Texas Forest Legacy Program
2008 Application and Submission Form
(for 2010 USFS Fiscal Year Funding)

Submission Deadline August 31, 2008

• Applicants are encouraged to seek assistance from public or private natural resource professionals when completing this application
• The application must be hand printed, typed, or filled out electronically
• The legal owner(s) of the property must sign the application in ink

PROJECT NAME: ______________________________
TRACT NAME: ______________________________
TOTAL ACREAGE OF TRACT: __________________
PROJECT ACREAGE: _________________________
FORESTED ACRES: _________________________
TOTAL PROJECT REQUEST: __________________
PROJECT COUNTY/TOWN: _________/__________
LATITUDE & LONGITUDE OF PROJECT: Lat:_____________ Lon:____________
LOCATION/ADDRESS OF PROJECT:
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________

LANDOWNER INFORMATION
NAME: _________________________________
ADDRESS: ______________________________
_______________________________

TELEPHONE(S)/FAX/CELL: _________________________
EMAIL: _________________________________
OTHER CONTACT INFO: _______________________________
Administered by individual states, the USFS Forest Legacy Program, purchases conservation easements and development rights on privately owned forests (fee simple purchases in special situations) that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses so that these forests may remain in private ownership, intact, and continue to provide traditional forest benefits. Parcels will be evaluated and prioritized for inclusion in the program based on the answers provided in this application and the associated materials in the packet provided by the applicant. Should the Texas Forest Legacy Committee select the project in September 2008, the project will be submitted to the National USFS Forest Legacy Review Panel for 2010 funding considerations.

REQUIREMENTS
“No” to any of the first five questions disqualifies the project

1) Are you a willing seller that owns the private property on which the project is located?

2) Is there at least a 25% landowner match available?
   Description/Source:
   (circle one): Donation  In-kind  Private  Conservation Organization  Other

3) Do you own clear title to the land?
   Description of any leans, encumbrances, or outstanding rights to be retained by you or any others such as mineral and subsurface rights, utility easements, water easements, deed restrictions or covenants, etc:

4) Is the project located within the established Forest Legacy Area as described in the Texas Forest Legacy Program 2004 Assessment of Need Document?

5) Does the project meet the criteria as established in the Texas Forest Legacy Program 2004 Assessment of Need Document?

6) Would the Forest Legacy Review Committee be approved to make an on-site visit to the property by appointment?

7) Is there a State Forest Stewardship Management Plan or equivalent forest management plan in place or a commitment to prepare and implement one before closing?

8) Anticipated price of (circle one): conservation easement  fee purchase parcel
   Note: a property appraisal is not required to complete this section, but may be helpful in your estimates and deliberations. If your project is selected and you receive an offer to purchase an easement on the property, an appraisal must be conducted in accordance with the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions. The appraiser must be certified and the review appraiser must be on the Federal List of Approved Review Appraisers.
   $__________/acre of project  $__________total for project
   How was the value determined? (Ex. Landowner’s estimate, property taxes, etc.)

9) Is there a donation beyond the 25% cost-share match (Ex. Donation of part of the easement value) or less than a 75% request?
   Value/amount, explain:

10) Is the project area at least 75% forestland?
PROJECT SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION
Prepare a brief description of the project, how the project addresses one or more objectives of the Texas FLP Assessment of Need, what the public benefits from the protection of this property, if the project fits within a larger conservation plan, nearness to population centers or close proximity to other federal land, and the importance of location, etc. Include here how the project meets the goals of the Forest Legacy Program in Texas as stated in the 2004 Forest Legacy Program Assessment of Need:

- Does the project support Texas rural communities, traditional land uses, and cultural heritage by maintaining large privately owned working forest landscapes managed according to sustainable best management practices?
- Does the project conserve biological diversity by protecting habitat connectivity, unique ecosystems, and endangered species?
- Does the project protect watersheds, enhance water quality and quantity, and protect aquatic habitats?
- Does the project support open space initiatives to decrease forest fragmentation, protect unique habitats or ecological features, or reduce the negative effects of urban sprawl?

EVALUATION CRITERIA
This project application will be used to evaluate projects and help prioritize competing projects. Therefore pictures and quantified information is encouraged. For each category below, provide a list of 3-5 impressive arguments, facts, or details about the project. Please limit the size of each bullet to 255 characters including spaces and punctuation.

Importance:
Describe the public benefits gained from the protection and management of the property including environmental values, and the economic and social aspects. List any publicity the project or the property may have received.

Threat:
Describe when conversion of the forest to non-forest uses is likely or imminent and will result in a loss of forest values and public benefits, nearness to urban areas, etc.

Strategy:
Describe how the project fits within a larger conservation plan, strategy, and initiatives and enhances previous conservation investments. What will happen if not conserved?

Project Readiness:
Describe the project's state of readiness (options, appraisals, surveys), the level of cooperation from other organizations and support in terms of participation and commitment, and a sense of how long the project will take to complete.

Supporting Organizations:
List other entities that will contribute toward this project and what roles they will fulfill. Obtain letters of support from those organizations.

FUNDING REQUEST

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<th>Year of Funding Phase(s)?</th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>A. FLP Federal Request ($) 75% or less</th>
<th>B. Non-Federal Match ($) 25% or more</th>
<th>C. Other Funding $ not included in A or B</th>
<th>D. Total Project Cost ($)</th>
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PUBLIC BENEFIT
The project may be of significant public benefit without requiring public access. Public access (restricted or full access) is not required but will reflect well on the project. Within the project area, how many acres within each of the following categories would benefit from the project? Feel free to comment briefly.

1) Timber & other forest projects ______ acres
2) Fish & wildlife habitat ______ acres
3) Threatened & endangered species habitat ______ acres
4) Scenic resources ______ acres
5) Cultural & historic resources ______ acres
6) Water supply protection ______ acres
7) Riparian resources ______ acres
8) Public recreation (restricted or full access) ______ acres

APPLICATION PACKET CHECKLIST
Please either include or make note of availability, location, or contact for file location or indicate when such information could become available

☑ Completed and signed (in ink) application form including supporting information
☑ Detailed map or aerial photo of the property with project delineation and delineation of permanent structures and improvements**
☑ Directions to the property and locator map**
☑ Copy of Forest Management Plan, if available (optional at this time)
☑ Picture of a unique feature on the property, scenic view, or picture depicting nearness of property to development, etc. **
☑ Warranty deed or other proof of ownership
☑ Letters documenting the landowner’s or an organization(s) financial commitment to the non-federal 25% (or more) matching contributions
☑ Letters of support, if available, from government, private, non-profit, or other organizations interested in supporting the project (optional at this time but required at national level)
☑ Any written comments or pictures you wish to provide in addition to the application

** A hard copy is acceptable but an electronic copy (JPEG, PDF, or GIF) will be required for the project to move forward to the regional and national reviews. Maps and aerial photos are often available at your local Farm Services Agency or Natural Resources Conservation Service office. Photos may also be available from the county tax appraisal office.

My signature below certifies that I am the owner of this property and that I am interested in participating in Texas’ Forest Legacy Program and that the information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: ______________________________________ Date: ____________________

All submitted materials become property of the State of Texas and are non-returnable.
If you have questions related to this application, please contact the Texas Forest Legacy Program Coordinator, Jan Davis at 979-458-7320
Please submit this completed application packet and 1 electronic copy for the review committee, to the following address by August 31, 2008:

Forest Legacy Program Coordinator
Texas Forest Service
301 Tarrow, Suite 364
College Station, TX 77840
Email: jdavis@tfs.tamu.edu
Phone: 979-458-7320  Fax : 979-458-6633