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State & Private Forestry, Southern Region
FY10 Competitive Resource Allocation
Final Proposal
Cover Page

Project Title Shortleaf Pine Management and Restoration Initiative

Summary

Category *(check one)*

- [x] Regional or sub-regional in scale and involves multiple states
- [ ] Single state- or sub-state scale projects

Submitting State: (*participating States use attachment)* Oklahoma

- [x] Will more than one state be receiving funds to implement this project?

If yes, please list all states to receive funds: Arkansas, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia

- [x] Is this project multi-year?

If yes, please indicate the anticipated duration of this project:

- [ ] Two years
- [x] Three years

Project Coordinator information: *(participating States use attachment)*

Name

Address

Phone

Email

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	
State Forester		State Forester		State Forester	

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Project Linkage (5 points):

Which of the three S&PF National Redesign Themes are addressed?

(check all that apply and explain how they are linked to the project)

☒	Conserve	Project linkage:	Demonstrate the feasibility and desirability of favoring shortleaf on appropriate sites, to encourage retention of native forest ecosystems.
☒	Protect	Project linkage:	Shortleaf is more resilient and better adapted to resist the impacts of wildfire, pests, invasive species and drought periods exacerbated by climate change.
☒	Enhance	Project linkage:	A landscape approach favoring shortleaf management & restoration on appropriate sites will secure public forest benefits despite climate change.

Which Regional priority issues are addressed?

(check all that apply and explain how they are linked to the project)

☒	Fractured Forests	Project linkage:	Landowners with good information, incentives and public support may retain working forests in spite of climate change and conversion threats.
☒	Wildfire and Forest Fuels	Project linkage:	Shortleaf pine is more tolerant than loblolly of the fire regime needed to sustain the south's pine forest ecosystems & to predicted wildfire activity.
☐	Water Quality and Quantity	Project linkage:	
☐	Changing Markets	Project linkage:	
☒	Forest Health	Project linkage:	Shortleaf may handle future stressors (e.g. fires and pests) better than loblolly, capturing site productivity with fewer inputs.
☒	Climate Change	Project linkage:	Shortleaf is drought and fire tolerant, and also capable of growing on marginal sites where other species may be less adaptable to future conditions.

Which Forest Service program(s) are involved?

(check all that apply and estimate the program's percentage contribution to the project's outcomes/deliverables)

☒	Forest Stewardship	% Contribution	100
☐	Urban and Community Forestry	% Contribution	0
☐	Forest Health	% Contribution	0
☐	Fire	% Contribution	0
Other Program:		% Contribution	0

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Project Description (20 points):

Goal

Promote and sustain the restoration and management of shortleaf pine in the South.

Objectives

The project's primary objectives are threefold. Assure that silvicultural guidelines for shortleaf pine are up-to-date and based upon current research in order to facilitate its restoration on appropriate sites. Raise awareness of landowners, land managers, the public and other stakeholders concerning the viability of shortleaf pine in maintaining forest productivity, wildlife habitat and forest ecosystem health in the face of predicted changing climate conditions in the South. Provide the appropriate tools necessary to stimulate action by landowners and land managers in adopting and implementing management practices that favor shortleaf over other species on sites where it should be better adapted to future growing conditions.

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

To provide a sound basis for needed revisions in silvicultural guidelines, we need to first conduct a literature and research review and analyze current vs. historical shortleaf pine occurrence using FIA data and other information. This background will help the partners develop or refine management guidelines and decision-support tools to serve as a basis for technology transfer efforts, and allow us to focus restoration efforts on priority areas directly linked to State Forestland Assessments. To meet increased demands for genetically improved seed and seedlings, the project will support small increases in tree improvement operations. A marketing campaign, including publications and field demonstrations of shortleaf management practices, will further raise awareness among landowners, land managers and key stakeholder groups.

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

This project addresses U.S. Forest Service guidance by maintaining forest health and productivity in light of predicted climate change, and will complement work underway or proposed by the Southern Global Change Program. Shortleaf pine is likely to withstand predicted longer and more frequent drought periods better than loblolly on many sites, and can sprout following fire. Where appropriate and feasible, ecosystem restoration to shortleaf, mixed stands or, in some cases, to shortleaf pine-savannah, may be an effective long-term strategy to reduce risk, increase adaptability and maintain ecosystem function. The project also provides opportunity to link management on state and private lands with restoration activity already underway on some National Forest system or other public lands, increasing the impact at the landscape level. This is consistent with the Agriculture Secretary's "all lands" approach.

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Project Benefits (25 points):

How will the forest resource be sustained by this project?	This project will restore shortleaf on sites where it is better adapted to predicted climate conditions, and able to survive the increased use of prescribed fire necessary to maintain these native forest ecosystems. Shortleaf may suffer less mortality, withstand wildfires and forest pests and grow high-quality wood better than other species, thereby sustaining forest ecosystem benefits long term. The project will also enhance state capacity to meet anticipated increased demands for shortleaf seed and seedlings. Raising awareness among landowners and land managers, the wildlife community and other interested stakeholders may lead to long-term support of forestry programs that maintain the forestland base and the benefits these lands provide to society.
What societal or public values are enhanced by this project?	As a native species adapted to droughty sites, with the ability to sprout following fire, shortleaf may be better able to provide forest cover under predicted climate conditions, with longer and more frequent periods of drought. Shortleaf management, combined with prescribed burning, will improve wildlife habitat, restore habitat for the Red-Cockaded Woodpecker on some sites, protect forest watersheds and water quality, sustain quality timber supplies, provide more aesthetically pleasing views to the traveling public and buffer communities and public lands from the risks of wildfires.
Who are the direct beneficiaries/ stakeholders of the project and how do they benefit?	Landowners with long-term objectives will enjoy reduced forest management risk while meeting their objectives in income production, wildlife and watershed improvement, T&E species protection and recreation. Ecosystem services from all lands, including public lands (e.g., state parks and wildlife management areas), will be more sustainable where natural resource managers favor well-adapted native species and mixed stands that are capable of thriving under predicted climate change scenarios. Federal and state natural resource agencies also benefit from landowner activities that support their long-term goals and objectives. Ultimately, society as a whole benefits when productive forest cover is retained despite the challenges posed by climate change.

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Outcomes, Measures, and Deliverables (25 points):

What are the desired outcomes?	Long term, the project will demonstrate the effectiveness of regenerating stands, especially on marginal sites, with shortleaf instead of species not as adapted to changing climate conditions. By highlighting previous successes with this species and calling attention to sites where it is best adapted, we can raise awareness of landowners and managers to consider the long-term implications of species selection and seed source. Not all landowners will be interested or own suitable sites, but it is critical they thoughtfully consider risks and economic trade-offs and make informed decisions about their forest management activities. In addition to more acres under shortleaf management, and increased likelihood for shortleaf pine to be seen as a viable management option, a changed mind-set among landowners/land managers is one desired outcome. Another is a renewed commitment by the states to sustain improved shortleaf seed sources and supplies.
What will be the measures of success?	The southern forestry community acknowledges and embraces the revised guidelines for shortleaf pine management and has access to relevant and practical information. Increased resources are devoted to shortleaf pine seed orchard management and nursery production, to help assure long-term seed and seedling supplies. The number of acres regenerated with or managed for shortleaf increases by the project's end, and is sustained afterward. Stakeholders support increased incentives for landowners to manage their lands for shortleaf pine, and southern forests will be more adaptable to changing climate conditions.
What are the deliverables and how will they be used?	A comprehensive literature and research review of shortleaf-related materials will guide development of shortleaf pine management guidelines and adaptation strategies that consider future climate change, as well as decision-support tools that serve as the basis for forester technology transfer activities. A GIS product that shows current versus historical shortleaf distribution may be of value to all states as they implement their state assessments and strategic plans. Enhanced state resources devoted to shortleaf pine seed and seedling production will provide long-term stability in seed supply, and allow us to track trends. Educational materials, field demonstrations and a marketing campaign will raise awareness of all target audiences.

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Timeframe and Partners (15 points):

What is the timeline or schedule for the project?	Year 1: Complete review of shortleaf literature and silvicultural research, develop GIS coverage layer and initiate development of decision-support tools. Assess shortleaf seed and seedling capacities of all southern states and initiate enhancement of seed production. Identify key stakeholders. Year 2: Develop management guidelines and decision support tools; continue enhancement of seed production; initiate marketing campaign. Year 3: Finalize support tools, disseminate information and conduct technology transfer; develop educational materials and implement marketing campaign; continue to enhance seed production.
What are the implementation steps?	Critical steps are first to identify a cooperating state or university to coordinate the literature search and research review. This part of the project will build on work that has been done in the region already, and will incorporate appropriate adaptation strategies. Completion of step one will lead to development of revised shortleaf management and regeneration guidelines, under direction of one of the state partners. Concurrently, a state lead and the USFS Southern Region will conduct an assessment of state-level shortleaf pine seed and seedling capacities, to establish a baseline. Each state will use completed silvicultural guidelines in technology transfer efforts to raise professional awareness. States will collaborate and develop the educational materials and a marketing campaign to help change the mind set of professionals concerning shortleaf pine as a viable management alternative, and to raise awareness among key stakeholder groups.
Identify partner organizations.	This project has already attracted the interest of agencies and organizations involved in ecosystem restoration practices in the South, similar to those involved in the Longleaf Initiative. These include: Ouachita National Forest (OK/AR), Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, The Nature Conservancy, National Wild Turkey Federation, Department of Wildlife Conservation (OK), Tall Timbers Research Station (FL), Oklahoma State University, NC State University, Department of Tourism and Recreation (OK), Department of Conservation and Recreation (VA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (TX), Quail Unlimited (VA), NRCS (VA), Virginia Tech, North Carolina Tree Farm Committee, North Carolina State University Forestry Extension Service, National Forests in North Carolina.

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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 AR	2 NC	3 OK	4 TX	5 VA	6	7
A. Personnel / Labor	1 $36,000	2 $22,200	3 $30,000	4 $22,000	5 $21,000	6	7
B. Fringe Benefits	1 $9,017	2 $2,900	3 $9,003	4 $7,000	5 $8,820	6	7
C. Travel	1 $3,000	2 $14,000	3 $2,000	4 $2,000	5 $1,900	6	7
D. Equipment	1 $0	2 $0	3 $0	4 $2,000	5 $11,500	6	7
E. Supplies	1 $4,900	2 $30,800	3 $6,600	4 $2,300	5 $6,390	6	7
F. Contractual	1 $10,000	2 $40,000	3 $16,000	4 $20,000	5 $15,440	6	7
G. Construction	1 $0	2 $0	3 $0	4 $0	5 $0	6	7
H.Other	1 $0	2 $0	3 $0	4 $0	5 $0	6	7
I. Indirect Costs	1 $12,583	2 $5,100	3 $13,147	4 $14,700	5 $4,200	6	7
J. TOTAL * *(sum of A through I)*	1 $75,500	2 $115,000	3 $76,750	4 $70,000	5 $69,250	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.

$406,500

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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 wlth brackets, i.e. [$100,000].

Contributing State or Partner	1 AR	2 NC	3 OK	4 TX	5 VA	6	7
A. Personnel / Labor	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
B. Fringe Benefits	1 $14,617	2 $0	3 $14,728	4 $13,350	5 $11,708	6	7
C. Travel	1	2	3	4	5 $0	6	7
D. Equipment	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
E. Supplies	1	2	3	4 $0	5	6	7
F. Contractual	1	2 $11,708	3	4 $14,617	5	6	7
G. Construction	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
H. Other	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
I. Indirect Costs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
J. TOTAL * *(sum of A through I)*	1 $75,500	2 $115,000	3 $76,750	4 $70,000	5 $69,250	6	7

** 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 contribtions not listed on this form.

TOTAL STATE AND PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS
(sum of individual state/partner contributions as above in J. 1 through 7.

$423,100

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ATTACHMENT: State / Project Coordinator Information

Participating State #1: Arkansas **State Forester:** John Shannon

Project Coordinator information:

Name	Doug Akin, Forest Management Chief, Arkansas Forestry Commission		
Address	3821 Roosevelt Road, Little Rock, AR 72214		
Phone	501-296-1861	**Fax**	501-296-1949
Email	Doug.akin@arkansas.gov		

Participating State #2: North Carolina **State Forester:** Wib Owen

Project Coordinator information:

Name	Barry New, Branch Head, North Carolina Division of Forest Resources		
Address	1616 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1616		
Phone	919-857-4843	**Fax**	919-857-4805
Email	barry.new@ncdenr.gov		

Participating State #3: Texas **State Forester:** Tom Boggus

Project Coordinator information:

Name	Bill Oates, Interim Associate Director, Texas Forest Service		
Address	301 Tarrow, Suite 364, College Station, TX 77840-7896		
Phone	979-458-6602	**Fax**	979-458-6655
Email	boates@tfs.tamu.edu		

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ATTACHMENT: State / Project Coordinator Information

Participating State #4: Virginia **State Forester:** Carl Garrison

Project Coordinator information:

Name Dean Cumbia, Forest Management Chief, Virginia Department of Forestry

Address 900 Natural Resources Boulevard, Suite 800, Charlottesville, VA 22903

Phone 434-977-1375 x 3344 **Fax** 434-296-2369

Email Dean.cumbia@dof.virginia.gov

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

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ATTACHMENT: State / Project Coordinator Information

Participating State #7: _____ **State Forester:** _____

Project Coordinator information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____

Email _____

Participating State #8: _____ **State Forester:** _____

Project Coordinator information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____

Email _____

Participating State #9: _____ **State Forester:** _____

Project Coordinator information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Fax** _____

Email _____