



FOREST STEWARDS GUILD

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Forest Stewards Guild:

- 4 prospectus documents developed
- Specified risk linkages:
 - Late Successional Bottomland Hardwoods
(Coastal Carolinas & Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley)
 - Mesophytic Cove Sites
 - Central Appalachian CBA

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ECOLOGICAL FORESTRY IN BOTTOMLAND HARDWOODS IN THE COASTAL CAROLINAS

THE ORGANIZATION: The Forest Stewards Guild is a national environmental nonprofit organization who practices and promotes responsible forestry as a means of sustaining the integrity of forest ecosystems and the human communities dependent upon them.

THE PROJECT: Our project will maintain and enhance bottomland hardwood forests on public and private lands in the Coastal Carolinas for the benefit of wildlife species and freshwater systems. We will export lessons learned about "wildlife forestry" practices from our work in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley to the Atlantic Coast to exemplify and promote ecological forest management in these systems.

THE VISION: Our goal is nothing short of abundant bottomland hardwood forests for healthy human and natural communities in the Coastal Carolinas.

Photo: Amanda Mahaffey.

OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPACT: In the first 2 years, our project will restore and maintain late successional bottomland hardwood forests within the boundaries of the FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment's Specified Risk Area for Bottomland Hardwood Areas in the Southeast Region. FSC certificate holders pursuing a controlled wood mitigation option can leverage project activities through support. The relevant project activities include:

Education & Outreach:

- Exemplify best practices
- Identify late successional conditions
- Technical services available

Technical Services:

- Forest stewardship plans
- Enhanced habitat for interior forest birds
- Ecological forest management

Landowner Incentives:

- FSC group certification
- Existing cost-share programs
- Tax incentives and working forest easements

For HCV 3: Late Successional Bottomland Hardwoods (LSBH), Your Contribution Will Support:

\$3,000: Education and outreach event for 30-50 private landowners and resource professionals that communicates the social benefits and values of LSBH, threats from forest management activities, and opportunities for conservation through management to restore or maintain LSBH and reduce or eliminate threats (CENTRAL THEME(S): Education & Outreach).

\$3,500: NRCS-compliant bottomland hardwood forest management plan focused on mimicking natural disturbance and enhancing forest conditions, connecting landowners to incentive programs (CENTRAL THEME(S): Landowner Incentives).

\$5,000: Forest stand improvement activities (e.g. release treatments, invasive control) across 63 acres of private forestland to restore or maintain LSBH forests (CENTRAL THEME(S): Implement Management Activities).

\$5,000+: Support the creation of demonstration sites that exemplify "wildlife forestry forest enhancement activities for LSBH of public lands in the Coastal Carolinas (CENTRAL THEME(S): Implement Management Activities).

WILDLIFE FORESTRY IN BOTTOMLAND HARDWOODS IN THE LOWER MISSISSIPPI ALLUVIAL VALLEY

THE ORGANIZATION: The Forest Stewards Guild is a national environmental nonprofit organization who practices and promotes responsible forestry as a means of sustaining the integrity of forest ecosystems and the human communities dependent upon them.

THE PROJECT: Our project will maintain and enhance bottomland hardwood forests on public and private lands in the Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley (LMAV) for the benefit of wildlife species and freshwater systems. We will promote "wildlife forestry" practices by hosting events, preparing cost-share compliant management plans, and implementing enhancement activities to exemplify and promote ecological forest management in these systems

THE VISION: Our goal is nothing short of abundant bottomland hardwood forests for healthy human and natural communities in the LMAV of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana.

Photo: Amanda Mahaffey.

OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPACT: In the first 2 years, our project will restore and maintain late successional bottomland hardwood forests within the boundaries of the FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment's Specified Risk Area for Bottomland Hardwood Areas in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley Region. FSC certificate holders pursuing a controlled wood mitigation option can leverage project activities through support. The relevant project activities include:

Education & Outreach:

- Exemplify best practices
- Identify late successional conditions
- Technical services available

Technical Services:

- Forest stewardship plans
- Enhanced habitat for interior forest birds
- Ecological forest management

Landowner Incentives:

- FSC group certification
- Existing cost-share programs
- Tax incentives and working forest easements

For HCV 3: Late Successional Bottomland Hardwoods (LSBH), Your Contribution Will Support:

\$3,000: Education and outreach event for 30-50 private landowners and resource professionals that communicates the social benefits and values of LSBH, threats from forest management activities, and opportunities for conservation through management to restore or maintain LSBH and reduce or eliminate threats (CENTRAL THEME(S): Education & Outreach).

\$3,500: NRCS-compliant bottomland hardwood forest management plan focused on mimicking natural disturbance and enhancing forest conditions, connecting landowners to incentive programs (CENTRAL THEME(S): Landowner Incentives) .

\$5,000: Forest stand improvement activities (e.g. release treatments, invasive control) across 63 acres of private forestland to restore or maintain LSBH forests (CENTRAL THEME(S): Implement Management Activities).

\$5,000+: Support the creation of demonstration sites that exemplify "wildlife forestry" forest enhancement activities for LSBH of public lands in the LMAV (CENTRAL THEME(S): Implement Management Activities).

SANDY MUSH COLLABORATIVE FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT

THE ORGANIZATION: The Forest Stewards Guild (the Guild) is a national environmental nonprofit organization who practices and promotes responsible forestry as a means of sustaining the integrity of forest ecosystems and the human communities dependent upon them.

THE PROJECT: Sandy Mush is a high priority conservation area in the Southern Blue Ridge ecoregion of Western North Carolina, occupying 51,000 acres. The Sandy Mush geography is dominated by mesophytic cove sites (MCS) that are highly susceptible to invasive plants, especially following a timber harvest. The Guild is partnering with EcoForesters and Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy to increase capacity for forest restoration in Sandy Mush.

THE VISION: Our goal is to foster healthy and resilient forests that protect environmental values, cultural heritage, economic opportunities, and quality of life for community residents.

OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPACT: In Year 1, this project will maintain, restore, and enhance forests within the boundaries of the FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment's Specified Risk Area for in the Appalachian Region. FSC certificate holders pursuing a controlled wood mitigation option can leverage project activities through support. The relevant project activities include:

GIS Mapping:

- Invasive plant prioritization index
- Identification of high priority treatment areas

Education & Outreach:

- Threats to Appalachian forests
- Opportunities for forest restoration
- Incentive programs available

Technical Services:

- Forest stewardship plans
- Invasive plant control
- Ecological forest management

For HCV 1: Central Appalachian Critical Biodiversity Area, Your Contribution Will Support:

\$1,000: Improved mapping of MCS in Sandy Mush to help prioritize invasive plant treatment and forest restoration activities on-the-ground (CENTRAL THEME(S): Research & Mapping).

\$3,000: Education and outreach for 30-50 landowners, foresters, and loggers to increase the implementation of forestry BMPs to protect aquatic diversity and hydrologic function (CENTRAL THEME(S): Education & Outreach).

\$3,500: Preparation of an NRCS-compliant forest stewardship plan focused on ecological forest management, connecting landowners to cost-share incentives to implement forestry BMPs (CENTRAL THEME(S): Conservation Initiatives).

\$6,000: Creation of an *action plan* for the Sandy Mush Forest Restoration Coalition that improves collaboration and implementation of forestry BMPs on private lands with working forest easements (CENTRAL THEME(S): Conservation Initiatives).



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THE VISION: Our goal is to foster healthy and resilient forests that protect environmental values, cultural heritage, economic opportunities, and quality of life for community residents.

OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPACT: In Year 1, this project will maintain, restore, and enhance forests within the boundaries of the FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment's Specified Risk Area for MCS in the Appalachian Region. FSC certificate holders pursuing a controlled wood mitigation option can leverage project activities through support. The relevant project activities include:

GIS Mapping:

- Invasive plant prioritization index
- Identification of high priority treatment areas

Education & Outreach:

- Threats to Appalachian forests
- Opportunities for forest restoration
- Incentive programs available

Technical Services:

- Forest stewardship plans
- Invasive plant control
- Ecological forest management

For HCV 3: Mesophytic Cove Sites, Your Contribution Will Support:

\$1,000: Improved mapping of MCS in Sandy Mush to help prioritize invasive plant treatment and forest restoration activities on-the-ground (CENTRAL THEME(S): Mapping).

\$3,000: Education and outreach for 30-50 landowners, foresters, and loggers to engage them in MCS conservation via MCS benefits and values, identification, threats from incompatible management, and opportunities to enhance MCS through responsible forest management (CENTRAL THEME(S): Education & Outreach; Staff/Forester Training).

\$6,000: Utilize outcomes from the mapping and education events to enhance 30 acres of MCS on Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy owned land and family forestland (CENTRAL THEME(S): Research; Mapping).

\$6,000+: Incorporate outcomes from above activities into the creation of a revolving forest stewardship fund to provide upfront capital for private landowners to treat invasive plants pre-harvest and post-harvest on MCS (CENTRAL THEME(S): Research).



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