

Appendix D: List of Vermont Monitoring Cooperative Partner Objectives

Below are the various goals, objectives, strategies and/or activities of the various organizations that partner with or contribute to the Vermont Monitoring Cooperative. These codes are used to identify matches with VMC's strategic goals, objectives and activities presented in the main text of the Strategic Plan.

VT DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, PARKS AND RECREATION (FPR)

1. Biological Diversity
 - 1.2 Protect and conserve natural communities, genetic diversity, rare and endangered species, unique habitats, corridors and buffers
 - 1.2.3 Work with partners to identify landscapes and support species of greatest conservation need.
2. Forest Health and Productivity
 - 2.1 Identify trends in forest ecosystem health and productivity
 - 2.1.6 Work with partners to understand Vermont's Forested ecosystem
 - 2.1.7 Monitor and report current forest health and evaluate potential threats.
 - 2.3 Retain native flora and fauna across the landscape.
 - 2.3.13 Support monitoring and programs that maintain Vermont's common flora and fauna.
3. Forest Products and Ecosystem Services: Maintain and enhance forest contributions to ecosystem services
 - 3.1 Maintain and enhance the production of forest products.
 - 3.1.15 Work with partners to assess Vermont's capacity to produce raw materials for forest products.
 - 3.2 Maintain and enhance water resources.
 - 3.2.21 Identify, conserve, restore and protect priority forested watersheds valued for water resources.
 - 3.4 Maintain and enhance forest carbon.
 - 3.4.24 Support research that improves the understanding of measuring, monitoring and trends in forest carbon, including application for forest carbon marketing.
 - 3.5 Maintain and enhance air resources
 - 3.5.26 Support research and monitoring that improves the understanding of trends in air quality, weather, climate and how they affect forests.
 - 3.5.28 Monitor changes in forests in relation to air resources.
4. Land Ethic: Maintain and enhance an ethic of respect for the land, sustainable use and exemplary management
 - 4.1. Encourage public understanding of ecosystems
 - 4.1.30 Enhance public education and outreach on forest health and productivity issues.
 - 4.2 Increase public awareness of the critical role trees and forests play in sustaining Vermont communities and residents.
 - 4.2.33 Support forestry education activities and programs
 - 4.5 Demonstrate exemplary forest management on state lands and encourage sustainable use across all landscapes.
 - 4.5.47 Utilize public lands as demonstration forests.

US FOREST SERVICE NORTHEASTERN AREA, STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY (NA)

- A. Contribute to conservation of important forest landscapes across the urban to rural continuum
- B. Support sustainable forest management for biodiversity and multiple benefits for people
- C. Support the management of trees and forests for resilience to natural and human-caused disasters and threats
- D. Promote forest management approaches that facilitate resilience and adaptation to, and mitigation of, climate change
- E. Support efforts to reduce wildfire threats to people, communities, and natural resources
- F. Advance conservation and sustainable management of trees and forests for water quality across all landscapes
- G. Support a competitive forest industry with diversified markets, forest-related jobs, and sustainable use of woody biomass for energy
- H. Support engagement and inclusion of urban residents and communities to maintain the benefits provided by trees and forests
- I. Expand and deliver technical expertise, improve communications and productivity, capitalize on new technology, and ensure employee safety
- J. Leverage resources and technical expertise in a transparent and collaborative way with other Federal agencies, State agencies, academia, American Indian tribes, non-profits, and other partners in support of common goals

VT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION (DEC)

- 1. We manage air, soil and water resources for environmental and public health. We measure environmental conditions for status and trends
- 2. We issue licenses and permits, and enforce environmental regulations to ensure compliance with state and, in many cases, federal law
- 3. We collect, interpret and communicate environmental scientific information to Vermonters, and provide a forum for public comment on our work
- 4. We provide technical assistance to landowners, businesses, municipalities and individuals regarding environmental issues and resource management
- 5. We manage funding and support for environmental projects including site clean-up, recreational access, and infrastructure including water supply, stormwater and wastewater systems
- 6. Our scientists, managers, and field staff provide expert testimony and assistance to other organizations, partners, and sister agencies at the state, federal, local and regional levels to advance our mission and people's understanding of our natural environment, its importance and relevance

VT FISH AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT (F+W)

- 1. Identify wildlife distribution and abundance: Provide information on the distribution and abundance of species of wildlife, including low and declining populations as the State Fish and Wildlife Dept. deems appropriate, that are indicative of the diversity and health of the State's wildlife.
- 2. Describe location and condition of key habitats: Describe the locations and relative condition of key habitats and community types essential to conservation of species identified in (1).
- 3. Describe key problems and research needs: Describe problems that may adversely affect species identified in (1) or their habitats, and priority research and survey efforts needed to identify factors which may assist in restoration and improved conservation of these species and habitats.
- 4. Describe and prioritize conservation actions: Describe conservation actions proposed to conserve the identified species and habitats and priorities for implementing such actions.

5. Monitor species, habitats and conservation actions: Describe plans to monitor species identified in (1) and their habitats; monitor the effectiveness of the conservation actions proposed in and, adapt these conservation actions to respond appropriately to new information or changing conditions.
6. Develop a plan review process: Describe procedures to review the Wildlife Action Plan at intervals not to exceed ten years.
7. Coordinate with other plans: Coordinate the development, implementation, review, and vision of the Action Plan with Federal, State, and local agencies and Indian tribes that manage significant land and water areas within the State or administer programs that significantly affect the conservation of identified species and habitats.
8. Include public participation: Describe public participation in the development, revision, and implementation of the Action Plan and projects and programs. Plant conservation and education and law enforcement projects are not eligible for State Wildlife Grants funding. We expect that species, community and landscape level conservation will provide secondary benefits including addressing the needs of many plant Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN).

US FOREST SERVICE GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST (GMNF)

1. Provide for a wide range of uses and activities in an ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable way
2. Maintain and restore quality, amount, and distribution of habitats to produce viable and sustainable populations of native and desirable non-native plants and animals
3. Maintain or restore the natural, ecological functions of the soil
4. Maintain or restore aquatic, fisheries, riparian, and wetland habitats
5. Maintain or improve air quality on the GMNF
6. Maintain or restore ecological processes and systems on the GMNF within desired ranges of variability, including a variety of native vegetation and stream channel types, and their patterns and structural components
7. Protect rare or outstanding biological, ecological, or geological areas on the GMNF
8. Provide for a sustainable supply of forest products
9. Demonstrate innovative, scientifically, and ecologically sound management practices that can be applied to other lands
10. Provide other resource benefits through coordinated timber harvesting
11. Provide opportunities for renewable energy use and development
12. Provide a diverse range of high-quality, sustainable recreation opportunities that complement those provided off National Forest System lands
13. Manage designated wilderness to preserve an enduring resource that represents ecosystems and natural processes unique to northeastern forests while providing opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation consistent with the Wilderness Act of 1964 and subsequent legislation
14. Provide a safe, efficient, and effective Forest transportation system that meets both the needs of the Forest Service and the public
15. Maintain or enhance visual resources such as viewsheds, vistas, overlooks, and special features
16. Provide protection and stewardship for significant heritage resources on the GMNF
17. Support regional and local economies through resource use, production, and protection
18. Maintain and enhance partnerships with communities and organizations
19. Provide a diverse range of information and education opportunities that will enhance the understanding of the GMNF
20. Coordinate Forest planning and implementation with federal, State, and local agencies
21. Protect human life, property, and facilities from wildland fire hazards
22. Meet anticipated future needs and opportunities on public lands and improve management effectiveness of the National Forest through adjustment of land ownership