

**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
December 2020**

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Clyde E. Cristman
Director



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION

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Conservation*

Thomas L. Smith
Deputy Director of Operations

December 31, 2020

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 (Foundation or 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.

The Foundation, 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, a total of \$76.6 million has been appropriated to the Virginia Land Conservation Fund (Fund). The Foundation has leveraged this state funding to protect more than 179,084 acres across Virginia. This includes 78,534 acres from direct VLCF grants and an estimated 100,514 additional acres protected with VLCF funds 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 a positive impact across the Commonwealth, protecting priority lands under the Governor's ConserveVirginia initiative, including 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 for non-state agencies;
- The Virginia Land Conservation Foundation is strategic in the awarding of grants. The competitive process, incorporation of ConserveVirginia into the scoring criteria, and interagency team approach used by the Foundation to score and award grant funding help to ensure that the best lands are conserved; and
- The grant scoring criteria provide an emphasis on projects requiring enhanced riparian buffers and those that provide public access to conserved lands. These efforts protect water quality and help to address the public's growing desire for publicly available lands.

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, Special Projects Deputy, Senate Finance Committee
Anne E. Oman, Staff Director, House Appropriations Committee

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2020

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

| Gubernatorial Appointees | Address | Term Expires | Cong. Dist. |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| The Honorable Albert C. Pollard, Jr. | Irvington | 06/30/2021 | 1 |
| Jay C. Ford | Eastville | 06/30/2021 | 2 |
| Mary-Carson Stiff | Norfolk | 06/30/2022 | 3 |
| Susan E. Donner | Suffolk | 06/30/2022 | 4 |
| Bruce Vlk | Charlottesville | 06/30/2022 | 5 |
| James F. Casey | Lexington | 06/30/2023 | 6 |
| Kat Imhoff | Montpelier Station | 06/30/2023 | 7 |
| Glenda C. Booth | Alexandria | 06/30/2023 | 8 |
| Russell V. Presley, II | Grundy | 06/30/2020 | 9 |
| Robert W. Lazaro, Jr. (Vice Chairman) | Purcellville | 06/30/2020 | 10 |
| The Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr. | Burke | 06/30/2020 | 11 |

Senate Appointees

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------|
| The Honorable David W. Marsden | Burke | 06/30/2024 |
| The Honorable Richard H. Stuart | Montross | 06/30/2024 |

House Appointees

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------|
| Elizabeth Andrews | Williamsburg | 06/30/2024 |
| James W. Beamer | Richmond | 06/30/2021 |
| Andrew C. Jennison | Vienna | 06/30/2023 |
| Sonya Powell | Fairfax | 06/30/2024 |

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 VCLF and an update on related land conservation activities.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

VIRGINIA LAND CONSERVATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2020

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 \$76 million since FY2000 (Table 1) and have resulted in the protection of 179,084 acres. To date, almost \$59 million has been allocated to VLCF's matching grant program. Additionally, more than \$15 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 FY2020, \$5,859,084 was available for the VLCF grant round; open from June 19 through August 29, 2019 (\$3,375,000 was provided in the FY2020 state budget and \$2,515,934 was from prior withdrawn projects and projects that closed under their grant budget). The Foundation received 34 applications for land conservation projects requesting more than \$15.14 million in grants. The Board met on November 22, 2019, and approved 19 projects to protect 17,575 acres. Additionally, \$1,125,000 was allocated to VOF for the Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund. In the FY 2021 budget, \$10 million was appropriated to VLCF, however due to the pandemic the funding was put on hold until there was more certainty with the state budget.

Since first receiving funding in FY2000, the Foundation has held 13 grant rounds. During those 13 grant rounds, VLCF received 371 applications requesting more than \$138 million in state funding, which was more than two times the available amount (Table 2). To date, VLCF has awarded funding to 223 of the 371 grant applications and awarded more than \$56.8 million to land conservation projects to protect more than 78,500 acres, at an average cost of \$723 per acre.

Table 1: Funding General Summary in Dollars

| Fiscal Year | Source of Funding | Amount Available/ Appropriation | Amount to VOF | Amount to VLCF Grants | Amount Paid Out or Allocated to Grant Round | Grant Award Date |
|-------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| FY2000 | Appropriation Act (CH 935 –1999) | 1,750,000 | 0 | 1,750,000 | 1,303,399.00 | 12/1/1999 |
| FY2001 | Appropriation Act (CH 1073 – 2000) Specific Civil War Battlefields | 3,400,000 | 0 | 3,400,000 | 3,382,004.92 | |
| FY2001 | Appropriation Act (CH 1073 – 2000) | 6,200,000 | 1,550,000 | 4,650,000 | 3,730,783.00 | 1/4/2001 |
| FY2004 | Vehicle Registration (CH 1042 – 2003) | 1,463,275 | 365,819 | 1,097,456 | 2,629,822.67 | 6/7/2005 |
| FY2005 | Appropriation Act (CH4 – 2004) | 2,500,000 | 625,000 | 1,875,000 | | |
| FY2005 | Unallocated Interest | 56,982 | 14,246 | 42,736 | | |
| FY2005 | Appropriation Act (CH 951 –2005) | 10,000,000 | 2,500,000 | 7,500,000 | 9,015,182.92 | 12/1/2005 |
| FY2005 | Vehicle Registration (CH 951 – 2005) | 381,061 | 95,265 | 285,796 | | |
| FY2006 | Appropriation Act (CH 951 –2005) | 2,500,000 | 625,000 | 1,875,000 | | |
| FY2006 | Unallocated Interest | 188,960 | 47,240 | 141,720 | 5,447,399.00 | 6/13/2007 |
| FY2006 | Vehicle Registration (CH 2 – 2006) | 783,563 | 195,890 | 587,673 | | |
| FY2007 | Appropriation Act (CH 3 –2006) | 2,500,000 | 625,000 | 1,875,000 | | |
| FY2007 | Appropriation Act (CH 847 – 2007) | 500,000 | 125,000 | 375,000 | | |
| FY2007 | Unallocated Interest | 300,000 | 75,000 | 225,000 | | |
| FY2008 | Appropriation Act (CH 847 – 2007) | 3,000,000 | 750,000 | 2,250,000 | | |
| FY2007 | Vehicle Registration (CH 3 –2006) | 663,269 | 165,817 | 497,452 | 4,036,136.00 | 1/7/2009 |
| FY2008 | Vehicle Registration (CH 847 –2007) | 397,880 | 99,468 | 298,412 | | |

| Fiscal Year | Source of Funding | Amount Available/ Appropriation | Amount to VOF | Amount to VLCF Grants | Amount Paid Out or Allocated to Grant Round | Grant Award Date |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| FY2009 | Appropriation Act (CH 879 –2008) | 2,000,000 | 500,000 | 1,500,000 | 4,036,136.00 | 1/7/2009 |
| FY2010 | Appropriation Act (CH 872 –2010) | 2,000,000 | 500,000 | 1,500,000 | | |
| FY2010 | Vehicle Registration (CH 781 –2009) | 4,666 | 1,166 | 3,500 | 2,106,149.00 | 9/13/2011 |
| FY2011 | Appropriation Act (CH 874 –2010) | 500,000 | 125,000 | 375,000 | | |
| FY2012 | Appropriation Act (CH 874 –2010) | 500,000 | 125,000 | 375,000 | | |
| FY2012 | Appropriation Act (CH 890 –2011) | 1,000,000 | 250,000 | 750,000 | | |
| FY2013 | Appropriation Act (CH 3 –2012) | 1,000,000 | 250,000 | 750,000 | 1,024,471.00 | 12/6/2012 |
| FY2014 | Appropriation Act (CH 806 –2013) | 1,000,000 | 250,000 | 750,000 | | |
| FY2015 | Appropriation Act (CH 3 –2014) | 1,000,000 | 250,000 | 750,000 | 1,542,239.00 | 1/6/2015 |
| FY2016 | Appropriation Act (CH 3 –2014) | 1,000,000 | 250,000 | 750,000 | | |
| FY2016 | Appropriation Act (CH 665 –2015) | 3,000,000 | 750,000 | 2,250,000 | 1,958,244.00 | 10/27/2015 |
| FY2017 | Appropriation Act (CH 780 –2016) | 8,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 6,000,000 | 4,679,903.00 | 9/14/2016 |
| FY2018 | Appropriation Act (CH 836 –2017) | 4,500,000 | 900,000 | 3,600,000 | 3,244,922.00 | 9/19/2017 |
| FY 2020 | Appropriation Act (CH 854 –2019) | 4,500,000 | 1,125,000 | 3,375,000 | 5,859,084 | 9/22/2019 |
| FY 2021 | Appropriation Act (CH 1289 -2020) | 10,000,000 | 2,500,000 | 7,500,000 | 7,500,000 | TBD |
| TOTALS | | \$76,589,656 | \$17,634,911 | \$58,954,745 | \$57,459,739.51 | |

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 | 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 | 12 | \$1,688,842 | 9 | \$1,353,399 | 1,136.87 | \$384,600 | 532.00 |
| Projects Specified in Appropriations Act | | \$3,400,000 | 4 | \$3,400,000 | 4 | \$3,382,005 | 1,257.00 | 0 | 0 |
| 01/04/01 | 41 | \$11,200,000 | 19 | \$3,919,695 | 18 | \$3,730,783 | 2,764.55 | \$1,164,666 | 1,218.15 |
| 06/07/05 | 23 | \$6,011,695 | 12 | \$3,027,665 | 11 | \$2,629,823 | 6,552.80 | \$1,080,729 | 3,441.00 |
| 12/01/05 | 52 | \$30,850,220 | 22 | \$9,717,411 | 20 | \$9,015,183 | 6,931.02 | \$1,401,200 | 2,271.46 |
| 06/13/07 | 31 | \$24,847,590 | 15 | \$6,217,843 | 13 | \$5,447,399 | 10,543.31 | \$2,257,114 | 2,598.80 |
| 01/07/09 | 22 | \$5,404,839 | 16 | \$4,310,945 | 15 | \$4,036,136 | 12,040.52 | \$978,518 | 2,080.00 |
| 09/13/11 | 27 | \$5,933,991 | 17 | \$2,404,408 | 15 | \$2,106,149 | 2,283.63 | \$880,708 | 1,379.57 |
| 12/06/12 | 15 | \$2,775,121 | 12 | \$1,569,250 | 9 | \$1,024,471 | 1,400.43 | \$644,250 | 1,237.21 |
| 01/06/15 | 23 | \$3,955,725 | 15 | \$1,781,081 | 14 | \$1,542,239 | 5,461.38 | \$485,496 | 1,771.91 |
| 10/27/15 | 18 | \$3,890,884 | 14 | \$2,250,000 | 11 | \$1,958,244 | 1,820.36 | \$1,083,645 | 1,469.91 |
| 09/14/16 | 36 | \$11,450,556 | 23 | \$6,423,011 | 17 | \$4,679,903 | 4,750.45 | \$2,429,893 | 4,453.92 |
| 09/19/17 | 29 | \$7,438,001 | 23 | \$4,238,800 | 18 | \$3,244,922 | 4,020.59 | \$1,800,000 | 3,378.89 |
| 09/22/19 | 34 | \$15,140,144 | 19 | \$5,859,084 | 3 | \$5,859,084 | 17,580.20 | \$3,071,509 | 2,854.99 |
| TOTAL | 371 | \$138,098,766 | 223 | \$56,808,035 | 177 | \$50,009,740 | 78,543.11 | \$17,662,328 | 28,687.81 |

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 November 22, 2019, grant round (www.dcr.virginia.gov/virginia_land_conservation_foundation/). The grant scoring criteria are outlined in Appendix C. Additional updates were incorporated in the 2019 grant round that included criteria to address the new ConserveVirginia land conservation strategy targeting Virginia's 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 Wildlife Resources, 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 <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/nhdeinfo>.

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* is a roadmap for land conservation across Virginia for years to come.

ConserveVirginia's central feature is a living "smart map" that identifies approximately 6.9 million acres of priority lands for conservation. *The ConserveVirginia* Map is the synthesis of 21 mapped data inputs, divided into seven 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; Protected Landscapes Resilience, and Water Quality Improvement. More can be learned at: <https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/conservevirginia/>. 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 2019 AND 2020

Board of Trustees Meetings

In 2019 and 2020, 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:

- March 14, 2019 – Board of Trustees Meeting: The Board meeting included a presentation and discussion of the Governor’s land conservation strategy: ConserveVirginia, and an introduction to the VLCF Mapper, a new interactive mapping tool to view all VLCF grant awards. Board actions included denial of two grant requests: one to change the scope of a project and the other for an additional extension to keep the grant open.
- June 19, 2019 – Board of Trustees Meeting: The Board meeting included a presentation and approval of the FY20 grant round schedule and financial plan; and approval of proposed changes to the VLCF Grant Manual and scoring criteria.
- November 22, 2019 – Board of Trustees Meeting: The Board received a presentation of FY20 VLCF grant applications. The Board took action and provided approval of available grant funding and awards, and approval of the 2019 VLCF stewardship fund distribution. The Board also approved the grant manual and timeline for the new Pre-Application process and report to the General Assembly for potential land conservation projects.
- September 22, 2020 – Board of Trustees Meeting: The Board meeting included election of a new Vice-Chairwoman, Mary-Carson Stiff; approval of the 2020 VLCF stewardship fund distribution; a presentation and approval of the FY21 grant round schedule and financial plan; approval of proposed changes to the VLCF grant manual and scoring criteria; approval of a 2020 Grant Round and timeline to award available Dominion Surry-Skiffes Creek funds; and approval of the request for pre-applications for ranking and submission to the General Assembly.

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 Wildlife Resources, Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation, as required by Virginia Code § 10.1-1018(E).

In 2019, the task force met on two occasions to review and rank grant applications received during the June 19 through August 29, 2019, 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 November 22, 2019.

Competitive Grant Awards (November 22, 2019 Grant Round)

Item 363 A.1. of Chapter 854 of the 2019 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, pursuant to §10.1-1020 of the Code of Virginia, which was available for the FY20 grant round. An additional \$2,515,934 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 \$5,890,934 in grant funds (Table 3).

During the FY20 grant cycle, the Foundation received 34 applications requesting \$15,140,144 in grants. The project costs for all 34 applications, including applicant match, totaled \$51,838,128 and would protect 18,177 acres if all projects were funded. The Board met on November 22, 2019, to consider these applications and approved \$5,890,934 in grant funds for 19 projects to protect 17,575 acres (Table 4 on page 12). As of the date of this report, three projects from this grant round have been successfully completed.

The \$10 million in funding provided in the 2020 Virginia Acts of Assembly for VLCF was put on hold until there was more certainty with the state budget due to the pandemic. On September 22, 2020, the Board met and approved a grant round for \$4.5 million. This grant round will close on November 30, 2020, and the Board will award the grants in early 2021. Another grant round will be held in early 2021 to award \$5.5 million, the remainder of the \$10 million appropriated to VLCF in the 2020 reconvened General Assembly Session.

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 19 projects awarded funding in the November 22, 2019 grant round are as follows:

FARMLANDS PRESERVATION CATEGORY

- 1. Piedmont Environmental Council – Farmland Conservation at the Crossroads of Old Fredericksburg Road:** This project will permanently protect the conservation values of 348-acre Madden Farm, located in the Chancellorsville Battlefield Study Area in eastern Culpeper County, with a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Agricultural Land Easement co-held by The Piedmont Environmental Council and Culpeper Soil and Water Conservation District. VLCF funding will leverage over 70% of the total project cost in matching funds. The project will: (a) conserve quality farmland and forestland; (b) protect and improve water quality with 2.3 miles of permanent vegetated riparian buffers; (c) conserve nearly 40

acres of the Chancellorsville Battlefield Study Area and its scenic rural context; and (d) provide visual access to the property from 1.4 miles of frontage along Young's Lane (State Route 724).

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Total Project Cost | \$1,040,000 |
| Match | NRCS - ALE and PEC |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$300,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$300,000 |

2. **Clark County Conservation Easement Authority – *Smithfield Farm*:** Smithfield Farm is located adjacent to the West Virginia state line in Clarke County and consists of 215 acres with three existing dwellings. The primary use is for grazing, livestock, poultry, and hay production. The applicant proposes to prohibit future subdivision. A permanent conservation easement on the farm will protect: 73 acres of soils identified as Prime; 1.2 acres of unique farmland; and 121 acres of important farmland (statewide and local); totaling 195 acres. In addition, the easement will protect: 6/10 of a mile of riparian area along an EPA designated impaired waterway (Long Marsh Run). The property is a certified Century Farm with structures listed on the Virginia and National Register of Historic Places, with several structures listed as contributing in the Long Marsh Rural Historic District, and public views from a state designated Virginia Scenic Byway, Wickliffe Road (State Route 603).

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total Project Cost | \$647,000 |
| Match | NRCS - ALE and landowner donation |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$150,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$121,875 |

FOREST PRESERVATION CATEGORY

1. **The Conservation Fund – *Stanley Land and Lumber*:** Located at the confluence of Roanoke and Wards Ford Creeks in Charlotte County, the Stanley Land and Lumber project will protect 4,944 acres of unparalleled forest habitat through the creation of a new State Forest. The Conservation Fund recently acquired the property and is holding it until funding becomes available to transfer the land to the Virginia Department of Forestry for long-term stewardship and management as Virginia's 26th sustainably managed state forest. The property provides a unique snapshot of Virginia forest types and includes loblolly pine plantings, significant mature hardwood stands, and native mixed-pine stands with Virginia pine and shortleaf pine, as well as over 900 acres of forested wetlands that provide waterfowl habitat. The proposed new state forest will be augmented by the additional protection of nearly 3,000 additional acres owned by Stanley that will also be conserved.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$12,878,500 |
| Match | VDOF, Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and other grant sources including Forest CORE and Forest Legacy |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$1,000,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$300,000 |

2. **Department of Wildlife Resources – Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative:** The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) was seeking a grant to assist in acquiring, conserving and improving about 8,654 acres of forestland located in Accomack and Northampton counties through its Eastern Shore Forest Conservation initiative. This multi-tract fee-simple acquisition presents outstanding opportunities to expand existing Wildlife Management Areas, facilitate natural marsh migration, support coastal resiliency, provide new public lands for wildlife-related recreation, and, most importantly, improve habitat for migratory birds and species of greatest conservation need in an area of hemispheric importance. The Delmarva Peninsula, including Accomack and Northampton counties, supports 7 to 10 million birds in fall migration annually. The lack of sufficient food and shelter in the Virginia portion creates an energy deficit for birds attempting to cross the Chesapeake Bay; this project could double the food resources available to migrating birds in this region. Virginia’s Eastern Shore continues to be a destination for outdoor recreation, and the addition of this acreage to the public land portfolio would substantially expand opportunities for wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, hiking, and more. The parcels are industrial timberlands that were sold to The Conservation Fund in 1999. Project partners include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, and The Conservation Fund.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Total Project Cost | \$11,895,250 |
| Match | Several DWR funding sources and Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration funds |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$1,000,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$292,287 |

HISTORIC RESOURCES CATEGORY

1. **Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation – Red Hill:** The Patrick Henry Memorial Foundation requested a grant to place an open-space easement to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources on 596 acres at Red Hill Plantation located in Charlotte and Campbell Counties. Red Hill, the home of Patrick Henry, first Governor of the Commonwealth, is open to the public 362 days per year, providing substantial outreach and education to both youth and adults. It is the site of an annual U.S. Naturalization ceremony held on Patrick Henry’s birthday (May 29th), as well as a public July 4th celebration. The property contains high value prime farmland, first generation hardwoods, a slave cemetery containing 147 identified graves, and structures that include the former Governor’s original law office, original restored slave quarters, and a reconstructed blacksmith shop present on the plantation at the time of Patrick Henry’s death. Red Hill fronts on the State Scenic Staunton River as well as the potential State Scenic Falling River. Red Hill is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register, the National Historic Register, and was named a National Memorial in 1986 by then President Ronald W. Reagan.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$1,245,500 |
| Match | Landowner bargain sale and landowner payment of due diligence costs |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$600,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$600,000 |

2. **American Battlefield Trust – Cedar Run Tract at the Cedar Mountain Battlefield:** The American Battlefield Trust was seeking to preserve the 86-acre Cedar Run Tract at the Cedar Mountain Battlefield, located in Culpeper County. This project will protect the rural character of the Cedar Mountain Battlefield (a Priority I.2, Class B battlefield), scenic James Madison Highway, and associated farmland, all of which are prioritized in the Governor’s ConserveVirginia initiative. In addition, the project will preserve 52 acres of open and agricultural fields, 34 acres of forest lands, 2,600 feet of streams (including frontage on Cedar Run), over two acres of wetlands, and a half-acre pond. The Trust will record an open-space easement on the property to be held by the Virginia Board of Historic Resources, and subsequently work with the Friends of Cedar Mountain to steward the property.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$858,000 |
| Match | American Battlefield Protection Program (application submitted) |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$412,500 |
| Grant Amount | \$412,500 |

NATURAL AREAS CATEGORY

1. **Northern Virginia Conservation Trust – Crow’s Nest Natural Area Preserve Southern Boundary Addition:** In coordination with Stafford County and the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Northern Virginia Conservation Trust (NVCT) has been working to preserve land on Crow’s Nest peninsula for more than 20 years, starting with the acquisition of NVCT’s flagship 70-acre Potomac Creek Heronry property in 1995. The Crow’s Nest Natural Area Preserve (Crow’s Nest NAP) now protects 2,942 acres. In 2018, NVCT dedicated the Heronry property to DCR as an addition to the NAP. NVCT’s objective now is to further protect the heronry from encroaching development pressure. NVCT intends to purchase the 110-acre parcel immediately adjacent to the heronry within the preserve and to likewise dedicate it to DCR as an addition to the NAP. Once acquired, the property will be managed by DCR as part of Crow’s Nest NAP and allow public use. The size and condition of the property is adequate to fully protect and manage natural heritage resources.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Total Project Cost | \$512,000 |
| Match | NVCT |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$256,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$256,000 |

2. **The Nature Conservancy – Piney Grove Vernal Pools Project:** The Nature Conservancy (TNC) will establish a new 465-acre state Natural Area Preserve by acquiring 350 acres of forestland (the Landco tract) in Sussex County and granting an open-space easement and deed of dedication to DCR over the property and the adjoining 115 acres on TNC’s Piney Grove Preserve. TNC’s Piney Grove Preserve comprises one of the largest blocks of fire-maintained southern pine savanna in Virginia and supports one of just two breeding populations of the federally endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker in the state. TNC and state partners will restore pine savanna habitat on the property to support the woodpecker population,

enhancing recovery efforts for the species. This acquisition will also ensure permanent protection of four vernal pools on the site that support populations of several state rare amphibian species. Establishing a DCR Natural Heritage presence through Natural Area Preserve designation will facilitate more comprehensive and collaborative management of heritage resources among TNC and other state agency partners in the nearly 10,000-acre Piney Grove/Big Woods conservation area.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$802,000 |
| Match | TNC, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services North American Wetlands Conservation Act |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$367,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$367,000 |

3. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Bush Mill Stream Natural Area Preserve Addition:** The Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Natural Heritage Program will purchase 39 acres as an addition to Bush Mill Stream Natural Area Preserve in Northumberland County. The tract is included in ConserveVirginia under the Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity and Protected Landscapes Resilience categories. The project and preserve are located in one of Virginia’s essential conservation sites. The property fills a critical biodiversity conservation need by protecting one of the top two highest quality examples of Bog Fern known in Virginia. In addition, the parcel lies directly upstream and shares a contiguous boundary with the preserve, providing a protected riparian buffer to the wetlands within the preserve and to the tidal wetlands of the Wicomico River, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. The tract lies along Route 201, providing a scenic buffer to those who visit the public access preserve from the north.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Total Project Cost | \$130,500 |
| Match | none |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$130,500 |
| Grant Amount | \$130,500 |

4. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Crow’s Nest Natural Area Preserve Additions:** DCR’s Natural Heritage Division seeks to acquire in fee simple two adjacent parcels to Crow’s Nest Natural Area Preserve in Stafford County. The tracts total 1.6 acres and fall within two categories of Conserve Virginia (Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity and Protected Landscapes Resilience). The property is located within one of Virginia’s essential conservation sites and a mapped ecological core with the highest ranking possible in Virginia. The property will contribute to resource protection goals for the preserve. Acquiring these lots will also enhance DCR’s ability to control active and ongoing illegal access and threats that include poaching, drug-related activity, off-road vehicle use, and littering.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Total Project Cost | \$186,000 |
| Match | none |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$186,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$186,000 |

5. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Cypress Bridge Swamp Natural Area Preserve Addition:**

This DCR project proposes acquisition of 18 acres to be added to the Cypress Bridge Swamp Natural Area Preserve in Southampton County. The tract falls within four categories of ConserveVirginia: Natural Habitat and Ecosystem Diversity, Protected Landscapes Resilience, Floodplains and Flooding Resilience, and Scenic Preservation. The project and preserve are located in one of Virginia’s essential conservation sites, encompassing five different natural heritage resources deemed critical for biodiversity conservation in Virginia, including one irreplaceable element found nowhere else in the Commonwealth. The parcel is a key inholding at the preserve.

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Total Project Cost | \$52,000 |
| Match | none |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$52,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$52,000 |

6. **Capital Region Land Conservancy – Bluebell Tract:** The Bluebell Tract encompasses approximately 1,410 acres in western Powhatan County and has been an actively managed forest for more than a half century. It was purchased in early 2019 by Longleaf Conservation Capital for the purpose of preserving forest land, implementing carbon sequestration, and establishing outdoor recreation and public access to the river. Plans include an affiliated business, Outsyde, to manage the recreational opportunities of the property for public access to the river. Given the scale of the project and significant inclusion of managed forests, CRLC sought the Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) as the easement holder. Approximately 565 acres of forestland on the Bluebell Tract are rated as having high conservation value by DOF. A natural area deed of dedication will be placed on approximately 270 acres along the Appomattox River to be held by DCR’s Natural Heritage. This acreage falls almost entirely within the Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity category of ConserveVirginia, has a Very High score for Ecological Cores, and falls within the Virginia Natural Land Network.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$1,633,745 |
| Match | Remainder value of the easement donation on the entire property |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$500,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$500,000 |

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE CATEGORY

1. **Capital Region Land Conservancy – Dock Street:** In the 1730’s William Byrd gave the City of Richmond its name due to the distinct appearance of the city along the James River, reminiscent of Richmond on Thames in England. The city purchased Libby Hill Park in 1851 to preserve open space and public access to this important view, which has remained largely unimpeded. The 5-acre Dock Street property, intended recently for an intensive development that would harm one of the most recognizable viewsheds in Virginia, is proposed for acquisition with the help of a VLCF grant. This acquisition would conserve the view from Libby Hill Park, enhance the well-used Virginia Capital Trail, complete the Richmond Riverfront Plan, and connect with two city-owned parks. The plan is for DCR to hold an open-space easement on the

property and for Capital Region Land Conservancy to ultimately transfer ownership to the City of Richmond.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$8,120,000 |
| Match | CRLC (cash and real property donations) |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$4,060,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$500,000 |

2. **City of Suffolk Parks and Recreation – Blackwater River Park and South Quay Sandhills Natural Area Preserve:** The City of Suffolk Department of Parks and Recreation will acquire an undeveloped 338-acre property along the Blackwater River. The property is adjacent to the 3,753-acre South Quay Sandhills Natural Area Preserve owned by DCR Natural Heritage. Upon acquisition, the City intends to transfer 200 acres to DCR to expand the Natural Area Preserve. The City intends to develop the remaining 138 acres into a public park with paddle craft access to the Blackwater River.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Total Project Cost | \$800,000 |
| Match | \$400,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$400,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$400,000 <i>(from Natural Areas Category funding)</i> |

3. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation – McThenia:** The Virginia Outdoors Foundation will purchase an easement on 39 acres in the City of Lexington to allow public access along a trail to the Maury River. The property fronts the Maury for more than 5,700 feet, has a natural beach area at the foot of the trail, and is located across the river from the Chessie Trail, a heavily used public trail linking Lexington to the Buena Vista area. The bluffs are also visible from State Route 631, which is part of U.S. Bike Route 76. The river at this location is a designated Blueway and provides habitat for several endangered mollusk species. The property lies within the Lexington Barrens and Bluffs conservation site due to the limestone cliffs, sinkholes and barrens, and also contains areas where a rare plant, the Threeflower Melic Grass (*Melica nitens*), has been found. The property contains several sinkholes that serve to capture most of the surface-water runoff in the upland portion of the property.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Total Project Cost | \$185,000 |
| Match | Cash from additional funding source, VOF |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$185,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$180,000 |

4. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Wilderness Road Connectivity Property:** This grant to acquire the a 242-acre addition to Wilderness Road State Park will enhance environmental education, outdoor recreation, wildlife viewing, hiking and natural and cultural history opportunities for visitors to the state park located in Lee County. This project will also create an opportunity to develop connectivity with the Chadwell Gap Trail on the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, because the Property is contiguous to both of the current park boundaries. DCR identified connectivity from the state park to the

trail system of Cumberland Gap National Historical Park as a priority in Wilderness Road State Park's 2014 Master Plan Update.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Total Project Cost | \$681,500 |
| Match | Cash from additional funding source |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$681,500 |
| Grant Amount | \$500,000 |

5. **Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NOVA Parks) – Pohick Bay Regional Park Inholding Acquisition:** NOVA Parks will acquire three acres of land adjacent to the Potomac River in southern Fairfax County that is part of a regionally significant conservation corridor. The land is the last inholding within an existing 1,007-acre park that is protected under Land and Water Conservation Fund. The acquisition will: provide public access to land that is currently privately owned and not protected, provide needed open space and passive park facilities in a densely populated area, conserve natural and historic resources, and help to protect the region's watershed. The property has 250 feet of shoreline along the Potomac River with a forested riparian buffer. Thirty percent of the property is within a Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Area and 15 percent is within the Potomac River floodplain. The property has mature forest containing Northern Red Oak, White Oak, American Beech, Tulip Poplar, Sycamore, Maple, American Beech, and Sweetgum. Proposed park uses include hiking, picnicking, fishing, boating, equestrian trails, and natural and cultural resource interpretation.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Total Project Cost | \$1,290,000 |
| Match | Applied for Land and Water Conservation Fund grant \$645,000 |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$645,000 |
| Grant Amount | \$322,500 |

6. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation – Camp Kum-Ba-Yah:** Camp Kum-Ba-Yah, Inc. intends to use a VLCF grant to help purchase from Lynchburg Covenant Fellowship, Inc. (LCF) the 44-acre urban forest where its summer nature day camp is located and place it in an open-space easement held by VOF. Dense commercial and residential development are imminent if Camp Kum-Ba-Yah fails to purchase the property, which is currently for sale. The VLCF grant would help to save the urban forest, expand public access, and enhance the outdoor recreational and environmental programming that Camp Kum-Ba-Yah offers to thousands in Central Virginia. This area of the city is identified in the city's Comprehensive Plan as a park desert. Camp Kum-Ba-Yah has a rich civil rights history from the 1960s, when Lynchburg closed its public pools to African American citizens. Camp Kum-Ba-Yah continued to welcome both black and white citizens to swim in its pools. Today, Camp Kum-Ba-Yah offers scholarships to nearly 50% of its campers, fulfilling its motto that no child will be denied the gift of camp due to financial need.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Total Project Cost | \$1,040,950 |
| Match | Other grants being sought and private donations |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$532,200 |
| Grant Amount | \$201,134 |

7. **Department of Conservation and Recreation – Gateway to Cape Charles - Public Access Project:** This proposal will support the purchase of 16-acres with existing improvements to provide permanent public access to a wheelchair-accessible boardwalk to the Cape Charles Natural Area Preserve in the town of Cape Charles in Northampton County. An existing parking area and entrance trail, including several hundred feet of boardwalk, was constructed prior to the establishment of the preserve. These amenities have become a well-used visitor entrance associated by the public with DCR, even though they are on private land. The property directly adjoins the preserve and is listed for sale, making protection of the site urgent. Federal funds will provide 50% of the cost of this project.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Total Project Cost | \$528,500 |
| Match | Coastal Zone Management Funds |
| VLCF Grant Request | \$264,250 |
| Grant Amount | \$237,888 <i>(from Natural Areas Category funding)</i> |

**Table 3: Virginia Land Conservation Foundation: Funding Source and Allocation for
November 22, 2019 Grant Round**

| FUNDING CATEGORIES | | FY20 Budget Bill Chapter 854, Item 363 Appropriation of \$4,500,000 | Carryover Funding from Past Grants | TOTAL |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------|
| I. | VOF Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (25%) | \$1,125,000 | N/A | \$1,125,000 |
| II. | Grant Program (75%) | | | |
| (i) | Farmland and Forest Preservation | \$843,750 | \$170,412 | \$1,014,162 |
| (ii) | Historic Area Preservation | \$843,750 | \$200,000 | \$1,043,750 |
| (iii) | Natural Area Protection | \$843,750 | \$1,285,638 | \$2,129,388 |
| (iv) | Open Space and Parks | \$843,750 | \$859,884 | 1,703,634 |
| TOTAL GRANT FUNDS | | \$3,375,000 | \$2,515,934 | \$5,890,934 |
| Summary of Returned Funds | | | | |
| Forest Land Preservation | \$170,412 | Withdrawn: FY17 Wingfield Cosby Acq. for \$170,412 | | |
| Historic Area Preservation | \$200,000 | Withdrawn: FY15 Stoner-Keller Mill Farm for \$200,000 | | |
| Natural Area Protection | \$1,285,638 | Unexpended: FY15 Lee Co. Cave Isopod Habitat for \$38,842; FY16 The Cedars NAP Add. for \$72,101. FY17 Buffalo Mountain NAP Add. for \$1,765; FY17 Deep Run NAP Add. for \$174,000; FY18 Antioch Pines NAP Add. for \$66,448; FY18 Magothy Bay NAP Add. for \$12,666 Withdrawn: FY16 Flatwoods at Piney Grove for \$69,655; FY17 Redrock Mtn. NAP Add. for \$151,200; FY17 North Landing River Sawgrass Marsh for \$150,000; FY18 Mt. Joy Ponds NAP Add. for \$316,400; FY18 Blackwater Scenic River for \$57,761; FY18 Difficult Creek NAP Add. for \$174,200. | | |
| Open Space and Parks | \$859,884 | Unexpended: FY17 Pigg River for \$209,331; FY18 Riverview Walk Park for \$19,453. Withdrawn: FY16 Aspen Grove Farm for \$62,500; FY17 Charley Close Land Acq. for \$82,600; FY17 Cypress Locks Park for \$165,000; FY18 Catherine Grey Preserve for \$321,000. | | |

Item 363 of Chapter 854 of the 2019 Virginia Acts of Assembly:

A.1. Included in the amounts for Preservation of Open Space Lands is \$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 in the second year 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 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 (November 22, 2019 Grant Round)

| | Project Title | Cong. Dist | Grant Award | Estimated Acres | Project Closing Date | Final Payment | Final Acres |
|----|--|------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| | Farmlands & Forest Preservation | | | | | | |
| 1 | Farmland at Crossroads of Old Fredericksburg* | 7 | \$300,000 | 348.21 | Open | \$300,000 | 348.21 |
| 2 | Smithfield Farm* | 10 | \$121,875 | 215.50 | Open | \$121,875 | 215.50 |
| 3 | Stanley Land and Lumber | 5 | \$300,000 | 4,944.00 | Open | \$300,000 | 4,944.00 |
| 4 | Eastern Shore Forest Conservation Initiative | 2 | \$292,287 | 8,654.00 | Open | \$292,287 | 8,654.00 |
| | Historic Area Preservation | | | | | | |
| 5 | Red Hill* | 5 | \$600,000 | 596.00 | Open | \$600,000 | 596.00 |
| 6 | Cedar Run Tract at Cedar Mountain Battlefield** | 7 | \$412,500 | 86.47 | Open | \$412,500 | 86.47 |
| | Natural Area Protection | | | | | | |
| 7 | Crow's Nest Southern Boundary Addition – NVCT** | 1 | \$256,000 | 110.53 | 02/2020 | \$256,000 | 110.53 |
| 8 | Piney Grove Vernal Pools | 4 | \$367,000 | 465.00 | Open | \$367,000 | 465.00 |
| 9 | Bush Mill Stream NAP Addition | 1 | \$130,500 | 39.00 | Open | \$130,500 | 39.00 |
| 10 | Crow's Nest NAP Additions - DCR | 1 | \$186,000 | 1.60 | Open | \$186,000 | 1.60 |
| 11 | Cypress Bridge Swamp NAP Addition | 4 | \$52,000 | 18.00 | Open | \$52,000 | 18.00 |
| 12 | Bluebell Tract* | 7 | \$500,000 | 1,410.00 | Open | \$500,000 | 1,410.00 |
| 13 | Blackwater River Park and South Quay NAP | 4 | \$400,000 | 338.00 | Open | \$400,000 | 338.00 |
| 14 | Gateway to Cape Charles Public Access | 2 | \$237,888 | 16.00 | 09/2020 | \$237,288 | 20.71 |
| | Open Spaces & Parks | | | | | | |
| 15 | Dock Street** | 4 | \$500,000 | 5.21 | Open | \$500,000 | 5.21 |
| 16 | McThenia* | 6 | \$180,000 | 39.07 | Open | \$180,000 | 39.07 |
| 17 | Wilderness Road State Park Connectivity Property | 9 | \$500,000 | 241.80 | Open | \$500,000 | 241.80 |
| 18 | Pohick Bay Regional Park Inholding Acquisition | 8 | \$322,500 | 3.05 | 11/2020 | \$322,500 | 3.05 |
| 19 | Camp Kum-Ba-Yah* | 6 | \$201,134 | 44.00 | Open | \$201,134 | 44.00 |
| | Totals | | \$5,859,084 | 17,575.44 | | \$5,859,084 | 17,580.20 |
| | Historic Category not awarded | | \$31,250 | | | | |
| | | | \$5,890,934 | | | | |

*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-Whealton 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-Whealton Project.

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

1. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation/The Chickahominy Tribe: Chickahominy on the Powhatan**: This grant funded 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, 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.
2. **Capital Region Land Conservancy: Malvern Hill**: The grant helped to 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.
3. **American Battlefield Trust: Battlefield Bluffs at Yorktown**: The grant funded 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.

The following five grants have been awarded extensions:

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. **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.

The following project was withdrawn:

1. **Virginia Outdoors Foundation: Belmead on the James**: This grant is to fund the fee-simple acquisition of the 2,265-acre Belmead property, a 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.

On September 22, 2020, the Board approved a second grant round to award for the FY2017 Dominion Surry-Skiffes Creek available funding from the withdrawn project and leftover funds totaling \$1,145,829. This grant round is also for the same historic preservation and land conservation purposes to mitigate impacts from the Surry-Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Transmission Line Project as the first grant round. Applications were due to DCR by October, 30, 2020. A Board meeting will be held in December 2020 to award the grants.

STATUS OF LAND CONSERVATION IN VIRGINIA

Land Conservation Status Summary

The Conservation Lands Database reports that as of June 30, 2020, a total of 4,306,345 acres across Virginia have been preserved by federal, state, and local governments, or private conservation organizations (Table 5). This indicates that about 17.04 percent of the Commonwealth's total land is permanently protected. In Virginia's portion of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, a total of 2,928,606 acres of land, or about 21.17 percent, has been protected. (Approximately 60 percent of Virginia geographically lies within the Bay watershed.)

Table 5: Land Preservation Statistics in Virginia (through June 30, 2020)

| 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 | 2,352,617 | 54.63% | 1,682,322 | 57.44% | 670,295 | 48.65% |
| State | 1,367,304 | 31.75% | 953,157 | 32.55% | 414,147 | 30.06% |
| Local | 156,832 | 3.64% | 137,754 | 4.70% | 19,078 | 1.38% |
| Private/Non-profit | 429,592 | 9.98% | 155,373 | 5.31% | 274,219 | 19.90% |
| Total Protected | 4,306,345 | 100.00% | 2,928,606 | 100.00% | 1,377,739 | 100.00% |
| Total Acreage of Land in VA* | 25,270,000 | | 13,831,890 | | 11,438,110 | |
| Percent Protected | 17.04% | | 21.17% | | 12.05% | |

* Total Acreage of land does not include the acreage of rivers or other water bodies that cannot be legally owned or permanently conserved.

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 31,598 acres in FY2019. In total, since 2000, approximately 1,116,988 acres have been preserved overall, with a yearly average of 58,789 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 June 30, 2020

| 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 | 21,881.23 | 12,407.92 |
| 2012 | 56,144.62 | 36,536.18 | 19,608.44 |
| 2013 | 45,510.56 | 25,508.41 | 20,002.15 |
| 2014 | 75,463.18 | 44,873.68 | 30,589.50 |
| 2015 | 36,573.38 | 22,319.07 | 14,254.31 |
| 2016 | 33,388.77 | 23,063.90 | 10,324.87 |
| 2017 | 40,494.43 | 24,389.91 | 16,104.52 |
| 2018 | 51,474.02 | 34,899.02 | 16,575.00 |
| 2019 | 31,597.98 | 24,196.66 | 7,401.32 |
| Total | 1,116,987.84 | 770,735.08 | 346,252.76 |
| Average annual acreage protected | 58,788.83 | 40,565.00 | 18,223.83 |

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 2019 are published separately from this report and are available online at: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/land_conservation/lpc.shtml.

Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Since 2001, the VLCF has allocated more than \$15 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 2020, \$15,134,911 had been transferred from VLCF to the Open Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund. Of this amount, \$13,844,074 had been spent in part on 378 conservation easements protecting 100,514 acres. The VLCF funds were leveraged to secure private, local, and federal funds totaling over \$7.8 million towards the easements noted. An additional 65 easements protecting 12,926 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 42 projects that will protect an additional 4,939 acres.

Table 7: VLCF Funding Allocated to the Virginia Outdoors Foundation

| Fiscal Year | Source | Amount Allocated to VOF |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| FY2001 | Appropriation Act | \$1,550,000 |
| FY2004 | Vehicle Registration | \$365,819 |
| FY2005 | Appropriation Act | \$625,000 |
| FY2005 | Interest | \$14,246 |
| FY2005 | Appropriation Act | \$2,500,000 |
| FY2005 | Vehicle Registration | \$95,265 |
| FY2006 | Appropriation Act | \$625,000 |
| FY2006 | Interest | \$47,240 |
| FY2006 | Vehicle Registration | \$195,890 |
| FY2007 | Appropriation Act | \$625,000 |
| FY2007 | Vehicle Registration | \$165,817 |
| FY2008 | Appropriation Act | \$125,000 |
| FY2008 | Interest | \$75,000 |
| FY2008 | Appropriation Act | \$750,000 |
| FY2008 | Vehicle Registration | \$99,468 |
| FY2009 | Vehicle Registration | \$1,166 |
| FY2009 | Appropriation Act | \$500,000 |
| FY2010 | Appropriation Act | \$500,000 |
| FY2011 | Appropriation Act | \$125,000 |
| FY2012 | Appropriation Act | \$125,000 |
| FY2012 | Appropriation Act | \$250,000 |
| FY2013 | Appropriation Act | \$250,000 |
| FY2014 | Appropriation Act | \$250,000 |
| FY2015 | Appropriation Act | \$250,000 |
| FY2016 | Appropriation Act | \$250,000 |
| FY2016 | Appropriation Act | \$750,000 |
| FY2017 | Appropriation Act | \$2,000,000 |
| FY2018 | Appropriation Act | \$900,000 |
| FY2019 | Appropriation Act | \$1,125,000 |
| TOTAL | | \$15,134,911 |

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 Wildlife Resources’ 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 6.9 million acres of priority lands for conservation. *The ConserveVirginia Map* is the synthesis of 21 mapped data inputs, divided into seven 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; Protected Landscapes Resilience and Water Quality Improvement Opportunity Areas. Outdoor Recreation is a critical component of the strategy and is 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, *ConserveVirginia 2.0* was completed in Spring 2020, adding over 512,000 acres to the map. This update included the development of a new category, Water Quality Improvement Opportunity Areas, which identifies high nutrient and sediment load watershed areas in need of conservation and restoration to protect and restore Chesapeake Bay water quality. A new dataset was added to the Cultural & Historic priorities category focused on battlefields with U.S. Colored Troops and African American Units involvement. Otherwise, all other 19 data inputs were updated based on dataset updates (i.e. refinement of priorities by the source of a dataset) and based on newly protected lands since *ConserveVirginia* version 1.0. Future versions will continue to refine existing data inputs and add others as appropriate to prioritize Virginia's most important lands for conservation.

The 6,857,214 acres outlined in *ConserveVirginia 2.0* are intended 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 VOP serves as the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) for compliance with the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) federal assistance program provided by the National Park Service in accordance with the LWCF Act of 1965. 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.

The Department’s Planning and Recreation Resources Division staff are actively working on planning and coordination for the 2023 VOP. As per the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan must be updated every five years. This will include an up-to-date comprehensive public survey as well as input from all Regions of the Commonwealth and partner agencies.

Further, the Land and Water Conservation Fund program continues to fund the acquisition of park properties. The LWCF Program is a 50-50 match reimbursement grant program with annual apportionments to the State to distribute to eligible recipients upon a grant round process. VLCF funding can be a match source for these projects as well. The Department’s LWCF and VLCF staff continue to coordinate to assist partners in their funding needs as appropriate.

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. While Natural Heritage data and conservation planning tools are developed and updated on an ongoing basis, the most recent version of the plan is from 2003, 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 NHPlan is under development for completion in 2021. The plan will lay 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 available in the Commonwealth.

For nearly 35 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 2,200 conservation sites around the state, totaling more than 2,455,000 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.

In addition to Conservation Sites, two new statewide datasets have recently been completed to help inform conservation prioritization efforts at DCR, and are available to conservation partners as well. These GIS-based datasets identify the Natural Area Preserve Resiliency Areas and Virginia's Essential Conservation Sites.

The Natural Area Preserve Resiliency Areas are 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 dataset is based on an analysis of 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. Availability of this dataset enables conservation efforts to be focused on most essential areas for conservation of natural heritage resource and allows opportunities to be swiftly recognized when they arise in relation to an Essential Conservation Site. The Program will focus collaboration with other land-managers throughout the state on management actions in Essential Conservation Sites to best assure the preservation of those highest priority resources.

These aspects of the Program data, information and the NHplan are integral to the Foundation’s planning efforts and 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 of the NHPlan is maintaining an inventory of all protected lands in Virginia. The Department’s Conservation Lands 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 used by the Chesapeake Bay Program to establish and track 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 maintains collaborative roles with partners to integrate the Virginia Conservation Lands Database into the USGS' PAD-US (Protected Areas Dataset for the United States) and the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities' 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. ConservationVision is a set of seven statewide, publicly available GIS models, for conservation planning. Each statewide map quantifies 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. Highest priority lands in several ConservationVision maps are also identified as such in Governor Northam's ConserveVirginia conservation initiative.

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 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. These Climate Corridors were integrated with other partner datasets to develop the Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity category of Governor Northam's *ConserveVirginia* land conservation initiative.

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. The DHR developed a highest priority Cultural & Historic Resources dataset for integration into Governor Northam's *ConserveVirginia* land conservation map.

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 Wildlife Resources 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 update of the Recreation Model can be viewed as a web map on the NHDE and in ArcGIS Online, and is available for download from the Virginia ConservationVision website. The Recreation Model is part of the Governor Northam's *ConserveVirginia* land conservation initiative, and used to assess the potential public access values of all lands proposed for protection via the VLCF Grant Program.

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. Selected highest priority forestlands identified in the FCV provided the forest component data input to the Agriculture & Forestry category of the Governor Northam's *ConserveVirginia* land conservation map.

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. Selected highest priority agricultural areas identified in the FCV provided the agriculture component data input to the Agriculture & Forestry category of the Governor Northam's *ConserveVirginia* land conservation map.

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. By request, Natural Heritage delivers ConservationVision “packages” to conservation partners, in formats and geographic extents that are targeted at their needs. This implementation also includes training 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 continues to pursue soft money funds to support an ongoing efforts to develop maps that summarize areas of predicted suitable habitat for all state and federal listed threatened and endangered species in Virginia. Furthermore, DCR-Natural Heritage is expanding this effort to develop models for non-listed species of highest state and global rarity. 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 begins with biological inventory data managed at Natural Heritage (i.e., Element Occurrence data and the Conservation Sites database). Environmental conditions and habitat characteristics associated with those known species locations are analyzed using statistical and GIS software to predict other areas with suitable habitat for each species. For each species, the predicted suitable habitat is mapped throughout the species’ 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 conducted 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 in multiple grant categories; 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 September 22, 2020. 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/.

Revised grant criteria guided the review of applications received during the June 19 through August 29, 2019 grant round that was considered by the Board at their meeting on November 22, 2019. 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 Wildlife Resources, 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 2017) 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 | |
| <i>* Denotes Acquisition By Easement</i> | | | | | | |

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 |
| <i>*Denotes Acquisition by Easement</i> <i>**Originally this project contained 3 easements in Congressional District 10 and one in 11; project modified to be one parcel in Congressional District 10</i> | | | | | | | | |

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 | *Gallohan-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 | <i>See below</i> | 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. **All of these grant projects have now been closed out (Table 24).** The Lee County Cave Isopod Habitat Protection grant project did not expend all of the funds awarded and the remainder (\$38,842) was carried forward to the November 22, 2019 grant round and reissued in the Natural Area Protection category. The Stoner-Keller Mill Farm project was withdrawn and those funds were carried forward to the November 22, 2019 grant round and reissued in the Historic Area 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 | 02-2019 | 75,000 | 2.93 |
| 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 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | | \$1,542,239 | 5,461.38 |

* 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. **All of these grant projects have now been closed out (Table 26).** 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 and the unspent balance of the Addition to the Cedars NAP project (\$72,101) were carried forward to the November 2019 grant round to be reissued in the Natural Area Protection category. Funds from the withdrawn Aspen Grove project for \$62,500 were carried forward to the November 2019 grant round to be reissued in the Open Space and Parks 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 | 09-2018 | \$149,599 | 66.78 |
| 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 | 05-2019 | \$302,000 | 107.87 |
| 12 | Aspen Grove Farm | 7 | \$62,500 | 85.89 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | | \$1,958,244 | 1,820.36 |

* 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. **All of these grant projects have now been closed out (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. Two other projects closed under budget in the Open Space and Parks category. Both of those balances were carried forward to the September 2017 grant round to be re-awarded in that category: Eagle Rock Park with a balance of \$16,294 and Dalton's Landing Canoe Launch Site with a balance of \$2,445.

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.

All of the following funds were carried forward to the November 2019 grant round. The following five projects were withdrawn and reallocated in the same categories: Wingfield Cosby Tract Acquisition project (\$170,412) in the Forest Preservation category; North Landing River Sawgrass Marsh (\$174,000) and Redrock Mountain Natural Area Addition (\$151,200) in the Natural Area category; and Cypress Locks Park (\$165,000) and Charlie Close Land Acquisition (\$82,600) in Open Space and Parks category. Three projects closed under budget. The remaining funds carried forward to Natural Areas for the Deep Run Ponds NAP for \$174,000 and Buffalo Mountain NAP for \$1,765. The Pigg River Water Trail closed leaving a balance of \$209,331 to be reissued under the Open Space and Parks 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 | 01-2019 | \$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 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 13 | Redrock Mtn NAP Addition - Connection to WMA | 9 | \$151,200 | 98.00 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | 10-2019 | \$400,600 | 124.8 |
| 15 | Buffalo Mountain NAP Addition | 9 | \$39,550 | 6.00 | 10-2019 | \$37,785 | 6.48 |
| | 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 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 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 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 21 | Pigg River Water Trail | 5 | \$449,650 | 36.00 | 10-2019 | \$240,319 | 33.46 |
| 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 | | \$4,679,903 | 4,750.45 |

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.*

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 29).

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 30). As of the date of this report, 18 projects from this grant round have been completed.

The following four projects were withdrawn and their funds were carried forward to the November 2019 grant round to be re-awarded in the same grant category: in Natural Area Protection: Mount Joy Ponds NAP Addition for \$316,400; Difficult Creek NAP Addition for \$174,200; and Blackwater Scenic River Corridor Protection for \$57,761; and in Open Space and Parks: Catherine Gray Preserve for \$321,000.

The following three projects closed under budget and the remainder funds were carried forward to the November 2019 grant round to be re-awarded in the same category: Antioch Pines NAP Addition for \$66,448, and Magothy Bay NAP Addition for \$12,666 in Natural Area Protection; and Riverview Walk Park for \$19,453 in Open Space and Parks.

Table 29: 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 |
|---|--|--|--|-------------|
| V. | VOF Open-Space Lands Preservation Trust Fund (25%) | \$900,000 | N/A | \$900,000 |
| VI. | Grant Program (75%) | | | |
| (ix) | Farmland and Forest Preservation | \$900,000 | 0 | \$900,000 |
| (x) | Historic Area Preservation | \$900,000 | 0 | \$900,000 |
| (xi) | Natural Area Protection | \$900,000 | \$620,161 | \$1,520,161 |
| (xii) | 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 30: 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 | 10-2020 | \$187,695 | 75.12 |
| 2 | Valley Pike Farm* | 6 | \$116,100 | 85.88 | 02-2018 | \$116,100 | 85.89 |
| 3 | McClevey Farm* | 1 | \$146,205 | 80.00 | 09-2019 | \$146,205 | 83.61 |
| 4 | Game Lake Refuge at Joseph Pines Preserve** | 4 | \$175,000 | 190.00 | 11-2020 | \$175,000 | 195.75 |
| 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 | 07-2020 | \$50,000 | 618.31 |
| | Historic Area Preservation | | | | | | |
| 7 | Turner Tract at the North Anna Battlefield** | 1 | \$238,800 | 125.70 | 11-2019 | \$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 | 08-2018 | \$154,283 | 63.09 |
| 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 | 10-2020 | \$53,500 | 2.09 |
| 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 | 10-2019 | \$327,502 | 140.24 |
| 15 | Camp Branch Wetlands Natural Area Preserve Addition | 9 | \$100,000 | 76.00 | 06-2019 | \$100,000 | 66.25 |
| 16 | Magothy Bay Natural Area Preserve Addition | 2 | \$398,400 | 161.00 | 10-2019 | \$385,734 | 159.29 |
| 17 | Difficult Creek Natural Area Preserve Addition | 5 | \$174,200 | 69.00 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 18 | Blackwater Scenic River Corridor Protection | 3 | \$57,761 | 164.50 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| | Open Space & Parks | | | | | | |
| 19 | Carvins Cove Connector | 9 | \$69,980 | 242.00 | 05-2020 | \$69,980 | 242.00 |
| 20 | Catharine M. Gray Preserve | 2 | \$321,000 | 127.70 | WITHDRAWN | 0 | 0 |
| 21 | Pohick Bay Regional Park Stribling Acquisition | 8 | \$400,000 | 3.20 | 05-2018 | \$400,000 | 3.20 |
| 22 | Riverview Walk Park | 3 | \$45,500 | 22.00 | 04-2019 | \$26,047 | 16.19 |
| 23 | Culpeper Crossing at Rappahannock Station Battlefield | 7 | \$82,159 | 12.37 | 05-2020 | \$82,159 | 12.44 |
| | Totals | | \$4,238,800 | 4,390.35 | | \$3,244,922 | 4,020.59 |

*Denotes acquisition by easement

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

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 31 and 32 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 31), 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 32). 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/virginiadistricts.png>

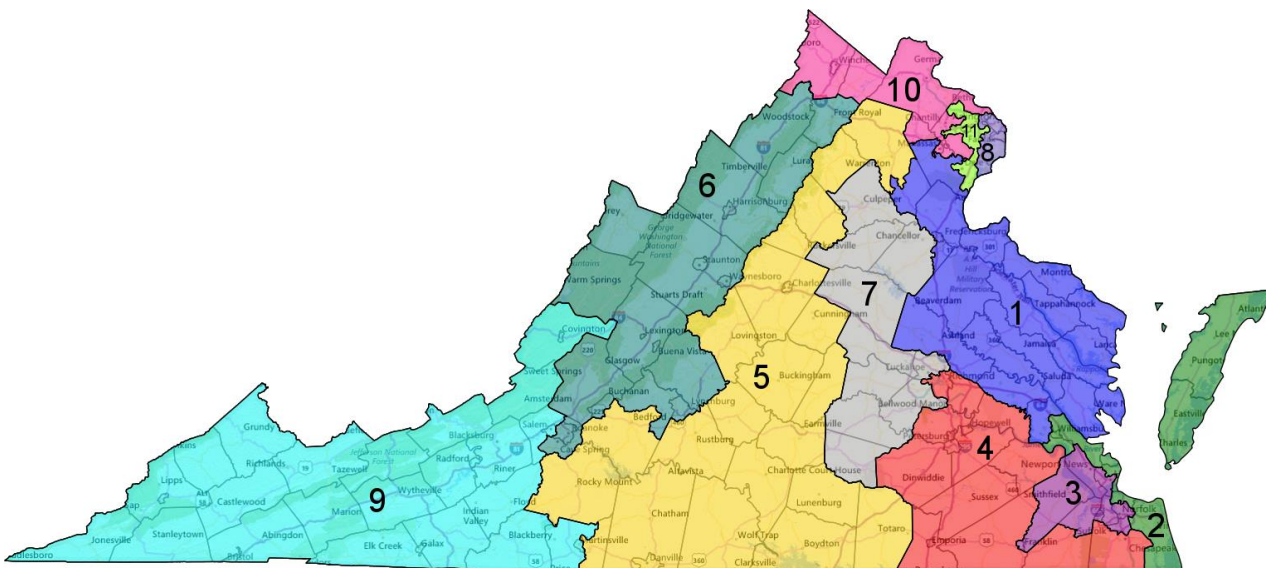


Table 31: Geographical Distribution of Foundation Grant Awards (By Project)

| 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 | 09/2019 Awarded | Total Awarded |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 st | 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 42 |
| 2 nd | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 14 |
| 3 rd | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 9 |
| 4 th | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 32 |
| 5 th | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 17 |
| 6 th | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 28 |
| 7 th | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 17 |
| 8 th | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| 9 th | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 31 |
| 10 th | 2 | 3.75 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 22.75 |
| 11 th | 0 | 0.25 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.25 |
| TOTAL | 12 | 19 | 12 | 22 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 14 | 14 | 23 | 23 | 19 | 218 |
| 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 | 09/2019 Completed to Date | Total Completed |
| 1 st | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 36 |
| 2 nd | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 |
| 3 rd | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 8 |
| 4 th | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 24 |
| 5 th | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| 6 th | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 19 |
| 7 th | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 12 |
| 8 th | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| 9 th | 1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 26 |
| 10 th | 2 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 22 |
| 11 th | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| TOTAL | 9 | 18 | 11 | 20 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 9 | 13 | 11 | 17 | 18 | 3 | 172 |

Table 32: Geographical Distribution of Foundation Competitive Grant Awards (By Funding in Dollars)

| Cong. Dist. | 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 | 09/2019 Award | Total Awarded |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 st | 654,012 | 1,064,380 | 258,000 | 2,610,210 | 108,590 | 1,593,400 | 421,184 | 100,000 | 227,500 | 402,500 | 833,000 | 385,005 | 572,500 | 9,230,282 |
| 2 nd | 0 | 0 | 900,000 | 2,600,000 | 0 | 425,000 | 500,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 456,525 | 719,400 | 530,175 | 6,131,100 |
| 3 rd | 0 | 300,000 | 0 | 500,000 | 300,000 | 0 | 0 | 122,129 | 332,996 | 0 | 0 | 523,161 | 0 | 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 | 1,319,000 | 7,805,587 |
| 5 th | 57,175 | 126,255 | 85,433 | 461,375 | 0 | 61,000 | 0 | 0 | 320,585 | 110,000 | 910,563 | 174,200 | 900,000 | 3,206,589 |
| 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 | 381,134 | 5,702,436 |
| 7 th | 0 | 398,000 | 752,900 | 375,000 | 700,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 175,000 | 62,500 | 420,412 | 82,159 | 1,212,500 | 4,178,471 |
| 8 th | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 250,000 | 0 | 0 | 900,000 | 400,000 | 322,500 | 1,872,500 |
| 9 th | 50,000 | 461,193 | 224,130 | 1,330,825 | 2,054,768 | 300,500 | 395,462 | 289,250 | 355,000 | 221,700 | 508,461 | 223,480 | 500,000 | 6,914,770 |
| 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 | 121,875 | 5,460,345 |
| 11 th | 0 | 7,500 | 0 | 0 | 820,773 | 0 | 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 | 5,859,684 | 53,408,635 |

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 Wildlife Resources, Department of Historic Resources, and the Virginia Outdoors Foundation work together to develop the recommended document.

The 2019 scoring criteria total 150 points. One hundred points are allocated to each of the five primary funding categories, which the applicant chooses (Forest and Farmland Preservation, Historic Area Preservation, Natural Area Protection, or Open Spaces and Parks) and 50 points are allocated amongst eight common criteria (Virginia Outdoors Plan Identified Need; Recreation Access Model Identified Need, Water Quality Benefit; Additional Conserve Virginia Values; Wildlife Value, Public Access; and Match Funding Ratio). Table 33 shows the possible points to be awarded in each category.

The scoring criteria details for each of the categories outlined in Table 33 are provided in the pages that follow from the 2019 VLCF Grant Manual. 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 33: VLCF - Grant Application Scoring Sheet and Criteria

| Primary Category | Statutory category scoring | VOP Identified Need | Recreation Access Model Identified Need | Water Quality Benefit | Additional Conserve Virginia Values | Wildlife Value | Public Access | Ratio of Match | Total Score |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | Max. 100 points | Max. 3 points | Max. 3 points | Max. 11 points | Max. 10 points | Max. 10 points | Max. 10 points | Max. 3 points | Max. 150 points |
| Farmlands Preservation | | | | | | | | | |
| Forestland Preservation | | | | | | | | | |
| Historic Area Preservation | | | | | | | | | |
| Natural Area Protection | | | | | | | | | |
| Open Space & Parks | | | | | | | | | |

Appendix 1 - Agricultural (Farmlands) Category

| Criterion | Score | Notes |
|---|-------|--|
| Category I: Land Evaluation (40 points) A. Soil Productivity (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." B. Parcel Size (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. | | A. 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 B. Larger by 25% or more – 15 points Larger by 0% - 24% – 10 points Smaller by 1% - 24% - 7 points Smaller by 25% or more – 5 points |
| Category II: Land Use (40 points) A. 1) Is the land currently being farmed; 2) is this a Century Farm? Maximum score: 8 points 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 C. What is the vulnerability rank for this parcel as determined by the ConservationVision Development Vulnerability model? Maximum score: 8 points D. Is the property currently utilizing, as part of the normal operation of this farm, either a farm management plan that specifies Best Management Practices (BMPs) or voluntary BMPs (e.g., stream fencing, buffers, conservation tillage, cover crops, animal waste management, etc.)? Does the property have either/both a conservation plan or a Nutrient Management Plan for all nutrient applications made to cropland, hayland, and/or pastureland? Maximum score: 10 points E. Is the project supported by local farmland protection policies (agricultural zoning, agricultural and forestal districts, use value taxation, etc.)? Maximum score: 4 points | | A. 4 points for each Yes in A. 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 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 D. Applicant has implemented applicable BMPs to protect water quality, either voluntarily or through a state or federal conservation program = 4 points Applicant has a conservation plan developed by local conservation staff (Soil and Water Conservation District or Natural Resources Conservation Service) = 3 points Applicant has a Nutrient Management Plan prepared by a DCR certified nutrient management planner = 3 points E. One point each for comprehensive plan, ag zoning, ag and forestal districts, and use value taxation. |
| Category III: ConserveVirginia (20 points) Is the property included in ConserveVirginia? Maximum score: 20 points | | 50 to 100% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Agriculture and Forestry Category = 20 points 1 to 49% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Agriculture and Forestry Category = 10 points |

Total Maximum Score 100 points _____

Appendix 2 - Forest Lands Category

| Criterion | Score | Notes |
|--|-------|---|
| 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 | | Score = One-half (.5) point for every 50 acres, up to 10 points. |
| 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 | | Score = Percent forested X 20. [e.g. A property that is 80% forested would receive a score of 16. (.8 * 20)]. |
| 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 | | 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)]. |
| 4) Water quality – Streamside forests provide considerable water quality, filtration, nutrient retention, and flood attenuation to downstream users. Maximum score: 15 | | 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. |
| 5) Adjacency to Conserved Lands – The property is located adjacent to, or nearby, already conserved lands held in perpetuity. Maximum score: 5 | | 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 points >5 miles = 0 points |
| 6) Management of Multiple Resources – The landowner manages the property according to a forest stewardship management plan (or equivalent) prepared by a professional forester and is following plan recommendations to achieve their forest management goals. Maximum score: 5 | | 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 |
| 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 | | 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)]. |
| 8) ConserveVirginia Is the property included in ConserveVirginia? Maximum score: 20 points | | 50 to 100% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Agriculture and Forestry Category = 20 points 1 to 49% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Agriculture and Forestry Category = 10 points |

Total Maximum Score 100 points _____

Appendix 3 – Historic Area Preservation Category

| Criterion | Score | Notes |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1) Historic Significance Maximum score: 35 1. <u>Historic Resource/Property is:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individually listed on VLR or is a contributing resource in a listed historic district = 25 ○ Determined by DHR to be eligible for listing on VLR = 10 -OR- 2. <u>Historic Resource/Property is:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Civil War, Revolutionary War, or War of 1812 site or battlefield designated as Priority I, II, III, or IV in the Battlefield Reports (see page 7 of Grant Manual) = 25 -AND- 3. <u>Other (more than one may apply):</u> <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 | | |
| 2) Threat Maximum score: 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently on the market for sale, in an estate being settled, threatened by development, or in imminent danger of demolition = 15 • Recently on the market for sale, resource is vacant/unoccupied, or resource is significantly deteriorated and in need of immediate preservation = 10 • Adjacent to similar property currently on the market for sale or sold within the previous calendar year = 5 • No documentation of threat = 0 | | |
| 3) Use and Treatment of Historic Resources and Property Maximum score: 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for future use(s) (e.g. interpretation as a historic site, subdivision, timber harvest) of the property are appropriate and consistent with historic resource stewardship and protection = 5 • Plans for treatment, alteration, and maintenance of historic resources on the property are appropriate and consistent with historic resource stewardship and protection = 5 • No documentation of plans for uses of property or treatment of historic resources = 0 | | |
| 4) Historic Resource Protection Maximum score: 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed easement terms and restrictions provide comprehensive protection for historic resources and are specifically consistent with VBHR easement template = 10 • Proposed easement terms and protections for historic resources are acceptable, and generally consistent with VBHR easement template = 5 | | |
| 5) Proximity to Conserved Land Maximum score: 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjacent to existing conserved land = 5 • In viewshed of, or in close physical proximity to significant historic resources, and/or existing conserved land = 3 • Not in viewshed of, or in close physical proximity to significant historic resources or existing conserved land, but represents unique cultural resource within the geographical area = 1 | | |
| 6) Further Public Interests Maximum Score: 5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project includes specific plans for programs that promote research, education, community outreach, or heritage tourism = 5 • Project includes general plans for programs to be developed that would promote research, education, community outreach, or heritage tourism = 3 • Project contains no specific plans that would further public interests = 0 | | |
| 7) ConserveVirginia Maximum score: 20 Is the property included in ConserveVirginia? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 to 100% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Cultural and Historic Preservation Category = 20 points • 1 to 49% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Cultural and Historic Preservation Category = 10 points | | |

Total Maximum Score 100 points _____

Appendix 4 – Natural Areas Category

| Criterion | Score | Notes |
|---|-------|--|
| Biodiversity Significance (35 points) <u>Will the proposed project protect one or more of Virginia's highest quality examples of a natural heritage resource?</u> (parcel overlaid on conservation sites layer) Maximum score: 20 points <u>Parcel Significance:</u> The number of heritage elements present on the subject parcel, or associated with it? Maximum score: 10 points <u>Does the project have global significance?</u> (biodiversity rank of conservation site) Maximum score: 5 points | | <p>Located within Essential Conservation Site = 20 points, Located within conservation site = 10 points, Located outside conservation site = 0 points</p> <p>1 point/EO, 2 points/essential EO, 0.5 point/EO outside parcel but within conservation site B1 = 5 points, B2 = 4, B3 = 3, B4 = 2, B5 = 1 Located outside conservation site = 0</p> |
| Ecological Integrity (20 points) <u>Regional Landscape Integrity:</u> (location of parcel relative to ecological cores) Maximum score: 10 points <u>Local/Parcel Integrity:</u> How much of the parcel is in natural vegetation? Maximum score: 5 points <u>Connectivity:</u> Is the parcel adjacent to other conservation lands with Biodiversity Management Intent (BMI)? Maximum score: 5 points | | <p>Parcel located in C1=10 points, C2=8, C3=6, C4=3, C5=1</p> <p>Parcel supports natural community/natural vegetation, 75% of parcel area = 5 points, 50-74% = 4 points, 25-49% = 3 points, 1-25% = 2 points</p> <p>Adjoins BMI 1 = 5, adjoins BMI 2 = 4, adjoins BMI 3, BMI 4 or 5 = 2 points, land not adjacent to conserved land = 0 points</p> |
| Management Needs, Likelihood of Success, and Threat (25 points) <u>Management Needs:</u> To what extent are current and future management actions needed to successfully maintain/restore natural heritage resources? Maximum score: 10 points <u>Management Capacity:</u> Does the applicant have proven experience, capacity in terms of staff resources and expertise to address management needs? Maximum score: 8 points <u>Site visit & Owner contact:</u> NHP Staff have timely opportunity to visit tract and discuss with landowner necessary conservation measures and implications of natural area preserve dedication. Maximum score: 5 points <u>Threat:</u> Is there high development threat for the project area? Maximum score: 2 points | | <p>Parcel conditions require minimal management = 10 points, moderate management = 6 points, intensive management/restoration = 3 points, unmanageable for heritage resources = 0</p> <p>Application provides thorough explanation of both factors = 8 points, cursory discussion = 4 points, not mentioned = 0 points</p> <p>Site visit & discussion = 5 points, site visit only = 3 points, discussion only = 2 points, neither = 0 points</p> <p>Tract threat is ranked Class IV or Class V in the Conservation Vision Development Vulnerability Model = 2 points, ranked Class III = 1 point, otherwise = 0, Or Tract is on the market or in estate for settlement = 2 points.</p> |
| ConserveVirginia (20 points) Is the property included in ConserveVirginia? Maximum score: 20 points | | <p>50 to 100% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Natural Habitat and Biological Diversity Category = 20 points</p> <p>1 to 49% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Natural Habitat and Biological Diversity Category = 10 points</p> |

Total Maximum Score 100 points _____

Appendix 5 – Open Space and Parks Category

| Criterion | Score | Notes |
|--|-------|--|
| 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: 15 | | Public access to state waters that provides boating, fishing, and beach/bank swimming opportunities = 15 Public access that provides two of those recreational opportunities = 10 Public access that provides one of those recreational opportunities = 5 |
| 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 | | Acquisition or easement adjacent to park or conservation area that will allow full public use on the new property = 10 Acquisition or easement adjacent to park or conservation area, with limited public use = 7 Acquisition or easement contiguous to park or conservation area, with no public use = 5 |
| 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, or recreational trails, including greenways or blueways. Maximum score: 10 | | Conserves land adjacent to, or in direct viewshed of one of the listed resources = 10 Conserves land adjacent to, or in direct viewshed of, a potential resource identified in VOP = 7 |
| 4) Alignment with Regional or Local Plans: Supports local or regional comprehensive plans for parks, open space, and recreational facilities, or contributes to the protection of a regionally or locally identified conservation corridor. Include the name and page # of plan cited. Maximum score: 5 | | If project site/corridor is specifically mentioned in regional/local plan = 5 If area of project has general reference in regional/local plan = 2 |
| 5) Virginia Outdoors Plan Need: Addresses a need identified in the <i>Virginia Outdoors Plan</i> . Applicant must specify VOP Page #. Maximum score: 9 | | Land-conservation and recreation need from regional section of VOP = 9 General Need = 5 |
| 6) Public Utilization: Availability of land for public use, including, but not limited to, hunting, fishing, hiking, or wildlife watching. Maximum score: 12 | | Open for public utilization between 241 and 365 days per year = 12 Open between 181 and 240 days per year = 8 Open between 121 and 180 days per year = 6 Open between 61 and 120 days per year = 4 Open between 1 and 60 days per year = 2 |
| 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 ConservationVision Development Vulnerability Model. Maximum score: 9 | | Densely populated locality = 9 Class V in ConservationVision model = 5 Class IV in ConservationVision model = 4 Class III in ConservationVision model = 3 URL for ConservationVision: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvisvulnerable |
| 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 | | Currently on the market or in an estate = 10 Recently on the market = 8 Adjacent to similar property on the market or sold within the previous year = 5 No documentation of threat = 0 |
| 9) ConserveVirginia | | <u>Terrestrial:</u> High or Very High Need = 5; |

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the property fall within an area with demonstrated recreation need, based on both the terrestrial and aquatic layers of the Recreation Access Model? Maximum score: 10 Is the property included in ConserveVirginia's Scenic or Protected Landscapes Resilience categories? Maximum score: 10 <p>Maximum score: 20 points</p> | <p>Moderate Need = 4; Low Need = 2; or Very Low Need = 1 <u>Aquatic:</u> High or Very High Need = 5; Moderate Need = 4; Low Need = 2; or Very Low Need = 1</p> <p>50 to 100% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Scenic or Protected Landscapes Resilience categories = 10 points 1 to 49% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Scenic or Protected Landscapes Resilience categories = 5 points</p> |
|--|--|

Total Maximum Score 100 points _____

Appendix 6 – Additional Scoring Criteria

1. 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

2. Scoring Criteria for Virginia Recreation Access Model Identified Need

If the project includes public access AND there is at least a moderate need for recreation access identified in the Recreation Access Model, based on the terrestrial or aquatic layers, then up to 3 points may be awarded.

Maximum 3 points

- Demonstrated moderate, high, or very high need for terrestrial **and** aquatic recreational access = 3 points
- Demonstrated moderate, high, or very high need for terrestrial **or** aquatic recreational access = 2 points
- No demonstrated moderate, high, or very high need for terrestrial or aquatic recreational access = 0 points

3. Scoring Criteria for Water Quality Benefit

Extent to which the project will protect water quality beyond the required 35'-wide vegetated buffers on perennial streams, rivers, shorelines, and waterbodies with perennial outflow.

Maximum 11 points

- 4 points if the buffer is forested (at least 50% forest canopy) and protected as such in perpetuity, PLUS
- Up to 1000' of water frontage that is buffered by a 50'-wide buffer = 2 points
- 1 point for every 1000' of water frontage that is buffered by a 50'-wide buffer, up to 3 points, OR
- Up to 1000' of water frontage that is buffered by a 100'-wide buffer = 3 points
- 1 point for every 1000' of water frontage that is buffered by a 100'-wide buffer, up to 4 points

4. Scoring Criteria for Additional ConserveVirginia Values

Does the application include information to support additional ConserveVirginia values? If the project includes conservation values other than the primary application category, then two points may be awarded for each additional identified category if the applicant demonstrates that the property is located within another ConserveVirginia category and the project also protects those respective resources in perpetuity.

Maximum 10 points

ConserveVirginia Categories:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Agriculture & Forestry = 2 points | • Natural Habitat & Ecosystem Diversity = 2 points |
| • Cultural & Historic Preservation = 2 points | • Protected Landscapes Resilience = 2 points |
| • Floodplains & Flooding Resilience = 2 points | • Scenic Preservation = 2 points |

5. Scoring Criteria for Wildlife Value

Degree to which the application includes information that benefits wildlife, habitat, and human/wildlife interaction.

Maximum 10 points

- Identify wildlife presence = 1 point; if DGIF Species of Greatest Conservation Need or State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species is present = additional 3 points
- Protect wildlife habitat = 1 point; if DGIF Species of Greatest Conservation Need or State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species habitat is protected = additional 4 points
- Public access to view, hunt, or fish wildlife = 1 point

6. Public Access

Degree to which the project has public or visual access.

Maximum 10 points

- Full Public Access (50% of the year or more) = 10 points
- Limited Public Access (less than 50% of the year) = 5 points
- Visual Access = 2 points
- No Access = 0 points

7. Ratio of Match to Total Project Cost

Maximum 3 points

- Eighty percent or more of total project cost = 3 points
- Sixty percent or more of total project cost = 2 points
- Fifty percent of total project cost = 0 points

Total Maximum Score for Additional Scoring Criteria: 50 points _____