

Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grant Program



Workshop Agenda

July 10, 2019

1:00 PM **Overview of VLCF Grant Application Requirements** Suzan Bulbulkaya, Land Conservation Manager, Department of Conservation & Recreation 1:20 PM **Open Space and Parks Category** Jett Johnson, Div. of Planning and Recreation Resources, DCR 1:40 PM **Historic Resources Category** Wendy Musumeci, Department of Historic Resources **Farmlands and Forestry Category** 2:00 PM Jen Perkins, Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services Mike Santucci, Department of Forestry 2:30 PM **Natural Heritage Category**

Rob Evans, Division of Natural Heritage, DCR

2:50 to 3:30 PM

Questions from the audience



About VLCF

- Created in 1992, first funded in 2000
- 19-member Board representing VA's 11 Congressional Districts
- Sec. of Natural Resources, Sec. of Agriculture & Forestry, and 17 citizen members – Director of DCR serves as Executive Secretary
- Interagency taskforce develops scoring criteria and advises board on project priorities
- Twelve grant rounds in its history
- \$46.1 million awarded by VLCF, protecting 62,878 acres



2019 VLCF Grant Round Timeline

Wednesday, June 19, 2019	VLCF Board meeting - approved grant round.
Wednesday, July 10, 2019	Grant Workshop for grant applicants.
Thursday, August 29, 2019	Deadline for application submittal - <u>One</u> paper copy plus electronic submission required.
September, 2019	Interagency taskforce meetings to score projects
Early October, 2019	SNR and Director's review of top-scoring projects.
Mid October 2019	VLCF Board meeting. Approval of grant awards.
By December 1, 2019	Grant agreements signed. Projects have two years to close.

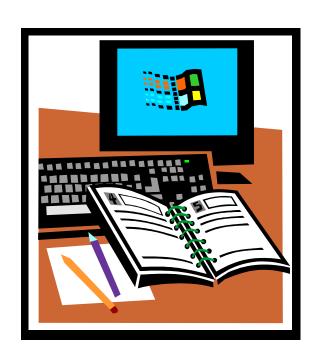


VLCF Funding and Scoring Categories

- Funds are divided among the four primary categories:
 - (1) Farmlands and Forest Preservation (\$1,014,162);
 - (2) Historic Area Preservation (\$1,043,750);
 - (3) Natural Area Protection (\$1,723,909); and
 - (4) Open Spaces and Parks (\$1,494,303).
- At least 1/3 of the funds must be used for easements held by a public body.
- At least 1/2 of the funding must be used for projects with public access.
- Geographic distribution for a fair allocation throughout the state.
- Up to 50% of a project's cost may be funded with a VLCF grant.



VLCF Grant Manual





New This Grant Round . . .

- Re-arranged and revised Grant Manual (Read it!!)
- <u>Submit one</u> paper application (50 pages maximum), plus an electronic application/letters/pics in <u>one</u> file in <u>searchable</u>
 PDF format
- Easy-to-use check boxes (just click) in the application
- Include a brief project description with the application (less than 250 words)
- Letters from supporters, landowner, and easement holder must be provided with the application.



New This Grant Round . . .

- To protect water quality, 35-foot permanent vegetated riparian buffers are required
- Additional points for projects that do more:
 - Include riparian buffers that are wider than 35 feet or are forested
- Points are awarded for ConserveVirginia designated priority conservation areas please address in application narrative
- Additional points for threatened or endangered species or DGIF Species of Greatest Conservation Need present, or conserved habitat for these species - please address in application narrative



Program Requirements Overview

- Who may apply: state agencies, localities, and registered (taxexempt) nonprofit organizations that are "holders".
- Nonprofits must demonstrate that they meet "holder" requirements of Va. Code § 10.1-1009.
- Project must be for a specific site.
- Project should be completed within TWO YEARS. If circumstances warrant, a one year administrative extension may be granted.
- Projects undertaken by nonprofits must have an open-space easement held or co-held by a PUBLIC BODY.



Program Match - see page 12

- Match can include . . .
 - Cash
 - Due diligence costs appraisals, legal fees, title reports, surveys, recordation fees, etc.
 - Bargain Sales, i.e., donation of acquisition or easement cost
 - Other nearby, recently-conserved property
- Match cannot include . . .
 - Indirect costs (i.e. staff time, overhead, maintenance, operating costs)
 - Work provided pro-bono
- A form letter (see page 32) must be provided if match is not definite at the time of application



Due Diligence Requirements – see page 14

- Appraisals must meet USPAP standards.
- Surveys: ALTA/NSPS land title survey for fee acquisitions;
 to state boundary survey standards for easement projects.
- A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for acquisitions (not easements).
- Title insurance is required for all projects.
- A final deed (fee or easement) with language approved by VLCF must be ready for recordation, or recorded, before grant funds can be paid.



Grant Application Scoring

Interagency Taskforce:

- Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services
- Dept. of Forestry
- Dept. of Historic Resources
- Dept. of Conservation and Recreation
 - ➤ Natural Heritage
 - ➤ Planning & Recreation Resources
- Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Virginia Outdoors Foundation





Grant Application Scoring, con't.

- Scoring criteria are based on the five primary categories,
 100 points.
- Choose a secondary category and be sure to include information about how the project supports this category in your application (May be critical to receive funding if none is available in the primary category.)
- Additional Scoring Criteria are applied to every project, up to <u>50 points</u> – see page 30. Be sure to include information in your application narrative.
- SCORE your application! (Be sure all pertinent info is included to get points.)



Additional Scoring Criteria — see page 30

1. VOP Identified Need

Does the project provide 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 <u>and</u> in a local comprehensive plan = 3 points
- Meets a resource conservation need identified in the VOP <u>or</u> in a local comprehensive plan = 2 points
- VOP is online at www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational_planning/vop.shtml



2. Scoring Criteria for <u>Virginia Recreation Access Model Identified</u> <u>Need</u>

For parcels that provide <u>public access</u>, does the project demonstrate a <u>need</u> for land or water access based on the Virginia Recreation Access Model? **Maximum 3 points**.

- Demonstrated moderate, high, or very high need for land <u>and</u>
 water access = 3 points
- Demonstrated moderate, high, or very high need for land <u>or</u> water
 access = 2 points



3. Scoring Criteria for Water Quality Benefit

Does the project protect water quality beyond the minimum 35'-wide <u>permanent</u> vegetated riparian buffer on perennial streams, rivers, shorelines, and waterbodies with perennial outflow? **Maximum 11 points**.

- If the buffer has at least 50% forest canopy and is protected in perpetuity = 4 points, <u>PLUS</u>
- Up to 1000' of water frontage with a 50' buffer = 2 points
- 1 point for each additional 1000' of frontage with a 50' buffer = up to 3 points, <u>OR</u>
- Up to 1000' of water frontage with a 100' buffer = 3 points
- 1 point for each additional 1000' of frontage with a 100' buffer = up to 4 points



4. Scoring Criteria for Additional ConserveVirginia Values

Does the project protect additional *ConserveVirginia* values and protect those values in perpetuity?

Maximum 10 points.

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



5. Scoring Criteria for Wildlife Value

Does the project benefit 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 T&E is present = additional 3 points
- Protect wildlife habitat = 1 point; If DGIF Species of Greatest
 Conservation Need or State or Federally listed T&E is protected = additional 4 points
- Public access to view, hunt, or fish wildlife = 1 point



6. Scoring Criteria for Public Access

Does the project provide 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

7. Scoring Criteria for Ratio of Match to Total Project Cost Maximum 3 points.

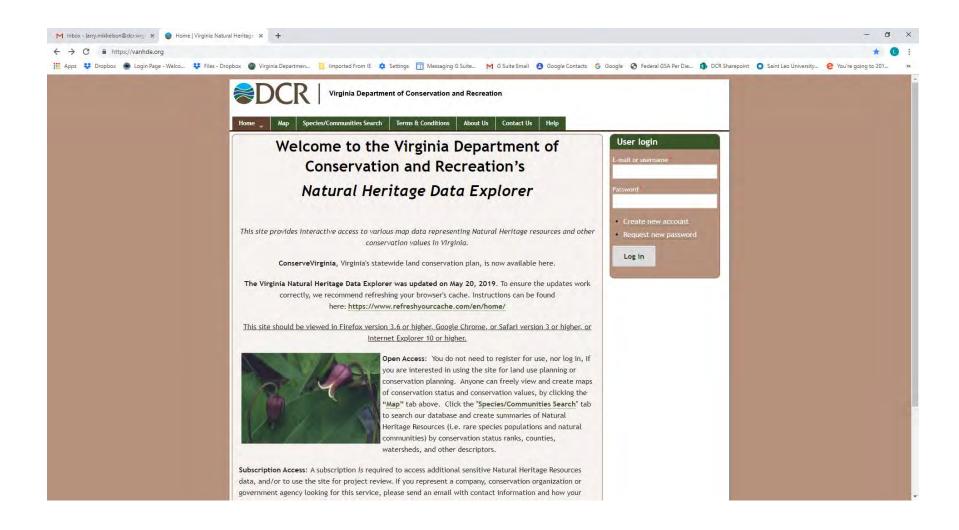
- 80% or more of total project cost = 3 points
- 60% or more of total project cost = 2 points



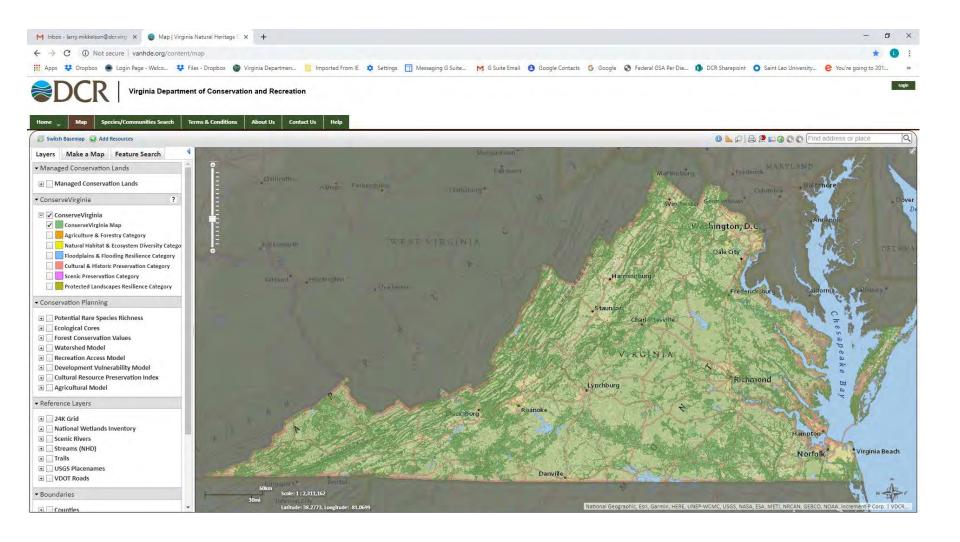
Where to Find Resource Models

- Conserve Virginia, Recreation Access Model, and other resource models can be found in the DCR Natural Heritage Data Explorer.
- Website address: https://vanhde.org/
- No need to log in, just click on the MAP tab at the top of the page and then agree to a brief list of disclaimers.











Using the Natural Heritage Data Explorer

- Enter the street address of your project to zoom to the vicinity of your project before turning on/off the layers.
- For Conserve Virginia models, click on the Conserve Virginia (+) to expand the list of layers
- For other resource models, click (+) to expand the layers under the Conservation Planning group.



Wildlife Resource Model

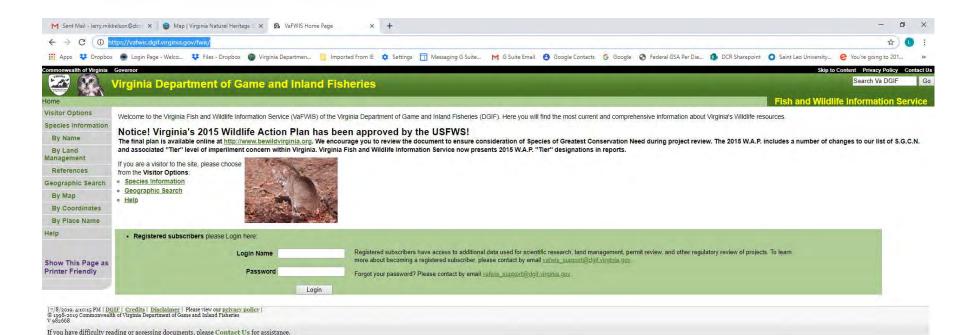
The DGIF VaFWIS (Virginia Fish & Wildlife Information Service) database has information on:

 Threatened & Endangered Species and DGIF Species of Greatest Conservation Need

https://vafwis.dgif.virginia.gov/fwis/

• For further information: Deb VanDuzee (804) 367-2212





Show all X



Application Information

- Staples, binder clips, or soft-cover folders for paper copy. No hard binders and no hole-punched pages please!
- Include photographs and maps as described in the Grant Manual
- All pages must be 8.5" x 11"
- Must be received by 4 p.m. on August 29, 2019
- Submit to:

Department of Conservation and Recreation

Attention: VLCF Grant Program

600 East Main Street, 24th Floor

Richmond, Virginia 23219



APPLICATION WEAKNESSES

- No indication that the property owner is willing to conserve their property.
- No letter included identifying the willing easement holder.
- Providing an entire plan or study rather than just the excerpt from the plan that supports the grant application.
- Not explicitly addressing all items and all scoring criteria that apply to the project in the application.



VLCF Manual and other information can be found at:

https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/virginia-land-conservation-foundation/

Questions? Email

suzan.bulbulkaya@dcr.virginia.gov

or call (804) 371-5218

larry.mikkelson@dcr.virginia.gov

or call (804) 225-3010



Parks and Open Space Category

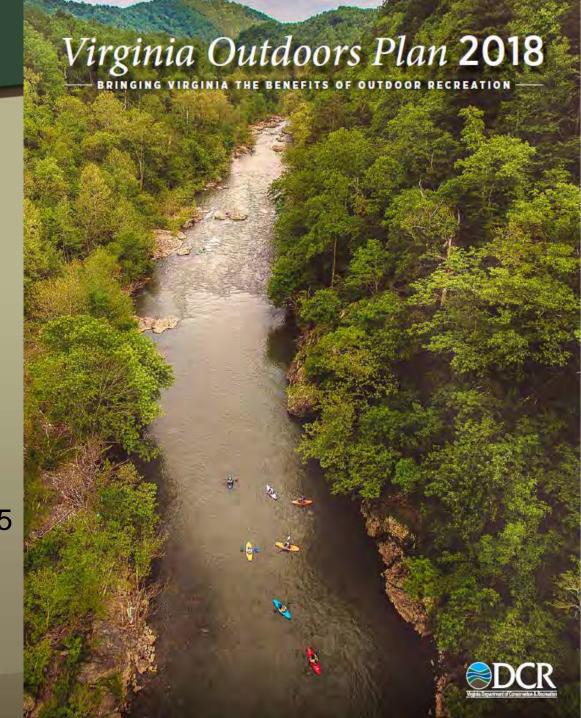




2018 Virginia Outdoors Plan

Virginia's 11th Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

- Va's official Outdoor Recreation and Land Conservation plan
- Produced approx. every 5 years since 1966
- Totally digital
- Features interactive map





Virginia Outdoors Survey

- First step in completing the VOP
- 2017 Survey completed under contract with the UVA Center for Survey Research
- Public polled in a series of questions about their outdoor recreation preferences





Survey Methods

- 14,000 Virginians contacted by mail
- 3,252 responded
- 23% response rate
- Margin of error 2.3%





Most popular activities

Activity	% of households 2011 2017	
Visiting natural areas, preserves, refuges	50	71
Driving for Pleasure	-	67
Walking for pleasure	82	67
Visiting parks (local, state, national)	51	56
Swimming/ outdoor pool	43	48
Sunbathing/ relaxing on a beach	41	47
Viewing the water	-	38
Swimming—beach/ lake/ river	38	37
Visiting historic areas	64	35
Freshwater fishing	24	34



Citizens view of most needed outdoor recreation facilities

Most Needed Facilities	% of households
Natural Areas	54
Parks	49
Trails	43
Water access	43
Historic areas	39
Scenic drives (driving for pleasure)	29
Playing fields, sports and golf facilities	22





Public Opinions about Recreation

96% Important to protect Virginia's

natural and open space resources

93% Important to have access to

outdoor recreation opportunities

74% Support state funding for outdoor

recreation; 44% of those support

an increase in funding



Survey Summary

- Natural areas, parks, trails, and access to waterways remain among the top recreational needs in Virginia
- Increased participation in freshwater fishing and paddle sports
- Increased visitation to natural areas and preserves
- Strong support (74%) for public funding for outdoor recreation
- Importance of scenic resources in travel planning



Parks and Open Space Category

Applications for public recreational and/or open space projects will be evaluated based on the following criteria...



Acquires land or a conservation easement that provides increased public access to state waters offering recreational potential



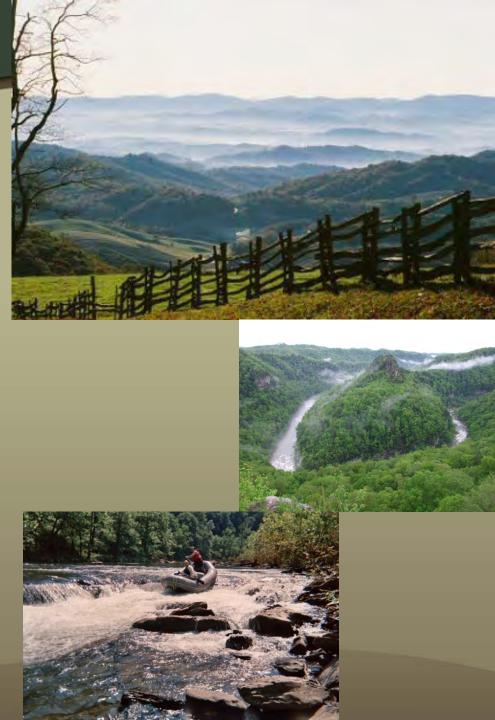


Acquires lands or easements adjacent to existing parks, protected conservation areas, or other recreational resources that expand and protect public conservation or recreational interests



Protects scenic viewsheds or land important to the protection of designated scenic resources:

- Federally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers
- American Heritage Rivers in or adjacent to Virginia
- Virginia's Scenic Rivers
- Scenic Roads and Byways
- •Recreational trails, including greenways or blueways



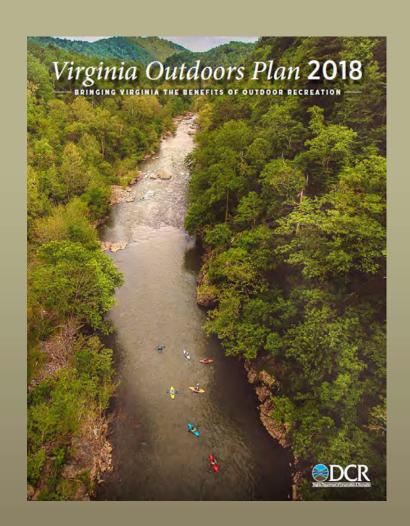


Supports local and/or regional comprehensive plans

- for parks, open space, and recreational facilities, and/or
- contributes to protection of a state, regionally, or locally identified conservation corridor

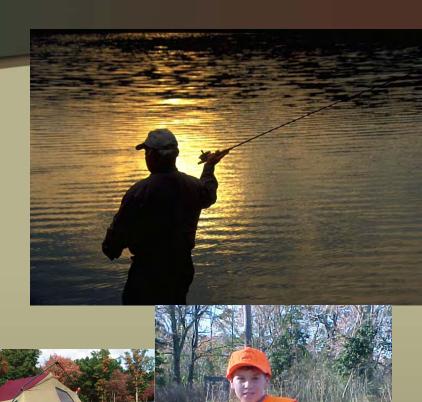
Addresses a need identified in the Virginia Outdoors Plan

(In both cases name and page number of plan must be cited)





Availability of land for public use including, but not limited to hunting, fishing, or wildlife watching

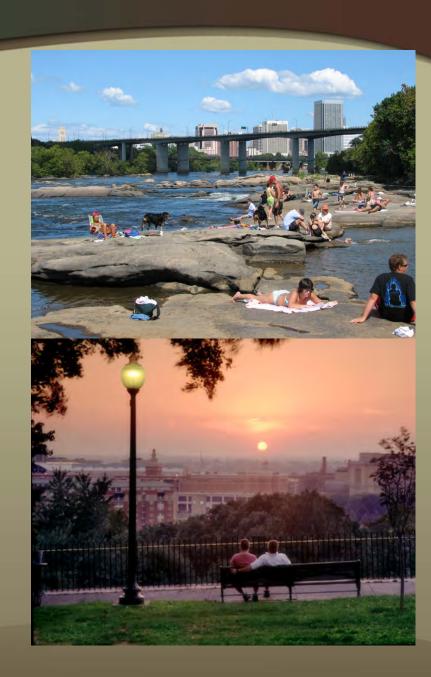






Conserves land in a densely populated or rapidly developing area:

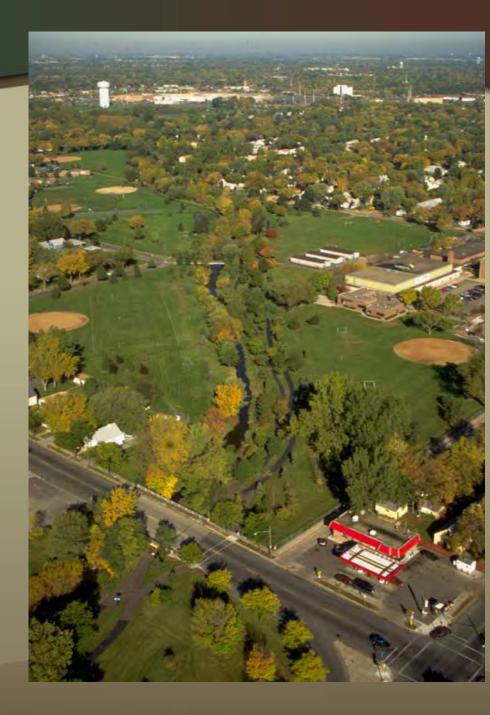
- Locality with population of 90,000 or more, or
- Locality that is designated by the Commonwealth as an incorporated city, regardless of size
- Rapidly developing is defined as property identified in the VCLNA Outside the Urban Fringe Vulnerability Model with a threat value of 5





Site is threatened by development

- Property is currently or recently on the market
- Is in an estate that is currently being settled, or
- Is adjacent to similar property which is on the market or sold in the past year





ConserveVirginia

- Property falls within an area with demonstrated recreation need, based on both the terrestrial and aquatic layers of the Recreation Access Model
- Property is included in ConserveVirginia's Scenic or Protected Landscapes Resilience categories







Online resources

Virginia Outdoors Plan

https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/recreational-planning/vop

Virginia Conservation Vision

(Formerly the VA Conservation Lands Needs Assessment) https://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvision

Recreation Access Model

http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural-heritage/vaconvisrec



Virginia Land Conservation Foundation FY 20 Grant Round

Historic Area Preservation Category

Virginia Department of Historic Resources

Scoring Criteria: Historic Area Preservation Category

Criterion #1-Historic Significance

Maximum Score 35 points

Establishes the type of historic or cultural resource to be protected:

• Architecturally significant building or structure, agricultural complex, archaeological site, historic landscape, Civil War, Revolutionary War or War of 1812 battlefield or site, etc.

Strong proposals are likely to protect or preserve a resource that:

- Is listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register (VLR); or
- Is a Civil War, American Revolutionary War, or War of 1812 battlefield or site; or
- Is formally determined eligible for listing on the VLR within the previous 5 calendar years; and
- Is included in the ConserveVirginia Cultural and Historic Preservation category.

Cr	riterion	- 13	Score	Notes
1) 1. 2.	Historic Significance Maximum Historic Resource Property is Individually listed on VLR or is a contributing resource in a listed historic display listed on VLR or is a contributing resource in a listed historic description of the particular of the particul	as Priority I,		
2)	Threat Maximum Currently on the market for sale, in an estate being settled, threatened by develop imminent danger of demolition – 15 Recently on the market for sale, resource is vacant/innoccupied, or resource is sign deteriorated and in need of urmendate grescription = 10 Adjacent to similar property currently on the market for sale or sold within the pr calendar year = 5 No documentation of threat = 0	nificantly		
	Plans for future use(s) (e.g. interpretation as a historic site, subdivision, further be properly are appropriate and consistent with historic resources stowardship and pre Plans for treatment, alteration, and maintenance of historic resources on the property appropriate and consistent with historic resources stowardship and protection = 5. No documentation of plans for uses of property or treatment of historic resources.	stection = 5 arty are = 0 n score: 10 istoric		
5)	consistent with VBHR easement template = 5 Proximity to Conserved Land Adjacent to existing conserved land = 5 In viewshed of or in close physical proximity to significant historic resources, an conserved land = 3 Not in viewshed of, or in close physical proximity to significant historic resource conserved land, but represents unique cultural resource within the gasgraphical at	s or existing		
6)	Further Public Interests Project includes specific plans for programs that promote research, aducation, cot outrastd, or heritage tourism = 5 Project includes general plans for programs to be developed that would promote reclassion, community outreach, or heritage tourism = 3 Project contains no specific plans that would further public interests = 0			
Is t	ConserveVirginia Maximur the property included in ConserveVirginia? 50 to 100% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Cultural and H Preservation Category = 20 points 1 to 49% of the project is included in ConserveVirginia Cultural and Hist Preservation Category = 10 points	3.00		

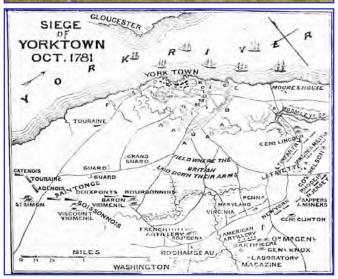


Resource or Property is Individually Listed on the VLR (25 points)



Resource or Property is a Contributing Resource to an Historic District Listed on the VLR; or (25 points)







Resource or Property is a Civil War, Revolutionary War, or War of 1812 Virginia Battlefield or Site (25 points)

Evaluation of Battlefields:

If not listed on the VLR, battlefield or site must be identified with a priority rating in one of the following reports administered by the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program:

- Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields (1993, as amended)
- Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States (2007, as amended)

Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields
Preservation Priority Ratings:

Priority I:

Battlefields with a critical need for action

Priority II:

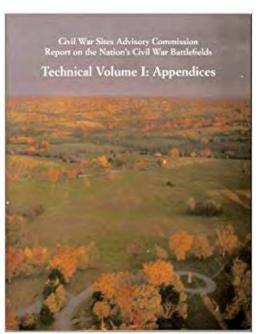
Battlefields with potential for comprehensive preservation

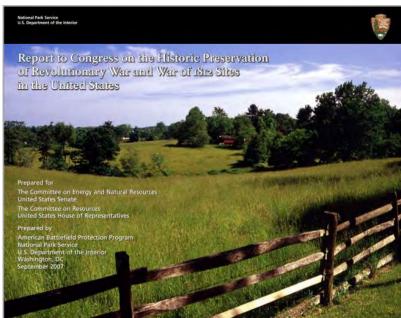
Priority III:

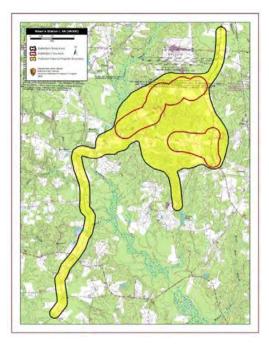
Battlefields needing additional protection

Priority IV:

Fragmented battlefields







Resource or Property was formally determined eligible for listing on VLR within the previous 5 calendar years *and* remains eligible in the opinion of DHR (10 points)



- Eligibility determination made through DHR's process for evaluation and listing on the VLR
- Official listing on the VLR will be required for properties awarded funding under this section







Other (more than one may apply):

 Resource is not listed on the VLR or does not meet battlefield criteria previously outlined (5 points)

Note: Official listing on the VLR may be required for applications for a property or resource that: (A). Is formally determined eligible for listing on the VLR within previous 5 calendar years; or (B). Contributes to the integrity, enhances the setting, or provides buffer for historic property

- Resource has a high degree of historic integrity (5 points)
- Resource designated a National Historic Landmark (5 points)

Criterion #2-Threat:

Maximum Score 15 points

- Currently on market for sale, in an estate being settled, threatened by development, OR in imminent danger of demolition (15 points)
- Recently on market for sale, vacant/unoccupied,
 OR significantly deteriorated and in need of immediate preservation (10 points)
- Adjacent to similar property currently on market for sale OR sold within previous calendar year (5 points)

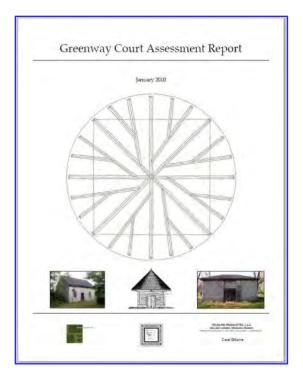
No documentation of threat (0 points)





Criterion #3-Use & Treatment of Historic Resources and Property:

Maximum Score 10 points



- Plans for future use(s) of property are appropriate and consistent with historic resource stewardship and protection (5 points)
- Plans for treatment, alteration, and maintenance of historic resources on the property are appropriate and consistent with historic resource stewardship and protection (5 points)
- No documentation of plans for uses of property or treatment of historic resources (0 points)



Note:

- Any related reports and plans for property may be submitted with application
- All proposals and/or project plans must be consistent with Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties

Criterion #4-Historic Resource Protection:

Maximum Score 10 points

- Proposed easement terms and restrictions provide comprehensive protection for historic resources AND are *specifically* consistent with VBHR easement template (10 points)
- Proposed easement terms and protections for historic resources are acceptable, AND are generally consistent with VBHR easement template (5 points)

BATTLEFIELD EASEMENT TEMPLATE NONPROFIT

This sangle deed is provided to assist inodoriners and their autoriness in preparing deeds of examing to be conveyed to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources (VBHR). As each property contains unique Preservation and Conservation Values, the examena language will be tailored to each individual property and the resources (DFD). Saff may recommend additional protestions appropriate to the individual property and its resources. Landowners should discuss present and future land management practices with saff before preparation of the deed of exament.

If any federal indior state grant funds have been or will be awarded or transferred to the Crantor for the full or partial purchase of the property in fee simple or of this easement, additional restrictions and legal obligations may apply. Please contact the relevant federal and/or state agency responsible for the applicable grant fund for most information.

Nather the VBHR nor the VDHR can provide legal or tax advice; grantors are strongly advised to obtain the counsel of independent attorneys audior tax advisors. This template is designed for nonprofit grantors and does that need federal or state requirements for a federal deduction or state are realized as a charitable contribution of an interest in real property.

Regardless of the nature of the transaction, this deed of easement is perpetual and runs with the land in perpetuity.

[September 20, 2018; revised February 8, 2019]

NOTE TO TITLE EXAMINERS: This perpetual easement contains restrictions on permitted uses and activities on the property described below, which run with the land and are applicable to the property in perpetuity.

PREPARED BY

[If prepared by other than VDHR, provide name, organization, address] [If by an attorney, Name and VSB No.]

Prepared under the supervision of The Office of the Attorney General of Virginia

When recorded, please return to: Virginia Department of Historic Resources 2801 Kensington Avenue Richmond, VA 23221

Title Insurance: [Name of insurer or None]

[As applicable | Tax Map/GPIN/Parcel Number:

Exempted from recordation taxes under the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, §§ 58.1-811(A)(3) and 58.1-811(D) and from Circuit Court Clerk's Fees under § 17.1-266

DEED OF GIFT OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND OPEN-SPACE EASEMENT

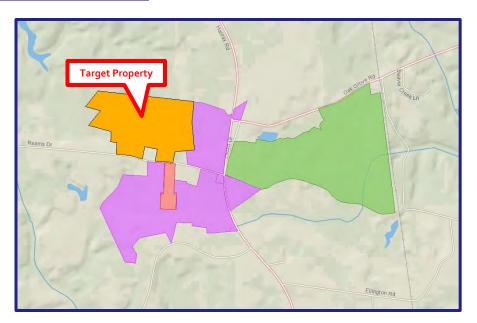
Battlefield	
 County	
SEMENT FILE NO.	

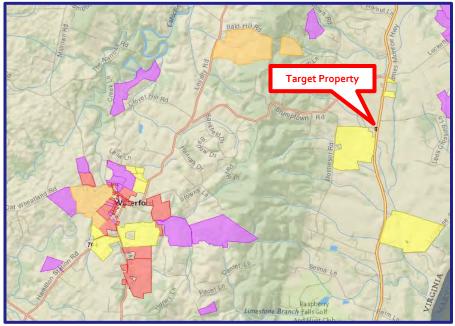
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Criterion #5-Proximity to Conserved Lands:

Maximum Score 5 points

- Adjacent to existing conserved land (5 points)
- In viewshed of, or in close physical proximity to significant historic resources and/or existing conserved land (3 points)
- Not in viewshed of, or in close physical proximity to significant historic resources and/or existing conserved land, but represents unique cultural resource within geographical area (1 point)





Criterion #6-Further Public Interests:

Maximum Score 5 points

 Project includes specific plans for programs that promote research, education, community outreach or heritage tourism (5 points)



- Project includes *general* plans for programs to be developed that would promote research, education, community outreach or heritage tourism (3 points)
- Project contains no specific plans that would further public interests (0 points)







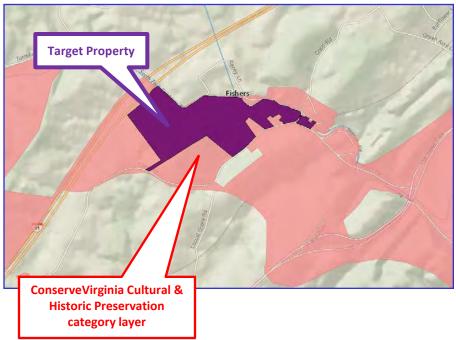
Criterion #7-Conserve Virginia:

Maximum Score 20 points

Is the property included within the Cultural & Historic Preservation category in ConserveVirginia?

- 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)

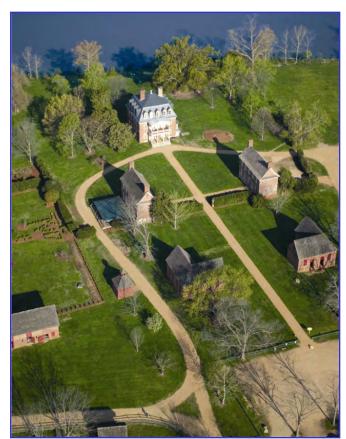




Additional Requirements for the Historic Area Preservation Category

Submit high quality photographs or digital images including:

- Exterior of the primary historic building/structure and any secondary buildings/structures, architecturally significant interior spaces and features, and the setting and viewshed of the primary resource
- For archaeological sites, a general view or site plan and images documenting the condition of the site
- For battlefields, the overall site, its setting and viewshed, and all historic and non-historic structures, roads, and other features within the battlefield or site





For Projects Awarded Grant Funds in the *Historic Area Preservation* Category:





- Property owner shall offer to convey to the Virginia Board of Historic Resources (VBHR) a perpetual preservation easement on the property to be acquired with grant funds
- VBHR decides whether to accept the easement offer based on established criteria and policies governing Easement Program
- Property must meet Easement Program eligibility requirements or DHR may recommend an alternative easement holder
- Listing on the Virginia Landmarks Register may be required
- Properties shall be open for public access a minimum of 2 days per calendar year



DHR Destinated of History Research

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HISTORIC RESOURCES

PART A: GENERAL APPLICATION

		Updated July 1, 2018		
bytps:/	freezew.clbr.	Virginia.gov/easements/		

Property/Project Name:	County	County/City:			
Property Street Address:	County	y city.			
City/Town:	State:	State: Zip Code:			
Total Acres Proposed for Easement:	out.	Lip odd.			
Total Acres of Property (if different fro	im acreage to be eased):				
Tax Map ID or PIN No(s):	Parcel Area (Acres):	Proposed Easement Area (Acres):			
A-2. OWNERSHIP INFORMATION					
(i). Is the property owned by a corpor-	ate entity? Yes No				
(ii). Is the property held in trust?	☐Yes ☐No				
Owner #1	2.7.24				
Contact Name:					
Address:	F	1			
City/Town:	State:	Zip Code:			
Phone:	Email:				
Owner #2 (As Applicable)					
Contact Name:					
Address:	1190	Table 5			
City/Town:	State:	Zip Code:			
Phone:	Email:				
A-3. APPLICANT INFORMATION (IF	DIFFERENT FROM OWNER)				
Applicant Name/Organization:					
Contact Name & Title:					
Address: City/Town:	State:	Zip Code:			
Phone:	Email:	Zip code:			
1.000.000	A-10-01	DV: Dv:			
(i). Is the applicant submitting this app					
(iii). If the applicant intends to acquire					
(iii). Will the property be owned by a c		bmit a signed letter indicating that the			
	application on their behalf and	that DHR is authorized to communicate			
A-4. CONSERVATION VALUES ASSO					
		water bodies, adjacent development).			
Briefly describe the property (e.g. topo	ography, adjacent streets/roads,	water bodies, adjacent development).			

Contact Information:

Wendy Musumeci Easement Program Coordinator Wendy.musumeci@dhr.virginia.gov 804-482-6096

Elizabeth Tune
Director, Division of Preservation Incentives
Elizabeth.tune@dhr.virginia.gov
804-482-6093

Resources:

- Virginia Department of Historic Resources <u>www.dhr.virginia.gov</u>
- List of properties on the VLR: <u>https://www.dhr.virginia.gov/historic-registers/</u>
- List of Civil War battlefields with priority ratings: https://www.nps.gov/abpp/battles/bystate.htm
- Report on Revolutionary War/War of 1812:
 https://www.nps.gov/abpp/Rev1812 Final Report.
 pdf







Farmlands and Forest Preservation Category

- Single funding category (unless \$10 million or more available)
- Separate funding criteria have been developed for agricultural and forestal lands
- Applicant should use the set of criteria that is most appropriate for their projects
- Applications will be evaluated according to the following farm & forest criteria





Farmlands Criteria

Total of 100 points

Category I: Land Evaluation – 40 points

Category II: Land Use – 40 points

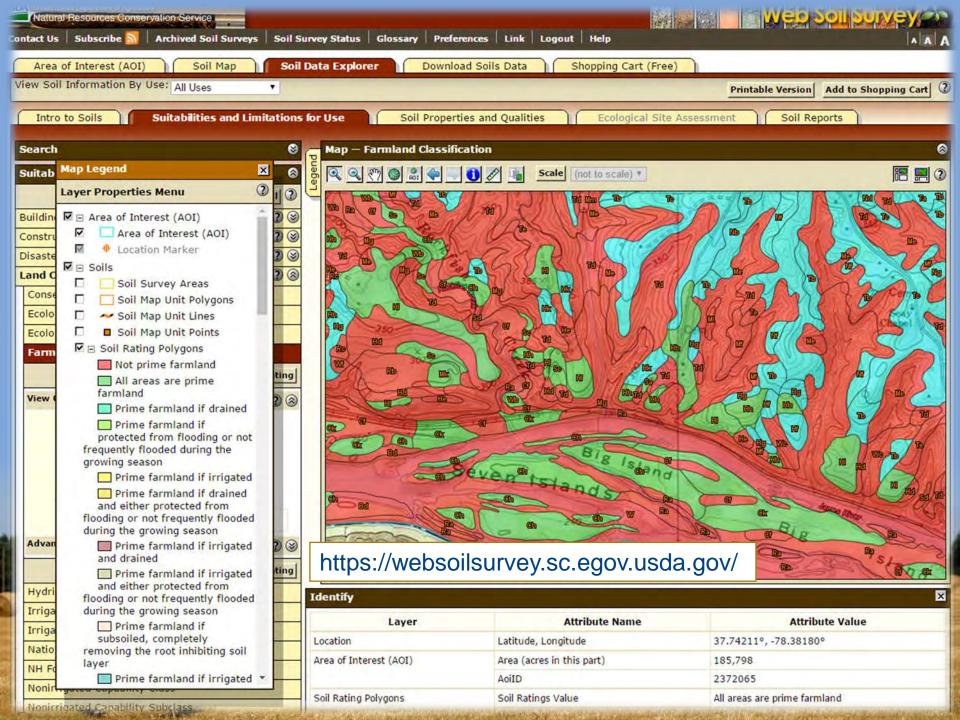
Category III: Conserve Virginia – 20 points



Land Evaluation Soils (25 pts)

- Soils should support agricultural uses
- More points for prime, unique and statewide importance





Land Evaluation Average Size of Farm (15 pts) Latest US Census of Agriculture (2017)

https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/AgCensus/2017/

Table 8. Farms, Land in Farms, Value of Land and Buildings, and Land Use: 2017 and 2012

[For meaning of abbreviations and symbols, see introductory text.]

Item	Virginia	Accomack	Albernarie	Alleghany
FARMS AND LAND IN FARMS				
Farmsnumber, 2017 2012	43,225 46,030	239 226	913 946	165 207 30,857
and in farms acres, 2017	7,797,979 8,302 444	76,761 77,389	182,781 168,877	30,857 38,983
Average size of farmacres, 2017	180	321 342	200	187
Estimated market value of land and buildingsfarms, 2017 2012 \$1,000, 2017	43,225 46,030 36,060,627	239 226 327,632	913 946 1,808,050	165 207 130,055
2012 Average per farm	35,752,388 834,254 776,719	283,628 1,370,847 1,254,991	1,478,643 1,980,339 1,563,048	114,866 788,210 554,908
Average per acre	4,824 4,306	4,268 3,665	9,892 8,756	4,215 3,108
2017 farms by value group: \$1 to \$49,999 \$50,000 to \$99,999	2,423	15 12	18 25	8
\$50,000 to \$99,999 \$100,000 to \$199,999 \$200,000 to \$499,999	2,423 2,907 6,220 14,682 8,744	40 66	43	36 66 28
\$500,000 to \$999,999	8,744	42	187 248	28
\$1,000,000 to \$1,999,999 \$2,000,000 to \$4,999,999	4,448 2,746	29 19	159 147	12
\$5,000,000 to \$9,999,999 \$10,000,000 or more	784 271	9 7	59 27	3

Land Use

Current and historical use of property (8 pts)

CENTURY FARMS

As established in the Code of Virginia, the Virginia Century Farm Program recognizes and honors those farms that have been in operation for at least 100 consecutive years and the generations of Virginia farm families whose diligent and dedicated efforts have maintained these farms, provided nourishment to their fellow citizens and contributed so greatly to the economy of the Commonwealth.

In recognition of their designation as a Virginia Century Farm, families receive a certificate signed by the Governor and the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and a sign appropriate for outdoor display. In addition, the name of the farm and its owners is listed on this site.

Contact

Jennifer Perkins

Coordinator, Office of Farmland Preservation

804.786.1906

jennifer.perkins@vdacs.virginia.gov

Virginia Century Farms

These 1451 farms have been recognized as Virginia Century Farms. The information is listed by locality, and includes the farm name and the farm owners when the Century Farm recognition originally was bestowed.

Accomack 15	Culpeper 11	Lee 13	Rappahannock 4
Albemarie 11	Cumberland 19	Loudoun 20	Richmond (county) 11
Alleghany 1	Dinwiddie 28	Louisa 29	Richmond/Northumberlan
Amelia 11	Essex 4	Lunenburg 18	Roanoke 3
Amelia/Nottaway 1	Fauquier 18	Lynchburg 1	Rockbridge 15
Amherst 14	Floyd 9	Madison 18	Rockingham 55
Appomattox 12	Fluvanna 11	Mathews 4	Russell 36
Augusta 58	Franklin 38	Mecklenburg 27	Scott 20
Bath 1	Frederick 15	Middlesex 6	Shenandoah 41
Bedford 30	Giles 8	Montgomery 6	Smyth 17
Bland 13	Gloucester 6	Nelson 12	Southampton 96
Botetourt 11	Goochland 4	New Kent 7	Spotsylvania 6
Brunswick 10	Grayson 14	Northampton 6	Stafford 8
Buchanan 2	Greene 2	Northumberland 20	Suffolk 24
Buckingham 4	Greensville 6	Nottoway 15	Surry 27

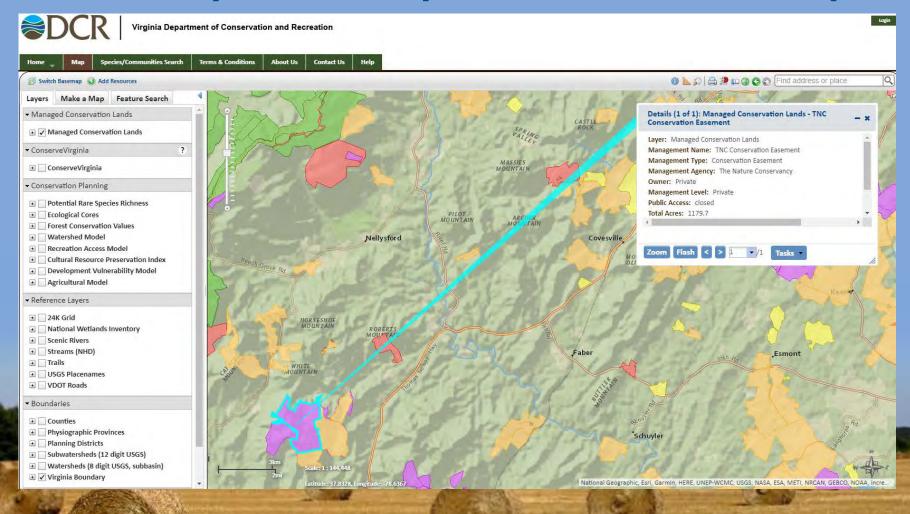
- 1. Is the land currently being farmed?
- 2. Is this a Century Farm?



http://www.vdacs.virginia.gov/conservation-and-environmental-virginia-century-farms.shtml

Land Use

Proximity to other preserved lands (10 pts)

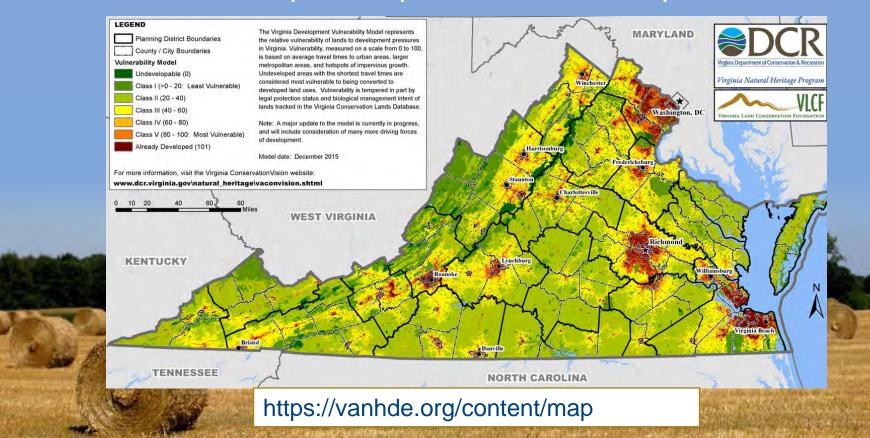


https://vanhde.org/content/map

Land Use

Vulnerability ranking (8 pts)

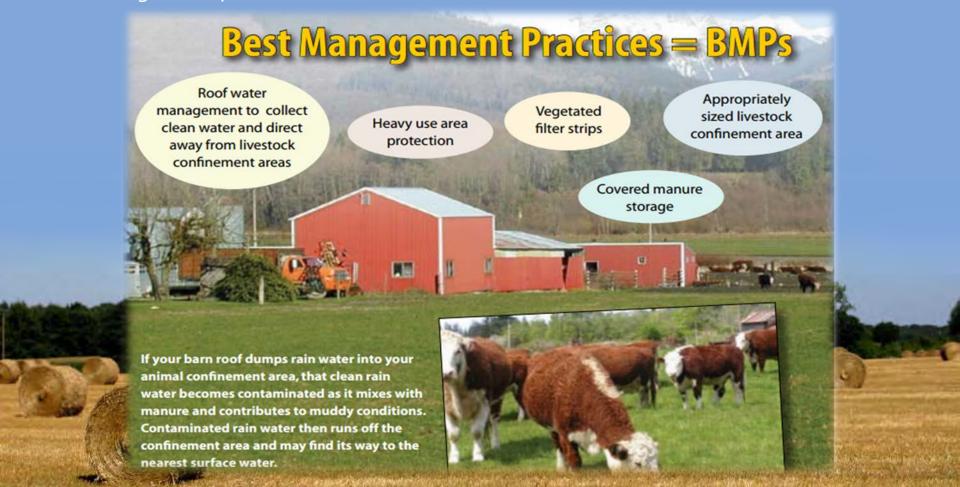
- 2 points for each ranking from Class II to Class V
 - Conservation Vision Development Vulnerability Model
 - More development pressure = more points



Land Use

Implementation of farm BMPs (10 pts)

- Points for both voluntary Best Management Practices and those through a state or federal conservation plan
- Additional points awarded for land with conservation plans and/or nutrient management plans

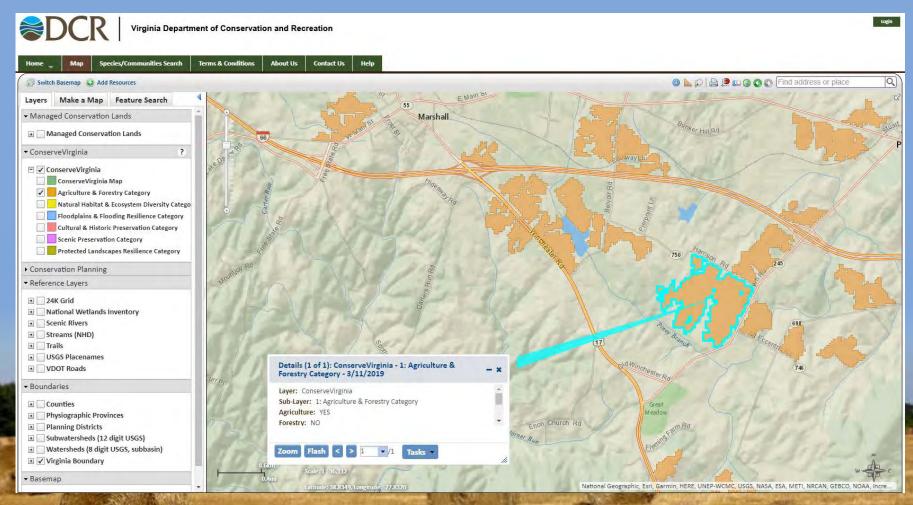


Land Use Supported by local policies (4 pts)

Demonstrated support for farmland protection policies including comprehensive plan, ag zoning, agriculture/forestal districts, and use

value taxation Commissioner of the Land Use Valuation Program This program allows for the reduction of real estate taxes on land that may be eligible for special valuation and assessment when it meets the following criteria: **BUSINESS PERSONAL** PROPERTY Agricultural: When devoted to the bona fide production for sale of plants and animals useful to man under uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or when Planning Areas devoted to and meeting the requirements and qualifications for payments or other compensation **FORMS** pursuant to a soil conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government. Fork Union Sanitary District A five (5) acre minimum in agricultural use is required. Horticultural: When devoted to the bona fide production for sale of fruits of all kinds, including grapes, A-1 Agricultural nuts and berries: vegetables; nursery and floral products under uniform standards prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or when devoted to and meeting the requirments B-1 Business LAND USE VALUATION PROGRAM and qualifications for payments or other compensation pursuant to a soil conservation program under an agreement with an agency of the federal government. A five (5) acre minimum in horticultural use is B-C Business I-1 Industrial Forestry: When devoted to tree growth in such quantity and so spaced and maintained as to constitute a PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS forest area under standards prescribed by the State Forester. A twenty (20) acre minimum in forestry is Fire Districts **EMS Districts** REAL ESTATE LAND Open Space: When so used as to be provided or preserved for park or recreational purposes, AG Forestal Districts conservation of land or other natural resources, floodways, historic or scenic purposes, or assisting in the shaping of the character, direction and timing of community developent or for the public interest and consistent with the local land-use plan under uniform standards prescribed by the Director of the REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF Department of Conservation and Recreation. A ten (10) acre minimum in open space is required. Open Space requires a contract that must be set for a minimum of five (5) years and approved by the Board of Supervisors before it can go into effect. Mouse Districts Senate Districts Zion UDA Zoning Map: Agricultural Zoning Town of Columbia own of Scottsville Future Land Use Map: Rural Preservation

ConserveVirginia Agriculture Layer (20 pts)





Jen Perkins

Coordinator, Office of Farmland Preservation Va. Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services

(804) 786-1906 Jennifer.perkins@vdacs.virginia.gov

Forest Lands Category



Virginia Land Conservation Foundation Grants Workshop Charlottesville, VA July 10, 2019

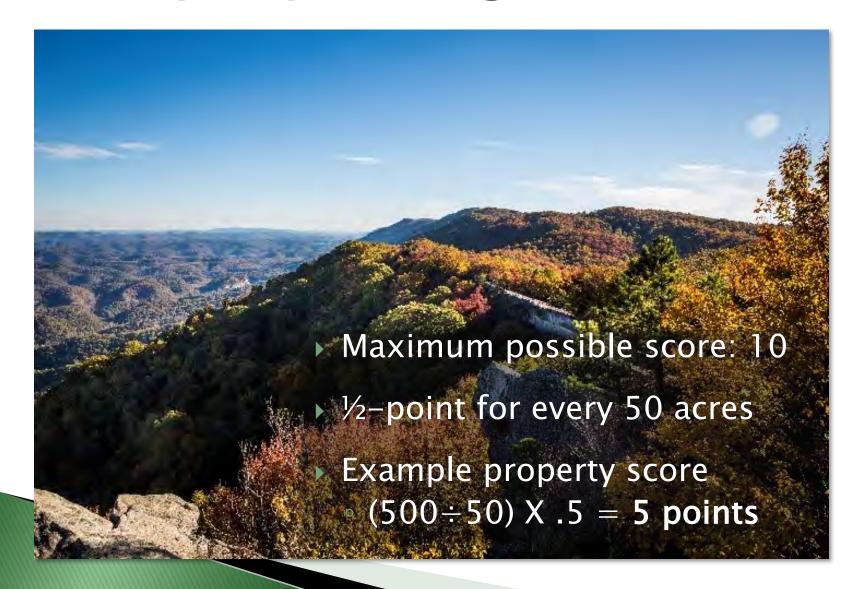
Forest Lands Criteria

- Property acreage
- Percent forested
- 3. Percent of forest that is high forest conservation value (FCV)
- 4. Length of watercourses
- 5. Adjacency to conserved lands
- 6. Management
- 7. Forest land base preservation
- 8. Percent within Conserve Virginia

Example Property

- 500-acre property
 - 450 acres forested, 400 acres high FCV
 - ▶ 63% of acreage in ConserveVirginia
- 6250' of watercourses
- Adjacent to Wildlife Management Area and within 2 miles of eased property
- Forest Stewardship Management Plan and demonstrated implementation
- Applicant willing to permanently protect 375 acres of forest land base

1. Property Acreage

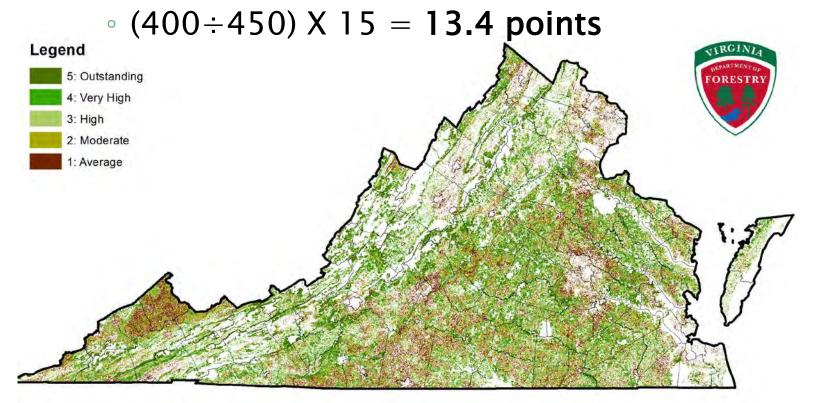


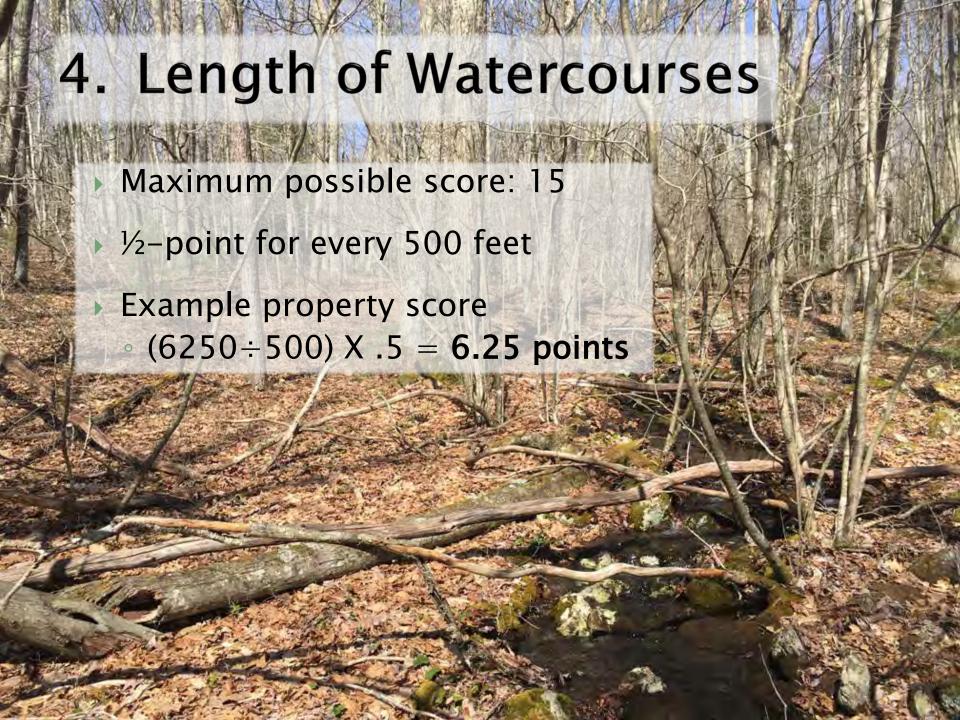
2. Percent Forested



3. Forest Conservation Value

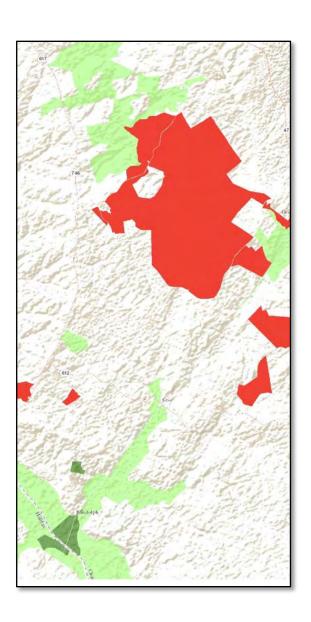
- Maximum possible score: 15
- % of high FCV forest X 15
- Example property score





5. Adjacency

- Maximum possible score: 5
 - Reverse scale of 1 point for every mile of proximity to conserved lands
- Example property score
 - 5 points

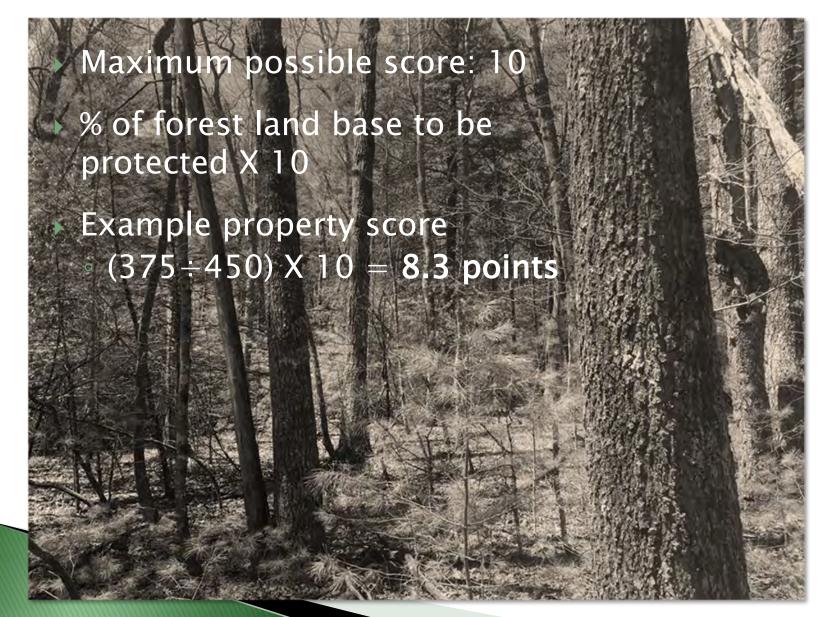


6. Management

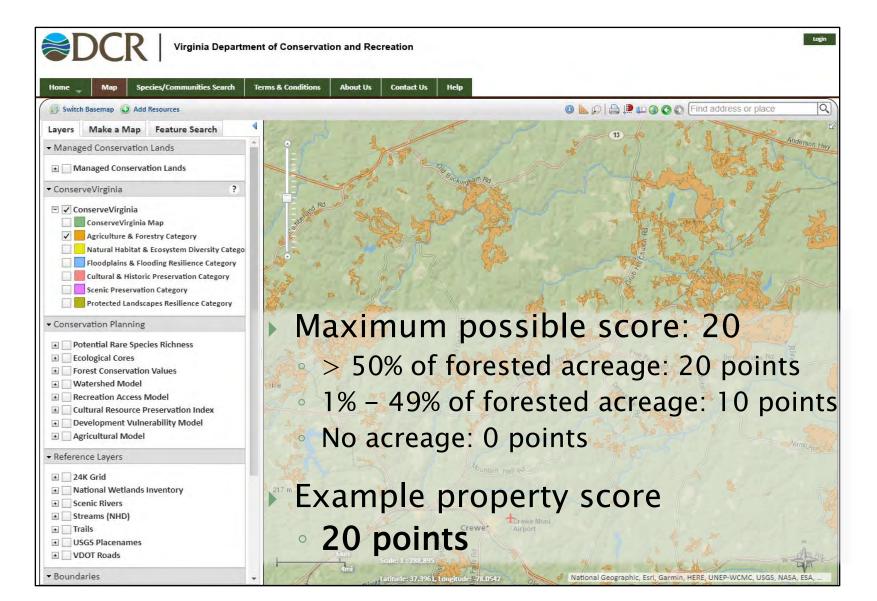
- Maximum possible score: 5
 - Current plan and being implemented: 5 points
 - Plan exists, but no implementation: 3 points
 - No plan: 0 points
- Example property score
 - 5 points



7. Forest Land Base Preservation



8. ConserveVirginia



Example Results Summary

Criteria	Points	Possible Points
Property acreage	5	10
Percent forested	18	20
High FCV	13.4	15
Length of watercourses	6.25	15
Adjacency	5	5
Management	5	5
Forest land base preservation	8.3	10
ConserveVirginia	20	20
TOTALS	80.95	100

Take Aways

- Highly competitive category
- Run the scoring sheet
- Complete application
- Secondary category designations

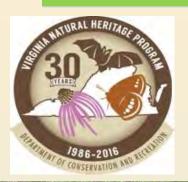


Questions:

Mike Santucci Forestland Conservation Program Manager (434) 220–9182 Mike.Santucci@dof.virginia.gov

Website: http://www.dof.virginia.gov

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Division of Natural Heritage













VA Natural Heritage Program:

Science-based, systematic approaches to identify & protect biological diversity

- >40 years of methodological development
- 30 years of data collection on plants, animals, vegetation, caves & karst





Conserving Virginia's biodiversity through inventory, protection, & stewardship

• Biological expertise (discovered 30 species new to science and 300 species new to Virginia)

• Data mgt tools & standards

• Innovative stewardship









Natural Heritage Methodology

Conservation sites: 2,069
Boundaries delineated
Composite biodiversity
ranks assigned

Each location is ranked A, B, C, D, E, F, H, X

Mapped locations: 9,235

Element ranks:

Global: 1–5

State: 1–5

Elements Tracked:

Natural communities: 528

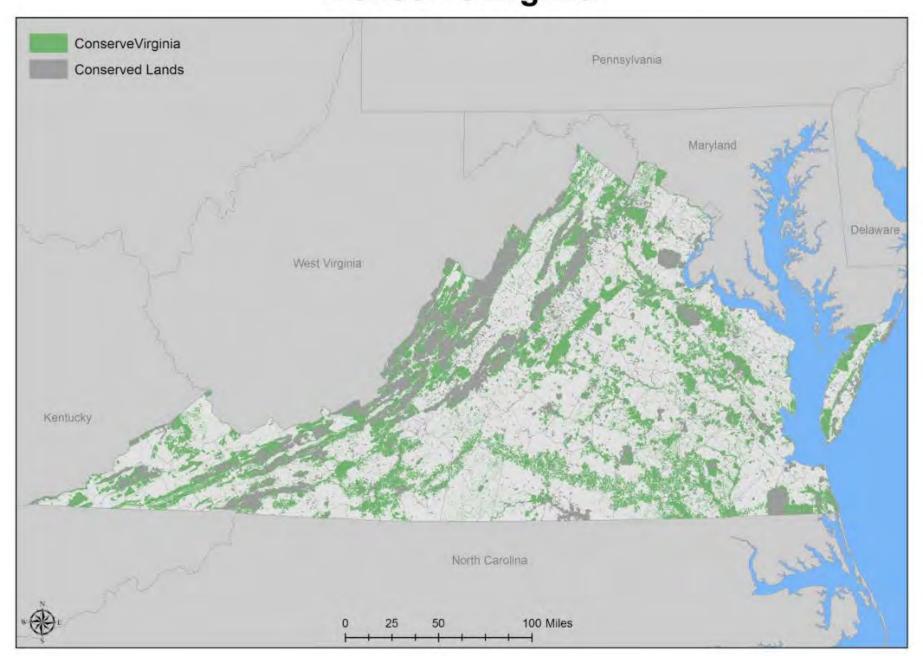
Plant species: 709

Animal species: 796

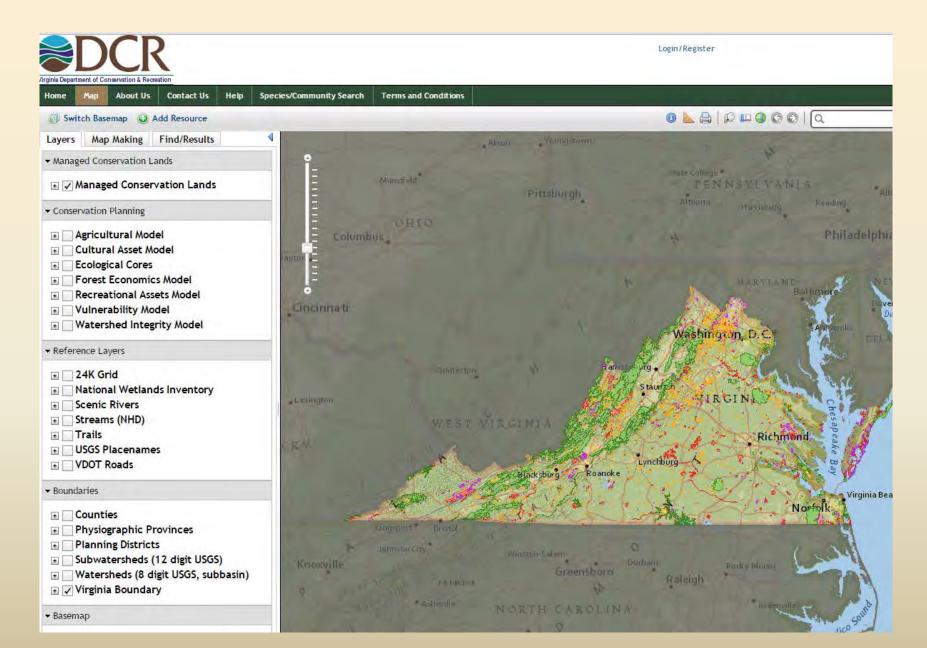




ConserveVirginia



Natural Heritage Data Explorer (NHDE)



Virginia Natural Area Preserves Act (1989)

The Department shall...

"Preserve the natural diversity of biological resources of the Commonwealth"

Estimated 35,000 species of plants, animals, invertebrates, natural communities











Virginia Natural Area Preserves Act (1989)

The Department shall...

"Preserve the natural diversity of biological resources of the Commonwealth"

Maintain a Natural Heritage Program to:

Select and nominate areas containing natural heritage resources for registration, acquisition, and dedication of natural areas and natural area preserves.

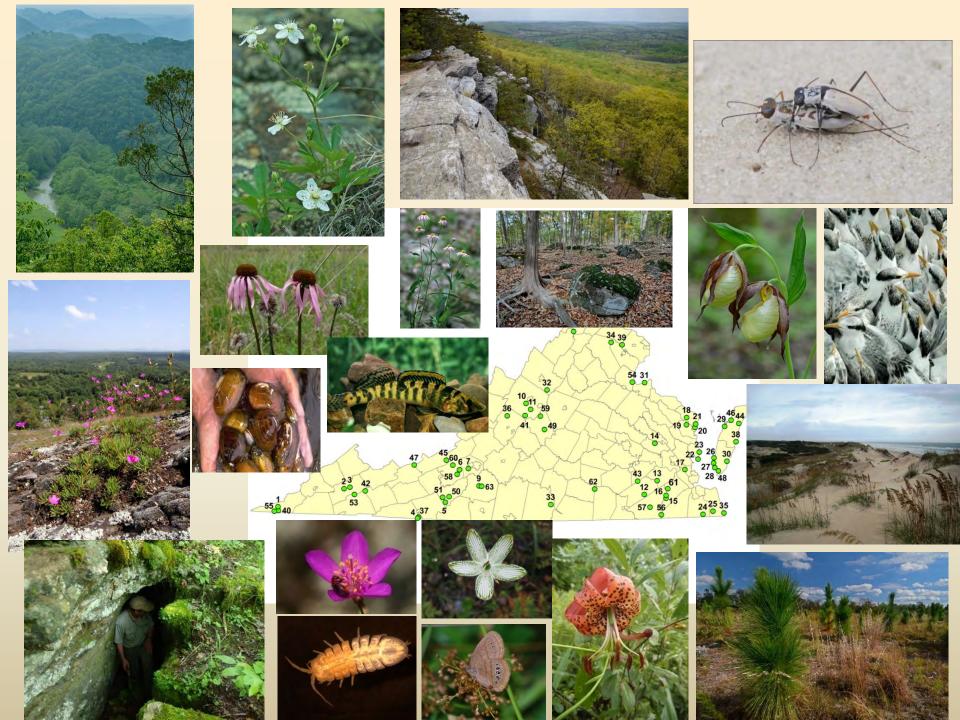
What are Natural Area Preserves?

•Statewide system of lands designed to protect &



The Channels State Natural Area Preserve

Complement Co the specific runission & intent Augusta Co.



Natural Area Preserve System

Locations strongly informed by science

Overall goal is to be efficient & comprehensive

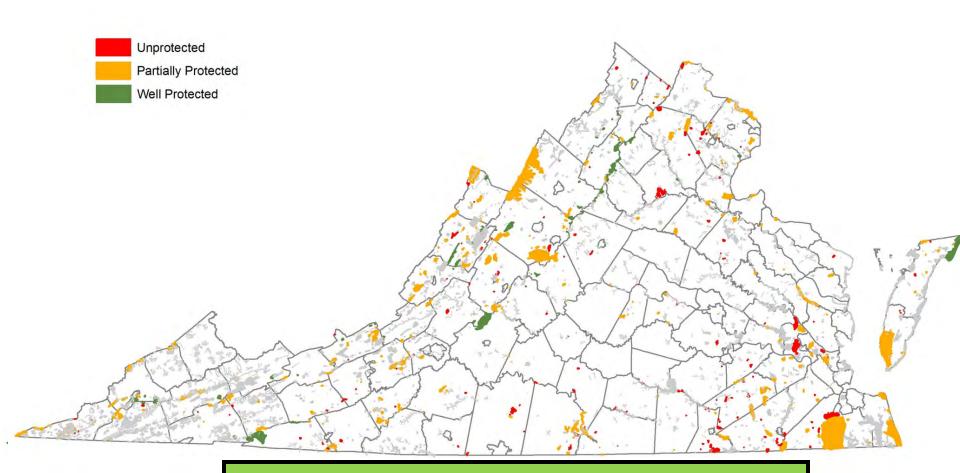
MOST SITES DO NOT QUALIFY

Essential Conservation Sites

..... key areas of the landscape where protection and stewardship action is <u>most critically needed</u> to ensure the long-term viability of one or more natural heritage resources that are the <u>best example(s)</u> <u>known to remain in Virginia</u>.







- ~ 25% sites fully protected
- ~ 54 % sites partially protected & significant conservation partners exist
- < 20% sites fully private ownership



Virginia Land Conservation Foundation

Critical support for Natural Area Protection



Identifying the best available Natural Areas

VLCF Scoring Criteria:

Biodiversity Significance (35 pts)

Ecological Integrity (20 pts)

Management Needs,

Likelihood of Success, & Threat (25 pts)

Conserve Virginia (20 pts)

1. Biodiversity Significance (Max 35 pts)

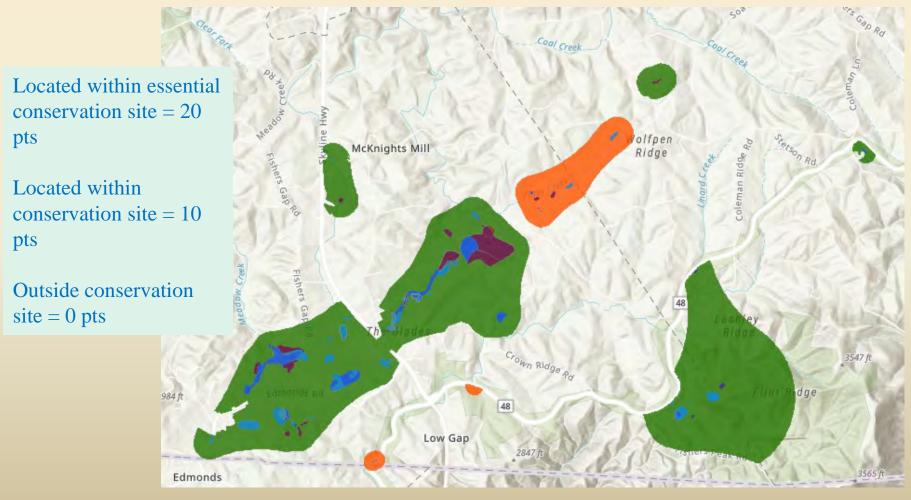
- a. Conservation Site Significance (20 pts)
 - b. Parcel Significance (10 pts)
 - c. Site ranking (5 pts)





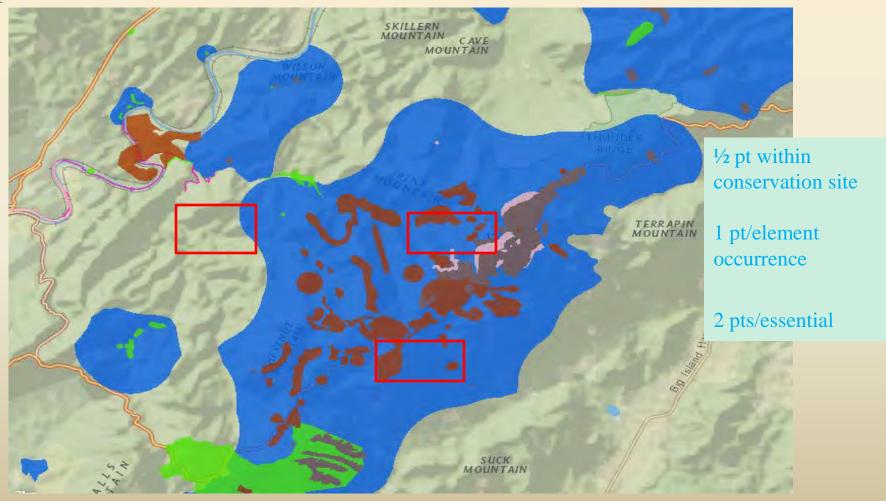
1.a Conservation Site Significance (Max 20 pts)

Will the proposed project protect one or more of Virginia's highest quality examples of a natural heritage resource?



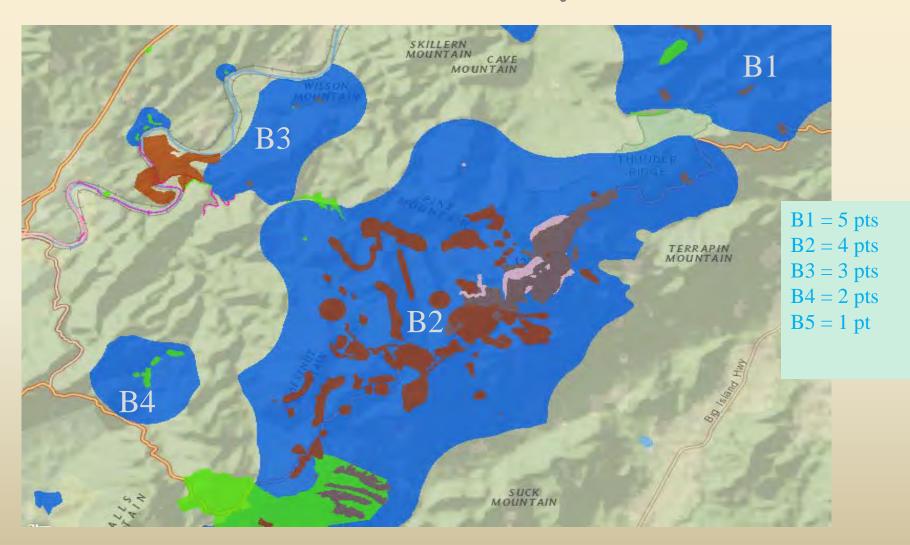
1.b Parcel Significance (Max 10 pts)

How many heritage elements are present on the subject parcel, or associated with it?



1.c Site Significance (Max 5 pts)

What is the standardized biodiversity rank of each site?



2. Ecological Integrity (Max 20 pts)

Landscape Integrity (10 pts)

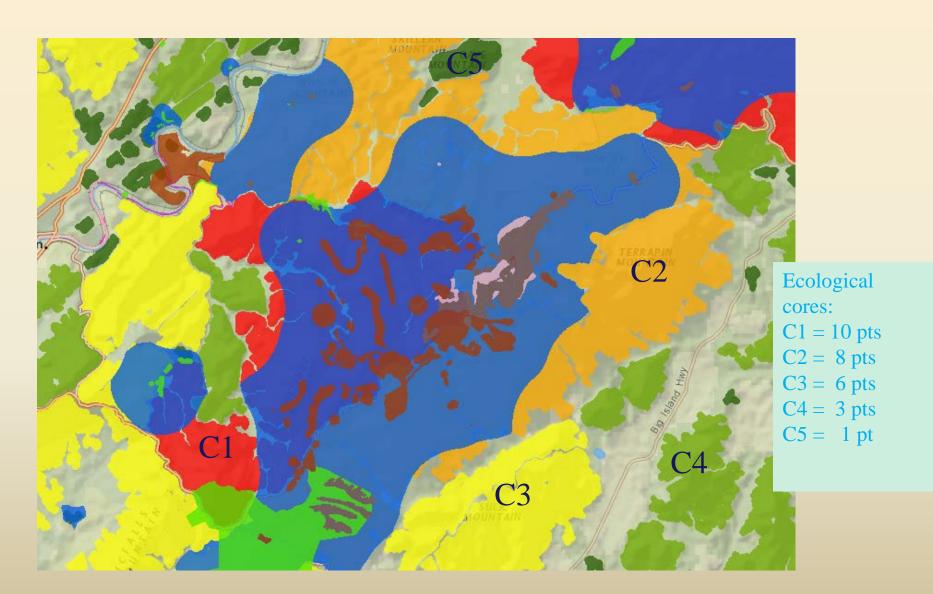
Parcel Integrity (5 pts)

Connectivity (5 pts)





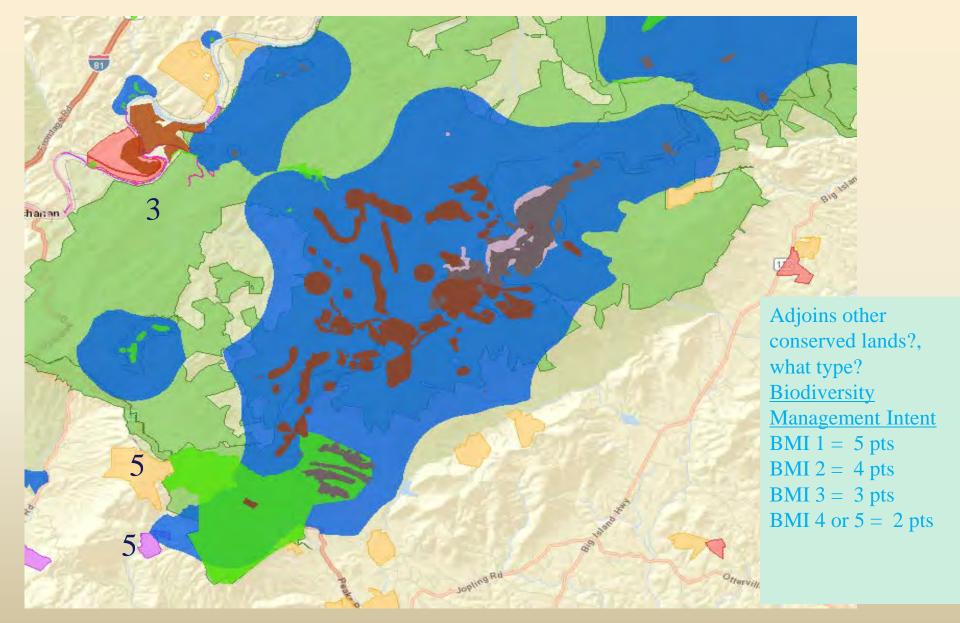
2.a Landscape Integrity (Max 10 pts)



2.B Parcel Integrity (Max 5 pts)



2.c Connectivity (Max 5 pts)

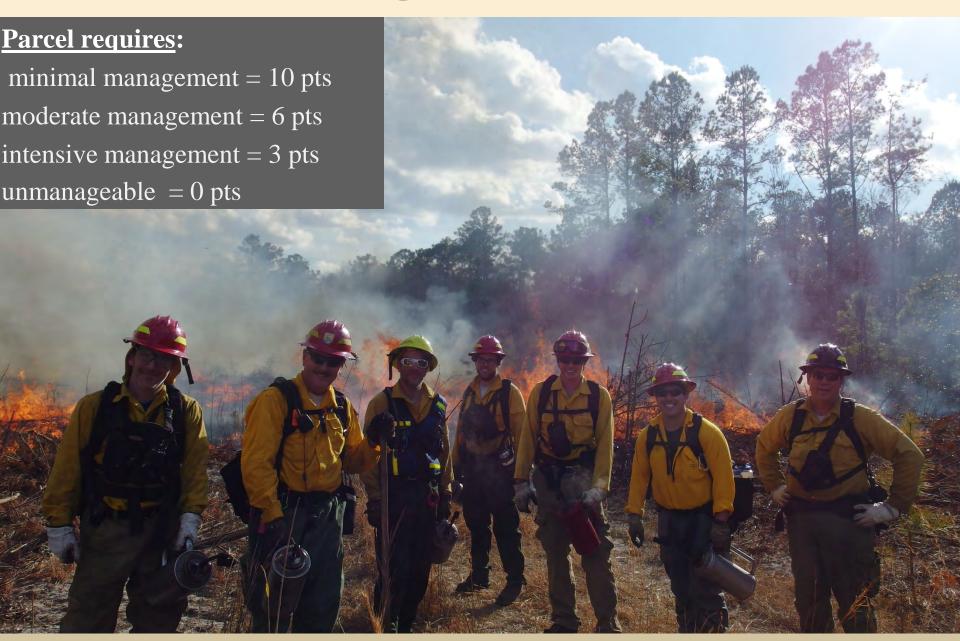


3. Management Needs, Likelihood of Success, Threat (Max 25 pts)



- a. Management Needs (10 pts)
- b. Management Capacity (8 pts)
- c. Site visit & owner contact (5 pts)
- d. Threats (2 pts)

3.a. Management Needs



3.a. Management Capacity

Does the applicant have proven experience & capacity (staff resources & expertise) to address mgt. needs?

Maximum score: 8 Application provides thorough narrative = 8 pts Cursory discussion only = 4 pts Mgt needs & capacity not

addressed/applicant has no proven management experience = 0



3.a. Site visit & Owner contact

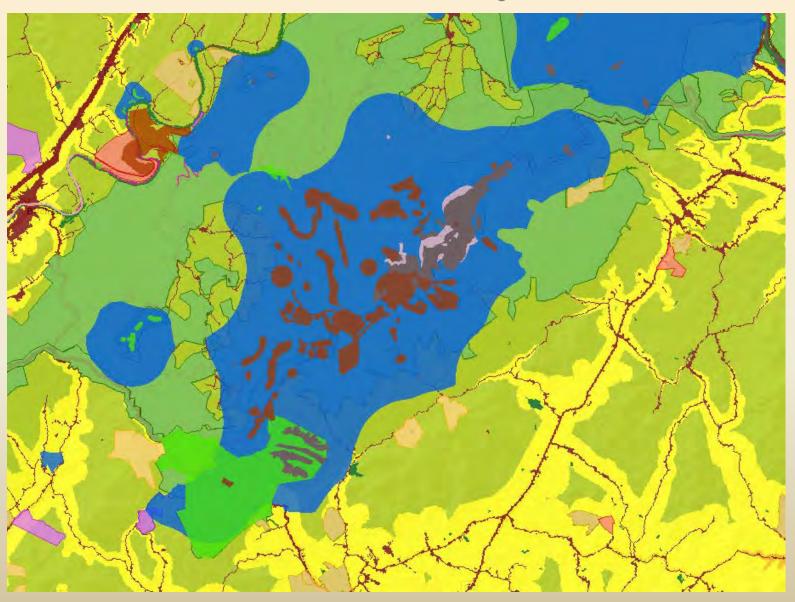
NHP staff have timely opportunity to visit the tract and discuss with landowner necessary conservation measures & implications of natural area dedication



Site visit & discussion = 5 pts, site visit only = 3 pts, discussion only = 2 pts, neither = 0 pts



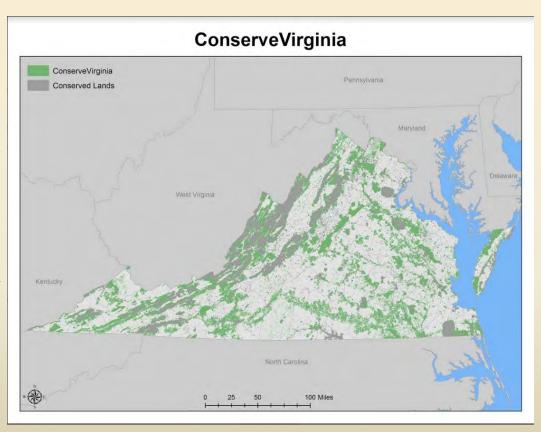
3.d. Threats (Development Vulnerability)

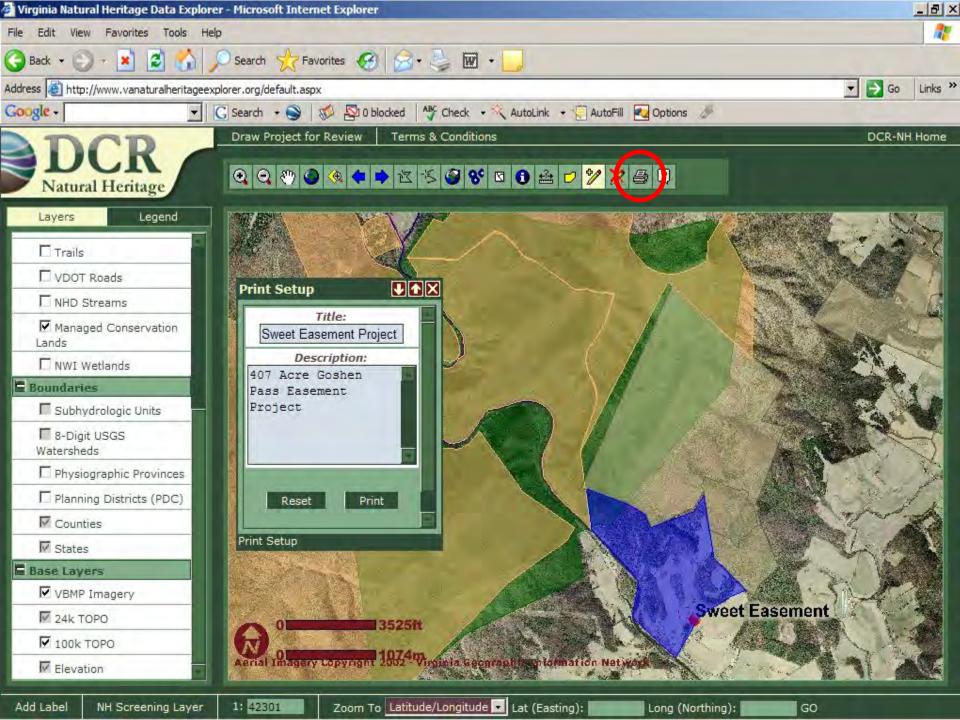


4. Conserve Virginia

50 to 100% of the project is included in "Natural Habitat and Biological Diversity Category" = 20 points

1 to 49% of the project is included in "Natural Habitat and Biological Diversity Category" = 10 points





Funded tracts must be "dedicated"

• Per 10.1-1022.1 D. "All property for which a matching grant is made pursuant to this section shall be dedicated as a natural area preserve..."





(804) 371-6205 (o)

(919) 748-0225 (c)

Rob.Evans@dcr.virginia.gov

Questions?

