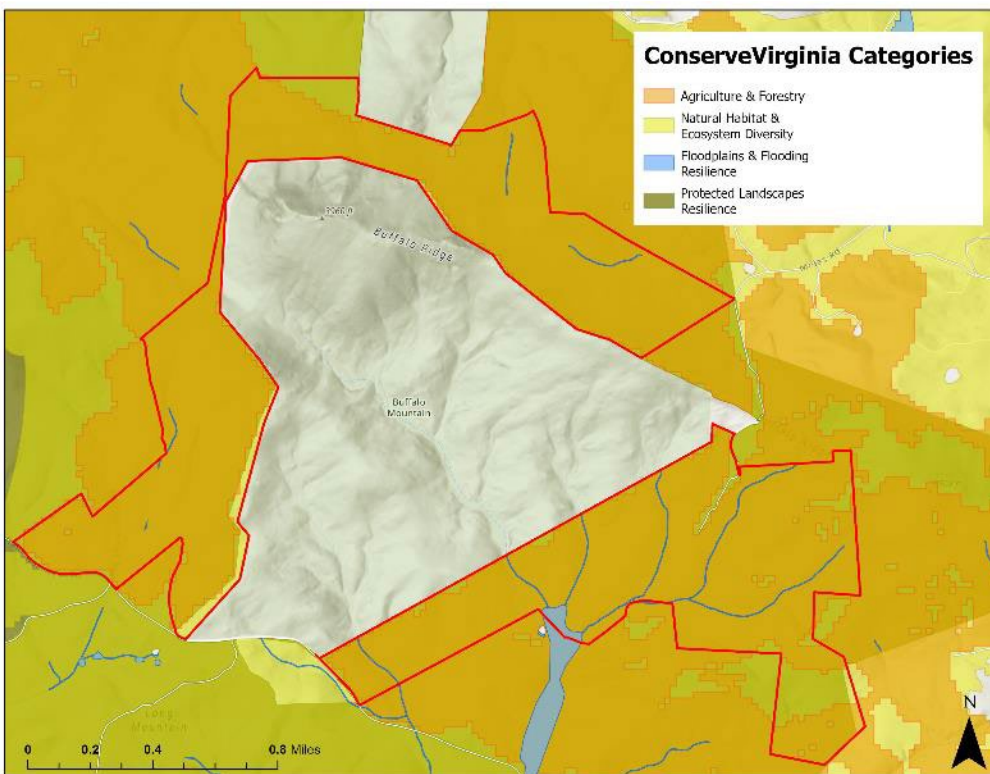
Total Project Cost: \$3,617,677; **Match:** \$0; **Grant Request:** \$3,617,677; **Recommended Amount:** \$3,617,677.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve – LCI Addition



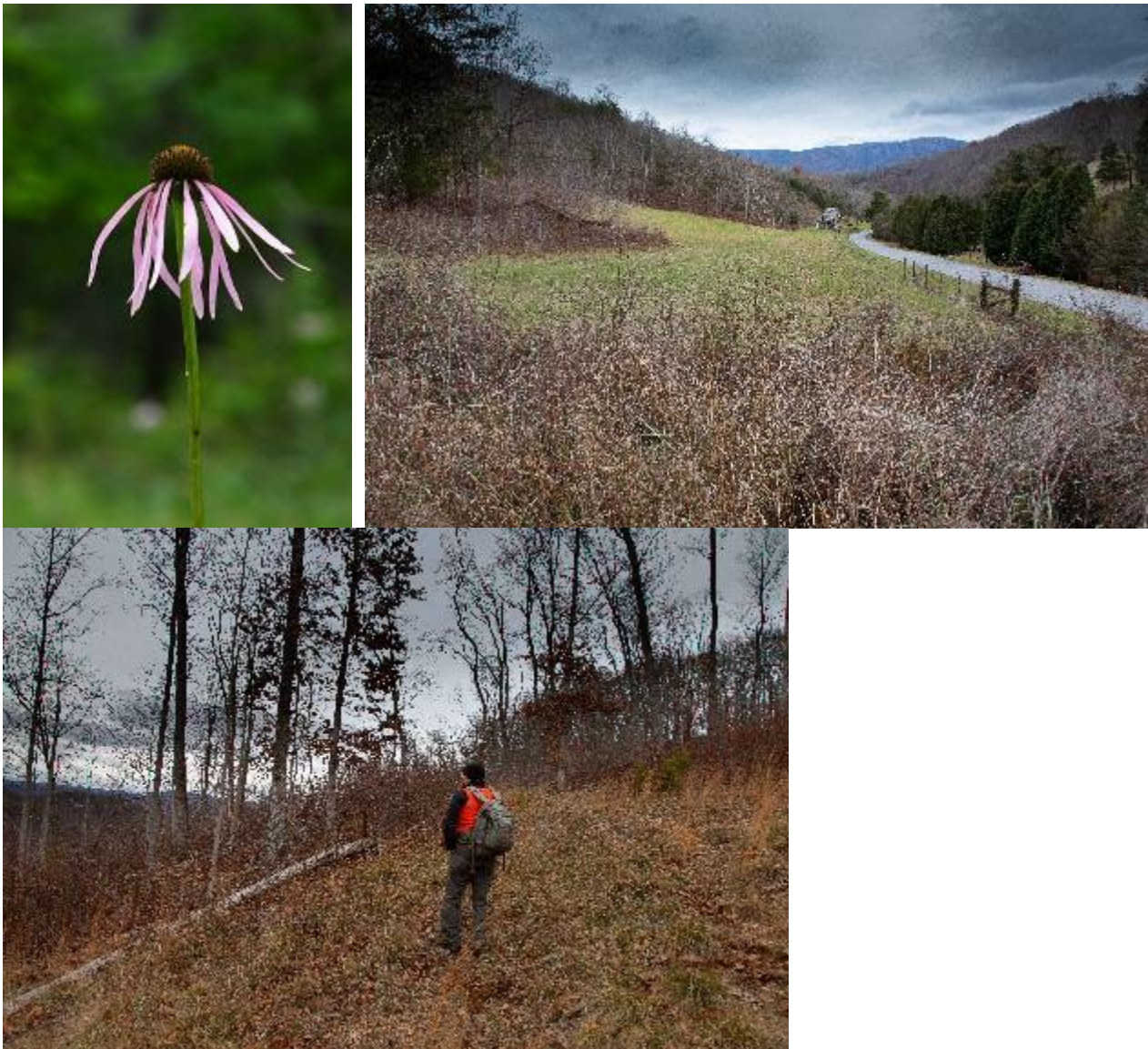
ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Buffalo Mountain Natural Area Preserve – LCI Addition



2. Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Pedlar Hills Addition – Supplemental Funding

This DCR-DNH project seeks the remaining funds needed to complete the acquisition of 156 acres as an addition to Pedlar Hills Natural Area Preserve in Montgomery County. In FY22, a VLCF grant was awarded for \$515,000 for the acquisition, however the subject property proved to be more expensive than originally proposed. The property is adjacent to the preserve and comprised mostly of forested slopes that serve as important habitat buffer for the preserve and provide daily public access. The property lies within the Pedlar Hills Conservation Site and has a biodiversity rank of B1 - the highest rank possible - due to a suite of highly viable rare species habitats and rare woodland natural communities. This property will help close a broad gap between parts of the preserve, protect a sub-population of a federally-endangered plant, protect a large swath of forest, and improve management access to the preserve.

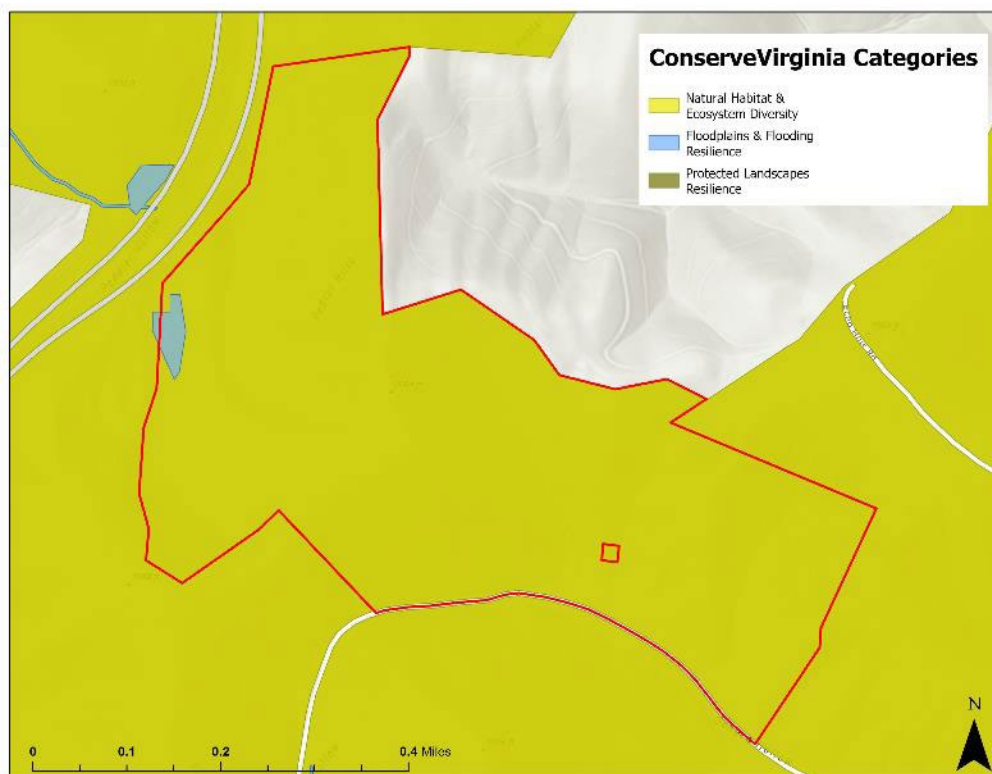
Total Project Cost: \$580,000; Match: \$0; Grant Request: \$65,000; Recommended Amount: \$65,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Pedlar Hills Addition – Supplemental Funding



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Pedlar Hills Addition – Supplemental Funding



3. Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve

DCR-DNH seeks VLCF natural area funding to support fee-simple purchase of 48 acres in Franklin County as an addition to Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve. This tract falls within four categories of ConserveVirginia, is located in one of Virginia's essential conservation sites, supports several natural heritage resources and has been identified as a resiliency parcel needed to complete the overall Preserve design. This proposed acquisition will more fully protect one of Virginia's Essential Conservation Sites and protect a globally rare natural community and a globally imperiled plant species. The property is forested with a globally rare forest type, the Central Appalachian Basic Ash-Hickory Woodland. This tract was threatened with impending development before purchase by a sympathetic conservation buyer working on behalf of DCR-DNH to protect the parcel from incompatible development.

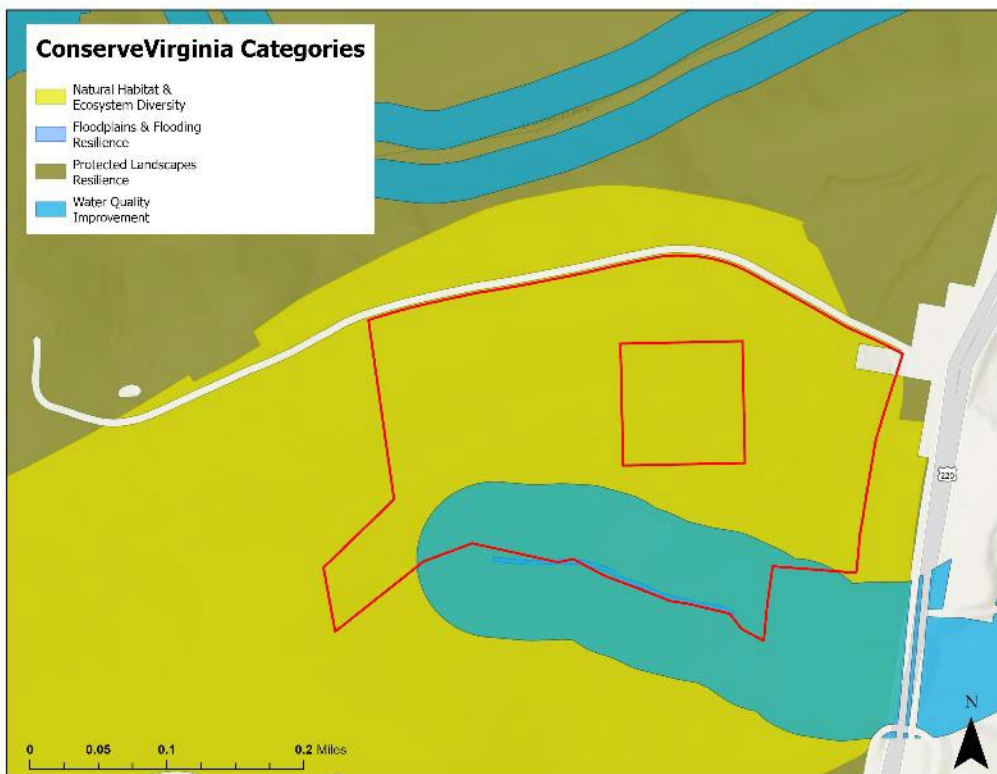
Total Project Cost: \$250,000; Match: \$0; Grant Request: \$250,000; Recommended Amount: \$250,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Grassy Hill Natural Area Preserve



4. Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve – Browne Farm Easement

DCR-DNH seeks VLCF natural area funding to support acquisition of an easement on 45 acres in Halifax County, adjoining Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve. The tract is almost entirely forested with mature upland hardwood forests predominantly comprised of the globally rare Southern Piedmont Hardpan Forest. This easement will enhance DCR's ability to protect natural heritage resources and key visual and ecological buffers along the main public access corridor into the preserve and prevent incompatible development. Located in one of the most significant essential conservation sites in Virginia, the property harbors multiple natural heritage resources including four rare plants and one globally rare natural community. The property falls within two categories of ConserveVirginia and lies within a conservation sites and biodiversity hotspot. The property is also surrounded by the preserve on three sides, and thus represents an important resilience tract to enhance DCR's ability to conduct much needed management and restoration at the preserve with prescribed fire. As such, this property has been a long-standing protection priority for DCR.

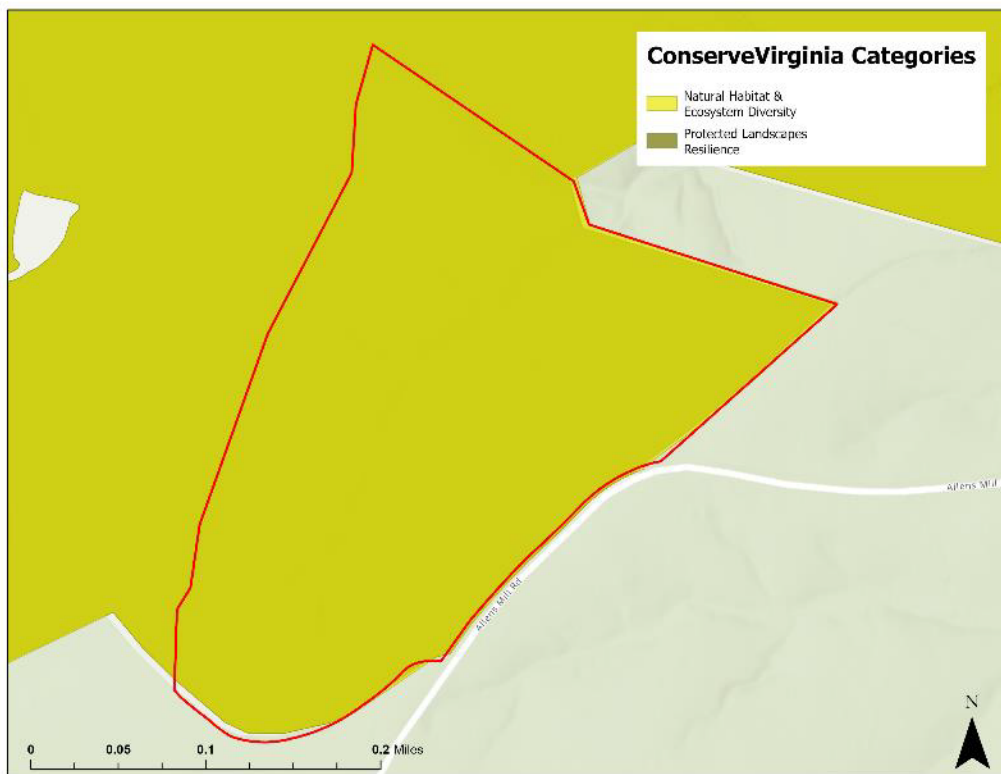
Total Project Cost: \$250,000; Match: \$0; Grant Request: \$250,000; Recommended Amount: \$250,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve – Browne Farm Easement



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Conservation & Recreation – Div. of Natural Heritage – Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve – Browne Farm Easement



5. City of Chesapeake – City of Chesapeake Natural Area Preservation Application

The City of Chesapeake is seeking funds to acquire 96 acres within the city along the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. The majority of the property has a future land use designation of Suburban Mixed Use, and a portion of the property has a future land use designation of Conservation. Although the property is primarily zoned as Waterfront Industrial District, 68% of the property is encumbered by wetlands, and would be significantly impacted if developed. Eight acres of the property are designated as a wetlands bank, but the remainder could be at risk for development. The project will be a private/public partnership between the landowner and the city and will partially utilize city funding for the acquisition. The project will provide daily public access, protect wetlands, water quality and aquatic ecological integrity as some areas of the project are located within the highest impact of the watershed impact model. A majority of the project is at high vulnerability of development according to the development vulnerability model and surrounding development patterns.

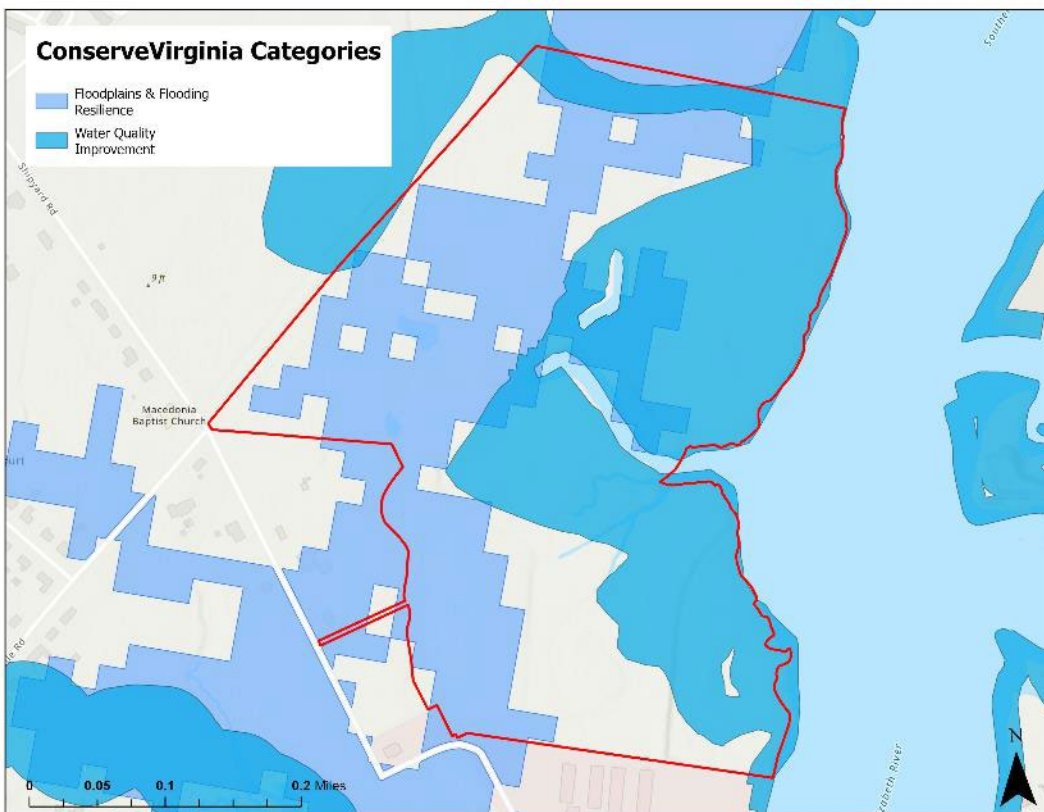
Total Project Cost: \$2,939,003; **Match:** City of Chesapeake; **Grant Request:** \$1,465,000; **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: City of Chesapeake – City of Chesapeake Natural Area Preservation Application



ConserveVirginia: City of Chesapeake – City of Chesapeake Natural Area Preservation Application



V. **Open Spaces and Parks Applications**

Amount of funding available: \$2,400,000

1. Washington County, Abrams Creek Property Addition to Mendota Trail, fee acquisition of 220 acres in Washington County; **total project cost:** \$1,295,200; **grant request:** \$241,100; **recommend:** \$241,100.
2. Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, Bushy Park Farm Acquisition, fee acquisition of 118 acres in Middlesex County; **total project cost:** \$2,448,255; **grant request:** \$750,000; **recommend:** \$750,000.
3. Franklin Parks Foundation, Deer Creek, a fee acquisition of 96 acres in Southampton County; **total project cost:** \$1,178,300; **grant request:** \$180,000; **recommend:** \$180,000.
4. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources, Highlands-Lonesome Pine, easement on 44,327 acres in the Dickenson County; **total project cost:** \$7,024,275; **grant request:** \$1,000,000; **recommend:** \$1,000,000.
5. Wildlife Foundation of Virginia, Marshland on the Mattaponi River, fee acquisition of 482 acres in King William County (Town of West Point); **total project cost:** \$480,200; **grant request:** \$220,200; **recommend:** \$220,200.
6. The Trust for Public Land, Caledon State Park Expansion – Lake Caledon, fee acquisition of 468 acres in King George County; **total project cost:** \$6,000,000; **grant request:** \$1,000,000; **recommend:** \$0.
7. Land Savers United, Wilderness Adventures, easement on 440 acres in Craig County; **total project cost:** \$1,054,050; **grant request:** \$513,000; **recommend:** \$0.
8. Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia, Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant, fee acquisition of 14 acres in Stafford County; **total project cost:** \$500,000; **grant request:** \$500,000; **recommend:** \$0.

Open Spaces & Parks totals: **acres:** 46,165; **project costs:** \$19,980,280; **requested:** \$4,404,300; **recommend:** \$2,391,300

*Remaining Open Spaces & Parks funds: \$8,700 are recommended for the Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources Eastern Shore Forest Conservation III project in the Forestland Conservation category.

1. Washington County – Abrams Creek Property Addition to Mendota Trail

Washington County is seeking VLCF funds to acquire and conserve 220 acres to become a county park open to the public. This project helps protect the nearby Mendota Trail ridgeline viewshed and will enhance recreational opportunities in this underserved area. The property includes over 4,200 feet of Abrams Creek - a significant tributary to the North Fork of the Holston River. The Property is about 2,000 feet downstream of Abrams Falls, a majestic 75-foot freefall waterfall. The Property consists primarily of Appalachian hardwoods with ridgetops over 2,060 feet. The lowest point on Abrams Creek is 1,420 feet. Ridges and valleys oriented in various directions provide a variety of aspect and diverse microclimates conducive to a broad array of terrestrial plants and animals. Conservation values include: scenic (within view of Mendota Trail); very high Ecological cores; very high Forestry values; Watershed impact model - most of property is ranked 61-80; 200 acres of forest; 15 acres in hay/meadows. Partners include Washington County Government, Mendota Trail Conservancy, Washington County Park Authority, City of Bristol, and robust local support.

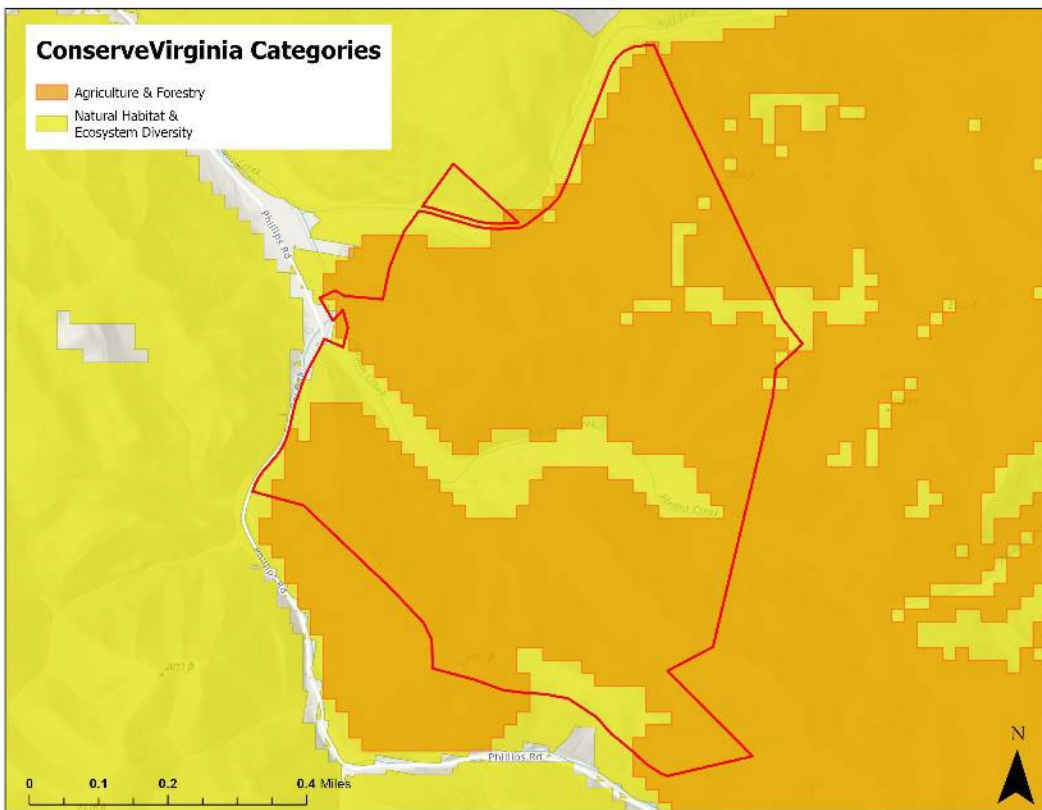
Total Project Cost: \$1,295,200. **Match:** Landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$241,100.
Recommended Amount: \$241,100.



Aerial: Washington County – Abrams Creek Property Addition to Mendota Trail



ConserveVirginia: Washington County – Abrams Creek Property Addition to Mendota Trail



2. Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission – Bushy Park Farm Acquisition

Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission is requesting VLCF funds to purchase and conserve Bushy Park in Middlesex County. This property is a 118-acre waterfront parcel with pristine uplands, beach, tidal and nontidal wetlands that has been deemed both a priority conservation area and area most vulnerable for development. Once purchased, Middlesex County and its partners will establish a public beach park that offers access to the Rappahannock River and Bushy Farm Creek, as well as a nature area for exploration through trail access to forested areas, 50 acres of pristine tidal pond, and tidal wetlands. As the future largest public access location in the county, this property will become an outdoor recreational hub. Acquisition of the property is the critical first for what will be a multi-year endeavor under county stewardship with state and federal partners to provide requisite erosion control and reduction, enhancing the shoreline ecosystems, and preserving the upland areas for conservation and recreation.

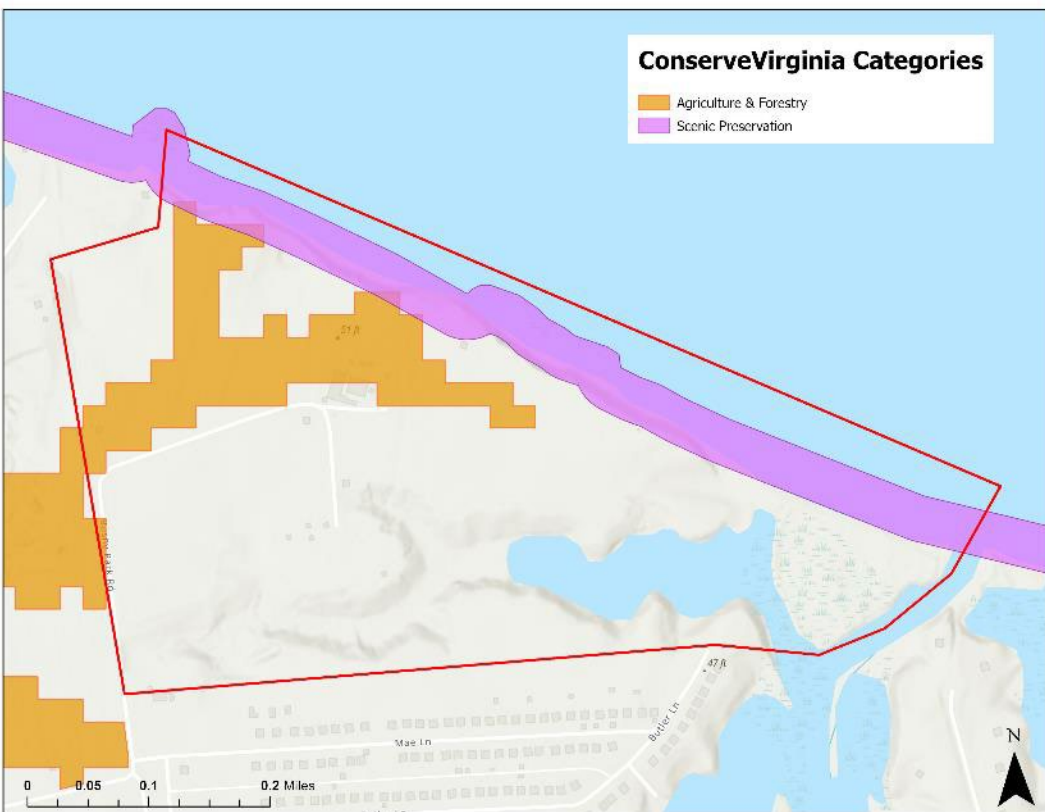
Total Project Cost: \$2,448,255. **Match:** Thomas Knight Trust and Middlesex County. **Grant Request:** \$750,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$750,000.



Aerial: Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission – Bushy Park Farm Acquisition



ConserveVirginia: Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission – Bushy Park Farm Acquisition



3. Franklin Parks Foundation – Deer Creek

The Franklin Parks Foundation, in partnership with the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, and the City of Franklin, proposes to acquire 96 acres with river frontage on the state scenic Blackwater River for the creation of additional parkland to Blackwater Park as well as a primitive camp site and boat launch. This property contains old growth hardwood bottomlands and sits at the intersection of two important Natural Heritage sites, the Blackwater River Main Stem Conservation Site and the Antioch Swamp Stream Conservation unit, as well as within the TNC Chowan Sandridge/Blackwater River Terrestrial Portfolio. This site supports several rare species and significant natural communities including anadromous fish and colonial water birds. The wetland forests rank high on over 60 acres of river frontage. The wetlands are ranked Class III for Watershed priority conservation. The upland portion of the property is ranked Class IV, the second most vulnerable to development. The park will be open for daily public access.

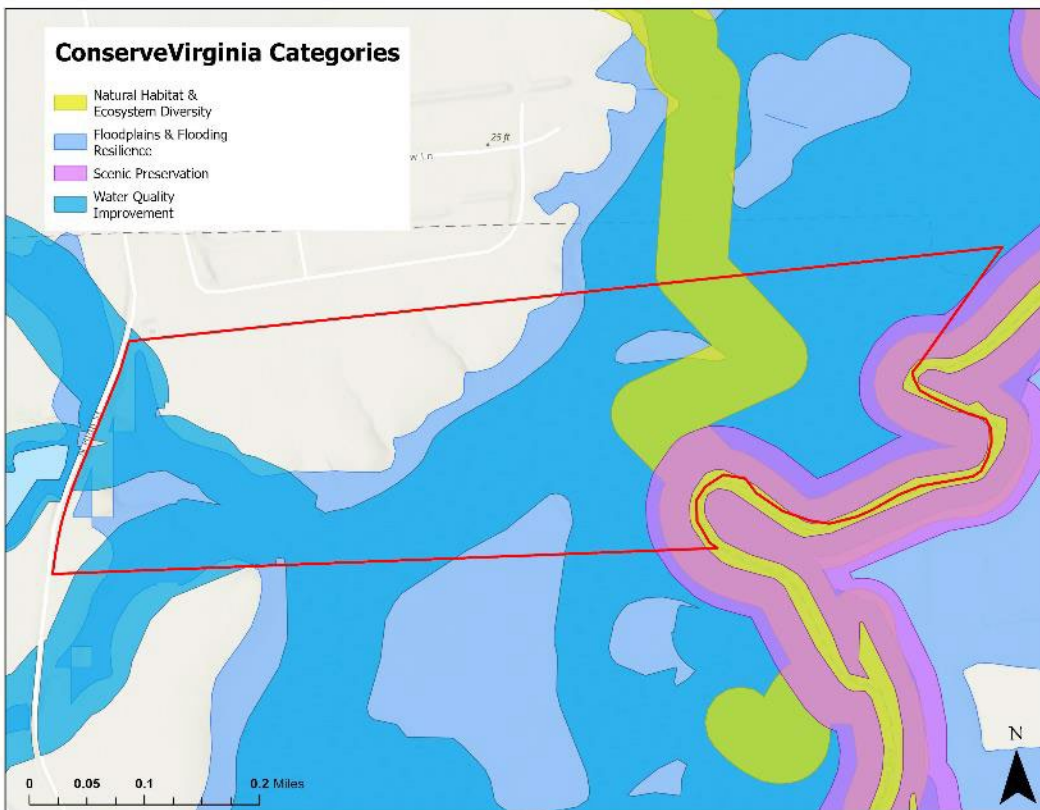
Total Project Cost: \$1,178,300. **Match:** VOF Preservation Trust Fund, Enviva Forest Fund, OBICI Healthcare Fund, and landowner donation. **Grant Request:** \$180,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$180,000.



Aerial: Franklin Parks Foundation – Deer Creek



ConserveVirginia: Franklin Parks Foundation – Deer Creek



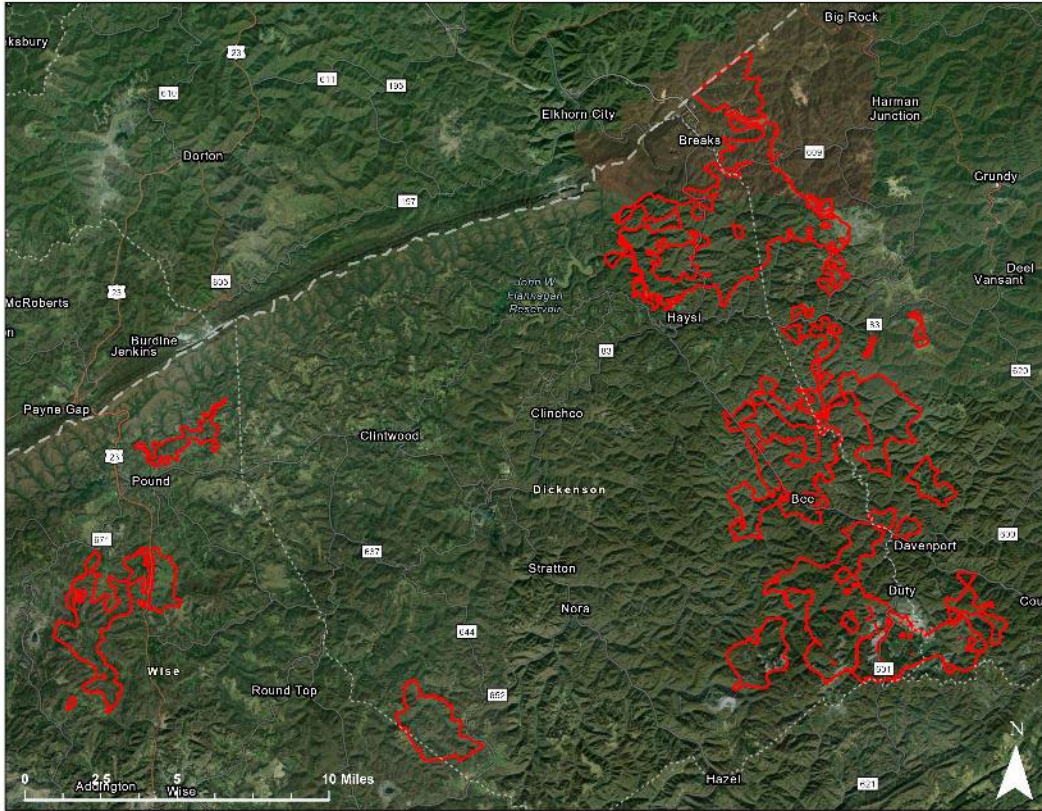
4. Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Highlands-Lonesome Pine

DWR is seeking \$1,000,000 in grant funds to acquire potentially the largest recorded public access easement in Virginia, on property currently owned by the Cumberland Forest Highland LLC (The Nature Conservancy), in Wise, Buchanan, and Dickenson counties. This 44,327-acre easement acquisition project in the heart of Appalachia presents an extraordinary and rare opportunity to provide new public access for recreational boating, fishing, wildlife viewing, hiking, nature-based photography, and hunting, as well as improve restored mined lands to support elk and a myriad of other wildlife species that use a matrix of forested and open grassland habitats. This property would provide an important foothold from which to secure public access on an additional 106,000 acres in this historically economically depressed and socially vulnerable region of the Commonwealth. Project partners include the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, and Southwest Virginia Sportsmen.

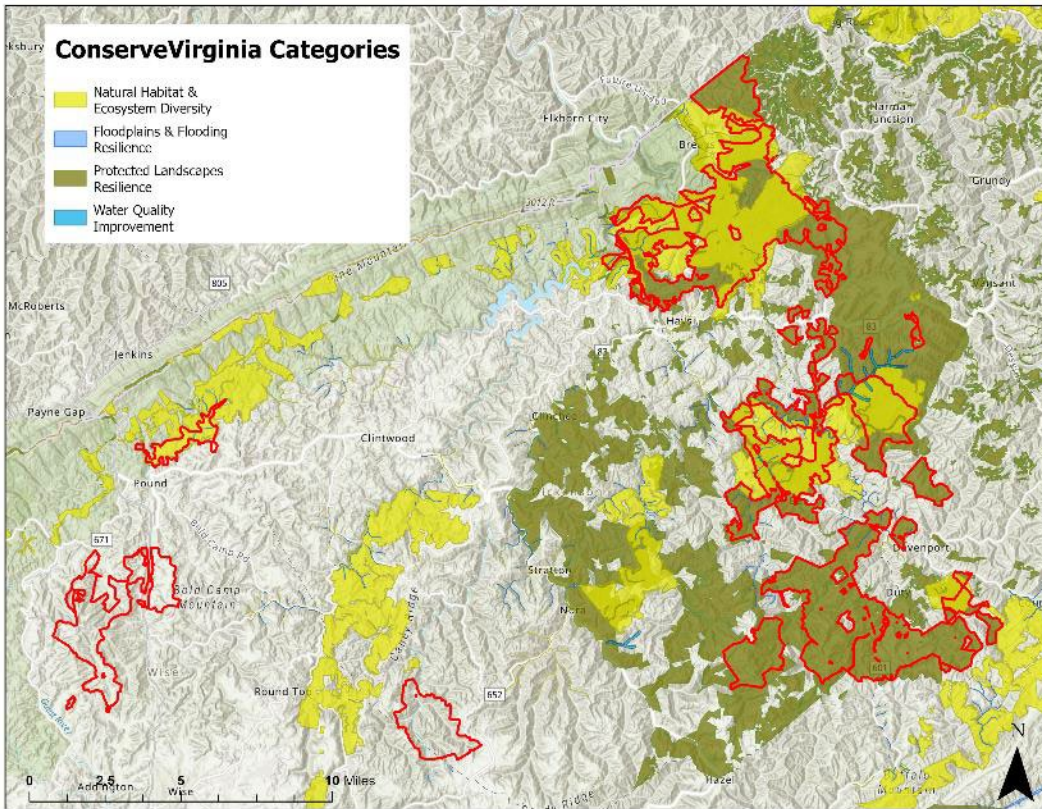
Total Project Cost: \$7,024,275. **Match:** Federal Wildlife Restoration grant funds. **Grant Request:** \$1,000,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$1,000,000.



Aerial: Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Highlands-Lonesome Pine



ConserveVirginia: Virginia Dept. of Wildlife Resources – Highlands-Lonesome Pine



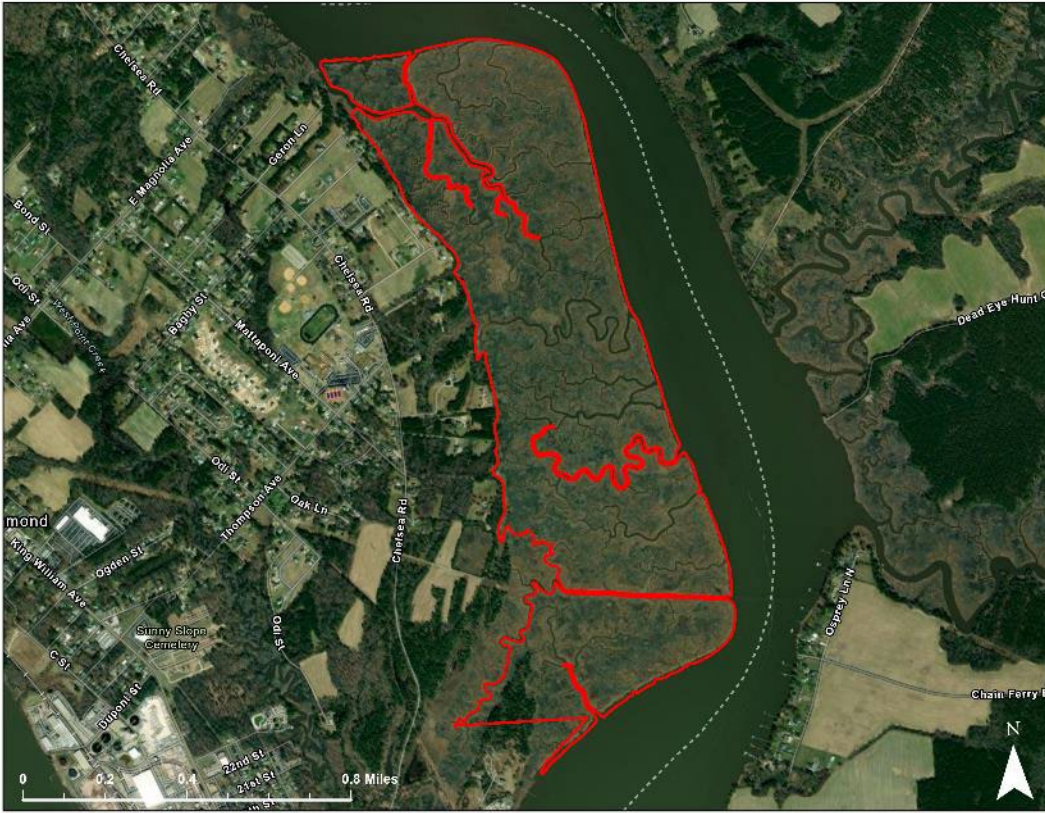
5. Wildlife Foundation of Virginia – Marshland on the Mattaponi River

The Wildlife Foundation of Virginia proposes to acquire in fee 482 acres of marshland on the Mattaponi River in the Town of West Point. In addition to perpetual protection of a magnificent viewshed, the marsh provides water quality improvement, floodplain and flooding resilience, and permanent protection of habitat suitable to support wildlife resources, including several species of greatest concern as outlined in the Virginia Wildlife Action Plan. The property also provides protection of habitat for many state tier two species, including game species (American black duck). Partners on this acquisition include Ducks Unlimited, the Department of Wildlife Resources (who will hold an open-space easement on the property), the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the property owner.

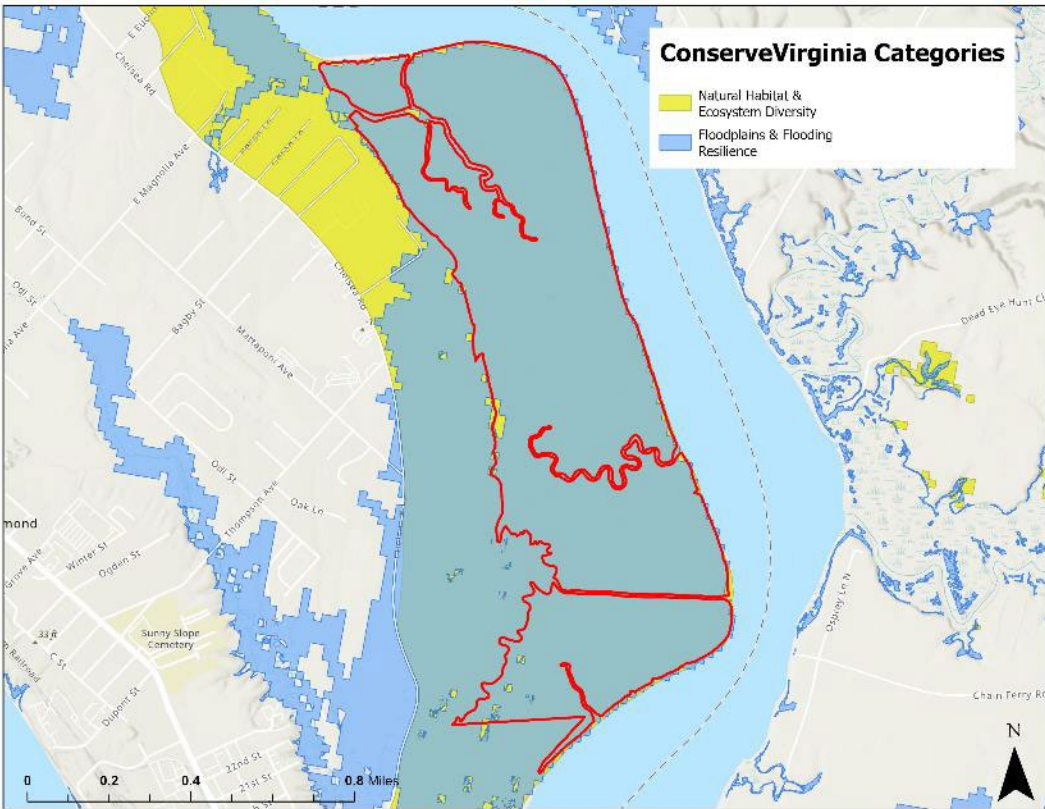
Total Project Cost: \$480,200. **Match:** US Fish and Wildlife Service. **Grant Request:** \$220,200. **Recommended Amount:** \$220,200.



Aerial: Wildlife Foundation of Virginia – Marshland on the Mattaponi River



ConserveVirginia: Wildlife Foundation of Virginia – Marshland on the Mattaponi River



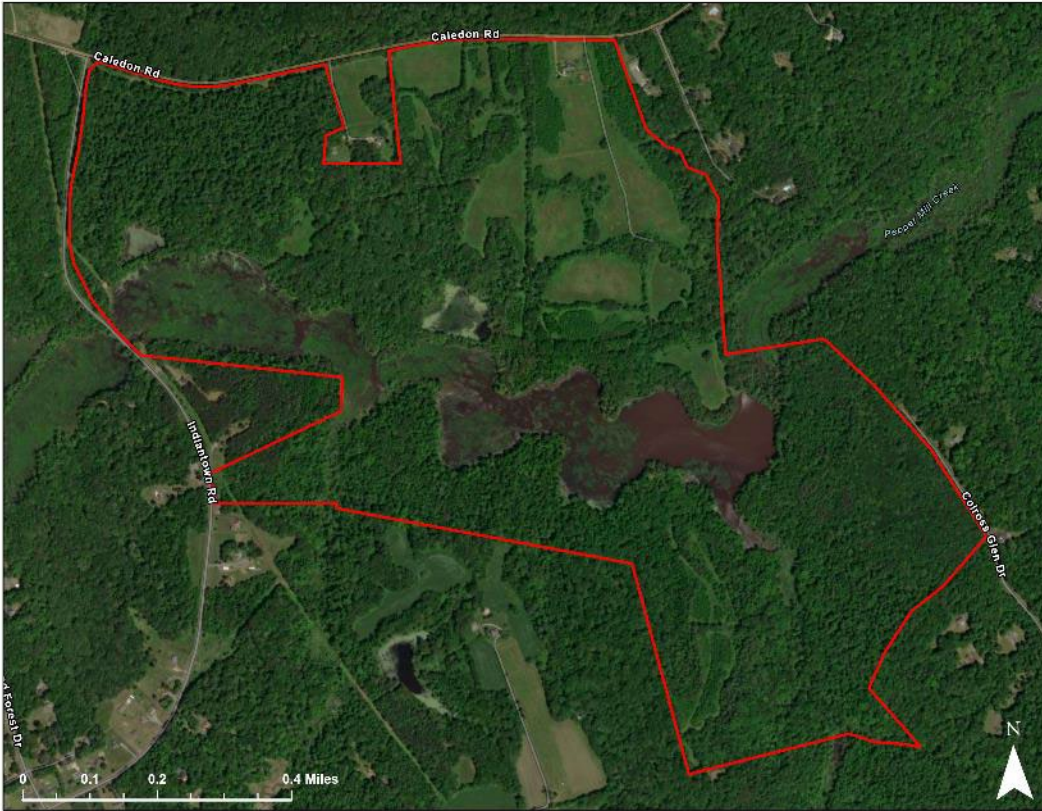
6. The Trust for Public Lands – Caledon State Park Expansion – Lake Caledon

This grant proposal is an opportunity to expand Caledon State Park through a partnership between the Trust for Public Land (TPL), the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the US Navy. The 468-acre Lake Caledon property in King George County is a long-standing acquisition priority for DCR, the Friends of Caledon State Park, and the county. The property is an undeveloped, mostly forested tract immediately south of the park that had been slated for a residential subdivision. TPL is requesting a VLCF grant to leverage a commitment of \$3 million from DCR and \$2 million in federal Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) funding requested by the Navy. The expansion of Caledon State Park will increase recreational opportunities and the potential for overnight lodging; and protect and enhance the visitor experience along Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail and Route 218, a Virginia Scenic Byway. Approximately 50% of the property is located within ConserveVirginia and this acquisition will conserve those areas and prevent incompatible development from impacting the Park and the military mission of nearby Naval Support Facility Dahlgren.

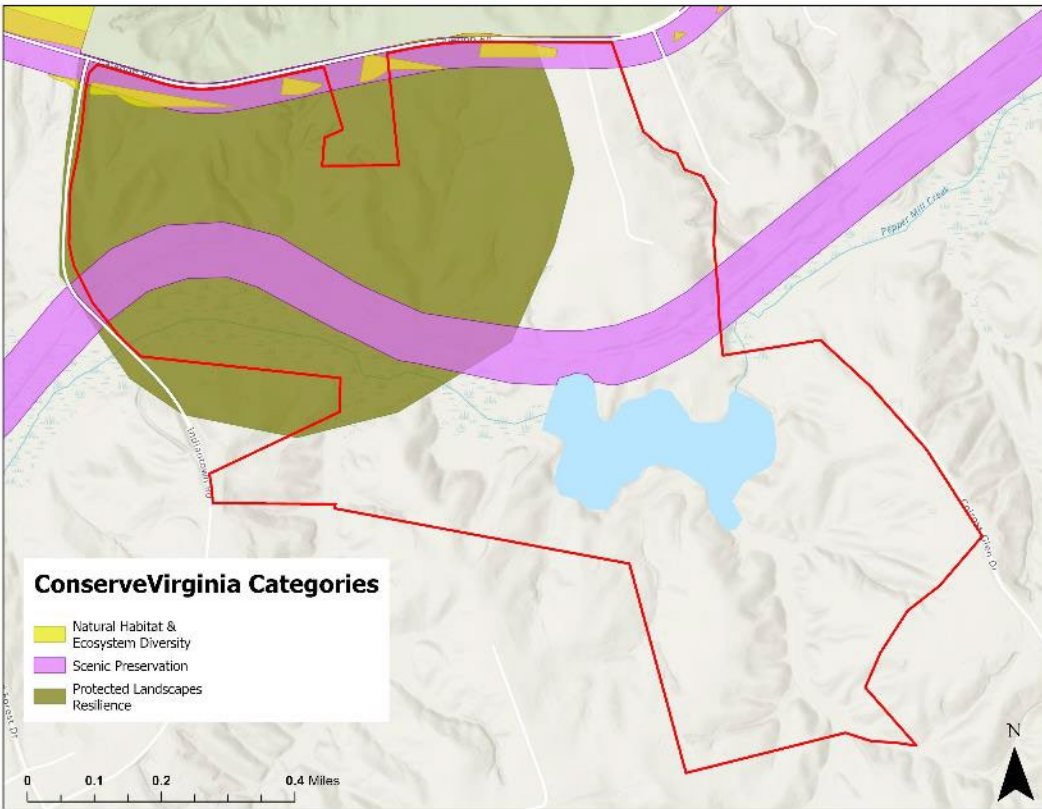
Total Project Cost: \$6,000,000. **Match:** DCR and Navy-REPI. **Grant Request:** \$1,000,000.
Recommended Amount: \$0.



Aerial: The Trust for Public Lands – Caledon State Park Expansion – Lake Caledon



ConserveVirginia: The Trust for Public Lands – Caledon State Park Expansion – Lake Caledon



7. Land Savers United – Wilderness Adventures

Land Savers United is seeking grant funds to acquire a conservation easement to permanently protect a summer camp, Wilderness Adventures, in Craig County. While the land and water based recreational needs in this area are currently low, part of that is due to the presence of Wilderness Adventure and how active they have been in this community. The camp provides outdoor recreational opportunities for people of all ages. Placing an easement, co-held by Mountain Castles SWCD, on this property will help ensure that these recreational needs are met for years to come. This property includes six priority areas under ConserveVirginia in the Agriculture and Forestry, Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Floodplain and Flooding Resilience, Scenic Preservation, and Water Quality Improvement categories. The easement will include language to protect the conservation values identified in these layers and the frontage on Craig Creek and provide daily public access.

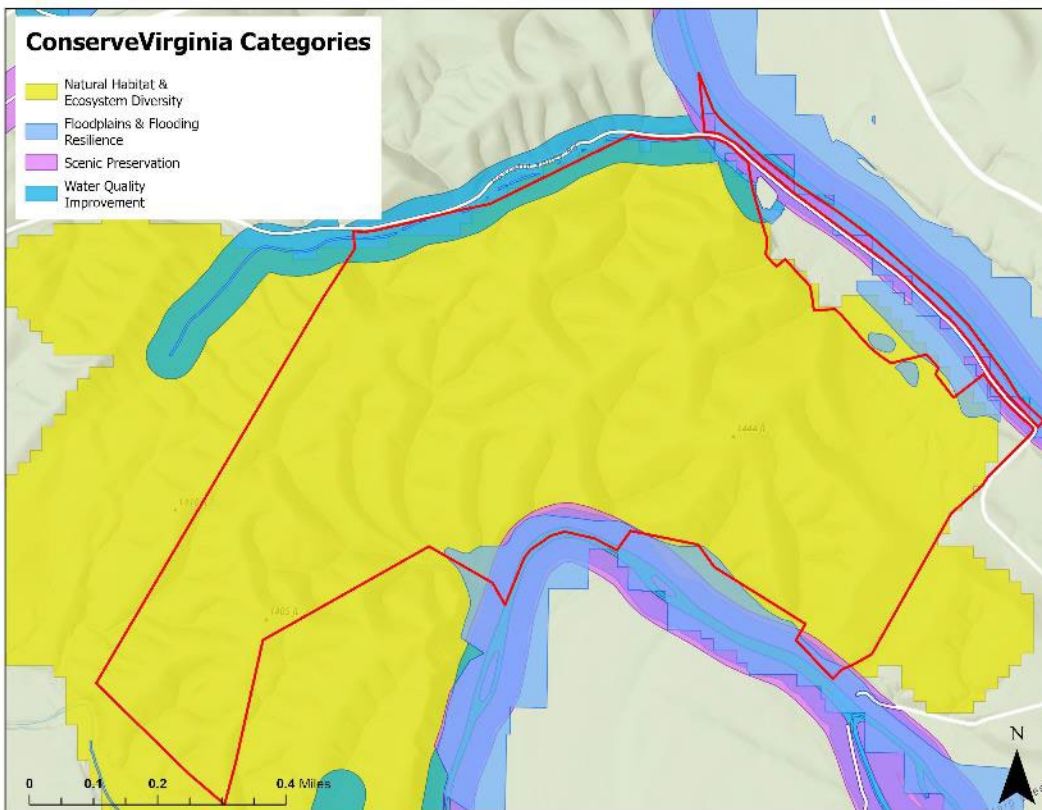
Total Project Cost: \$1,054,050. **Match:** Conservation easement on other lands. **Grant Request:** \$513,000. **Recommended Amount:** \$0.



Aerial: Land Savers United – Wilderness Adventures



ConserveVirginia: Land Savers United – Wilderness Adventures



8. Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia – Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant

The Patawomeck Tribe seeks to acquire a 14.24-acre parcel of land located on the state scenic Rappahannock River. The Patawomeck Tribe was formally recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 2010. The project will provide and enhance public access to the Rappahannock River as the Tribe plans to provide a pull in spot for boaters on the Rappahannock. Visitors will be able to pull into the site, rest, and see the agricultural and cultural demonstrations on site. These include Tribal traditional farming and fishing methods with the use of handmade eel pots and farming implements. In addition, the Tribe is pursuing opportunities with Stafford County to link this property with the Stafford County Duff McDuff Green Park that is located just upriver via a trail system. The Tribe currently leases land from Stafford County at that site and operates a museum and Tribal Center. The final aim is to allow the public to move between the sites on the river for recreation and to experience Tribal history and culture. The property is currently offered for sale to the Patawomeck Tribe by the current owner who only wishes to receive back the sale price that was paid to acquire the land a little over a year ago. The public will benefit from increased access to the Rappahannock River, from educational opportunities related to Tribal activities, and enhancement of the scenic quality of the river by protection of this portion of shoreline.

Total Project Cost: \$500,000. **Match:** VOF Preservation Trust Fund. **Grant Request:** \$500,000.
Recommended Amount: \$0.



Aerial: Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia – Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant



ConserveVirginia: Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia – Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant

