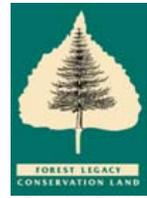




Fiscal Year 2010- Forest Legacy Program Funded Projects



1. **AK, South Denali**, (\$675,000)- Development of two privately owned parcels of excellent northern forestland within Denali State Park threatens the natural features and uninterrupted views near a proposed visitor center on Curry Ridge. Alaska State Parks and the National Park Service are developing a visitor center to promote outdoor education and recreation while highlighting the Alaska Range, Denali (Mt. McKinley), and the surrounding environment. Located two hours north of Anchorage in a vast area of undeveloped lands the visitor center will draw as many visitors as Denali National Park (over a million a year). This application proposes to purchase two in-holdings located in the immediate viewshed and vicinity of the proposed visitor center within Denali State Park. One of the parcels has been subdivided and was recently under contract to build a hotel. That contract fell through and the owner has signed an MOU with the State of Alaska for the purchase. If the State is unable to purchase the parcel the property will remain on the market and ultimately be sold and developed. This project will protect over \$30 million in State and Federal investment in this Visitor Center.
2. **AL, Cumberland Mountains Preserve**, (\$640,000)- The Swaim-Sims Tracts (total 426 acres) contribute a significant addition to the Cumberland Mountains Forest project area by offering many unique attributes, which will be protected through the Forest Legacy Program. The tracts will be secured through fee-simple title acquisition, held by the State Lands Division (SLD) and the Forever Wild Land Trust (FW) and managed by the State Lands and Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR; administrators of the Forever Wild Land Trust). The tracts are readily manageable, strategically located and nationally important to the continued progress made through recent federal, state, and partner conservation efforts directed at protecting the rich biological diversity of the southern Appalachians. Further, the Swaim-Sims Tracts would augment state/federal land holdings in this area, as well as previously funded Forest Legacy Projects (Prince Tract, Post Oak Flat Tract, Coon Gulf Dixon), and greatly bolster other federal conservation interests in this area of Jackson and Madison Counties. The state's match would be 75/25 ratio.
3. **AS, Ottoville Rainforest Preserve**, (\$1,000,000)- This relic lowland lava flow rainforest, located near the airport on Tutuila island, is the only one of it's kind left in the Samoan archipelago. It is small but through scientific studies it is proven to be healthy and regenerating important hardwood species such as Tava (*Pometia pinnata*). This forest is also a refuge for threatened bird and bat species (3 foot wing span fruit eating), which are often displaced due to frequent tropical storms and hurricanes. Perhaps the most important aspect of this forest is that it is one of the few remaining undisturbed areas where water can percolate into the aquifer, which supplies drinking water for the entire island. The land is currently held in several pieces owned by individual members of the Haleck family and would be purchased as a fee simple acquisition. The land is very threatened to be subdivided into housing lots which are in great demand in the Territory.
4. **AZ, San Pedro River Ecosystem** (\$900,000)- The San Pedro River Ecosystem Forest Legacy project will permanently protect 694 acres of riparian forest along the San Pedro River through conservation easements. The importance of the San Pedro River to wildlife

and people is recognized through World Heritage Natural Area, Globally Important Bird Area and National Conservation Area designations. Its riparian forests support nearly half of all US bird species and one of the most diverse faunas in North America, including federally-listed species. Riparian forest is one of the most rare and important forest types in the West. The Arizona Assessment of Need identifies it as the highest protection priority due to the critical importance for wildlife and extreme threat of conversion (90% has been lost or degraded since statehood). This project contributes to the success of a larger landscape-level collaborative effort that has protected over 65,000 acres of riparian forest in the San Pedro River Watershed.

5. **CA, Chalk Mountain Area**, (\$2,000,000)- The Chalk Mt Area Project consists of two family-owned working ranches managed for timber, fish and wildlife habitat, grazing, open space and recreation. The proposed Chalk Mt Ranch conservation easement is 7,276 acres and the proposed Charles MTN Ranch conservation easement is 8,040 acres. Both ranches include very productive forest habitat and are strategically located proximate to one another and federal and state protected public lands (see map). Protecting these working ranches contributes to the landscape-level conservation strategy of providing a continuous corridor of open space and forested wildlife habitat from the Six Rivers National Forest to the Pacific (Six Rivers to the Sea Conservation Initiative, supported by local, state and federal agencies). Landowners are dedicated to sustainable land management. These ranches provide timber (175 MMBF) to support the local industry infrastructure, while holding some of the largest intact areas of privately-owned forestlands in the region. These ranches contain over 12 miles of productive salmonid spawning streams and 40 miles of perennial stream habitat, all draining into two major River watersheds, which support the federally threatened Coho salmon and other spp. Over 50% of the funding will be provided by CA's WCB and landowner donations.
6. **CO, Snow Mountain Ranch**, (\$2,500,000)- This project eliminates all subdivision and development on 2,787 acres of Snow Mountain Ranch, owned by YMCA of the Rockies. Located in Grand County, CO, Snow Mountain Ranch is situated between Winter Park Ski Resort and Rocky Mountain National Park in a landscape where private land is rapidly being converted to residential and golf course developments. Snow Mountain Ranch is distinguished by its majestic Rocky Mountain setting where youth, families, national and international conference groups connect with nature. The proposed conservation easement protects the primitive, forested backcountry on Snow Mountain Ranch, as well as Pole Creek watershed, excluding the guest facilities at lower elevations. Surrounded by Arapaho National Forest and BLM on three sides, Snow Mountain Ranch provides a critical buffer to federal lands, and the public gains access to Arapaho NF by crossing Snow Mtn. Ranch on County Road 53. This project protects the upper watershed of Pole Creek, which drains into the Fraser River, an important tributary to the Colorado River. YMCA of the Rockies has consistently held a strong commitment to preserving the environment for future generations, and this project will have local, national and international impact.
7. **CT, Tulmeadow Farm**, (\$1,415,000)- Connecticut's #1 ranked project for the 2010 fiscal year is a 73 acre managed woodlot which is part of a 260 acre family farm that has been operated by the same family since 1768. The trusts for this property have expired and the beneficiaries, who are of retirement age, need liquid assets. The agricultural portion of the farm (187 acres) is currently protected by easements held by the local land trust. Obtaining an easement for this project would permanently protect the entire farm. The farm is located in the north central portion of CT in the Town of Simsbury, which is just 15 miles outside of the state capitol, Hartford. Although located in a highly suburbanized area, this property acts as a

critical link between two large land protection initiatives. The property consists of a mix of white pine and hardwood on flat to gently rolling terrain, and contains a vernal pool.

8. **DE, Green Horizons**, (\$4,000,000)- The Green Horizons' properties are Delaware's top priority for protection because they are the only remaining working forest lands owned in the state by a forest products company. This company is selling off all of their Delaware land holdings (approx. 9,000 forested acres) within the next few years. The Green Horizons Project specifically addresses the urgent need to protect these forests from development through phased purchases of key properties. Green Horizons Phase VI will protect 876 additional acres of working forest lands within the Redden/Ellendale Forest Legacy Area through a fee simple purchas. These lands will have full public access as part of Redden State Forest. In cooperation with The Conservation Fund, Delaware added 348 acres of working forest lands (through a fee simple purchase) to Redden State Forest during Phase V. Concurrently, Delaware protected 740 additional threatened acres in the Cypress Swamp Forest Legacy Area through a fee simple purchase using non-Forest Legacy funds. Without focusing Forest Legacy Program funds on the remaining Green Horizons lands, there will be little chance of saving these forests from development and thus we will lose a significant number of forested acres to non-forest uses.
9. **FL, St. Vincent Sound-to-Lake Wimico**, (\$2,500,000)- Phase I consists of 3,453 acres fronting on St. Vincent Sound in Franklin County. The St. Vincent Sound-to-Lake Wimico Ecosystem is part of a landscape-scale conservation effort within the highly ranked St. Joe Timberlands Florida Forever project. The entire project area consists of the fee simple acquisition of 49,520 acres in Gulf and Franklin counties, Florida. The forested habitat connectivity afforded by the project may be unparalleled in State of Florida efforts to conserve its natural heritage. Overall, the project will help to forge an integrated and interconnected landscape-scale conservation area for large vertebrate wildlife movement of over 912,000 acres – not to mention the adjacent waters of the national estuarine research reserve and two state aquatic preserves that protect an additional 394,000 acres. Due to the size and cost of the project, the acquisition of the project is to be done in multiple phases. TNC has an option on the entire 49,520 acres.
10. **GA, Murff tract- Rayonier Forest** (\$3,500,000)- Protection of a large contiguous tract of 14,000 acres which joins over 83,005 acres of protected land. In September 2006, the State closed on the 2,571 acre Townsend tract using \$1,970,000 of FY 06 Forest Legacy funding for the Altamaha River Corridor project. An option to acquire the entire Murff tract will be signed that will allow it to be purchased in two phases. The Forest Legacy funds will be used to acquire phase 2 totaling approximately 7,700 acres. The Murff Tract is the largest, most ecologically intact, and most important unprotected tract of land in the Altamaha River corridor, which is itself one of the most important conservation targets identified in Georgia's State Wildlife Action Plan. It is also a critical piece for the US Marine Corps as a buffer and flyway protector to the Townsend Bombing Range. This range is used to train soldiers from military bases in over 40 states. It is located in the lower Altamaha River floodplain and contains forested wetlands, inland maritime forest hammocks on sand ridges, upland longleaf pine, and tidal freshwater forested wetlands.
11. **HI, Kainalu Forest Watershed**, (\$1,500,000)- Kainalu Forest Watershed (KFW) conservation easement is 614 acres of strategic watershed on East Molokai Island. The KFW is part of 1200 acre Kainalu Ranch that represents nearly an entire watershed. The KFW parcel extends from sea level to the Wailau Valley Rim at 3400 ft, a distance of nearly three miles. The upper reaches are composed of four native forested riparian areas with amphitheater intakes that contribute to the Kainalu and Waialua Streams, and are home to

many rare species. These forests and streams produce a large portion of the freshwater that contributes to aquifer recharge and sustains Molokai's residents. Kainalu Ranch has been in Hawaiian hands since Polynesians landed in the islands and has been owned by the Dunbar Family for almost 100 years. The Dunbars' vision for the Kainalu Ranch is to protect critical watershed resources that many depend upon without sacrificing vulnerable lower elevation acres to development pressures. The KFW offers a rare opportunity to preserve a large, intact area that is biologically, culturally, and functionally critical to the long-term protection of rare natural resources on Molokai that are vulnerable locally, regionally and nationally.

12. **IA, Preparation Canyon** (\$1,315,000)- This project involves acquisition of a conservation easement on 1,678 acres of forest along the western edge of the Loess Hills State Forest in Monona County, Iowa. Located within 30 minutes of the rapidly expanding Omaha/Council Bluffs metro area with a population of over one million, this project will protect a 60 mile wide watershed of the Missouri River floodplain along a National Scenic Byway and in a U.S. National Park Service Loess Hills Special Landscape Area. The project will encourage active management of productive native hardwood forest, oak savanna and native tall grass prairie on the largest privately owned tract of forest land in the Loess Hills region of Iowa. The Loess Hills landscape is a globally unique area, due to the extreme depth of the loess soils which measure as much as 200 feet deep. These soils are thousands of years old and have some of the highest soil erosion rates in the nation, averaging nearly 40 tons per acre per year. The Loess Hills are home to several state listed plant and animal species. The uniqueness of the landscape and biota led to recognition of portions of the Loess Hills as a National Natural Landmark in 1986 by the U.S. Department of the Interior.
13. **ID, Bane Creek Neighbors**, (\$2,465,000)- The Bane Creek Neighbors project connects two ecologically vulnerable ecosystems and contains resource values of national, regional and local significance. While real estate development rapidly supplants traditional land uses throughout the region, three north Idaho families have joined with the Vital Ground Foundation to permanently protect 720 acres of critical wildlife habitat and productive timber land. While all three families possess a deep commitment to conservation principles, the threat to the project properties is imminent. Two of the three landowners will be forced to sell portions of their property to meet financial obligations if this proposal is unsuccessful. The project provides important linkage between the Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak ecosystems for a wide variety of wildlife including threatened and endangered populations of grizzly bears and gray wolves. Project lands provide timber and agricultural products as well as year-round recreational opportunities important to the regional and local economy.
14. **ID, McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor** (\$3,345,000)- The McArthur Lake Wildlife Corridor (MLWC) Forest Legacy Project will protect 3,727 acres of critical private timberlands in the most viable linkage between the Selkirk and Cabinet-Yaak Mountain ecosystems in northern Idaho. The Project provides the best remaining chance for an East-West corridor between two 500,000-acre blocks of National Forest System and State lands. The MLWC provides critical habitat and connectivity for 6 threatened and endangered-species in a region that supports the only remaining intact predator-prey assemblages – including grizzly bears and wolves – in the continental U. S. For 20 years, 10 agencies and private organizations have focused conservation efforts on the Corridor, protecting 2,400 acres of private properties in the heart of the MLWC. The project will protect the most critical remaining unprotected parcels and leverage Forest Legacy funds awarded to this geographic area in FY07 and FY08. Rampant subdivision and development in the MLWC threaten to permanently sever this critical linkage. Without Forest Legacy funding, these parcels will be sold for development. These threatened timberlands in the Corridor are of

international conservation significance and will be a showcase project for the Forest Legacy program.

15. **MA, Metacomet-Monadnock Forest**, (\$245,000)- Metacomet-Monadnock Forest (MMF), ranked #2 by the MA Forest Legacy Committee and #17 nationally in FY09, is a landscape-scale project that links 1055 acres (7 easements/510ac & 4 Fee/545ac) of productive forest to over 17,000 acres of state forest and other protected land. MMF is the first of a multi-phase strategy targeting land in and around some of the largest unfragmented forest blocks in the MA portion of the Quabbin to Cardigan (Q2C) corridor. This FY10 application adds 2 new CE properties and 160 acres to the project. Spanning 4 towns, MMF is nestled in the forested viewshed of the Metacomet-Monadnock-Mattabesett Trail (MMM Trail) and would protect nearly 1¼ mile of the historic route. MMF includes 395 acres held by the Northfield Mount Hermon School (NMH). NMH, who owns another 1300-acre forest block that is under imminent threat since the 2005 campus closing, has indicated that if the Forest Legacy Program (FLP) funds MMF, it will participate in a 2nd phase. A 2nd institutional landowner with over 2000 acres and 1¾ miles of MMM Trail has indicated interest in a future phase if MMF is funded. MMF is a partnership between Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust (MGLCT), DCR, and the towns of Northfield, Warwick, and Erving.
16. **MA, Southern Monadnock Plateau II**, (\$1,120,000)- The bi-state Southern Monadnock Plateau Phase II (SMP II) project – ranked #5 by USDA Forest Service’s Forest Legacy Committee – builds on a \$2.5 million Forest Legacy FY07 award to conserve working forests highlighted in the USFS “Forests on the Edge” report as facing the highest threat of conversion due to increasing development pressures. This multi-year effort is creating corridors of protected working forests, linking more than 15,000 acres of state, town and non-profit land in MA and NH. Phase II includes 14 tracts totaling 1,825 acres of productive forests which support the local forest economy and provide excellent ecological, recreational and hydrological value. Phase II conserves Drinking Water Supply Protection Areas for 4 municipalities, and is in a U.S. EPA’s Watershed Initiative Grant Area. MA Dept. of Fish and Game identifies 730 acres as important for rare species habitat or part of large forest blocks critical to sustaining wildlife populations. Phase II includes 3 Core Focus Areas of the Quabbin to Cardigan Collaborative, a joint NH & MA initiative protecting large forest blocks. 7 active partners include 1 state agency, 2 municipalities, 2 multi-state conservation organizations, 1 regional land trust, and 2 local land trusts.
17. **ME, Katahdin Forest Expansion**, (\$3,700,000)- The Katahdin Region, anchored by Baxter State Park, represents Maine’s largest block of contiguous conservation lands (over 500,000 acres) including 194,751 acres of easement lands protected through the Katahdin Forest Project (FY’05 FLP). The Katahdin Forest Expansion seeks to add five critical parcels, totaling 19,647 acres, to these conservation holdings. The three northern tracts (East Branch tracts) are located east of Baxter Park near the spectacular East Branch of the Penobscot River. They include the Millinocket Forest (4,956 acre fee), Lookout Mountain (3,574 acre easement) and Hunt Farm (3,073 acre easement) tracts. Acquisition of the East Branch tracts will secure critical snowmobile trails and recreational access. Further to the south, BPL seeks to acquire two tracts (one fee and one easement) totaling 8,044 acres surrounding Seboeis Lake. The Seboeis tracts (Seboeis South and West), which include 19 miles of shore and island frontage would complete the State’s conservation ownership around Seboeis Lake, a wilderness lake offering outstanding views of Mount Katahdin. All five properties have traditionally been under active commercial forest management and are key contributors to the local wood products industry.

18. **MN, Koochiching Forest Legacy**, (\$3,000,000)- This Koochiching Forest Legacy Project Phases 1, 2, 3 and 4 will protect the forest economy and the recreational and environmental resources on over 140,000 acres of timber land in northern Minnesota. Purchase of a conservation easement on these lands would guarantee public access for camping, hunting, hiking, cross-country skiing, and motorized usage while helping sustain timber and forest industry jobs across the state. The properties are near two National Forests-the Chippewa NF and Superior NF, Nett Lake Indian Reservation, county forests and MN's largest state forest, and contain numerous federal or state endangered or threatened species including Canada lynx, timber wolf, orchids and a rare tiger beetle. The properties also contribute water quality benefits to two state designated canoe and boating rivers, Voyageurs National Park, the Rainy River, and Nett Lake, the world's foremost natural wild rice producing lake. This Phase 4 project will build on the recently completed 51,000 acre Phase 1 Project and will protect an additional 13,502 acres.
19. **MT, Murray Douglas Conservation Easement**, (\$2,900,000)- The Murray – Douglas conservation easement project comprises 9,594 acres of forested land within the Garnet Mountains in the south-central Blackfoot River watershed of Montana. The easement will be held and monitored by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The Murray-Douglas Conservation Easement Project is part of the disposition component of the larger Blackfoot Challenge Blackfoot Community Project for the south-central Blackfoot watershed. Plum Creek Timber Company reorganized as a Real Estate Investment Trust in 1999, had identified thousands of acres in western Montana as having “higher and better uses” than commercial forestry, and was actively marketing timberland in the Blackfoot for private development. The Challenge initiated the Blackfoot Community Project in the fall of 2002 as a proactive response to the progressive parceling of these timberlands and to allow the Blackfoot community a voice in guiding their future ownership and use.
20. **NH, Cardigan Highlands**, (\$2,400,000)- The Cardigan Highlands project would conserve 9,278 acres of ecologically exceptional, sustainably-managed working forest in central NH through a conservation easement purchase. The project is a strategic conservation priority for the Quabbin to Cardigan Initiative (Q2C), a multi-state, landscape-scale, public-private conservation partnership operating in the Monadnock Highlands of NH and MA. The Cardigan Highlands project includes two tracts: the 6,578-acre Green Acre Woodlands tract (funded in FY09 and FY10) and the 2,700-acre Kimball Hill tract (proposed for funding in FY11). The Cardigan Highlands project is part of a larger effort to connect already substantial conservation investments to achieve cumulative conservation at the landscape scale. The project would protect important environmental values, including surface and ground water, fish and wildlife habitat, unique forest communities, and recreational opportunities. The project would conserve an impeccably managed working forest that supports the forest products economy and provides jobs.
21. **NJ, Musconetcong & Rockaway River Watersheds**, (\$1,000,000)- NJ's highest-ranking project will protect lands with fee simple acquisitions to be held & managed by the Division of Parks and Forestry & the Division of Fish and Wildlife. New Jersey's 2010 application goal is to protect tracts of tremendous conservation & connective value. Each consists of prime contiguous forest land, protects potable water resources & biodiversity, and allows for public recreation. The lands contain hundreds of acres of unfragmented forest. Due to their proximity to adjacent public & protected forestland, the preservation of these parcels will further expand contiguous acreage of denser forests & promote forest health. The project supports the Federally Endangered Indiana Bat. In addition, state research & planning categorizes the project area as, "Critical Wetland Forest with Core Habitat" supporting state threatened & endangered species: American Bald Eagle, Barred Owl, Bobcat, Cooper's

Hawk, Northern Goshawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red Shouldered Hawk, Timber Rattlesnake, & Wood Turtle. The NJ Forest Stewardship Committee has reviewed & approved this project. The state is prepared to match the USDA funding award greater than 2:1. All tracts will be fully open to the public for recreational use.

22. **NV, Castles-Bowers Mansion** (\$900,000)- The project is located in the High Sierra Nevada foothills between Carson City and Reno. The project will become part of Washoe County's Bower Mansion and Davis Creek Regional Parks. They were Nevada's first Comstock millionaires. In 1864, with their wealth, they built the mansion and to this day it is one of the most impressive restored homes in Nevada. The project area is adjacent, West and South of the existing parks (Phase II is West of Bowers Mansion). The property is covered with ponderosa, Jeffery and sugar pine intermixed with aspen, white fir and incense cedar. Purchase of this property will allow increased public access between Bower Mansion Park, Davis Creek Park and the Humbolt-Toiyabe NF. This acquisition has been strategically coordinated with other property in the Sierra Front and has been designated as a priority by Washoe County Department of Parks and Open Space. 24 parcels will be prevented.
23. **NY, Follensby Pond**, (\$2,500,000)- At long last the fee acquisition of Follensby Pond, a beautiful 14,600-acre tract bordering the Northeast's largest wilderness area is ready for addition to the New York State Forest Preserve, where it will receive the state's highest form of wild land protection. Never before open to the public, the tract includes a 970-acre lake teeming with native lake trout and other fish, 10.5 miles of pristine floodplain forests along the state's second longest river, the Raquette, and mixed northern hardwood forests providing habitat for black bear, bobcat and other flagship species. Follensby Pond played an integral role in the remarkable comeback of endangered bald eagles in the 1980s and continues to provide habitat for that iconic species today. In addition to large-scale habitat protection and world-class recreational opportunities, the tract offers cultural ties to the development of a uniquely American conservation ethos as the site where, in 1858, the leading intellectuals of the day retreated for the "Philosophers' Camp." The project links hundreds of thousands of acres of protected lands, including two recent Forest Legacy Projects, in a compelling example of landscape scale ecosystem conservation.
24. **OH, Vinton furnace**, (\$1,610,000)- The State of Ohio will acquire in fee a 15,849 acre forested block located in Vinton County, Ohio. This site is privately owned and managed by a Timber Investment Management Organization. The site includes a 3,247 acre research forest as designated by the USDA Forest Service with forestry research conducted on the property continually for 55 years by numerous individuals and institutions. The site is used for education and training of up to 4,000 individuals annually that include landowners, forestry and other natural resource students, loggers, foresters and interested individuals. The property is a site for nationally important core forest research including fire ecology, wildlife, soils, and growth studies. The project is the single largest privately owned forested block in Ohio. The project will enhance past federal investments by continuing the Forest Service Research conducted over the last 55 years and begin filling in connections to the Wayne National Forest (WNF) through an existing State-owned forest property. This is Ohio's number one priority.
25. **OR, Skyline Forest**, (\$2,500,000)- This 2 phase project seeks to conserve 28,000 acres of prime Ponderosa pine forestland that has a high likelihood of being auctioned off in smaller parcels. This property, known as the Skyline Forest, is adjacent to Bend, OR, adjacent to the Deschutes NF along the western and most eastern boundary. Bend is one of the fastest growing areas in the nation having seen its population triple since 1980 with expectations that it will double again by 2025. Skyline has provided forest products, wildlife habitat, and

local access for over 80 years. Skyline's previous owner, however, filed for bankruptcy in 2004 and their creditors formed Cascade Timberlands (CT) to auction off the forest assets. The Deschutes Land Trust (DLT) and CT have agreed that CT will retain 5,000 in fee ownership of which they will develop 1,500 ac of it. Upon receiving entitlements, they will contribute 28,000 acres to the DLT. This project would allow the DLT to sell an easement on the 28,000 acres to the ODFW with the proceeds being used to fund a management endowment and/or pay the seller if required. A stewardship plan for the property would provide sustainable forest management for wildlife habitat, timber, recreation, and viewshed protection.

26. **SC, Belfast**, (\$3,250,000)- It is the largest block of private forestland in the Piedmont of SC. Its proximity to Sumter National Forest & large size will enhance future mgmt of the entire area & provide tremendous connectivity along this corridor. Located less than 1 hour from Greenville, Spartanburg and Columbia (all growing metropolitan areas) makes it highly threatened for commuter home sites & weekend retreats. The tract has a long history of active timber mgmt & a well-stocked diverse timber stand. SCDNR will utilize this tract as part of an ongoing partnership with SC Dept. of Education to integrate natural resource education into school curriculum. The tract will provide a much needed area to conduct field studies for schools participating in the program. The area will also be used to promote outdoor activities for families and youth as part of the Children in Nature Movement.
27. **TN, North Cumberland Conservation Area** (\$4,160,000)- The proposed Emory River Tract (4,876 acres) is one piece of a larger, strategic 127,000-acre acquisition achieved through a partnership that included the State of Tennessee, The Nature Conservancy and two private Timber Investment Management Organizations (TIMOs). In 2007, the partners took advantage of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to permanently protect a contiguous band of one of the world's most biologically significant broadleaf temperate forests. Through fee simple acquisition, working forest conservation easements, recreational leases and timber rights, the partners completed the largest conservation project in the state of Tennessee since the formation of the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. The project represents a model for conservation on a landscape scale, providing jobs in the timber industry, public recreation opportunities, and a corridor of protected hardwood forest habitat large enough to support reintroduced elk herds, 25% of the world's population of cerulean warblers, and the federally endangered Indiana bat, among many other plant and animal species.
28. **TX, Longleaf Ridge**, (\$1,820,000)- Longleaf Ridge Conservation Area, in the West Gulf Coastal Plains "Pineywoods" ecoregion, harbors intact and biodiverse longleaf pine woodlands. Encompassing two National Forests (Angelina and Sabine) and the integral East Texas timber industry lands, it is identified as highest priority in Texas by Nature Conservancy's ecoregional planning team. Having the highest biodiversity rankings within the ecoregion, the area ranks in the top six potential conservation areas of Texas. The area includes several populations of federally endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers and some of the last confirmed Louisiana pine snake. The Longleaf Ridge Project, a 2-phase working forest conservation easement protecting 8,344 acres of forest in southeast Texas, is 10 miles north of Jasper. In 2007, it was acquired by The Campbell Group, LLC, a TIMO. They are interested in selling conservation easements to maintain the area as a working forest and to protect its scenic character. The Nature Conservancy hopes to pursue multiple phases of this project.
29. **USVI, Annaly Bay/Hermitage Valley** (\$1,500,000)- St. Croix is the largest of the US Virgin Islands (USVI) at 85 square miles. Mountains in the northern part of St. Croix descend to a broad expanse of coastal plain in the south. The narrow shelf surrounding the

island supports long, fringing coral reefs. Watersheds are steep and soil erosion can damage fragile marine ecosystems offshore. This tropical island includes mangrove forests, salt ponds, shrublands, scrub, and dry and moist tropical forests. Dry and moist tropical forests account for 6,000 acres of land in northwestern St. Croix that make up the Forest Legacy Area (FLA). This is a multi-year project to protect approximately 1,600 acres of dry/moist tropical forest. Protection is necessary due to immediate and intense development pressure.

30. **UT, Dry Lakes Ranch**, (\$1,400,000)- Dry Lakes Ranch, an 1,862 acre property, is located adjacent to the Brian Head Scenic Byway. It sits below the town of Brian Head, a resort area for summer and winter recreation that includes a ski resort. The Byway provides direct access through the dramatic Parowan Canyon to the Dixie National Forest, Ashdown Gorge Wilderness and Cedar Breaks National Monument. Forested with aspen, white fir, spruce, Gambel oak and mountain mahogany, the Ranch provides crucial habitats for fawning mule deer and calving rocky mountain elk, crucial summer range for Merriam's turkey and year-around range for blue grouse. Sensitive species in the area include three-toed woodpecker, sonoran mountain king snake, goshawk, and pika; and federally protected species include the California condor and the Mexican spotted owl. This scenic property ranges from 7,600 feet to more than 9,700 feet in elevation to afford stunning views of the Cedar and Parowan valleys and surrounding mountains. Demand for second homes and recreation in the area has resulted in the conversion of nearby private properties into subdivisions. The family strongly desires to keep the entire Ranch in its pristine condition to protect the forest, wildlife habitat and quality of life.
31. **VA, Chowan River Headwaters**, (\$2,240,000)- This project will protect 3,500 forested ac. encompassing extensive wetlands, 10 mi. of river frontage and a globally-rare forest type in the VA portion of the Chowan River Basin, a tributary of significant biodiversity value to the Albemarle/Pamlico system, the 2nd largest estuary in the US. A total of 870 ac. of riparian wetlands will be protected, benefitting flood protection and water quality for the estuary's \$1B ecotourism and fishing industry as well as recovery efforts for 3 federally listed fish species. Wetland protection will aid efforts to improve resiliency of the estuary to sea level rise, considered one of the region's greatest threats. The best remaining stand of globally-rare northern-range longleaf pine will be protected within the project's 2,800 ac. of working forestland. Timber management on this land will contribute to the stability of the region's \$1B/yr. forest products sector. The project will help link 20,000 ac. of existing conservation lands across the VA/NC border providing outdoor recreational opportunities to over 1.1M people living within a 60-mi. radius of the property. Land protection will preserve the area's historical links to early American settlement and the Revolutionary and Civil wars.
32. **VT, Eden Forest**, (\$2,200,000)- Eden Forest is Vermont's top ranked project for 2009 & 2010. A conservation easement purchase over this 5,727-acre working forest would connect 30,000 acres of conserved forestland with regional, national, and bi-national significance. This project is a priority of Two Countries, One Forest, a cross-border collaborative that identified the Green to Sutton Mountains (Vermont to Quebec) as one of 5 critically at risk linkages. It provides a 4-mile buffer to the Long Trail—nation's oldest long-distance hiking trail and maintains recreation opportunities, such as hiking and hunting. The project would protect 1/3 of the Gihon River headwaters and thousands of acres of high quality northern hardwoods. Eden is threatened by residential development from the Burlington metropolitan area and ski resort center of Stowe/Morrisville. Eden has the second fastest growth rate in Lamoille County. The property was sustainably managed by a local family for over three decades, but sold in 2006 to a Timber Investment Management Organization (TIMO) with a financial responsibility to its investors. Development may be considered as a means to

provide returns. Trust for Public Land was successful at securing a purchase contract with the TIMO.

33. **WA, Mt. St. Helens Forest**, (\$2,500,000)- The proposal is a phased effort to permanently protect working forest and wildlife habitat on approximately 20,000 acres at the base of Mt. St. Helens. This high profile area is productive timber ground, valuable wildlife habitat, and a regional recreational resource. The area is threatened by development due to its unique mountain views, lake frontage and scenic rivers. It has been used for generations for timber and outdoor recreation. Public comment has been strongly in support of continued forestry and public access. This project will maintain the largest block of private ownership in Skamania County connecting important habitat, watersheds, DNR timberland, a national monument and national forest. A Forest Legacy grant would leverage a commitment from PacifiCorp and lead partners who have tentatively dedicated millions for the project. The project protects a large contiguous block of Priority forest land, valuable habitat, and recreational features from fragmentation. Columbia Land Trust (CLT) will provide the match.
34. **WI, Chippewa Flowage**, (1,500,000)- A conservation easement on the Chippewa Flowage Forest would link over 18,000 acres of resource rich forest with nearly one million acres of protected forest lands on either side of the Chippewa Flowage-connecting the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Land, County Forests and state protected lands. This property is a critical piece of the forest “puzzle” in the Chippewa Flowage Watershed. The Chippewa Flowage is the State’s third largest inland body of water, the largest semi-wilderness body of water and a world-class fishery for muskellunge and walleye. A conservation easement on this site would ensure continued unrestricted access to this Northwoods jewel. With the assistance of the Forest Legacy Program, the State of Wisconsin would be able to protect over 18,000 acres of forest, waterways, and exceptional wildlife habitat while continuing to support the local timber industry and providing public access for future generations to come.
35. **WI, Wild Rivers**, (\$2,330,000)- Wild Rivers is a 14,576 acre project that is the cornerstone of a historic large block, multi-partner, corridor project that will retain working forestland, maintain public access, and preserve vital habitat. A Conservation Easement is sought on this top ranked project. Sustainably managed for over 80 years for high value northern hardwoods, these forests are vital to the local and regional economy and provide habitat for several state threatened and endangered species, including migrant songbirds, timber wolves, and the red-shouldered hawk. Adjacent to 661,000 acres of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest as well as 230,000 acres of state and county forestlands, this area is part of a regional northern hardwood-hemlock forest corridor that extends from the old growth forests of the Menominee Indian Reservation in Wisconsin to the Keweenaw Peninsula in northern Michigan. The property contains important water resources such as Class I trout waters, headwaters to a state-designated Wild River, drinking water, undeveloped lakes and riparian habitat-all critical components of the Lake Michigan Basin. Wisconsin is committed to acquiring land in the area and is working to protect over 60,000 acres of the surrounding forest.
36. **WV, South Branch**, (\$230,000)- This project will enhance water quality through a landscape and watershed based strategy on tributaries of the South Branch of the Potomac River. The South Branch flows into the Potomac, which is known as our “Nation's River” and is the drinking water supply for Washington, D.C. Water quality in the nationally important Chesapeake Bay is protected. 22 conservation easements will be acquired to protect 9175 acres (11 easements for 5292 acres in 2011). Eased properties and public lands

are being connected to create 4 separate hubs for a combined total of 28,840 protected acres. Visitors come from throughout the United States and from other countries to 17 public access sites for fishing and canoeing along the South Branch. The South Branch has a world class smallmouth bass fishery and flows through the Trough, a six mile gorge, that is favored by canoeists and anglers for its scenic beauty and geologic features. The viewshed for public access recreation is protected and nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat for bald eagles is provided. Over 120 rare species and communities have been identified. The close proximity to Washington, DC and Baltimore, makes the properties very threatened.