



**FY2025 Forest CORE Fund-MVP Grant Round  
Master Scoring Sheet**

Ranking Criteria (100 maximum points)		Max Points	Scored Points
<b>Geographic Relevance (17 Points)</b>			
<b>Proximity (17 points)</b>			
1.	<b>Adjacency to Parks and Conserved Lands</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 10 points if located adjacent to a permanently conserved C1 or FCV5 forested land</li> <li>▪ 7 points if located adjacent to a permanently conserved C2 or FCV4 forested land</li> <li>▪ 3 points if located adjacent to a permanently conserved forested land</li> <li>▪ 1 point if located adjacent to a permanently conserved non-forested land</li> <li>▪ 0 points for no adjacency to permanently conserved land</li> </ul>	10	
2.	<b>Proximity to Impact</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 points if within 5 miles of the pipeline</li> <li>▪ 4 points if within 10 miles of the pipeline</li> <li>▪ 3 points if within 15 miles of pipeline</li> <li>▪ 2 points if within 30 miles of pipeline</li> <li>▪ 1 point if within 50 miles from pipeline</li> <li>▪ 0 points if over 50 miles from pipeline</li> </ul>	5	
3.	<b>Watershed Location</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point if within impacted watershed (8-digit hydrologic unit)</li> </ul>	1	
4.	<b>Serves a County Impacted by Pipeline</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point for projects located in county impacted by pipeline</li> <li>▪ 0 points for projects located in county not impacted by pipeline</li> </ul>	1	
<b>Geographic Relevance Scoring:</b>			

<b>Environmental Attributes (54 Points)</b>			
<b>Acreage/Land Protection (15 points)</b>			
5.	<b>Total Conserved Forested Acreage</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 0.5 point per 50 acres</li> </ul>	15	
<b>Forest Quality (20 points)</b>			
6.	<b>Project Will Permanently Protect Forestland That Is High Conservation Value (FCV4 and FCV5)</b> VDOF Forest Conservation Value: analysis based on watershed integrity; size of forested blocks; management potential; connectivity and proximity to other conserved lands; threat of conversion, and diminished tree species and significant forest community attributes. Scoring from high to low: FCV5 – FCV1  <p align="center">OR</p> <b>Project Will Permanently Protect Forestland That Has High Ecological Integrity Scoring (C1, Outstanding and C2, Very High)</b> Proximity to DCR-NH's 2017 VaNLA Ecological Cores: based on biodiversity, habitats, and ecosystem functions. Scoring from high to low: C1 – C5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 20 points if all a FCV5 or if all a C1 core or if adding new forest adjacent to one of these areas</li> <li>▪ 15 points if part of a FCV5 or C1</li> <li>▪ 10 points if all or part of a FCV 4 or C2 core or if adding new forest adjacent to one of these areas</li> <li>▪ 5 points if all or part of a FCV3, FCV2, FCV1 or C3, C4, or C5 core or if adding new forest adjacent to one of these areas</li> <li>▪ 0 points if not part of or immediately adjacent to any scoring (no FCV or C value assigned)</li> </ul>	20	
<b>Natural Resource Attributes (19 points)</b>			
7.	<b>Length of Stream Through Permanently Protected Forest (Existing or Planned)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 0.5 point per 500 linear feet of intermittent or perennial stream or river.</li> </ul>	4	
8.	<b>Area of Wetland in Permanently Protected Forest (Existing or Planned)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 0.5 point per 0.10 acre of wetland contained within.</li> </ul>	4	
9.	<b>Presence of Natural Heritage Rare Species and Rare Communities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 4 points for presence of a significant natural heritage forest community element occurrence</li> <li>▪ 3 points for B1 &amp; B2 Heritage rating</li> <li>▪ 2 points for B3, B4 &amp; B5 Heritage rating or presence of a T&amp;E forest plant or insect</li> <li>▪ 1 point for adjacency to a property with B1-B5 Heritage rating or with a T&amp;E forest plant or insect</li> <li>▪ 0 points for no rating (not in a natural heritage conservation site), or no presence of T&amp;E forest plant or insect, and no adjacent properties with such values</li> </ul>	4	
10.	<b>Presence of DWR Species</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 points for T&amp;E animal or Tier I SGCN (not also listed as T&amp;E)</li> <li>▪ 2 points for Tier II SGCN</li> <li>▪ 1 points for adjacency to a property with T&amp;E animal or a Tier I or II SGCN</li> <li>▪ 0 points for no T&amp;E species/Tier I or II SGCN and no adjacent properties with such values</li> </ul>	3	
11.	<b>Presence of DWR Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 points T&amp;E water or wild trout stream on site</li> <li>▪ 1 point for tributary of T&amp;E water or wild trout stream</li> <li>▪ 0 points for no T&amp;E water or wild trout streams on site, no tributaries to said waters, and no adjacent properties with such values</li> </ul>	2	
12.	<b>Project site located within a wildlife corridor or wildlife corridor buffer area as designated in the Virginia Wildlife Corridor Action Plan.</b> To receive points, the proposal must include a description of how the project will be implemented to maintain the integrity of the corridor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3 points for &gt;50% of the property occurs within a designated wildlife corridor</li> <li>▪ 2 points for 1-50% of the property occurs within a designated wildlife corridor</li> <li>▪ 1 point for 1%-100% of the property occurs within a designated wildlife corridor buffer</li> <li>▪ 0 points if the property is located outside of a designated wildlife corridor or corridor buffer</li> </ul>	3	
<b>Environmental Attributes Scoring:</b>			

<b>Community Impact (6 Points)</b>			
<b>Public Access/Recreation Value (3 points)</b>			
13.	<b>Public Access</b> A clear plan to provide public access to the property is shown in the proposal. Public access is defined as the availability of land for public use. Activities may include hunting, fishing, hiking, or wildlife watching. Visual access does not meet this definition. Proposed use must not degrade the forest ecosystem. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 points for greater than 75% of the year</li> <li>▪ 1 point for between 75% and 25% of the year</li> <li>▪ 0 points for less than 25% public access provided or planned degrading activity</li> </ul>	2	

Ranking Criteria (100 maximum points)		Max Points	Scored Points
<b>Community Impact Continued (6 Points)</b>			
<b>Public Access/Recreation Value (3 points)</b>			
14.	<b>Scenic Resources Protection</b> Protects forested locally significant viewsheds, forested scenic viewsheds or land important to the protection of any federally designated Wild and Scenic River or American Heritage River in/or adjacent to Virginia, Virginia's Scenic Rivers, designated Scenic Roads, Virginia Byways, and/or recreational trails including greenways & blueways <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point for conserved land in direct viewshed of one of the listed resources</li> <li>▪ 0 points for conserved land not in direct viewshed of one of the listed resources</li> </ul>	1	
<b>Alignment with State, Local, Community, and Regional Plans &amp; Goals (2 points)</b>			
15.	<b>State Goals/Plans</b> Project in alignment with Virginia Outdoors Plan (Current Draft Plan), Wildlife Action Plan (2015), or Natural Heritage Need (Current Draft Plan) <i>Page number must be specified</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point if project is supported by any state plan</li> <li>▪ 0 points if not identified in any plan</li> </ul>	1	
16.	<b>Local/Community/Regional Plans</b> Supports local and/or regional comprehensive plan for parks, open space, and recreational facilities, and/or contributes to the protection of a state, regionally, or locally identified conservation corridor. <i>Plan name &amp; page number must be cited. If not supported by text of comprehensive plan, a letter from locality showing the interpretation of plan does support proposal must be submitted.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point if identified in local comprehensive or regional plans or if letter of support from locality based on plan interpretation provided</li> <li>▪ 0 points if not identified in or not in conformity with any plan and no letter of support from locality provided</li> </ul>	1	
<b>Community Impact (1 point)</b>			
17.	<b>Community Impact</b> Proposal contains evidence of community support, a plan for an educational component to the project, or the land holds cultural or historic significance. Consideration should be given to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community connection to forest (geographic as well as cultural/historic)</li> <li>▪ Educational component</li> <li>▪ Community need for forested space</li> <li>▪ Ability to aid in community healing process</li> </ul>	1	
<b>Community Impact Scoring:</b>			

<b>Project Characteristics (22 Points)</b>			
<b>Forest Activity (10 points)</b>			
All forest (either existing or to be established) must be preserved in perpetuity as forestland			
18.	<b>Forest Restoration and Enhancement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point per 10 acres to create new permanent forest, restore or enhance existing forest. Potential components include: planting plan, species list, management plan. Points to be awarded only if a clear and feasible plan has been presented.</li> </ul>	10	
<b>Readiness/Opportunity for Success (7 points)</b>			
19.	<b>Ability of Applicant to Complete/Uphold</b> Applicant has demonstrated organizational and financial capacity to ensure appropriate long-term stewardship of the property <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point for documented financial and organizational capacity to conserve property in perpetuity</li> </ul>	1	
20.	<b>Project Readiness</b> Readiness shown via landowner letter of intent, completed survey, title reports, appraisal, approved contract of sale, draft easement, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 points for very ready</li> <li>▪ 3 points for ready</li> <li>▪ 1 point for pending</li> </ul>	5	
21.	<b>Vulnerability of Parcel</b> Parcel under documented threat of development, contract is documented as time-sensitive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point for parcel under threat of development, time sensitive contract</li> </ul>	1	
<b>Conservation Efficiency Factor (5 points)</b>			
22.	<b>Ratio of Match</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 1 point for 25% or more of the total project cost</li> <li>▪ 0 points for less than 25% or more of the total project cost</li> </ul>	1	
23.	<b>Return on Investment</b> Cumulative score (criteria 1-22) divided by funding requested, multiplied by 100. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 points if Return on Investment is high</li> <li>▪ 3 points if Return on Investment is moderate</li> <li>▪ 1 point if Return on Investment is low</li> <li>▪ 0 points if Return on Investment is very low</li> </ul>	4	
<b>Project Characteristics Scoring:</b>			

Technical Committee Score:		Max Points	Scored Points
	Geographic Relevance	17	
	Environmental Attributes	55	
	Community Impact	6	
	Project Characteristics	22	

TOTAL 100

Benefit to the Commonwealth, VOF Board Evaluation Only			
	<b>Benefit to the Commonwealth</b> A qualitative analysis focusing on the benefit of a project to the Commonwealth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Regional/equitable distribution of funding</li> <li>▪ Public benefit</li> <li>▪ Community Impact</li> <li>▪ Environmental Impact</li> </ul>		