

Virginia Land Conservation Foundation
Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday November 21, 2024 – 09:30 a.m.



Contents:

Agenda

June 5, 2024, Minutes	Tab M
Resolution Honoring Michael Fletcher Upon His Retirement	Tab N
VLCF Fund Statement as of October 31, 2024	Tab O
2024 VLCF Stewardship Fund	Tab P
VLCF Staff Report	Tab Q
Recommended VLCF Grant Round Funding	Tab R
Proposed FY2025 Grant Funding Plan	Tab S
FY2025 Grant Round Recommendations	Tab T
Report on VLCF Grant Projects As of November 21, 2024	Tab U

**Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, November 21, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.**

**East Reading Room, Patrick Henry Building
1111 East Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219**

AGENDA

Welcome

1. Secretary Call to Order, Introduction of Members, and Opening Remarks – *Travis Voyles, Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources*
2. Introduction to VLCF
 - a. Board Membership Overview – *Lisa McGee, Director of Policy, Planning and Legislative Affairs, Department of Conservation and Recreation*
 - b. VLCF Grant Program – *Suzan Bulbulkaya, Land Conservation Manager, Department of Conservation and Recreation*
 - c. Land Preservation Tax Credit Program

Business and Financial Matters

3. Approval of Minutes from the June 5, 2024, Board Meeting – *Secretary Voyles*
4. Resolution Honoring Michael Fletcher Upon His Retirement – *Lisa McGee*
5. Selection of the Vice-Chairman of the Board – *Secretary Voyles*
6. Appointment of a Subcommittee to Discuss the FY26 Grant Manual – *Secretary Voyles*
7. Financial Update: Virginia Land Conservation Fund – *Frank Stovall, Deputy Director for Operations, Department of Conservation and Recreation*

Land Preservation Tax Credit Program (LPTC)

8. Update from the Department of Taxation – *Lore DeAstra, Land Preservation Tax Credit Analyst, Department of Taxation*
9. LPTC Program Transfer Fee Revenues – *Gina DiCicco, Land Conservation Specialist, Department of Conservation and Recreation*
 - a. Approval of Distribution of the 2024 VLCF Stewardship Fund, pursuant to § 58.1-513
 - b. Update on the stewardship payment to Enrichmond Foundation

VLCF Grant Program

10. FY25 Grant Round
 - a. Grant Round Overview: *Suzan Bulbulkaya*
 - b. FY25 Fiscal Plan Update

- c. Presentation of Recommended Grant Applications from the Interagency Taskforce:
 - Farmland Preservation – *Genette Harris, Working Lands Conservation Specialist, Department of Forestry*
 - Forestland Preservation – *Amanda Scheps, Program Manager, Office of Working Lands Preservation, Department of Forestry*
 - Historic Areas Preservation – *Karri Richardson, Easement Program Specialist, Department of Historic Resources*
 - Natural Area Protection – *Jason Bulluck, Director, Virginia Natural Heritage Program, Department of Conservation and Recreation*
 - Open Spaces and Parks – *Kristal McKelvey, Chief Recreation Grants Manager, Planning & Recreation Resources, Department of Conservation and Recreation*
- d. Comments from Grant Applicants and the Public
- e. Board Discussion and Approval of FY25 Grant Awards

11. Recently Completed VLCF Grant Projects – *Larry Mikkelson, Land Conservation Specialist, Department of Conservation and Recreation*

Other Business

12. Public Comment

13. Adjourn

Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees

Chairman: The Honorable Travis Voyles, Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Vice Chair: Vacant

Member Ex Officio: The Honorable Matthew Lohr, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

Executive Secretary: Matthew Wells, Director, Department of Conservation and Recreation

1st Congressional District *Vacant*

2nd Congressional District Jay C. Ford

3rd Congressional District Brian Hallberg

4th Congressional District Stewart Leeth

5th Congressional District Kathleen Kilpatrick

6th Congressional District Morgan Slaven

7th Congressional District The Honorable Ed Scott

8th Congressional District Gabriella Hoffman

9th Congressional District William “Bear” Lloyd

10th Congressional District Samantha Vargas Poppe

11th Congressional District Michael Molina

The Honorable David W. Marsden

The Honorable Richard H. Stuart

Elizabeth Andrews

James Beamer

Leslie Cockburn

Sonya Powell

Chief William “Frank” Adams

**Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees
Wednesday, June 5, 2024
East Reading Room, Patrick Henry Building
Richmond, Virginia**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees took place at 11:00 a.m. on June 5, 2024, in the East Reading Room of the Patrick Henry Building in Richmond, Virginia.

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS PRESENT

The Honorable Travis Voyles, Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, Chair
The Honorable Matthew Lohr, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry
Mary-Carson, Stiff, Vice Chair
The Honorable David Marsden
Elizabeth Andrews
Jay C. Ford
Stewart Leeth
Lisa Kestner Quigley
The Honorable Ed Scott
Morgan Slaven
Bruce Vlk
Matthew Wells, Director, Department of Conservation and Recreation, Executive Secretary

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

James Beamer	The Honorable Richard Stuart
Glenda C. Booth	Woodie Walker
Leslie Cockburn	Krystina E. White
Samantha Vargas Poppe	One Vacancy, Tribal Member
Sonya Powell	

AGENCY STAFF PRESENT

Jason Bulluck, DCR	Charles Marston, DCR
Lora Callahan, DCR	Lisa McGee, DCR
Whitten Cluff, DCR	David Neudeck, DCR
Linda Crowe, DCR	Sharon Partee, DCR
Gina DiCicco, DCR	Karri Richardson, DHR
Rob Evans, DCR	Paul Saunders, DCR
Michael Fletcher, DCR	Amanda Scheps, DOF
Brian Fuller, DCR	Kellie Seaton, DCR
Rebecca Gwynn, DWR	Andrew Smith, DCR
Dan Hammon, DCR	Frank Stovall, DCR
Genelle Harris, VDACS	Stephanie Taillon, SNHR
Martha Little, VOF	

OTHERS PRESENT

Brad Copenhaver, Virginia Agribusiness Council
Adrienne Kotula, Chesapeake Bay Commission
Andrea Reese, Potomac Conservancy
Heather Richards, The Conservation Fund
Nikki Rovner, The Nature Conservancy
Ellen Shepard, VaULT
Tom Smith
Ken Wright, Potomac Conservancy

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

With eleven (11) members of the Board present, a quorum was established.

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Secretary Voyles called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. He welcomed new members, Morgan Slaven, Stewart Leeth, and The Honorable Ed Scott.

Secretary Voyles called for member and staff introductions.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VLCF GRANT PROGRAM

Secretary Voyles addressed the 25th Anniversary of the VLCF Grant Program. He noted that he participated in a panel discussion at the recent Virginia Land Conservation and Greenways Conference. He shared his remarks from that conference. They are included below:

“In my role as Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources, I am fortunate to travel across Virginia and see firsthand the abundance and diversity of natural and historical resources that we are so fortunate to have here in the Commonwealth. The establishment of VLCF was a strong recognition of the importance of investing in these treasures, to ensure that they will be around for future generations to come.

Over the past 25 years, VLCF has awarded 356 grants to fund the conservation of 156,694 acres across the Commonwealth.

- Over this time—\$118.6 million has been appropriated in the state budget for VLCF,
 - o With \$28.1 million of that going to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation and their Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund to further assist landowners with the costs associated with conserving their land.

VLCF has impacted every region of the Commonwealth, from far Southwest to the Eastern Shore, from the Valley to Northern Virginia to the Northern Neck, and everywhere in between.

These projects vary greatly in size, sometimes ranging from critical acquisition and protections of less than 10 acres—to some amazing opportunities that have been greater than 10,000 acres.

As most of you are aware, grant funds are divided into five categories pursuant to the Code of Virginia:

- farmland preservation, forestland conservation, historic area preservation, natural area protection, and open spaces and parks.

With the structure and effectiveness of the program—Significant lands have been conserved through VLCF grants, including privately-owned working farms and forests, State Forests, state Natural Area Preserves, state Wildlife Management Areas, state historic sites and structures, tribal ancestral homelands, and local and regional trailways and parklands.

Looking at the distribution of projects across Virginia, funding is being directed throughout these categories to the areas most in need.

- Many farmland preservation projects have occurred in the northern part of the state, combatting development pressures that have made it challenging for our farmers to produce the food and fiber that feed and clothe the world.
- Southwest has been the recipient of numerous significant natural area and open space protections, ensuring those unique landscapes held dear by so many can continue to be enjoyed, and helping build on what is already an amazing outdoor recreation and tourism destination.

This really leads right into one of the main factors that makes VLCF so successful—the partners involved. From both the state and the non-profit sector—Conservation partners, including numerous entities in the room today, have leveraged VLCF state funds with more than \$400 million in matching funds. That is a phenomenal testament to the commitment and dedication you all have to the incredibly important conservation work that is happening in Virginia.

The work you are doing is setting the example for future partnerships and opportunities. One of those key partners that has recently emerged and shown the potential impact of VLCF is Virginia's tribes. In total VLCF, has awarded over \$6.2 million in funding to Virginia Tribes to acquire and protect over 2,800 (2,809) acres – focusing in on their historic lands and re-establishing a critical aspect of their lives for their future legacies and communities.

The structure of VLCF is something that has contributed to this success we are reflecting on today. An interagency task force, consisting of representatives of the Departments of Conservation and Recreation, Agriculture and Consumer Services, Forestry, Historic Resources, Wildlife Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation—assisting the VLCF Board of Trustees – has developed criteria for each of the five grant categories, scoring applications, and making funding recommendations. That coordinated expertise enables smart, strategic decisions to be made. Decisions we can all be confident in—and decisions we know will result in impactful use of taxpayer dollars.

That is a legacy to be proud of. A legacy that has a solid foundation. And a legacy that we continue to build on.

Thank you to all who have played a role over the past 25 years in making VLCF what it is today. I look forward to seeing what will be accomplished over the next 25. “

Secretary Voyles called on Ms. DiCicco for additional remarks about the 25th Anniversary of the VLCF.

Ms. DiCicco commented that DCR has been working to highlight the work of the VLCF over the last 25 years. She noted a project map showing where VLCF has funded projects. She also introduced the new VLCF logo commemorating the 25th Anniversary.

DCR has developed a story map to highlight the 25 years of VLCF projects. The story map shows five projects in each category. Ms. DiCicco advised that staff from partner agencies would be highlighting five of those projects.

Farmland Preservation - Genelle Harris, VDACS

Ms. Harris gave an overview of Forkland Dairy:

One of the last dairies in Cumberland County is forever protected with an open-space easement. The 904-acre Forkland Dairy farm, a Virginia Century Farm, has been in the same family since 1848. Three generations of the family are actively engaged in the 300-head operation and have a plan for future expansion. The farm lies on 4,370 feet of shoreline along the Appomattox River and has received the Clean Water Farm Award and the Forage and Grassland Council's award for management practices. Best management practices installed include Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, cover crops, tree planting in riparian buffer areas and a precision phosphorus feeding program. Partners include the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Farmland Preservation Category FY21 Round 2; FY22

Forestland Preservation - Amanda Scheps, DOF

Ms. Scheps gave a review of Big Woods, Piney Grove Flatwoods:

VLCF grants supported the creation of Big Woods, the first state forest in southeastern Virginia, with 4,192 acres, followed by a new wildlife management area of 1,286 acres. The new Piney Grove Flatwoods Natural Area Preserve is the most recent addition to this mosaic of conserved lands in Sussex County, which makes up one of the most intact coastal-plain stream systems in eastern Virginia. All these public lands have been critical for efforts to restore habitat for the endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker and longleaf pine savannahs. Partners include Department of Forestry; Department of Wildlife Resources; Natural Heritage Program; The Nature Conservancy.

Forestland Preservation Category FY07; FY09; FY15; FY20

Historic Area Preservation - Karri Richardson, DHR

Ms. Richardson gave an overview of Siegen Forest:

Siegen Forest preserves portions of two Civil War battlefields: Chancellorsville and Wilderness in Orange County. The property contains seven known archaeological sites, including two resources related to a mill complex once located at Germanna Ford, Civil War-era military earthworks, and the remains of structures from the 19th and early 20th centuries. The property contains a well-marked trail system and newly opened public boat launch at Germanna Ford with access to the Rapidan River. Partners include the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program; Department of Historic Resources; Piedmont Environmental Council; Historic Germanna.

Historic Area Preservation Category | FY22

Natural Areas Preservation- Jason Bulluck DCR

Mr. Bulluck gave an overview of Hickory Hollow Natural Area Preserve:

The first-ever VLCF grant awarded to a natural area project resulted in the establishment of Hickory Hollow Natural Area Preserve in Lancaster County. The grant was awarded to the Northern Neck Audubon Society to protect 254 acres of mixed pine-hardwood forest, ravines and habitat for migratory songbirds and rare plants. This project set the bar for natural area projects: it helped to protect irreplaceable natural heritage resources while allowing public access. Hickory Hollow remains a persistently popular birdwatching hotspot. Additional partners include Natural Heritage Program.

Natural Area Preservation Category| FY00

Open Spaces and Parks – Kellie Seaton, DCR

Ms. Seaton presented an overview of Paradise Creek:

Over two VLCF grant rounds, the Elizabeth River Project received funding to acquire 40 acres in Portsmouth for the creation of an urban nature park along the shores of the Elizabeth River. The completed park now boasts 11 acres of restored tidal wetlands, a kayak launch, walking trails, picnic tables, a river-themed playground and an educational wetland learning lab. The park's 2 miles of trails traverse an old growth coastal oak woodland, wildflower meadows, pollinator gardens and the restored wetlands, providing a view of Paradise Creek. Additional partners include the City of Portsmouth; Virginia Port Authority.

Open Spaces and Parks Category | FY06, FY07

Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Martha Little

Ms. Little presented an overview of Camp Kum-Ba-Yah:

Three VLCF grants supported a conservation easement over Camp Kum-Ba-Yah, protecting a 42-acre urban forest in Lynchburg in perpetuity. The public recreation, learning center and outdoor space has offered outdoor nature programming for more than 70 years. The land has connections to the civil rights movement. It was the only space in the city to offer a meal to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on his 1962 visit, and was the first pool in Lynchburg to welcome African American families to swim alongside their white neighbors. Generations have had formative nature experiences in its woods. The organization offers scholarships to nearly half its campers. Partners include Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Open Spaces and Parks Category | FY20; FY21 Round 1; FY22

Secretary Voyles thanked the presenters and asked if any members of the Board would like to comment.

Ms. Andrews commented that she has both represented the Board and been a member. She noted that a common theme has been the great staff support and that she is proud to speak about the program outside of Virginia.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 13, 2023, BOARD MEETING**BOARD ACTION**

Mr. Ford moved that the minutes of the November 13, 2023, meeting of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees be approved as submitted. Senator Marsden seconded, and the motion carried.

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FUND FINANCIAL REPORT - Sharon Partee, DCR, Director of Finance

Ms. Partee presented the following financial information:

**Virginia Land Conservation Foundation
Fund Statement
As of April 30, 2024**

OBLIGATED FUND BALANCE – June 30, 2022		\$16,287,778
INCOME		
FY22 Stewardship Funds		\$2,124,270
FY23 Stewardship Funds		\$1,667,123
FY23 Appropriation – Chapter 2		\$16,000,000
FY24 Appropriation – Chapter 1		\$16,000,000
FY23 Interest		\$506,071
FY24 Interest*		\$1,098,433
TOTAL INCOME		\$37,395,997
DISBURSEMENTS		
FY23 Stewardship Fund Disbursements		\$2,124,370
FY24 Stewardship Fund Disbursements*		\$1,667,123
FY23 Grant Payments		\$5,507,148
FY24 Grant Payments*		\$6,130,299
FY23 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments		\$4,000,000
FY24 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments		\$4,000,000
FY23 Administrative Expenses		\$122,897
FY24 Administrative Expenses		\$49,590
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT		\$23,601,427
*Changes since last report		
OBLIGATED FUND BALANCE – April 30, 2024		\$30,082,348

AUTHORIZATION TO EXPEND INTEREST FROM VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FUND, PURSUANT TO § 10.1-1020 - Frank Stovall, DCR, Deputy Director for Operations

Mr. Stovall presented the DCR request for authorization to expend the interest from the Virginia Land Conservation Fund. He noted that pursuant to *Code of Virginia* § 10.1-2020(G), up to \$250,000 per year of the interest generated by the Fund may be used for the Foundation's administrative expenses.

BOARD ACTION

Mr. Ford moved that the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation authorize the Department of Conservation and Recreation to expend up to \$250,000 in FY 2025 for use consistent with the legislative authority on the use of interest generated by the Fund. *Code of Virginia* § 10.1-1020.G; as outlined below:

FY2025 \$250,000

Address existing administrative, web service and database-related expenses incurred by the Department of Conservation and Recreation in support of Virginia Land Conservation Foundation grant management activities. Specifically, the funding will be used in support of staff assisting with the VLCF grant program, the Webgrants online Grant Management Portal, land conservation database support of the Foundation's mission, and fulfillment of statutorily required reporting requirements.

Ms. Stiff seconded and the motion carried.

VLCF GRANT PROGRAM

Review of VLCF Grant Projects That Have Closed – Gina DiCicco, DCR, Land Conservation Specialist

Ms. DiCicco reviewed the 19 projects that closed since the November 13, 2023, meeting of the Board.

- 1. Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection along the Blue Ridge Turnpike (FY2021)** Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) received a FY2021 grant for \$315,000 to project the M&W Farm and Willis Properties in Madison and Orange Counties – totaling 447 acres. The project leveraged VLCF funds with matching federal NRCS Agricultural Land Easement funds. PEC now co-holds the conservation easement with the Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District. Grant Award: \$315,000. Payment amount: \$315,000. Match: \$1,690,431. Grant Closed: April 2024.
- 2. Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Protection along the Robinson River (FY2021)** A FY2021 VLCF grant for \$106,875, along with matching federal Agricultural Land Easement funds, were utilized by The Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) to project the 596-acre Goodall Family Farm with an open space easement. The Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District awarded the Goodalls its forestry award for their outstanding forest management and restoration efforts in 2019. The SWCD is a co-holder of the easement conserving the farmland in perpetuity. Grant Award: \$106,875. Payment amount: \$106,875. Match: \$2,123,304. Project closed: April 2024.
- 3. Department of Conservation and Recreation – Southside Virginia Conservation and Recreation Complex (Phase I) (FY2021)** The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) received a grant for \$843,750 to acquire Phase I of its first ever joint State Parks Division and Natural Heritage Division project; the Southside Virginia Conservation and Recreation Complex in Halifax

County. After the grant was awarded for the first phase to acquire 2,010 acres, the entire 7,4000 acres was donated to DCR. The VLCF grant funds were used to cover due diligence expenses required by the Commonwealth to accept the donation and ensured 2,010 acres were placed under a recorded Natural Areas Deed of Dedication. Grant Award: \$843,750, revised to \$240,000 to cover due diligence at May 2023 Board Meeting. Payment amount: \$207,418. Match: \$0. Project closed: May 2024. Amount to be returned to Natural Areas Preservation Category: \$32,582.

4. **Friends of the Lower Appomattox River – Appomattox River Trail – Critical Petersburg Gap Connections (FY2021)** Friends of the Lower Appomattox River (FOLAR) was awarded \$28,943 by VLCF in the FY21 grant round to acquire an eight-acre tract with 2,112 feet of river frontage along the Appomattox River, a state designated Scenic River. Project partners include the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (who holds the open space easement on the property), The Cameron Foundation, and the City of Petersburg. The project intersects two layers of ConserveVirginia: Cultural and Historic Preservation and Scenic Preservation. Grant Award: \$28,943. Payment amount: \$28,943. Match: \$70,971. Project closed: April 2024.
5. **Stafford County – Kevin Jones Farm (FY2021 Round II: FY2022)** Two VLCF grants, totaling \$166,500, were awarded to Stafford County to place an open-space easement on Kevin Jones Farm through the county's Purchase of Development Rights program. The easement preserves and protects on-side Civil War trenches within the wooded portion of the property. The farm is adjacent to land under conservation easement with Northern Virginia Conservation Trust and is located 200 feet from another county-held PDR easement. Grant Awards: FY2021 Round II: \$46,250; FY2022: \$120,250. Payment amount: \$166,500. Match: \$243,290. Project closed: November 2023.
6. **American Battlefield Trust – Fussell's Mill Tracts at Second Deep Bottom Battlefield (FY2021 Round II)** The American Battlefield Trust received a VLCF grant for \$282,000 in FY21 to acquire and preserve the 50-acre Fussell's Mill Tracts in eastern Henrico County. The Trust has executed a written Rehabilitation and Management Plan for demolition and removal of the non-historic residential improvements on the 2.3-acre tract along with rehabilitation of the battlefield landscape. The Trust intends to interpret the Property for its historic battlefield significance through a publicity accessible roadside pull-off and signs. Grant Award: \$282,000. Payment amount: \$282,000. Match: \$490,644. Project closed. May 2024.
7. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Pierces Lowgrounds – Meherrin River Conservation Easement (FY2022; FY2023)** Virginia Outdoors Foundation was awarded \$650,000 over the FY22 and FY23 VLCF grant rounds to place an easement on the Pierces Lowgrounds tract. The property consists of 2,860 acres of multigenerational family-owned and operated forest and farmland along the Meherrin River in Greensville County. The property is within four categories of ConserveVirginia: Agriculture and Forestry, Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, and Water Quality Improvement. Grant Award: FY2022: \$350,000; FY2023: \$300,000. Payment amount: \$650,000. Match: \$2,744,908. Project closed: April 2024.
8. **Virginia Department of Forestry – Over the River and Point Beach (FY2022)** Two properties along the State Scenic Nottoway River in Southampton County, under the same family ownership for almost 100 years, have been placed under easement with the Department of Forestry with the assistance of a VLCF FY22 grant for \$250,00. The two properties intersect five layers of ConserveVirginia: Agriculture and Forestry, Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Scenic Preservation, Protected Landscapes Resilience, and Water Quality Improvement. Grant Award: \$225,000. Payment amount: \$225,000. Match: \$620,699. Project closed: May 2024.

9. **The Germanna Foundation – Siegen Forest (FY2022)** The Siegen Forest project is now protected under an open-space easement held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. A VLCF grant, awarded in FY22 for \$647,370, helped to advance the preservation of important archaeological artifacts and assist in preserving this undeveloped park land in Orange County, which provides daily public access. The property is located within the Cultural and Historic Preservation, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, and Water Quality Improvement layers of ConserveVirginia. Grant Award: \$647,370. Payment amount: \$628,910. Match: \$628,910. Project closed: December 2023. Amount to be returned to Historic Preservation Category: \$18,460.
10. **American Battlefield Trust – Pegrams Battery Tract at Cedar Mountain (FY2022)** An FY2022 VLCF grant in the amount of \$249,876 assisted in the American Battlefield Trust's purchase and conservation of the 44-acre Pegram's Battery Tract, located in Culpeper County. The tract is entirely within the Core Area of the Cedar Mountain Battlefield and falls within the Cultural and Historic Preservation and Scenic Preservation layers of ConserveVirginia. The Trust will steward the tract and incorporate it into its existing Cedar Mountain Park, which is open to the public year-round. Grant Award: 249,876. Payment amount: \$249,876. Match: \$265,763. Project closed: March 2024.
11. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Difficult Creek South Addition (FY2022)** DCR's Natural Heritage Division received a FY22 VLCF grant for \$30,000 to acquire a two-acre addition to the 819-acre Difficult creek Natural Area Preserve (DCNAP) in Halifax County. The property intersects the Protected Landscapes Resilience, the Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, and the Scenic Preservation layers of Conserve Virginia. Grant award: \$30,000. Payment amount: \$24,862. Match: \$0. Project closed: May 2024. Amount to be returned to the Natural Area Protection Category: \$5,137.
12. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Deep Run Ponds Natural Area Preserve Land Donation (FY2022)** The Division of Natural Heritage received a FY22 VLCF grant for \$20,000, to complete the due diligence necessary to accept the fee simple donation of a one-acre parcel adjoining the 905-acre Deep Run Ponds Natural Area Preserve in Rockbridge County. The tract intersects the Protected Landscapes Resilience and Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity layers of ConserveVirginia. Grant Award: \$20,000. Payment amount: \$13,511. Match. \$0. Project closed: November 2023. Amount to be returned to the Natural Area Protection Category: \$6,489.
13. **Tadpole Land and Trail Conservancy – Ballenger Creek Nature Preserve (FY2022)** Tadpole Land and Trail Conservancy (TLTC) purchased 76 acres along Ballenger Creek in Fluvanna County to create Ballenger Creek Nature Preserve. The easement conserves the land, protects the forest, and provides public access. TLTC plans to build trails, conserve the habitat, and install interpretive signs. The property is not within ConserveVirginia. Grant Award: \$65,084. Payment amount. \$65,084. Match: \$186,513. Project closed. February 2024.
14. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Harris Farm (FY2023)** A VLCF grant award of \$400,000 to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) helped to purchase an open-space easement on the WD Harris farm in Spotsylvania County. Protection of the Harris Farm bolsters agricultural viability and projects water quality. Agricultural best management practices will continue, and a 50-foot-wide forested buffer will be maintained along the length of Beverly Run, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, which drains immediately into Lake Anna. Grant Award: \$400,000. Payment amount: \$400,000. Match: \$425,470. Project closed: April 2024.
15. **Downtown Greens, Inc. – Downtown Greens Expansion (FY2023)** Downtown Greens, Fredericksburg's oldest community garden, was awarded a \$400,000 grant by VLCF in FY23 to

conserve a 56-acre parcel under an open-space easement held by Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The parcel shares a boundary with the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, helping buffer both Braehead Farm and the adjacent Lee Drive from encroaching industrial development. Its 30 acres of bottomland forest, wetland and vernal pool habitat help generate clean water for the nearby lower Rappahannock River. About 2,000 feet of streams on the property will remain protected by the 100-foot forested riparian buffers. Grant Award: \$400,000. Payment amount: \$400,000. Match: \$1,823,634. Project closed: November 2023.

16. **Department of Forestry – Hornet Swamp (FY2023)** The Department of Forestry (DOF) received an FY23 VLCF grant of \$400,000 to acquire an open-space easement on two separate tracts totaling 608 acres in Southampton and Sussex Counties. The DOF easement will protect sensitive bottomlands and more than 20,000 feet of 50-foot-wide forested buffers along Hornet Swamp and the perennial streams that transect the property. Grant Award: \$400,000. Payment amount: \$400,000. Match: \$503,125. Project closed: April 2024.
17. **Capital Region Land Conservancy – 5270 New Market Road (FY2023)** Capital Region Land Conservancy received an FY23 VLCF grant for \$588,250 to match funding from the American Battlefields Protection Program, to acquire and conserve 41 acres at Willis Church and New Market Roads in eastern Henrico County. The property has the support of local neighborhood groups, many of which have placed an emphasis on preserving sites pertinent to the U.S. Colored Troops (the Battles of Deep Bottom I and II) and greater connectivity of conserved lands around Malvern Hill. Grant Award: \$588,250. Payment amount: \$582,485. Project closed: January 2024. Amount to be returned to the Historic Preservation Category: \$5,765.
18. **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – Shiflett Tract at Piedmont Battlefield (FY2023)** Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation was granted \$253,433 from VLCF in FY23 to acquire a historic preservation and open-space easement held by the Board of Historic Resources on the 141-acre Shiflett Tract in Augusta County. The project intersects the Agricultural and Forestal, Cultural and Historic Preservation and Watershed Preservation layers of ConserveVirginia. Grant Award: \$253,433. Payment amount: \$253,433. Match: \$645,303. Project closed: November 2023.
19. **Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation – Red Hill (FY2023)** The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation, utilizing a FY2023 FLCF grant for \$602,830, conserved the 600-acre historic Red Hill property under an open-space easement held by Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The property fronts on the Falling River for almost one mile, and the state scenic Staunton River for 1,800 feet – both will have 50-foot-vegetated riparian buffers. Red Hill was named a National Memorial in 1986 by the President Reagan and is listed on both the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. Grant Award: \$602,830. Payment amount: \$602,830. Match: \$1,046,571. Project closed: December 2023.

Ms. DiCicco advised that two projects were withdrawn since the November, 2023 meeting.

1. **American Battlefield Trust – James Jackson Tract at the Wilderness Battlefield (FY2021)** Grant Award: \$221,023. Funds will be returned to the Historic Preservation Category.
2. **City of Waynesboro – Basic Park (FY2022)** Grant Award: \$87,500. Funds will be returned to the Open Spaces and Parks Category.

Summary of Open VLCF Grants

Ms. DiCicco gave the following summary of open VLCF grants.

- There are three open grants from the FY21 Round II grant round.
- For the FY22 grant round, nine of the 30 grants originally awarded are open.
- For the FY23 grant round, 26 of the 40 grants awarded are open.
- The 29 grants awarded in the FY24 grant round remain open.
- Currently, DCR is managing a total of 67 open grants with a total value of \$26,888,197.

Discussion and Approval of the VLCF FY25 Grant Round

Proposed Grant Fiscal Expenditure Plan

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
Proposed GRANT FUNDING PLAN FOR FY25

FUNDING CATEGORIES	FY25 Budget Bill Chapt. 2 Item 360 A.I. \$16,000,000	Interest through 4/30/24 \$1,361,211	Unspent Grant Funds to be Approved and Reallocated	TOTALS Available
I. VOF Open-Space Land Preservation Trust Fund (25% per § 10.1-1020 C.)	\$4,000,000	\$340,301		VOF PTF: \$4340,301
II. Grant Program				VLCF Grant Round
(i) Farmland Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$0	\$2,604,182
(ii) Forest Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$0	\$2,604,182
(iii) Historic Area Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$245,248	\$2,849,430
(iv) Natural Area Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$195,514	\$2,799,696
(v) Open Space and Parks	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$87,500	\$2,691,682
TOTAL for Grant Round	\$12,000,000	\$1,020,910	\$528,262	\$13,548,172
<i>Summary of Additional Unspent Grant Funds</i>				
Farmland Preservation	\$0			
Forest Preservation	\$0			
Historic Area Preservation	\$245,248	<u>Withdrawn:</u> FY21 American Battlefield Trust, James Jackson Tract at the Wilderness Battlefield \$221,023 <u>Unexpended Remainder:</u> FY22 The Germanna Foundation, Siegen Forest \$18,460 . FY23 Capital Region land Conservancy, 5270 New Market Road \$5,765		
Natural Area Preservation	\$195,514	<u>Unallocated FY24 Grant Funds:</u> \$151,425 . <u>Unexpended Remainder:</u> FY21 DCR-DNH, Southside VA Conservation and Recreation Complex \$32,582 . FY22 DCR-DNH, Deep Run Ponds Natural Area Preserve Land Donation \$6,489 . FY22 DCR-DNH, Difficult Creek South Addition \$5,018		
Open Spaces and Parks	\$87,500	<u>Withdrawn:</u> FY22 City of Waynesboro, Basic Park – Natural Area \$87,500 .		

Proposed Timeline for Applications and Awards

Mr. Stovall presented the proposed timeline.

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

Proposed FY 24 Grant Schedule

Proposed FY24 VLCF Grant Schedule	
June 4, 2024	VLCF Board meeting to approve grant manual and update the grant round request for proposals (RFP).
Week of June 5, 2024	Announce official opening of grant round (update website and send emails).
June 27, 2024	Virtual Grant Workshop: orientation and program information for grant applicants: <u>Date set for June 27 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.</u>
Wednesday, August 28, 2024	Deadline for application submittal. (12 weeks)
Weeks of September 16 and 30, 2024	Interagency taskforce meetings to score projects and finalize recommendations – usually takes two meetings.
Mid-October 2024	SNR and Director’s review of applications and recommendations of IAT
Late October/Early November 2024	VLCF Board Meeting: Approval of grant awards.
By end of November 2024	Grant agreements sent to grant recipients. Projects have two years to close.

Proposed Grant Manual

Mr. Stovall presented the proposed edits to the VLCF Grant Manual. A copy with edits was provided members and was made available for public review prior to adoption.

Mr. Stovall noted:

- The first section of changes were minor edits or technical corrections, to include changes to improve document organization, grammar, and to clarify existing requirements.
- The Interagency Taskforce (IAT) recommended an age limit for boundary surveys. No survey greater than 20-years-old should be accepted as valid for grant applications. The Office of the Attorney General aided in developing the language for this recommendation.

Mr. Stovall advised that the IAT recommended that in the Farmland Preservation category, additional criterion be added to award up to five (5) points for projects working with local purchase of development (PDR) programs. This was requested by the Board at the November 13, 2023 meeting where seven of the 13 applications in the Farmland Preservation category were submitted by local PDR programs.

With regard to wildlife corridors, the IAT recommended that up to 10 points may be given to projects that fall within an area designated as a wildlife corridor buffer or an actual corridor in the Virginia Wildlife Corridor Action Plan.

Mr. Stovall advised that additional changes were recommended by the Interagency Taskforce. However due to the significant nature of the changes, DCR recommended a period of additional review and public comment prior to implementing the changes in the FY26 Grant Manual.

Mr. Stovall noted that DCR was seeking Board approval and adoption of the following:

1. The proposed Grant Fiscal Expenditure Plan
2. The proposed Timeline for Applications and Awards
3. The proposed Grant Manual
4. The addition of points for Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) and Wildlife Corridors

Public Comment

Secretary Voyles opened the floor for public comment regarding the proposed grant manual changes. There was no public comment.

Secretary Voyles called for discussion or questions from Board members.

Ms. Stiff asked about the addition of points for the Purchase of Development Rights. She suggested the Board consider the expansion of these points for additional categories, not just Farmland Preservation.

Mr. Stovall suggested this could be included in the section where bonus points are awarded. He noted that the IAT was just proposing the addition in a single category but that the decision to expand that would be up to the Board.

Secretary Voyles suggested that the expansion of the points for PDR beyond the Farmland Preservation category be included as part of the discussion and public comment for the FY26 Grant Manual.

Ms. Stiff suggested that a subcommittee of the Board be convened to address those changes and other changes that might come forward. The discussion process would be open to the public.

Secretary Voyles agreed to convene a subcommittee following the public comment period. He suggested that members of the IAT be involved in that discussion prior to a final presentation to the Board for adoption of the FY26 grant manual.

Mr. Leeth asked about the prohibition of indirect costs for reimbursement as matching funds.

Mr. Stovall responded that the intent is to maximize available funding for land acquisitions.

BOARD ACTION

Ms. Quigley moved that the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (Board) approve the recommended adjustments for the CY24/FY25 grant cycle, as recommended by the Interagency Task Force to include adoption of the financial plan, the grant timeline, technical changes to the manual, and addition of points and scoring criteria related to PDR and Wildlife Corridors.

Ms. Stiff seconded and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no further public comment.

Secretary Voyles recognized Mr. Fletcher who will be retiring in September, after twenty-seven years of service to DCR.

ADJOURN

There was no further business and the meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.



Honoring
Michael Fletcher
On His Retirement

WHEREAS, Michael Fletcher has dedicated 30 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia, with 27 years specifically at the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR); and

WHEREAS, Michael Fletcher began his career with the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1994 during the Administration of Governor George Allen; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, he began his tenure at DCR as the Director of Development, showcasing his leadership and dedication to the Department; and

WHEREAS, Michael Fletcher has served as the Freedom of Information Officer for DCR, ensuring transparency and accountability within the Department; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, he has been the DCR Board Liaison, overseeing various Boards and Special Committees, including the Virginia Board of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Cave Board, Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board, and numerous ad hoc committees; and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2024, Michael Fletcher retired as the Board and Constituent Services Liaison, as well as the FOIA Officer for the Department of Conservation and Recreation, leaving behind a legacy of dedication and service to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the chairs of each Board, and the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, commend Michael Fletcher for his outstanding service, leadership, and commitment to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be presented to Michael Fletcher in recognition of his contributions and achievements during his esteemed career with the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Signed,

Chair, Virginia Cave Board

Chair, Virginia Land Conservation Foundation

Chair, Virginia Board of Conservation and Recreation

Chair, Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board

Matthew S. Wells, Director
Department of Conservation and Recreation

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
Fund Statement
As of October 31, 2024

OBLIGATED FUND BALANCE - June 30, 2022 **\$16,287,778**

INCOME

FY22 Stewardship Funds	\$2,124,370
FY23 Stewardship Funds	\$1,667,123
FY24 Stewardship Funds*	\$2,222,606
FY23 Appropriation - Chapter 2	\$16,000,000
FY24 Appropriation - Chapter 1	\$16,000,000
FY25 Appropriation - Chapter 2*	\$16,000,000
FY23 Interest	\$506,071
FY24 Interest*	\$1,485,359
FY25 Interest*	\$486,596
TOTAL INCOME	\$56,492,125

DISBURSEMENTS

FY23 Stewardship Fund Disbursements	\$2,124,370
FY24 Stewardship Fund Disbursements	\$1,667,123
FY25 Stewardship Fund Disbursements*	\$0
FY23 Grant Payments	\$5,507,148
FY24 Grant Payments*	\$7,980,536
FY25 Grant Payments*	\$1,034,415
FY23 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments	\$4,000,000
FY24 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments	\$4,000,000
FY25 Open Space Preservation (VOF) Payments*	\$2,000,000
FY23 Administrative Expenses	\$122,897
FY24 Administrative Expenses*	\$54,947
FY25 Administrative Expenses*	\$9,480
TOTAL DISBURSEMENT	\$28,500,916

* Changes since last report

OBLIGATED FUND BALANCE - October 31, 2024 **\$44,278,987**

2024 Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Stewardship Fund

	AGENCY NAME	NUMBER OF DONATIONS	% OF TOTAL DONATIONS	AMOUNT OF FUNDS
1	500-Year Forest Foundation	7	1.61%	\$35,684.04
2	Blue Ridge Foothills Conservancy	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
3	Broad Water Innovations	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
4	Capital Region Land Conservancy Inc	9.5	2.18%	\$48,428.34
5	Central Virginia Battlefields Trust	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
6	Chesapeake Conservancy	2	0.46%	\$10,195.44
7	City of Chesapeake	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
8	City of Franklin	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
9	Coastal Virginia Conservancy	2	0.46%	\$10,195.44
10	County of Albemarle	16	3.67%	\$81,563.52
11	County of Chesterfield	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
12	County of Clarke	7	1.61%	\$35,684.04
13	County of Fauquier	4	0.92%	\$20,390.88
14	County of Shenandoah	0.5	0.11%	\$2,548.86
15	County of Warren	3	0.69%	\$15,293.16
16	Ever Green Team	85	19.50%	\$433,306.22
17	Historic Virginia Land Conservancy	5	1.15%	\$25,488.60
18	Land Savers United	17	3.90%	\$86,661.24
19	Land Trust of Virginia	52.5	12.04%	\$267,630.31
20	Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
21	Monacan Soil & Water Conservation District	0.5	0.11%	\$2,548.86
22	New River Conservancy	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
23	New River Land Trust	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
24	Northern Neck Land Conservancy	10	2.29%	\$50,977.20
25	Northern Virginia Conservation Trust	5	1.15%	\$25,488.60
26	Old Dominion Land Conservancy, Inc.	45	10.32%	\$229,397.41
27	Outdoors Preservation Foundation	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
28	Piedmont Environmental Council	8	1.83%	\$40,781.76
29	Potomac Conservancy	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
30	Shenandoah National Park Trust	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
31	Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation	2.5	0.57%	\$12,744.30
32	The Nature Conservancy	6	1.38%	\$30,586.32
33	The Town of Lovettsville	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
34	Shenandoah Valley Conservancy (formerly Valley Conservation Council)	24.5	5.62%	\$124,894.14
35	Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation	1	0.23%	\$5,097.72
36	Virginia Department of Forestry	7	1.61%	\$35,684.04
37	Virginia Department of Historic Resources	2	0.46%	\$10,195.44
38	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	3	0.69%	\$15,293.16
39	Virginia Eastern Shore Land Trust	4	0.92%	\$20,390.88
40	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	94	21.56%	\$479,185.70
	TOTALS	436	100.00%	\$2,222,606.00



Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Staff Report

TOPIC: Land Conservation, VLCF Stewardship Funds

SUBJECT: Distribution of VLCF Stewardship Funds to a Dissolved Stewardship Organization

ACTION: Direction regarding distribution of VLCF Stewardship Funds to Enrichmond Foundation

AGENDA ITEM: 9.b.

ISSUE SUMMARY:

- In accordance with § 58.1-513 C.2. of the Code of Virginia, a portion of the fees arising from the transfer or distribution of tax credits is provided to the organizations responsible for the stewardship and monitoring of easement associated with the tax credits.
- In November 2022, the VLCF Board reviewed and approved the annual Stewardship Fund distribution as directed by the Code. The Enrichmond Foundation was slated to receive a portion of those funds because they accepted a qualified land donation in 2020. In total, the Enrichmond Foundation is slated to receive \$8,317.11 in stewardship funding, however no payments have been made since the dissolution of the foundation.
- In light of the Foundation's dissolution, a determination needs to be made by the VLCF Board regarding the disposition of funds due to the Enrichmond Foundation.

STATUS:

- In June 2024, the property was transferred to the City of Richmond.
- Capital Region Land Conservancy has a letter of intent to acquire the property and is actively pursuing conserving the property. They plan to acquire the parcel from the City of Richmond and record a conservation easement before transferring ownership of the parcel to Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation for public outdoor recreational use.

RECOMMENDATION:

- Staff recommends continuing to hold payment until ownership of the Enrichmond Foundation parcel is settled and the parcel is placed under a conservation easement.
- After the property is permanently conserved, then payment would be made to the easement holder.

- Staff further recommends that this issue be revisited in 2025 by the Board if the disposition of the Enrichmond Foundation parcel has not been determined at that time.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS:

APPLICABLE CODE SECTIONS:

Section 58.1-513.C.2. A fee of two percent of the value of the donated interest shall be imposed upon any transfer arising from the sale by any taxpayer of credits under this article and upon the distribution of a portion of credits under this article to a member, manager, partner, shareholder or beneficiary pursuant to subsection B. The two percent fee shall not apply to a distribution of credits to a nonresident owner of a pass-through entity when such credits are applied by the pass-through entity to the withholding tax pursuant to subdivision B 2 of § 58.1-486.2. Revenues generated by such fees first shall be used by the Department of Taxation and the Department of Conservation and Recreation for their costs in implementing this article but in no event shall such amount exceed 50 percent of the total revenue generated by the fee on an annual basis. The remainder of such revenues shall be transferred to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund for distribution to the public or private conservation agencies or organizations, excluding federal governmental entities, that are responsible for enforcing the conservation and preservation purposes of the donated interests. Distribution of such revenues shall be made annually by the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation proportionally based on a three-year average of the number of donated interests accepted by the public or private conservation agencies or organizations, excluding federal governmental entities, during the immediately preceding three-year period.

ATTACHMENTS:

- None

FY25 VLCF Grant Round Funding Recommendations of the Inter-Agency Task Force (November 21, 2024)

Count	Applicant	Project Name	Acquisition or Easement	Acres	Project Location	Category Score	Category Conserve-Virginia Score	VOP Need	Fish and Wildlife Values + Protection of Wildlife Corridors	Water Quality Benefit	Public Access	Recreation Access Model Need	Protection of Cultural Resources	Under-served Communities	Additional Conserve-Va Values	Ratio of Match	Confirmed intersections with ConserveVa	TOTAL SCORE	TOTAL PROJECT COST	REQUESTED AMOUNT	RECOMMENDED GRANT AMOUNT	PERCENT OF REQUEST REC. for FUNDING	Grant Award Amounts (11/21/2024)	Virginia House District	Virginia Senate District	Congressional District
						Max. 80 points	Max. 20 points	Max 3	Max 20	Max 11	Max 10	Max 3	Max 10	Max 10	Max 12	Max 3		Max 182 points	Farmland Preservation Total Available:	\$2,604,182						
Farmland Preservation Amount Available: \$2,604,182																										
1	The Conservation Fund	Hazelwood Farm	Easement	339.00	Caroline County	64.6	0	3	11	9	2	0	6	5	6	2	HIST, SCEN, WAT	108.60	\$1,906,500	\$440,750	\$440,750	100%		67	25	7
2	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Jatt Farm ~ Musapatike	Easement	353.56	Mecklenburg County	57.2	0.62	3	1	4	2	0	5	10	2	2	AG, SCEN	86.82	\$1,234,000	\$480,715	\$480,715	100%		50	9	5
3	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Greg and Kyli Waddle Property	Easement	850.00	Smyth County	61.2	0.35	3	9	0	2	0	0	8	0	2	AG	85.55	\$2,731,500	\$989,300	\$914,017	92%		46	5	9
4	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC	Easement	138.32	Loudoun County	58	1.97	3	1	4	2	0	8	0	0	3	AG, HIST	80.97	\$2,000,000	\$125,000	\$125,000	100%		30	31	10
5	Stafford County	William Long Farm	Easement	69.25	Stafford County	41.28	0	2	19	11	2	0	0	5	0	0	None	80.28	\$508,000	\$254,000	\$254,000	100%		65	27	7
6	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Panamint Farm	Easement	533.00	Louisa County	49.45	0.43	3	9	4	0	0	0	5	2	0	AG, WAT	72.88	\$1,017,500	\$389,700	\$389,700	100%		56	17	5
7	Stafford County	Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm	Easement	20.00	Stafford County	47.76	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	None	51.76	\$208,000	\$104,000	\$0	0%		64	27	7
8	Clarke County	Fansler Farm	Easement	88.95	Clarke County	34.7	0	3	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	None	50.70	\$407,500	\$100,000	\$0	0%		31	1	6
9	Stafford County	Pagnotta Property	Easement	35.40	Stafford County	29.52	0	2	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	None	48.52	\$308,000	\$154,000	\$0	0%		64	27	7
10	Stafford County	Schenemann Property	Easement	20.00	Stafford County	29.52	0	2	9	4	2	0	0	1	0	0	None	47.52	\$208,000	\$104,000	\$0	0%		64	57	7
Total Farmland Acres:				2,447.48														Total Farmland:	\$10,529,000	\$3,141,465	\$2,604,182					\$0
Forest Preservation Amount Available (\$2,604,182 + \$292,935 reallocated funds): \$2,897,117																										
						Max. 80 points	Max. 20 points	Max 3	Max 20	Max 11	Max 10	Max 3	Max 10	Max 10	Max 12	Max 3		Max 182 points	Forestland Conservation Total Available:	\$2,897,117						
1	Land Trust of Virginia	Huff Rock	Easement	647.00	Wise County	50.35	12.43	3	9	9	2	0	8	10	6	0	FOR, NAT, FLD, PROT	109.78	\$454,000	\$182,000	\$45,000	25%		1	40	9
2	Virginia Department of Forestry	Shooting Creek	Easement	674.68	Patrick County	56.84	0	3	19	9	0	0	8	7	4	0	NAT, FLD, HIST, SCEN, WAT	106.84	\$592,500	\$337,500	\$286,875	85%		39	7	9
3	Virginia Department of Forestry	Working Forests Between Battlefields	Easement	797.80	Dinwiddie County	60.24	0	3	19	11	2	0	0	5	6	0	WAT	106.24	\$1,851,000	\$925,500	\$775,000	84%		82	13	4
4	Virginia Department of Forestry	Tank Hill	Easement	1,491.54	Dinwiddie County	63.95	0	3	19	11	2	0	0	5	0	2	NAT	105.95	\$2,751,000	\$952,720	\$810,000	85%		82	17	4
5	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Richard Rolen Property	Easement	697.00	Washington County	55.97	18.3	3	19	4	0	0	0	5	0	0	FOR, NAT, FLD, NAT, SCEN, WAT	105.27	\$868,500	\$417,500	\$354,875	85%		5	6	9
6	Virginia Department of Forestry	Southampton 900	Easement	900.00	Southampton County	58.86	0	3	9	11	2	0	0	5	0	2	SCEN, WAT	90.86	\$1,613,500	\$400,000	\$340,000	85%		64	14	4
7	Monacan Indian Nation	Monacan Indian Nation - Daisy Adcock Property	Fee acquisition	100.40	Amherst County	20.82	17.79	3	14	8	3	3	10	10	0	0	FOR	89.61	\$434,600	\$434,600	\$285,367	66%		53	11	5
8	Virginia Department of Forestry	Camp Shenandoah	Easement	458.00	Augusta County	46.35	0	3	9	9	0	2	0	5	2	2	NAT, PROT, WAT	78.35	\$1,523,500	\$375,000	\$0	0%		35	2	6
Total Forest Conservation Acres:				5,766.42														Total Forestland:	\$10,088,600	\$4,024,820	\$2,897,117					\$0
Historic Preservation Amount Available: \$2,849,430																										
						Max. 80 points	Max. 20 points	Max 3	Max 20	Max 11	Max 10	Max 3	Max 10	Max 10	Max 12	Max 3		Max 182 points	Historic Area Preservation Total Available:	\$2,849,430						
1	The Conservation Fund	Oak Hill	Fee/ Easement	86.00	Loudoun County	75	19.56	3	6	8	10	3	10	0	6	2	AG, HIST, SCEN, WAT	142.56	\$7,578,000	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000	67%		30	31	10
2	Capital Region Land Conservancy	Seven Pines at Broad Water Creek	Easement	23.99	Henrico County	44	20	3	1	8	5	3	0	8	2	0	HIST, WAT	94.00	\$543,500	\$271,750	\$271,750	100%		81	13	4
3	Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation	Funk Tract at Cedar Creek	Fee/ Easement	45.56	Warren County	48	19.75	3	3	0	10	0	0	0	2	0	HIST, WAT	85.75	\$830,548	\$415,274	\$415,274	100%		31	1	6
4	American Battlefield Trust	Jackson at Wilderness	Easement	36.17	Orange County	41	19.72	3	5	0	3	2	0	5	2	0	HIST, WAT	80.72	\$409,475	\$204,238	\$162,406	80%		63	28	7
5	American Battlefield Trust	Robinson at Manassas	Fee/ Easement	1.75	Fairfax County	48	18.36	3	5	0	3	0	0	0	2	0	HIST, PROT	79.36	\$480,410	\$240,205	\$0	0%		9	36	10
6	American Battlefield Trust	Brandy Rock Farm II at Brandy Station	Easement	225.80	Culpeper County	40	10.52	3	5	0	2	0	0	5	4	0	AG, HIST, WAT	69.52	\$2,473,110	\$630,155	\$0	0%		18	27	7
7	American Battlefield Trust	Massad Tract at Fredericksburg	Fee/ Easement	5.42	Stafford County	40	0.96	3	5	0	3	0	0	0	4	0	HIST, FLD, SCEN	55.96	\$1,722,993	\$859,446	\$0	0%		65	27	7
8	American Battlefield Trust	Goddard at Eltham's Landing	Easement	51.98	New Kent County	39	0	3	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	FLD	50.00	\$366,805	\$182,528	\$0	0%		71	26	1
Total Historic Preservation Acres:				476.67														Total Historic:	\$14,404,841	\$5,803,594	\$2,849,430					\$0
Natural Area Preservation Amount Available (\$2,799,696 + \$594,277 reallocated funds): \$3,393,973																										
						Max. 80 points	Max. 20 points	Max 3	Max 20	Max 11	Max 10	Max 3	Max 10	Max 10	Max 12	Max 3		Max 182 points	Natural Area Protection Total Available:	\$3,393,973						
1	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve - Crow's Nest Harbor Partnership Phase 1	Fee acquisition	262.00	Stafford County	79	20	3	20	0	10	2	8	0	4	0	FLD, NAT, PROT	146.00	\$254,500	\$153,500	\$153,500	100%		64	27	7
2	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	South Quay Sandhills NAP - Biodiversity, Climate Resilience & Public Access in Chowan River Basin	Fee acquisition	1,900.00	Suffolk County	45.12	17.32	3	20	11	10	2	8	5	6	2	FLD, NAT, PROT, WAT	129.44	\$6,100,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	100%		89	17	2
3	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Ellett Escarpment - Eastern Divide South	Fee acquisition	84.00	Montgomery County	69	20	3	9	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	FLD, NAT	105.00	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$975,219	33%		41	4	9
4	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Ellett Escarpment Natural Area Preserve - Supplemental Funding	Fee acquisition	34.38	Montgomery County	68	20	0	9	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	FLD, NAT	102.00	\$165,254	\$165,254	\$165,254	100%		41	4	9
5	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Ellett Escarpment - Eastern Divide North	Fee acquisition	36.00	Montgomery County	68	20	0	9	0	2	0	0	0	3	0	FLD, NAT	102.00	\$800,000	\$800,000	\$800,000	100%		41	4	9

Total Natural Area Protection Acres:				2,316.38											Total Natural Area:				\$10,319,754	\$5,418,754	\$3,393,973	\$0				
Open Spaces & Parks Amount Available (\$2,691,682 + \$4,250 in reallocated funds): \$2,965,932					Max. 90 points	Max. 10 points	Max 3	Max 20	Max 11	Max 10	Max 3	Max 10	Max 10	Max 12	Max 3		Max 182 points	Open Spaces & Parks Total Available:		\$2,695,932						
1	City of Virginia Beach	Hancock North Landing Open Space FY25	Fee acquisition	28.00	Virginia Beach	64	10	3	16	9	10	0	10	3	6	0	FLD, NAT, SCEN, WAT	131.00	\$1,529,000	\$675,000	\$650,000	96%		82	8	2
2	City of Chesapeake	City of Chesapeake Open Spaces and Parks Application	Fee acquisition	96.00	City of Chesapeake	72	4.5	3	10	11	10	3	10	3	2	0	FLD, WAT	128.50	\$3,008,795	\$1,465,000	\$800,000	55%		78	14	2
3	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Lake Caledon - Caledon State Park Expansion	Fee acquisition	468.00	King George County	65	3.95	3	14	11	10	0	10	3	4	3	NAT, PROT, SCEN	126.95	\$6,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$500,000	50%		67	25	7
4	Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority	Robinson-Baker's Creek Acquisition	Fee acquisition	513.32	King and Queen County	74	1.18	3	10	11	10	0	10	7	0	0	FLD	126.18	\$607,950	\$303,975	\$255,000	84%		68	26	1
5	Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia	Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant	Fee acquisition	14.24	Stafford County	69	3.27	3	9	7	10	2	10	8	2	0	SCEN, NAT	123.27	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$390,932	78%		28	28	7
6	City of Virginia Beach	Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area	Fee acquisition	0.57	Virginia Beach	68	0	3	10	4	10	2	10	5	0	0	None	112.00	\$600,000	\$300,000	\$100,000	33%		100	20	2
7	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Cole's Point Water Access - Additional Funding	Fee acquisition	2.60	Westmoreland County	71	2.03	2	10	4	10	2	0	7	0	0	WAT	108.03	\$1,012,025	\$230,000	\$0	0%		67	25	1
8	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Access	Fee acquisition	97.25	Pulaski County	62	0.65	3	2	4	10	2	0	7	0	0	SCEN	90.65	\$1,112,500	\$1,112,500	\$0	0%		42	5	9
9	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Arlington Outdoor Education Association	Fee/Easement	75.00	Fauquier County	42	10	3	5	0	5	2	2	3	2	0	HIST, NAT, PROT	74.00	\$847,000	\$522,000	\$0	0%		10	28	10
Total Open Spaces & Parks Acres:				1,294.98											Total Open Spaces & Parks:		\$15,217,270	\$6,108,475	\$2,695,932	\$0						
40	<<< Total # Grant Applications FY25	Total Acreage for FY25 Grant Applications:		12,301.93											Totals for FY25 Grant Applications:		\$60,559,465	\$24,497,108	\$14,440,634	\$0						

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
Proposed GRANT FUNDING PLAN FOR FY25
November 21, 2024

FUNDING CATEGORIES	FY25 Budget Bill Chapter 2, Item 360 A.1.	Interest through 4/30/24	Reallocated Grant Funds Approved June 5, 2024	Unspent Grant Funds to be Approved & Reallocated	Available TOTALS
I. Available Funds	\$16,000,000	\$1,361,211	\$528,262	\$891,462	\$18,780,935
II. VOF Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (25% per § 10.1-1020 C.)	\$4,000,000	\$340,301	\$0	\$0	VOF PTF: \$4,340,301
III. Grant Program					VLCF Grant Round
(i) Farmland Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	0	\$0	\$2,604,182
(ii) Forest Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	0	\$292,935	\$2,897,117
(iii) Historic Area Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$245,248	\$0	\$2,849,430
(iv) Natural Area Preservation	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$195,514	\$594,277	\$3,393,973
(v) Open Spaces & Parks	\$2,400,000	\$204,182	\$87,500	\$4,250	\$2,965,932
TOTAL for Grant Round	\$12,000,000	\$1,020,910	\$528,262	\$891,462	\$14,440,634
Summary of Additional Unspent Grant Funds					
Farmland Preservation	\$0				
Forest Preservation	\$292,935	<u>Withdrawn:</u> FY22 Meadowview Biological Research Station, Caroline Diamonds \$161,000 ; FY23 Meadowview Biological Research Station, Caroline Diamonds \$131,935 .			
Historic Area Preservation	\$0				
Natural Area Preservation	\$594,277	<u>Unexpended Remainder:</u> FY21RII DCR-DNH, Cedars Natural Area Preserve – Kinzer Hollow Cove \$67,685 ; FY22 TNC, Pinnacle State Natural Area Expansion \$53,528 ; FY23 VOF, Camp Branch NAP Addition \$73,064 <u>Change of Scope:</u> FY22 DCR-DNH, Pedlar Hills NAP Addition \$335,000 <u>Withdrawn:</u> FY24 DCR-DNH, Pedlar Hills Addition – Supplemental Funding \$65,000			
Open Spaces and Parks	\$4,250	<u>Unexpended Remainder:</u> FY22 DWR, Copper Creek Initiative \$954 ; FY23 City of Charlottesville, Moores Creek Land Acquisition \$3,296			

Chapter 2, Item 360 of the Budget Bill, 2024 Special Session I

A.1. Included in the amounts for Preservation of Open Space Lands is \$16,000,000 the first year and \$16,000,000 the second year from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, § 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia. No less than 50 percent of the appropriations remaining after the transfer to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation's Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust fund has been satisfied are to be used for grants for fee simple acquisitions with public access or acquisitions of easements with public access. This appropriation shall be deemed sufficient to meet the provisions of § 2.2-1509.4, Code of Virginia. **[Grant Funds]**

2. Included in the amounts for Preservation of Open Space Lands is \$1,500,000 the first year and \$1,500,000 the second year from nongeneral funds to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund to be distributed by the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation pursuant to the provisions of § 58.1-513, Code of Virginia. **[Stewardship Funds]**

Fiscal Year 2025

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

November 21, 2024



Project Number	Applicant	Project Name
01	The Conservation Fund	Hazelwood Farm
02	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Jatt Farm ~ Musapatike
03	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Greg and Kyli Waddle Property
04	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC
05	Stafford County, VA	William Long Farm
06	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Panamint Farm
07*	Stafford County, VA	Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm
08*	Clarke County	Fansler Farm
09*	Stafford County, VA	Pagnotta Property
10*	Stafford County, VA	Schenemann Property
11	Land Trust of Virginia	Huff Rock
12	Virginia Department of Forestry	Shooting Creek
13	Virginia Department of Forestry	Working Forests Between Battlefields
14	Virginia Department of Forestry	Tank Hill
15	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Richard Rolen Property
16	Virginia Department of Forestry	Southampton 900
17	Monacan Indian Nation	Monacan Indian Nation - Daisy Adcock Property
18*	Virginia Department of Forestry	Camp Shenandoah
19	The Conservation Fund	Oak Hill
20	Capital Region Land Conservancy	Seven Pines at Broad Water Creek
21	Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation	Funk Tract at Cedar Creek
22	American Battlefield Trust	Jackson at Wilderness
23*	American Battlefield Trust	Robinson at Manassas
24*	American Battlefield Trust	Brandy Rock Farm II at Brandy Station
25*	American Battlefield Trust	Massad Tract at Fredericksburg
26*	American Battlefield Trust	Goddard at Eltham's Landing
27	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve - Crow's Nest Harbor Partnership Phase 1
28	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	South Quay Sandhills Natural Area Preserve - Biodiversity, Climate Resilience, and Public Access in Chowan River Basin
29	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Ellett Escarpment - Eastern Divide South
30	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Ellett Escarpment Natural Area Preserve - Supplemental Funding
31	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Ellett Escarpment - Eastern Divide North
32	City of Virginia Beach	Hancock North Landing Open Space FY25
33	City of Chesapeake	City of Chesapeake Open Spaces and Parks Application
34	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	Lake Caledon - Caledon State Park Expansion
35	Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority	Robinson-Baker's Creek Acquisition
36	Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia	Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant
37	City of Virginia Beach	Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area
38*	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources	Cole's Point Water Access - Additional Funding
39*	Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation	New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Access
40*	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	Arlington Outdoor Education Association

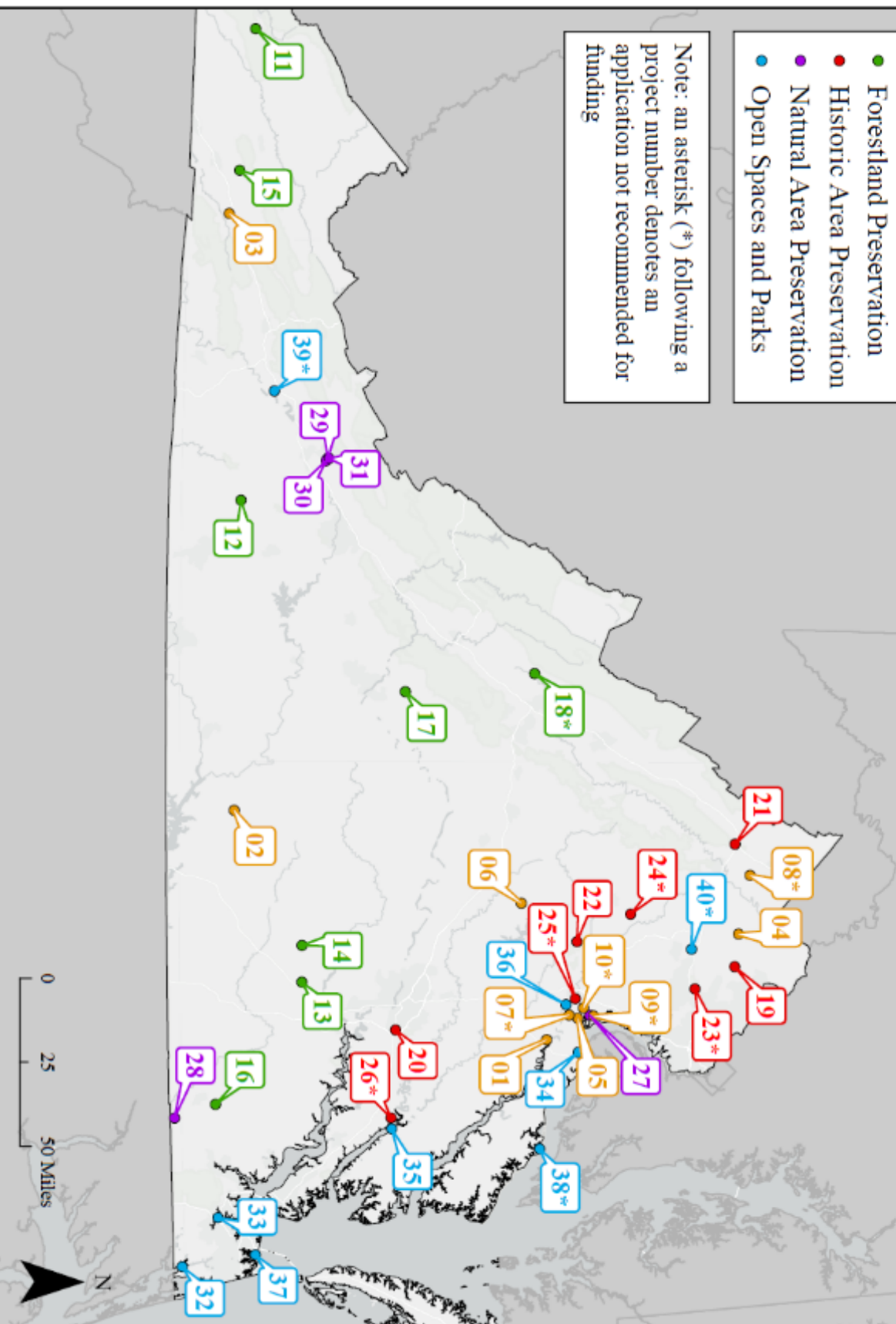
Note: an asterisk (*) following the project number denotes an application not recommended for funding

FY25 VLCCF Applications

VLCCF CATEGORY

- Farmland Preservation
- Forestland Preservation
- Historic Area Preservation
- Natural Area Preservation
- Open Spaces and Parks

Note: an asterisk (*) following a project number denotes an application not recommended for funding



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FY25 GRANT ROUND OVERVIEW

The FY25 Grant Round was open to accept applications from June 5 through August 28, 2024.

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

Interest through 04/30/2024: **\$1,020,910**

Returned grant funds: **\$1,419,724**

TOTAL available grant funding: \$14,440,634

- 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 27 and posted to the VLCF webpage.
- The Interagency Taskforce met on September 20 and October 11 to discuss applications and make recommendations for each category.

Applications Received: 40	Recommended for Funding to Board: 28
10 in Farmland Preservation	6 in Farmland Preservation
8 in Forest Preservation	7 in Forest Preservation
8 in Historic Preservation	4 in Historic Preservation
5 in Natural Area Preservation	5 in Natural Area Preservation
9 in Open Spaces and Parks	6 in Open Spaces and Parks

Total requested funding: \$24,497,108

Total requested acreage: 12,301.93

Total recommended funding: \$14,440,634

Total recommended acreage: 11,219.78

ConserveVirginia: 93% (26/28) 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.

- 13 of the recommended projects (50% of total funds) would provide public access
- 16 of the recommended projects (56% of total funds) would have open-space easements

Farmland Preservation Applications

Amount of Funding Available: \$2,604,182

1. Project: **Hazelwood Farm**; Applicant: The Conservation Fund
Easement on 339 acres along the Rappahannock River in Caroline County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,906,500; Grant Request: \$440,750; Recommend: \$440,750

2. Project: **Jatt Farm ~ Musapatike**; Applicant: Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Easement on 353.56 acres along Finneywood Creek in Mecklenburg County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,234,000; Grant Request: \$480,715; Recommend: \$480,715

3. Project: **Greg & Kyli Waddle Property**; Applicant: Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Easement on 850 acres in Smyth and Washington Counties.
Total Project Cost: \$2,731,500; Grant Request: \$989,300; Recommend: \$914,017

4. Project: **Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC**; Applicant: Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Easement on 138.32 acres in Loudoun County.
Total Project Cost: \$2,000,000; Grant Request: \$125,000; Recommend: \$125,000

5. Project: **William Long Farm**; Applicant: Stafford County
Easement on 69.25 acres in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$508,000; Grant Request: \$254,000; Recommend: \$254,000

6. Project: **Panamint Farm** Applicant: Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Easement on 533 acres in Louisa County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,017,500; Grant Request: \$389,700; Recommend: \$389,700

7. Project: **Daniel & Pamela Bell Farm**; Applicant: Stafford County
Easement on 20 acres in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$208,000; Grant Request: \$104,000; Recommend: \$0

8. Project: **Fansler Farm**; Applicant: Clarke County
Easement on 88.95 acres in Clarke County.
Total Project Cost: \$407,500; Grant Request: \$100,000; Recommend: \$0

9. Project: **Pagnotta Property**; Applicant: Stafford County
Easement on 35.40 acres in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$308,000; Grant Request: \$154,000; Recommend: \$0

10. Project: **Schenemann Property**; Applicant: Stafford County
Easement on 20 acres in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$208,000; Grant Request: \$104,000; Recommend: \$0

Farmland Preservation Totals:

Acres: 2,447.48

Project Costs: \$10,529,000

Requested: \$3,141,465

Recommended: \$2,604,182

1. Hazelwood Farm (The Conservation Fund)

The Hazelwood Farm project will protect 339 acres of prime, active farmland in Caroline County. The property is the home farm of farmer Cory Garrett, who farms more than 1,100 acres in the area. The property produces corn and soybeans and has significant frontage on the Rappahannock River. As part of their commitment to the land that provides their living, the Garretts manage their farm under the advisement of conservation and nutrient management plans developed in partnership with Natural Resource Conservation Service and Soil and Water Conservation District technical advisors. Located within Fort Walker's Priority IA area for buffering the Army's training installation, the Army will provide a significant amount of funding towards the purchase of this easement through the Army Compatible Use Buffers (ACUB) program. Virginia Outdoors Foundation is a key partner with The Conservation Fund and the Army and will hold the conservation easement.

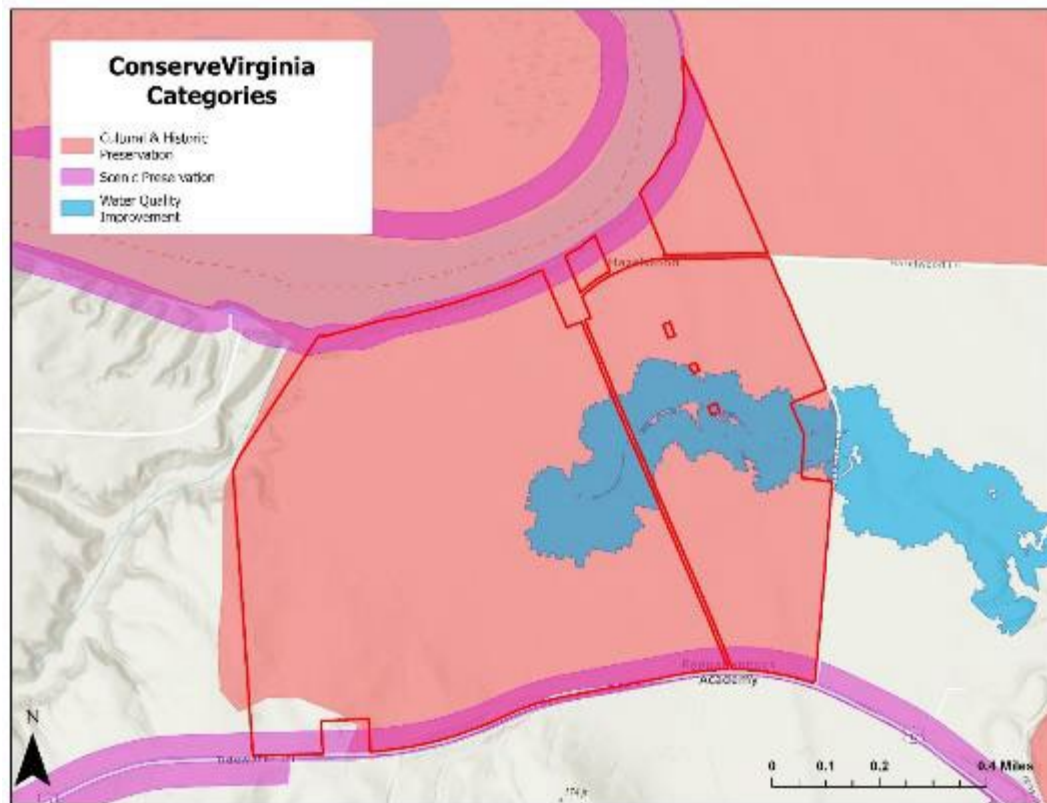
Total Project Cost: \$1,906,500; **Grant Request:** \$440,750; **Match:** Fort Walker Army Compatible Use Buffers Program and Landowner donation; **Recommended Amount:** \$440,750



Hazelwood Farm Aerial Map



Hazelwood Farm ConserveVirginia Map



2. Jatt Farm ~ Musapatike (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

Jatt Farm (353.56 acres) is located in Mecklenburg County. The farm produces cattle, hay, and timber. More than half of the farm's acreage is in Prime Soils, and 87 acres are considered farmland of statewide importance. The property fronts on a designated VA Byway and adjoins property under an existing Virginia Outdoors Foundation easement. Finneywood Creek runs along the farm's northern boundary. The property also contains 90 acres of Ecological Cores as delineated in VA Natural Lands Assessment within the forested portion of the property comprising 135 acres. The property lies within the Agriculture and the Scenic categories of ConserveVirginia.

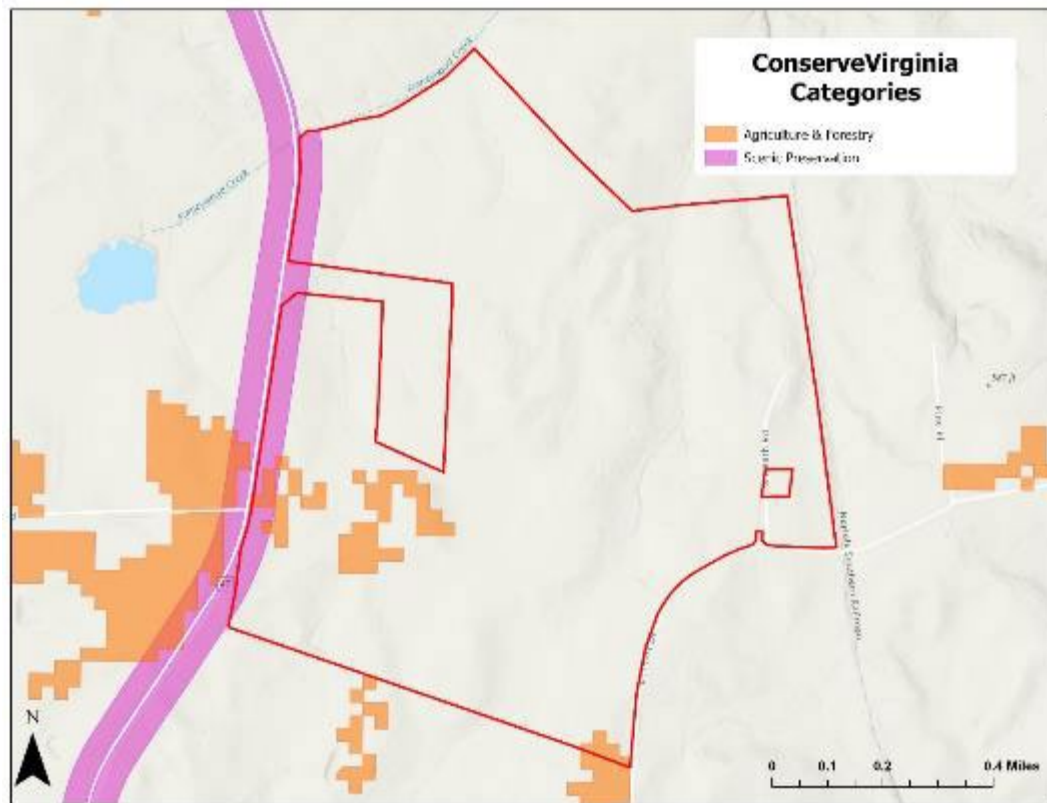
Total Project Cost: \$1,234,000; **Grant Request:** \$480,715; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$480,715



Jatt Farm ~ Musapatike Aerial Map



Jatt Farm ~ Musapatike ConserveVirginia Map



3. Greg & Kyli Waddle Property (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

The Greg and Kyli Waddle Property project seeks to secure a conservation easement on 850 acres of working farmland in Smyth and Washington Counties, to be held by Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The project will protect karst geology, as it contains nearly 200 mapped sinkholes within a few hundred feet of the Middle Fork Holston River, which is a potential State Scenic River and contains designated Conservation Sites. The property supports Loggerhead Shrike (a state threatened bird) and habitat for Bobolink (a rare bird). The farm is a working cow and calf operation, with land in pasture, hay, and corn production. The landowners have previously donated easements to VOF on adjacent property, which will result in a block of more than 2,000 acres of conserved working farmland.

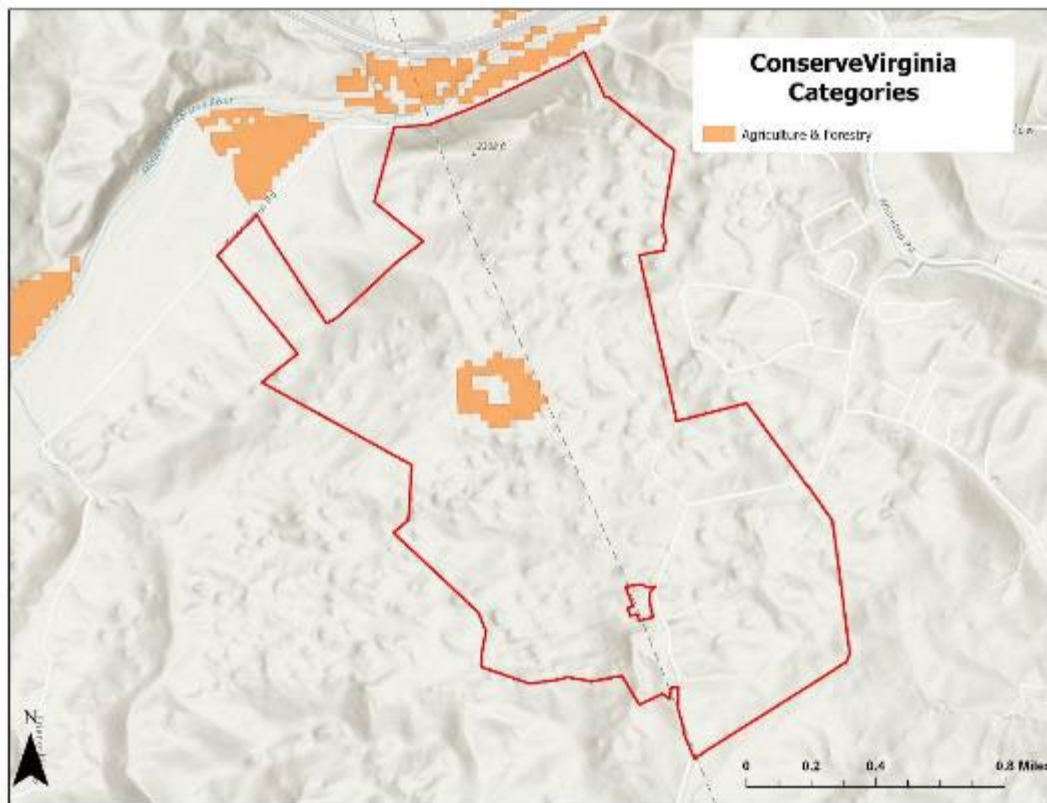
Total Project Cost: \$2,731,500; **Grant Request:** \$989,300; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$914,017



Greg & Kyli Waddle Property Aerial Map



Greg & Kyli Waddle Property ConserveVirginia Map



4. Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

An easement on the 138 acres owned by Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC will permanently protect the agricultural viability of this farm, which is adjacent to three properties protected by VOF easements and within one mile of nearly 1,700 acres of protected land. The property fronts Beaverdam Creek, a tributary of Goose Creek, for 2,800 feet and contains a dwelling, barn and several outbuildings eligible for listing in the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places, which are also contributing structures to the Unison Battlefield Historic District. The property is bisected by, and the historic buildings are visible from, Newlin Mill Road, part of the Beaverdam Creek Historic Roadways District. Loudoun County designated these roadways to help preserve these mostly rural, unpaved roads that represent historical connections among farms, families, and markets that have changed very little since the county was formed.

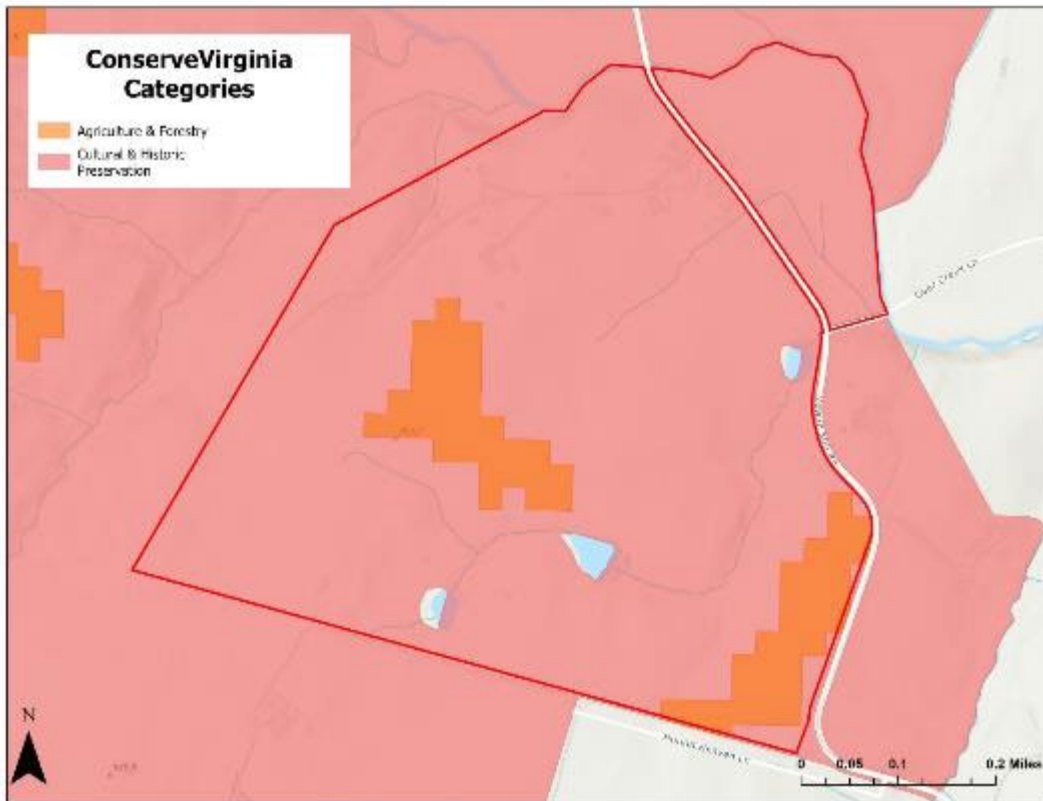
Total Project Cost: \$2,000,000; **Grant Request:** \$125,000; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$125,000



Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC Aerial Map



Beaver Dam Legacy, LLC ConserveVirginia Map



5. William Long Farm (Stafford County)

Stafford County is seeking funding for the placement of a conservation easement on the William Long Farm under the County Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. The property totals 69.25 acres and the primary land use is forested. The easement will protect soils of statewide importance; 60 acres of mixed forestland; environmental features, including 4,950 linear feet of forested perennial streams, 4.1 acres of wetlands, and 100-year floodplain; and important wildlife habitat. The property falls within an Ecological Core and has predictive suitable habitat for Threatened and Endangered species and DWR Species of Greatest Conservation Need and is located within a wildlife biodiversity resilience corridor in DWR's Wildlife Corridor Action Plan. The farm is adjacent to other 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 travelling public.

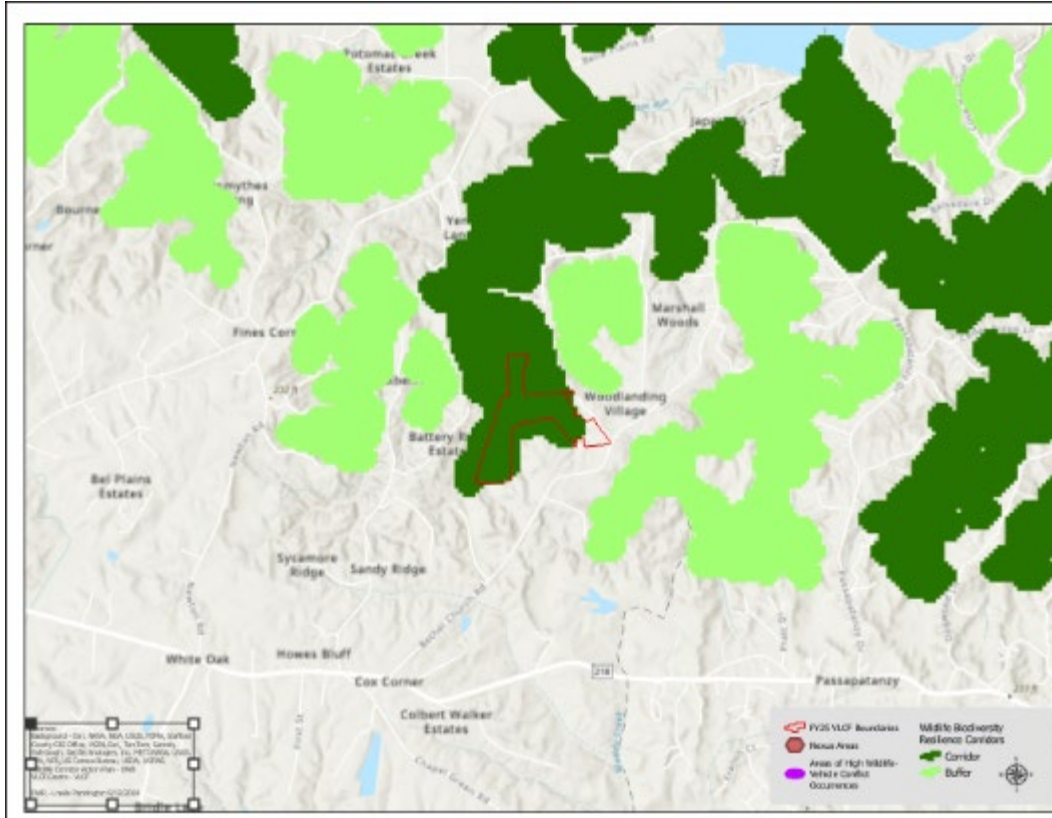
Total Project Cost: \$508,000; **Grant Request:** \$254,000; **Match:** Stafford County; **Recommended Amount:** \$254,000



William Long Farm Aerial Map



William Long Farm Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map



6. Panamint Farm (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

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. A grant for \$110,300 was awarded to VOF for this project last year.

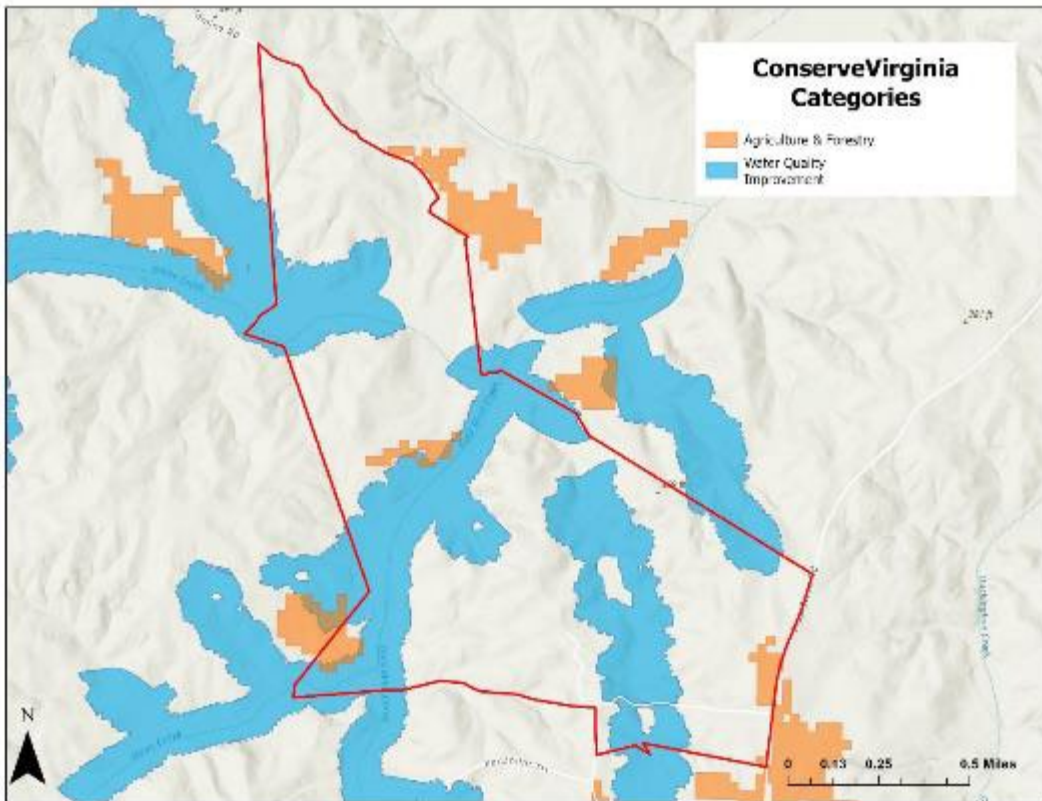
Total Project Cost: \$1,017,500; **Grant Request:** \$389,700; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$389,700



Panamint Farm Aerial Map



Panamint Farm ConserveVirginia Map



7. Daniel & Pamela Bell Farm (Stafford County)

Stafford County is seeking funding to support a project in their County's Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Program. A conservation easement on the Daniel and Pamela Bell Farm will be held by Stafford County protecting 20 acres of pastureland for livestock. The easement will protect prime farm soils, soils of statewide importance, and wetlands. The property is within 1/2 mile of conserved lands under easement and is located along Hollywood Farm Road, a rural public road, providing visual access to the traveling public.

Total Project Cost: \$208,000; **Grant Request:** \$104,000; **Match:** Stafford County; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Daniel & Pamela Bell Farm Aerial Map



Daniel & Pamela Bell Farm ConserveVirginia Map



8. Fansler Farm (Clarke County)

The Fansler Farm consists of 88.95 acres located in southwest Clarke County. The county is pursuing grant funding to conserve this active family farm that supports grazing cattle, and growing corn and hay, and has a forest management plan for approximately 21 acres of woodland. There are two small pond/wetland areas on the property. The property is adjacent to two other farms within the County's Agricultural-Forestal District. This project intersects the DCR predictive suitable habitat model for the Madison Cave Isopod as the entire parcel is underlain by karst and has numerous sinkholes. The County Board of Supervisors, Clarke County Conservation Easement Authority, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Piedmont Environmental Council are partners in this purchase.

Total Project Cost: \$407,500; **Grant Request:** \$100,000; **Match:** Clarke County, DOF, NRCS-ALE, and landowner donation; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Fansler Farm Aerial Map



Fansler Farm ConserveVirginia Map



9. Pagnotta Property (Stafford County)

Stafford County is requesting VLCF funds to place an open-space easement on the Pagnotta Property, located approximately one-quarter mile from Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve. 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.

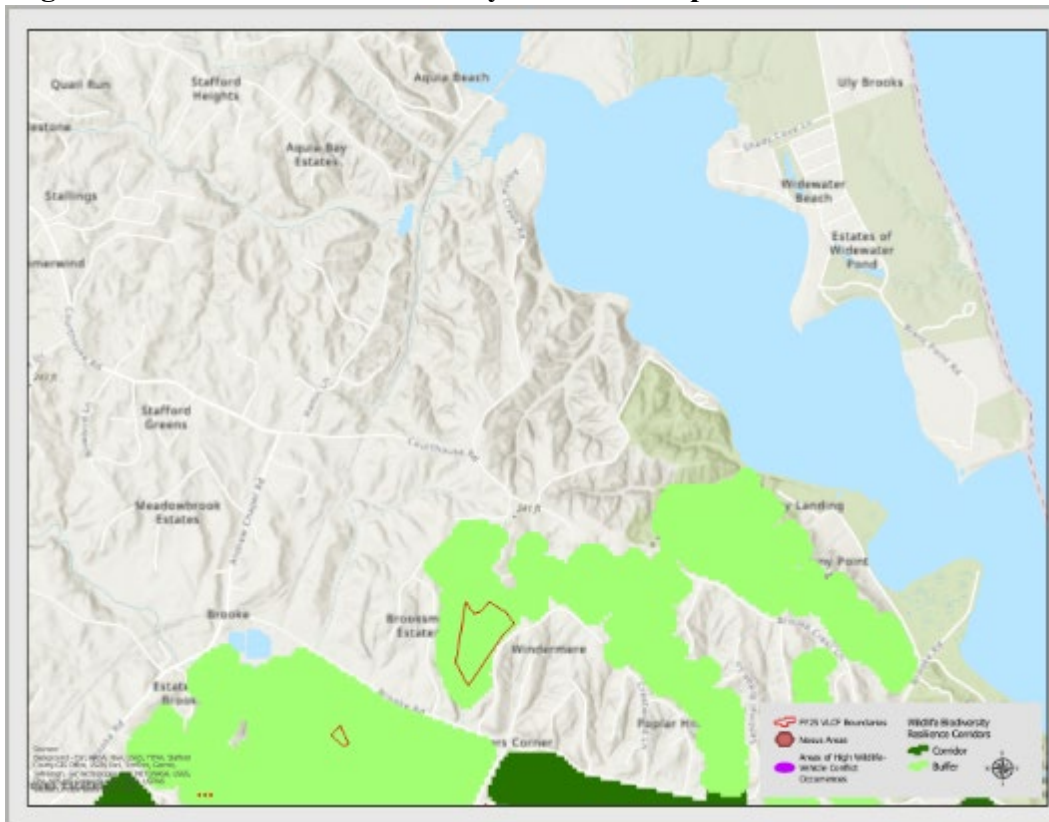
Total Project Cost: \$308,000; **Grant Request:** \$154,000; **Match:** Stafford County; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Pagnotta Farm Aerial Map



Pagnotta Farm Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map



10. Schenemann Property (Stafford County)

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 one 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.

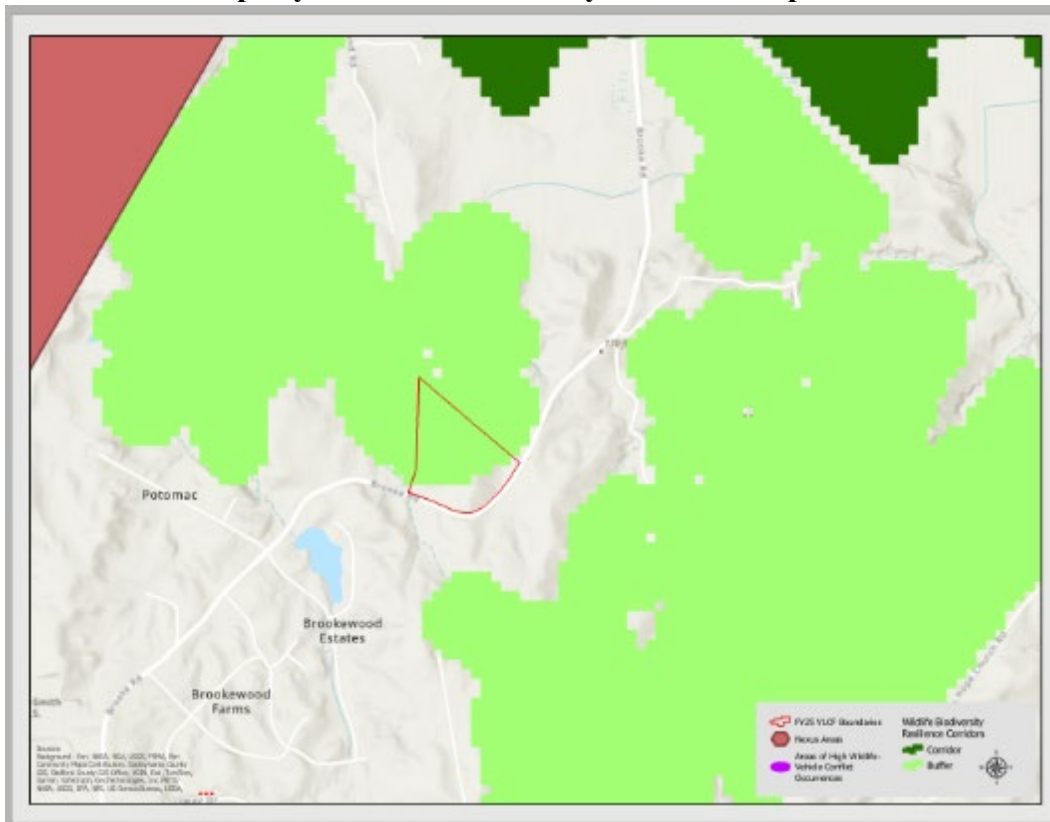
Total Project Cost: \$208,000; **Grant Request:** \$104,000; **Match:** Stafford County; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Schenemann Property Aerial Map



Schenemann Property Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map



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Forest Preservation Applications

Amount of Funding Available: \$2,897,117

1. Project: **Huff Rock**; Applicant: Land Trust of Virginia
Easement on 647 acres on Powell Mountain in Wise County.
Total Project Cost: \$454,000; Grant Request: \$182,000; Recommend: \$45,000
2. Project: **Shooting Creek**; Applicant: Virginia Department of Forestry
Easement on 674.68 acres in Patrick County.
Total Project Cost: \$592,500; Grant Request: \$337,500; Recommend: \$286,875
3. Project: **Working Forests Between Battlefields**; Applicant: Virginia Department of Forestry
Easement on 797.80 acres in Dinwiddie County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,851,000; Grant Request: \$925,500; Recommend: \$775,000
4. Project: **Tank Hill**; Applicant: Virginia Department of Forestry
Easement on 1,491.54 acres in Dinwiddie County.
Total Project Cost: \$2,751,000; Grant Request: \$952,720; Recommend: \$810,000
5. Project: **Richard Rolan Property**; Applicant: Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Easement on 697 acres along the North Fork Holston River in Washington County.
Total Project Cost: \$868,500; Grant Request: \$417,500; Recommend: \$354,875
6. Project: **Southampton 900**; Applicant: Virginia Department of Forestry
Easement on 900 acres along Blackwater River in Southampton County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,613,500; Grant Request: \$400,000; Recommend: \$340,000
7. Project: **Monacan Indian Nation – Daisy Adcock Property**; Applicant: Monacan Indian Nation
Fee acquisition of 100.40 acres in Amherst County.
Total Project Cost: \$434,600; Grant Request: \$434,600; Recommend: \$285,367
8. Project: **Camp Shenandoah**; Applicant: Virginia Department of Forestry
Easement on 458 acres in Augusta County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,523,500; Grant Request: \$375,000; Recommend: \$0

Forestland Conservation Totals:

Acres: 5,766.42

Project Costs: \$10,088,600

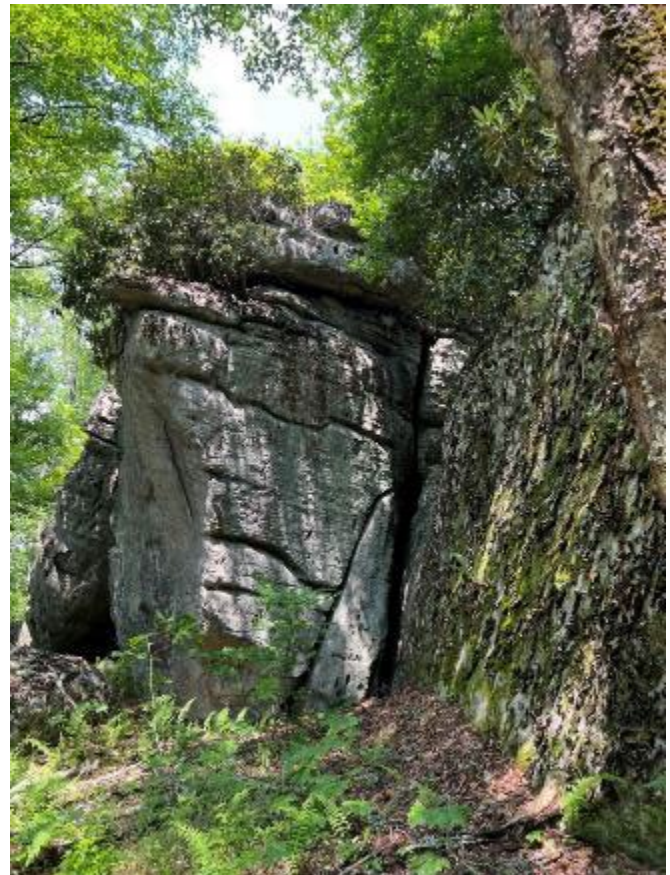
Requested: \$4,024,820

Recommended: \$2,897,117

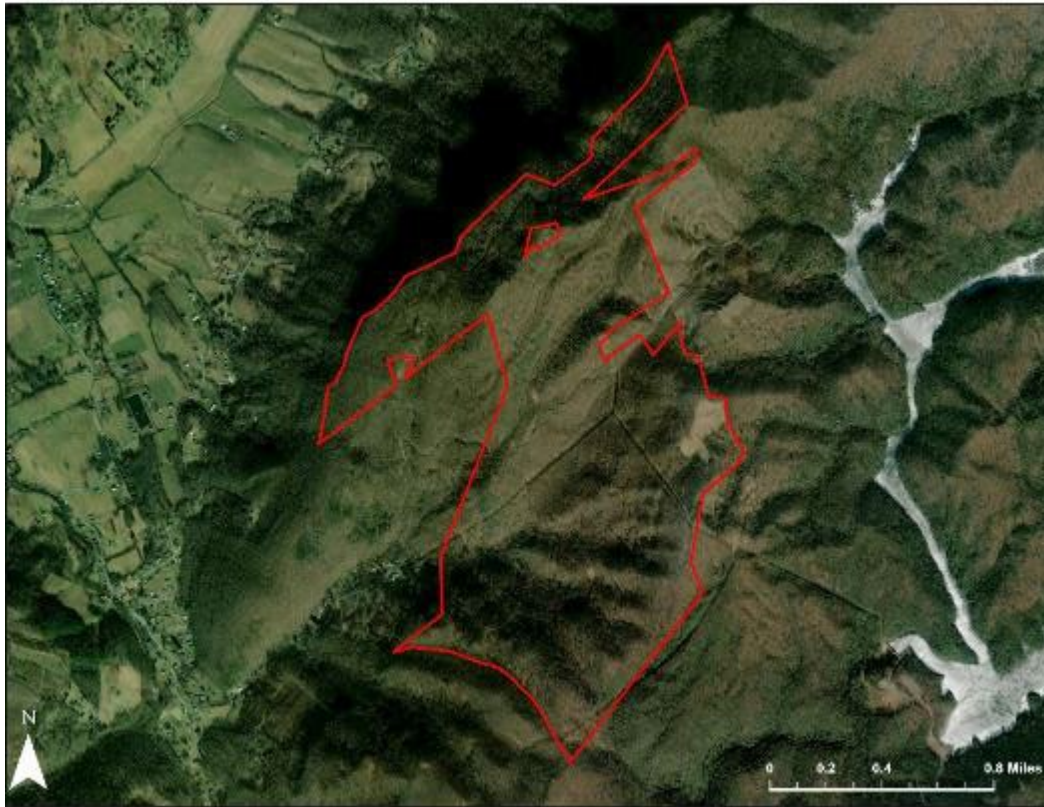
1. Huff Rock (Land Trust of Virginia)

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, 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. This project received a grant from VLCF last year for \$182,000. They are seeking supplemental funds to cover the unexpected high cost of the required boundary survey for this exceptionally mountainous property.

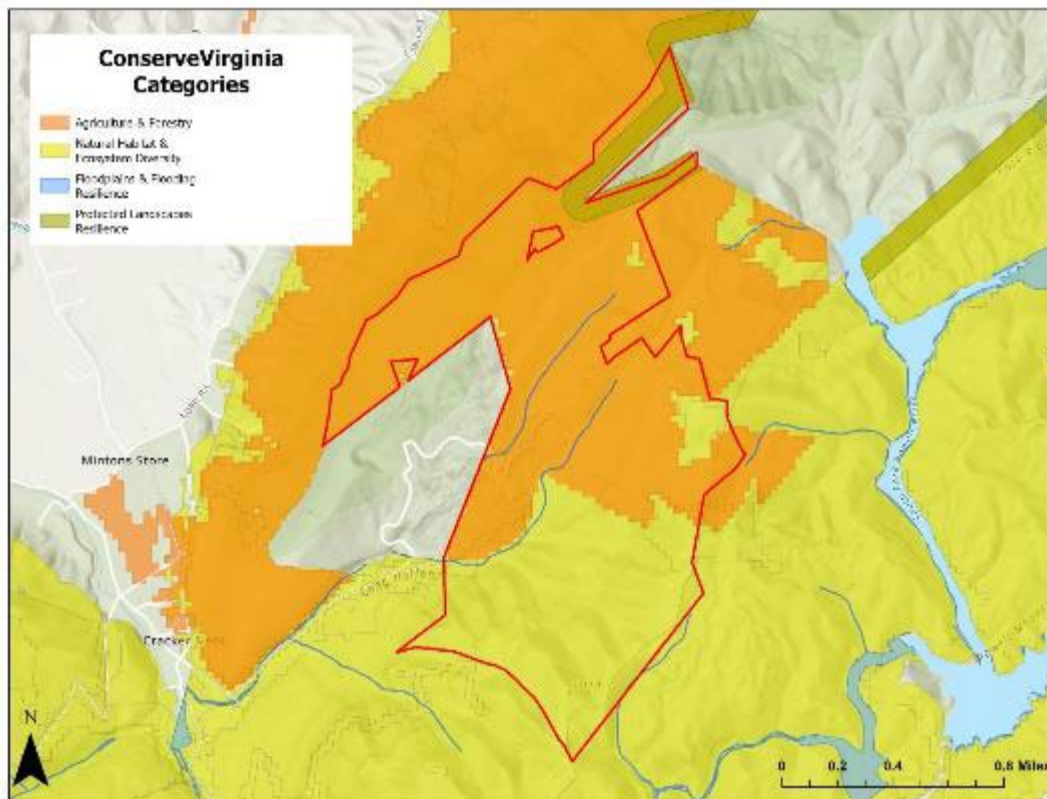
Total Project Cost: \$454,000; **Grant Request:** \$182,000; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$45,000



Huff Rock Aerial Map



Huff Rock ConserveVirginia Map



2. Shooting Creek (Virginia Department of Forestry)

Located along the Patrick and Franklin County border, this property contains 675 acres of mountainous forestland. With 98.6% forest coverage, this property boasts 82.89% “Very High” Forest Conservation Values and 9.72% “High” Forest Conservation Value. Almost the entire property lies within the “C1: Outstanding” ecological core distinction. Further, the Agriculture and Forestry Category of the ConserveVirginia layer covers almost the entire property. The Shooting Creek property contains tributaries that feed the DCR-designated Smith River North Stream Conservation Site, classified as B2: High Priority, due to the state and federally endangered occurrences of the Roanoke Logperch. Used primarily for hunting, the landowner wishes to forever protect this property that can be traced in the family back to the early 1700s. The landowners are very proud of the history of this property and the inhabitants that have lived here throughout the centuries. This family truly loves calling this home and are adamant stewards of the land. The protection of this property will further protect the ecological and historical integrity of the region and the headwaters that feed Philpott Lake. In addition to that, the protection of this property will further serve to let the wildlife habitat thrive.

Total Project Cost: \$592,500; **Grant Request:** \$337,500; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$286,875



3. Working Forests Between Battlefields (Virginia Department of Forestry)

The name of this project is Working Forestland Between Battlefields because the proposed conservation easement will secure 797.8 acres of timber lands and protect connectivity of a rural landscape situated between three Civil War battlefields in Dinwiddie County. The land also supports water quality, wildlife habitat, and scenic views from the East Coast Greenway. The landowners have owned this property since 2004 and manage it according to a professional forest management plan. The landowners have turned down a solar company's offer in order to keep stewarding this forestland. The easement holder will be the Virginia Department of Forestry. The project aligns with the locality's comprehensive plan, the Virginia Outdoors Plan, and the Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation's efforts to protect the flight path between Ft. Barfoot and Ft. Gregg-Adams.

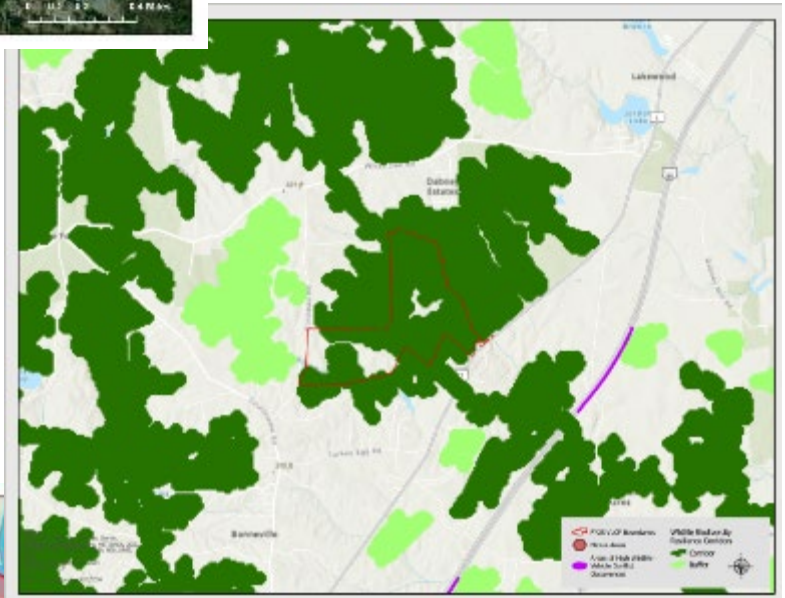
Total Project Cost: \$1,851,000; **Grant Request:** \$925,500; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$775,000



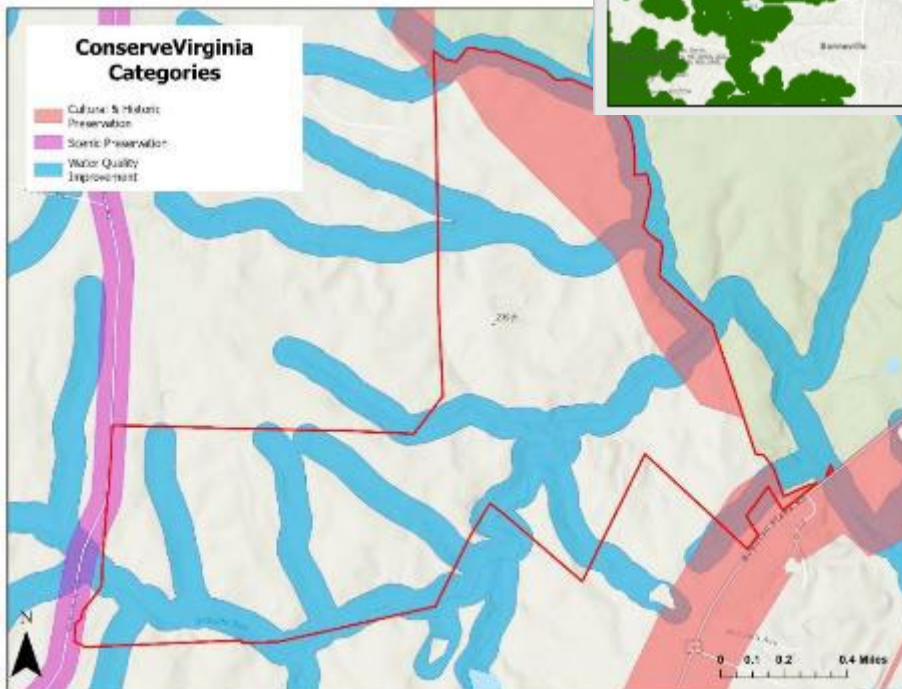
Working Forests Between Battlefields Aerial Map



Working Forests Between Battlefields Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map



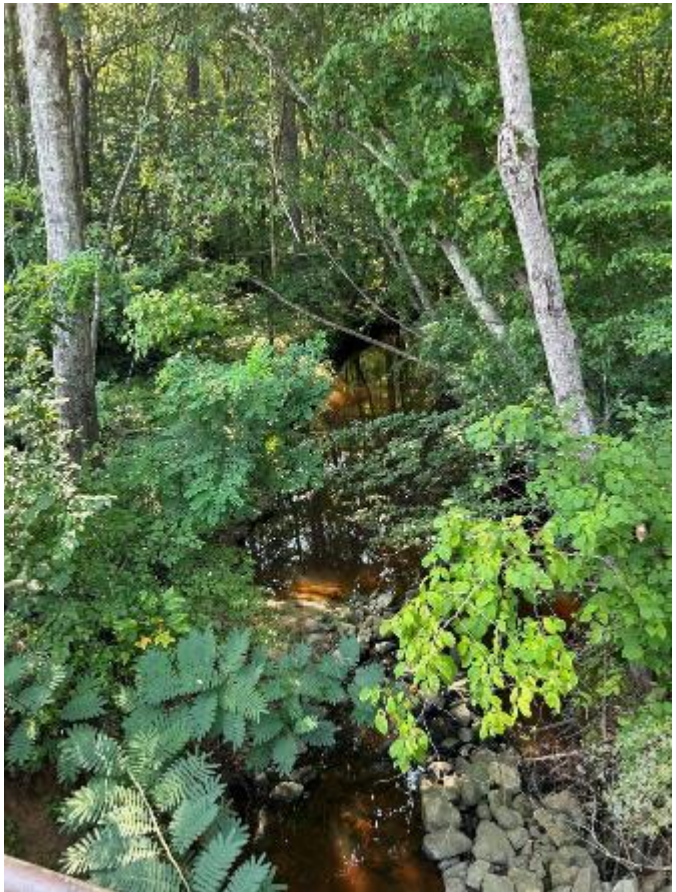
Working Forests Between Battlefields ConserveVirginia Map



4. Tank Hill (Virginia Department of Forestry)

The Department of Forestry is requesting a grant to secure a 1,491.40-acre conservation easement to protect working forestland in Dinwiddie County. The project will also protect riparian lands along White Oak Creek, designated as Threatened & Endangered Species Water by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources due to the presence of Roanoke Logperch, a state and federally endangered fish. The landowner wants to continue stewarding the land as working forestland and remove the possibility of major development. The project aligns with the locality's comprehensive plan, the Virginia Outdoors Plan, and efforts to protect the flight path between Ft. Barfoot and Ft. Gregg-Adams. This project would more than double VLCF's acres protected in Dinwiddie County.

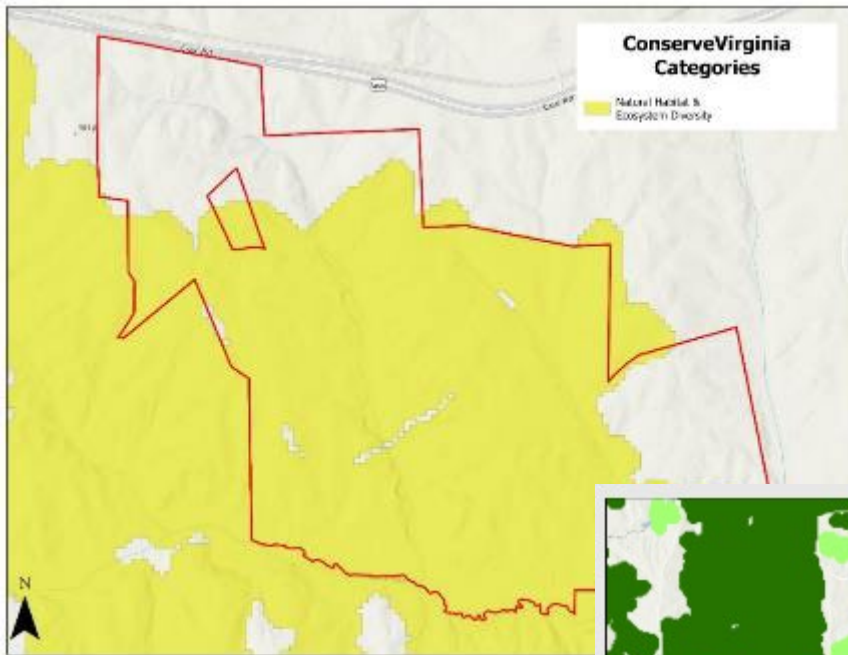
Total Project Cost: \$2,751,000; **Grant Request:** \$952,720; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$810,000



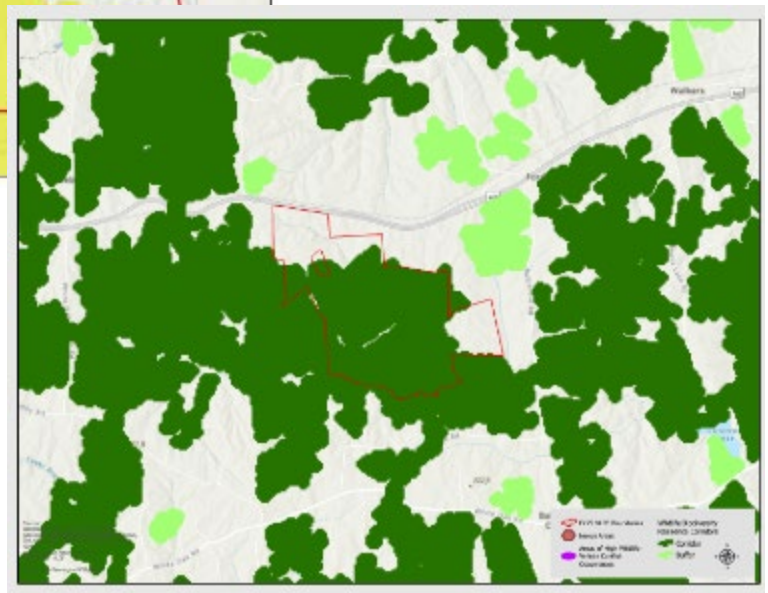
Tank Hill Aerial Map



Tank Hill ConserveVirginia Map



Tank Hill Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map



5. Richard Rolen Property (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

Located along the North Fork Holston River in Washington County, this property contains nearly 700 acres, 600 of which are prime forestland. The forest conservation values on this property are outstanding and cover almost 90% of the property, 75.8% of which are in the very high category. With numerous ponds and streams, the water resources support many species of fish and insects, including the Virginia Springfly. The ecological cores report a level C2: Very High and cover nearly the entire property. This supports the bountiful wildlife within and protects the river life with over seven miles of river frontage on the North Fork Holston River. Used primarily for recreation, the landowner wishes to forever protect the land with a conservation easement. The love of the land and its inhabitants is reflected in the performance of maintenance already at work on this property. The property is scheduled for selective cut timbering while the whole forest is being managed under a stewardship plan. At 697 acres, this property is five and a half times the size of the average farm in the county. Among many conserved lands in the vicinity, it adjoins another protected property under easement and is within one mile of The Channels State Forest.

Total Project Cost: \$868,500; **Grant Request:** \$417,500; **Match:** Landowner donation;
Recommended Amount: \$354,875



6. Southampton 900 (Virginia Department of Forestry)

The Department of Forestry is seeking grant funds for Southampton 900, a 900-acre parcel in Southampton County with approximately 371 acres of riverfront wetlands and 3.57 miles of State Scenic Blackwater River frontage. The property contains valuable working forestlands and bottomland forests along the Blackwater River within areas designated by DCR's Virginia Natural Landscape Assessment (VaNLA) as ecological cores ranked C2 (Very High). This same area is also designated as a VaNLA corridor and part of the Natural Land Network. Additionally, other forested areas on the property are designated as C4 (Moderate) and C5 (General) indicating these portions of the property are likely to be ecologically intact, and thus support several habitat and ecosystem functions. This project received a grant from VLCF last year for \$164,450.

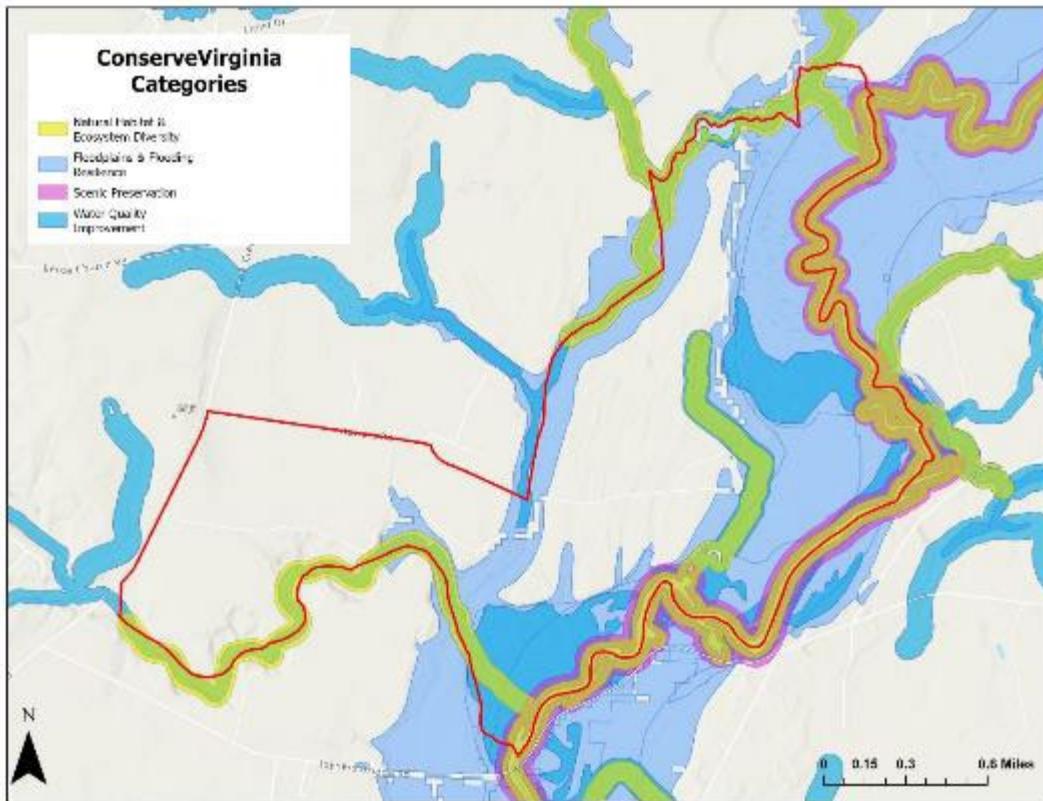
Total Project Cost: \$1,613,500; **Grant Request:** \$400,000; **Match:** Enviva Conservation Fund, NAWCA Funds from Ducks Unlimited, and Landowner donation; **Recommended Amount:** \$340,000



Southampton 900 Aerial Map



Southampton 900 ConserveVirginia Map



7. Monacan Indian Nation – Daisy Adcock Property (Monacan Indian Nation)

The Monacan Indian Nation is a federally recognized tribe with over 2,600 citizens. Bear Mountain in Amherst County has been the home of the Monacan people for more than 10,000 years and remains the cultural hub of their community. This project would allow the Monacan Indian Nation to acquire and protect 100.4 forested acres of their historic homeland, adjacent to the Monacan Museum and Culture Center. The subject property contains an Outstanding Forest Conservation Value hardwood forest, and the Monacan Indian Nation is committed to the responsible stewardship of their lands, protecting and managing their natural resources sustainably, while honoring the deep spiritual connection their people have with the land.

Total Project Cost: \$434,600; **Grant Request:** \$434,600; **Match:** N/A;
Recommended Amount: \$285,367

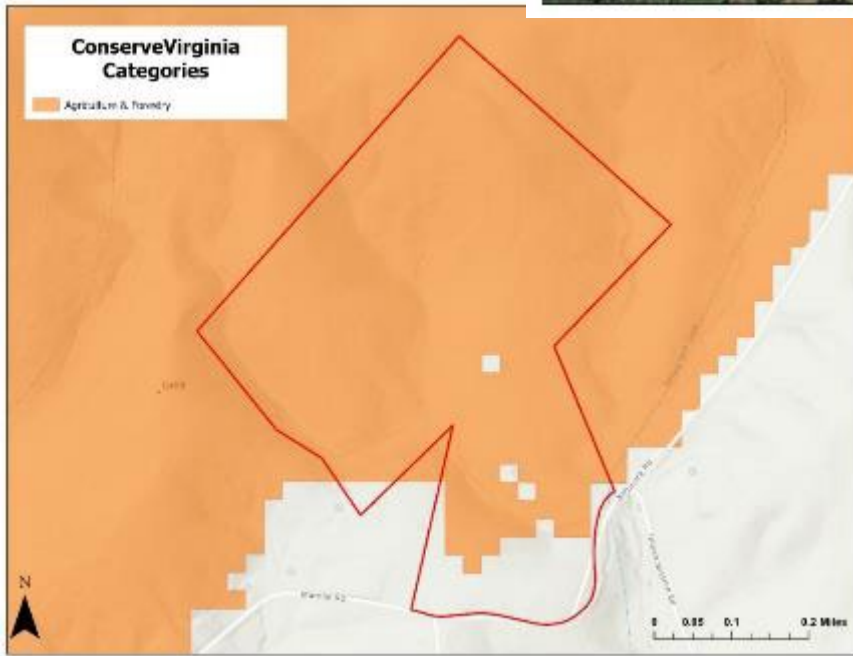


Young citizens of the Monacan Indian Nation visit the Claudy Branham cabin built in the 1800's on the subject property.

Monacan Indian Nation Aerial Map



**Monacan Indian Nation
ConserveVirginia Map**



**Monacan Indian Nation
Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map**



8. Camp Shenandoah (Virginia Department of Forestry)

Camp Shenandoah intends to donate a conservation easement to protect 458 acres of forestland adjacent to Virginia's largest public Wildlife Management Area (DWR Little North Mountain WMA). The property is primarily forested (approximately 385 acres) and features an 11-acre lake (Hope Lake) that serves as the primary training area for aquatic activities. Camp Shenandoah was founded in 1950 as a boy scout camp and has been actively managed for conservation since its inception, operating under a conservation mission, healthy forest management, and the education of youth in the fields of conservation and outdoorsmanship. If funded, Camp Shenandoah intends to use the funding to upgrade facilities and toward their endowment designated for passive income generation and future maintenance.

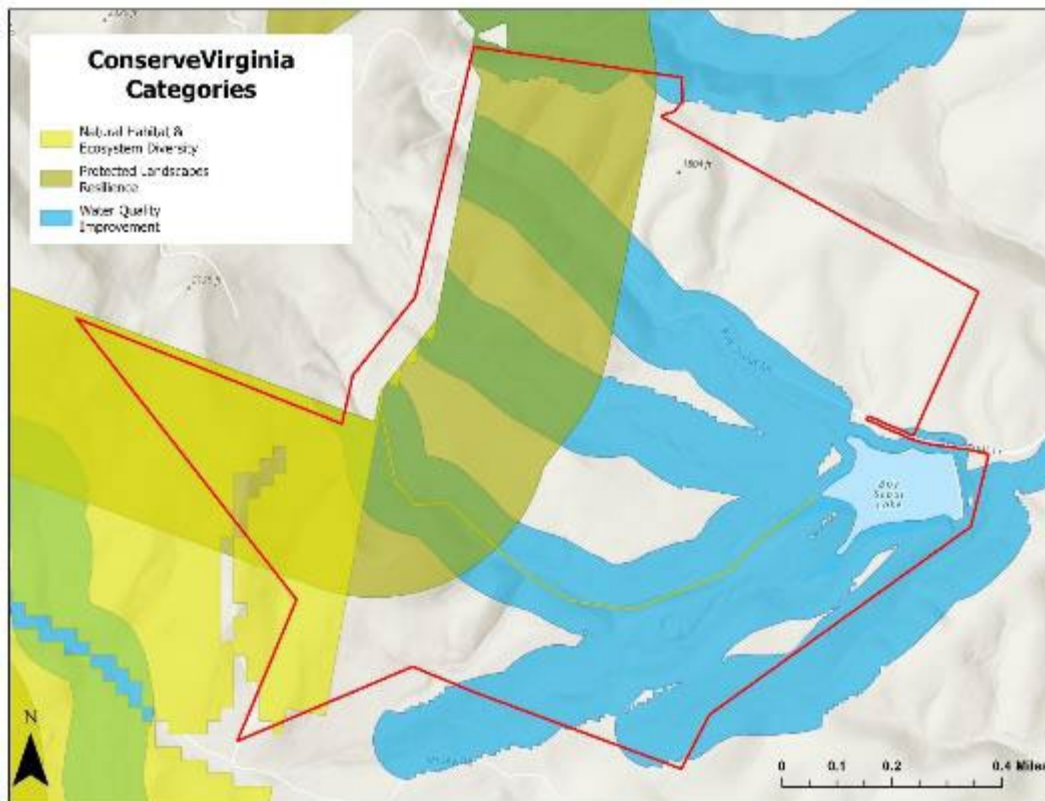
Total Project Cost: \$1,523,500; **Grant Request:** \$375,000; **Match:** USFS Forest Legacy Single Parcel IRA Funds; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Camp Shenandoah Aerial Map



Camp Shenandoah ConserveVirginia Map



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Historic Preservation Applications

Amount of Funding Available: \$2,849,430

1. Project: **Oak Hill**; Applicant: The Conservation Fund
Fee acquisition of 86 acres in Loudoun County.
Total Project Cost: \$7,578,000; Grant Request: \$3,000,000; Recommend: \$2,000,000
2. Project: **Seven Pines at Broad Water Creek**; Applicant: Capital Region Land Conservancy
Easement on 23.99 acres in Henrico County.
Total Project Cost: \$543,500; Grant Request: \$271,750; Recommend: \$271,750
3. Project: **Funk Tract at Cedar Creek**; Applicant: Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation
Fee acquisition of 45.56 acres in Warren County.
Total Project Cost: \$830,548; Grant Request: \$415,274; Recommend: \$415,274
4. Project: **Jackson at Wilderness**; Applicant: American Battlefield Trust
Easement on 36.17 acres in Orange County.
Total Project Cost: \$409,475; Grant Request: \$204,238; Recommend: \$162,406
5. Project: **Robinson at Manassas**; Applicant: American Battlefield Trust
Fee acquisition of 1.75 acres in Fairfax County.
Total Project Cost: \$480,410; Grant Request: \$240,205; Recommend: \$0
6. Project: **Brandy Rock Farm II at Brandy Station**; Applicant: American Battlefield Trust
Easement on 225.80 acres in Culpeper County.
Total Project Cost: \$2,473,110; Grant Request: \$630,155; Recommend: \$0
7. Project: **Massad Tract at Fredericksburg**; Applicant: American Battlefield Trust
Fee acquisition of 5.42 acres in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,722,993; Grant Request: \$859,446; Recommend: \$0
8. Project: **Goddard at Eltham's Landing**; Applicant: American Battlefield Trust
Easement on 51.98 acres in New Kent County.
Total Project Cost: \$366,805; Grant Request: \$182,528; Recommend: \$0

Historic Preservation Totals:

Acres: 476.67

Project Costs: \$14,404,841

Requested: \$5,803,594

Recommended: \$2,849,430

1. Oak Hill (The Conservation Fund)

The Conservation Fund is applying for a grant to purchase and conserve 87 acres of President James Monroe's Oak Hill, a National Historic Landmark, in Loudoun County. Constructed 1822-1823, the main house served as Monroe's residence during part of his presidency and most of his retirement. It is believed that he wrote the Monroe Doctrine while in residence at Oak Hill in 1823. The 87 acres proposed for the VLCF grant also includes formal gardens, outbuildings, tenant houses, and an agricultural building complex. This property will be purchased from the current landowners and developed as a public park. The property will ultimately be open to the public, to interpret the history of the land and people who lived and worked there, as well as provide opportunities for walking, hiking, and wildlife watching. This project is part of a larger effort to conserve approximately 1,200 acres for historic interpretation and public recreation. The Departments of Conservation and Recreation and Historic Resources are key partners in this project. The Board of Historic Resources will hold an open-space easement on the property.

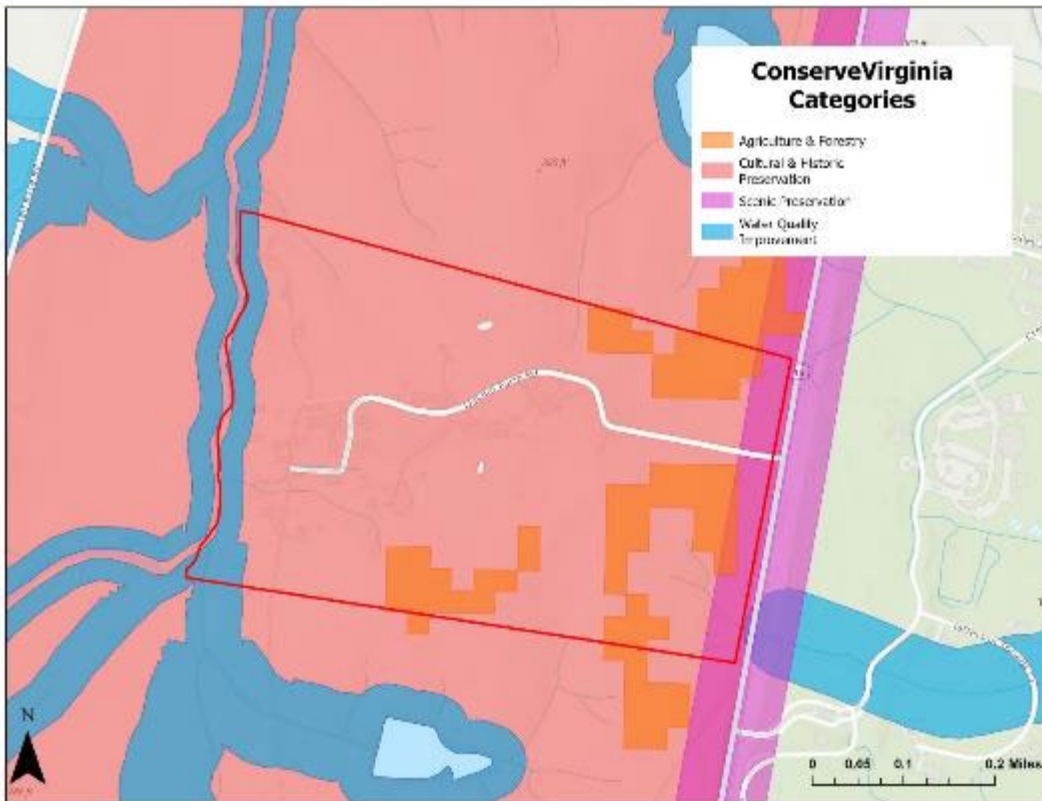
Total Project Cost: \$7,578,000; **Grant Request:** \$3,000,000; **Match:** Private fundraising and Landowner donation; **Recommended Amount:** \$2,000,000



Oak Hill Aerial Map



Oak Hill ConserveVirginia Map



2. Seven Pines at Broad Water Creek (Capital Region Land Conservancy)

Capital Region Land Conservancy (CRLC) is seeking funding to record a conservation easement on approximately 24 acres in Henrico County within the core battlefield area of the Battle of Seven Pines. Funding would be used to match an anticipated grant from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program. The preservation of this property will protect core battlefield acreage, as well as a natural area within an otherwise urban and quickly developing area of Henrico County. In addition, there are substantial floodplains and wetlands located on the property that are considered predicted habitat for swamp-pink, a rare plant. Providing a 100-foot forested buffer along Broad Water Creek will enhance water quality and benefit wildlife habitat. Upon recording the conservation easement with the Board of Historic Resources, CRLC plans to transfer the property to the Richmond Battlefields Association to own and operate as a public park.

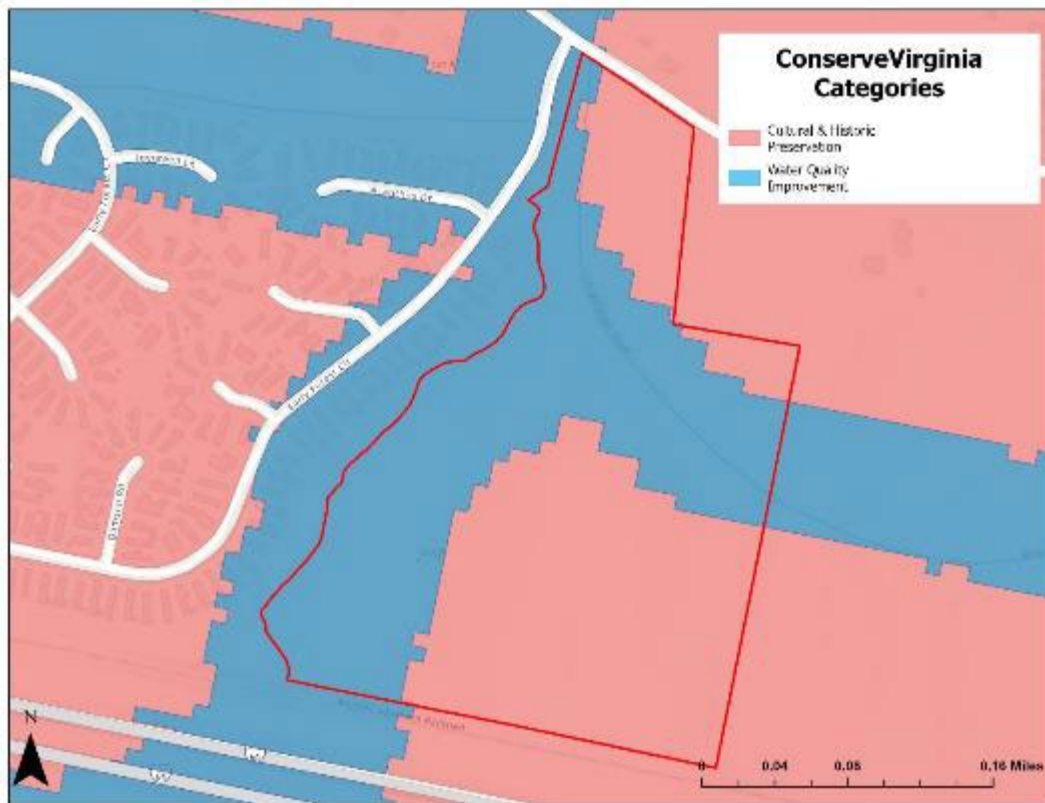
Total Project Cost: \$543,500; **Grant Request:** \$271,750; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Recommended Amount:** \$271,750



Seven Pines at Broad Water Creek Aerial Map



Seven Pines at Broad Water Creek ConserveVirginia Map



3. Funk Tract at Cedar Creek (Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation)

The 45.56-acre Funk Tract is entirely within the Core Area of the Cedar Creek Battlefield and adjacent to lands already preserved by the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation (SVBF). The property is in Warren County and currently used as a farm, containing open space and 17.5-acres of forested lands along with waterways. The preservation of the site will allow for visitor access to the property via mowed trails and for and current agricultural practices to continue. Its location adjoins 189-acres of conserved land protected by an easement held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources.

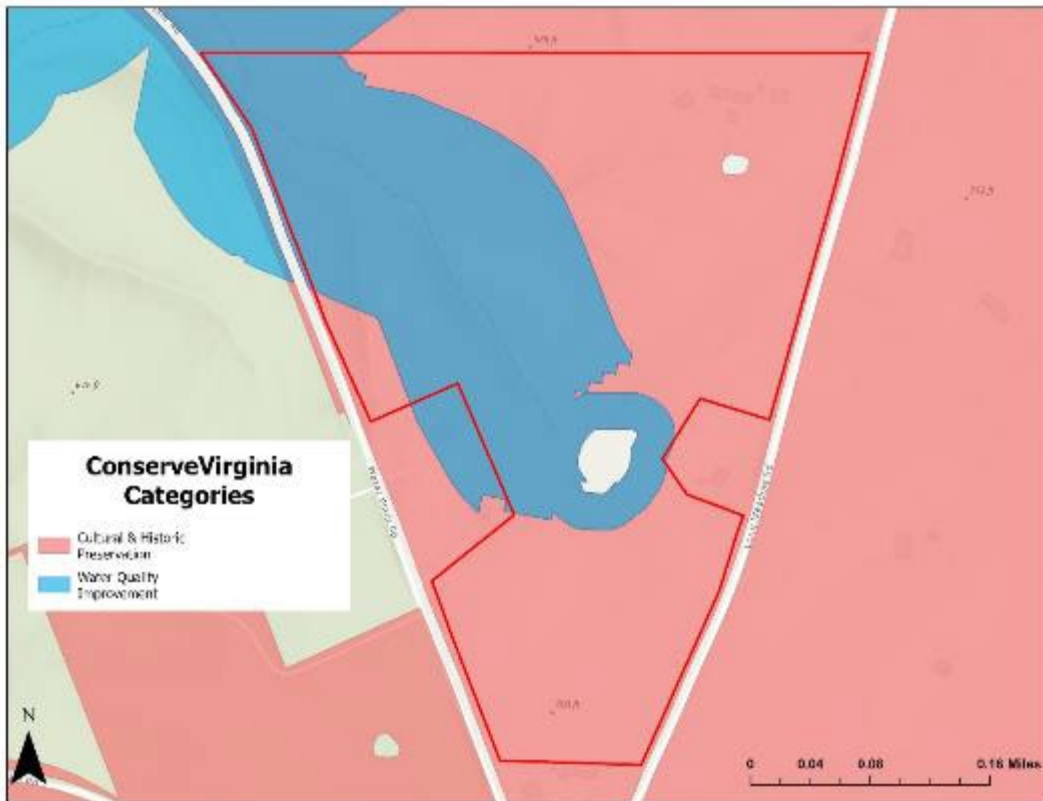
Total Project Cost: \$830,548; **Grant Request:** \$415,274; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Recommended Amount:** \$415,274



Funk Tract at Cedar Creek Aerial Map



Funk Tract at Cedar Creek ConserveVirginia Map



4. Jackson at Wilderness (American Battlefield Trust)

The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve the 36.17-acre Jackson Tract in Orange County via purchase and recordation of a conservation easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The property is located entirely within the Core Area of the Wilderness Battlefield, a Priority I.2 (Class A) battlefield, and includes 32 acres within the Study Area of the Chancellorsville Battlefield, a Priority I.2 (Class A) battlefield, and 8.2 acres within the Study Area of the Mine Run Battlefield, a Priority I.3 (Class B) battlefield. The Jackson Tract is adjacent to the Wilderness Battlefield, part of the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Battlefield Park. The property includes 18.8 acres of woods and an intermittent stream. As owners of the property, the Trust will execute and record a conservation easement that preserves the tract's natural and historic resources in perpetuity and protects the viewshed of the Wilderness Battlefield.

Total Project Cost: \$409,475; **Grant Request:** \$204,238; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Recommended Amount:** \$162,406



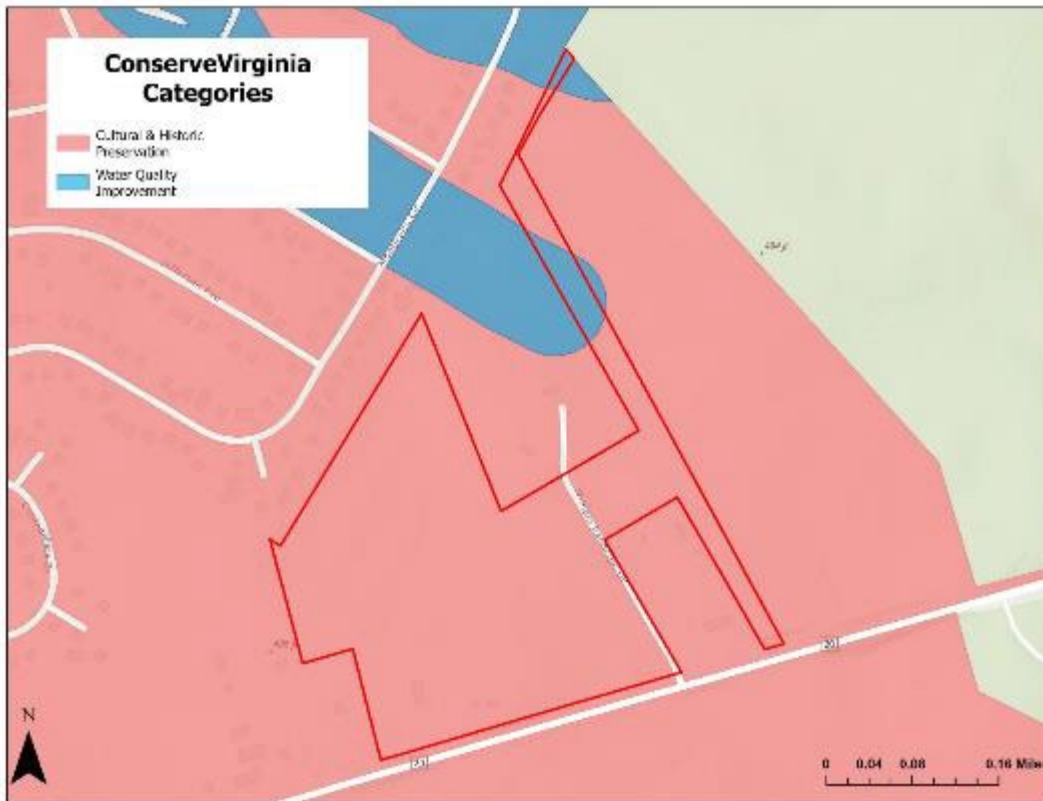
circa 1850 spring house



Jackson at Wilderness Aerial Map



Jackson at Wilderness ConserveVirginia Map



5. Robinson at Manassas (American Battlefield Trust)

The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve the 1.75-acre Robinson Tract at the First Manassas Battlefield in Fairfax County via fee acquisition and recordation of a conservation easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The Robinson Tract is unimproved and located entirely within the Core area of the First Manassas Battlefield, a Priority III.1 (Class A) battlefield. It is also entirely within the Study area of Second Manassas Battlefield, a Priority I.2 (Class A) battlefield. Following the Trust's acquisition, the Trust intends to steward the tract until a conservation easement is recorded; the Trust will then install interpretive signage (if funding permits) and offer periodic tours.

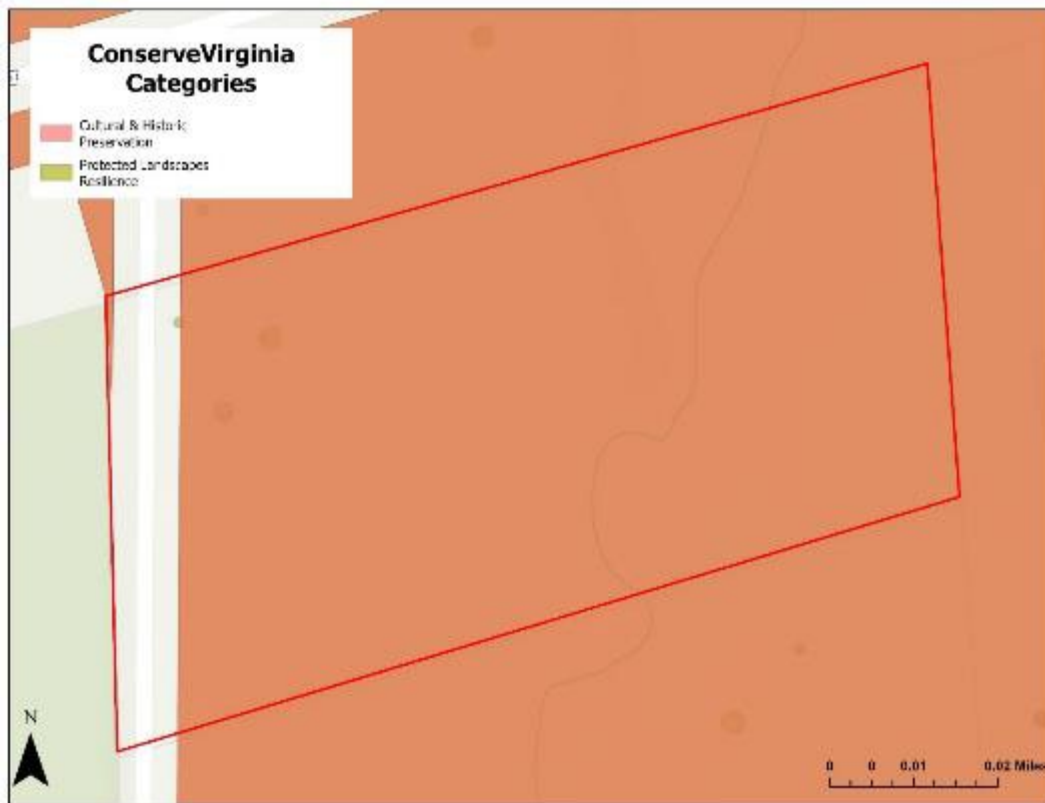
Total Project Cost: \$480,410; **Grant Request:** \$240,205; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Robinson at Manassas Aerial Map



Robinson at Manassas ConserveVirginia Map



6. Brandy Rock Farm II at Brandy Station (American Battlefield Trust)

The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve the 225.8-acre Brandy Rock Farm II Tract in Culpeper County via a conservation easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The Brandy Rock Farm II Tract is unimproved and partially located within the Study area of the Brandy Station Battlefield, a Priority I.3 (Class B) battlefield. The tract is part of a larger approximately 1,600-acre tract that is currently in active agricultural use. The property includes 55.06 acres of woods, 2.06 acres of freshwater emergent wetlands, 3,563.7 feet of unnamed intermittent streams, and 1.18 acres of pond. Working with the landowner (who will retain fee simple ownership), the Trust will facilitate and ensure the conservation easement 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.

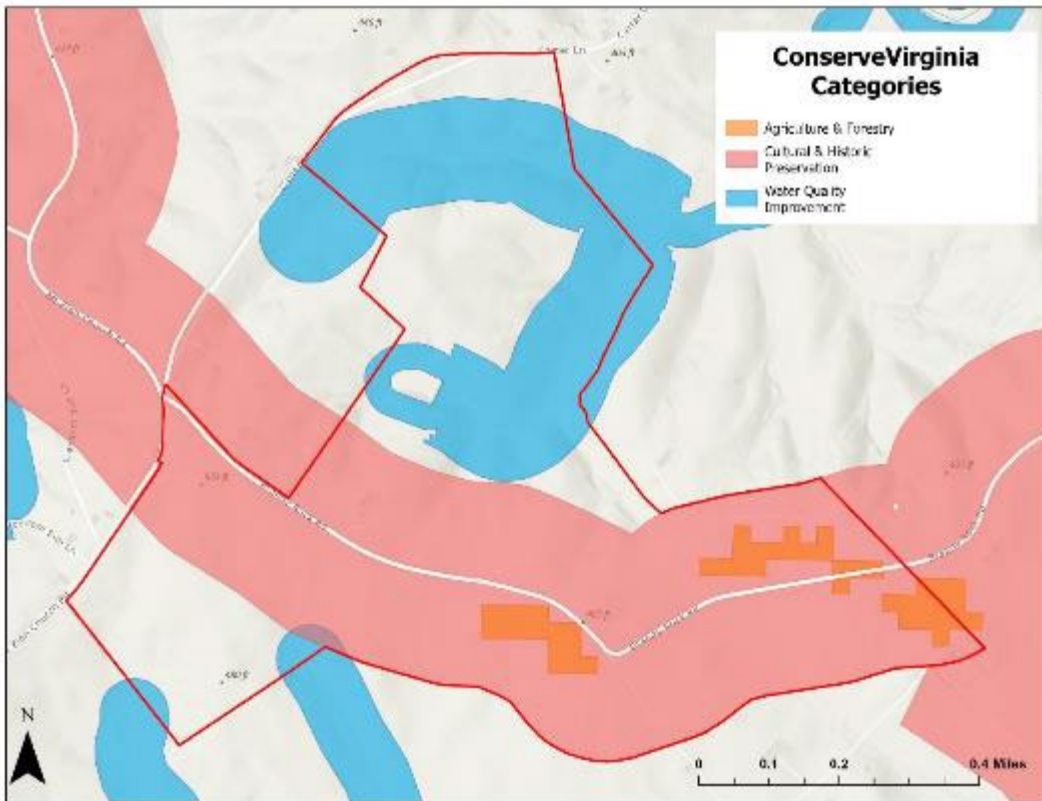
Total Project Cost: \$2,473,110; **Grant Request:** \$630,155; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program and landowner donation; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Brandy Rock Farm II at Brandy Station Aerial Map



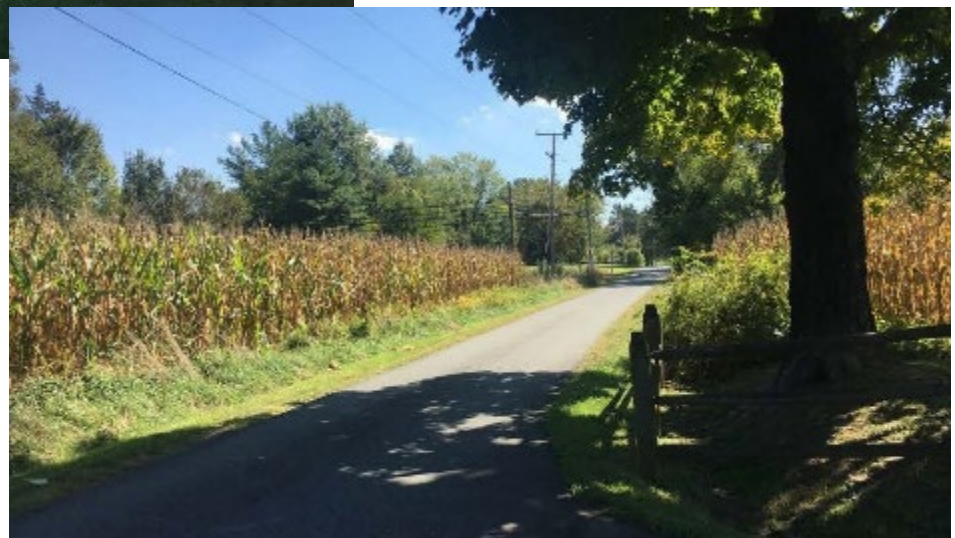
Brandy Rock Farm II at Brandy Station ConserveVirginia Map



7. Massad Tract at Fredericksburg (American Battlefield Trust)

The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve the 5.42-acre Massad Tract at the Fredericksburg Battlefield in Stafford County via fee acquisition and recordation of a conservation easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The Massad Tract is located entirely within the Core Area of the Fredericksburg I Battlefield, a Priority IV.1 (Class A) battlefield. It is also entirely within the Study Area of the Fredericksburg II Battlefield, a Priority IV.1 (Class B) battlefield. The Massad Tract is improved with a single residence and is adjacent to land preserved by the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Battlefield Park. The property includes approximately 1.6 acres of woods. Following the Trust's acquisition, the Trust intends to steward the tract until a conservation easement is recorded; the Trust will then install interpretive signage (if funding permits) and offer periodic tours.

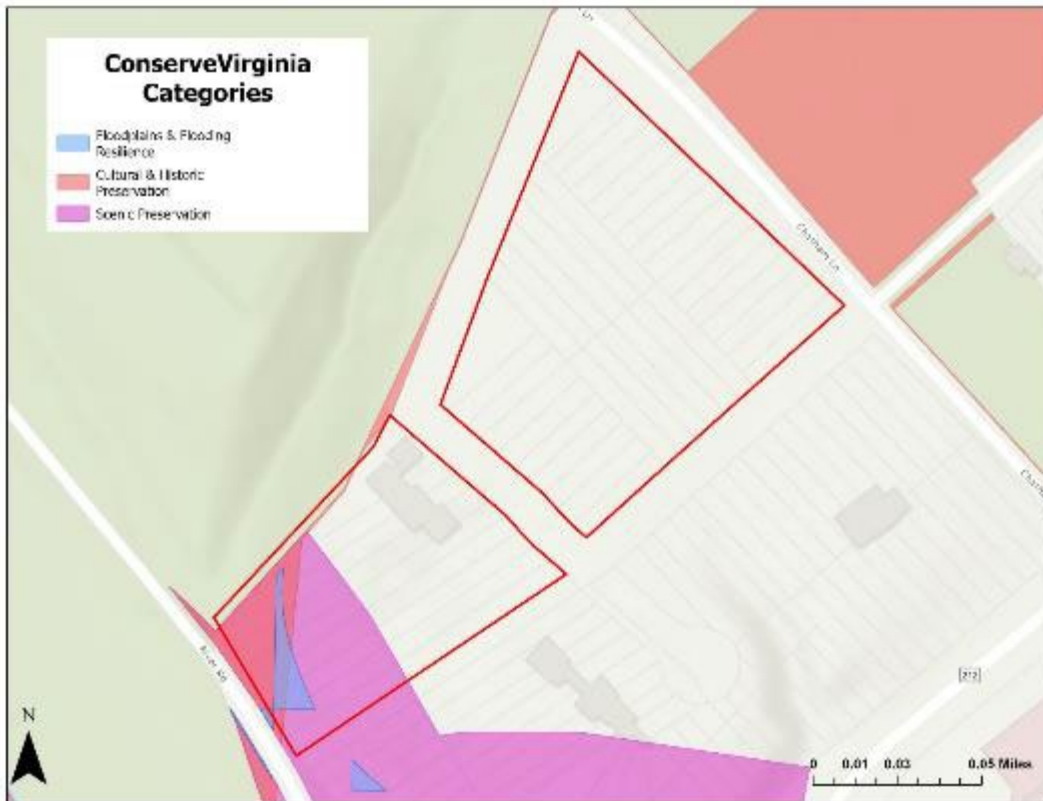
Total Project Cost: \$1,722,993; **Grant Request:** \$859,446; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Massad Tract at Fredericksburg Aerial Map



Massad Tract at Fredericksburg ConserveVirginia Map



8. Goddard at Eltham's Landing (American Battlefield Trust)

The American Battlefield Trust seeks to preserve the 51.98-acre Goddard Tract in New Kent County via a conservation easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources. The tract is located entirely within the Core Area of the Eltham's Landing Battlefield, a Priority III.4 (Class D) battlefield. The Goddard Tract is unimproved and includes 50 acres of woods, 1.2 acres of Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland and Freshwater Emergent Wetland, 1,579 feet of perennial stream, 1,445 feet of intermittent stream, and 0.14 acre of ponds. Working with the landowner (who will retain fee simple ownership), the Board of Historic Resources would execute and record a conservation easement that preserves the tract's natural and historic resources and protects the viewshed of the Eltham's Landing Battlefield.

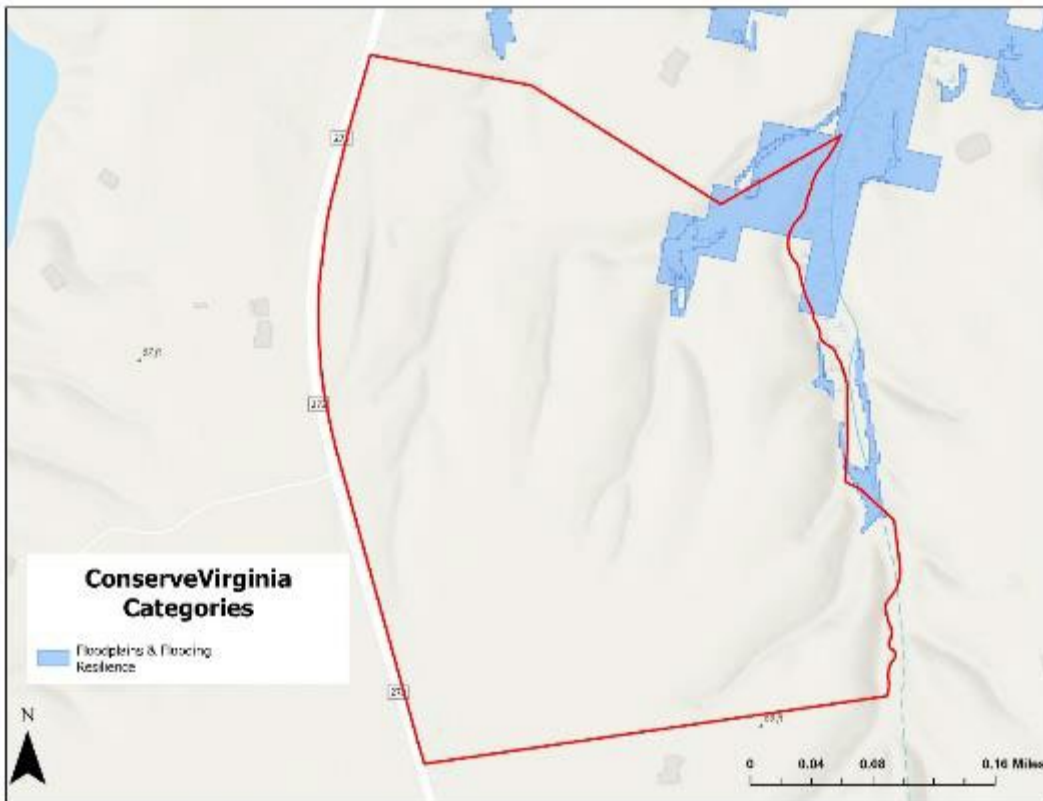
Total Project Cost: \$366,805; **Grant Request:** \$182,528; **Match:** American Battlefield Protection Program; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Goddard at Eltham's Landing Aerial Map



Goddard at Eltham's Landing ConserveVirginia Map



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Natural Area Preservation Applications

Amount of Funding Available: \$3,393,973

1. Project: **Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve – Crow's Nest Harbor Partnership Phase 1;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 262 acres in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$254,500; Grant Request: \$153,500; Recommend: \$153,500
2. Project: **South Quay Sandhills Natural Area Preserve – Biodiversity, Climate Resilience, And Public Access in Chowan River Basin;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 1,900 acres in Suffolk County.
Total Project Cost: \$6,100,000; Grant Request: \$1,300,000; Recommend: \$1,300,000
3. Project: **Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide South;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 84 acres in Montgomery County.
Total Project Cost: \$3,000,000; Grant Request: \$3,000,000; Recommend: \$975,219
4. Project: **Ellett Escarpment Natural Area Preserve – Supplemental Funding;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 34.38 acres in Montgomery County.
Total Project Cost: \$165,254; Grant Request: \$165,254; Recommend: \$165,254
5. Project: **Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide North;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 36 acres in Montgomery County.
Total Project Cost: \$800,000; Grant Request: \$800,000; Recommend: \$800,000

Natural Areas Protection Totals:

Acres: 2,316.38

Project Costs: \$10,319,754

Requested: \$5,418,754

Recommended: \$3,393,973

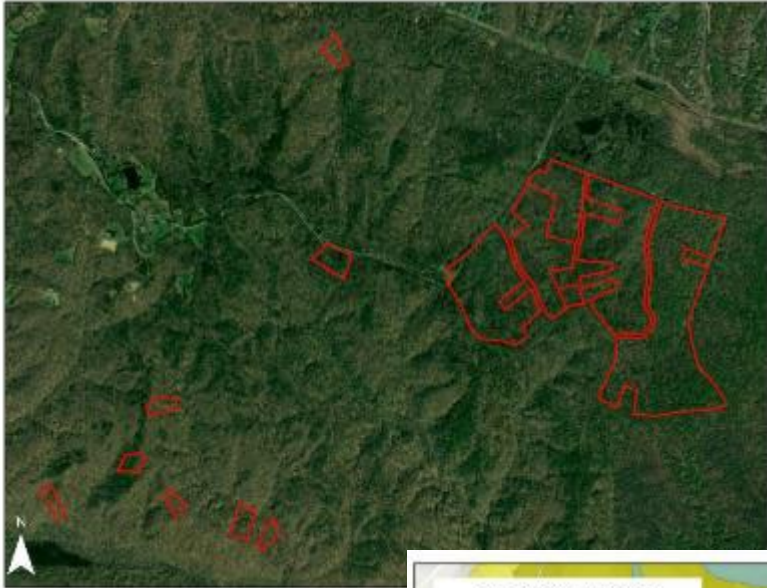
1. Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve – Crow's Nest Harbor Partnership Phase 1 (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Natural Heritage Division (DCR-DNH) seeks to protect 262 acres at Crow's Nest NAP with the help of Stafford County and the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT). By acquiring over 101 individual previously subdivided parcels, this project will continue building on one of VLCF's most applauded conservation success stories and long-standing partnerships. This project will further protect one of Virginia's essential conservation sites. By acquiring key inholdings within the site this project will improve the long-term resilience of one of the state's largest and best examples of Northern Coastal Plain/Piedmont Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest, one of northern Virginia's most significant ecological cores, and protect significant previous financial investments in the NAP by numerous partners. Both Stafford and NVCT have acquired these key inholdings with the intention of transfer to DCR as part of the Preserve. Upon transfer and conservation of these properties, DCR-DNH will expand public access at CNNAP, which is already the Commonwealth's most visited preserve, via new hiking trails and a new parking area.

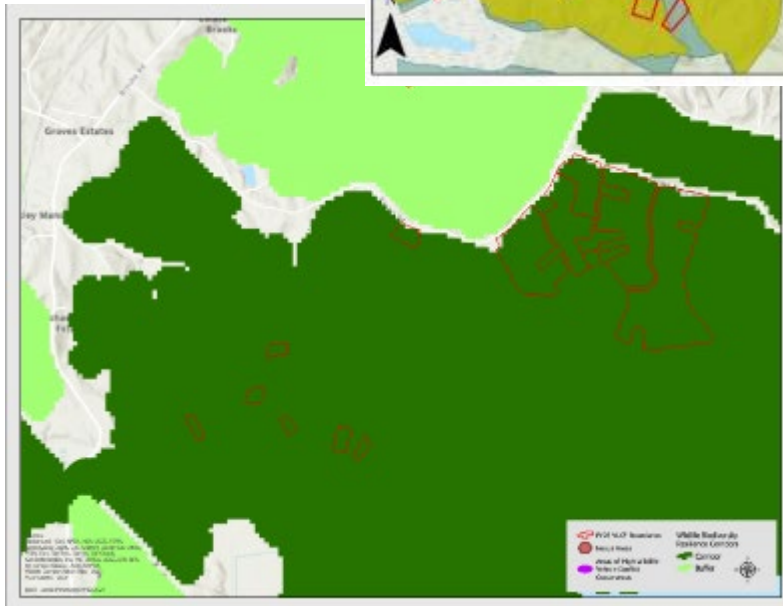
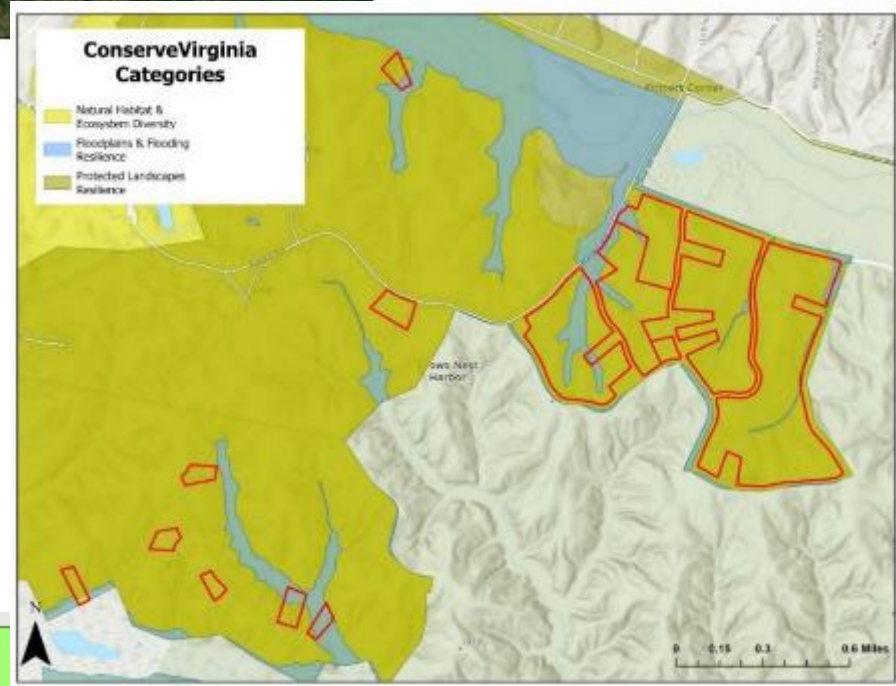
Total Project Cost: \$254,500; **Grant Request:** \$153,500; **Match:** Stafford County and DCR-DNH Due Diligence Fund; **Recommended Amount:** \$153,500



Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve Aerial Map



**Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve
ConserveVirginia Map**



**Crow's Nest Natural Area Wildlife
Biodiversity Corridor Map**

2. South Quay Sandhills Natural Area Preserve – Biodiversity, Climate Resilience, and Public Access in Chowan River Basin (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Natural Heritage Division (DCR-DNH) seeks VLCF funding to leverage fee-simple acquisition of approximately 1,900 contiguous acres in the City of Suffolk. DCR-DNH has already received \$5,631,150 for this project from a National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Bipartisan Infrastructure Law grant. The subject acreage will protect natural heritage resources within one of the world's documented biodiversity "hotspots", including over 10 miles of streams and over 200 acres of freshwater wetlands. It will create opportunities for one of the state's largest longleaf pine habitat restoration projects and meet an identified need in Virginia's Wildlife Corridor Action Plan. The project will also create opportunities for both water and hiking trail access in a socially disadvantaged and economically underserved region and provide the impetus for novel tribal engagement. Taken together, this project supports over a dozen local, regional, and interstate conservation plans and partnerships including interstate goals of watershed protection within the Albemarle-Pamlico watershed and a congressionally designated estuary of national significance.

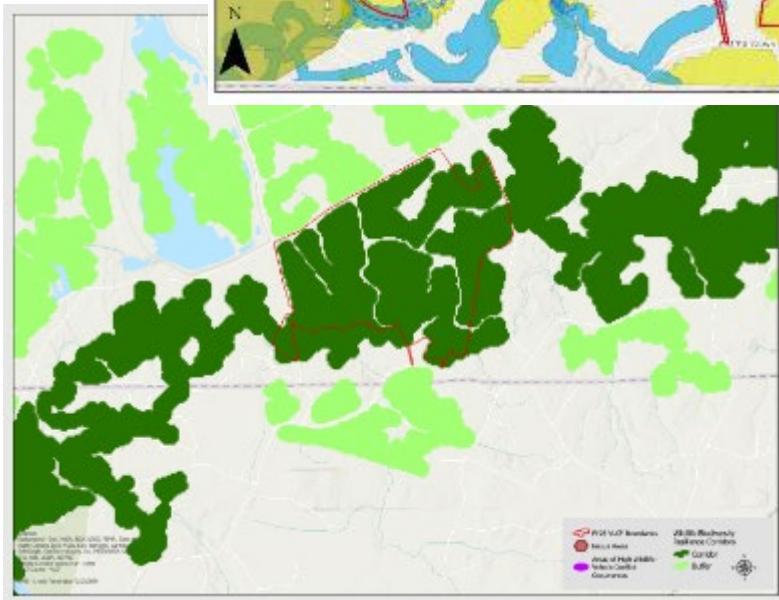
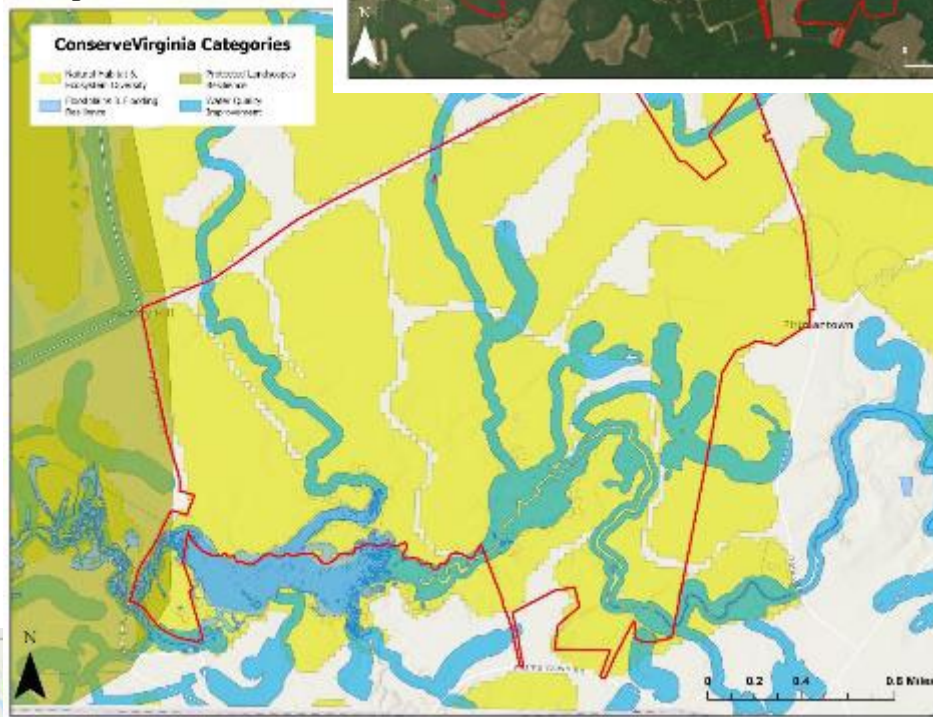
Total Project Cost: \$6,100,000; **Grant Request:** \$1,300,000; **Match:** NOAA-NOS-OCM;
Recommended Amount: \$1,300,000



South Quay Sandhills Natural Area Preserve Aerial Map



**South Quay Sandhills Natural Area
ConserveVirginia Map**



**South Quay Sandhills Natural Area
Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map**

3. Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide South (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR-DNH) seeks funding to protect approximately 84 acres in Montgomery County. The underlying karst landscape supports a portion of Virginia's best population of one of the Commonwealth's most imperiled species, lying within one of Virginia's essential conservation sites. Global persistence of this imperiled species rests entirely on conservation work in Virginia, as the worldwide range is located immediately east of Blacksburg where development pressures are severe; protection of this species must occur now, before it is too late. The subject acreage would also benefit another significantly rare species similarly confined to Virginia, as well as mature calcareous forests, and approximately 1,100' of tributaries to the North Fork Roanoke River. The tract falls within two categories of Conserve Virginia: Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity and Floodplains & Flooding Resilience. These values will be protected, in perpetuity, through the establishment of a new Natural Area Preserve if this project is successful.

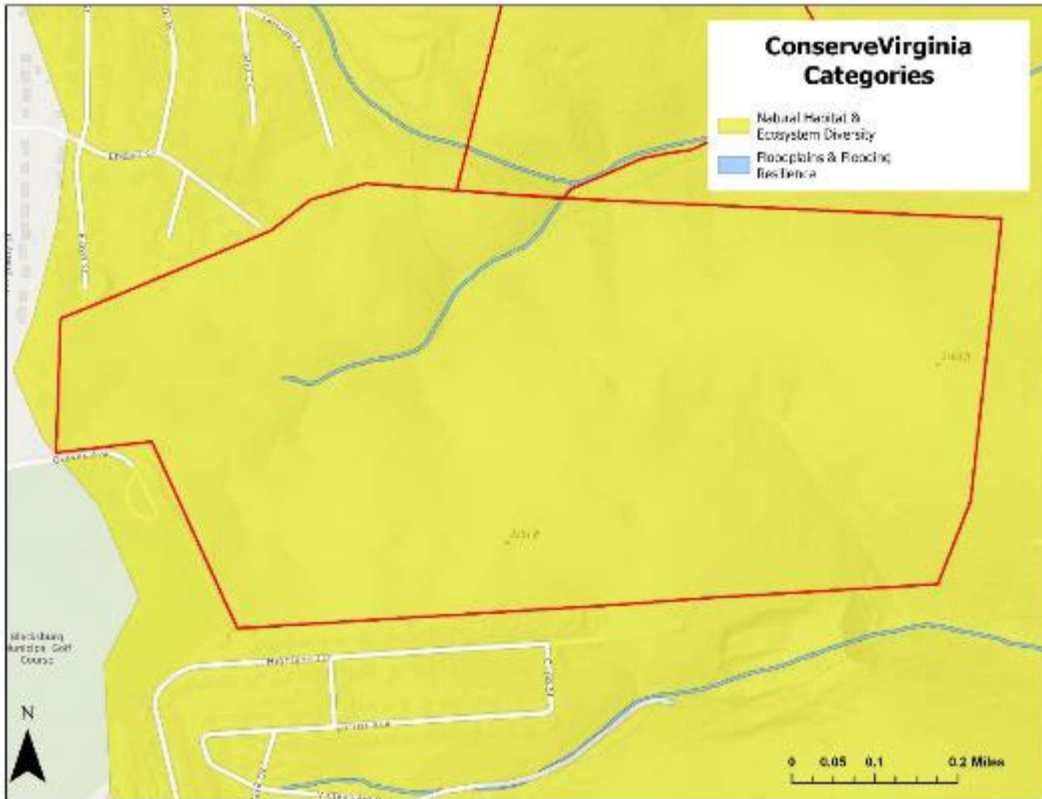
Total Project Cost: \$3,000,000; **Grant Request:** \$3,000,000; **Match:** \$0; **Recommended Amount:** \$975,219



Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide South Aerial Map



Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide South ConserveVirginia Map



4. Ellett Escarpment Natural Area Preserve – Supplemental Funding (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Natural Heritage Division (DCR-DNH) seeks supplemental funding from VLCF to protect approximately 34 acres in Montgomery County. DCR-DNH was previously awarded a VLCF grant in FY23 that successfully initiated this project, but land values were appraised higher than expected. The project lies along the rapidly developing edge of Blacksburg, where existing karst features support Virginia's best population of a "critical conservation need" species known from only three locations worldwide. When completed, this project will result in the establishment of a new natural area preserve, located in one of Virginia's Essential Conservation Sites and overlapping two categories of Conserve Virginia: Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity and Floodplains & Flooding Resilience. Fee-simple purchase of the subject properties will also help protect a significantly rare natural heritage resource, along with mature calcareous forests surrounding the karst feature and a narrow ecological buffer. All these conservation values will be protected, in perpetuity, through the establishment of a new Natural Area Preserve if this project is successful.

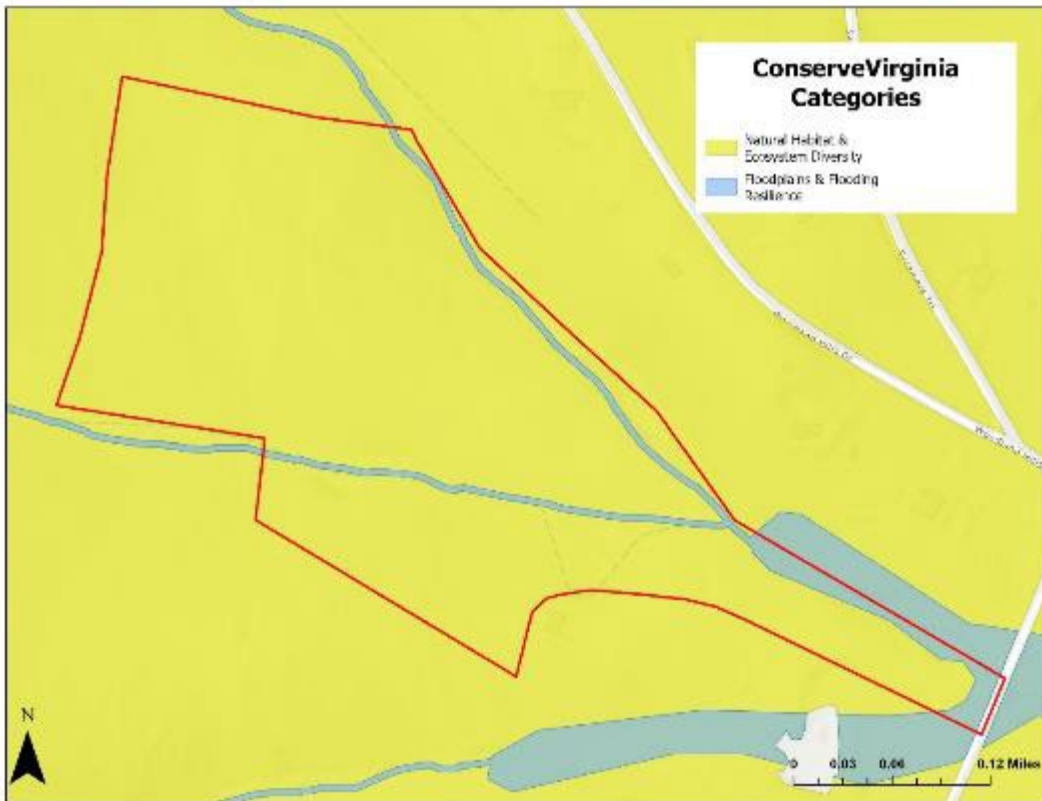
Total Project Cost: \$165,254; **Grant Request:** \$165,254; **Match:** \$0; **Recommended Amount:** \$165,254



Ellett Escarpment Natural Area Preserve – Supplemental Funding Aerial Map



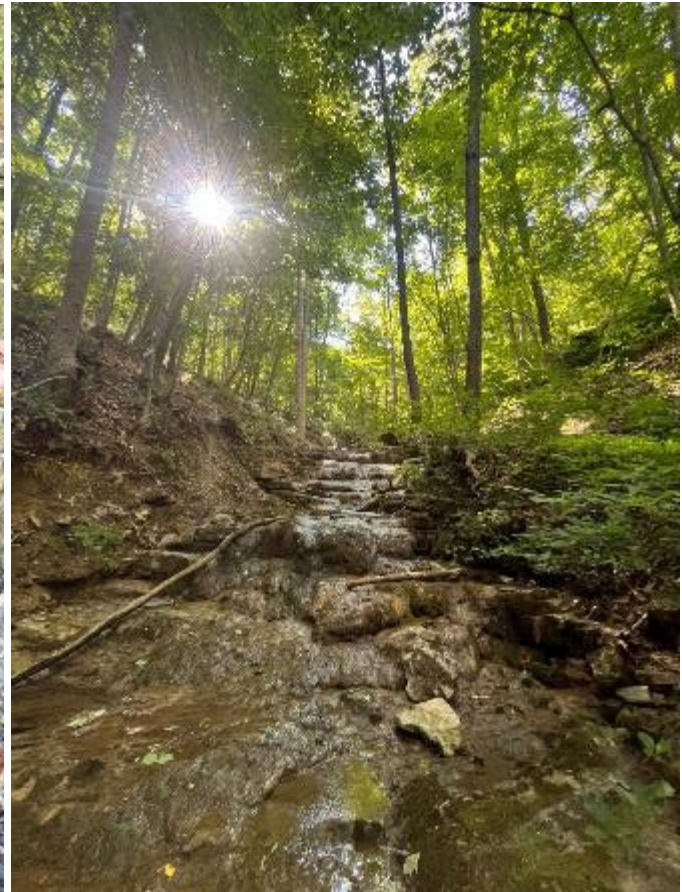
Ellett Escarpment Natural Area Preserve – Supplemental Funding ConserveVirginia Map



5. Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide North (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Division of Natural Heritage (DCR-DNH) seeks to protect approximately 36 acres in Montgomery County. The underlying karst landscape supports a portion of Virginia's best population of one of the Commonwealth's most imperiled species, lying within one of Virginia's essential conservation sites. Global persistence of this imperiled species rests entirely on conservation work in Virginia, as the worldwide range is located immediately east of Blacksburg where development pressures are severe; protection of this species must occur now, before it is too late. The subject acreage would also help protect another significantly rare species similarly confined to Virginia as well as mature calcareous forests, and approximately 2,000' of tributaries to the North Fork Roanoke River. The tract falls within two categories of Conserve Virginia: Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity and Floodplains & Flooding Resilience. These values will be protected, in perpetuity, through the establishment of a new Natural Area Preserve if this project is successful.

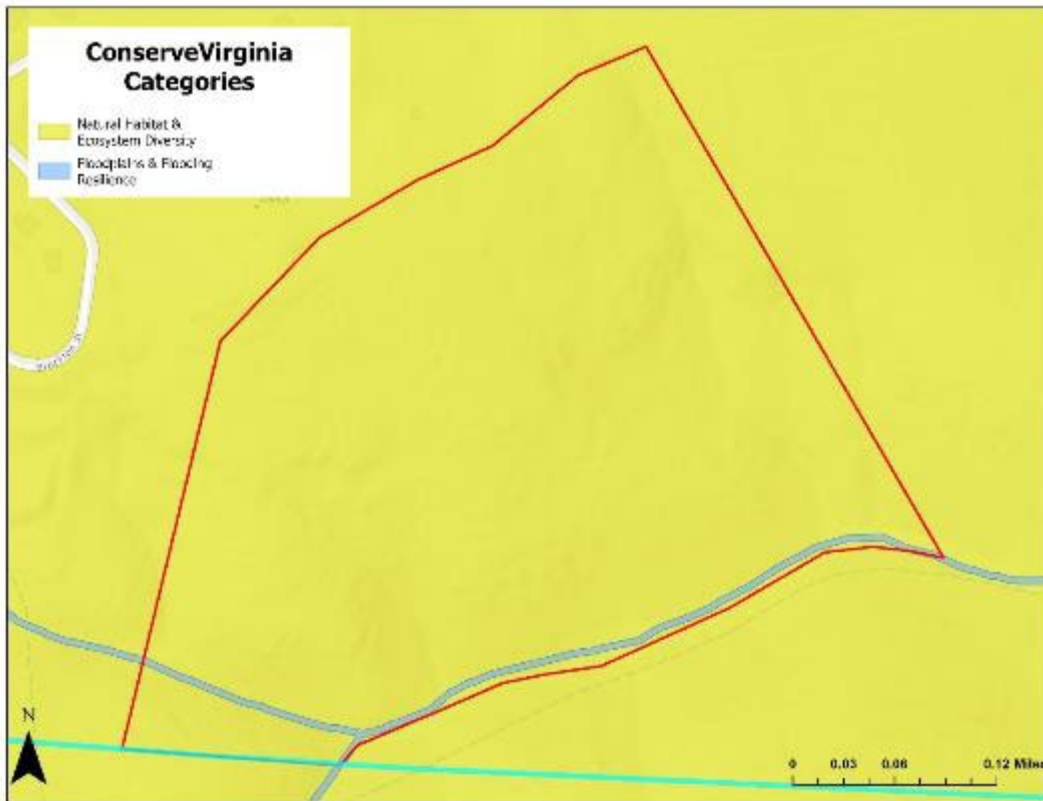
Total Project Cost: \$800,000; Grant Request: \$800,000; Match: \$0; Recommended Amount: \$800,000



Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide North Aerial Map



Ellett Escarpment – Eastern Divide North ConserveVirginia Map



Open Spaces and Parks Applications

Amount of Funding Available: \$2,965,932

1. Project: **Hanock North Landing Open Space FY25;**
Applicant: City of Virginia Beach
Fee acquisition of 28 acres along the North Landing River in Virginia Beach.
Total Project Cost: \$1,529,000; Grant Request: \$675,000; Recommend: \$650,000
2. Project: **City of Chesapeake Open Spaces and Parks Application;**
Applicant: City of Chesapeake
Fee acquisition of 96 acres along the Elizabeth River in the City of Chesapeake.
Total Project Cost: \$3,008,795; Grant Request: \$1,465,000; Recommend: \$800,000
3. Project: **Lake Caledon – Caledon State Park Expansion;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 468 acres in King George County.
Total Project Cost: \$6,000,000; Grant Request: \$1,000,000; Recommend: \$500,000
4. Project: **Robinson-Baker’s Creek Acquisition;**
Applicant: Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority
Fee acquisition of 513.32 acres along the York River in King and Queen County.
Total Project Cost: \$607,950; Grant Request: \$303,975; Recommend: \$255,000
5. Project: **Patawomek Tribe Land Grant;**
Applicant: Patawomek Indian Tribe of Virginia
Fee acquisition of 14.24 acres along the Rappahannock River in Stafford County.
Total Project Cost: \$500,000; Grant Request: \$500,000; Recommend: \$390,932
6. Project: **Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area;**
Applicant: City of Virginia Beach
Fee acquisition of 0.57 acres on Crab Creek in Virginia Beach.
Total Project Cost: \$600,000; Grant Request: \$300,000; Recommend: \$100,000
7. Project: **Cole’s Point Water Access – Additional Funding;**
Applicant: Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
Fee acquisition of 2.60 acres at Branson’s Cove on the Potomac River in Westmoreland County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,012,025; Grant Request: \$230,000; Recommend: \$0

8. Project: **New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Access**;
Applicant: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
Fee acquisition of 97.25 acres in Pulaski County.
Total Project Cost: \$1,112,500; Grant Request: \$1,112,500; Recommend: \$0

9. Project: **Arlington Outdoor Education Association**; Applicant: Virginia Outdoors Foundation
Fee acquisition of 75 acres in Fauquier County.
Total Project Cost: \$847,000; Grant Request: \$522,000; Recommend: \$0

Open Spaces & Parks Totals:

Acres: 1,294.98

Project Costs: \$15,217,270

Requested: \$6,108,475

Recommended: \$2,695,932

1. Hancock North Landing Open Space FY25 (City of Virginia Beach)

The City of Virginia Beach seeks funding to acquire in fee a 28-acre parcel as an addition to Munden Point Park. Daily public access will be provided for land-based and water-based recreation, wildlife viewing, and education and research opportunities in a unique landscape along the North Landing River, a designated Virginia Scenic River. The property is within the North Landing River Oakum Creek Natural Area, as identified by DCR Natural Heritage and falls within several categories of ConserveVirginia (see map below). Additionally, the property is within an important ecological core and wildlife corridor that connects the North Landing River to the Atlantic Coast. From the site, there are over 220-degree views of the North Landing River, and viewsheds of cypress coves and cordgrass hummocks with native marsh plants that contribute to the rare “wind-tidal marsh”. The property is virtually surrounded by water, with over 1,600’ of walkable North Landing River shoreline, and frontage along North Landing River marsh, Oakum Creek, and a canal used for boat access.

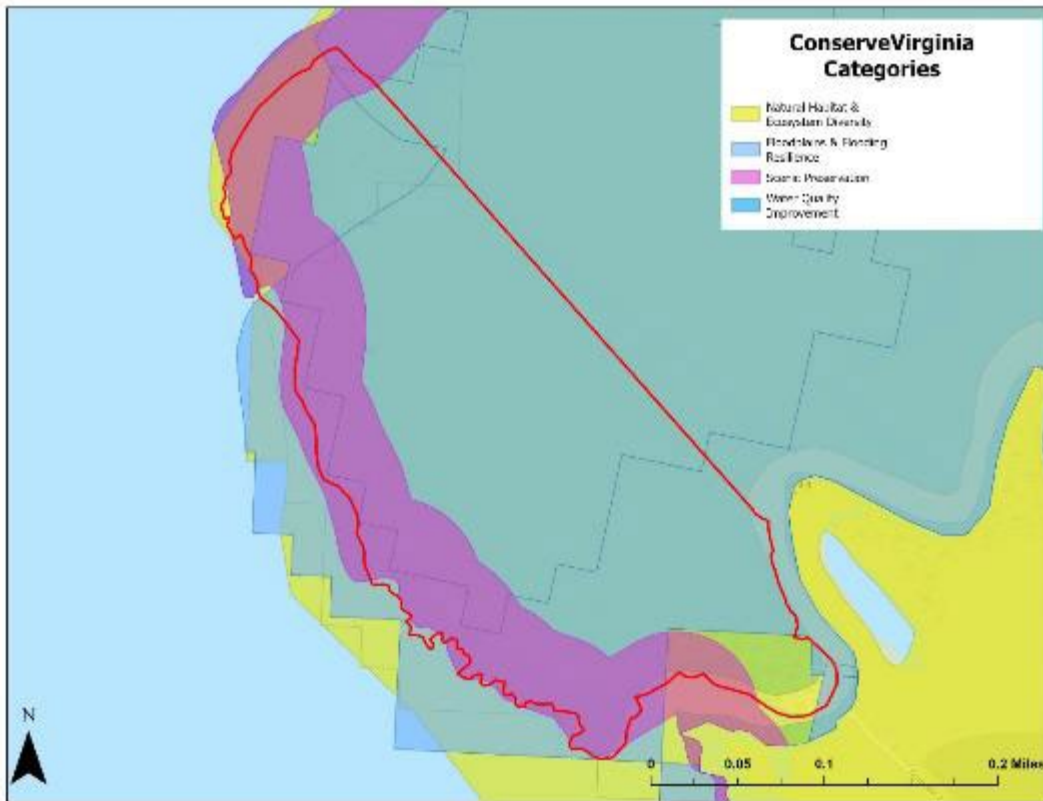
Total Project Cost: \$1,529,000; **Grant Request:** \$675,000; **Match:** City of Virginia Beach Open Space Acquisition CIP; **Recommended Amount:** \$650,000



Hancock North Landing Open Space FY25 Aerial Map



Hancock North Landing Open Space FY25 ConserveVirginia Map



2. City of Chesapeake Open Spaces and Parks Application (City of Chesapeake)

This 96-acre project is located in the City of Chesapeake along the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. Most of the property is designated as “Suburban Mixed Use” with a portion designated as “Conservation” future land use. Although the property is zoned primarily M-3 (Waterfront Industrial District), M-2 (General Industrial District), and a small amount R-15 (Residential District), 68% of the property is encumbered by wetlands with approximately 8 acres designated as a wetlands bank. The objective of the project is to protect the wetlands – and thus protect improved water quality, floodplains and flooding resilience per ConserveVirginia (see map below), protect the ecological integrity along the Elizabeth River, and provide recreation opportunities and public waterfront access.

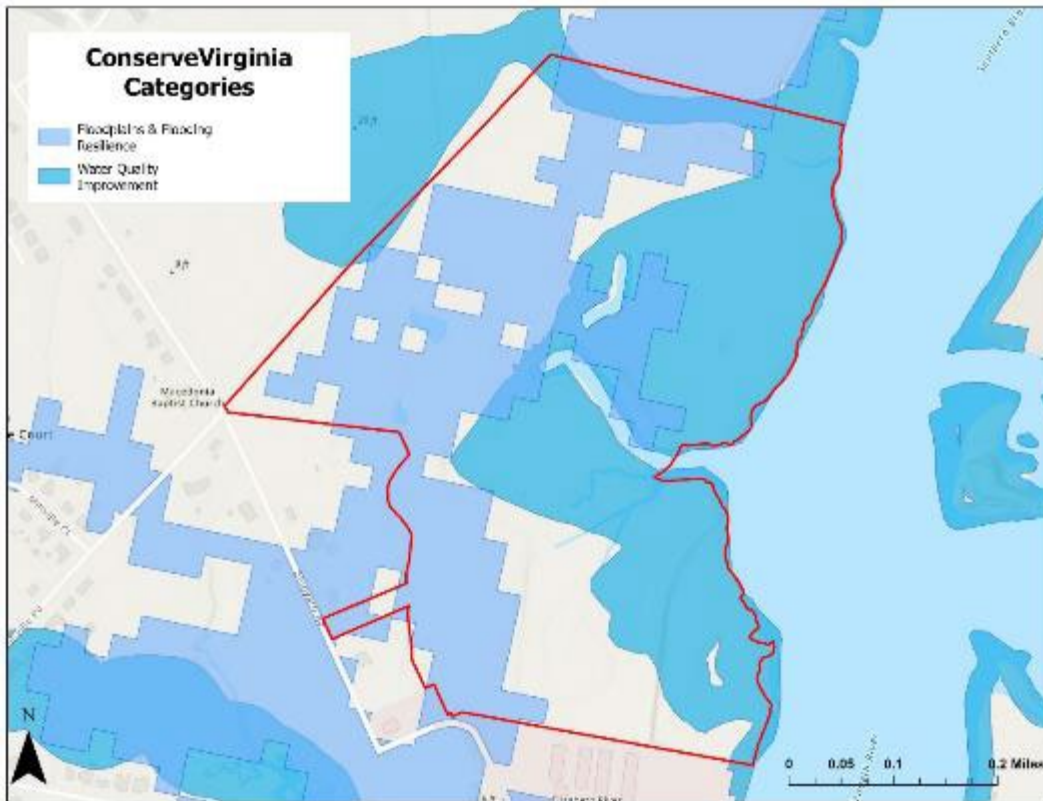
Total Project Cost: \$3,008,795; **Grant Request:** \$1,465,000; **Match:** City of Chesapeake;
Recommended Amount: \$800,000



City of Chesapeake Open Spaces and Parks Aerial Map



City of Chesapeake Open Spaces and Parks ConserveVirginia Map



3. Lake Caledon – Caledon State Park Expansion (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

The Lake Caledon acquisition, supporting the expansion of Caledon State Park, is an opportunity to increase the State Park by nearly 20% through a Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation partnership with the Trust for Public Land (TPL) 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 King George County. The property is an undeveloped, mostly forested tract immediately south of Caledon State Park that was slated for a residential subdivision before TPL secured a purchase agreement with the owners. Through this acquisition, the expansion of Caledon State Park, a designated National Natural Landmark, will increase recreational opportunities at the Park such as camping, hiking, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, and the potential for overnight lodging; will protect and enhance the visitor experience along the Dahlgren Railroad Heritage Trail, a designated National Recreation Trail, and along the adjacent State Route 218, a Virginia Scenic Byway; and will help retain intact forest areas that will buffer the Park from development.

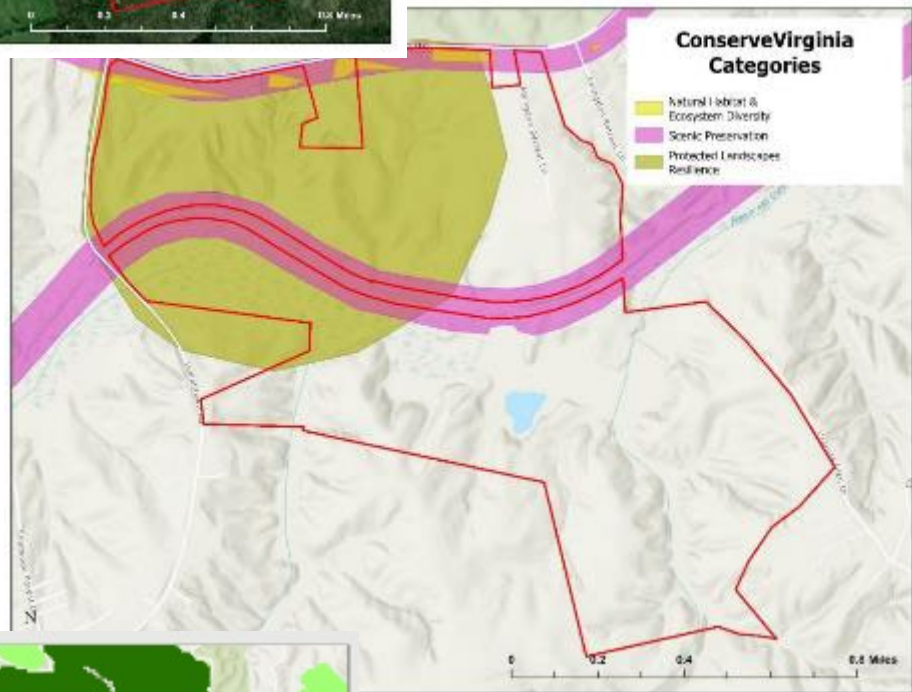
Total Project Cost: \$6,000,000; **Grant Request:** \$1,000,000; **Match:** LWCF, REPI, and DCR Parks, Acquisition, and Development Fund; **Recommended Amount:** \$500,000



Lake Caledon – Caledon State Park Expansion Aerial Map



Lake Caledon – Caledon State Park Expansion ConserveVirginia Map



Lake Caledon – Caledon State Park Expansion Wildlife Biodiversity Corridor Map



4. Robinson-Baker’s Creek Acquisition (Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority)

The Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (MPCBPAA) intends to acquire approximately 513 acres in King and Queen County for recreational purposes and place a conservation easement on property. The acquisition will conserve land in coastal and waterfront areas that contain significant ecological value, providing protection to many of Virginia’s natural resources. The project will also permit underserved communities in King and Queen County sustainable and equitable recreational access such as hunting, fishing, swimming, and wildlife watching. Additionally, the site is in a distressed area designated as an Opportunity Zone area for redevelopment, as established by the U.S Secretary of the Treasury. The project has been identified as a priority site in the 2012 Virginia CELCP plan and contains essential wildlife habitat areas ranked “High” and “Very High” according to the Virginia Ecologic Valuation Assessment . The project is discussed in the Middle Peninsula Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, annually approved, and accepted by the U.S Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration. This project will build upon ongoing local and regional efforts to enhance community resiliency by protecting marsh habitat and natural space.

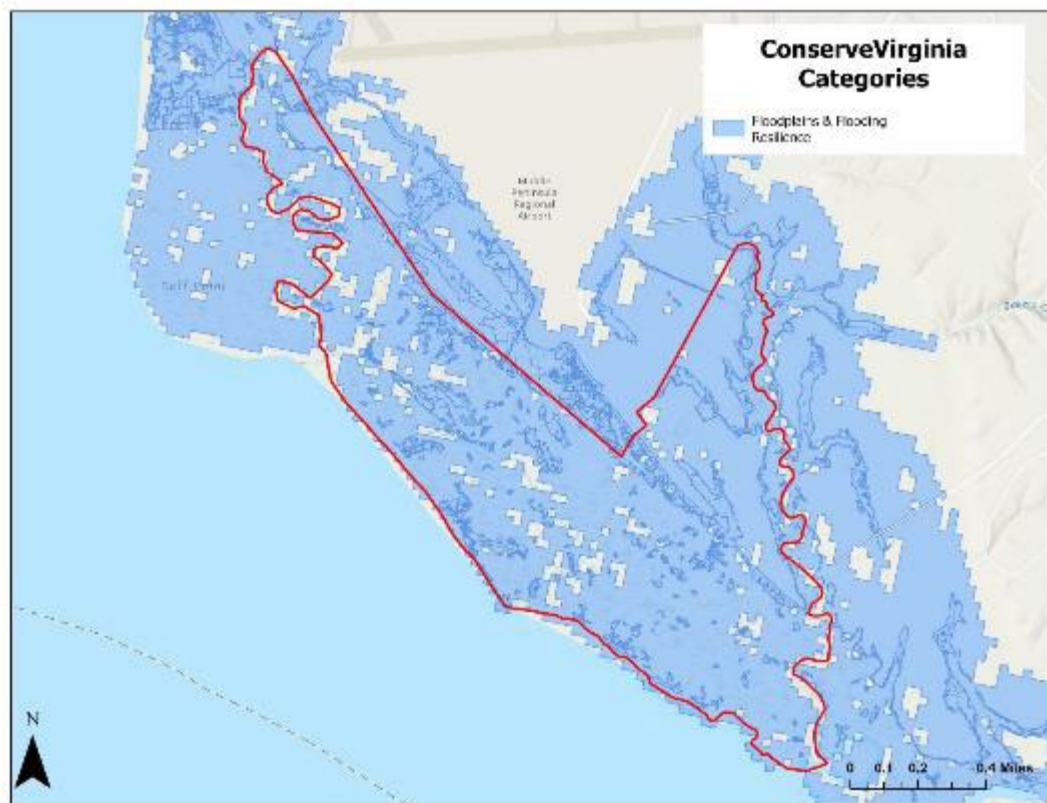
Total Project Cost: \$607,950; **Grant Request:** \$303,975; **Match:** Town of West Point bargain sale; **Recommended Amount:** \$255,000



Robinson-Baker's Creek Acquisition Aerial Map



Robinson-Baker's Creek Acquisition ConserveVirginia Map



5. Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant (Patawomeck Indian Tribe of Virginia)

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 and is one of eleven state recognized tribes. The Patawomeck community is centered in southern Stafford County and operates a museum and tribal center across the Rappahannock River from Fredericksburg at Little Falls. The project property is located just downriver from the Tribal Center as well as McDuff Park, which is owned by Stafford County. The Patawomeck Tribe intends to create a public access trail from McDuff Park to the property as well as a small boat loading area along the River.

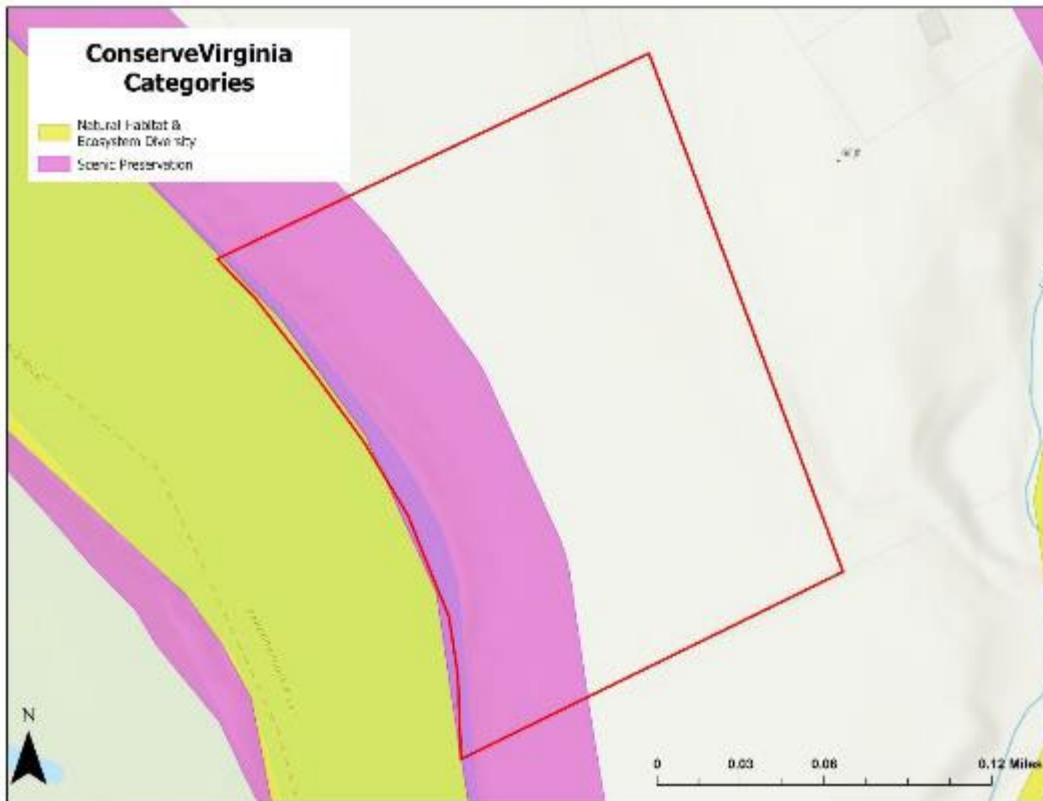
Total Project Cost: \$500,000; **Grant Request:** \$500,000; **Match:** VOF PTF grant; **Recommended Amount:** \$390,932



Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant Aerial Map



Patawomeck Tribe Land Grant ConserveVirginia Map



6. Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area (City of Virginia Beach)

Pleasure House Point is part of a network of conserved areas along Crab Creek, Pleasure House Creek, and Lynnhaven Bay, with 1.25 miles of shorelines and wetlands, tidal mudflats, and maritime forests. In 2012, a significant portion of the property was conserved, and the City of Virginia Beach currently manages 108 acres of the property. The site showcases the beauty and function of a coastal ecosystem despite its heavily developed surroundings. The tidal wetlands at the site provide food and habitat for various bird species year-round and support amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates, and regionally iconic species. Sandy trails offer excellent birdwatching and wildlife viewing, with close-up views of the marsh. The property is part of multi-state networks and water trails and contains small boat launches onsite. The property offers scenic views, public access, and maritime forests featuring mature long-leaf pines. Despite the property's natural features and ecosystem services, there is substantial development pressure.

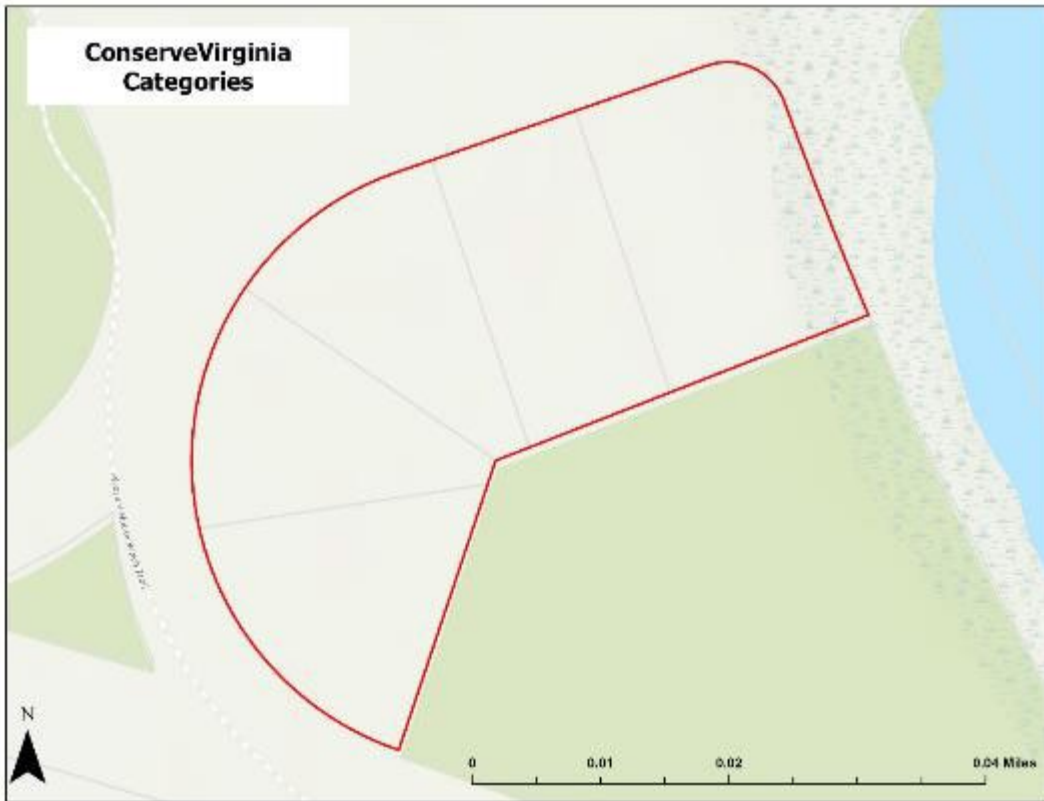
Total Project Cost: \$600,000; **Grant Request:** \$300,000; **Match:** PWD VA Land Conservation grant; **Recommended Amount:** \$100,000



Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area Aerial Map



Pleasure House Point Access/Waterfront Area ConserveVirginia Map



7. Cole's Point Water Access – Additional Funding (Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources)

DWR proposes to purchase 2.6 acres from the County of Westmoreland for future development of public access (a boat ramp, two hand-launch sites) to Branson Cove (and the Potomac River), a public ADA-accessible fishing pier, and a gravel parking area. The acquisition of the property to provide water access is consistent with DWR's mission to connect people to the outdoors, and the intended future uses for boating access, pier-based fishing and wildlife viewing are integral components of that mission. Access to the Potomac River has been identified as a user priority in the DWR's 2019 Boating Access Site and Facility Management Plan. The acquisition will provide new access to the Potomac River Water Trail, Potomac River Long-Distance Water Trail, and Westmoreland County Water Trail, addressing both County and regional priorities for additional public water access. It would also be included on the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail, providing access to public and private sites for wildlife viewing. More than 750,000 people live within 60 miles of the project site and would have easy access to this site. DWR received a grant for this project in FY23 for \$532,025 and is seeking supplemental funding to complete the project.

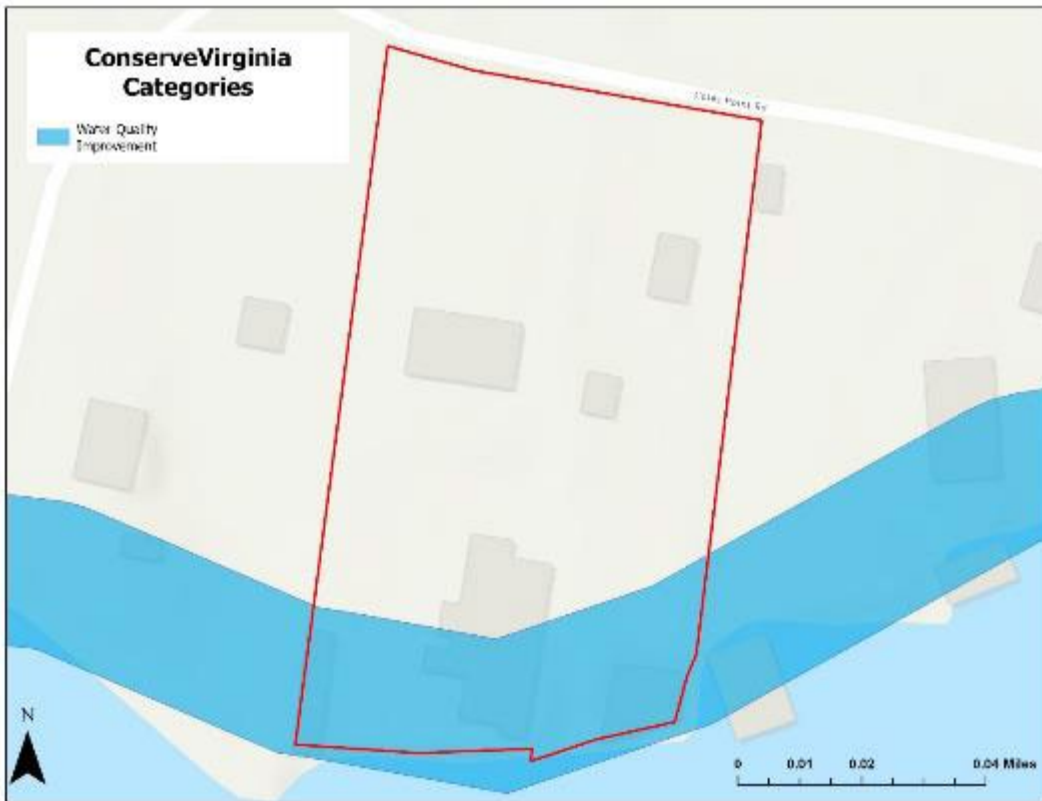
Total Project Cost: \$1,012,025; **Grant Request:** \$230,000; **Match:** Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



Cole's Point Water Access Aerial Map



Cole's Point Water Access ConserveVirginia Map



8. New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Access (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

New River Trail State Park is 57 miles long, spanning across four counties. Acquisition of this 97-acre property will enhance the Park's future offerings for outdoor recreation, environmental education and interpretation, and wildlife viewing. Presently, the park lacks expanded recreation and education opportunities in Pulaski County; the closest camping, picnicking, or other park facilities are approximately 18 miles via the rails-to-trails (RTT). This land is adjacent to the RTT (which is part of the ConserveVirginia Model), along the Virginia Scenic Byway that runs along Old Baltimore Road in Draper, near conservation easement lands, and near the designated historic district of Draper. New River Land Trust evaluated this land as a highly desirable tract due to its importance for viewshed protection along the trail's corridor and protection of the scenic and community identity for the US Scenic Byway that runs along Old Baltimore Road. The acquisition would expand the Park's abilities to meet VOP's call for more trails, biking, hiking, wildlife viewing, and interpretive program venue for the northern region of the park.

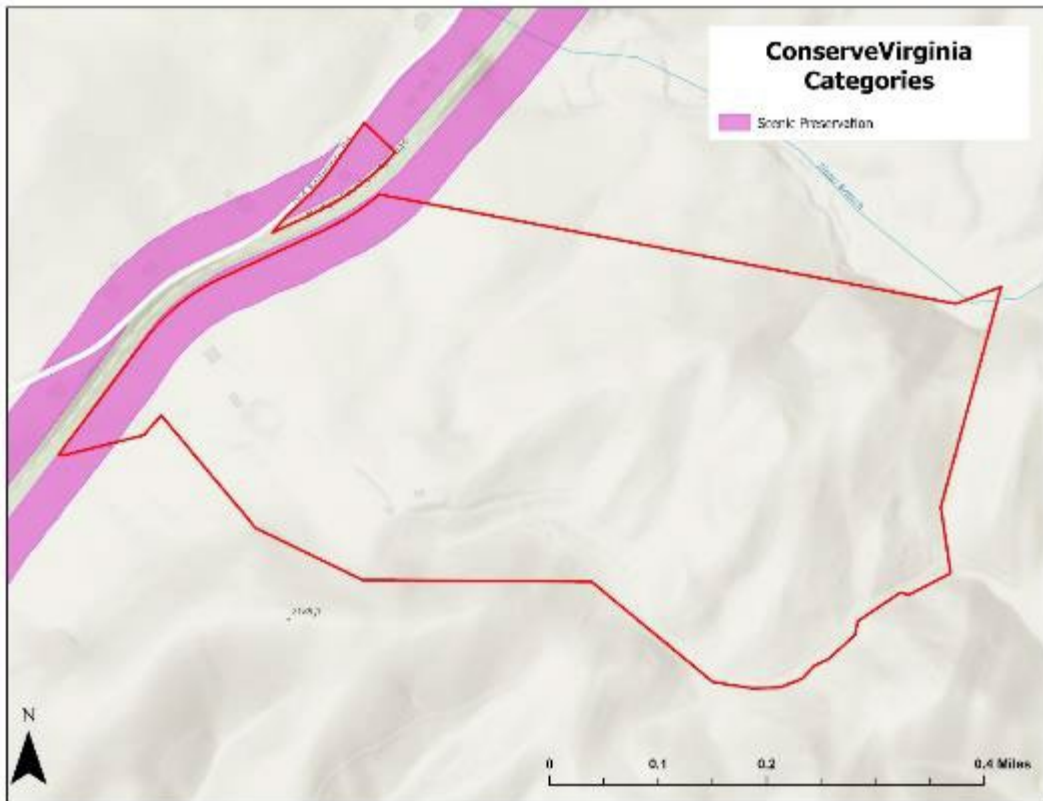
Total Project Cost: \$1,112,500; **Grant Request:** \$1,112,500; **Match:** \$0; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Aerial Map



New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation ConserveVirginia Map



9. Arlington Outdoor Education Association (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

The Arlington Outdoor Education Association (AOEA) intends to acquire and preserve 75 acres adjacent to a 225-acre property that it currently owns and operates. The original 225 acres houses an outdoor classroom and camp, offering recreational activities to public school students from Arlington County Schools that are bused to the site daily during the school year and to camp in the summer. The 75 acres that would be acquired is entirely forested and encompasses the ridgeline of Pond Mountain and Biscuit Mountain. This additional land will allow for additional and expanded walking trails, as well as provide more forested areas for camping and outdoor recreation. Additionally, the acquisition of this property would allow student access to mountain ridgeline, which contains a large quartzite outcrop, offering students an opportunity to observe regional, geological processes. All of the 75 acres are designated as having either “high” or “very high” Forest Conservation Value. This acquisition and conservation easement would allow for more students to visit and study the property, as well as protect natural resources and associated conservation values.

Total Project Cost: \$847,000; **Grant Request:** \$522,000; **Match:** Preservation Trust Fund;
Recommended Amount: \$0



Arlington Outdoor Education Association Aerial Map



Arlington Outdoor Education Association ConserveVirginia Map



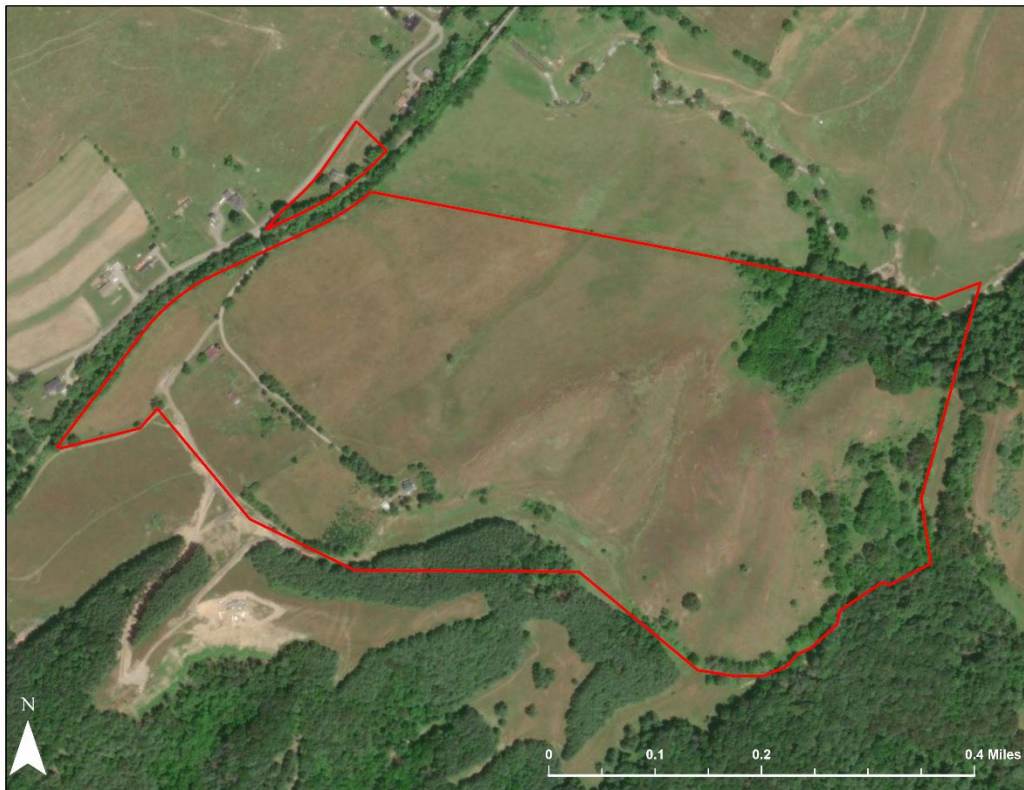
8. New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Access (Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation)

New River Trail State Park is 57 miles long, spanning across four counties. Acquisition of this 97-acre property will enhance the Park's future offerings for outdoor recreation, environmental education and interpretation, and wildlife viewing. Presently, the park lacks expanded recreation and education opportunities in Pulaski County; the closest camping, picnicking, or other park facilities are approximately 18 miles via the rails-to-trails (RTT). This land is adjacent to the RTT (which is part of the ConserveVirginia Model), along the Virginia Scenic Byway that runs along Old Baltimore Road in Draper, near conservation easement lands, and near the designated historic district of Draper. New River Land Trust evaluated this land as a highly desirable tract due to its importance for viewshed protection along the trail's corridor and protection of the scenic and community identity for the US Scenic Byway that runs along Old Baltimore Road. The acquisition would expand the Park's abilities to meet VOP's call for more trails, biking, hiking, wildlife viewing, and interpretive program venue for the northern region of the park.

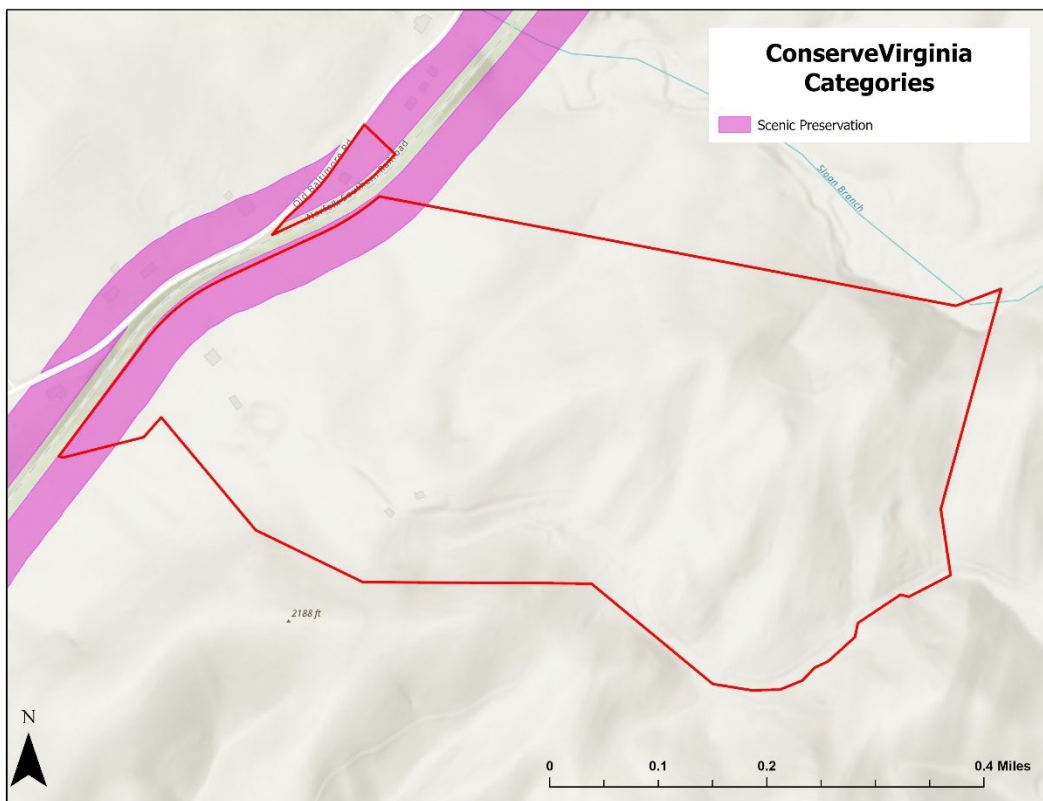
Total Project Cost: \$1,112,500; **Grant Request:** \$1,112,500; **Match:** \$0; **Recommended Amount:** \$0



New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation Aerial Map



New River Trail State Park: Draper Viewshed Protection & Recreation ConserveVirginia Map



9. Arlington Outdoor Education Association (Virginia Outdoors Foundation)

The Arlington Outdoor Education Association (AOEA) intends to acquire and preserve 75 acres adjacent to a 225-acre property that it currently owns and operates. The original 225 acres houses an outdoor classroom and camp, offering recreational activities to public school students from Arlington County Schools that are bused to the site daily during the school year and to camp in the summer. The 75 acres that would be acquired is entirely forested and encompasses the ridgeline of Pond Mountain and Biscuit Mountain. This additional land will allow for additional and expanded walking trails, as well as provide more forested areas for camping and outdoor recreation. Additionally, the acquisition of this property would allow student access to mountain ridgeline, which contains a large quartzite outcrop, offering students an opportunity to observe regional, geological processes. All of the 75 acres are designated as having either “high” or “very high” Forest Conservation Value. This acquisition and conservation easement would allow for more students to visit and study the property, as well as protect natural resources and associated conservation values.

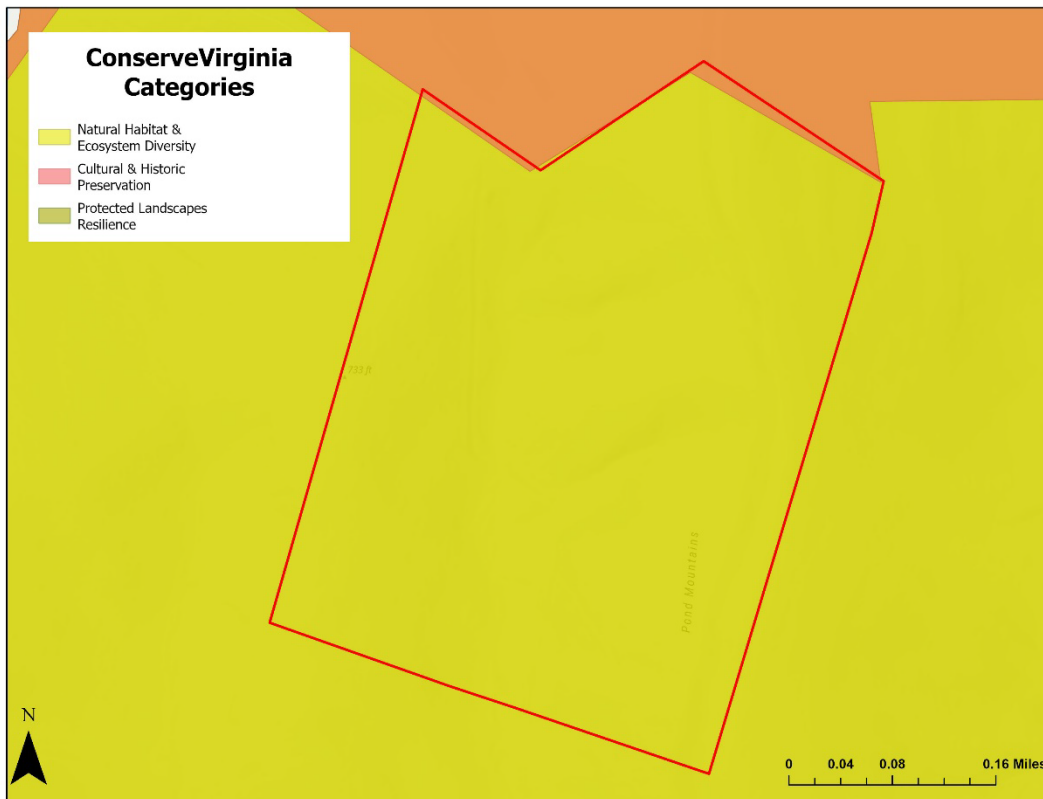
Total Project Cost: \$847,000; **Grant Request:** \$522,000; **Match:** Preservation Trust Fund;
Recommended Amount: \$0



Arlington Outdoor Education Association Aerial Map



Arlington Outdoor Education Association ConserveVirginia Map



Report on VLCF Grant Projects – November 21, 2024

I. Recently Closed Projects

The following seven VLCF grants have successfully closed since the June 5, 2024, VLCF Board meeting.

1. American Battlefield Trust – Rollins Tract at Bristoe Station Battlefield (FY2021 Round II)

The American Battlefield Trust, utilizing a VLCF grant of \$285,000, was able to acquire the 22-acre Rollins Tract, located in Prince William County, and record an open-space easement held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources, protecting the property's historic and natural resources. The tract intersects the Cultural and Historic Preservation layer of ConserveVirginia and is in the Core Areas of the Bristoe Station Battlefield and the Manassas Station Operations Battlefield. Preservation of this property was a priority for the county and the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park. In addition to its historic significance, the property includes a perennial stream, which is protected with 35-foot vegetated buffers. The Trust plans to transfer the parcel to the county for incorporation into the Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park.

Grant Award: \$285,000. **Payment amount:** \$285,000. **Match:** \$743,752. **Grant closed:** July 2024.

2. Department of Conservation and Recreation – The Cedars Natural Area Preserve – Kinzer Hollow Cave (FY2021 Round II)

DCR's Natural Heritage Division received VLCF grant funding to acquire 55 acres as an addition to the Cedars Natural Area Preserve in Lee County. The property supports several rare plants, foraging habitat for endangered Gray Bats, and Kinzer Hollow Cave, which is home to a globally rare isopod. An underground stream within the cave drains to the Powell River supporting a host of Species of Greatest Conservation Need. For over 25 years, DCR has been stitching together small parcels to protect these resources and build a functional and resilient natural area. This tract is within two categories of ConserveVirginia: Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity and Protected Landscapes Resilience.

Grant Award: \$204,000. **Payment amount:** \$136,315. **Match:** \$15,000. **Project closed:** June 2024.
Amount to be returned to Natural Area Preservation Category: \$67,685

3. The Conservation Fund – Nottoway River Wildlife and Recreation Area (FY2021 Round II and FY2023)

Two grants from FY2021 Round II and FY2023 awarded to The Conservation Fund, enabled the Department of Wildlife Resources to acquire 1,596 acres in Sussex County. This new Wildlife Management Area now provides public access to the Nottoway River and protects land for hunting, fishing, hiking, and wildlife watching. The property contains 2.5 miles of frontage on the Virginia designated Scenic Nottoway River, 2.5 miles along Black Branch Swamp, 220 acres of forested wetlands and 400 acres of bottomland hardwoods. The property is identified as a priority in ConserveVirginia in three categories: Agriculture and Forestry, Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, and Scenic Preservation. Plans are to restore the property to native longleaf pine and hardwoods to better support water quality and habitat for endangered species, such as the federally threatened red-cockaded woodpecker. Federally endangered Roanoke logperch and dwarf wedgemussel are also found in this section of the Nottoway.

Grant Awards: FY2021 Round II: \$264,500; FY2023: \$450,000. **Payment amount:** \$714,500. **Match:** \$3,204,555. **Project closed:** May 2024.

4. The Nature Conservancy – Pinnacle State Natural Area Expansion – Weaver Creek (FY2022)

The Nature Conservancy received a VLCF grant to purchase 121 acres in Russell County, including a large riparian corridor along Weaver Creek, a significant tributary to the Clinch River. This acquisition protects the viewshed of the Clinch River State Park and potentially provides hiking opportunities for park visitors. Protection of this forested acreage complements both the Pinnacle and Cleveland Barrens State Natural Area Preserves, increasing the Commonwealth’s conservation footprint in a biologically critical section of the Clinch River, designated as having “outstanding biological significance” by DCR’s Division of Natural Heritage. The property is within the ConserveVirginia Protected Landscapes Resilience, Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity, and Floodplains & Flooding Resilience layers. Partners include the Department of Wildlife Resources, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Clinch River Valley Initiative.

Grant Award: \$133,000. **Payment amount:** \$79,473. **Match:** \$79,473. **Project closed:** September 2024. **Amount to be returned to Natural Area Preservation Category:** \$53,528.

5. Department of Wildlife Resources – Copper Creek Initiative (FY2022)

The Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) utilized an FY2022 VLCF grant to acquire and conserve a six-acre parcel located at the confluence of Copper Creek and the Clinch River in Scott County. The shoreline along the Clinch River now provides a new fishing and boating access point for the public. Companion public boating access sites are located 2.5 miles upstream and 9.5 miles downstream. DWR will protect the shorelines of Copper Creek that transect the property, removing threats of sedimentation and nutrient-loading. Many rare and endangered fish are known near the mouth of Copper Creek, including several Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Twenty-eight mussel species, including 19 federally endangered, have been reported from Copper Creek, which is by far the most of any tributary on the Virginia side of the Clinch River. This parcel is within three categories of ConserveVirginia: Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, and Scenic Preservation.

Grant Award: \$100,000. **Payment amount:** \$99,046. **Match:** \$0. **Project closed:** August 2024. **Amount to be returned to Open Spaces and Parks Category:** \$954.

6. Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Camp Branch Wetlands Natural Area Preserve Addition (FY2023)

Virginia Outdoors Foundation partnered with Natural Heritage to acquire 56 acres as an addition to Camp Branch Wetlands Natural Area Preserve in Floyd County using an FY2023 VLCF grant. The property includes forested wetlands and riparian areas along Camp Branch as well as habitat for numerous species of greatest conservation need, and two significant natural heritage resources, including a Tier 1 (Critical Conservation Need) species. The entire natural Virginia range of this species is restricted to an approximately 10-mile radius in Floyd County, where it requires very specialized habitat conditions and active management. Additionally, the property shares a long boundary with the existing preserve and creates a contiguous connected stream corridor. The property is within two layers of ConserveVirginia: Protected Landscapes Resilience and Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity.

Grant Award: \$365,000. **Payment amount:** \$291,936. **Match:** \$0. **Project closed:** August 2024. **Amount to be returned to Natural Area Preservation Category:** \$73,064.

7. City of Charlottesville – Moores Creek Land Acquisition (FY2023)

The City of Charlottesville purchased 80 acres of land with the assistance of an FY23 VLCF grant. The property will become a city park with daily public access and is located across Moores Creek from Azalea Park. This recent purchase protects the site from development, thus retaining the scenic view of open

space and natural area from Azalea Park. The property also helps to complete the greenbelt around Charlottesville. The City plans to continue the use of a community garden as well as incorporate a bicycle pump track, trails and bridges on the property. Plans are also in place for stream restoration along Moores Creek, improved public fishing, swimming access, and wildlife viewing. The property is within three layers of ConserveVirginia: Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, and Scenic Preservation.

Grant Award: \$175,000. **Payment amount:** \$171,704. **Match:** \$171,704. **Project closed:** August 2024. **Amount to be returned to Open Spaces and Parks Category:** \$3,296.

II. Change of Scope

1. Department of Conservation and Recreation – Pedlar Hills Glades Natural Area Preserve Addition (FY2022)

The DCR Division of Natural Heritage received an FY22 grant for \$515,000 to acquire 156 acres adjacent to the Pedlar Hills Glades Natural Area Preserve in Montgomery County. In July 2024 Natural Heritage requested a change of scope for the project due to unanticipated title issues with two of the three tracts originally proposed in their application. The tracts were inherited by two sisters, each owning a single parcel with one jointly owned. Title issues with two of the tracts, 76 acres, were unable to be cured within the three-year VLCF grant cycle. Natural Heritage returned \$335,000 of the original grant, retaining \$180,000 to acquire the remaining 80-acre parcel. The parcel lies adjacent to the preserve and within the Pedlar Hills Conservation Site with a biodiversity rank of B1, the highest rank possible due to a suite of highly viable rare species habitats and rare woodland communities. This acquisition will improve access to the preserve and protect federally endangered plants and a large swath of forest. The property intersects the Protected Landscapes Resilience, Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity, and Floodplains & Flooding Resilience layers of ConserveVirginia.

Grant Award: \$515,000. **Remaining grant amount:** \$180,000. **Amount to be returned to Natural Area Preservation Category:** \$335,000; **Date of Change of Scope:** August 2024.

III. Withdrawn Grants

Three grants have been withdrawn since the Board’s last meeting.

1. Department of Conservation and Recreation – Pedlar Hills Addition – Supplemental Funding (FY2024)

This project sought additional funds needed to complete the acquisition of 156 acres as an addition to Pedlar Hills Natural Area Preserve in Montgomery County. When the scope of the project was reduced, these supplemental funds were no longer needed.

Grant Award: \$65,000. **Note:** Funds will be returned to the Natural Area Preservation Category.

2. Meadowview Biological Research Station – Caroline Diamonds – The Oak Barrens and Barrel Springs (FY2022) and (FY2023)

The Meadowview Biological Research Station received two VLCF grants in consecutive grant rounds totaling \$292,935. Meadowview sought to acquire and protect 96 acres of a globally rare gravel bog and

the surrounding oak barren uplands in Caroline County adjacent to an existing 17-acre preserve. However, after much negotiation over the three-year grant cycle, the landowner of a significant portion of the property remained unwilling to sell the property for the appraised value, demanding a far excessive amount. The plan to acquire the property did not come to fruition and the two grants were withdrawn.

Grant Awards: \$292,935 (FY2022: \$161,000; FY2023: \$131,935). **Note:** Funds will be returned to the Forest Preservation Category

Summary of Open VLCF Grants

- There are six open grants from the FY22 grant round.
- For the FY23 grant round, 21 of the 40 grants awarded are open.
- 28 of the 29 grants awarded in the FY24 grant round remain open.
- Currently, we are managing a total of 55 open grants with a total value of \$24,554,262.

