

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

**REPORT OF THE VIRGINIA LAND
CONSERVATION FOUNDATION**

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



**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
RICHMOND
January 2019**

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Clyde E. Cristman
Director



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

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Deputy Director of Operations

January 15, 2019

The Honorable Ralph Northam, Governor of Virginia
Members of the Virginia General Assembly

Dear Governor Northam and General Assembly Members:

We are pleased to provide you this report, which has been prepared on behalf of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (VLCF) Board of Trustees by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The Department of Conservation and Recreation serves as staff to VLCF. The report is presented in accordance with § 10.1-1018.1 of the Code of Virginia, instructing the Chairman of the Board of VLCF to biennially submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and report of the interim activity and work of the Board.

VLCF, in concert with its federal, state, local, and private conservation partners, has continued to make significant annual progress towards the Commonwealth's land conservation goals since it was first funded in the 1999 General Assembly Session. To date, state funding to VLCF has been leveraged to help protect more than 152,838 acres across Virginia. This includes 62,878 acres from direct VLCF matching grants and an estimated 89,960 additional acres that have or will be protected with VLCF funds that were required to be transferred to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. A small percentage of the accrued interest in the Fund has helped DCR develop the Commonwealth's most comprehensive conserved lands database and other mapping tools. The database helps to track progress towards the goals and, together with other mapping tools, offers a means for better-informed decision-making by the VLCF trustees.

Virginia should be proud of the conservation projects achieved through grants awarded from VLCF. The projects enabled by VLCF grants have had a positive impact across the Commonwealth, protecting working farms and forests; natural, cultural, and historical resources; and parks and other lands for recreational purposes. Additionally, lands that protect water quality in nearby streams and rivers; lands that provide habitat for threatened and endangered species, fish and wildlife, and natural areas and open space have been conserved.

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*State Parks • Soil and Water Conservation • Outdoor Recreation Planning
Natural Heritage • Dam Safety and Floodplain Management • Land Conservation*

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation program provides several notable features:

- The Foundation's funds often have been leveraged to achieve a match greater than the 50 percent match required by state law;
- The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation is strategic in the awarding of grants. The competitive process and interagency team approach used by the Foundation to score and award grant funding helps to ensure that the best lands are conserved; and
- The grant scoring criteria provide an emphasis on projects requiring riparian buffers and those resulting in public access to conserved lands. These efforts protect water quality and help to address the public's growing desire for publicly available lands. There is a significant difference between VLCF and conservation easements or purchase of development rights (PDR) programs, which do not generally provide for public utilization.

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation has contributed to the Commonwealth's conservation efforts through its grant program responsibilities. As additional funds become available, we are confident that the Foundation will remain a responsible steward and partner through which Virginia will excel in its conservation efforts.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources and
Chair of the Virginia Land
Conservation Foundation



Clyde E. Cristman
Director, Department of
Conservation and Recreation and
Executive Secretary of the Virginia
Land Conservation Foundation

Attachment

cc: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees
Daniel S. Timberlake, Director of Planning and Budget
Jason Powell, Legislative Analyst, Senate Finance Committee
Anne E. Oman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, House Appropriations Committee

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018

Chair and Secretary of Natural Resources

The Honorable Matthew J. Strickler, Secretary of Natural Resources

Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

The Honorable Bettina K. Ring, Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

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Glenda C. Booth	Alexandria	06/30/19	8
Russell V. Presley, II	Grundy	06/30/20	9
Robert W. Lazaro, Jr. (Vice Chairman)	Purcellville	06/30/20	10
The Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr.	Burke	06/30/20	11

Senate Appointees

The Honorable Emmett W. Hanger, Jr.	Mount Solon	06/30/16
The Honorable Jill Holtzman Vogel	Winchester	06/30/16

House Appointees

Steven L. Apicella	Fredericksburg	06/30/19
Paul V. Milde	Stafford	06/30/19
Julian T. Ottley	Richmond	06/30/20
Matthew Lohr	Broadway	06/30/21

Executive Secretary

Clyde E. Cristman Director, Department of Conservation and Recreation

PREFACE

This report has been prepared in accordance with, and fulfills the requirements of, § 10.1-1018.1 of the *Code of Virginia*, which instructs the Chairman of the Board of the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation to submit to the Governor and the General Assembly an executive summary and report of the interim activity and work of the Board on or before December 15 of each even-numbered year. The document shall report on the status of VLCF and its Fund including, but not limited to, (i) implementation of its strategic plan; (ii) land conservation targeting tools developed for the Foundation; (iii) descriptions of projects that received funding; (iv) a description of the geographic distribution of land protected as provided in § 10.1-1021.1; (v) expenditures from, interest earned by, and financial obligations of the Fund; and (vi) progress made toward recognized state and regional land conservation goals. The executive summary and report 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."

The following pages will provide a status report for grants awarded by VLCLF and an update on related land conservation activities.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018

PREFACE

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation (Foundation or VLCF) serves an important land conservation mission in the Commonwealth. It leverages state funds through matching grants and partnerships to protect working farms and forests, historic lands, open space and parks, and natural areas. The Foundation's distinctive features include a cross-cutting grant review process to maximize conservation values of funded projects, an inter-agency staff review team that involves expertise from multiple state agencies, and a final review by a diverse Board of Trustees whose membership includes appointees from the Governor, Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the Senate of Virginia.

Virginia Land Conservation Foundation

Since its inception in 1992, VLCF has experienced a name change from the Virginia Conservation and Recreation Foundation to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation, a significant expansion and improvement to its Code authority, and has sustained a successful grants program. In 2000, the Foundation's Board of Trustees grew from nine members to 18 members. In 2006, the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry was added to the Board.

Total funds appropriated to the Foundation exceed \$62 million since FY2000 (Table 1) and have resulted in the protection of 152,838 acres. To date, approximately \$46 million has been allocated to VLCF's matching grant program. Additionally, more than \$14 million has been allocated to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF) for the Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund in accordance with Virginia Code § 10.1-1020(C)(1). Moneys from this Fund are used to aid localities acquiring open-space easements or landowners conveying open-space easements with the costs associated with the conveyance of the easements.

In FY2018, \$4.24 million was available for the VLCF grant round; opened from May 24 to August 10, 2017 (\$3.6 million was provided in the FY2018 state budget and the remainder was from prior withdrawn projects and projects that closed under their grant budget). The Foundation received 29 applications for land conservation projects requesting more than \$7.43 million in grants. The Board met on September 19, 2017 and approved 23 projects that would protect 4,390 acres. Additionally, \$900,000 was allocated to VOF for the Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund. No funds were appropriated for VLCF in FY2019.

Since first receiving funding in FY2000, the Foundation has held twelve grant rounds. During those twelve grant rounds, VLCF received 337 applications requesting more than \$122.9 million in state funding, which was more than two times the available amount (Table 2). To date, VLCF has awarded funding to 203 of the 337 grant applications and awarded more than \$50.9 million to land conservation projects to protect more than 62,800 acres, at an average cost of \$733 per acre.

Table 1: Funding General Summary in Dollars

Fiscal Year	Source of Funding	Amount Available/ Appropriation	Amount to VOF	Amount Expended on or Allocated to Grants	Grant Award Date
FY2000	Approp. Act (Chap. 935 – 1999)	1,750,000	0	1,303,399.00	12/01/1999
FY2001	Approp. Act (Chap. 1073 – 2000) Specific Civil War Battlefields	3,400,000	0	3,382,004.92	
FY2001	Approp. Act (Chap. 1073 – 2000)	6,200,000	1,550,000	3,730,783.00	01/04/2001
FY2004	Vehicle Reg. (Chap. 1042 – 2003)	1,463,275	365,819	2,629,822.67	06/07/2005
FY2005	Approp. Act (Chap. 4 – 2004)	2,500,000	625,000		
FY2005	Unallocated Interest	56,982	14,246		
FY2005	Approp. Act (Chap. 951 – 2005)	10,000,000	2,500,000	9,015,182.92	12/01/2005
FY2005	Vehicle Reg. (Chap. 951 – 2005)	381,061	95,265		
FY2006	Approp. Act (Chap. 951 – 2005)	2,500,000	625,000		
FY2006	Unallocated Interest	188,960	47,240	5,447,399.00	06/13/2007
FY2006	Vehicle Reg (Chapter 2 – 2006)	783,563	195,890		
FY2007	Approp. Act (Chap. 3 – 2006)	2,500,000	625,000		
FY2007	Approp. Act (Chap. 847 – 2007)	500,000	125,000		
FY2007	Unallocated Interest	300,000	75,000		
FY2008	Approp. Act (Chap. 847 – 2007)	3,000,000	750,000		
FY2007	Vehicle Reg. (Chap. 3 – 2006)	663,269	165,817	4,036,136.00	01/07/2009
FY2008	Vehicle Reg. (Chap. 847 – 2007)	397,880	99,468		
FY2009	Approp. Act (Chap. 879 – 2008)	2,000,000	500,000		
FY2010	Approp. Act (Chap. 872 – 2010)	2,000,000	500,000		
FY2010	Vehicle Reg. (Chap. 781 – 2009)	4,666	1,166	2,106,149.00	09/13/2011
FY2011	Approp. Act (Chap. 874 – 2010)	500,000	125,000		
FY2012	Approp. Act (Chap. 874 – 2010)	500,000	125,000		
FY2012	Approp. Act (Chap. 890 – 2011)	1,000,000	250,000		
FY2013	Approp. Act (Chap. 3 – 2012)	1,000,000	250,000	1,024,471.00	12/06/2012
FY2014	Approp. Act (Chap. 806 – 2013)	1,000,000	250,000		
FY2015	Approp. Act (Chap. 3 – 2014)	1,000,000	250,000	1,742,239.00	01/06/2015
FY2016	Approp. Act (Chap. 3 – 2014)	1,000,000	250,000		
FY2016	Approp. Act (Chap. 665 – 2015)	3,000,000	750,000	2,092,845.00	10/27/2015
FY2017	Approp. Act (Chap. 780 – 2016)	8,000,000	2,000,000	5,613,799.00	9/14/2016
FY2018	Approp. Act (Chap 836 – 2017)	4,500,000	900,000	3,922,400.00	9/19/2017
FY2019	Approp. Act (Chap 2 – 2018)	0	0	0	N/A
TOTALS		62,089,656	14,009,911	46,046,630.51	

NOTE: *Italicized numbers are estimated, as one or more projects have not been closed out.*

NOTE: *Unexpended portions from several grant rounds were reverted to the General Fund.*

NOTE: *Unexpended portions from withdrawn projects or projects that closed at a lesser amount than authorized were reprogrammed to subsequent grant rounds unless reverted to the General Fund.*

Table 2: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant Award Summary

Grant Award Date	# of Applic. Received	Amount requested from VLCF	# Projects Awarded Funds	Amount Awarded by VLCF	# of Projects Closed	Total Amount Expended	Total Acres Preserved	Easement Amount Expended	Acres by Easement
12/01/99	20	\$5,800,000.00	12	\$1,688,842	9	\$1,353,399.00	1,136.87	\$384,600.00	532.00
Projects Specified in Appropriations Act		\$3,400,000.00	4	\$3,400,000	4	\$3,382,004.92	1,257.00	0	0
01/04/01	41	\$11,200,000.00	19	\$3,919,695	18	\$3,730,783.00	2,764.55	\$1,164,666.00	1,218.15
06/07/05	23	\$6,011,695.00	12	\$3,027,665	11	\$2,629,822.67	6,552.80	\$1,080,729.00	3,441.00
12/01/05	52	\$30,850,220.50	22	\$9,717,411	20	\$9,015,182.92	6,931.02	\$1,401,200.00	2,271.46
06/13/07	31	\$24,847,590.00	15	\$6,217,843	13	\$5,447,399.00	10,543.31	\$2,257,114.00	2,598.80
01/07/09	22	\$5,404,839.00	16	\$4,310,945	15	\$4,036,136.00	12,040.52	\$978,518.00	2,080.00
09/13/11	27	\$5,933,991.00	17	\$2,404,408	15	\$2,106,149.00	2,283.63	\$880,708.00	1,379.57
12/06/12	15	\$2,775,121.00	12	\$1,569,250	9	\$1,024,471.00	1,400.43	\$644,250.00	1,237.21
01/06/15	23	\$3,955,725.00	14	\$1,781,081	14	<i>\$1,742,239</i>	<i>5,565.27</i>	<i>\$685,496.00</i>	<i>1,875.91</i>
10/27/15	18	\$3,890,884.00	14	\$2,250,000	13	<i>\$2,092,845</i>	<i>1,931.00</i>	<i>\$812,500.00</i>	<i>1,300.11</i>
09/14/16	36	\$11,450,556.00	23	\$6,423,011	23	<i>\$5,613,799.00</i>	<i>6,130.49</i>	<i>\$2,579,893</i>	<i>5,728.92</i>
09/19/17	29	\$7,438,001	23	\$4,238,800	22	<i>\$3,922,400</i>	<i>4,341.16</i>	<i>\$1,800,000</i>	<i>3,319.39</i>
TOTAL	337	\$122,958,622.50	203	\$50,948,951	186	\$46,096,630.51	62,878.05	\$14,669,674.00	26,982.52

NOTE: *Italicized numbers represent estimated totals as one or more projects have not been closed out.*

The Foundation met its charge to develop a strategic plan for the expenditure of moneys received from the Fund. The strategic plan governing fiscal expenditures has been incorporated into successive VLCF grant manuals beginning in 1999, and is updated regularly. The most recent revisions to the manual were made for the September 19, 2017, grant round (www.dcr.virginia.gov/virginia_land_conservation_foundation/). The grant scoring criteria are outlined in Appendix C. Additional updates will be made for the 2019 grant round that will include criteria to address the new ConserveVirginia land conservation strategy targeting the highest priority lands.

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation serves as a coordinating mechanism for bringing together a number of state agencies' land conservation efforts and priorities. The Foundation is one of the key tools that Virginia utilizes to attain its land conservation targets. A coordinating multi-agency task force consisting of the Director of the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), 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. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation serves as the lead staff for the Foundation.

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's Office of Land Conservation serves as a statewide central contact, repository, and clearinghouse for land conservation in Virginia. During VLCF grant rounds, this office serves as an important source of information for potential grant applicants and acts as the grant manager for projects funded.

The Office's website (www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation/) includes a wide variety of land conservation materials and contact information to assist landowners, conservation organizations, and managers with their conservation planning. In addition, the website provides a link to the state's comprehensive statewide conserved lands resource mapping tool, Natural Heritage Data Explorer (NHDE), developed by DCR's Division of Natural Heritage. This important and useful land conservation-planning tool, which is updated regularly, is accessible at www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation/tools02a.shtml.

ConserveVirginia represents a new, data driven approach to land conservation that builds upon work already underway here and in other states. Virginia's first in the nation strategy takes the next step in identifying how and where to achieve the best conservation outcomes, and meets the Governor's directive to prioritize the most important lands from a statewide perspective, target limited resources toward those areas, and measure the progress made toward achieving multiple conservation goals. *ConserveVirginia* will create a roadmap for land conservation across Virginia for years to come.

ConserveVirginia's central feature is a living "smart map" that identifies approximately 6.5 million acres of priority lands for conservation. *The ConserveVirginia* Map is the synthesis of 19 mapped data inputs, divided into six categories, each representing a different overarching conservation value. The categories are:

Agriculture and Forestry; Natural Habitat and Biological Diversity; Floodplains and Flooding Resilience; Cultural and Historic Preservation; Scenic Preservation; and Protected Landscapes Resilience. Outdoor Recreation is a critical component of the strategy and will be addressed across the categories. As with most land conservation, resource benefits cross multiple categories.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation also developed other databases that assist in the Foundation's work. For example, the Department's "Natural Heritage Screening Layer" is based upon more than 30 years of data collection and is Virginia's most comprehensive information management system on natural communities and rare, threatened, and endangered plants and animals and their natural habitats. DCR produced several statewide tools such as the Conservation Lands Database (providing a dynamic parcel-level tracking tool for all conservation lands in the Commonwealth) and ConservationVision (providing statewide models to display lands ranked in conservation importance based on their recreational, cultural, agricultural, forest economics, and watershed integrity assets).

These tools, as well as others described below, are utilized to help assess grant applications submitted to the Foundation for funding consideration. Much of this data, designed to inspire and inform land conservation, is provided on the Internet via DCR's Natural Heritage Data Explorer and the Chesapeake Bay Program's LandScope Chesapeake. Additionally, DCR has developed a Natural Heritage Plan, available at http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/vph.shtml. This plan identifies key habitats for rare species and significant natural communities that merit preservation.

The 2018 edition of the Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP, or Outdoors Plan) serves as the Foundation's comprehensive plan as required under § 10.1-1021 of the *Code of Virginia*. The VOP, published by DCR every five years, is the state's official plan for the protection and conservation of Virginia's important natural, outdoor recreational and open space resources. The 11th publication of the VOP, the 2018 edition, is a digital document accessible at www.dcr.virginia.gov/vop.

The Outdoors Plan is based on an inventory of all publicly held park and open space land, including state-owned lands and lands held by federal agencies and localities. This inventory of existing lands and facilities serves as a basis for the Foundation's needs assessment. In addition to its analysis of existing conditions statewide, the VOP 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.

FOUNDATION OVERVIEW AND ACTIVITIES IN 2017 AND 2018

Board of Trustees Meetings

In 2017 and 2018, the VLCF Board of Trustees met as needed to authorize grant rounds, consider applications, and address land preservation tax credit matters. Meetings of the Board during this time-period were as follows:

- **May 24, 2017** - Board of Trustees' Meeting: The Board meeting was held at the Virginia Commonwealth University Rice Rivers Center in Charles City, Virginia. The meeting included a presentation and approval of the FY18 grant round schedule and financial plan; approval of proposed changes to the VLCF Grant Manual and scoring criteria; and a presentation and legislative update of the Land Preservation Tax Credit program. A report was also provided by the VLCF subcommittee with presentations of ConservationVision, the Lands Needs Assessment, and an update on the 2018 Virginia Outdoors Plan.
- **September 5, 2017** - Subcommittee Meeting: The subcommittee received a presentation on Virginia's conserved lands and discussed an analysis of scenarios for conservation priorities.
- **September 19, 2017** - Board of Trustees' Meeting: The Board received an update on two future grant rounds based on prior mitigation settlements, and received a presentation of FY18 VLCF grant applications. The Board took action and provided approval of grant awards and approval of 2017 VLCF stewardship fund distribution.
- **November 1, 2017**- Board of Trustees' Meeting: The Board discussed DuPont Settlement grant applications and made recommendations to the Secretary of Natural Resources in a closed meeting.
- **November 28, 2017** – Board of Trustees' Meeting: The Board discussed Dominion Surry-Skiffes Creek Settlement grant applications and approved grant awards in a closed meeting.
- **September 25, 2018** - Board of Trustees' Meeting: The Board meeting included a discussion of Governor Northam's land conservation goal, updates on prior VLCF grant rounds, update on the Land Preservation Tax Credit program, approval of distribution of the 2018 VLCF Stewardship Fund, and an overview of the pipeline mitigation grant program presented by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation.

Interagency Task-Force Meetings

Grant applications for VLCF grant rounds are scored and ranked by an interagency task force comprised of representatives of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Forestry, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, as required by Virginia Code § 10.1-1018(E).

In 2017, the task force met on two occasions to review and rank grant applications received during the May 24 through August 10, 2017 grant round and to develop grant-award recommendations for the Board. The VLCF Board authorized the grant awards for this round at their meeting on September 19, 2017.

Competitive Grant Awards (September 19, 2017 Grant Round)

Item 365 D of Chapter 836 of the 2017 Virginia Acts of Assembly included, in the amount for Preservation of Open Space Lands, \$4,500,000 from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, §10.1-1020, Code of Virginia, which was available for the FY18 grant round. An additional \$638,800 from previous years' funded projects that had been withdrawn, or from projects that were accomplished under budget, was added to the available funding for a total of \$4,238,800 (Table 3).

During the May 24 through September 19, 2017 grant cycle, the Foundation received 29 applications requesting \$7,438,001 in grants. The project costs for all 29 applications, including applicant match, totaled \$28,949,295 and would protect 6,031 acres if all projects were funded. The Board met on September 19, 2017 to consider these applications and approved \$4,238,800 in grant funds for 23 projects to protect 4,390 acres (Table 4 on page 13). As of the date of this report, five projects from this grant round have been completed.

No funding was provided in the 2018 Virginia Acts of Assembly for VLCF so another grant round was not held. Information regarding projects from past grant rounds and their funding amounts can be found in Appendix A of this report. Additional data reflecting the geographic distribution of these recent grant awards and all prior projects can be found in Appendix B.

Summaries of the projects awarded in the September 19, 2017 grant round are as follows:

FARMLANDS PRESERVATION CATEGORY

1. **Northern Virginia Conservation Trust – Long Lane:** Grant funds are requested to fund partial purchase of a conservation easement on an active 98.98-acre family farm that raises pastured livestock and is located in western Loudoun County. The project is proposed to be a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Agricultural Land Easement (ALE) to be co-held by the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT) and Loudoun County. Protection of this property will: enhance water quality with approximately 1,500 linear feet of permanent vegetated riparian buffers with appropriate livestock

exclusion along an intermittent stream and conserve 91 acres of prime and statewide important agricultural soils that will remain available for agricultural use.

Total Project Cost	\$417,100
Match	NRCS ACEP-ALE and NVCT
VLCF Grant Request	\$208,550
Grant Amount	\$187,695

2. **Valley Conservation Council, Inc. – Valley Pike Farm:** This grant request is to fund partial purchase of a conservation easement on an active 85.88-acre family farm that raises poultry, beef cattle, corn, soybeans, barley and hay in Rockingham County. Valley Pike Farm, Inc. is a Virginia Century Farm that has been in continuous ownership and operation by the same family for over 100 years. The conservation easement is proposed to be held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF). Protection of this property will: conserve 78 acres of prime and statewide important agricultural soils on a farm that utilizes best management practices to protect the soil and improve water quality within the Smith Creek watershed. The property is adjacent to land previously protected by a conservation easement with VOF.

Total Project Cost	\$258,000
Match	Partial donation of easement value
VLCF Grant Request	\$129,000
Grant Amount	\$116,100

3. **Stafford County – McClevey Farm:** This grant request is to fund partial purchase of a conservation easement on the McClevey Farm, 80 acres of farm and forest land in Stafford County. The property has been identified as a priority parcel for conservation by the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program due to its close proximity to Marine Corps Base Quantico. Protection of the McClevey Farm will protect 47 acres of prime and statewide important agricultural soils. The conservation easement is proposed to be held by Stafford County. Water quality will be protected with approximately 7,900 linear feet of permanent vegetative buffer along perennial and intermittent streams and wetland. The property is immediately adjacent to a public county park.

Total Project Cost	\$600,000
Match	Stafford County
VLCF Grant Request	\$300,000
Grant Amount	\$146,205

FOREST PRESERVATION CATEGORY

1. **Meadowview Biological Research Station – Game Lake Refuge at Joseph Pines Preserve:** The grant request is to help fund the fee-simple purchase of a 190-acre addition to the Joseph Pines Preserve in Sussex County. The property lies between the preserve and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) Game Refuge Lake. The additional property will be placed under easement with the

Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF). The property is ninety-eight percent forested, classified as high forest conservation value with nearly 10,000 feet of streams that will be protected with permanent buffers. Planned management will support the expansion of bobwhite quail habitat, and be fully available to the public for all forms of outdoor recreation. Also, this project will further support the interagency longleaf pine restoration efforts in Virginia through the Virginia Longleaf Pine Cooperators Group.

Total Project Cost	\$444,506
Match	Cash Match through VDEQ Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund Land Conservation Loan
VLCF Grant Request	\$178,203
Grant Amount	\$175,000

2. **Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) – Jack Mountain Tracts Easement:** The grant request is to fund the partial purchase of an open space easement to protect 1,658 acres of forestland in Highland County. The tracts occupy the upper slopes and four miles of summit along Jack Mountain, the 12th highest peak in Virginia and the 3rd highest in Highland County. The project contains 1,600 acres of forestland, a majority of which is considered high forest conservation value by VDOF. The tracts lie in the very upper reaches of the James River watershed, and collectively contain over 31,000 feet of intermittent streams that flow directly into the Bullpasture River. The easement will require permanent riparian buffers on all of the watercourses. The site contains significant natural heritage resources, including red spruce (*Picea rubens*). The easement will establish a large habitat protection area that permanently safeguards these natural heritage resources. The easement will also protect miles of highly visible and undeveloped mountaintop and slopes, a substantial open space resource that is visible for miles around, including from State Route 617, a County designated scenic route.

Total Project Cost	\$1,614,500
Match	Combination of several grant sources and partial donation of easement value
VLCF Grant Request	\$250,000
Grant Amount	\$225,000

3. **Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) – White Easement:** The grant request is to fund partial purchase of an open space easement to protect 545 acres of forest and farmland in Southampton County. The property contains nearly a mile and a half of frontage along the Meherrin River, this stretch of which has been identified as worthy of future study as a state-designated Scenic River. The project contains 450 acres of forestland, with the balance currently in agricultural use. Eighty-six percent of the forestland is classified as high forest conservation value. Approximately half of the forestland is under active management, while the other half is composed of tupelo/cypress wetlands along the river. The property supports occurrence of two natural heritage resources associated with the wetlands. The easement will establish a habitat protection area over these wetlands; in addition to preserving the natural heritage resources, this area will safeguard the river frontage and nearly 10,000 feet of streams that flow directly into the river

contributing significantly to the interagency effort of establishing corridors of connected conserved lands along the rivers in southeast Virginia.

Total Project Cost	\$469,250
Match	Combination of several grant sources and partial donation of easement value
VLCF Grant Request	\$200,000
Grant Amount	\$50,000

HISTORIC RESOURCES CATEGORY

1. **Civil War Trust** – Turner Tract at the North Anna Battlefield: The CWT seeks \$238,800 in grant funding to acquire approximately 125.7 acres in Hanover County containing farmland, wooded cover, wetlands, and 1,278 linear feet of frontage on the North Anna River. The property lies within the core area of the Civil War Battle of North Anna (1864). Additional historically significant resources associated with the property include the circa mid-19th century brick dwelling known as the “Fox House/Ellington,” which played a pivotal role in the 1864 battle, a circa early 19th century brick school house, a cemetery, earthworks, and the location of the historic Chesterfield Bridge crossing. CWT intends to rehabilitate the dwellings and interpret the property with signage, pathways, and tours.

Total Project Cost	\$1,234,400
Match	Civil War Trust, Federal battlefield preservation grant, and land/real property donation
VLCF Grant Request	\$238,800
Grant Amount	\$238,800

2. **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation** – Bell House: This grant request is for \$209,996 to protect a 0.68-acre lot owned by SVBF and located in the City of Winchester. The parcel lies within the core area of the Third Winchester (Opequon) Battlefield (1864) and is within the study area of three additional Civil War Battlefields: First Winchester (1862), Second Winchester (1863), and Second Kernstown (1864). In addition to its Civil War history, the property is distinguished by a historically significant 19th century Federal style dwelling that is a contributing resource to the Winchester Historic District, which is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places. The dwelling, known as the “Bell House” was present at the time of the battle. Grounds on the property are open to the public on a daily basis for self-guided tours while the dwelling is utilized for educational purposes, events, and conferences. The project will protect an architecturally and historically significant site while also providing public access and encouraging heritage tourism.

Total Project Cost	\$817,492
Match	Federal and state battlefield preservation grants
VLCF Grant Request	\$209,996
Grant Amount	\$209,996

3. **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – Clinedinst/Crim Greenway Project:** This grant request is for \$155,439 in VLCF funds to protect an approximately 1.94-acre property owned by SVBF and located in the Town of New Market. The parcel is within the core area of the Civil War Battle of New Market (1864) and is distinguished by a circa 1882 historic frame dwelling that is a contributing resource to the New Market Historic District, which is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places. The property contains an historic dry-laid stone wall. SVBF intends to incorporate the property into a pedestrian greenway trail, which will provide a direct link between the Virginia Military Institute Hall of Valor Museum and the New Market Historic District, allowing visitors to follow the flow of the battle. The project will protect an architecturally and historically significant site while also providing public access to a pedestrian greenway trail and encouraging heritage tourism along U.S. Route 11, a Virginia Byway.

Total Project Cost	\$468,120
Match	Federal and state battlefield preservation grants
VLCF Grant Request	\$155,439
Grant Amount	\$155,439

4. **Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation – Lyon Farm:** This grant request is for \$154,283 in VLCF funds to protect a 62.398-acre property acquired by SVBF in July 2017. The parcel is within the core area of the Civil War Battle of Fisher’s Hill (1864) as well as the study area of the Cedar Creek Battlefield (1864). Lyon Farm was near the center of Confederate earthworks that spanned the Fisher’s Hill Battlefield and contained Gordon’s Hill, used as a key artillery position during the battle. Portions of these sites and features remain intact on the property. In addition to its historic significance, the property fronts Battlefield Road, a Virginia Byway and contains farmland actively pastured for cattle, approximately 12 acres of wooded cover. SVBF intends to incorporate the property into its 12-mile long publicly accessible Valley Pike and Fisher’s Hill pedestrian trail system, which links the Fisher’s Hill Battlefield with the Belle Grove and Cedar Creek National Historical Park.

Total Project Cost	\$717,567
Match	SVBF, Federal and state battlefield preservation grants
VLCF Grant Request	\$154,283
Grant Amount	\$154,283

5. **Capital Region Land Conservancy – Malvern Hill Farm:** The Capital Region Land Conservancy (CRLC) is requesting \$400,000 in additional VLCF funds for the fee simple acquisition of approximately 435+/- acres in Henrico County. The VLCF grant would apply to about a 435-acre portion of the larger 871-acre Malvern Hill Farm property. Malvern Hill Farm lies within the core and study areas of the Civil War Battle of Malvern Hill (1862), Glendale (1862), and First Deep Bottom (1864). It is also listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places, primarily for the archaeological and architectural significance of the brick ruins of the late 17th century manor house present during the 1862 battle, but destroyed in a 1905 fire. In addition to being the site of a Civil War engagement, Malvern Hill

also witnessed the encampment of General Marquis D. Lafayette in 1781 and the Virginia Militia during the War of 1812. The property contains high conservation value forest cover, perennial streams, and fronts Route 5, a Virginia Byway. The Virginia Capital Trail also runs through the property. CRLC previously applied for \$1,000,000 in VLCF funding during the FY 2017 grant round and was awarded \$687,500. They are seeking additional funds to assist with unanticipated costs resulting from due diligence, survey, and title review.

Total Project Cost	\$6,695,500
Match	State and Federal battlefield preservation grants, Cabell Foundation, Mary Morton Parsons Foundation, and private donors
VLCF Grant Request	\$400,000
Grant Amount	\$141,482

NATURAL AREAS CATEGORY

1. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Pedlar Hills Natural Area Preserve Addition:** DCR’s Natural Heritage Program proposes to acquire approximately two acres along the South Fork Roanoke River adjacent to Pedlar Hills Natural Area Preserve in Montgomery County. Although small, the subject property is within a mapped Conservation Site, which has the highest possible biodiversity ranking in Virginia and is expected to support long-term resiliency of the already protected and highly significant lands. The tract is directly adjacent to the existing Preserve, lying just below a significant mapped occurrence of a globally rare “Ridge and Valley Dolomite Glade”, and a population of the federally endangered Smooth Coneflower (*Echinacea laevigata*), and will extend resource protection to the banks of the South Fork Roanoke River.

Total Project Cost	\$53,500
Match	none
VLCF Grant Request	\$53,500
Grant Amount	\$53,500

2. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Mount Joy Ponds Natural Area Preserve Addition:** DCR’s Natural Heritage Program seeks to purchase in fee approximately 85 acres in Augusta County as an addition to the Mount Joy Ponds Natural Area Preserve. This project is expected to improve resiliency of one of the world’s best examples of a Shenandoah Valley sinkhole pond, populations of at least six significantly rare plants (including two federally Threatened species), and a population of the state endangered Tiger Salamander. The tract will also protect forests of “high conservation value” according to Virginia Department of Forestry’s model, and part of a large block of intact forested cover (mapped as one of Virginia’s outstanding ecological cores, along with approximately 4,225 feet of streams. The tract will build connectivity to the adjacent George Washington National Forest, most of which has been designated as Special Biological Area in recognition of the biodiversity significance. Protecting the subject tract will provide hydrological and management buffer to support continued fire management on the existing Natural Area Preserve.

Total Project Cost	\$316,400
Match	none
VLCF Grant Request	\$316,400
Grant Amount	\$316,400

3. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Antioch Pines Natural Area Preserve Addition:** DCR’s Natural Heritage Program is seeking a grant to purchase approximately 142 acres in Isle of Wight County adjacent to the Antioch Pines Natural Area Preserve. The subject property shares a long common boundary with the existing Preserve and is especially important as a “smoke buffer” to support the active controlled burn program on the existing Preserve. Forested areas present on the tract are considered “very high” value by the Virginia Department of Forestry’s Forest Economics Model, and includes high priority area for longleaf pine restoration. The property has approximately 8,549 feet of streams, and 13 acres of wetlands and supports common wildlife game species, such as Wild Turkey and White-tailed Deer, and will provide eventual habitat for declining species, such as Northern Bobwhite.

Total Project Cost	\$419,900
Match	none
VLCF Grant Request	\$419,900
Grant Amount	\$419,900

4. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Camp Branch Wetlands Natural Area Preserve Addition:** DCR’s Natural Heritage Program seeks funding to assist with the purchase cost of a fee simple acquisition of approximately 76 acres as an addition to the Camp Branch Wetlands Natural Area Preserve in Floyd County. The subject parcel shares nearly a half mile of boundary with the existing preserve and is central to protecting three imperiled species known to be present, including a globally rare dragonfly called the Appalachian snaketail (*Ophiogomphus incurvatus incurvatus*) and two additional federally and state listed species. The tract includes 3,171 feet of streams and an estimated 15 acres of wetlands.

Total Project Cost	\$258,000
Match	Match promised by DGIF from non-game funds to support conservation of one of the target species
VLCF Grant Request	\$100,000
Grant Amount	\$100,000

5. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Magothy Bay Natural Area Preserve Addition:** DCR’s Natural Heritage Program proposes to acquire approximately 161 acres, in two parcels, near the southern end of the Delmarva Peninsula as an addition to the Magothy Bay Natural Area Preserve. This location is internationally significant for avian protection. Each fall, the southern tip of Northampton County supports one of the largest concentrations of landbirds along the Atlantic Coast. Tens of millions of birds pass through during fall migration, comprising nearly 200 different species (representing about 70 percent of all breeding bird species in North America). As a major stopover area, these birds need food and cover before crossing open water and flying south. Existing farm fields provide little direct benefit to these species, so the Heritage Program and its partners actively restore such areas to native vegetation to provide critical forage and natural cover from predators. Proximity to Kiptopeke State Park and existing

NAP lands provides an excellent step toward forging landscape connectivity between the protected areas and goes a long way toward establishing a “shore to shore” connection. Not only will this project create substantially improved habitat for migratory birds, it will provide opportunities for State Parks and Division of Natural Heritage to collaborate and jointly improve public access while protecting these important habitats.

Total Project Cost	\$1,140,600
Match	NOAA Coastal Zone Management, administered through VADEQ
VLCF Grant Request	\$398,400
Grant Amount	\$398,400

6. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve Addition:** DCR proposes to acquire approximately 69 acres in Halifax County as an addition to the Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve. This Preserve is designed to protect one of the most significant conservation sites in the piedmont of Virginia, and one of the most diverse and significant botanical assemblages in all of Virginia. Not only does the site have the highest diversity of wildflowers known in the Virginia Piedmont, it provides habitat for 12 species of plants and one species of butterfly that are rare in the Commonwealth. Of special significance is one of only two known populations in the world for Tall Barbara’s Buttons (*Marshalli legrandii*). Not only does the subject tract directly adjoin the existing Preserve, with which it shares nearly 3,200 feet of boundary, it also fills an unprotected gap between the NAP and the nearby Kerr Reservoir lands protected and managed by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Total Project Cost	\$174,200
Match	none
VLCF Grant Request	\$174,200
Grant Amount	\$174,200

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE CATEGORY

1. **Roanoke County Parks, Recreation, and Tourism – Carvins Cove Connector:** This multifaceted project involves: the fee acquisition of 2.75 acres on Timberview and Dutch Oven Roads to provide a trailhead with restroom, and trailhead amenities; a conservation easement acquisition of two miles of right-of-way 40-foot wide for creation of a greenway from Hanging Rock Battlefield Trail to trails within Carvins Cove Nature Reserve; the acquisition by donation of 200 acres of forested property adjacent to the trail, which includes a 4000’ perennial stream; and acquisition by donation of 35 acres adjacent to Dutch Oven Road, which has 3600’ of frontage along Mason Creek where fishing, wading and kayaking will be made possible.

Total Project Cost	\$613,060
Match	Land Donation of \$396,700; Cash of \$76,330; VOF grant of \$70,050
VLCF Grant Request	\$69,980
Grant Amount	\$69,980

2. **The Nature Conservancy, Virginia Chapter – Catharine M. Grey Preserve:** The Nature Conservancy is seeking a grant to aid in the acquisition of a 127-acre property near the mouth of the Onancock River in Accomack County for the creation of a nature preserve. Adjacent to Parker’s Marsh Natural Area Preserve, the Catharine M. Grey property will be open year round for shoreline fishing, environmental education, and nature study, kayaking, and hiking. Permitting hunting will be allowed under the supervision of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. The property lies along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail and the Onancock Water Trail.

Total Project Cost	\$642,000
Match	Cash and TNC General Funds
VLCF Grant Request	\$321,000
Grant Amount	\$321,000

3. **Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) – Pohick Bay Regional Park Stribling Acquisition:** NOVA Parks is requesting VLCF assistance to acquire an inholding in Fairfax County within Pohick Bay Regional Park adjacent to the Potomac River, an American Heritage River. Acquiring the property will protect land that is part of a regionally significant conservation corridor and provide public access for water based recreation. Additional recreational use of the property includes the potential for trail development, picnicking, and nature exploration.

Total Project Cost	\$2,025,000
Match	Cash and up to \$150,000 in other grant funds
VLCF Grant Request	\$400,000
Grant Amount	\$400,000

4. **City of Franklin – Riverview Walk Park:** The City of Franklin is requesting VLCF assistance with the acquisition of 22 acres along the Blackwater River for use as a public Riverwalk Park. Approximately six acres of the property is upland and will be used for park development for fishing, kayaking, walking, unstructured play, nature observation, and picnicking.

Total Project Cost	\$195,500
Match	Land Donation of \$150,000
VLCF Grant Request	\$45,500
Grant Amount	\$45,500

5. **Civil War Trust – Culpeper Crossing Tract at Rappahannock Station Battlefield:** The CWT is seeking VLCF assistance in the purchase of a 12.37 property situated along the scenic Rappahannock River. The property also has frontage along James Madison Highway, which is a component of the Journey through Hallowed Ground American Byway. Following acquisition, CWT intends to restore and interpret the tract.

Total Project Cost	\$2,463,100
Match	Land Donation of \$625,000; Potential American Battlefield Protection Grant of \$1,231,550
VLCF Grant Request	\$485,000
Grant Amount	\$82,159

6. **Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation – Blackwater Scenic River Corridor Protection (Antioch Pines Natural Area Preserve Addition)**: DCR proposes to protect two miles of river frontage along the east bank of the Blackwater River; a state designated Scenic River. When combined with the adjacent, existing Antioch Pines Natural Area Preserve, nearly five contiguous miles of river frontage “viewshed” along the east bank of the River will be protected. The project would protect forests of “very high” value according to the VDOF, as well as the national champion overcup oak (*Quercus lyrata*). All riparian and bottomland forests present will be protected in perpetuity, thus contributing significantly to the preservation of this scenic and wild waterway as well as benefitting recreational users of the River. About half of the tract is an upland sandy soil ridge, which will be restored to longleaf pine as part of an ongoing partnership between DCR, the VDOF and several other agencies and organizations.

Total Project Cost	\$495,000
Match	None
VLCF Grant Request	\$495,000
Grant Amount	\$57,761 (from Natural Areas Category)

Table 3: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for September 19, 2017 Grant Round

FUNDING CATEGORIES		FY18 Budget Bill Chapter 836, Item 365D	Carryover Funding from Past Grants	TOTAL
I.	VOF Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (25%)	\$900,000	N/A	\$900,000
II.	Grant Program (75%)			
(i)	Farmland and Forest Preservation	\$900,000	0	\$900,000
(ii)	Historic Area Preservation	\$900,000	0	\$900,000
(iii)	Natural Area Protection	\$900,000	\$620,161	\$1,520,161
(iv)	Open Space and Parks	\$900,000	\$18,639	\$918,639
TOTAL		\$4,500,000		\$5,138,800
Amount reserved for Grant Program = \$4,238,800				
	Natural Area Protection	\$620,161	[Withdrawn: FY17 Addition to Cedars Natural Area Preserve for \$501,511] [Withdrawn: FY17 Addition to Antioch Pines Natural Area Preserve for \$118,650]	
	Open Space and Parks	\$18,639	[Unexpended: FY17 Town of Alta Vista: Dalton's Landing Canoe Launch Site: \$2,445] [Unexpended: FY17 Botetourt County: Eagle Rock Park for \$16,194]	

Item 365 D of Chapter 836 of the 2017 Virginia Acts of Assembly

D.1. Included in the amount for Preservation of Open Space Lands is \$8,000,000 the first year and ~~\$8,000,000~~ \$4,500,000 the second year from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, § 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia. *Notwithstanding § 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia, \$900,000 shall be transferred to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation's Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund. 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* ~~Of these funds, after Virginia Outdoors Foundation's Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund statutory distribution obligations have been satisfied, no less than 50 percent of the remaining appropriations~~ 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.

Table 4: Competitive Grant Awards (September 19, 2017 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. Dist	Grant Award	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment	Final Acres
	Farmlands & Forest Preservation						
1	Long Lane*	10	\$187,695	98.98	Open	\$187,695	98.98
2	Valley Pike Farm*	6	\$116,100	85.88	02-2018	\$116,100	85.89
3	McClevey Farm*	1	\$146,205	80.00	Open	\$146,205	80.00
4	Game Lake Refuge at Joseph Pines Preserve**	4	\$175,000	190.00	Open	\$175,000	190.00
5	Jack Mountain Tracts Easement*	6	\$225,000	1,658.00	Open	\$225,000	1,658.00
6	White Easement*	4	\$50,000	545.00	Open	\$50,000	545.00
	Historic Area Preservation						
7	Turner Tract at the North Anna Battlefield**	1	\$238,800	125.70	Open	\$238,800	125.70
8	Bell House**	10	\$209,996	0.68	01-2018	\$209,996	0.68
9	Clinedinst/Crim Greenway Project**	6	\$155,439	1.94	03-2018	\$155,439	1.92
10	Lyon Farm**	6	\$154,283	62.40	Open	\$154,283	62.40
11	Malvern Hill Farm**	4	\$141,482	435.00	06-2018	\$141,482	470.82
	Natural Area Protection						
12	Pedlar Hills Natural Area Preserve Addition	9	\$53,500	2.00	Open	\$53,500	2.00
13	Mount Joy Pond Natural Area Preserve Addition	6	\$316,400	85.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
14	Antioch Pines Natural Area Preserve Addition	3	\$419,900	142.00	Open	\$419,900	142.00
15	Camp Branch Wetlands Natural Area Preserve Addition	9	\$100,000	76.00	Open	\$100,000	76.00
16	Magothy Bay Natural Area Preserve Addition	2	\$398,400	161.00	Open	\$398,400	161.00
17	Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve Addition	5	\$174,200	69.00	Open	\$174,200	69.00
18	Blackwater Scenic River Corridor Protection	3	\$57,761	164.50	Open	\$57,761	164.50
	Open Spaces & Parks						
19	Carvins Cove Connector	9	\$69,980	242.00	Open	\$69,980	242.00
20	Catharine M. Gray Preserve	2	\$321,000	127.70	Open	\$321,000	127.70
21	Pohick Bay Regional Park Stripling Acquisition	8	\$400,000	3.20	05-2018	\$400,000	3.20
22	Riverview Walk Park	3	\$45,500	22.00	Open	\$45,500	22.00
23	Culpeper Crossing at Rappahannock Station Battlefield	7	\$82,159	12.37	Open	\$82,159	12.37
	Totals		\$4,238,800	4,390.35		\$3,922,400	4341.16

*Denotes acquisition by easement

**Denotes fee acquisition with open-space easement held by governmental entity (state or locality)

Restricted Funds Grant Rounds

Dominion Energy Surry-Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Project (November 1, 2017)

On July 3, 2017, the Army Corps of Engineers issued a final permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was developed and executed by the Commonwealth of Virginia including the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) acting as the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the United States Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation, and Virginia Electric and Power Company doing business in Virginia as Dominion Energy Virginia (Dominion Energy) to resolve adverse effects on historic properties due to the Surry-Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Project.

The VLCF Board was tasked with holding a grant round for \$12.5 million and awarded the following nine grants at their November 1, 2017 Board meeting.

1. **The Fort Eustis Cultural Resources Management Program: Development of a 3D Laser Scan of Fort Crafford and an Earthwork Preservation Plan to Include a Landscape Management Plan:** This grant will fund a project to develop a 3D virtual model and an earthwork preservation plan of Fort Crafford (located at Fort Eustis). The virtual models will be accessible to visitors who cannot access the locations physically, as an illustration of the sophisticated defensive system developed by Confederate General John B. Magruder during the American Civil War.
2. **City of Newport News Parks, Recreation & Tourism: Endview Plantation Interpretive Program Development:** This grant will fund a new interpretive plan for Endview Plantation, located in Newport News, to enhance visitors' knowledge of the role the plantation and surrounding areas played in the American Revolution and the American Civil War.
3. **Civil War Trust: Egger Tract at the Williamsburg Battlefield:** This grant will fund the fee-simple acquisition of the 251.17-acre Egger Tract in York County, located within the core area of the American Civil War Battle of Williamsburg. The parcel was also associated with the Algonquian People in the era of the Powhatan Confederacy. Public interpretation of the site's history will be supported through on-site interpretive signage.
4. **Civil War Trust: Colonial Williamsburg Tract at Williamsburg Battlefield:** This grant will fund the fee-simple acquisition of the 20.45-acre Colonial Williamsburg Tract, located within the core area of the Williamsburg Battlefield in the City of Williamsburg, and will also fund interpretive signage related to the 1862 Battle of Williamsburg.
5. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation/The Chickahominy Tribe: Chickahominy on the Powhatan:** This grant will fund the fee-simple acquisition of a 104.79-acre property known as Chickahominy on the Powhatan, located on the James River in Charles City County. The property borders the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail and is adjacent to Lawrence Lewis Jr. Park, and will

enhance public access to the James River. A VOF open-space easement will permit tribal functions and provide a place for historic interpretation.

6. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation: Belmead on the James:** This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition of the 2,265-acre Belmead property, an historic plantation that was used by the Order of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for the education of more than 10,000 African-American students and a smaller number of Native-American students between 1895 and 1972. The property includes a mid-19th-century Gothic Revival mansion that is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.
7. **DCR - Natural Heritage Program: Yorktown Civil War Battlefield Protection:** This grant is to fund a York County project to protect six undeveloped, wooded tracts, totaling 700 acres that are considered part of the Yorktown Civil War Battlefield Study Area.
8. **Capital Region Land Conservancy: Malvern Hill:** The grant will help fund the acquisition of the 871.39-acre Malvern Hill Farm in Charles City and Henrico counties that served as an important antecedent to the Revolutionary War Battle of Yorktown, as well as both the War of 1812 and the American Civil War. The property includes the ruins of the 17th-century Malvern Hill, listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places.
9. **American Battlefield Trust: Battlefield Bluffs at Yorktown:** The grant request is to fund the acquisition and interpretation of the 52.69-acre Battlefield Bluffs property, which has historical associations with both the Revolutionary War and the American Civil War. The York County property is located within the study area of the 1781 Battle of Yorktown and the core area of the 1862 Battle of Yorktown. It is also believed to be the location of General Nelson's Quarter, a slave plantation owned by the Revolutionary War-era Governor of Virginia, Gen. Thomas Nelson. Following the acquisition, the Trust intends to fully interpret each aspect of the site's history through on-site interpretive signage, which will also include information on protecting historic/cultural and natural resources like the James River Watershed.

DuPont Waynesboro Settlement Recommendations (November 28, 2017)

The Commonwealth of Virginia worked with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service through the Trustee Council established by Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to implement land protection, property acquisition, and recreational and wildlife enhancements and neotropical migratory songbird habitat restoration projects in the South River watershed. The Secretary of Natural Resources of Virginia sought input from VLCF on potential projects to consider proposing to the Trustee Council for funding through the DuPont Waynesboro settlement. The VLCF Board met on November 28, 2017 to recommend projects to the Secretary. The Trustee Council made the final decision on project selection and USFWS is administering the grants.

In October of 2018, the Virginia Native Plant Society (VNPS) received a grant award payment for the acquisition of 85 acres in Augusta County adjacent to Mount Joy Pond Natural Area Preserve. As part of the project, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Division of Natural Heritage (DCR-DNH) now holds a natural area preserve deed of dedication and open-space easement over the property. The VNPS plans to transfer fee-simple ownership to DCR as an addition to the Natural Area Preserve, which will protect hydrological patterns, sensitive wetland habitat, and expand contiguous forest habitat. The project is located within the Upper Blue Ridge Important Bird Area and will benefit songbirds, bats, and other wildlife species.

STATUS OF LAND CONSERVATION IN VIRGINIA

Land Conservation Status Summary

The Conservation Lands Database reports that as of October 31, 2018, a total of 4,090,802.35 acres across Virginia have been preserved by federal, state, and local governments, or private conservation organizations (Table 5). This indicates that about 16.18 percent of the Commonwealth’s total land is permanently protected. In Virginia’s portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, a total of 2,887,766 acres of land, or about 20.87 percent, has been protected. (Approximately 60 percent of Virginia geographically lies within the Bay watershed.)

Table 5: Land Preservation Statistics in Virginia (through October 31, 2018)

Group Holding the Property or the Easement	Acres of Land Preserved Statewide	Percentage Preserved by Holder	Acres of Land Preserved in Virginia’s Portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed	Percentage Preserved by Holder	Acres of Land Preserved in Virginia’s Non-Bay portion	Percentage Preserved by Holder
Federal	2,347,939	57.40%	1,677,650	58.10%	670,289	56.45%
State	1,331,536	32.55%	931,727	32.26%	399,809	32.48%
Local	151,291	3.80%	136,462	4.73%	18,829	1.56%
Private/Non-profit	256,036	6.25%	141,928	4.91%	114,109	9.51%
Total Protected	4,090,802	100.00%	2,887,766	100.00%	1,203,036	100.00%
Total Acreage of Land in VA	25,270,000		13,831,890		11,438,110	
Percent Protected	16.18%		20.87%		10.52%	

Since tracking began in 2000, the amount of land protected each year, whether through conservation easements or fee simple acquisitions, has varied greatly (Table 6). There was a high of 107,017 acres conserved in FY2010 and a low of 33,389 acres in FY2016. In total, since 2000, approximately 1,085,280 acres have been preserved overall, with a yearly average of 60,293 acres. Sixty-nine percent of the preserved acres over that period of time are within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Table 6: Current Annual Protection Trends as of October 31, 2018

Fiscal Year	Statewide Acreage	Bay Acreage	Non-Bay Acreage
2001	43,463.72	29,855.67	13,608.05
2002	50,536.82	36,567.11	13,969.70
2003	48,369.96	39,714.31	8,655.65
2004	39,680.25	30,790.04	8,890.20
2005	69,559.79	44,184.72	25,375.07
2006	70,798.22	55,622.16	15,176.06
2007	97,984.66	73,312.31	24,672.35
2008	94,252.32	60,675.43	33,576.89
2009	90,388.85	62,222.70	28,166.15
2010	107,017.18	80,122.57	26,894.61
2011	34,289.15	21,645.43	12,643.72
2012	55,952.92	36,344.48	19,608.44
2013	44,916.48	24,659.24	20,257.24
2014	75,371.18	44,768.82	30,602.36
2015	36,573.38	22,254.02	14,319.36
2016	33,388.77	22,414.10	10,974.67
2017	40,494.43	24,389.91	16,104.52
2018	51,364.52	34,826.02	16,538.50
Total	1,085,280.36	746,465.42	338,814.94
Average annual acreage protected	60,293.35	41,470.30	18,823.05

Land Preservation Tax Credit Responsibilities

Beginning January 1, 2007, the Department of Conservation and Recreation became responsible for verifying the conservation value of donated land or conservation easements that result in land preservation tax-credit applications for \$1 million or more. The Department's recommendations are forwarded to the Department of Taxation. Annual reports summarizing the conservation value of all tax credits claimed during 2009 through 2015 are published separately from this report and are available online at: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation/lpc.shtml.

Virginia Treasures

On Earth Day, April 22, 2015, Governor McAuliffe announced his goal to identify, preserve, and protect at least 1,000 Treasures in Virginia during his administration. He announced that "[e]very Treasure attained - from my first day in office to my last - will be added to our list. This list will become the scorecard by which my administration measures success at protecting land, water and recreational space." The Virginia Treasures initiative concentrates on quality rather than just quantity. The focus is on safeguarding significant sites and assets rather than just the numbers of acres. The idea is to preserve, protect, and highlight Virginia's most important ecological, cultural, scenic, and recreational assets, as well as its special lands.

In December 2018, Governor McAuliffe announced that the goal to protect 1,000 natural and historic treasures had been achieved. Additional information and a list of all of the treasures may be found at: <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/virginia-treasures.shtml>.

Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Since 2001, the VLCF has allocated more than \$14 million to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation (Table 7). Pursuant to the funding formula provided in § 10.1-1020 (C)(1) of the *Code of Virginia*, the VLCF transfers 25 percent of its appropriation to VOF, unless otherwise provided in the state budget. The 2017 Budget Bill (Item 365 D of Chapter 836 of the 2017 Acts of Assembly) directed that \$900,000 of the total \$4.5 million allocated to VLCF be transferred to VOF. These monies are transferred to the Open Space Land Preservation Trust Fund to assist with the purchase of farm and forestland easements held by the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. The projects involve the partial purchase of development rights and the reimbursement of costs of the easement donations (legal, appraisal, etc). Funds are periodically further leveraged with grants from the VLCF and other deposits to the Open Space Land Preservation Trust Fund.

As of the end of Fiscal Year 2018, \$14,009,911 had been transferred from VLCF to the Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund. Of this amount, \$11,456,386 had been spent in part on 345 conservation easements protecting 89,960 acres. The VLCF funds were leveraged to secure private, local, and federal funds totaling over \$7.2 million towards the easements noted. An additional 65 easements protecting 12,700 acres were completed using funds from the Commonwealth of Virginia (but not received through VLCF) and funding from other sources. The remaining balance of the transferred funds has been committed to 37 projects that will protect an additional 7,051 acres.

Table 7: VLCF Funding Allocated to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Fiscal Year	Source	Amount Allocated to VOF
FY2001	Approp. Act	\$1,550,000
FY2004	Vehicle Reg.	\$365,819
FY2005	Approp. Act	\$625,000
FY2005	Interest	\$14,246
FY2005	Approp. Act	\$2,500,000
FY2005	Vehicle Reg.	\$95,265
FY2006	Approp. Act	\$625,000
FY2006	Interest	\$47,240
FY2006	Vehicle Reg.	\$195,890
FY2007	Approp. Act	\$625,000
FY2007	Vehicle Reg.	\$165,817
FY2008	Approp. Act	\$125,000
FY2008	Interest	\$75,000
FY2008	Approp. Act	\$750,000
FY2008	Vehicle Reg.	\$99,468
FY2009	Vehicle Reg.	\$1,166
FY2009	Approp. Act	\$500,000
FY2010	Approp. Act	\$500,000
FY2011	Approp. Act	\$125,000
FY2012	Approp. Act	\$125,000
FY2012	Approp. Act	\$250,000
FY2013	Approp. Act	\$250,000
FY2014	Approp. Act	\$250,000
FY2015	Approp. Act	\$250,000
FY2016	Approp. Act	\$250,000
FY2016	Approp. Act	\$750,000
FY2017	Approp. Act	\$2,000,000
FY2018	Approp. Act	\$900,000
FY2019		0
TOTAL		\$14,009,911

CONSERVATION PLAN AND TOOL DEVELOPMENT

Comprehensive Plan Development

Subsection 1 of § 10.1-1021 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 and maintain 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 and maintain a needs assessment for future land conservation projects 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.” The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Wildlife Action Plan also serves as a resource to the Foundation in identifying lands in need of protection.

ConserveVirginia

In April 2018, Governor Ralph Northam announced a new approach to land conservation in Virginia:

"I believe that we need a land conservation strategy that is focused and targeted toward making measurable progress on our natural resource goals... Through this data-driven process, we will prioritize the most important targeted lands and direct limited resources toward those conservation projects that provide the greatest benefit in the most cost-effective manner."

Virginia’s land conservation investments are essential to making the Commonwealth a wonderful place to live and visit. Land and water conservation protects the places we love, supports a high quality of life and fosters economic growth and prosperity. In 2016, the Trust for Public Land reported that every \$1 invested in land conservation returns \$4 in economic value in natural goods and services in the form of improved air and water quality, carbon sequestration, and enhanced fish and wildlife habitat. Governor Northam is dedicated to ensuring the highest conservation outcomes from state funds spent on protecting land. *ConserveVirginia* will be a key tool in guiding those investments.

ConserveVirginia represents a new, data driven approach to land conservation that builds upon work already underway here and in other states. Virginia's first in the nation strategy takes the next step in identifying how and where to achieve the best conservation outcomes, and meets the Governor's directive to prioritize the most important lands from a statewide perspective, target limited resources toward those areas, and measure the progress made toward achieving multiple conservation goals. *ConserveVirginia* will create a roadmap for land conservation across Virginia for years to come.

ConserveVirginia's central feature is a living "smart map" that identifies approximately 6.5 million acres of priority lands for conservation. *The ConserveVirginia Map* is the synthesis of 19 mapped data inputs, divided into six categories, each representing a different overarching conservation value. The categories are: Agriculture and Forestry; Natural Habitat and Biological Diversity; Floodplains and Flooding Resilience; Cultural and Historic Preservation; Scenic Preservation; and Protected Landscapes Resilience. Outdoor Recreation is a critical component of the strategy and will be addressed across the categories. As with most land conservation, resource benefits cross multiple categories.

The *ConserveVirginia Map* is designed to be regularly updated as new data becomes available and additional resources and protection tools emerge. Similarly, the administration will work to add new data models to the *ConserveVirginia Map* as data and technology allow. For example, future maps will identify high nutrient and sediment load areas in need of conservation and restoration to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay water quality.

The 6,499,131 acres outlined in this strategy are envisioned to guide land conservation in Virginia for the next generation. This strategy charts a new path for data driven prioritized land conservation and a method by which to set both conservation and funding needs and monitor progress. The Department of Conservation and Recreation will continue the effort to collect, map and share priority conservation lands in Virginia.

To help advance *ConserveVirginia* Governor Northam has outlined three broad approaches:

- Engage the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and other state grant programs to place emphasis on funding projects identified in the strategy.
- State agencies will focus land conservation funds and efforts on these priority lands.
- Expand existing funding sources and create new funding sources and tools to advance protection of these priority lands.

Through the *ConserveVirginia* initiative, Virginia will be a leader in targeted, value-based land conservation to ensure the greatest conservation outcomes and prosperity for future generations across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP)

The Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) is the Commonwealth's official outdoor recreation and land conservation plan. The plan has been expanded to substantially meet the requirements of the Foundation's comprehensive plan. The VOP is prepared by DCR, and updated every five years. The VOP is the state's official plan for the protection and conservation of Virginia's important natural, outdoor recreational, and open space resources. The plan is based on an inventory of publicly held park and open space land, including local, state, and federal outdoor recreational lands, and an assessment of Virginia's outdoor recreational needs. This inventory of existing lands and facilities, and unmet needs serves as a basis for the Foundation's needs assessment, as required under § 10.1-1021 of the *Code of Virginia*.

The 2018 Virginia Outdoors Plan identifies and expands on the Foundation's key land conservation needs and protection strategies, and continues to serve as a sound foundation for future land conservation activities within the Commonwealth. The plan's chapter on land conservation covers the benefits of land conservation, tools for achieving land conservation, and recommendations for types of land that should be protected.

Projects that protect the Commonwealth's natural, scenic, open space, and cultural resources are identified as part of the annual VOP regional outreach. In addition to an assessment of existing statewide outdoor recreational resources and conserved lands, the VOP also provides recommendations for regional featured projects. As part of the development of the 2018 VOP, DCR hosted annual meetings in collaboration with each of Virginia's 21 planning districts. These meetings are the foundation for DCR's assessment of outdoor recreation and land conservation implementation progress. Regional accomplishments are identified annually and the needs and priorities for outdoor recreation and land conservation are assessed by engaging government agencies, localities, regional planning districts, and outdoor recreation and land conservation stakeholders.

A statewide Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey is administered every five years in preparation for development of the VOP. The 2017 Virginia Outdoors Survey indicates a high regard for the importance of outdoor recreation opportunities and a strong commitment to the protection of natural areas. More than 90 percent of respondents consider access to outdoor recreation to be "very important", or "important".

Consistent with previous surveys conducted in 2007 and 2011, the 2017 survey showed widespread public support for using government resources to protect open space. In addition, about half of the respondents would support an increased state tax to fund outdoor recreation in Virginia, about a quarter would oppose such a tax, and the rest would neither support nor oppose, or did not know.

Survey respondents identified the most needed outdoor recreation opportunities in Virginia as:

1. Natural Areas (54%)
2. Parks (49%)
3. Trails (43%)
4. Water Access (43%)

More than three quarters (82%) of respondents rated the protection of natural areas as “very important;” with only one percent of respondents rating such protection as “not important.” More than two-thirds of respondents support public spending to prevent the loss of natural areas and open spaces.

The 2018 VOP integrates land conservation with other outdoor recreation priorities. The VOP is a digital document and includes an interactive web-mapping component, the “VOP Mapper”. The document can be viewed and downloaded by visiting www.dcr.virginia.gov/vop.

Virginia’s Natural Heritage Plan

The Virginia Natural Area Preserves Act (Virginia Code § 10.1-209 *et seq.*) charges the Department of Conservation and Recreation with establishing and maintaining the state’s Natural Heritage Program (NHP) and developing a Natural Heritage Plan (NHPlan) to guide the preservation of habitat for rare plants, animals and significant natural communities. Land conservation planning is a key component of the NHPlan and vital to the effective conservation of the state’s natural heritage. The most recent version of the plan is from 2003 and is entitled “*Virginia’s Precious Heritage: A Report on the Status of Virginia’s Natural Communities, Plants and Animals, and a Plan for Preserving Virginia’s Natural Heritage Resources.*”

(http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/documents/NHPc_Web.pdf)

A revised and much-enhanced NHPlan is under development for completion in 2019. The plan lays out DCR’s approach to identifying across the state, those places that are most important for preserving intact natural communities, habitat for rare species and the many ecosystem services related to biodiversity. The Natural Heritage Plan is developed from a foundation of the most comprehensive and up-to-date biodiversity data to be had in the Commonwealth.

For more than 30 years, DCR has worked to convert its detailed scientific data and information into easily interpreted and versatile map-based tools to use and share to inform conservation decisions. Field data on Natural Heritage Resources – Virginia’s best remaining intact natural communities; rare species locations and associated habitats; and significant cave and karst resources - are used to develop maps of conservation sites. Conservation sites are mapped boundaries that encompass one or more rare plant or animal locations or significant natural communities, and the surrounding habitat or buffer necessary to permanently protect the resources. Each site includes detailed information on the location, viability, threats and conservation status of the resources they contain. DCR has developed boundaries for more than 2,100 conservation sites around the state, totaling 2,375,037 acres of terrestrial, stream- and karst-associated lands.

Mapped Conservation Sites are central to the NHPlan, and relied upon by a variety of local, state, and federal governmental agencies with conservation and natural resources management objectives. These and other DCR data are also shared with conservation partners via the Natural Heritage Data Explorer (NHDE), for conservation planning and project review efforts. The NHDE, accessible at <https://vanhde.org/>, is an efficient tool utilized by nearly 200 government agencies, conservation organizations, universities, and private

companies. Moreover, to date, this tool has been replicated in ten other states based on the model of efficiency that has been set in Virginia. DCR staff strive to keep the community and species level data up-to-date and reflective of current conditions for internal uses, and these data are updated for partners on a quarterly basis.

The 2019 revision of the NHPlan will include two new components that present the NHP's approach to strategically protecting those most important lands. These components include results from two multi-year GIS-based analyses: the Natural Areas Resiliency Plan, and identification and prioritization of Virginia's Essential Conservation Sites.

The Natural Areas Resiliency Plan identifies key lands surrounding the Natural Area Preserves, where the Program will: (i) focus land protection efforts and land management activities; (ii) concentrate on partnerships with existing landowners and land managers of those resiliency lands; and (iii) tailor environmental review and information sharing based on resources in those resiliency areas. Focusing acquisition, partnership and management of lands in resiliency areas will help to assure protection of the rare species and natural communities protected on Natural Area Preserves (NAPs) in light of climate change and other landscape scale disturbances; enable development of public access opportunities that do not jeopardize rare species and habitats; and help to assure that management of Natural Heritage Resources on the NAP System (e.g. access for use of prescribed fire and invasive species control) can be carried out with better success and efficiency.

The Essential Conservation Sites component of the NHPlan uses newly-updated Conservation Site boundaries for all terrestrial rare plant and animal species, and natural communities in the Commonwealth. These sites are analyzed by the rarity of those resources; the quality and viability of the specific occurrences of those species and communities; and the threats to those occurrences based on surrounding landscape and land use patterns. In short, this analysis identifies the very most important sites that need protection and management – those that are essential to the preservation of the rarest and most threatened species and natural communities in Virginia – so that conservation efforts can be intentionally focused there and so that opportunities are swiftly recognized when they arise in relation to an Essential Conservation Site. The NHPlan will also lay out how the NHP will partner with other land-managers throughout the state to tailor management efforts in those Essential Conservation Sites to best assure the preservation of those highest priority resources.

These aspects of the NHplan are integral to the Foundation's planning efforts and are also important components of the Virginia Outdoors Plan. DCR's land conservation planning tools – the VOP and the NHPlan – play an important role in land conservation planning by the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation and Virginia's land conservation community. These planning tools also have significant utility for regional initiatives such as the Chesapeake Treasured Landscapes and the Captain John Smith Water Trail.

Another key component to the NHPlan is maintaining an inventory of all protected lands in Virginia. Toward this end, the Department has developed the Conservation Lands Database. This database addresses the requirements of § 10.1-1021(1)(b) of the *Code of Virginia*, which directs VLCF 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 Conservation Lands Database includes local, state, and national parks, university lands, as well as privately held protected lands and conservation easements with parcel-level boundaries and attributes. These lands are mapped to the parcel level for a comprehensive spatial dataset of lands that serve conservation, recreation, and open-space purposes. The database is refined for accuracy on a daily basis. Parcel information related to management intent, legal protection status, dates of initial conservation action, and boundary refinements are available to the conservation community. New parcels are constantly incorporated into the Conservation Lands Database, through regular data sharing between DCR and other state agencies, localities, land trusts, and other conservation organizations.

The Conservation Lands Database is available to the public through DCR’s Natural Heritage Data Explorer (NHDE) website at <https://vanhde.org/>. This mapping website allows users to view, query, and explore conservation lands data in the context of several base layers (i.e. aerial photography, hydrologic data, jurisdictional boundaries, etc.) and alongside other maps of natural and cultural resource features (Virginia ConservationVision). Information on the Conservation Lands Database is available at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/clinfo> where GIS shapefiles can be downloaded for use in any GIS. The Conservation Lands Database is also an important tool for the Chesapeake Bay Program in establishing and tracking progress on land conservation related goals for the 2025 Watershed Agreement. LandScope Chesapeake is an interactive website designed to inform and inspire land conservation throughout the Bay watershed. The website was developed in cooperation with the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership and is maintained by NatureServe with major staff and conservation information support from DCR.

Virginia Natural Heritage has worked to integrate the Virginia Conservation Lands Database into the PAD-US (Protected Areas Dataset for the United States) and NCED (National Conservation Easements Database), two national efforts to map protected lands. The PAD-US manages national public lands data, while the NCED concentrates on private conservation easements. Virginia Natural Heritage is considered the state’s data aggregator for both efforts, and has developed streamlined ways to efficiently share current public lands and easement data in the specific formats requested by PAD-US and NCED.

DCR’s Natural Heritage Program also maintains Virginia ConservationVision, formerly known as the Virginia Conservation Lands Needs Assessment (VCLNA). ConservationVision is a set of seven statewide GIS models, which are available to the public as conservation planning maps that quantify relative importance of Ecological, Cultural, Recreational, Forested, Agricultural, and Watershed values throughout the Commonwealth, as well as Development Vulnerability relative to all these conservation values. The

Foundation provided funding for the development of these conservation tools, available at <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvision> and on the NHDE website. These models have been used by many state and local governments, Planning District Commissions, and conservation organizations, to provide explicit, quantitative guidance in the development of Green Infrastructure plans, strategic conservation plans, comprehensive plan revisions, and various other land use and conservation prioritization decisions.

The following is a brief description of the available GIS models that make up Virginia ConservationVision:

1. Virginia Natural Landscape Assessment

The Virginia Natural Landscape Assessment is a landscape-scale, geospatial analysis for identifying, prioritizing, and connecting natural lands. The analysis was piloted in 2004 in the Virginia Coastal Zone, expanded to a statewide model in 2007, and recently updated in 2017. The VaNLA uses land cover data to identify continuous natural habitats called Ecological Cores, which are large patches of natural land with at least 100 acres of interior cover. Interior cover begins 100 meters inward from edges caused by fragmenting features, such as roads or utility corridors, and the edge zones are added to the interior areas to create Ecological Cores. Smaller features called Habitat Fragments, with 10 to 99 acres of interior cover, are included because they support other VaNLA features and because they are important in localities with few large patches of natural land. The predominant cover in Ecological Cores statewide is forest, but marshes, beaches, and dunes are significant components where they are abundant and meet minimum size requirements. Ecological Cores are ranked by integrity, from C1-Outstanding to C5-General Ecological Integrity, to reflect the wide range of important benefits and ecosystem services they provide, including biodiversity conservation, wildlife habitat, aesthetic values, recreational opportunities, and protections for air and water quality. Ecological Cores are connected by Landscape Corridors to create a statewide network of the highest priority lands, known as the Natural Lands Network, and are aggregated along with contiguous natural cover into larger planning units called Natural Landscape Blocks. A set of special Landscape Corridors containing a great diversity of environments were selected and expanded for potential conservation as climate corridors to maintain connectivity to allow species movement between elevations, between latitudes, and inland from the ocean.

2. Cultural Resources Preservation Index

The Cultural Resources Preservation Index, developed by the Department of Historic Resources, displays the likelihood of a given location having conservation value when considering known and evaluated cultural heritage resources. The dataset includes unprotected National Historic Landmarks, lands categorized as "Priority 1, Class A Battlefield Study Areas," and lands related to the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register or with potential for eligibility in these registers. The index is ranked from 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest) and shows the highest priority occurring within broad hexagons to obscure locations of sensitive resources. Criteria may be refined or expanded

in the future based on DHR's cultural resource data. The index can be used to prioritize lands for protection of significant cultural resources.

3. Recreational Model

The Recreational Model quantifies public access to outdoor recreation, based on the number and size of recreational resources, such as trails, parks, and fishing lakes within a 30-minute drive. The model output consists of two spatial datasets representing access to aquatic and terrestrial recreational resources, in which values range from 0 (no access within 30 minutes) to 100 (abundant access). DCR's Division of Natural Heritage worked closely with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and DCR's Division of Planning and Recreation Resources to acquire the most current data describing a variety of recreational resources, including public hunting areas, water access sites, fishing areas, wildlife watching areas, parks, trails and other publicly accessible recreational resources. The 2017 draft update of the Recreation Model can be viewed as a web map on the NHDE and in ArcGIS Online, and will be made available for download from the Virginia ConservationVision website when the final version is released.

4. Forest Conservation Value (FCV) Model

The Forest Conservation Value (FCV) Model is a tool designed by the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) to strategically identify the highest priority forestland for conservation in Virginia. The intent is to maximize the efficiency of limited resources by focusing conservation efforts on the highest quality, most productive and most vulnerable forestland statewide. The model was created in 2013 and updated with current data and a new approach in 2018. The 2018 FCV model evaluates a number of criteria, including size of forested blocks, connectivity to other conserved lands, management potential, watershed integrity, and threat of conversion to prioritize the highest value forestlands for conservation. The model ranks all forestland in Virginia from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) FCV. It is intended to be used by natural resource professionals, conservation practitioners, and local and statewide planners as a tool for planning and prioritization.

5. Agricultural Model

The Agricultural Model, revised in 2015, quantifies the relative suitability of lands for agricultural activity. The model output is a spatial dataset with agricultural value ranging from 0 (unsuitable) to 100 (optimal). Agricultural value is assessed primarily based on three measures of soil suitability, derived from the gSSURGO soils geodatabase produced by the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). In addition, the model accounts for current land cover and travel time to markets in the final valuation. Staff at NRCS and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) were consulted during development of the model. The model can be viewed as a web map on the NHDE and in ArcGIS Online, and the dataset is available for download from the Virginia ConservationVision website.

6. Watershed Model

The Watershed Model, revised in 2017, quantifies the relative importance of lands for protecting water quality and maintaining watershed integrity. The purpose of the model is to establish geographic priorities for conservation, restoration, or urban stormwater management, depending on land cover type. The model output consists of three spatial datasets representing the three mutually exclusive priorities, with values ranging from 0 (lowest priority) to 100 (highest priority). The model incorporates topographic and soil characteristics related to erodibility and runoff potential; position in the landscape relative to hydrological features and drinking water sources; and subwatershed integrity based on landscape composition, aquatic species assemblages, and estimated pollution loads. In addition to publicly available data, the model incorporates data from the Virginia Commonwealth University Center for Environmental Sciences, DCR's Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and the Virginia Department of Health - Office of Drinking Water. The model can be viewed as a web map on the NHDE and in ArcGIS Online, and the dataset is available for download from the Virginia ConservationVision website.

7. Development Vulnerability Model

The Development Vulnerability Model, revised in 2015, quantifies the relative risk of conversion from natural, rural, or other open space lands to urbanized or other built-up land uses. The model output is a spatial dataset in which the relative vulnerability of lands ranges from 0 (not developable) to 100 (most vulnerable). Cells in which development has already occurred are coded 101. The model is based on travel times to three development attractors: general urban areas, major metropolitan areas, and impervious growth hotspots. The underlying assumption is that risk of development increases logarithmically with decreasing travel times. The model also incorporates the legal protection status and management intent of conserved lands, mitigating or eliminating development risk where applicable. The model can be viewed as a web map on the NHDE and in ArcGIS Online, and the dataset is available for download from the Virginia ConservationVision website.

The Natural Heritage Program continues to support implementation of products that provide ConservationVision to localities and land trusts for specific uses to prioritize their conservation efforts. This implementation effort began with a survey of hundreds of conservation partners in Virginia, to assess what components of the ConservationVision are most valuable to them, and to determine the most efficient means of sharing these data. Natural Heritage delivers ConservationVision "packages" to conservation partners, in formats and geographic extents that are targeted at their needs. This implementation includes training sessions and ongoing follow-up support to help guide the local uses of these tools.

Along with the Conservation Sites Database and the Conservation Lands Database, ConservationVision is utilized to assess grant projects submitted to the Foundation for funding consideration. These maps prioritize pertinent conservation values and are used in scoring potential lands in all VLCF interest areas, alongside other criteria. Furthermore, other state agencies (e.g. Department of Forestry and Virginia Department of

Agriculture and Consumer Services) and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation rely on specific ConservationVision maps to screen potential conservation easement lands.

Additionally, DCR-Natural Heritage has recently completed a multi-year effort to develop maps that summarize predicted areas of suitable habitat for all 138 state and federal listed threatened and endangered species in Virginia. Also referred to as Species Distribution Modeling (SDM), this work has led to a one-of-a-kind set of geospatial map layers and datasets for incorporation into the Natural Heritage Plan, the Natural Heritage Data Explorer, the land protection and NAP management decisions at DCR-Natural Heritage, as well as the data and information shared with a variety of partners in both the conservation and development communities. In short, SDM utilizes biological inventory data managed at Natural Heritage (i.e. again, Element Occurrence data and the Conservation Sites database), and using quantifiable environmental and habitat characteristics associated with those known species locations, uses statistical and GIS software to predict other areas with suitable habitat for each species. Thus, suitable habitat is predicted and mapped for each species throughout its Virginia range, encompassing areas where field inventory has not been feasible to date, so that statewide suitable habitat maps can be used in conservation planning and environmental review. The NHP's SDM work was supplied throughout the east coast for a subset of federal Threatened and Endangered species, with funding from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and via partnership with Natural Heritage Programs in Florida, New York, and Pennsylvania. The SDM work at Virginia Natural Heritage is recognized as a model for SDM efforts in other states and USFWS regions.

The Natural Heritage Plan and the assemblage of conservation information and tools developed by DCR's Natural Heritage Program greatly assist VLCF with strategic planning. These tools will continue to be developed, updated, and refined to enable objective evaluations of VLCF proposals, planning of future natural area conservation needs, and fulfillment of information requests from land planners and managers at the local, state, and federal levels.

Strategic Plan Development

Subdivision (1)(a) of § 10.1-1021 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 current strategic plan is embodied in the grant program guidelines approved by the VLCF Board most recently on May 24, 2017. This document clearly addresses how the unrestricted moneys are to be expended through grants and delineates what categories the funding is to be used for, who is eligible, what the match requirements are, and what evaluation criteria are to be used to judge the applications. The plan may be found at: www.dcr.virginia.gov/virginia_land_conservation_foundation/.

These revised grant criteria guided the review of applications received during the May 24 through August 10, 2017 grant round that was considered by the Board at their meeting on September 19, 2017. As in the past, all of the technical information collected from these grant applicants was evaluated by an interagency task force.

The interagency task force is 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, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation. Through this rigorous multi-agency review and scoring process, only those proposals that best serve the purposes of the Foundation and that make the best fiscal sense are recommended to the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Board of Trustees.

The Foundation has also made significant progress on development of a state-of-the-art land conservation information system and decision support tool, with the completion of the Conservation Lands and Conservation Sites Databases, and the continued development of the ConservationVision support tool. These products have assisted the Foundation in ranking and selecting priority land preservation projects and the Foundation continues to seek ways to more effectively leverage these tools and utilize staff expertise to make VLCF land-conservation decisions.

APPENDIX A: HISTORIC STATUS OF PAST VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION GRANTS

More detailed information on the following grant rounds (1999 through 2015) can be found in prior VLCF reports, available at <http://lis.virginia.gov/lis.htm>.

Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 1999 Grant Round)

In FY1999-2000, the VLCF received an appropriation of \$1.75 million from the Water Quality Improvement Fund in accordance with Chapter 935 of the 1999 Acts of Assembly. The Foundation Board made grants from the \$1.75 million appropriation on December 1, 1999. Twenty applications totaling \$5.8 million were received. The Foundation awarded \$1,688,842 in competitive grant funds to 11 projects to conserve 1,267 acres and earmarked funds for a 12th project, The Big Survey (Table 8). Of the FY1999-2000 grants awarded, the Foundation actually paid \$1,303,399 in competitive grant funds to 8 projects conserving 1,136.87 acres. **All grants from this grant round have been closed.** In addition to the 8 grant projects that were completed, \$29,430 was awarded to the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries project to reimburse them for expenses associated with the purchase of The Big Survey. Three projects originally awarded funds were withdrawn and funds were reverted to the General Fund (\$313,255) during FY03 budget reductions. From the balance of remaining funds from this appropriation, \$22,188 was carried forward to the FY05 grant round, thus zeroing out any remaining balances.

In 2016, \$50,000 was returned to VLCF as unexpended funds remaining after the closure of the Indian River Park Acquisition project. These funds were reallocated to the September 2016 (FY17) grant round.

Table 8: Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 1999 Grant Round)

Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Acres
Open Space						
McAfee Knob Carter Land	6	43,800	72	09-2000	43,800	72.00
Powhatan Creek Program	1	250,000	48	WITHDRAWN	250,000 Reverted to GF – budget reduction	
Indian River Park Acquisition	4	100,000	108	06-2001	50,000	90.00
Natural Areas						
Powers Tract, NW River Watershed	4	286,000	187	05-2003	286,000	172.27
Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	1	150,012	225	07-2000	150,012	254.00
Cultural and Historic						
Fort Christanna Preservation Project	5	50,975	34	WITHDRAWN	50,000 Reverted to GF – budget reduction	
Purchase of the Embrey Farm	1	225,000	30	01-2001	225,000	11.60
*Talbot Farm Cons. Easement	10	76,350	25	01-2001	76,350	25.00
Palmyra Lock & Mill Site	5	6,200	5	03-2002	5,557	5.00
James River Kanawha Canal Park Expansion	6	13,255	3	WITHDRAWN	13,255 Reverted to GF – budget reduction	
*Welbourne Farm Easement	10	50,000	530	02-2001	50,000	507.00
Agricultural and Forestal						
*Welbourne Farm Easement	10	258,250	above	02-2001	258,250	Above
Indian River Park Acquisition	4	100,000	above	06-2001	100,000	Above
Hickory Hollow Nature Trail	1	29,000	above	07-2000	29,000	above
Project Expense Subtotal			1,267		1,273,969	1,136.87
The Big Survey	9	50,000		08-2003	29,430	
Totals		\$1,688,842			1,303,399	

* Denotes Acquisition By Easement

Civil War Battlefield Grant Awards FY 2000-2001

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 (with \$17,996 unexpended) (Table 9). 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 (570 acres), Cedar Creek (150 acres), Kernstown (315 acres), and Third Winchester Battlefield (222 acres). In summary, 1,257 acres of battlefield were preserved through the expenditure of \$3,382,004.92. The unobligated amount (\$17,996) was reverted to the General Fund in FY01.

Table 9: 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	08-2000	700,000.00	222
Kernstown	350,000	315	09-2000	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 (January 4, 2001 Grant Round)

In FY2000-2001, the VLCF received an additional appropriation of \$9,600,000 in accordance with Chapter 1073 of the 2000 Virginia Acts of Assembly. From this appropriation, \$3,400,000 was designated for Civil War Battlefield acquisitions (see previous section) and \$1,550,000 was designated to the Open Space Preservation Trust Fund. This left \$4,650,000 in the 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. 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 for 3,302 acres (Table 10). All of these grant projects have been closed out. In total, \$3,730,783 was expended on 18 grants that protected 2,764.55 acres. One project, Garden Creek was withdrawn and the funds from this appropriation, \$155,000 was carried forward to the January 2009 grant round. Other funds remaining after project closure were allocated as follows: Waid Recreation Area (\$32,858) to the June 2005 grant round; and The Meadow (\$1,054) to the June 2007 grant round. Additionally, out of the \$4,711,158 available for grants, \$791,463 remained unobligated. Additionally, from the \$3,400,000 available for Civil War Battlefield acquisitions, \$17,996 remained unobligated. 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. The Foundation approved the reallocation of the \$17,995 to the June 2005 grant round.

Table 10: Competitive Grant Awards (January 4, 2001 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres	Final Match Acres
	Open Space							
1	Waid Recreation Area	5	126,255	134	10-2003	93,397	134.00	0
2	Mary B. Stratton Estate	7	75,000	154	06-2006	75,000	167.00	0
3	Whitt- Riverbend Park	9	110,000	28	09-2001	110,000	28.00	0
4	*Fairfax Cross County Trail	10**	30,000	3	01-2006	30,000	0.55	0
5	Keister Park	6	306,575	151	09-2002	306,575	151.00	0
6	Jamison's Cove Marina	1	245,955	2	05-2001	245,955	2.00	0
7	Williams Wharf	1	36,300	1	12-2004	36,300	0.40	0
8	*Yorktown Beach Trail	1	117,500	2	04-2004	117,500	1.60	0
	Natural Areas							
9	Garden Creek	1	155,000	623	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
10	Clinch River	9	196,640	458	04-2002	196,640	458.00	0
11	Oak Hickory Forest	10	729,250	180	02-2004	729,250	226.00	0
12	Cultural and Historic							
13	*North Meadow/ Carr Property	10	187,042	125	06-2002	187,042	125.00	0
14	Chancellorsville Battlefield	1	150,000	11	11-2001	150,000	11.00	0
15	Buhrman (Malvern Hill)	3	300,000	245	04-2001	300,000	245.00	0
16	Totopotomoy Battlefield	7	323,000	124	03-2001	323,000	124.00	0
	Agricultural and Forestal							
17	*Brush Creek Farm	9	72,747	94	05-2001	72,747	94.00	0
18	*Elgin Dairy Farm	10	317,000	314	08-2001	317,000	314.00	0
19	*The Meadow	1	359,625	535	11-2004	358,571	535.00	0
20	*Leonard Farm	9	81,806	118	04-2002	81,806	148.00	0
	Totals		\$3,919,695	3,302		\$3,730,783	2,764.55	0
<p>*Denotes Acquisition by Easement **Originally this project contained 3 easements in Congressional District 10 and one in 11; project modified to be one parcel in Congressional District 10</p>								

Competitive Grant Award Funding FY2001 through FY2003

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. This action was documented in Chapter 814 (caboose bill) of the 2002 Virginia Acts of Assembly.

No funds were appropriated to or received by the VLCF in FY2002-2003 (Chapter 899 of the 2002 Virginia Acts of Assembly and Chapter 1042 of the 2003 Virginia Acts of Assembly).

Competitive Grant Awards (June 7, 2005 Grant Round)

During the 2004 Session, Item H2, Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, provided \$2,500,000 the first year (FY05) and \$2,500,000 the second year (FY06) from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund. In addition to this funding, pursuant to Item K, Chapter 1042 of the 2003 Virginia Acts of Assembly and Item J, Chapter 4 of the 2004 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Special Session I, \$1,463,275 from vehicle registration fees was deposited at the end of FY04. Based on the funds available to the Foundation in FY05, the Board approved \$3,088,303 to be allocated to the June 2005 grant round (Table 11). On June 7, 2005, the Foundation’s Board of Trustees considered 23 applications totaling over \$6 million in requested funds. With the help of the Interagency Task Force, the Foundation Board reviewed the grant applications and awarded 12 grants for a total of \$3,027,665 for 6,587 acres (\$60,638 left unallocated and not awarded). **All of these grant projects have been closed out (Table 12).** In total, \$2,629,822.67 was expended on 11 grants that protected 6,552.80 acres. One project, Cedar Creek Bluff was withdrawn and the funds from this appropriation, \$244,793.50 were carried forward to the January 2009 grant round. Funds remaining after project closure were allocated to later grant rounds as follows: Gilvary Forest (\$12,528) to June 2007; Brandy Station (\$75,714.83) to June 2007; Black Farms (\$7,756) to June 2007, and Port Tobacco (\$57,050) to September 2011. Unallocated funds in the amount of \$60,638 were allocated to the December 2005 grant round.

Table 11: VLCF: Funding Source and Allocation for June 7, 2005 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Unallocated Principal Balance	Proposed Return of Unspent Grant	Interest	FY04 Vehicle Registration	Chapter 4 Appropriation Act	TOTAL
VOF			14,246	365,819	625,000	1,005,065
Open Space and Parks	17,995	32,858	10,684	274,364	468,750	804,668.50*
Natural Area Protection	0		10,684	274,364	468,750	753,815.50*
Historic Area Preservation	1,618		10,684	274,364	468,750	755,433.50*
Farmland and Forest Preservation	20,570		10,684	274,364	468,750	774,385.50*
Proposed Admin. Expenses FY05			136,300			136,300
Proposed Admin. Expenses FY06			140,000			140,000
TOTAL	40,183	32,858	333,282	1,463,275	2,500,000	4,369,668**
Amounts Reserved for Easement Projects (33% of the 4 use areas)				362,160	618,750	

Amounts reserved for Grant Program = \$3,070,303

* - Includes an additional \$17.50 from a \$70 donation

** - does not reflect FY05 interest or payments

Open Space and Parks		[FY01 \$17,995 Battlefield Earmarks – Cedar Creek; FY00 (January 2001) \$32,858 Waid Recreation Area]
Natural Area Protection		
Historic Area Preservation	1,618	[FY00 (December 1999) \$975 Fort Christanna Preservation Project; FY00 (December 1999) \$643 Palmyra Lock + Mill Site]
Farmland and Forest Preservation	20,570	[FY00 (December 1999) \$20,570 Big Survey]

Table 12: Competitive Grant Awards (June 7, 2005 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres	Final Match Acres
	Open Space							
1	*Cedar Creek Bluff	6	244,793.50	117	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
2	*Mount Pleasant Farm	6	100,000.00	106	07-2006	100,000.00	106.80	0
3	Fray Tract	7	190,500.00	550	08-2006	190,500.00	624.00	0
4	Fairview Park Acquisition	6	250,000.00	23	03-2006	250,000.00	23.00	0
5	Trevilian Station – Riveroak	7	19,375.00	938	02-2006	19,375.00	938.00	0
	Natural Areas							
6	Marks and Jacks Islands	2	500,000.00	2,000	08-2005	500,000.00	2,000.00	0
7	*Gilvary Forest	9	224,130.00	225	08-2006	211,602.00	233.00	0
	Historic Resources							
8	Fishers Hill	6	212,408.50	25	12-2007	212,408.50	25.00	0
9	Brandy Station	7	362,400.00	19	12-2005	286,685.17	19.00	0
10	Trevilian Station – Riveroak	7	180,625.00	See above	02-2006	180,625.00	See above	See above
	Agricultural and Forestal							
11	*Port Tobacco	1	258,000.00	1,803	08-2008	200,950.00	1,803.00	0
12	*Black Farms Property	2	400,000.00	222	12-2006	392,244.00	222.00	0
13	*Page Project (PDR)	5	85,433.00	559	08-2006	85,433.00	559.00	0
	Totals		\$3,027,665.00	6,587		\$2,629,822.67	6,552.80	0
* Denotes Acquisition by Easement								

Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 2005 Grant Round)

During the 2005 General Assembly Session, FY05 funding resulted in an appropriation of \$10 million to the Foundation in accordance with Chapter 951 of the 2005 Virginia Acts of Assembly. As the monies available for the June 2005 grant round had already been announced, the new monies were combined with FY06 funds for a total of \$9,721,434 available for a December 2005 grant round (Table 13). On December 1, 2005, the Foundation's Board of Trustees considered 52 applications totaling over \$30.8 million in requested funds. With the help of the Interagency Task Force, the Foundation Board reviewed the grant applications and awarded 22 grants for a total of \$9,717,411 for 7,822 acres. **All of these grant projects have been closed out (Table 14).** In total, \$9,015,182.92 was expended on 20 grants that protected 6,931.02 acres. Subsequent to the award, the Oaken Brow project was withdrawn. The \$600,000 allocated to the project was approved by the Foundation to be advanced to the June 2007 grant round as were the unallocated amounts of \$3,824 and \$199. Additionally, funds from the withdrawal of the Clinch/Pinnacle project for \$62,375 were also advanced to the June 2007 grant round. Remaining balances from the Brumley project (\$1), the Kelly's Ford Battlefield Overlook Park project (\$6,685), and the Portobago Creek project (\$11) were authorized for advancement to the January 2009 grant round.

Chapter 951 of the Virginia Acts of Assembly also reduced the amount of money available to the Foundation from the vehicle registration fees as the monies allocated ahead of these funds for other activities was increased from \$5 million to \$6 million with the remaining balance generated going to VLCF.

Table 13: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation
for December 1, 2005 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Interest	Unallocated Principal From June 05 Grant Round	FY05 Vehicle Registration	Chapter 951 Appropriation Act	Chapter 951 Appropriation Act	TOTAL
VOF	0	0	95,265	2,500,000	625,000	3,220,265.00
Open Space and Parks	0	0	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,415,199.00
Natural Area Protection	0	29,685.50	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,444,884.50
Historic Area Preservation	0	0	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,415,199.00
Farmland and Forest Preservation	0	30,952.50	71,449	1,875,000	468,750	2,446,151.50
Admin. Expenses FY07 proposed	198,700	0	0	0	0	198,700
Admin. Expenses FY08 proposed	182,000	0	0	0	0	182,000
TOTAL	380,700	60,638.00	381,061	10,000,000	2,500,000	13,322,399.00
Amounts reserved for Grant Program = \$9,721,434						
Amounts Reserved for Easement Projects (33% of the 4 use areas of the new monies)			94,312	2,475,000	618,750	3,188,062.00
Open Space and Parks						
Natural Area Protection		29,685.50	[Money not allocated to projects in FY05 (June 2005) grant round]			
Historic Area Preservation						
Farmland and Forest Preservation		30,952.50	[Money not allocated to projects in FY05 (June 2005) grant round]			

Table 14: Competitive Grant Awards (December 1, 2005 Grant Round)

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres	Final Match Acres
	Open Space							
1	Jamestown Campground & Yacht Basin	1	750,000.00	112.00	02-2007	750,000.00	104.50	0
2	Rappahannock Station Park	1	200,000.00	26.00	03-2009	200,000.00	26.00	0
3	Altavista/English Area Park Project	5	75,000.00	146.39	06-2009	75,000.00	146.39	0
4	Paradise Creek Eco-Park	4	500,000.00	18.50	12-2006	500,000.00	24.00	16.60
5	Chincoteague Acquisition Project	2	500,000.00	77.00	08-2006	500,000.00	77.00	47.93
6	Tobacco Heritage Trail Phase II	5	386,375.00	240.00	12-2009	386,375.00	607.00	0
	Historic Resources							
7	Huntsberry Farm Project	10	1,000,000.00	247.00	08-2009	1,000,000.00	247.00	0
8	*Hutchinson Farm/South Lot Project	10	135,000.00	25.00	07-2007	135,000.00	25.00	0
9	Lick Run Civil War Battlefield	1	500,000.00	134.00	12-2006	500,000.00	134.00	0
10	Kelly's Ford Battlefield Overlook Park	7	75,000.00	8.00	05-2007	68,315.00	8.00	0
11	Kippax Plantation	4	205,000.00	9.27	11-2006	205,000.00	9.27	0
12	*Four Mile Tree	3	500,000.00	306.00	06-2007	500,000.00	306.00	0
	Agricultural and Forestal							
13	*George Property	1	213,500.00	274.46	07-2007	213,500.00	274.46	0
14	*Oaken Brow Conservation Easement	2	600,000.00	589.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
15	*Meadow Grove Property	7	300,000.00	300.00	06-2006	300,000.00	346.00	0
16	Dragon Run Conservation Corridor	1	194,000.00	164.00	02-2007	194,000.00	165.60	251.00
17	Brumley Mountain	9	885,941.00	880.00	04-2008	885,941.00	880.00	0
18	*Portobago Creek Easement	1	252,710.50	1320.00	01-2007	252,700.00	1,320.00	0
	Natural Areas							
19	Cedars/Fletcher Ford	9	68,450.00	81.00	11-2008	35,292.92	54.60	0
20	Crow's Nest	1	500,000.00	1800.00	04-2008	500,000.00	1,170.30	0
21	Brumley Mountain	9	314,059.50	720.00	03-2008	314,059.00	720.00	0
22	Clinch River/Pinnacle	9	62,375.00	64.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
23	Bulls Pond	2	1,500,000.00	281.00	09-2006	1,500,000.00	285.90	0
	Totals		9,717,411.00	7,822.62		9,015,182.92	6,931.02	315.53

Competitive Grant Awards (June 13, 2007 Grant Round)

Chapter 3 of the 2006 General Assembly Special Session 1, Item 359E provided for \$2,500,000 in FY07 and \$2,500,000 in FY08 for Foundation grants. Chapter 847 of the 2007 Virginia Acts of Assembly increased each of these amounts to \$3,000,000. These two appropriations, combined with funds advanced from previous grant rounds, vehicle registration fee monies, and interest, totaled \$6,217,843 in funds for the June 2007 grant round (Table 15). During the November 15, 2006 through January 16, 2007 grant round, the Foundation received 31 applications requesting \$13,460,425 from the Foundation. The total project costs including applicant match were \$41,054,084 and would have protected 13,128 acres if all were funded. With the help of the Interagency Task Force, the Foundation Board reviewed the grant applications and awarded on June 13, 2007, 15 grants for a total of \$6,217,843 for 11,539 acres. **All of these grant projects have been closed out (Table 16).** In total, \$5,447,399 was expended on 13 grants that protected 10,543.31 acres. Two projects, Bull Pasture River Acquisition and Charlton Hill Easement were withdrawn and the funds from these appropriations, \$536,200 and \$108,590 respectively were carried forward to the September 2011 and January 2009 grant rounds respectively. Funds remaining after project closure were allocated to the September 2011 grant round as follows: Gallohan-Surgenor Cave System (\$6,177); Sweet Spring Hollow (\$116,364); and Lower Blackwater River (\$3,113).

Table 15: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for June 13, 2007 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Unallocated Principal Balance	Interest (thru 06/30/06)	FY06 Vehicle Registration	Chapter 3 (FY07) Appropriation Act	Chapter 3 (FY08) Appropriation Act	Chapter 847 (FY07)	Chapter 847 (FY08)	Unallocated Principal Balance	Interest allocation	TOTAL	
VOF	0	47,240	195,890	625,000	625,000	125,000	125,000	0	75,000	1,818,130	
Open Space and Parks	3,824	35,430	146,918	468,750	468,750	93,750	93,750	0	56,250	1,367,422	
Natural Area Protection	0	35,420	146,918	468,750	468,750	93,750	93,750	74,903.00	56,250	1,438,501	
Historic Area Preservation	78,082	35,420	146,918	468,750	468,750	93,750	93,750	-2,168.17	56,250	1,439,512	
Farmland and Forest Preservation	601,054	35,420	146,918	468,750	468,750	93,750	93,750	7,756.00	56,250	1,972,408	
TOTAL	682,960	188,960	783,562	2,500,000	2,500,000	500,000	500,000	80,490.83	300,000.00	8,035,973	
Amounts reserved for Grant Program = \$6,217,843											
Open Space and Parks	3,824	[FY06 (December 2005) \$3,824 Unexpended – Easement]									
Natural Area Protection	0						74,903	[FY05 (June 2005) \$12,528 Gilvary Forest; FY06 (December 2005) \$62,375 Clinch River/ Pinnacle]			
Historic Area Preservation	75,913.83	[FY06 (December 2005) \$199 Unexpended Easement; FY05 (June 2005) \$75,714.83 Brandy Station – Acquisition]									
Farmland and Forest Preservation	601,054	[FY06 (December 2005) \$600,000 Oaken Brow – easement; FY01 (January 2001) \$1,054 The Meadow – Easement]					7,756	[FY05 (June 2005) \$7,756 Black Farms]			

Table 16: Competitive Grant Awards (June 13, 2007 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres	Final Match Acres
1	Open Space							
2	Paradise Creek Nature Park	3	300,000	15.60	11-2007	300,000	15.60	0
3	Merrimac Farm	11	820,773	302.00	01-2008	820,773	302.00	0
4	Bullpasture River Acquisition	6	246,649	177.62	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
	Natural Areas							
5	*Galohan-Surgenor Cave System	9	315,000	330.00	06-2007	308,823	285.80	0
6	*Blackwater River – Old Growth	4	400,000	500.00	08-2012	400,000	500.00	0
7	*Sweet Spring Hollow	9	225,950	232.00	07-2009	109,586	232.00	0
8	*Lower Blackwater River	4	208,000	415.00	02-2009	204,887	416.00	0
9	Bullpasture River Acquisition	6	289,551	See above	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
	Historic Areas							
10	*Montpelier	7	700,000	700.00	08-2009	700,000	700.00	0
11	Cooley Farm	10	539,512	189.00	04-2008	539,512	189.00	0
12	Historic Dunn’s Meadow Property	9	200,000	8.96	10-2009	200,000	8.96	0
	Forests and Farmlands							
13	Brumley Mountain	9	1,030,000	3,200.00	04-2008	1,030,000	3,236.00	0
14	Big Woods	4	300,000	4,915.00	06-2010	300,000	4,192.95	0
15	*Charlton Hill Easement	1	108,590	89.19	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
16	*Marlboro Angus: Snapp Farm	10	250,000	151.00	02-2008	250,000	151.00	0
17	*Ingles Ferry Farm	9	283,818	314.00	08-2009	283,818	314.00	0
	Totals		6,217,843	11,539.37		5,447,399	10,543.31	

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement

Competitive Grant Awards (January 7, 2009 Grant Round)

Chapter 879 of the 2008 Virginia Acts of Assembly provided for \$2,000,000 in FY09 and \$2,000,000 in FY10 for Foundation grants. These two appropriations, combined with funds advanced from previous grant rounds, vehicle registration fee monies, and interest, totaled \$4,310,945 in funds available for the January 2009 grant round (Table 17). During the August 15, 2008 through October 10, 2008 grant round, the Foundation received 22 applications requesting more than \$5.4 million in grants. The total project costs including applicant match were \$20,886,959 and would have protected 8,797 acres if all were funded. The Board met on January 7, 2009, to consider these applications and approved \$4,310,945 in grant awards for 16 projects to protect 10,110 acres. **All of these grant projects have been closed out (Table 18).** Funds from the withdrawn project (\$150,000) for a tract on the Appalachian Trail were carried forward to the September 2011 grant round. Funds remaining after closure of Unthanks Cave Natural Area Acquisition (\$16,882) and the Ott Farm PDR Easement in Fauquier County (\$15,122) projects also were allocated to the September 2011 grant round. Funds remaining after closure of Blackwater River – Old Growth 2 (\$92,500) were allocated to the December 2012 grant round. A balance of \$305 remained from the Blackwater River – Old Growth 2 project, which was allocated to the January 2015 grant round.

Table 17: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for January 7, 2009 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Prior Project Balances	Canceled Projects	FY07 Vehicle Registration	FY07 Vehicle Registration	Chapter 879 (FY09) Appropriation Act	Chapter 879 (FY10) Appropriation Act	TOTAL
VOF	0	0	0	99,470	500,000	500,000	1,099,470
Open Space and Parks	0	244,794	124,363	74,603	375,000	375,000	1,193,760
Natural Area Protection	1	155,000	124,363	74,603	375,000	375,000	1,103,967
Historic Area Preservation	6,685	0	124,363	74,603	375,000	375,000	955,651
Farmland and Forest Preservation	11	108,590	124,363	74,603	375,000	375,000	1,057,567
TOTAL	6,697	508,384	497,452	397,882	2,000,000	2,000,000	5,410,415
Amount reserved for Grant Program = \$4,310,945							
Open Space and Parks	244,793.50	[Withdrawn: FY05 (June 2005) Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation: Cedar Creek Bluff Easement, for \$244,793.50]					
Natural Area Protection	155,001	[Withdrawn: FY01 (January 2001) Middle Peninsula Land Trust: Garden Creek/ Winter Harbor Acquisition, for \$155,000] [Unexpended: FY06 (December 2005) Department of Forestry: Brumley Mountain, \$1]					
Historic Area Preservation	6,685	[Unexpended: FY06 (December 2005) Brandy Station Foundation: Kelly's Ford Battlefield Overlook Park, \$6,685]					
Farmland and Forest Preservation	108,601	[Withdrawn: FY07 (June 2007) Chesapeake Bay Foundation: Charlton Hill Easement, for \$108,590] [Unexpended: FY06 (December 2005) The Trust for Public Land: Portobago Creek, \$11]					

FUNDING CATEGORIES	FY09 FUNDS AVAILABLE	FY10 FUNDS AVAILABLE	TOTAL AVAILABLE
Open Space and Parks	818,760	375,000	1,193,760
Natural Area Protection	728,967	375,000	1,103,967
Historic Area Preservation	580,651	375,000	955,651
Farmland & Forest Preservation	682,567	375,000	1,057,567
TOTAL	2,810,945	1,500,000	4,310,945

Table 18: Competitive Grant Awards (January 7, 2009 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres	Final Match Acres
	Open Space							
1	Crow's Nest Acquisition Phase 2	1	11,812	1,100.00	07-2009	11,812	1,100.00	0
2	White's Ford Regional Park	10	150,000	274.58	07-2010	150,000	295.00	0
3	Appomattox River Conservation Area	4	280,000	80.00	06-2010	280,000	80.00	0
4	Short Hills Acquisition	6	239,500	3,682.00	07-2009	239,500	4,900.00	0
5	Nelson Tract, Appalachian Trail	9	150,000	177.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
6	Big Woods	4	362,448	610.00	06-2010	362,448	1,286.43	0
	Natural Areas							
7	Crow's Nest Acquisition Phase 2	1	787,162	See above	07-2009	787,162	See above	0
8	Unthanks Cave Natural Area Acquisition	9	150,500	140.00	04-2010	133,618	148.65	0
9	Blackwater River – Old Growth 2	4	166,305	2,000.00	08-2012	73,500	2,144.00	0
	Historic Areas							
10	Adam Thoroughgood House National Historic Landmark	2	425,000	2.50	06-2010	425,000	2.50	0
11	Pamplin Pipe Factory	5	61,000	2.96	07-2009	61,000	2.96	0
12	B. Williams & Co. Store	1	345,000	0.98	11-2009	345,000	0.98	0
13	*Cool Spring Farm	10	123,625	204.00	11-2009	123,625	216.00	0
14	Crow's Nest Acquisition Phase 2	1	1,026	See above	07-2009	1,026	See above	0
	Farm and Forestlands							
15	*Richardson PDR, Northampton	1	250,000	268.00	06-2009	250,000	268.00	0
16	*Clarke County Dairy Farm	10	146,000	216.00	09-2009	146,000	216.00	0
17	*Frank C. Ott Farm PDR	1	198,400	280.00	01-2011	183,278	279.00	0
18	*Feedstone Hunt Club	6	275,615	1,072.00	02-2010	275,615	1,101.00	0
19	Big Woods	4	187,552	See above	06-2010	187,552	See above	
	Totals		4,310,945	10,110.02		4,036,136	12,040.52	

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement

Competitive Grant Awards (September 13, 2011 Grant Round)

Chapter 874 of the 2010 Virginia Acts of Assembly and Chapter 890 of the 2011 Virginia Acts of Assembly provided for \$500,000 in FY11 and \$1,500,000 in FY12 to the Foundation. These two appropriations, combined with funds advanced from previous grant rounds, vehicle registration fee monies, and interest, totaled \$2,404,408 in funds for the September 2011 grant round (Table 19). During the May 10, 2011 through July 12, 2011 grant round, the Foundation received 27 applications requesting over \$5.9 million in grants. The total project costs including applicant match were \$33,883,335 and would have protected 4,213 acres if all were funded. The Board met on September 13, 2011, to consider these applications and approved \$2,404,408 in grant awards for 17 projects to protect 2,513 acres. **All of these grant projects have been closed out (Table 20).** Funds from two withdrawn projects: General Jackson's Amputation Site grant (\$70,875) and the Cheroenhaka Protected Land (\$150,000) were carried forward to the January 2015 grant round. Additionally, three grant projects closed under budget leaving balances, which were allocated to the January 2015 grant round: the South Quay NAP project left a balance of \$56,677; Pitchers for the Public left a balance of \$6,500; and Roanoke River Greenway had a balance of \$14,207.

Table 19: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation
for September 13, 2011 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Prior Project Balances	Canceled Projects	FY09 Vehicle Registration	Chapter 874 (FY11) Appropriation Act	Chapter 874 (FY12) Appropriation Act	HB1500ER2 (FY12) Appropriation Act	TOTAL
VOF	0	0	1,166	125,000	125,000	250,000	501,166
Open Space and Parks	0	396,649	875	93,750	93,750	187,500	772,524
Natural Area Protection	142,536	289,551	875	93,750	93,750	187,500	807,962
Historic Area Preservation	6,0	0	875	93,750	93,750	187,500	375,875
Farmland and Forest Preservation	72,172	0	875	93,750	93,750	187,500	448,047
TOTAL	214,708	686,200	4,666	500,000	500,000	1,000,000	2,905,574

Amount reserved for Grant Program = \$2,404,408

\$28,388 in FY07 Interest allocated to FY12 Administrative Expenses (Total authorized by Board: \$2,933,962)

Open Space and Parks	396,649	[Withdrawn: FY08 (June 2007) DGIF: Bullpasture for \$246,649; FY09 (January 2009) Appalachian Trail Conservancy: Nelson Tract for \$150,000]
Natural Area Protection	432,087	[Withdrawn: FY08 (June 2007) DGIF: Bullpasture for \$289,551] [Unexpended: FY08 (June 2007) New River Land Trust: Sweet Spring Hollow for 116,364; FY08 (June 2007) The Nature Conservancy: Gallohan Surgenor Caves for \$6,177; FY08 (June 2007) The Nature Conservancy: Lower Blackwater for \$3,113; FY10 (January 2009) The Nature Conservancy: Unthanks Cave for \$16,882]
Historic Area Preservation	0	
Farmland and Forest Preservation	72,172	[Unexpended: FY06 (June 2005) Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Port Tobacco, for \$57,050; FY10 (January 2010) Fauquier County PDR Program – Ott Farm PDR, for \$15,122]

FUNDING CATEGORIES	FY11 FUNDS AVAILABLE	FY12 FUNDS AVAILABLE	TOTAL AVAILABLE
Open Space and Parks	491,274	281,250	772,524
Natural Area Protection	526,712	281,250	807,962
Historic Area Preservation	94,625	281,250	375,875
Farmland & Forest Preservation	166,797	281,250	448,047
TOTAL	1,279,408	1,125,000	\$2,404,408

Table 20: Competitive Grant Awards (September 13, 2011 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres	Final Match Acres
	Open Space							
1	Lynnhaven Estuary Protection	2	500,000	82.00	07-2012	500,000	82.00	0
2	Gilbert's Corner Regional Park	10	200,000	68.28	11-2013	200,000	68.28	0
3	*Island Farm – Cedar Creek Battlefield	6	13,937	See below	10-2014	13,937	See below	0
4	Roanoke River Greenway	6	33,825	8.78	12-2013	19,618	8.78	0
5	*Whitehall Trail Easement	1	24,762	9.37	06-2014	24,762	9.37	0
	Natural Areas							
6	Cedars NAP, Bowen Tract	9	250,000	296.00	12-2012	250,000	284.00	0
7	South Quay NAP	4	262,500	514.00	06-2013	205,823	444.00	0
8	Cheroenhaka Protected Land	4	150,000	155.73	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
9	*Smooth Coneflower Habitat	9	145,462	165.00	10-2012	145,462	257.38	0
	Historic Areas							
10	*Island Farm – Cedar Creek Battlefield	6	225,000	174.00	10-2014	225,000	174.00	0
11	*Werowocomoco	1	80,000	60.00	12-2012	80,000	57.58	0
12	Gen. Jackson's Amputation Site	1	70,875	81.69	WITHDRAWN	0	0	0
	Farm and Forestlands							
13	*Arkfeld Farm	10	40,000	200.00	11-2013	40,000	200.00	0
14	*Island Ford Farm	6	82,500	150.00	07-2013	82,500	150.00	0
15	*Moore & Dorsey	10	80,000	151.00	11-2013	80,000	151.00	0
16	*Noland PDR Project	1	52,047	168.50	05-2012	52,047	168.54	0
17	Pitchers for the Public	1	56,500	17.00	12-2013	50,000	17.00	0
18	*Upper Hoskins Creek	1	137,000	211.70	01-2012	137,000	211.70	0
	Totals		2,404,408	2,513.05		2,106,149	2,283.63	0

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement

Competitive Grant Awards (December 6, 2012 Grant Round)

Chapter 3 of the 2012 Virginia Acts of Assembly provided \$1,000,000 in FY13 and \$1,000,000 in FY14 to the Foundation. These two appropriations, combined with funds advanced from previous grant rounds totaled \$2,092,500. Of this amount, \$1,592,500 was available for this grant round (Table 21). During the August 24, 2012, through October 24, 2012, grant round, the Foundation received 15 applications requesting nearly \$2.8 million in grants. The total project costs including applicant match were \$8,293,430 and would have protected 2,366 acres if all were funded. The Board met on December 6, 2012, to consider these applications and approved \$1,569,250 in grant awards for 12 projects to protect 1,858 acres. **All of these grant projects have now been closed out (Table 22).** An unexpended balance of \$23,250 remained in the Natural Heritage Unprogrammed Funds that was carried forward to the January 6, 2015 grant round. Funds from two withdrawn projects: South Quay Natural Area Preserve Project, Phase II for \$155,000 and the Prillaman Farm for \$102,871 were carried forward to the January 2015 grant round. Additionally, the Chapman Farm project closed leaving an unexpended balance of \$1,396, which was also allocated to the January 2015 grant round. Subsequently, The Coneflower Habitat – Milton Farm Phase II project closed leaving an unexpended balance of \$35,512 and the Belmont Bay Farm Phase I project for \$250,000 was withdrawn. These funds were carried forward to be awarded in the September 2016 grant round.

Table 21: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for December 6, 2012 Grant Awards

Funding Categories	Prior Project Balances	Chapter 3 (FY13) Appropriation Act	Chapter 3 (FY14) Appropriation Act	TOTAL
VOF	0	250,000	250,000	500,000
Open Space and Parks	0	187,500	187,500	375,000
Natural Area Protection	92,500	187,500	187,500	467,500
Historic Area Preservation	0	187,500	187,500	375,000
Farmland and Forest Preservation	0	187,500	187,500	375,000
TOTAL		1,000,000	1,000,000	2,092,500

Amount reserved for Grant Program = \$1,592,500

Open Space and Parks	0	
Natural Area Protection	92,500	[Unexpended: FY10 (January 2009) The Nature Conservancy: Lower Blackwater for \$92,500] [Balance of an additional \$305 from this project not programmed; to be advanced in a future grant round]
Historic Area Preservation	0	
Farmland and Forest Preservation	0	

FUNDING CATEGORIES	FY13 FUNDS AVAILABLE	FY14 FUNDS AVAILABLE	TOTAL AVAILABLE
Open Space and Parks	187,500	187,500	375,000
Natural Area Protection	280,000	187,500	467,500
Historic Area Preservation	187,500	187,500	375,000
Farmland & Forest Preservation	187,500	187,500	375,000
TOTAL	842,500	750,000	1,592,500

Table 22: Competitive Grant Awards (December 6, 2012 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres
	Open Spaces and Parks						
1	Jackson House at Ball's Bluff	10	\$125,000	See below	06-2014	\$125,000	See below
2	*Belmont Bay Farm Phase I	8	\$250,000	115.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
	Natural Areas						
3	*Coneflower Habitat – Milton Farm Phase II	9	\$169,250	165.00	04-2015	\$169,250	165.00
4	South Quay NAP Phase II	4	\$155,000	310.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
5	Clinch River Cleveland to Artrip Conservation Area	9	\$120,000	100.00	06-2016	\$84,488	159.00
	Historic Areas						
6	Jackson House at Ball's Bluff	10	\$50,000	3.22	06-2014	\$50,000	3.22
7	* Prillaman Farm/Gabriel Jones Farm	6	\$102,871	92.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
8	*Chapman Farm	10	\$100,000	140.00	11-2013	\$98,604	140.00
9	Crew House Tract at Malvern Hill	3	\$122,129	1.00	05-2013	\$122,129	1.00
	Farm and Forestlands						
10	*Messick Farm PDR	1	\$100,000	408.30	05-2013	\$100,000	408.30
11	*Dorsey Orchard Tract	10	\$61,250	68.00	12-2014	\$61,250	68.00
12	*Sundance Properties	6	\$151,750	206.00	01-2014	\$151,750	206.00
13	*BLD Farms Rose Hill	4	\$62,000	249.91	04-2013	\$62,000	249.91
	Awarded Grant Totals		\$1,569,250	1,858.43		\$1,024,471	1,400.43
	Natural Heritage Unprogrammed Funds		\$23,250				
	Available Grant Funds		\$1,592,500				

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement

Competitive Grant Awards (January 6, 2015 Grant Round)

Chapter 3 of the 2014 Special Session Virginia Acts of Assembly provided \$1,000,000 in FY15 and \$1,000,000 in FY16 to the Foundation. These two appropriations, combined with unexpended funds advanced from previous grant rounds, after accounting for a reduction of a \$300,000 transfer to the General Fund, totaled \$2,281,081. Of this amount, \$1,781,081 was available for this grant round (Table 23). During the October 24, 2014 through November 24, 2014 grant round, the Foundation received 23 applications requesting nearly \$4.0 million in grants. The total project costs including applicant match were \$14,264,837 and would have protected 6,343 acres if all were funded. The Board met on January 6, 2015, to consider these applications and approved \$1,781,081 in grant awards for 14 projects to protect 5,731 acres (Table 24). As of the date of this report, twelve of the 14 projects have been completed. The Lee County Cave Isopod Habitat Protection grant project did not expend all of the funds awarded and the remainder (\$38,842) will be carried forward to the next grant round and reissued in the Natural Area Protection category.

Table 23: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for January 6, 2015 Grant Awards

	FUNDING CATEGORIES	Prior Project Balances	Withdrawn Project Balances	Cash Balance Reduction	CHAPTER 3 (FY15) APPROPRIATION ACT	CHAPTER 3 (FY16) APPROPRIATION ACT	TOTAL
1.	VOF				\$250,000	\$250,000	\$500,000
2.	Open Space and Parks	\$14,207		(\$14,207)	\$187,500	\$187,500	\$375,000
3.	Natural Area Protection	\$80,232	\$305,000	(\$139,647)	\$187,500	\$187,500	\$620,585
4.	Historic Area Preservation	\$1,396	\$173,746	(\$139,646)	\$187,500	\$187,500	\$410,496
5.	Farmland and Forest Preservation	\$6,500		(\$6,500)	\$187,500	\$187,500	\$375,000
	TOTAL	\$102,335	\$478,746	(\$300,000)	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$2,281,081
Amount reserved for Grant Program = \$1,781,081							
1.	Open Space and Parks	\$14,207	[Unexpended: FY12 (September 2011) City of Salem Planning Dept.: Roanoke River Greenway: \$14,207]				
2.	Natural Area Protection	\$385,232	[Unexpended: FY10 (January 2009) The Nature Conservancy: Lower Blackwater: \$305] [Unexpended: FY12 (September 2011) The Nature Conservancy: South Quay Natural Area Preserve: \$56,677] [Withdrawn: FY12 (September 2011) Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Tribe: Cheroenhaka Protected Land: \$150,000] [Withdrawn: FY14 (December 2012) The Nature Conservancy: South Quay Natural Area Preserve Project, Phase II: \$155,000] [Unprogrammed: FY14 (December 2012) for \$23,250]				
3.	Historic Area Preservation	\$175,142	[Withdrawn: FY12 (September 2011) The County of Spotsylvania: "Stonewall" Jackson Site: \$70,875] [Withdrawn: FY15 (December 2012) Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation: Prillaman Farm/ Gabriel Jones Farm: \$102,871] [Unexpended: FY14 (December 2012) Clarke County Easement Authority: Chapman Farm: \$1,396]				
4.	Farmland and Forest Preservation	\$6,500	[Unexpended: FY12 (September 2011) Meadowview Biological Research Station: Pitchers For the Public: \$6,500]				
	TOTAL	\$581,081					

	FUNDING CATEGORIES	FY15 FUNDS AVAILABLE	FY16 FUNDS AVAILABLE	TOTAL AVAILABLE
1.	Open Space and Parks	\$187,500	\$187,500	\$375,000
2.	Natural Area Protection	\$433,085	\$187,500	\$620,585
3.	Historic Area Preservation	\$222,996	\$187,500	\$410,496
4.	Farmland & Forest Preservation	\$187,500	\$187,500	\$375,000
	TOTAL	\$1,031,081	\$750,000	\$1,781,081

NOTE: Grant Funding available for this round is the sum of rows 2 through 5, which equals \$1,781,081. This represents a combination of FY15 and FY16 funds (provided for in Chapter 3 of the 2014 Appropriation Act) and a portion of prior unobligated balances not allocated to cash balance reductions.

Table 24: Competitive Grant Awards (January 6, 2015 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. District	Grant Award (Dollars)	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment (Dollars)	Final Project Acres
	Open Space						
1	Vauxhall Island	3	75,000	2.82	<i>Open</i>	<i>75,000</i>	<i>2.82</i>
2	Ware Creek Preserve Acquisition	7	100,000	1,062.00	01-2017	100,000	1,071.00
3	New River – Connector Parcel	9	125,000	11.93	08-2017	125,000	11.93
4	Huntley Property	7	75,000	102.00	07-2016	75,000	108.00
	Natural Areas						
5	Lee County Cave Isopod Habitat Protection	9	160,000	254.00	12-2018	121,158	154.73
6	South Quay – Somerton	4	70,000	160.00	10-2018	70,000	166.74
7	Pedlar Hills Glades NAP Addition	9	70,000	140.00	04-2017	70,000	130.59
8	Bald Knob NAP	5	320,585	76.00	03-2016	320,585	78.57
	Historic Areas						
9	*Stoner-Keller Mill Farm	6	200,000	104.00	<i>Open</i>	<i>200,000</i>	<i>104.00</i>
10	*Bacon’s Castle farmland	3	210,496	See below	09-2017	210,496	See below
	Farm and Forestlands						
11	*Bacon’s Castle farmland	3	47,500	1,260.00	09-2017	47,500	1,260.00
12	*Wainbur Farm	1	90,000	166.74	09-2015	90,000	166.74
13	*Jones Farm	1	50,000	43.00	08-2016	50,000	43.00
14	Westervelt Acquisition	4	100,000	2,046.00	08-2017	100,000	1,964.98
15	*Pigeon Hill	1	87,500	302.17	03-2016	87,500	302.17
	Totals		1,781,081	5,730.66		1,742,239	5,565.27

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement NOTE: *Italicized numbers represent expected payments and acreages based on the proposal.*

Competitive Grant Awards (October 27, 2015 Grant Round)

Chapter 665 of the 2015 Virginia Acts of Assembly provided an additional \$3,000,000 in FY16 to the Foundation. Originally, there was \$1 million appropriated for FY16 in the 2014-2016 Biennium. This appropriation was combined with the FY15 funding of \$1 million for the January 6, 2015 grant round. After 25 percent of the available funding was transferred to Virginia Outdoors Foundation's Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund pursuant to § 10.1-1020(C)(1), \$2,250,000 was available for this grant round (Table 25). During the June 16 through August 19, 2015 grant cycle, the Foundation received 18 applications requesting \$3,890,884 in grants. The total project costs including applicant match were \$17,469,157 and would have protected 2,166 acres if all projects were funded. The Board met on October 27, 2015, to consider these applications and approved \$2,250,000 in grant awards for 14 projects to protect 1,998 acres (Table 26). As of the date of this report, nine projects have been completed and two were withdrawn. Funds from the withdrawn Gaines Tract project for \$87,500 were carried forward to the September 2016 grant round to be reissued in the Historic Resources category. Funds from the withdrawn Piney Grove Flatwoods Acquisition Project for \$69,655 will be carried forward to the next scheduled grant round to be reissued in the Natural Area Protection category.

Table 25: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for October 27, 2015 Grant Awards

FUNDING CATEGORIES	CHAPTER 665 (FY16) APPROPRIATION ACT	TOTAL
VOF	\$750,000	\$750,000
Farmland and Forest Preservation	\$562,500	\$562,500
Historic Area Preservation	\$562,500	\$562,500
Natural Area Protection	\$562,500	\$562,500
Open Space and Parks	\$562,500	\$562,500
TOTAL	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Amount available for Grant Program = \$2,250,000		

Item 358 D of Chapter 665 of the 2015 Virginia Acts of Assembly

D.1. Included in the amount for Preservation of Open Space Lands is \$1,000,000 the first year and ~~\$1,000,000~~ \$4,000,000 the second year from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, § 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia. Of these funds, after Virginia Outdoors Foundation's Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund statutory distribution obligations have been satisfied, no less than 50 percent of the remaining appropriations 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.

Table 26: Competitive Grant Awards (October 27, 2015 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. Dist	Grant Award	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment	Final Project Acres
	Farmlands and Forest Preservation						
1	Highwater Farm*	1	\$72,500	181.65	05-2016	\$72,500	181.65
2	Jones Farm II Easement*	1	\$130,000	43.00	08-2016	\$130,000	43.00
3	Seven Islands Easement*	5	\$110,000	360.00	11-2017	\$110,000	330.00
4	Ridley Farm Easement*	4	\$250,000	567.00	10-2016	\$250,000	567.69
	Historic Area Preservation						
5	Gaines Tract	4	\$87,500	1.10	WITHDRAWN	0	0
6	Boxerwood Easement *	6	\$50,000	15.46	08-2018	\$50,000	15.46
	Natural Area Protection						
7	Addition to The Cedars NAP	9	\$221,700	90.00	<i>Open</i>	\$221,700	90.00
8	Piney Grove Flatwoods Acquisition Project	4	\$69,655	32.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
9	Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe Protected Land	4	\$271,145	169.80	03-2016	\$271,145	169.80
	Open Spaces and Parks						
10	Springdale Regional Park Acquisition	10	\$300,000	149.51	03-2016	\$300,000	149.51
11	James River Conservation Area	4	\$302,000	109.88	<i>Open</i>	\$302,000	109.88
12	Aspen Grove Farm	7	\$62,500	85.89	<i>Open</i>	\$62,500	85.89
13	West Woods	6	\$123,000	30.79	08-2017	\$123,000	26.29
14	Ditchley Farm*	1	\$200,000	162.31	10-2017	\$200,000	162.31
	Totals		\$2,250,000	1,998.39		\$2,092,845	1,931

* Denotes Acquisition by Easement **Note:** *Italicized numbers represent expected payments and acreages based on the grant application*

Competitive Grant Awards (September 14, 2016 Grant Round)

Chapter 780 of the 2016 Virginia Acts of Assembly provided an additional \$8,000,000 in FY17 to the Foundation. Of this amount, \$6,000,000 was available for the FY17 grant round. An additional \$423,011 from previous grant awards was added to the available funding for a total of \$6,423,011 (Table 27). During the May 18 through July 28, 2016 grant cycle, the Foundation received 36 applications requesting \$11,450,556 in grants. The total project costs for all 36 applications, including applicant match, were \$36,699,931 and would have protected 8,290 acres if all projects were funded. The Board met on September 14, 2016, to consider these applications and approved \$6,423,011 in grant awards for 23 projects to protect 6,853 acres (Table 28). As of the date of this report, 13 of the 23 projects have been completed, and three have been withdrawn, see Table 28. The Cedars NAP Addition project was withdrawn and \$317,711 in grant funds were carried forward to the September 2017 grant round and re-awarded in the Natural Area Protection category.

Another Natural Area Protection project, the Cowbane Prairie Natural Area Preserve (NAP) Addition, which was granted an award of \$877,050, was withdrawn because alternative funding was secured. Since another potential source of funding for this project had been identified at the time of the 2016 grant round, the VLCF Board awarded full funding to this project with a contingency that if another source of funding was used by the grantee then the Board approved moving the grant funds awarded to this project to fund the following three Natural Area Protection projects: (1) an additional \$183,800 to Cedars NAP for an additional 87 acres; (2) \$118,650 for 75 acres at Antioch Pines NAP; and (3) \$574,600 for 110 acres at Deep Run Ponds NAP. Because other funding was used for the Cowbane Prairie project, these three projects were awarded VLCF funds. However the first two projects were subsequently withdrawn. Those two grants totaling \$302,450 were combined with the Cedars grant mentioned above, for a total of \$620,161 of Natural Area Protection funds carried forward to the September 2017 grant round.

Funds from the withdrawn Wingfield Cosby Tract Acquisition project (\$170,412) will be carried forward to the next scheduled grant round to be reissued in the Forest Preservation category.

Table 27: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for September 14, 2016 Grant Round

FUNDING CATEGORIES		FY17 Budget Bill Chapter 780	Carryover Funding from Past Grants	TOTAL
III. VOF Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (25%)		\$2,000,000	N/A	\$2,000,000
IV. Grant Program (75%)				
(v) Natural Area Protection		\$1,500,000	\$35,511	\$1,535,511
(vi) Open Space and Parks		\$1,500,000	\$300,000	\$1,800,000
(vii) Farmland and Forest Preservation		\$1,500,000	0	\$1,500,000
(viii) Historic Area Preservation		\$1,500,000	\$87,500	\$1,587,500
TOTAL		\$8,000,000	\$423,011	\$8,423,011
Amount reserved for Grant Program = \$6,423,011				
Natural Area Protection	\$35,511	[Unexpended: FY13 (December 2012) The Nature Conservancy: Clinch River: Cleveland to Artrip Conservation Area for \$35,511]		
Open Space and Parks	\$300,000	[Unexpended: FY00 (December 1999) City of Chesapeake: Indian River Park Acquisition for \$50,000] [Withdrawn: FY13 (December 2012) Northern Virginia Conservation Trust: Belmont Bay Farm Phase I for \$250,000]		
Historic Area Preservation	\$87,500	[Withdrawn: FY15 (October 2015) Civil War Trust: Gaines Tract for \$87,500]		

Item 365 D of the FY17 Budget Bill (HB 30 Enrolled) Chapter 780

D.1 Included in the amount for Preservation of Open Space Lands is \$8,000,000 the first year and \$8,000,000 the second year from the general fund to be deposited into the Virginia Land Conservation Fund, § 10.1-1020, Code of Virginia. Of these funds, after Virginia Outdoors Foundation's Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund statutory distribution obligations have been satisfied, no less than 50 percent of the remaining appropriations 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.

Table 28: Competitive Grant Awards (September 14, 2016 Grant Round)

	Project Title	Cong. Dist	Grant Award	Estimated Acres	Project Closing Date	Final Payment	Final Project Acres
	Farmlands & Forest Preservation						
1	Farmland Protection along the Rapidan River*	7	\$250,000	367.70	07-2018	\$250,000	382.00
2	Flintshire Farm (Phase II)*	1	\$400,000	353.29	09-2018	\$400,000	370.00
3	Valley Pike Farm*	6	\$200,000	151.50	12-2016	\$200,000	151.50
4	Pleasant Grove Easement*	5	\$230,000	1,005.00	Open	\$230,000	1,005.00
5	Flowers Easement*	4	\$250,000	845.24	07-2017	\$250,000	846.37
6	Wingfield Cosby Tract Acquisition	7	\$170,412	572.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
7	Goosepond Easement*	4	\$125,000	954.69	12-2016	\$125,000	954.69
8	Bucks Elbow Mountain Easement*	5	\$125,000	263.00	12-2016	\$125,000	263.00
	Historic Area Preservation						
9	Malvern Hill Farm*	4	\$687,500	523.79	06-2018	\$687,500	470.82
10	Historic Murray-Dick-Fawcett House	8	\$900,000	0.30	04-2017	\$900,000	0.15
	Natural Area Protection						
11	Cedars NAP Addition	9	\$317,711	150.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
12	North Landing River Sawgrass Marsh Project*	2	\$150,000	1,275.00	Open	\$150,000	1,275.00
13	Redrock Mtn NAP Addition - Connection to WMA	9	\$151,200	98.00	Open	\$151,200	98.00
14	Cowbane Prairie NAP Addition**	6	\$877,050	84.00	WITHDRAWN	0	0
	Cedars NAP Add. additional funds to #11 above	9	\$183,800	87	WITHDRAWN	0	0
	Antioch Pines NAP		\$118,650	75	WITHDRAWN	0	0
	Deep Run Ponds NAP Addition	6	\$574,600	110.00	Open	\$574,600	110.00
15	Buffalo Mountain NAP Addition	9	\$39,550	6.00	Open	\$39,550	6.00
	Open Spaces & Parks						
16	Eastern Branch Restoration Park*	2	\$141,525	8.80	12-2017	\$141,525	9.12
17	Cypress Locks Park	2	\$165,000	17.00	Open	\$165,000	17.00
18	Eagle Rock Park	6	\$72,000	6.00	01-2017	\$55,806	6.38

19	Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve, Phase III	1	\$433,000	127.72	11-2017	\$433,000	124.56
20	Charley Close Land Acquisition	5	\$82,600	2.78	<i>Open</i>	\$82,600	2.78
21	Pigg River Water Trail	5	\$449,650	36.00	<i>Open</i>	\$449,650	36.00
22	Indian River Watershed Project	4	\$182,500	2.02	02-2018	\$182,500	0.70
23	Dalton's Landing Canoe Launch Site*	5	\$23,313	3.00	07-2017	20,868	1.42
	Totals		\$6,423,011	7,040.83		\$5,613,799	6,130.49

NOTE: *Italicized amounts represent expected payments and acreages based on the grant application*

**Denotes Acquisition by Easement*

***Denotes the VLCF Board awarded funds to this project; however, if another source of funding is used by the grantee then the Board approved moving the funds awarded to this project to the following three grant projects: (1) an additional \$183,800 to Cedars NAP for an additional 87 acres; (2) \$118,650 for 75 acres at Antioch Pines NAP; and (3) \$574,600 for 110 acres at Deep Run Pods NAP. The first two of these grant projects were withdrawn and the funds were carried forward to the September 2017 grant round.*

APPENDIX B: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation works diligently to support projects across the breadth of Virginia. The following supporting data illustrates the number of grants awarded within Virginia's eleven Congressional Districts at the time of each VLCF grant round. The District boundaries have been realigned over the years so the cumulative totals provided in Tables 29 and 30 may not be representative of today's Congressional Districts. The map below reflects Virginia's 2016 Congressional boundaries.

Since 1999, the greatest concentration of grants awarded to date has come in the 1st Congressional District (Table 29), which stretches along the east coast of Virginia from Prince William County down to Gloucester Point. The greatest amount of grant funds also has been expended in the 1st Congressional District (Table 30). This may be a reflection of the rapid growth and loss of open space and historic resources in this area of eastern Virginia. Funds for projects have been awarded in all Districts. The Foundation has been successful in assisting with the conservation of an array of outstanding resources and habitats through easements and acquisitions across Virginia.

Map source: <http://rvahub.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/viriniadistricts.png>

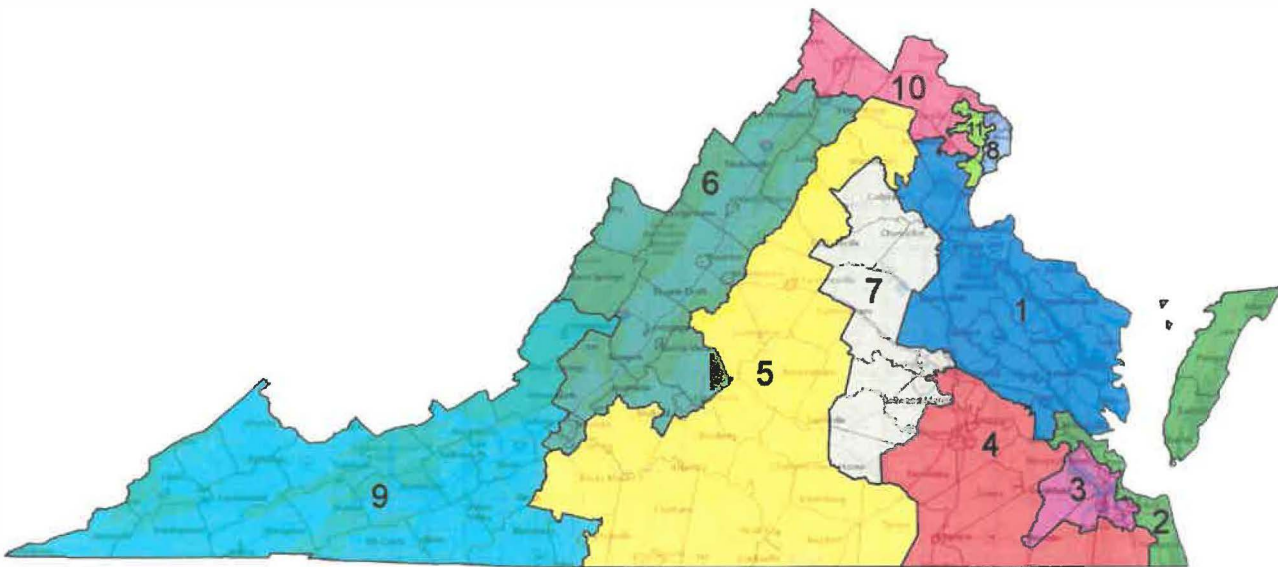


Table 29: Geographical Distribution of Foundation Grant Awards (By Project)

District	12/1999 Awarded	01/2001 Awarded	06/2005 Awarded	12/2005 Awarded	06/2007 Awarded	01/2009 Awarded	09/2011 Awarded	12/2012 Awarded	01/2015 Awarded	10/2015 Awarded	09/2016 Awarded	09/2017 Awarded	Total Awarded
1 st	3	6	1	7	1	4	6	1	3	3	2	2	39
2 nd	0	0	2	3	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	2	12
3 rd	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	9
4 th	2	0	0	2	3	3	2	2	2	5	4	3	28
5 th	2	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	1	5	1	15
6 th	2	1	4	0	1	2	3	2	1	2	3	5	26
7 th	0	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	14
8 th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	3
9 th	1	4	1	3	5	2	2	2	3	1	3	3	30
10 th	2	3.75	0	2	2	3	3	3	0	1	0	2	21.75
11 th	0	.25	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.25
TOTAL	12	19	12	22	15	16	17	12	14	14	23	23	199
District	12/1999 Completed	01/2001 Completed	06/2005 Completed	12/2005 Completed	06/2007 Completed	01/2009 Completed	09/2011 Completed	12/2012 Completed	01/2015 Completed To Date	10/2015 Completed To Date	09/2016 Completed To Date	09/2017 Completed To Date	Total Completed
1 st	2	5	1	7	0	4	5	1	3	2	0	0	30
2 nd	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	6
3 rd	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
4 th	2	0	0	2	3	3	1	1	0	1	1	1	15
5 th	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	8
6 th	1	1	3	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	1	2	14
7 th	0	2	3	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
8 th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
9 th	1	4	1	2	5	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	18
10 th	2	4	0	2	2	3	3	3	0	1	0	1	21
11 th	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL	9	18	11	20	13	15	15	9	5	4	3	5	127

Table 30: Geographical Distribution of Foundation Competitive Grant Awards (By Funding in Dollars)

Cong. District	12/1999 Award	01/2001 Award	06/2005 Award	12/2005 Award	06/2007 Award	01/2009 Award	09/2011 Award	12/2012 Award	01/2015 Award	10/2015 Award	09/2016 Award	09/2017 Award	Total Awarded
1 st	654,012	1,064,380	258,000	2,610,210.50	108,590	1,593,400	421,184	100,000	227,500	402,500	833,000	385,005	7,422,282
2 nd	0	0	900,000	2,600,000	0	425,000	500,000	0	0	0	456,525	719,400	5,144,400
3 rd	0	300,000	0	500,000	300,000	0	0	122,129	332,996	0	0	523,161	2,078,286
4 th	486,000	0	0	705,000	908,000	996,305	412,500	217,000	170,000	980,300	1,245,000	366,482	4,261,287
5 th	57,175	126,255	85,433	461,375	0	61,000	0	0	320,585	110,000	910,563	174,200	1,286,023
6 th	57,055	306,575	807,202	0	536,200	515,115	355,262	254,621	200,000	173,000	1,149,050	967,222	3,999,252
7 th	0	398,000	752,900	375,000	700,000	0	0	0	175,000	62,500	420,412	82,159	2,483,059
8 th	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250,000	0	0	900,000	400,000	650,000
9 th	50,000	461,193	224,130	1,330,825.50	2,054,768	300,500	395,462	289,250	355,000	221,700	508,461	223,480	5,684,608
10 th	384,600	1,255,792	0	1,135,000	789,512	419,625	320,000	336,250	0	300,000	0	397,691	5,038,470
11 th	0	7,500	0	0	820,773.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	828,273
TOTAL	1,688,842	3,919,695	3,027,665	9,717,411	6,217,843	4,310,945	2,404,408	1,569,250	1,781,081	2,250,000	6,423,011	4,238,800	38,875,939

APPENDIX C: GRANT CRITERIA

Prior to each grant round, the Virginia Land Conservation Foundation reviews the grant evaluation criteria that are utilized to evaluate grant applications and revises them as necessary. An inter-agency task force comprised of representatives of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Forestry, Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation work together to develop the recommended document.

The scoring criteria total 120 points. Eighty points are allocated to each of the four primary funding categories, which the applicant chooses (Forest and Farmland Preservation, Historic Area Preservation, Natural Area Protection, or Open Spaces and Parks) and 40 points are allocated amongst five common criteria (Virginia Outdoors Plan Identified Need; Water Quality Benefit; Value Added; Public Access; and Match Funding Ratio). Table 31 shows the possible points to be awarded in each category.

The scoring criteria details for each of the categories outlined in Table 31 are provided in the pages that follow. The criteria adopted by the Foundation help to ensure that land conservation funding will be expended wisely to protect properties with substantial resource value for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Table 31: VLCF - Grant Application Scoring Sheet and Criteria

Primary Category	Statutory category scoring	VOP Identified Need	Water Quality Benefit	Value Added	Public Access	Match Ratio	Total Score
	Max. 80 points	Max. 3 points	Max. 15 points	Max. 11 points	Max. 8 points	Max. 3 points	Max. 120 points
Farmlands & Forest Preservation							
Historic Area Preservation							
Natural Area Protection							
Open Spaces & Parks							

Appendix 1 - Open Space & Parks Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>1) Public Access to State Waters: Acquires land or an easement on land which provides increased public access to state waters offering recreational potential. Maximum score 13</p>		<p>Public access to state waters that provides boating, fishing, and beach/bank swimming opportunities = 13</p> <p>Public access that provides two of those recreational opportunities = 10</p> <p>Public access that provides one of those recreational opportunities = 5</p>
<p>2) Adjacency to Parks and Conserved Lands: Acquires lands or easements adjacent to existing parks, protected conservation areas, or other recreational resources that expand and protect public conservation or recreational interests. Maximum score 10</p>		<p>Acquisition or easement adjacent to park or conservation area that will allow full public use on the new property = 10</p> <p>Acquisition or easement adjacent to park or conservation area, with limited public use = 7</p> <p>Acquisition or easement contiguous to park or conservation area, with no public use = 5</p>
<p>3) Scenic Resources Protection: Protects scenic viewsheds or land important to the protection of any federally designated Wild and Scenic River or American Heritage River in or adjacent to Virginia, Virginia's Scenic Rivers, designated Scenic Roads, and Virginia Byways, and/or recreational trails, including greenways or blueways. Maximum score 10</p>		<p>Conserves land adjacent to, or in direct viewshed of, one of the listed resources = 10</p> <p>Conserves land adjacent to, or in direct viewshed of, a potential resource identified in VOP = 7</p>
<p>4) Alignment with State, Regional, or Local Plans: Supports local and/or regional comprehensive plans for parks, open space, and recreational facilities, and/or contributes to the protection of a state, regionally, or locally identified conservation corridor. Name and Page # of plan cited. Maximum score 9</p>		<p>If project site/corridor is specifically mentioned in regional/local plan, or identified by ConservationVision = 9</p> <p>If area of project has general reference in regional/local plan = 5</p>
<p>5) Virginia Outdoors Plan Need: Addresses a need identified in the <i>Virginia Outdoors Plan</i>. Applicant must specify VOP Page #. Maximum score 9</p>		<p>Land-conservation and recreation need from regional section of VOP = 9</p> <p>General Need = 5</p>
<p>6) Public Utilization: Availability of land for public use, including, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, or wildlife watching. Maximum score 10</p>		<p>Open between 1 and 60 days per year = 2</p> <p>Open between 61 and 120 days per year = 4</p> <p>Open between 121 and 180 days per year = 6</p> <p>Open between 181 and 240 days per year = 8</p> <p>Open between 241 and 365 days/year = 10</p>
<p>7) Densely Populated or Developing Areas: Conserves land in a densely populated or rapidly developing area. Densely populated is defined as a locality with population of 90,000 or more, or a locality designated by the Commonwealth as an incorporated City, regardless of size. Rapidly developing is defined as property identified as Class V in the Conservation Vision Development Vulnerability Model. Maximum score 9</p>		<p>Densely populated locality = 9</p> <p>Class V in ConservationVision model = 5</p> <p>URL for Conservation Vision: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvisvulnerable</p>
<p>8) Degree of Threat: Site is threatened by development. A threatened site is defined as property where plans have been submitted to locality's planning office for rezoning within the last year, documented to be on the market currently or recently, in an estate that is currently being settled, or adjacent to similar property which is on the market or sold in the past year. Maximum score 10</p>		<p>Currently on the market or in an estate = 10</p> <p>Recently on the market = 8</p> <p>Adjacent to similar property on the market or sold within the previous year = 5</p> <p>No documentation of threat = 0</p>

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Appendix 2 - Natural Areas Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>1) The Natural Heritage Biodiversity Rank of the Natural Heritage conservation site, based upon the global and state rarity of the natural heritage resources present, the number of natural heritage resources present, and their condition.</p> <p>Maximum score: 15</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">B1=15 B5=0 B2=10 No natural heritage resources=0 B3 or B4=5</p>		
<p>2) Size & Natural Condition: Are the size and condition of the tract(s) adequate to protect and allow for management of natural heritage resource targets?</p> <p>Maximum score: 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and condition are adequate to fully protect & manage targets = 15 • Size and condition are likely to provide for full protection and management of targets = 10 • Size and condition are unlikely to allow protection & management of the conservation targets = 0 – 5 		
<p>3) Proximity: Is the tract(s) adjacent to or in close physical or functional proximity (e.g. upstream or upslope) to other conservation lands and would it expand the protection of natural heritage resources? Maximum score: 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to existing conservation land = 15 • Possesses physical or functional proximity to existing conservation land = 10 • No physical or functional proximity to existing conservation land = 0. 		
<p>4) Management: Applicants capability to implement necessary management to protect the site from short-term and long-term stresses.</p> <p>Maximum score: 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicant has proven experience with natural community/rare species management = 10 • Applicant has land management experience = 5 • Applicant has no proven land management experience = 0 		
<p>5) Community Representation: To what extent does the site support exemplary natural communities that are not well protected in Virginia?</p> <p>Maximum score: 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports communities not found on other protected lands = 10 • Supports communities found on limited number (1–10) of protected lands = 5 • Supports communities well represented (10+) on other protected lands = 0 		
<p>6) No. & Quality of EOs: How many element occurrences are known for the tract(s) and what is the quality of those occurrences? Assign the value below for each occurrence based on its EO-rank. Sum these values.</p> <p>Maximum score: 10</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">A-rank=4 D-rank=1 B-rank=3 E-rank=2 C-rank=2</p>		
<p>7) DCR Staff Visit: DCR Natural Heritage Program Staff met with the landowner (or prospective landowner if ownership will change) to discuss implications of natural area preserve dedication; and staff visited enough of the property to adequately evaluate its suitability as a natural area preserve. Sum these values.</p> <p>Maximum score: 5</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Landowner meeting = 2 Site visit = 3</p>		

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Appendix 3 - Historic Area Preservation Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>1) Historic Significance: Resource or property is: (A) individually listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR), or is a contributing resource in a listed historic district; (B) a battlefield or site identified with a preservation priority rating in the "Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields," or the "Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States;" (together "Battlefield Reports") or (C) formally determined eligible for listing on VLR by DHR within previous 5 calendar years and remains eligible in the opinion of DHR. <i>* Applicants must submit the VLR nomination form or documentation of battlefield priority rating, if applicable.</i> Maximum score: 35</p>		<p>1. <u>Historic Resource/Property is:</u> Individually listed on VLR or is a contributing resource in a listed historic district = 25; or Identified by DHR as eligible for listing on VLR = 10; OR 2. <u>Historic Resource/Property is:</u> Civil War, Revolutionary War, or War of 1812 site or battlefield designated as Priority I, II, III, or IV in the Battlefield Reports = 25 [Select either 1 or 2 above, not both] AND <u>Other (5 points each, more than one may apply):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources that do not meet the criteria above = 5 • Resources with high degree of historic integrity = 5 • Designated a National Historic Landmark = 5
<p>2) An identifiable threat to the resource or compelling need for immediate preservation exists. Maximum score: 15</p>		<p>Property is currently on the market for sale OR in imminent danger of demolition = 15 Property is listed with a Vulnerability Value of 7 or 8 on the ConservationVision composite model OR property is significantly deteriorated and in need of immediate preservation = 10 Other identifiable threat to resource or compelling need for preservation = 5</p>
<p>3) Applicant intends to manage property according to a documented resource management plan and has demonstrated organizational and financial capacity to ensure appropriate treatment and ongoing maintenance of the resource. <i>*Project plans must meet the relevant preservation standards and be approved by the Department of Historic Resources.</i> <i>**Historic Structures Report or Resource Management Plan should be submitted with application, with sections applicable to grant proposal highlighted.</i> Maximum score: 15</p>		<p>Architectural Resources: Property managed using a Historic Structures Report and applicant has documented financial and organizational capacity to maintain resource = 15 Battlefield: Property surveyed and assessed by a professional archaeologist or professional battlefield historian and operated according to a battlefield management and interpretation plan = 15 Property managed using general Resource Management Plan and applicant has documented financial capacity to maintain resource = 10 Property owner will obtain Resource Management Plan and has limited financial capacity to maintain resource = 5.</p>
<p>4) Preservation of the resource may complement or enhance other cultural or historic resources or land already protected through a conservation easement OR represents a unique cultural resource opportunity within the geographical area. Maximum score: 5</p>		<p>Adjacent to significant historic/cultural resources, and/or land already protected through conservation easement or existing conservation land = 5 In viewshed of significant historic/cultural resources, and/or land already protected through conservation easement OR existing conservation land = 3 Not adjacent to significant historic/cultural resources or in viewshed of land already protected through conservation easement or existing conservation land, but represents unique cultural resource within the geographical area = 1</p>
<p>5) Protection or preservation of the resource may further other public interests, such as education, research, heritage tourism promotion or orderly community development. Maximum score: 5</p>		
<p>6) DHR Easement Staff met with the applicant to discuss the project; staff visited the property to evaluate its suitability for historic protection. Maximum score: 5</p>		<p>Applicant contacted DHR Easement Program to discuss proposed project = 2 Easement staff visited the property = 3</p>

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Appendix 4 - Agricultural (Farmlands) Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>Category I: Land Evaluation (40 points)</p> <p>A. <u>Soil Productivity</u> (25 points) Using soil classes prime, unique or important farmland, score the percentage of project land in each soils class. Value the soils classified as “Prime farmland.” Value the soils classified “Unique farmland.” Value the soils classified as “Important farmland.”</p> <p>B. <u>Parcel Size</u> (15 points) Using data from the most recent Census of Agriculture, score the size of the farm as it compares to the average sized farm in the locality.</p>		<p>Points will be awarded based on the combined percentages of these three categories x 25. (e.g., 30% prime, 20% unique and 10% important = .60 x 25, or 15 points.) More information on these soil classes can be found in §3.2-205 of the Code of Virginia ≥ 25% larger than average size – 15 points < 25% larger but ≥ average farm size – 10 points ≥ 25% smaller but < average farm size – 7 points < 25% smaller farm size – 5 points More information can be found at www.agcensus.usda.gov</p>
<p>Category II: <u>Land Use</u> (40 points)</p> <p>A. 1) Is the land currently being farmed; 2) is this a Century Farm? Maximum score: 8 points</p> <p>B. To what degree is the land adjacent to or in close proximity to other preserved lands, either in agriculture production or non-active in farming? Maximum score: 10 points</p> <p>C. What is the vulnerability rank for this parcel as determined by the ConservationVision Development Vulnerability model? Maximum score: 8 points</p> <p>D. Does the property have a farm-management plan that specifies Best Management Practices (BMPs) and that will be implemented in the normal operation of this farm? Maximum score: 6 points</p> <p>E. Is the project supported by local farmland protection policies (agricultural zoning, agricultural and forestal districts, use value taxation, etc.)? Maximum score: 4 points</p> <p>F. To what degree will preserving the proposed land in agricultural use secure environmental benefits? Maximum score: 4 points</p>		<p>A. 4 points for each Yes in A.</p> <p>B. Parcel adjoins other preserved lands = 10 Parcel is within one-quarter mile but not adjoining other preserved lands = 7 points Parcel is within one-half mile but further than one-quarter mile of other preserved lands = 5 points</p> <p>C. 2 points for each ranking from Class II to Class V based on the Virginia ConservationVision Development Vulnerability model, (e.g., a property in Class IV = 6 points). The model can be found at http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvisvulnerable</p> <p>D. For questions and examples, consult DCR’s BMP Manual, at dswcapps.dcr.virginia.gov/htdocs/agbmpman/csmanual.pdf</p>

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Appendix 5 - Forest Lands Category

Criterion	Score	Notes
<p>1) Property Acreage – Is the size of the tract adequate to protect and allow for management of forestal resources? Larger blocks of forestland under single ownerships remain more manageable and functional over time. Maximum score: 10</p>		<p>Score = One-half (.5) point for every 50 acres, up to 10 points.</p>
<p>2) Percent forested – Percent of the property that is in a forested condition. To be considered forested, acreage must meet the State Land Evaluation and Advisory Council (SLEAC) technical standards for classification of real estate devoted to forestal use. Maximum score: 20</p>		<p>Score = Percent forested X 20. [e.g. A property that is 80% forested would receive a score of 16. (.8 * 20)].</p>
<p>3) Percent of forestland that is high forest conservation value (FCV 4 and 5) – Based upon the VDOF <i>Forest Conservation Value</i> GIS analysis that ranks relative conservation value of forestland based on water quality, site productivity, terrestrial and aquatic habitat, intactness, and threat to conversion attributes. Maximum score: 15</p>		<p>Score = Percent of the forestland that is high FCV X 15 [e.g. A property on which 40% of the forestland is rated FCV 4 and 20% is rated FCV 5 would receive a score of 9. (.4 + .2 * 15)].</p>
<p>4) Water quality – Streamside forests provide considerable water quality, filtration, nutrient retention, and flood attenuation to downstream users. Maximum score: 15</p>		<p>Score = One-half (.5) point for every 500 feet of intermittent or perennial stream (as identified on the USGS 7.5" quad) or river, or wetland or impoundment shoreline, up to 15 points.</p>
<p>5) Adjacency to Conserved Lands – The property is located adjacent to, or nearby, already conserved lands held in perpetuity. Maximum score: 5</p>		<p>Adjacent to conserved land = 5 points w/i 1 mile of conserved land = 4 points w/i 2 miles of conserved land = 3 points w/i 3 miles of conserved land = 2 points w/i 5 miles of conserved land = 1 pts >5 miles = 0 points</p>
<p>6) Management of Multiple Resources – The landowner manages the property according to a multiple resource management plan prepared by a professional forester and is following plan recommendations to achieve their forest management goals. Maximum score: 5</p>		<p>Owner has an existing management plan, and exhibits a demonstrated implementation of the plan = 5 points Owner has management plan but no demonstrated implementation of the plan = 3 points Owner does not have a management plan = 0 points</p>
<p>7) Forest Land Base Preservation – Landowner is willing to preserve a portion of the existing forest acreage in perpetuity to protect the working forest land base Maximum score: 10</p>		<p>Score = Percent forest land base willing to be preserved X 10. [e.g. A property on which a landowner is willing to protect 80% of the forested acreage in perpetuity would receive a score of 8. (.8 * 10)].</p>

Total Maximum Score 80 points _____

Appendix 6 – Additional Scoring Criteria

Scoring Criteria for Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP) Identified Need

Degree to which a project satisfies resource conservation needs as identified in the *Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP)* or in a local comprehensive plan.

Maximum 3 points

- Meets a resource conservation need identified in the VOP and in a local comprehensive plan = 3 points
- Meets a resource conservation need identified in the VOP or in a local comprehensive plan = 2 points
- Not identified in VOP or in a local comprehensive plan = 0 points

Scoring Criteria for Water Quality Benefit

Extent to which the project will protect water quality through the use of minimum 35'-wide permanent vegetated riparian buffers on all perennial streams, as shown by blue lines on USGS 7.5' topographic maps. If applicable, vegetated buffers on intermittent stream can add points.

Maximum 15 points

Up to 1000' of water-body frontage length (e.g., stream, shoreline, or wetland) = 3 points
1 point for every additional 1000' of perennial streams or other water body, up to 7 points
1 point for every additional 1000' of intermittent streams, up to 5 points

Scoring Criteria for Value Added

Degree to which the project has significant value in other categories.

Maximum 11 points

- Farmland = 2 points
- Forestal land = 2 points
- Historic resources = 2 points
- Natural heritage resources = 2 points
- Recreation/parks = 2 points
- Wildlife = 3 points

Scoring Criteria for Public Access

Degree to which the project has public or visual access.

Maximum 8 points

- Full Public Access = 8 points
- Limited Public Access = 4 points
- Visual Access = 2 points
- No Access = 0 points

Scoring Criteria for Ratio of Match to Total Project Cost

Eighty percent or more of total project cost = 3

Sixty percent or more of total project cost = 2

Fifty percent of total project cost = 0

Total Maximum Score for Additional Scoring Criteria: 40 points