

Texas Longleaf Team

Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program

Application Packet

Revised August 2022

The Texas Longleaf Implementation Team is now accepting proposals for Longleaf pine restoration and enhancement assistance through the Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program.

Limited funds are available, so proposals will be evaluated on a competitive basis according to the ***Project Evaluation Criteria*** listed on Page 3 of this packet.

RFP Submission Deadlines: April 15 and September 30, Annually

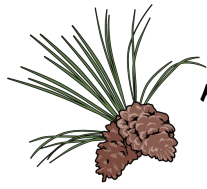
Send To: TexasLongleafTeam@gmail.com

Call Jenny Sanders (936) 225-2175 with questions

Important Information contained in this document:

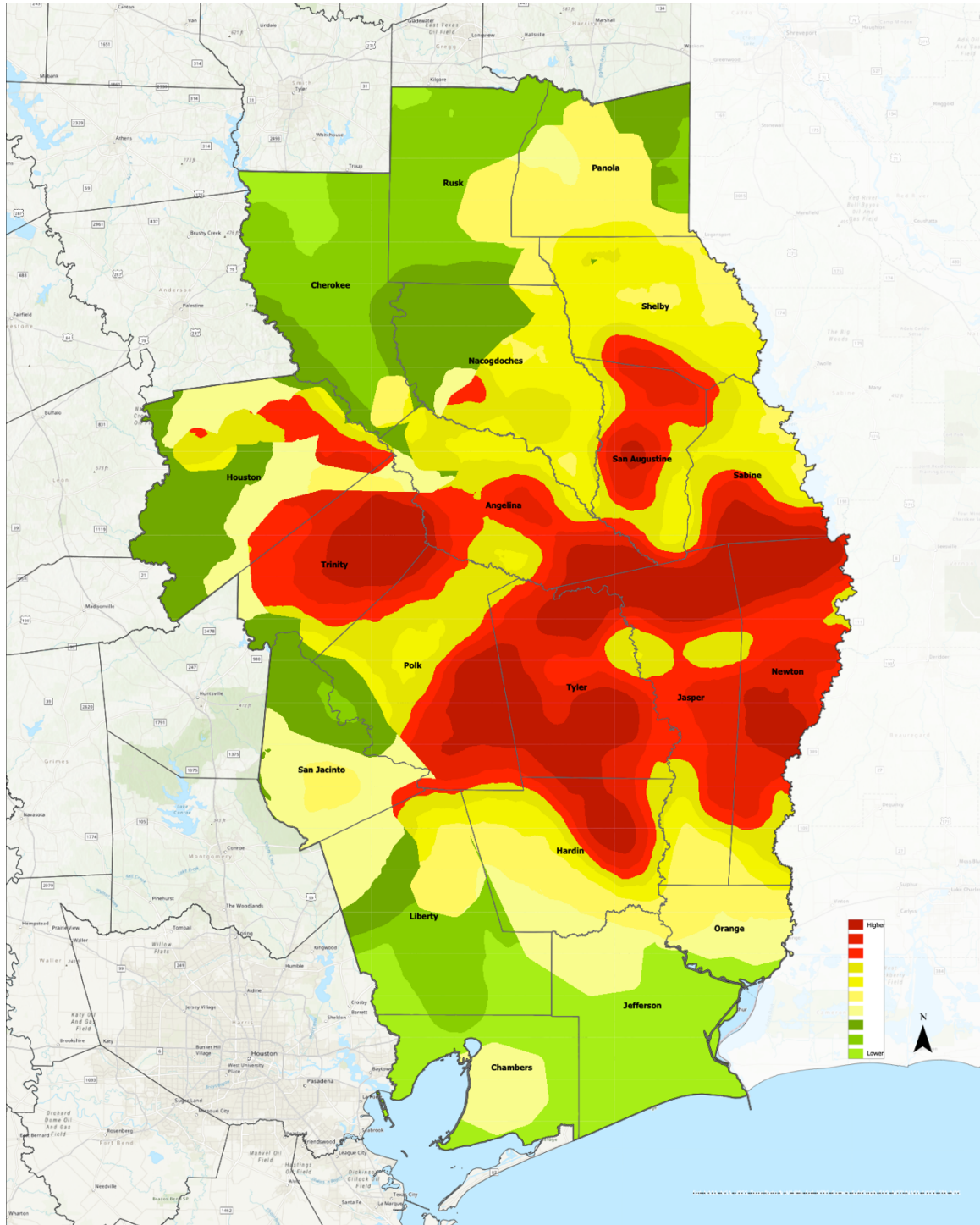
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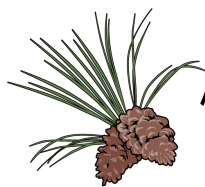
****Note that work begun before the agreement is signed cannot be reimbursed****



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Figure 1. TLCAP Priority Map





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TLCAP Project Evaluation Criteria - Revised January 2021

** Provided for reference only – Scores assigned by TLIT Review Team **

| Criteria | Value | Score |
|----------|-------|-------|
|----------|-------|-------|

Proposal Package Complete

| | | |
|-----|----|--|
| yes | 10 | |
| no | 0 | |

Geographic Priority

| | | |
|--------------------------|----|--|
| Red (top 3 shades) | 20 | |
| Yellow (middle 4 shades) | 15 | |
| Green (bottom 3) | 5 | |

Landowner Cooperation History

| | | |
|---|-----|--|
| Did not fulfill obligations in past agreement(s) | -10 | |
| No cooperation history/no long-term plan | 5 | |
| No cooperation history but long-term plan exists | 10 | |
| Good cooperation history, long-term plan, evidence of good habitat management | 15 | |

Property size

Total current or suitable/planned longleaf acres

| | | |
|---------------|----|--|
| 50-100 acres | 5 | |
| 101-500 acres | 10 | |
| >500 acres | 15 | |

Project size

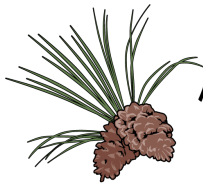
Project Treatment Area:

| | | |
|---------------|----|--|
| 50-100 acres | 5 | |
| 101-200 acres | 10 | |
| >201 acres | 15 | |

Maximum score possible = 75

Total Project Score ->

¹Examples include NRCS Conservation Plan, TPWD Wildlife Habitat Management Plan, TFS Forest Stewardship Plan, American Tree Farm System Plan



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Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program Policies & Procedures:

The Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance program provides incentive payments to landowners for restoration and enhancement of longleaf pine in the Texas Longleaf Implementation Team Priority Counties (Figure 1). It is a voluntary program that reimburses private landowners based on established payment rates for identified practices. A summary of the TLCAP rates can be found on page 6 of this packet.

Project Manager Roles & Responsibilities

A Project Manager is any natural resource professional that is an employee of a TLIT partner organization, and is generally an individual who works directly with landowners to deliver technical guidance and program support aimed at encouraging cooperators to restore or enhance Longleaf pine on their property. Given their experience with longleaf restoration and enhancement and the land management practices required to implement them, project managers play a key role in ensuring the effectiveness of the program. The Project Manager is responsible for **developing individual project proposals** (in partnership with the landowner), **providing project guidance** via development of a project implementation plan and ongoing support to the landowner, **submitting proposal** to TLIT Staff, **verifying project completion**, **submitting reimbursement request and paid invoice(s)** to the fiduciary partner (Texas A&M Forest Service), and **providing project tracking data** (see Figure 2).

Cooperating Landowner Roles & Responsibilities

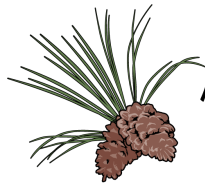
Cooperating landowners are the key to success of this program, as the owners, managers, and decision makers for their property. As such, Project Managers and Cooperating Landowners must work closely to ensure that program objectives are met while satisfying the management objectives of the landowner. The Cooperating Landowner is responsible for **developing their project proposal** (in consultation with the Project Manager), entering into **formal agreement with the fiduciary partner** (Texas A&M Forest Service), **conducting treatments** (as per the project proposal) using their own labor and equipment or via sub-contract, **allowing wildlife and/or vegetation data collection** before and after project completion (with suitable prior notification by the monitoring partner), and ensuring **a 1-2 year prescribed fire rotation for 5 years** after project completion.

TLIT Steering Committee Roles & Responsibilities

The TLIT Steering Committee (hereafter referred to as “the committee”) is responsible for providing overall direction for activities undertaken by TLIT partners under the banner of the TLIT. The Committee’s prime responsibilities are setting **overall program objectives** through the CDN Strategic Plan, **defining geographic scope and priority of program** actions, ensuring suitable **participation by constituent partner staff**, **evaluating and ranking** project proposals, and **approving proposals** for funding.

Reimbursement

Project practices will be reimbursed after verification of completion by the **Project Manager**, and submission of paid invoices, according to rates listed in the Application included below. Rates will be revisited on an annual basis and revised at the pleasure of the committee.

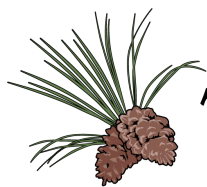


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Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program Policies & Procedures (cont'd):

Process:

1. **Landowner** makes initial inquiry about the Texas Longleaf Pine Conservation Assistance Program.
2. **Project manager** is assigned. (TLIT Steering Committee representative - ex: TPWD biologist, TFS Forester, USFWS biologist, NWTF staffer, etc.).
3. The **Project manager** works with **landowner** (or their designated representative) to gather information (site visit, images, maps, coordinates, shapefiles or KML) and develop the proposal.
4. **Project manager** will submit an application package to the **TLIT Coordinator** by April 15 pr September 15..
5. **TLIT Coordinator** will compile application packets, work with **Steering Committee Chair** and **Project Review Committee Chair** to rank projects and prepare for **Steering Committee** review/approval.
6. **Steering Committee** meets and approves/denies projects and **TLIT coordinator** notifies **project manager/ landowner** about status of application.
7. If approved, the project information will be forwarded to the funding **fiduciary** (Currently Hughes Simpson with the Texas A&M Forest Service), and an agreement will be developed and signed by the **landowner** and fiduciary before any work can begin.
8. **Landowner** begins work on project.
9. After the project is completed, the **landowner** contacts **project manager** and will provide invoices to the project manager.
10. **Project manager** will schedule a site visit and physically inspect the project area, and take post-treatment photos.
11. The **project manager** will submit project reimbursement request to **TLIT coordinator**, including confirmation photos of project area.
12. **TLIT coordinator** will work with the funding **fiduciary** to process the reimbursement.
13. **Landowner** and **project manager** will be notified when "The check is in the mail".
14. **Landowner** confirms payment with **Project Manager/TLIT Coordinator**.

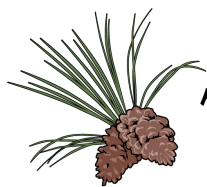


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Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program

Application

| | |
|---|--|
| Project Name: | |
| Project Manager Name & Affiliation (<i>must be an employee of an official Longleaf Team Organization</i>): | |
| Phone: | |
| Email: | |
| Landowner Name: | |
| Mailing Address: | |
| Phone: | |
| E-mail: | |
| County of Project Activity: | |
| Ownership type (Circle One): | Private TIMO REIT |
| Primary Contact Information (if different than landowner): | |
| Location Description: | |
| Project Acres: | |
| Estimated Date of Completion: | |
| Project Center: Latitude/ Longitude | 00.00 ° N Latitude, -00.00 ° W Longitude |
| Shapefiles or KML (required): | |
| Current Site Condition (per Project Manager): | |



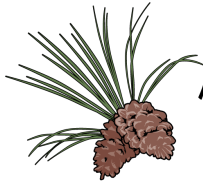
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Brief Description of Proposed Management Activities and Objectives:

Reimbursement Request:

| PRACTICE | TLCAP Reimbursement | Project Acres / # | Total Requested Reimbursement | Approx. Practice Date |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| SITE PREPARATION | | | | |
| Mechanical | \$100/ac | | \$ | |
| Air or Ground Herbicide | \$45/ac | | \$ | |
| Rx Fire including fire lines | \$20/ac | | \$ | |
| Site Prep Total: | Max: \$165/ac | | \$ | |
| PLANTING | | | | |
| Containerized seedlings | \$0.14/ea | | \$ | |
| Hand-plant | \$30/ac | | \$ | |
| Planting Total: | | | \$ | |
| CONVERSION THROUGH SILVICULTURE - Interplanting | | | | |
| Containerized seedlings | \$0.14/ea | | \$ | |
| Hand-plant | \$30/ac | | \$ | |
| Conversion Total: | | | \$ | |
| MAINTENANCE | | | | |
| Rx Fire including fire lines | \$20/ac | | \$ | |
| Band spray over planted seedlings | \$30/ac | | \$ | |
| Hand control of competition | \$65/ac | | \$ | |
| Brush management herbicide broadcast (air or ground) | \$50/ac | | \$ | |
| Maintenance Total: | Max: \$165/ac | | \$ | |

Total Reimbursement Request: \$



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Photos of Treatment Area (before):

Project map (include property location, boundary, treatment area, north arrow and legend):

Are you currently receiving any Federal/State Cost-assistance for project area acreage? If yes, please list which program and practices.

Do you have a current management plan for the property?

To be considered for cost-assistance, the landowner should sign and return this application, include a location map and a project area map.

Applicant's Signature

Date

NOTE: A completed and signed W-9 will need to be submitted before any reimbursement of project cost can be made.

****Proposed work MAY NOT begin until the project is approved and a contract has been signed by all parties****