

**REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION**

**2002 - 2003 BIENNIAL REPORT OF
THE VIRGINIA LAND
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**

**TO THE GOVERNOR AND
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA**



**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
JANUARY 2004**



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

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Secretary of Natural Resources

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January 12, 2004

The Honorable Mark R. Warner, Governor of Virginia
Members of the Virginia General Assembly

Dear Governor Warner and General Assembly Members:

This report has been prepared on behalf of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. The Department of Conservation and Recreation serves as staff to the Foundation. The report is presented in accordance with:

- § 10.1-1018 Subsection F of the Code of Virginia instructing the Chairman of the Board of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to "submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a biennial executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Board no later than the first day of each even-numbered year regular session of the General Assembly..."
- § 10.1-1021 Subsection 3 of the Code of Virginia instructing the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation "[t]o submit a report biennially on the status of the Fund to the Governor and the General Assembly..." and
- pursuant to Item 381 H of Chapter 1042 of the 2003 Virginia Acts of Assembly that states "[t]he Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall provide a report by December 15 of each year to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, and the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget..."

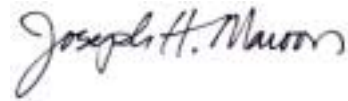
The Foundation, in concert with its federal, state, local, and private conservation partners, has continued to make significant annual progress towards the state's preservation goals since it was first funded in 1999 General Assembly Session. To date, monies provided to the Foundation have helped conserve an estimated 9,039 acres. The interest accrued has also allowed for the development of a conserved lands database and the beginnings of a powerful land preservation targeting tool. In the future, the Foundation will also play a significant role in the Commonwealth's progress towards achieving its Chesapeake Bay Agreement and Council on Virginia's Future land conservation goals.

Virginia should be proud of the conservation achievements of those that have been awarded grants from the Foundation. The awards made by this Foundation have a geographical impact across the Commonwealth and represent projects that provide protection or preservation of ecological, cultural or historical resources, lands for recreational purposes, and lands for threatened and endangered species, fish and wildlife habitat, natural areas, agricultural and forestal lands and open space. We are confident if properly funded this Foundation will remain a significant channel through which Virginia will continue to excel in its conservation efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources and
Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation
Foundation



Joseph H. Maroon
Director, Department of
Conservation and Recreation and
Executive Secretary of the Virginia
Land Conservation Foundation

Attachment

cc: Richard D. Brown, Director of Planning and Budget

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman

The Honorable W. Tayloe Murphy, Jr.

Secretary of Natural Resources

Gubernatorial Appointees

	Address	Term Expires
T. Rod Layman	Pulaski	06/30/04
Clement T. Berezoski	Ashburn	06/30/04
Michael Edward Belefski	Fairfax Station	06/30/04
David H. Turner	Onancock	06/30/05
Fred W. Greene, III	Virginia Beach	06/30/05
Albert Essel	Prince George	06/30/06
Albert C. Weed, II	Lovingston	06/30/06
Terri Cofer Beirne	Richmond	06/30/06
Nancy T. Bowles	Kent Store	06/30/07
William C. Dickenson	Alexandria	06/30/07
Lou Guisto	Edinburg	06/30/07

Senate Appointees

The Honorable Patricia S. Ticer	Alexandria	06/30/02
The Honorable Malfourd W. Trumbo (Vice Chairman)	Botetourt	06/30/03

House Appointees

R. Brian Ball	Richmond	06/30/04
William M. Park	Skipwith	06/30/05
Alexandra Liddy Bourne	Alexandria	06/30/06
Wendell P. Ennis	Midland	06/30/07

Executive Secretary

Joseph H. Maroon

Director, Department of Conservation and
Recreation

PREFACE

This report has been prepared in accordance with and fulfills the requirements of:

- § 10.1-1018 Subsection F of the Code of Virginia instructing the Chairman of the Board of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to “submit to the Governor and the General Assembly a biennial executive summary of the interim activity and work of the Board no later than the first day of each even-numbered year regular session of the General Assembly. The executive summary shall be submitted as provided in the procedures of the Division of Legislative Automated Systems for the processing of legislative documents and reports and shall be posted on the General Assembly's website.”;
- § 10.1-1021 Subsection 3 of the Code of Virginia instructing the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation “[t]o submit a report biennially on the status of the Fund to the Governor and the General Assembly including, but not limited to, (i) implementation of its strategic plan, (ii) projects under consideration for acquisition with Fund moneys, and (iii) expenditures from the Fund, including a description of the extent to which such expenditures have achieved a fair geographic distribution of land protected as provided in § 10.1-1021.1.”; and
- Item 381 H of Chapter 1042 of the 2003 Virginia Acts of Assembly that states “[t]he Chairman of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall provide a report by December 15 of each year to the Chairmen of the Senate Finance and House Appropriations Committees, and the Director of the Department of Planning and Budget, including, but not limited to, implementation of the Foundation's strategic plan; projects under consideration for funding; and expenditures from, interest earned by, and financial obligations of the Virginia Land Conservation Fund.”

The following pages will provide a status report for grants awarded by the Foundation, the fiscal status of the Foundation, and an update on related land conservation activities.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (Foundation) has seen significant changes since its inception in 1992. Since that time, the Foundation has experienced a name change from the Virginia Conservation and Recreation Foundation to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, it has seen significant expansion and improvement to its Code authority, and it has launched a successful grants program. In 2000, the Foundation saw its Board of Trustees grow from 9 members to 18 members.

In FY1999-2000, the General Assembly and the Governor provided the Foundation \$1.75 million and in FY2000-2001, \$6.2 million. In FY2000-2001, a separate \$3.4 million was also provided specifically for battlefield protection. From the FY1999-2000 monies received, the Foundation expended \$1,323,969 on competitive grant funds to 9 projects conserving 1136.87 acres. In addition to the 8 grant projects that were completed, \$29,430 from the FY1999-2000 monies was paid to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to reimburse them for a portion of their administrative costs associated with acquiring the Big Survey. Three projects originally awarded funds from the FY1999-2000 monies were withdrawn. In FY2000-2001, competitive grants were awarded in the amount of \$3,886,837 to 19 projects conserving an estimated 3,332 acres. Also from the \$6.2 million, \$1,550,000 went to the Virginia Outdoor Foundation for conservation activities. This investment conserved an additional 3,313 acres of farm and forest land in conservation easements. The \$3,382,004 expended for Civil War battlefields helped to protect an additional 1257 acres within four historic battlefields. In total, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation has awarded grants for \$10,142,810 and protected an estimated 9,039 acres. (Note: As projects close, final revenue paid and acreages protected may be revised. These changes will be reflected in subsequent reports.) This amount has been significantly leveraged through matches and other partnerships.

The Foundation met its charge to develop a strategic plan for the expenditure of unrestricted moneys received from the Fund. The strategic plan governing fiscal expenditures for FY1999-2000 was the grant program guidelines entitled "1999 Virginia Land Conservation Fund

Grant Program, September 1999” and, the strategic plan for FY2000-2001 was the grant program guidelines entitled “2000 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, October 2000”.

The Foundation is and, if properly funded, will continue to be one of the primary tools through which Virginia will achieve its conservation goals. The Foundation will be one of the key elements in assisting the Chesapeake Bay states in achieving the Chesapeake 2000 commitment to permanently preserve from development 20 percent of the land in the watershed by 2010. The Foundation will also play an important role in achieving the Council on Virginia’s Future’s proposed land conservation indicators.

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation also serves as a coordinating mechanism for bringing together a number of state agencies’ land conservation efforts and priorities. A coordinating agency task force made up of the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the State Forester, the Director of the Department of Historic Resources, the Director of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Executive Director of the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, or their designees, provide the VLCF Board with assistance on such matters as grant criteria, grant priorities, and grant selection.

To help foster the goals of the Foundation, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Office of Land Conservation was established to serve as a statewide, central contact, repository, and clearinghouse for land conservation in Virginia. In January 2003, the Office released its land conservation website (<http://www.dcr.state.va.us/olc/index.htm>). This site includes a wide variety of land conservation materials and contact information that provides land conservationists and managers with an important land conservation planning tool. In December of 2003, the Department of Conservation and Recreation added to its Office of Land Conservation website the state’s first comprehensive statewide public lands resource mapping tool. This important land conservation planning tool can be accessed by going to the DCR’s land conservation website or by accessing it directly at www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/conslandindex.htm.

In future grant rounds, the Office will also serve as an important source of information for potential Foundation grant applicants.

The Foundation will be a critical element in meeting the Commonwealth's conservation commitments, coordinating land conservation efforts, developing important website tools, and preserving the important lands across the Commonwealth as a whole.

FOUNDATION OVERVIEW AND ACTIVITIES IN 2002 - 2003

Board of Trustees Meetings

The meetings of the Board of Trustees were as follows:

June 12, 2002 – Administrative updates and grant reprogramming

August 12, 2003 - Administrative updates including approval of Bylaws amendments, presentations on new conservation tools, and fiscal adjustments

Task-Force Meetings

The meetings of the Task-Force were as follows:

Although the Task Force did not meet to discuss grant issues, the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation did hold periodic meetings with the directors of the Task Force agencies to develop a land conservation brochure and to discuss land conservation issues of mutual concern.

Comprehensive Plan Development

Section 10.1-1021 subsection 1 of the Code of Virginia directs the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to prepare a comprehensive plan “that recognizes and seeks to implement all of the purposes for which the Foundation is created”. In the process of developing this comprehensive plan, the Code of Virginia directs the Foundation to:

- 1) develop a strategic plan for the expenditure of unrestricted moneys;
- 2) develop an inventory of those properties in which the Commonwealth holds a legal interest “for the protection or preservation of ecological, cultural or historical resources, lands for recreational purposes, state forest lands, and lands for threatened or endangered species, fish and wildlife habitat, natural areas, agricultural and forestal lands and open space”; and
- 3) develop a needs assessment for the future considering the reports and information listed in subsection 1c. Subsection 1c specifies that “[i]n developing the needs assessment, the Board of Trustees shall consider among others the properties identified in the following: (i) Virginia Outdoors Plan, (ii) Virginia Natural Heritage Plan, (iii) Virginia Institute of Marine Science Inventory, (iv) Virginia Joint Venture Board of the North American Waterfowl

Management Plan, and (v) Virginia Board of Historic Resources Inventory. In addition, the Board shall consider any information submitted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services on farmland preservation priorities and any information submitted by the Department of Forestry on forest land initiatives and inventories".

For the first time, the 2002 Virginia Outdoors Plan was expanded to substantially meet the requirements of the Foundation's comprehensive plan as required under Section 10.1-1021 of the Code of Virginia. The Virginia Outdoors Plan, prepared by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, is the state's official plan for the protection and conservation of Virginia's important natural, outdoor recreational and open space resources. This has been a nationally recognized plan and is updated every five years. The plan is based on a complete inventory of all publicly held park and open space land. This inventory includes not only state owned lands but also that held by federal agencies and localities. This inventory of existing lands and facilities serves as a basis for the needs assessment. The Virginia Outdoors Plan includes the summary of the Virginia Natural Heritage Plan and information from the other plans mentioned in Subsection 1c above.

In addition to its analysis of existing conditions statewide, the Virginia Outdoors Plan also provides recommendations for each of the State's Planning Districts in meeting outdoor recreation, conservation, and open space needs. Key areas necessary to protect the Commonwealth's natural, scenic, open space and cultural resources are identified. These recommendations are collected from a number of sources including all of the involved agencies, the localities, and through the public meeting process. The 2002 Virginia Outdoors Plan was enhanced to more closely meet the needs of the Foundation and will serve as an excellent basis for future land conservation activities.

Virginia's United Land Trusts – Heritage Virginia: A Strategic Plan for the Conservation of the Commonwealth's Natural and Cultural Resources

In an effort to enhance the information provided in the Virginia Outdoors Plan, in 2002, Virginia's United Land Trusts (VaULT) received a grant from Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) to retain consultants to prepare a strategic conservation plan. The consultants, in coordination with DOF, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the U. S. Forest Service (USFS) have developed a strategic plan that identifies strategies and actions

which land trusts and their partners in state and local government, business and industry, and hometown communities could undertake within the next 3-5 years to address the Commonwealth's land conservation goals.

VaULT is scheduled to release this conservation plan in the near future. This document, *Heritage Virginia: A Strategic Plan for the Conservation of the Commonwealth's Natural and Cultural Resources* continues the planning for an integrated network of significant public and private, ecological, historic, cultural and recreational resources and working lands—the “green infrastructure” that shapes the character and heritage of our communities and the Commonwealth. It is anticipated that the final product from this endeavor will become an enhanced component of the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan and an important planning tool for the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation.

Governor's Natural Resources Funding Commission

In 2003, the Governor's Natural Resources Funding Commission, presented recommendations to the Governor on permanent funding strategies to support natural resource programs, especially water quality and land conservation. The charge to the Commission was based upon the Governor's Natural Resources Partnership Agenda that resulted from the Governor's Natural Resources Summit held in Williamsburg in April of 2003. The Governor noted at this Summit that “Virginia has historically underfunded its natural resource efforts.” The recommendations in the Commission's report outlined strategies to address Virginia's natural resource funding shortfalls.

The Commission studied the current status of natural resources funding and noted that the share of total state appropriations (general funds plus non general funds) devoted to the entire Natural Resources Secretariat in FY 2004 is less than one percent (0.96%), or as one Commission member phrased it, less than “one green penny”. It was also recognized that in FY 2004, only 0.60 percent of the state's general fund is devoted to the Natural Resources Secretariat – a 52 percent decline in the Natural Resource share of state general funds since FY 2000. The U.S. Census Bureau data for FY2000 ranked Virginia 50th in state spending on natural resources among all of the states on a per capita basis and as a percentage of state spending.

Based upon the documented natural resource needs, there was unanimity among Commission members that the current budget appropriations - \$74 million in annual general funds and \$252 million in all funds - do not provide the revenue necessary to address the Commonwealth's constitutionally established core responsibility to protect our natural resources. The Commission expressed unanimous support for increases in both general and non-general fund expenditures for natural resources, with an emphasis on improving funding for land conservation and water quality improvement in the Commonwealth.

The Commission's general fund recommendations represented an increase of \$49 million to boost natural resources funding to a total that represents 1% of the FY2004 state general fund budget, however, the Commission recognized that in the near term, existing general funds would be insufficient to address the demonstrated natural resource needs and commitments. Accordingly, the Commission offered several non-general fund recommendations to properly address current funding needs which included:

1. Submit legislation for the 2004 General Assembly Session that establishes a Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund (VNHRF).
2. The VNHRF should initially receive monies from two funding mechanisms, a \$2 per month Water Utility Fee (\$45.8 million) and a \$10 Document Recording Fee (\$20 million), as well as be authorized to receive other public and private monies.
3. Allocations from the VNHRF are to be divided evenly between the Virginia Water Quality Improvement Fund (WQIF) and the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (VLCF). The Commission recognizes a broad list of Natural Resources Secretariat needs, but due to the limited funds generated from these funding sources, and the substantial needs documented to meet water quality and land conservation commitments, has recommended distribution to only WQIF and VLCF. Should additional funding beyond these recommendations become available in the future, strong consideration should be given to addressing other documented needs.

Governor Warner's Proposed FY2005-2006 Biennial Budget

In response to the recommendations from the Natural Resources Funding Commission and in keeping with his campaign promises, the Governor proposed in his FY2005-2006 Biennial Budget on December 17, 2003, the following language to address land conservation and water quality funding needs:

§ 3-6.00 ADJUSTMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO FEES

§3-6.01 RECORDATION TAX FEE

A. There is hereby assessed a ten dollar fee on (i) every deed for which the state recordation tax is collected pursuant to §§[58.1-801](#) A and 58.1-803, Code of Virginia; and (ii) every certificate of satisfaction admitted under §[55-66.6](#), Code of Virginia. Contingent upon the passage into law of the provisions contained in Enactment Nos. 2, 3 and 5 of Part 5 of introduced House Bill 30/Senate Bill 30 of the 2004 Session, revenue generated from such fee shall be deposited to the Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund created herein.

B. There is hereby created in the state treasury a special permanent, nonreverting fund to be known as the Virginia Natural and Historic Resources Fund, hereafter referred to as "the Fund." The Fund shall be established on the books of the Comptroller. The Fund shall consist of moneys appropriated to it by the General Assembly and such other sums as may be made available to it from any other source, public or private, all of which shall be credited to the Fund. Any moneys remaining in the Fund at the end of each fiscal year shall not revert to the general fund but shall remain in the Fund.

***Virginiaforever* Campaign**

The purpose of the ***Virginiaforever*** campaign is to educate and motivate the public to advocate for increased funding in natural resources and to support the concepts advanced by the Natural Resources Funding Commission and the Governor's proposed budget. Organized by The Nature Conservancy, the campaign is lead by a broad-based coalition made up of businesses, public health advocates, recreational groups, hunters and anglers, and conservationists. The coalition recognizes that protecting our natural heritage is a core function of state government, yet barely a PENNY is allocated to protect Virginia's water quality, open space, fisheries and wildlife, recreational areas and historic sites. Neither the Virginia Land Conservation nor the Water Quality Improvement Fund has received funding since 2000. In order to change this trend, the coalition will ask the Commonwealth's leaders to increase natural resources funding and protect our natural resources for future generations to enjoy.

Virginia Office of Land Conservation Office

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Office of Land Conservation was established to serve as a statewide, central contact, repository and clearinghouse for land conservation in Virginia. The Office provides guidance on how to protect land and on who may best help an interested individual with their land conservation needs. The Office of Land Conservation facilitates cooperative ventures, provides technical assistance, and conducts or sponsors workshops and training events. In future grant rounds, the Office will also serve as an important source of information for potential applicants.

In January 2003, the Office released its land conservation website (<http://www.dcr.state.va.us/olc/index.htm>). This site includes a wide variety of land conservation materials and contact information that provides land conservationists and managers with an important land conservation planning tool. A brochure entitled "Assistance from Virginia State Agencies for Land Conservation" is also available on the site or in hard copy from the Office of Land Conservation. The brochure provides a listing of resource conservation offerings available from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Virginia Department of Forestry, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources.

In December of 2003, the Department of Conservation and Recreation added to its Office of Land Conservation website the state's first comprehensive statewide public lands resource mapping tool. This user friendly computerized geographic information system (GIS) tool combines layers of information about a specific location to give a better understanding of that place. The "Conservation Lands GIS Database" includes land owned by federal, state, regional, interstate and local governments, conserved lands owned by nonprofit groups, and conservation easements held by various groups and land trusts around the state. It took DCR staff more than three years to collect and re-format information for the new database. State resource agencies, universities, land trusts and regional and local government should find this tool invaluable for environmental, recreation and conservation planning. This important land conservation planning

tool can be accessed by going to the DCR website at www.dcr.state.va.us and clicking on “land conservation.” or by accessing it directly at www.dcr.state.va.us/dnh/conslandindex.htm.

Conservation Lands Inventory

The Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Conservation Lands GIS Database noted above addresses Section 10.1-1021 subsection 1b of the Code of Virginia that directs the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to develop an inventory of those properties in which the Commonwealth holds a legal interest “for the protection or preservation of ecological, cultural or historical resources, lands for recreational purposes, state forest lands, and lands for threatened or endangered species, fish and wildlife habitat, natural areas, agricultural and forestal lands and open space”.

The next tool that is being developed will help identify and prioritize those lands that merit protection through acquisition or easements from willing sellers. This “Conservation Sites Database” that is being developed by DCR identifies the rare plant and animal populations and exemplary natural community areas that merit protection efforts. Conservation sites are mapped boundaries that enclose one or more rare plant or animal locations, or a natural community, and the surrounding habitat or buffer necessary to protect the resource(s). Over the past year DCR has been working to develop boundaries for some 1,400 areas around the state. The continued expansion of this tool to include farmland, forest areas, historic properties, and other key conservation attributes will provide a powerful tool that will help target future land conservation efforts.

The information in these databases will continue to be used to help evaluate Foundation proposals, develop the 2007 Virginia Outdoors Plan, plan future natural area conservation needs, and fulfill information requests from land planners and managers at the local, state and federal level.

Land Conservation Status Summary

The Conservation Lands Database reports that as of June 30, 2003, a total of 3,262,680 acres across Virginia have been preserved by federal, state, and local governments and private

conservation organizations (Table 1). This indicates that about 12.9 percent of the Commonwealth's total land is currently protected. In Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, a total of 2,333,842 acres of land or almost 16.9 percent has been protected. (About half of Virginia geographically lies in the Bay Watershed.)

Table 1: Land Preservation Statistics in Virginia (06/30/03)

Group Holding the Property or Easement	Amount of Land preserved Statewide (Acres)	Percentage Represented by Holdings	Amount of Land preserved in Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed (Acres)	Percentage Represented by Holdings	Amount of Land preserved in Virginia's Non-Bay portion (Acres)	Percentage Represented by Holdings
Federal	2,422,069.74	74.2	1,737,680.72	74.4	684,389.02	73.7
State	649,248.08	19.9	464,192.65	19.9	185,055.43	19.9
Local	115,873.17	3.6	101,873.00	4.4	14,000.17	1.5
Private/Non-profit	75,489.41	2.3	30,096	1.3	45,393.41	4.9
Total Protected	3,262,680.39	100.00	2,333,842.36	100.00	928,838.03	100.00
Total Acreage	25,270,000		13,831,890		11,438,110	
Percent Protected	<u>12.91</u>		<u>16.873</u>		8.12	
Target Remainder (20% Bay Goal = 2,766,378 acres)			432,535.64			
Target Remainder (15% Statewide Goal = 3,790,500 acres)	527,819.61					

Meeting Virginia's land conservation goals will be challenging. The 20% Bay goal requires the conservation of 432,535 acres by 2010 or 61,791 acres per year between FY04 – FY10 (7 years). To protect 15% of land statewide acres by 2014 will require the conservation of 527,819 or 47,984 acres per year between FY04 – FY14 (11 years). At the current annual preservation rates (Table 2), we would protect 15% statewide by 2014 but we will fall short on the Bay goal by 2010. We will nearly have to double our annual preservation rate in the Bay watershed to reach the goal. Although the VLCF has no definite funding in FY04, some progress

towards the goal should occur this year through both Virginia Public Building Authority Bond and General Obligation Bond monies, Forest Legacy, and Land and Water Conservation Fund acquisitions, and Virginia Outdoors Foundation activities. Continued preservation activity by Virginia’s land trusts will also advance progress toward the goals.

Table 2: Current Annual Protection Trends

Year	Statewide (acreage)	Bay (acreage)	Non-Bay (acreage)
2001	56,208.48	34,925.67	21,282.81
2002	49,103.07	36,021.04	13,082.03
2003	51,222.21	43,019.09	8,203.12
Total	156,533.76	113,965.8	42,567.96
Average Annual Acreage Protected	52,177.92	37,988.6	14,189.32
Acreage needed to reach specified goal	47,984	61,791	

State funding to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to address these goals will be necessary to ensure success. Utilizing the VLCF average cost per acre estimate of \$2,244, the state cost of the goals (VLCF grants require matching amount) is about \$80 million per year for the 20% Bay goal (FY05 – FY10 - 6 years) and \$59 million per year in order to protect 15% statewide (FY05 – FY14 - 10 years) (Table 3).

Table 3: Estimated Cost to Achieve the Commonwealth’s Land Conservation Goals

Goals	Remaining Acreage to Meet the Goals	Total Estimated Cost to Meet the Goals	State Share of the Costs to Meet the Goals	Annual State share Costs to Meet the Goals
2010 - 20% Bay Goal	432,535 acres	\$970,609,976	\$485,304,988	\$80,884,165 thru 2010
2014 - 15% Statewide Goal	527,819 acres	\$1,184,427,205	\$592,213,603	\$59,221,360 thru 2014
<p>Note: Utilizing past purchases made through the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, including both easements and outright acquisitions, the estimated statewide average cost per acre is \$2,244. This compares favorably to the CBC/TPL look back report that noted a historical cost of \$2,255 per acre.</p> <p>Note: The state share expressed above involves dividing the total in half to reflect the state share of a matching grant program through the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation.</p> <p>Note: As the budget for FY04 is set and no money is definitely allocated to VLCF, fiscal projections were calculated to begin in FY05. Although not reflected in the totals, bond monies and federal funding will help to reduce the total needs but will not ameliorate the need for a permanent state funding source for land conservation. Preservation activities by non-profits and other conservation entities independent of VLCF funding will also help to reduce the state’s fiscal needs.</p>				

Progress toward the 20% Chesapeake Bay goal by each of the jurisdictions is presented in Table 4. It is noteworthy to mention that the only state that will have difficulty meeting their Bay preservation target will be Virginia.

Table 4: Summary of Land Preserved Within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Each State

(By acres and percent preserved)				
STATE	Acres in the Watershed	Total Acres Preserved	Percent Acres Preserved	Acres Needed for 20% Goal ²
DC	39,000	6,692.1	17.16	1,107.9
MD	6,208,025	1,201,185	19.35	40,420
PA	14,522,124	3,001,830	20.67	-97,405.2
VA	13,831,890	2,333,842.359	16.87	432,535.641

² For planning purposes only. Specific percentages by the Bay Program have not been allocated to the states.

Strategic Plan Development

Section 10.1-1021 subsection 1a of the Code of Virginia directs the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to "[d]evelop a strategic plan for the expenditure of unrestricted moneys received from the Fund". The strategic plan for FY2000-2001 was the grant program guidelines entitled "2000 Virginia Land Conservation Fund Grant Program, October 2000". This document clearly addressed how the unrestricted moneys were to be expended and delineated what categories the funding was to be used for, who was eligible, what the match requirements were and what evaluation criteria were to be used to judge the applications. The guidelines stipulated that a package must include information on geographic location as well as letters of support from individuals and organizations and resolutions from governmental bodies and others reflecting community-based support for the project. Upon preliminary project approval by the Board, bonafide appraisals were required to allow for a cost benefit analysis compared to market values. Should funding become available in FY04 or FY05, this plan will be updated.

All of the technical information collected from the October 2000 grant applicants was evaluated by an interagency task force comprised of representatives of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Forestry, the Department of Historic Resources, the Department of Game and

Inland Fisheries, the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, the Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Department, the Marine Resources Commission, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, the Virginia Economic Development Partnership, and the Department of Business Assistance. Through this rigorous multi-agency review process, only those proposals that best served the purposes of the Foundation and that made the best fiscal sense were recommended to the Virginia Land Conservation Board of Trustees.

Competitive Grant Expenditures FY 1999-2000 (July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2000)

The Foundation Board made grants from the FY 2000 \$1.75 million dollar appropriation on December 1, 1999. Of the FY1999-2000 grants awarded, the Foundation actually paid \$1,323,969 in competitive grant funds to 8 projects conserving 1,136.87 acres. **All grants from this grant round have now been closed.** In addition to the 8 grant projects that were completed, \$29,430 was awarded to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to reimburse them for expenses associated with the purchase of The Big Survey. Three projects originally awarded funds were withdrawn.

The FY1999-2000 summaries for the projects that are closed are as follows:

- 1. McAfee Knob/Carter Land Acquisition:** A grant was awarded to the Appalachian Trail Conference to acquire 72 acres adjacent to the AT. This property at McAfee's Knob is one of the most popular views of Catawba and the Roanoke Valley.
- 2. Indian River Park Acquisition:** A grant was awarded to the City of Chesapeake to acquire 108 acres of existing park property located in Chesapeake but owned by the City of Norfolk. Recent removal of park restrictions on the property prompted Norfolk to seek sale of the property for non-park use. The park is currently operated by Chesapeake's Parks and Recreation Department.
- 3. Powers Tract Northwest River Watershed:** A grant was awarded to the Nature Conservancy to acquire 187 acres of wetlands, agricultural fields, and mature forests. Plans are to restore the wetlands and to keep the forest intact. The project would add to the protection of the Northwest River Preserve and is considered a critical component of this conservation site by the Natural Heritage Division.
- 4. Hickory Hollow Nature Trail:** A grant was awarded to the Northern Neck Audubon Society to acquire a 225 -acre site from Lancaster County that is targeted for industrial development. The project would preserve the land's natural areas and establish a permanent conservation easement.

5. Purchase of the Embrey Farm: A grant was awarded to the Kenmore Association Inc. to acquire a 30-acre farm adjacent to George Washington 's Ferry Farm. It would protect Ferry Farm from undesirable development, expand tourism opportunities, and give riverfront protection on the Rappahannock.

6. Talbot Farm Conservation Easement Acquisition: A grant was awarded to the Land Trust of Virginia to purchase a 25-acre easement on Ball's Run Creek including 1700 linear feet of creek frontage. The easement would enhance and protect water quality in the Catoctin watershed and facilitate efforts to restore the eroded land and creek.

7. Palmyra Lock and Mill Site: A grant was awarded to the Fluvanna County Historical Society to acquire 4.5 acres of land adjacent to the historic Lock & Mill Site on the Rivanna River. The property would provide crucial access to the existing site.

8. Welbourne Farm Easement Acquisition: A grant was awarded to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation of Northern Virginia to purchase a conservation easement on a working farm that may otherwise be developed as a subdivision. The project would preserve farmland, protect water quality, and protect the viewshed from the historic Welbourne manor house and from Goose Creek.

In lieu of the grant to the Western Virginia Land Trust, the Board authorized on August 12, 2003 a payment \$29,430 to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for expenses associated with the purchase of the Big Survey Tract.

1. Big Survey Acquisition: A grant was earmarked to be awarded to the Western Virginia Land Trust to purchase 9,270 acres of undeveloped lands in Wythe County for the protection of the watershed, forestal lands, wildlife, and recreational use.

The Following three projects were withdrawn by the applicants.

1. Powhatan Creek Acquisition Program: A grant was awarded to James City County to acquire a prime parcel of land consisting of 48 acres along the Powhatan Creek corridor to protect the sensitive character of this natural area and to insure public access to water for recreational purposes. This project was withdrawn.

2. Fort Christanna Preservation Project: A grant was awarded to Brunswick County to acquire a 64-acre tract currently recognized by the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register. The proposal would protect the historic and archeological integrity of the site and to prevent a clear-cut operation that would impact the fort sites. This project was withdrawn.

3. James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion: A grant was awarded to the Town of Buchanan to acquire 3 parcels of land in the downtown area for park expansion and access to the James River. This project was withdrawn.

Table 5: FY1999-2000 Competitive Grant Awards

Project Title	Grant Award	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment	Final Acres
	(Dollars)			(Dollars)	
Open Space					
McAfee Knob Carter Land	43,800	72	9-2000	43,800	72
Powhatan Creek Program	250,000	48	WITH-DRAWN		
Indian River Park Acquisition	100,000	108	6-2001	100,000	90
Natural Areas					
Powers Tract, NW River Watershed	286,000	187	5-2003	286,000	172.27
Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	150,012	225	7-2000	150,012	254
Cultural and Historic					
Fort Christanna Preservation Project	50,975	34	WITH-DRAWN		
Purchase of the Embrey Farm	225,000	30	1-2001	225,000	11.6
*Talbot Farm Cons. Easement	76,350	25	1-2001	76,350	25
Palmyra Lock & Mill Site	6,200	5	3-2002	5,557	5
James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion	13,255	3	WITH-DRAWN		
*Welbourne Farm Easement	50,000	530	2-2001	50,000	507
Agricultural and Forestal					
*Welbourne Farm Easement	258,250	above	2-2001	258,250	above
Indian River Park Acquisition	100,000	above	6-2001	100,000	above
Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	29,000	above	7-2000	29,000	above
Project Expense Subtotal		1,267		1,323,969	1136.87
The Big Survey	50,000		PAYMENT AUTHORIZED 8-2003	29,430	
Totals	\$1,688,842			1,353,399	
* Denotes Acquisition By Easement					

Virginia Outdoor Foundation

As required by the Code of Virginia, the Foundation transferred \$1.55 million dollars representing 25% of its \$6.2 million FY 2000-2001 appropriation to the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund to assist with the purchase of farm and forest land easements by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The projects involved the partial purchase of development rights and/ or, the reimbursement of costs of the easement donations (legal, appraisal, etc). In several situations, funds were further leveraged with grants from the VLCF. The projects were located in a wide geographical area involving thirteen different counties from Washington County to Prince George to Clarke County. Public values protected include: a wildlife corridor area on the border of Page and Warren Counties, the setting for two historic houses on the National Register of Historic Places, land adjacent to Caledon State Park, and four farms in the Shenandoah Valley, the heart of Virginia's agricultural production.

Table 6: VLCF/ Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund

Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (OSLPTF)			
Project Title	OSLPTF Monies from VLCF Deposit (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	VLCF Grant Utilized as Match
Welbourne - Loudoun	\$300,000*	See table 5	\$308,250 VLCF grant to VOF
Bowman – Prince George	\$229,150	378	
Politis – Montgomery (Bush Creek Farm)	\$75,000	See table 8	\$74,747 VLCF grant to VOF
Powell - Albemarle	\$250,000	432	
Nash – King George	\$425,000	1371	
Brumback - Clark	\$98,000	262	
Elgin – Fauquier (Elgin Dairy)	\$315,000	See table 8	\$317,000 VLCF grant to VOF
Leonard – Carroll/ Grayson (Leonard Farm)	\$125,000	See table 8	\$81,806 VLCF grant to VOF
Richardson - Augusta	\$2,900	63	
Noble - Botetourt	\$1,700	203	
Dogham – Charles City	\$28,000	317	
Pence - Rockingham	\$2,500	172	
Brazier - Page	\$1,500	70	
Flanders - Albemarle	\$3,750	45	
Totals	\$1,883,600*	3313	
* The FY 2000-2001 deposit of \$1,550,000 from the VLCF was enhanced by other VOF general fund monies.			

Civil War Battlefield Grant Awards FY 2000-2001 (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Virginia Acts of Assembly, § 1-104. Department of Conservation and Recreation (199), Item 410, Note J1, Page 329 noted that " [o]ut of the amount for Preservation of Open-Space Lands \$3,400,000 the first year from the general fund shall be transferred to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (§ 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia). From this deposit, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation shall make grants to private non-profit organizations as a match for federal Land and Water Conservation Fund monies for acquisitions at four threatened Civil War battlefields. From the deposit to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, \$2,100,000 is for acquisitions at the Brandy Station battlefield, \$250,000 is for acquisitions at the Cedar Creek battlefield, \$350,000 is for acquisitions at the Kernstown battlefield, and \$700,000 is for acquisitions at the Third Winchester (Opequon) battlefield. The Department of Historic Resources shall work in conjunction with the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and private nonprofit organizations in securing the acquisition of the battlefields."

A total of \$3,382,004 dollars from the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation was used to make grants to private non-profit organizations as a match for Land and Water Conservation Fund monies. The Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants under the American Battlefield Protection Program for Civil War Battlefield Land Acquisition, awarded by the National Park Service, were for land acquisition of threatened Civil War Battlefields. The Virginia funds were used as a portion of the required match for the acquisition of four threatened Civil War Battlefields, Brandy Station, Cedar Creek, Kernstown, and Third Winchester Battlefield.

The FY2000-2001 battlefield project summaries are as follows:

Brandy Station: A grant was awarded to The Civil War Preservation Trust to acquire three parcels containing 570 acres of property from the Lee Sammis Corporation. This acquisition known as the Brandy Station Battlefield is located in Culpeper County.

Third Winchester: A grant was awarded to The Civil War Preservation Trust to acquire two parcels of property in Frederick County that were the site of the Third Winchester Battlefield. The total acquisition consisted of 222 acres.

Kernstown: A grant was awarded to acquire the Charles Hardy Grim Farm which was the site of both the First and Second Battles of Kernstown. The 315 acres lies partially in the City of Winchester and partially in Frederick County.

Cedar Creek: A grant was awarded to The Town of Middletown to acquire the Cedar Creek Battlefield. The battlefield was acquired in three parcels, Neff property (12 acres), Bayliss property (135 acres), and visitor center property (3 acres). A total of 150 acres was acquired.

Table 7: FY2000-2001 Civil War Battlefield Grant Awards

Battlefield Projects					
Project Title	Grant Award (Dollars)	Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Brandy Station	2,100,000	570	12-2000	2,100,000.00	570
Third Winchester	700,000	222	8-2000	700,000.00	222
Kernstown	350,000	315	9-2000	350,000.00	315
Cedar Creek	250,000	150	10-2000	232,004.92	150
Totals	\$3,400,000	1,257		3,382,004.92	1,257

Competitive Grant Awards FY 2000-2001 (July 1, 2000 - June 30, 2001)

On January 4, 2001, the Foundation’s Board of Trustees considered 41 applications totaling \$11.2 million in requested funds. With the help of the Interagency Task Force, the Foundation Board reviewed the grant applications and awarded 19 grants for a total of \$3,919,695. 12 of these grant projects have now been closed out and the remainder will be closed by the end of December or their 2004 extension date.

The FY2000-2001 project summaries are as follows:

1. North Meadow/Carr Property: A grant was awarded to the Waterford Foundation, Loudoun County, for assistance with the costs associated with reducing development density on two tracts within the boundaries of the National Historic Landmark. The Waterford Foundation has purchased both tracts and plans to resell for limited residential development subject to easements. The Foundation has determined that it cannot afford to eliminate development rights entirely, but by reducing the density and controlling the siting and design of the new construction, will ensure that the development does not threaten the integrity of the landmark. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$187,042**

2. Buhrman Tract (Malvern Hill Battlefield): A grant was awarded to the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities (APVA) to purchase in fee 245 acres of land which is part of the Malvern Hill Battlefield in Henrico County. This land is a key component of the battlefield. The property would be preserved as a historical park cooperatively managed by the Civil War

Preservation Trust and the National Park Service until such time as NPS could take title.

CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$300,000

3. Chancellorsville Battlefield: A grant was awarded to the Central Virginia Battlefields Trust for assistance in acquiring in fee 11.2 acres within the City of Fredericksburg which was the scene of intense fighting during the Battle of Chancellorsville. The parcel is threatened by intense development with the pending extension of Cowan Boulevard. The property, which CVBT expects to continue to hold, would be developed with an interpretive trail and would be open to the public. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$150,000**

4. Totopotomoy Battlefield (Rural Plains): A grant was awarded to Historic Polegreen Church Foundation for pass-through funding for acquisition by the Totopotomoy Battlefield at Rural Plains Foundation (TBRPF) of 124 acres in Hanover County. The land contains a portion of the Totopotomoy Battlefield, including Union and Confederate earthworks. The property also includes Rural Plains, a 17th century house which has been in the same family since its construction, was the location of Patrick Henry's wedding, and was a Union headquarters during the Civil War. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$323,000**

5. The Meadow: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 535-acre property that would protect a working farm and significant forestland in King William County. In addition, the property is located approximately 1 mile from the 378-acre Zoar State Forest. The protection of this property would create a block of approximately 1,315 acres of permanently protected property with the added benefit of protecting 1 mile of property along the Mattaponi River. Grant Award: \$359,625

6. Leonard Farm: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 118-acre grade A dairy adjacent to New River Trail State park with three primary public purposes, which were 1) protection of prime agricultural soils (75% of farm Classes I & II, 25% Classes III & IV), which is especially unusual in Southwest VA; 2) protection of scenic views along New River Trail beside Chestnut Creek, which runs through property - easement would cover both sides of Trail; and, 3) protection of state park resources in form of adjacent New River Trail State Park. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$81,806**

7. Elgin Dairy Farm: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 314-acre dairy adjacent to State Natural Area in Bull Run Mountains with five primary public purposes, which were 1) protection of prime agricultural soils (90% of farm Classes I & II), which is highly unusual anywhere in State; 2) protection of scenic views along roads adjacent to farm, which have been designated as county scenic roads; 3) protection of farm land in rapidly developing area under significant development pressure; 4) enhancement of water quality through installation of protected riparian buffer along Hungry Run; and, 5) protection of adjacent state natural area with significant rare plant and animal resources. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$317,000**

8. Brush Creek Farm: A grant was awarded for an easement on a 93.7-acre buffalo farm and niche marketing operation of unique products (e.g., buffalo meat & hides) with three primary purposes that included: 1) protection of unique farmland from development in area with some residential development pressure; 2) protection of unique value-added agricultural enterprises; and, 3) protection of water quality in state trout stream through establishment of riparian buffer and exclusion of livestock from stream. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$72,747**

9. Clinch River: A grant was awarded to the Nature Conservancy to acquire approximately 458 acres of land adjacent to the Commonwealth's Cleveland Barrens Natural Areas preserve and directly upstream from the Conservancy's Cleveland Island Preserve in Russell County, Virginia. This property borders on 1.2 miles of the Clinch River, buffers a significant freshwater mussel site harboring at least nine rare mussel species and six rare fish species, and features a globally rare limestone/dolomite barren community with three rare plant species. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$196,640**

10. Rare Oak Hickory Forest: A grant was awarded to the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust to purchase a 180-acre tract of forest in Western Fairfax County to protect a rare ecosystem from future development. This land would be preserved as a natural area connected to 830 acres of existing parkland, making one of the largest areas of public open space in Northern Virginia. Grant Award: \$729,250

11. Garden Creek/Winter Harbor Preservation Project: A grant was awarded to the Middle Peninsula Land Trust to acquire through easement and fee simple acquisition five land tracts (2 fee simple acquisitions totaling 185 acres and 3 easement acquisitions on 438 acres) for the protection of the Garden Creek/Winter Harbor watershed and to serve as a buffer for the Bethel Beach Natural Area. Future plans included location of a canoe and kayak launching site and a Chesapeake Bay Foundation Environmental Education Center. Grant Award: \$155,000

NOTE: At the June 12, 2002 meeting of the Foundation, the Board approved the transfer of \$155,000 from the Middle Peninsula Land Trust's proposed Exum Property acquisition, part of the Garden Creek/Winter Harbor grant award, to the similarly located Warthen property, Richardson estate and related lands and DCR subsequently provided them with a 1-year extension to December 2004 to complete the transaction. The Middle Peninsula Land Trust indicated that the initial property addressed in the grant was appraised at \$80,000 and the owner refused to take less than \$150,000 which was deemed to not be a proper expenditure of public funds. In 2003, DCR was again contacted to discuss moving the project to another near-by parcel. The Department is currently discussing this option and may bring a revised project proposal to the Board for consideration.

12. Whitt-Riverbend Park Acquisition Site – Town of Pearisburg: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of a 27.7 acre park site with 4,000 linear feet of frontage on the New River with an additional 400 linear ft. of frontage on Walker Creek. Future outdoor recreational opportunities would include boating access, riverbank fishing, primitive overnight camping, a 1.25 loop trail, and picnicking. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$110,000**

13. Jamison Cove Marina Acquisition - Town of Urbanna: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of a 1.56-acre marina on Urbanna Creek with access to the Rappahannock River. Plans are to develop a waterfront park with public boat access, canoe launch, transient boat slips, picnic areas, and general park amenities. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$245,955**

14. Mary B. Stratton Property Acquisition – Department of Conservation and Recreation A grant was awarded to facilitate the acquisition of 154 + acres of the Mary Stratton Estate Property from Ferrum College. The property would be owned by DCR and developed and managed by Chesterfield County for outdoor recreation opportunities. Ferrum College has agreed to transfer

the property for its holding costs of \$150,000 to DCR as the next entity in line in the will. The matching costs of \$75,000 for this grant would come from the County. Grant Award: \$75,000

15. Keister Park – Shenandoah County: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of a 151.36-acre land tract for new County Park. The seller would discount the property value by \$100,000 and may be able to donate an additional 10 acres to the overall site. The County currently has an option to buy the property. This project is partially located on the North Fork Shenandoah River and provides thousands of feet of river frontage. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$306,575**

16. Fairfax County Trail Easements – Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA): A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of 2.9 acres of easement at three sites in Vienna and Oakton. The proposal would require easement acquisitions on five land parcels. Acquisition of these easements would serve to connect three major area greenways the Pohick Stream Valley Trail, the Accotink Stream Valley Trail, and the Difficult Run Stream Valley Trail covering a 32-mile route. Grant Award: \$30,000

17. Historic Yorktown Beach Trail – County of York: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of nine easements on the York River beach to provide a continuous pedestrian linkage and trail along the riverfront. Total associated development cost including the acquisition is \$950,000. Grant Award: \$117,500

18. Phase II. Williams Warf Landing Project – Mathews County Land Conservancy: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of .327 acres of land contiguous to Williams Warf Landing, which was previously purchased with an ISTEAs grant. The combined sites would protect the site and provide public recreation for small engine watercraft access to area water trails via the East River. The site would also provide launching for kayaking and canoeing. Grant Award: \$36,300

19. Waid Recreation Area Open Space and Parks – County of Franklin: A grant was awarded to allow for the acquisition of an additional 134 acres contiguous to the County's Waid Recreation Area/Park. Acquisition would provide an additional 4,000 feet of frontage on the Pigg River and would protect an additional 3,000-ft. of the historically significant Carolina Road which currently runs through the existing Waid Park. **CLOSED - Grant Payment: \$93,397**

Table 8: FY2000-2001 Competitive Grant Awards

Project Title	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Open Space					
Waid Recreation Area	126,255	134	10-2003	93,397	134
Mary B. Stratton Estate	75,000	154			
Whitt- Riverbend Park	110,000	28	9-2001	110,000.00	28
*Fairfax Cross County Trail	30,000	3			
Keister Park	306,575	151	9-2002	306,575.00	151
Jamison's Cove Marina	245,955	2	5-2001	245,955.00	2
Williams Wharf	36,300	1			
*Yorktown Beach Trail	117,500	2			
Natural Areas					
Garden Creek	155,000	623			
Clinch River	196,640	458	4-2002	196,640.00	458
Oak Hickory Forest	729,250	180			
Cultural and Historic					
*North Meadow/ Carr Property	187,042	125	6-2002	187,042.00	125
Chancellorsville Battlefield	150,000	11	11-2001	150,000.00	11
Buhrman (Malvern Hill)	300,000	245	4-2001	300,000.00	245
Totopotomoy Battlefield	323,000	124	3-2001	323,000.00	124
Agricultural and Forestal					
*Brush Creek Farm	72,747	94	5-2001	72,747.00	94
*Eligin Dairy Farm	317,000	314	8-2001	317,000.00	314
*The Meadow	359,625	535			
*Leonard Farm	81,806	118	4/2002	81,806.00	148
Totals	\$3,919,695	3,302		\$3,886,837	3,332
* Denotes Acquisition By Easement					

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

The Land Conservation Foundation has been successful in supporting projects across the breadth of Virginia in its first two grant cycles (FY1999-2000 and FY2000-2001). From the City of Chesapeake to Russell County to Frederick and Loudoun Counties outstanding conservation projects have been awarded funding by VLCF. The greatest concentration of projects to date has come in the 1st Congressional District (Table 9). This may be a reflection of the rapid growth and loss of open space and historic resources in this area. However, funds for projects have been awarded in all but two Districts, the 2nd and 8th which may in part be due to their relative small geographic size and the presence of alternative open space funding projects such as the Virginia Beach Agricultural Reserve Program. The Foundation will continue to encourage quality applications from all Districts in future funding cycles.

The Foundation has been successful in assisting with the conservation of an array of outstanding resources and habitats in the past two grant cycles through easements and acquisitions. In the natural area category, projects have included outstanding native grassland communities containing a suite of rare species along the Clinch River, significant and rare wetland communities and the rare species they support in eastern Virginia, and 120+-year-old woodlands in Fairfax County. Open space and park projects have likewise been diverse ranging from historic and scenic farmlands to crucial water access points, to critical additions to existing parks and new local government parklands. Likewise farm and forestland projects have ranged from significant forest and farmland tracts in southwest Virginia to northern Piedmont Dairy Farms to important tidewater farm and forestland. Examples of cultural and historic projects naturally include important battlefield sites from the Shenandoah Valley to Fredericksburg to Richmond; critical additions to National Historic Landmarks in Loudoun County; and strategic land acquisitions to add to and buffer important historic sites such as the Palmyra Lock and Mill site in Fluvanna County.

Table 9: Geographical Distribution of Foundation 1999 and 2000 Grant Awards

Congressional District*	# Projects in 1999 & 2000
1 st District	9
2 nd District	0
3 rd District	1
4 th District	2
5 th District	3
6 th District	3
7 th District	2
8 th District	0
9 th District	5
10 th District	5
11 th District	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	31

*(Updated to address 2001 redistricting changes to Congressional Districts)

RECENT LAND CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

Several recent initiatives will directly affect Virginia's land conservation efforts. These include:

- During the 2003 Legislative Session, a mandatory one-dollar vehicle registration fee on each pickup, panel truck, or vehicle was created via budget language to support the special license plate program and other activities in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of Jamestown Settlement in 2007. Funds collected in excess of DMV's administrative charges and Jamestown-Yorktown's \$5,000,000 per year allocation are to be transferred to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to be used for preservation of open-space lands. The Department of Motor Vehicles estimated that this funding source should generate about \$6 million per year. VLCF may see a little under \$1 million from this funding source in FY04. (It is important to note that this funding source is not permanent.)
- As part of the November 5, 2002 general election, Virginia's voters overwhelmingly authorized the Commonwealth to issue up to \$119,040,000 in General Obligation bonds for Virginia's State Parks and Natural Areas. Of this amount, the bonds provide \$36.5 million for DCR's acquisition activities.

- In addition, the 2002 General Assembly and the Warner Administration authorized the Virginia Public Building Authority to include \$20 million of its \$166 million for acquisition of State Parkland and Natural Areas by DCR. This bond did not require voter approval.

DETAILED FISCAL STATUS OF THE FOUNDATION

In FY1999-2000, the VLCF received an appropriation of \$1,750,000. From this appropriation, \$1,688,842 was awarded to multiple projects, leaving \$61,158 of unobligated funds that were shifted to the FY2000-2001 grant round (Appendix A). As of October 31, 2003, \$1,323,969 of the \$1,688,842 had been paid out to grantees, \$313,255 was reverted to the General Fund in FY03 (from 3 withdrawn projects), \$29,430 has been obligated to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for expenses related to the acquisition of the Big Survey, leaving a total unobligated balance in FY1999-2000 monies of \$22,188. All of the grants from this round are now closed.

In FY2000-2001, the VLCF received an additional appropriation of \$9,600,000 (Appendix B). From this appropriation, \$3,400,000 was designated for Civil War Battlefield acquisitions and \$1,550,000 was designated to the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund. This left \$4,650,000 in FY2000-2001 appropriation for grant awards. Combined with the \$61,158 FY1999-2000 carry-forward, \$4,711,158 of funds were available for grant awards. From this appropriation, \$3,919,695 was awarded to multiple projects, leaving \$791,463 of unobligated funds in this category. As of October 31, 2003, \$3,382,004 of the \$3,400,000 had been paid out for Civil War Battlefield acquisitions (\$17,996 unexpended), the entire \$1,550,000 of the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund had been paid, and \$2,384,162 in grant awards had been paid out to grantees. Of the unobligated amounts (\$791,463 and \$17,996), \$791,464 reverted to the General Fund in FY01 leaving an unobligated balance of \$17,995.

As of October 31, 2003, the VLCF funds had earned interest income on the unexpended balance in the fund of \$749,314, had received donations of \$70, and had incurred administrative expenses of \$300,703 (Appendix C). This netted to a cash balance of \$448,611 in unreserved funds. Out of this amount, at the August 12, 2003 meeting, the Foundation board authorized the

Department to receive reimbursements on a quarterly basis for actual expenses accrued, up to a total amount of \$135,000 in FY04.

In FY2001-2002, per Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Acts of Assembly, the VLCF was appropriated \$6,200,000. The General Assembly adjourned from the 2001 regular session without enacting a budget bill amending the 2000 Appropriation Act (Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Acts of Assembly). Therefore, the 2000 Appropriation Act remained the appropriations law of Virginia for the 2000-2002 biennium. In order to prevent a potential deficit, the Governor invoked his Constitutional duty and issued Executive Order 74 (01), Balanced Budget Implementation Plan, 2000-02 Biennium on Saturday, February 24, 2001. The Governor directed the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) to withhold general fund allotments "to the extent necessary to prevent any expenditures in excess of the estimated general fund revenue, and in an amount not to exceed 15 percent of the annual total general fund appropriation of each state agency, department and institution and other nonstate agencies and institutions listed in the Act for each year of the 2000-02 biennium." Per this authority, the \$6,200,000 for VLCF in FY2001-2002 was unallotted.

No funds were appropriated to the VLCF in FY2002-2003. The VLCF may receive an amount to be determined in the fourth quarter of FY03 from the Jamestown 2007 vehicle registration fees.

APPENDICIES

Appendix A - FY1999-2000 Budget Status Report

Virginia Land Conservation Fund						
Applications FY-00						
\$ Awards by Category						
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2003						
Project #	Project Title	Name of Applicant	Awards by Category	Payments	Reverted to the General Fund	Balance
OPEN SPACES & PARKS		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98303-01	McAfee Knob (acq.) Carter Land	Appalachian Trail Conference	43,800	43,800		0
98303-02	Powhatan Creek Acq. Program	James City County	250,000	0	250,000	0
98303-03	Indian River Park Acquisition	City of Chesapeake	100,000	100,000		0
		Total Awarded	393,800	143,800	250,000	0
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	43,700			
NATURAL AREA PROTECTION		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98304-01	Powers Tract, NW River	The Nature Conservancy VA. Chp.	286,000	286,000		0
98304-02	Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	Northern Neck Audubon Society	150,012	150,012		0
		Total Awarded	436,012	150,012	0	0
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	1,488			
HISTORIC AREA PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98305-01	Fort Christanna Preservation Project	Brunswick County	50,975	0	50,000	975
98305-02	Purchase of the Embrey Farm	George Washington's Fredericksburg Foundation	225,000	225,000		0
98305-03	Talbot Farm Cons. Easement	Land Trust of Virginia	76,350	76,350		0
98305-04	Palmyra Lock & Mill Site (acq.)	Fluvanna Historical Society	6,200	5,557		643
98305-05	James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion	Town of Buchanan	13,255	0	13,255	0
98305-06	Welbourne Farm Easement Acquisition	Virginia Outdoors Foundation Northern Virginia Office	50,000	50,000		0
		Total Awarded	421,780	356,907	63,255	1,618
		Fund Balance Unobligated	1,618			
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	15,720			

FARMLANDS & FOREST PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	437,500			
98306-01	Welbourne Farm Easement Acq.	Va. Outdoors Foundation Northern VA. Office	258,250	258,250		0
98306-02	The Big Survey (acq.)	Western Virginia Land Trust	29,430	0		29,430
98306-03	Indian River Park Acquisition	City of Chesapeake	100,000	100,000		0
98306-04	Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	Northern Neck Audubon Society	29,000	29,000		0
		Total Awarded	416,680	387,250		29,430
		Fund Balance Unobligated	20,570			20,570
		Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	250			
		Grand Total Appropriation	\$1,750,000			
		Grand Total Award	\$1,668,272	\$1,323,969	313,255	\$ 29,430
		Total Fund Balance Carryforward to FY01	\$61,158	0		
		Total FY00 Unspent Funds				\$ 51,618
		Balance Obligated				\$29,430
		Balance Unobligated				\$22,188

Appendix B - FY2000-2001 Budget Status Report

Virginia Land Conservation Fund						
Applications FY-01						
\$ Awards by Category						
AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2003						
	Project Title	Name of Applicant	Awards by Category	Payments	Reverted to the General Fund	Balance
BATTLEFIELDS			Beginning Balance	3,400,000		
98302-01	Brandy Station		2,100,000	2,100,000		0
98302-02	Cedar Creek		250,000	232,004	17,996	0
98302-03	Kernstown		350,000	350,000		0
98302-04	Third Winchester (Opequon)		700,000	700,000		0
		Total Awarded	3,400,000	3,382,004	17,996	0
		Reverted to General Fund	17,996		17,996	
		Remaining Balance	0			
OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION TRUST FUND			Beginning Balance	1,550,000	1,550,000	0
	VOF Projects					0
		Total Awarded	1,550,000	1,550,000		0
		Remaining Balance	0			
OPEN SPACES & PARKS			Beginning Balance	1,162,500		
	Carryforward from FY00		+43,700			
98303-04	Whit-Riverbend Park	Town of Pearisburg	110,000	110,000		0
98303-05	Jamison Cove Marina	Town of Urbana	245,955	245,955		0
98303-06	Mary B Stratton Estate	Dept of Conservation & Recreation	75,000			75,000
98303-07	Keister Park	Shenandoah County	306,575	306,575		0
98303-08	Cross Country Trail Easement (E)	Fairfax County	30,000			30,000
98303-09	Historic Yorktown Beach Trail (E)	York County	117,500			117,500
98303-10	Williams Wharf Landing Project	Mathews County Land Cons.	36,300			36,300
98303-11	Waid Recreation Area	Franklin County	126,255	93,397		32,858
		Total Awarded	1,047,585	755,927		291,658
		Reverted to General Fund	140,620		140,620	
		Remaining Balance	17,995			

NATURAL AREA PROTECTION		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+1,488			
98304-03	Clinch River	The Nature Conservancy	196,640	196,640		0
98304-04	Rare Oak Hickory Forest	The Northern Virginia Cons. Trust	729,250			729,250
98304-05	Garden Creek/Winter Harbor	Middle Peninsula Land Trust	155,000			155,000
		Total Awarded	1,080,890	196,640		884,250
		Reverted to General Fund	83,098		83,098	
		Remaining Balance	0			
HISTORIC AREA PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+15,720			
98305-07	North Meadow (Carr Property) (E)	Waterford Foundation	187,042	187,042		0
98305-08	Buhrman (Malvern Hill)	APVA	300,000	300,000		0
98305-09	Chancellorsville Battlefield	Central Virginia Battlefields Trust	150,000	150,000		0
98305-10	Totopotomoy Battlefield (Rural Plains)	Historic Polegreen Church Foundation	323,000	323,000		0
		Total Awarded	960,042	960,042		0
		Reverted to General Fund	218,178		218,178	
		Remaining Balance	0			
FARMLANDS & FOREST PRESERVATION		Beginning Balance	1,162,500			
	Carryforward from FY00		+250			
98306-05	The Meadow (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	359,625			359,625
98306-06	Elgin Diary (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	317,000	317,000		0
98306-07	Leonard Farm (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	81,806	81,806		0
98306-08	Brush Creek Farm (E)	Virginia Outdoors Foundation	72,747	72,747		0
		Total Awarded	831,178	471,553		359,625
		Reverted to General Fund	331,572			
		Remaining Balance	0			
			Received	Expended		Balance
		Carry-forward from FY00	\$61,158	0		\$61,158
		Battlefield Acquisitions	\$3,400,000	\$3,382,004		\$17,996
		Open Space Preservation Trust	\$1,550,000	\$1,550,000		\$0
		Available to Four Major Uses *	\$4,650,000	\$2,384,162		\$2,265,838
		Totals	\$9,661,158	\$6,729,152		\$2,344,992

		Reverted to General Fund in FY01	0			\$791,464
		Total FY 01 Unspent Funds				\$1,553,528
		Balance Obligated				\$1,517,538
		Balance Unobligated				\$17,995
Net Interest Available (Interest Earned less Administrative Expenses)						\$448,681
* - A minimum of \$1,550,000 of this revenue must be expended on easements						
(E) - Easement projects						

Appendix C – October 31, 2003 VLCF Balance Sheet and Income Statement

**VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
OCTOBER 31, 2003 BALANCE SHEET**

ASSETS		
Cash		
	FY00 Appropriations	1,750,000
	FY01 Appropriations	9,600,000
	FY01 Reversion to General Fund	(791,464)
	FY03 Reversion to General Fund	(313,255)
	FY00 Grant Project Payments	(1,323,969)
	FY01 Grant Project Payments	(2,384,161)
	FY01 Battlefield Payments	(3,382,005)
	FY01 Open Space Preservation Payment	(1,550,000)
	Interest Earned	749,314
	Donations	70
	Administrative Expenses FY01	(83,633)
	Administrative Expenses FY02	(117,790)
	Administrative Expenses FY03	(99,280)
	Total Cash	2,053,827
	TOTAL ASSETS	2,053,827
	LIABILITIES	0
	EQUITY	
	Reserved Funds	1,605,146
	Unreserved Funds	448,681
	TOTAL EQUITY	2,053,827
	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	2,053,827

**VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION
OCTOBER 31, 2003 INCOME STATEMENT**

INCOME		
	FY04 Appropriations	0
	Donations	0
	Interest Earned	15,957
	Total Income	15,957
	DISBURSEMENTS	
	FY00 Project Disbursements	0
	FY01 Project Disbursements	93,397
	Administrative Expenses	0
	Total Disbursements	93,397
	Net Operating Income for FY04	(77,440)
	FUND BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2003	2,131,267
	FUND BALANCE – OCTOBER 31, 2003	2,053,827