



**State & Private Forestry, Southern Region
FY09 Competitive Grant Process
Final Proposal
Cover Page**



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Project Title Private Forestlands and Community Planning

Summary This project seeks to introduce and disseminate to local government planners and forest resource managers an advanced system of land use planning techniques specifically designed for privately owned forestlands. The process will encourage better development patterns, conserving forestlands.

Category (check one)
 Regional or sub-regional in scale and involves multiple states
 Single state- or sub-state scale projects

Submitting State: (participating States use attachment) Virginia

Will more than one state be receiving funds to implement this project?

If yes, please list all states to receive funds:

Is this project multi-year? If yes, please indicate the anticipated duration of this project:
 Two years
 Three years

Project Coordinator information: (participating States use attachment)

Name Rob Farrell
Address VADOF 900 Natural Resources Drive #800, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
Phone 434-220-9063
Email rob.farrell@dof.virginia.gov

I/we, the undersigned State Forester(s), agree to and acknowledge our State's participation in the delivery of this project upon receipt of State and Private Forestry Redesign Funds as part of the FY09 Competitive Process.

State Forester - Submitting State

State Forester [] State Forester [] State Forester []
State Forester [] State Forester [] State Forester []

Enhance

Project linkage:



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Project Description (20 points):

Goal

Reduced forest conversion through new planning techniques by rural communities.

Objectives

850 characters

This project seeks to introduce new planning tools to local government planners and to forest resource professionals in Virginia and train these professionals on these tools. The project also seeks to have one or more local governments implement these tools. Ultimately, these tools will reduce the rate of conversion of forest landscapes and preserve working forest potential given the realities of parcelization in the south. These new planning approaches depart from past command and control policies and rely on social, economic and behavioral incentives. In addition, the project will facilitate and result in collaboration and information sharing between local government planners and forest professionals in Virginia, educating each about the expertise of the other.

What specific methods or actions will be used to accomplish objectives?

850 characters

The investigators will develop a web-based manual that would educate planners on forestry issues and forest professionals on planning issues. The manual would include model ordinance language and techniques to develop comprehensive plans and ordinances to implement innovative land use planning tools to accommodate development while maintaining land in working forestry and enhancing forest health. The project will also include a statewide seminar for planners, forestry professionals and cooperative extension agents to train these professionals on the new model and techniques. Finally, the investigators would work closely with forestry professionals, planners, cooperative extension agents, as well as elected officials in two communities to develop and implement demonstration projects implementing the new planning tools.

How will this project support or move forward existing State & Private Forestry programs?

850 characters

This project builds on work done in previous years, funded by a U & CF grant and USDA Forest Service Planning Assistance Grant from R-8, to develop planning tools to accommodate develop while conserving land and maintaining working forestry. This project would provide education and technical assistance to ensure that these tools will be utilized at the local level. Implementation of these tools will support the new forest land conservation program in the VADOF and other agencies by making conserved lands available for fiber production, wildlife management and forest recreation. Seventy-five percent of forestland in Virginia is owned by nonindustrial private landowners . Using these planning tools will help protect water quality and provide other ecosystem services by maintaining forest cover in close proximity to residential areas.



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Project Benefits (25 points):

How will the forest resource be sustained by this project?

850 characters

These planning techniques make more effective use of the property, conserving land for forestry, by incentivizing development that retains working forest cover. Consequently, the rate of forestland conversion due to development will decrease, maintaining large forest parcels in the face of increased demand for housing. The techniques will also allow for more effective protection schemes with larger, more accessible parcels. These development patterns will reduce exposure of residences to wildfire threat because of fewer homes in the direct threat area. Larger blocks of forestland can also be better monitored for forest health problems.

What societal or public values are enhanced by this project?

850 characters

When implemented, these planning tools will allow local governments to maintain more working forests while accommodating inevitable development. These forests will provide many benefits, including improved air quality, reduced runoff, aesthetics, improved water quality and carbon sequestration. The forestland will be available for a variety of forest-based, recreation- hunting, fishing and hiking, among others. From a land-use planning perspective, the implementation of the these tools will reduce sprawl and promote smart development patterns, reducing public infrastructure costs and providing environmental benefits such as reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. These tools will also help communities retain rural character and a sense of place.

Who are the direct beneficiaries/ stakeholders of the project and how do they benefit?

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Rural landowners will be able to realize some of the development potential of their property while maintaining the working forest resource. Planners and the community will benefit from incentive-based tools that are likely to cost little to implement but tend to be both more effective and more politically acceptable than traditional regulations. Home buyers will have proximity to forestland and open space without the management responsibilities. For the community, sprawl will be reduced and ecosystem services will be retained, along with the protection of viewsheds and retention of recreation opportunities. Conservation of the forest will benefit local forest industry. VDOF staff will learn about land use planning and will teach planners about forestry practices.



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Outcomes, Measures, and Deliverables (25 points):

What are the desired outcomes?

850 characters

Program outcomes will directly affect two counties by enabling implementation of these new planning tools. Throughout the state, the project will imbed technical capability and motivation across several key stakeholder groups and train state foresters and extension agents to provide additional capacity, as well as provide a model for other southern states to consider. Planners will gain knowledge of the tools. Communities will enable higher quality development with less forest fragmentation, so that active forest management and development can coexist. Valuable linkages between VADOF staff and local and regional planning staffs will be developed so that VADOF staff can be active advisors to local and regional planning staffs, providing GIS data to identify valuable forest resources. This linkages do not presently exist or are weak.

What will be the measures of success?

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None measure will be the development of the web-based manual and making the manual widely available on the web. Another will be completion of one state-wide seminar with participation by VADOF foresters, extension agents and planners. A third measure will be the implementation of two demonstration projects in Virginia localities. These two localities will receive comprehensive consulting packages to aid them in putting into place the new ordinance and planning program. Success will also be measured by number of counties that incorporate VADOF data into comprehensive plans/zoning, the number of hits on web site, the number of downloads of manual, the number of requests for copies of manual throughout the south and the United States. Finally, successful implementation of planning tools will generate one or more case studies.

What are the deliverables and how will they be used?

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The web-based manual will be used a technical resource for planners to implement the model ordinance and techniques. There will be a state-wide seminar to train professionals in the application of the new model and techniques. The two demonstration projects will create interest in Virginia, across the South and across the United States in implementing the model, as well as creating awareness of the issues and the new tools.



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Timeframe and Partners (15 points):

What is the timeline or schedule for the project?

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April 1, 2009 - March 31, 2010 Develop and create the web-based manual
April 1, 2010- post the manual on the web site
April 1, 2010 - Fall 2010 Promote the manual and the web site; disseminate information and gather feedback
April 1, 2010- March 31, 2011- work with demonstration localities to implement model program
Fall 2010 - state-wide seminar
March 31, 2011- complete implementation of model program in demonstration localities

What are the implementation steps?

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Develop the web-based manual.
Identify, with VADOF input, local governments for demonstration projects.
Host state-wide seminar in partnership with VADOF
Work with VADOF and demonstration localities to develop and implement ordinances and practices.
Identify partner organizations

Identify partnering organizations.

850 characters

Lead: Virginia Tech Urban Affairs and Planning Program

Partners: Virginia Department of Forestry, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Community Viability Program, New River Valley Planning District Commission and their Green Infrastructure Initiative, Virginia Rural Planners Caucus (a division of the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association), Citizens Planning Education Association of Virginia, and two Virginia county governments



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Budget 1: Requested Federal Dollars

In each of the columns below, designate the individual state requests for federal funds according to the associated costs identified in A. Personnel/ Labor through I. Indirect Costs. The TOTAL in Row J should reflect each individual state's funding request.

Requesting State (2 letter abbreviation)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. Personnel / Labor	1 VA	2	3	4	5	6	7
B. Fringe Benefits	1 \$39,000	2	3	4	5	6	7
C. Travel	1 \$4,000	2	3	4	5	6	7
D. Equipment	1 \$13,000	2	3	4	5	6	7
E. Supplies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
F. Contractual	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
G. Construction	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
H. Other	1 \$2,000	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Indirect Costs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
J. TOTAL * (sum of A through I)	1 \$58,000	2	3	4	5	6	7

* No individual state shall receive more than 15% of total available Redesign funds in any given fiscal year.

* If additional space is needed, please use the above format and attach a separate Word or Excel document entitled: FEDERAL REQUEST to your email when submitting this form. Make sure to include **all federal requests** in the total below.

Please check this box if you are attaching a separate Word/Excel document that outlines additional states' requests for federal funding not included on this form.

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS REQUESTED
(sum of individual state requests as above in J. 1 through 7.)

\$58,000



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Budget 2: State and other Partner Contributions

In each of the columns below, designate the individual state and partner contributions to the projects according to the associated costs in A. Personnel/Labor through I. Indirect Costs. The TOTAL in Row J should reflect the sum of all cash and in-kind contributions that each individual state will make towards the project. Cash contributions or matching funds should be listed as a dollar amount with no brackets, i.e. \$100,000. In-Kind Service amounts should be listed as a dollar amount with brackets, i.e. [\$100,000].

Contributing State or Partner	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Partner	STATE	VCE	NRPDC	VRPC	2 Counties	
A. Personnel / Labor	\$27,000	(\$15,000)	\$(15,000)	\$(5,000)	\$(2,000)	\$(10,000)	
B. Fringe Benefits	\$2,000						
C. Travel							
D. Equipment							
E. Supplies							
F. Contractual							
G. Construction							
H. Other							
I. Indirect Costs	\$29,000						
J. TOTAL * <i>(sum of A through I)</i>	\$58,000	\$(15,000)	\$(15,000)	\$(5,000)	\$(2,000)	\$(10,000)	

* If additional space is needed, please use the above format and attach a separate Word or Excel document entitled: CONTRIBUTIONS to your email when submitting this form. Make sure to include **all contributions** in the total below.

Please check this box if you are attaching a separate Word/Excel document that outlines additional state/partner contributions not listed on this form.

TOTAL STATE AND PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

*(sum of individual state/partner contributions as above in J.
1 through 7.*

\$105,000



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ATTACHMENT: State / Project Coordinator Information**



Participating State #1: **State Forester:**

Project Coordinator information:

Name

Address

Phone **Fax**

Email

Participating State #2: **State Forester:**

Project Coordinator information:

Name

Address

Phone **Fax**

Email

Participating State #3: **State Forester:**

Project Coordinator information:

Name

Address

Phone **Fax**

Email



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ATTACHMENT: State / Project Coordinator Information**



Participating State #4: **State Forester:**

Project Coordinator information:

Name
Address
Phone **Fax**
Email

Participating State #5: **State Forester:**

Project Coordinator information:

Name
Address
Phone **Fax**
Email

Participating State #6: **State Forester:**

Project Coordinator information:

Name
Address
Phone **Fax**
Email