

## Greenbelt Application Summary – Rural Project

<b>Project Name:</b>	Atlantic Creosote Tract	<b>Total Greenbelt Funds Requested:</b>	\$3,189,067
<b>Applicant:</b>	US Forest Service	<b>Total Acres:</b>	1,450
<b>Landowner:</b>	White Oak Forestry Corp	<b>Greenbelt Cost Per Acre:</b>	\$2200
<b>Property Address:</b>	Old Georgetown Road McClellanville	<b>Staff Score:</b>	76

**Project Description:** The US Forest Service is requesting funding for the purchase of a 1,450 portion of two parcels located adjacent to the Francis Marion National Forest (FMNF). This tract of land is located within the FMNF's proclamation boundary and is the last large privately-owned, unprotected property between Old Georgetown Road and Highway 17. The Forest Service will incorporate this property into the public lands of the Francis Marion National Forest.

Project Budget	Greenbelt Funds Requested	Match	Total
Land	\$3,189,067	\$1,339,233	\$4,528,300
Admin/Closing	\$0	\$183,159	\$183,159
Minor Improvements	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,189,067</b>	<b>\$1,522,392</b>	<b>\$4,711,459</b>

### **Funding Information:**

- The match consists of the landowner's donation of a portion of the land value as well as donation of the closing and administrative costs associated with the purchase. This represents a match of \$0.48 for every \$1.00 of Greenbelt funds.
- An appraisal was completed in June 2018 by Appraisal Consultants, Inc. valuing the land at \$4,528,300.

### **Public Access, Use & Benefit:**

- Provides an additional 1,450 acres of public access lands for hunting, fishing, and other forms of outdoor recreation such as hiking, backpacking, mountain and road biking, horseback riding, bird and wildlife viewing and photography, nature study and primitive camping.
- Protects wildlife habitat for five federally-endangered or threatened species and 23 state-endangered or threatened species.
- Timbering of this property will protect wildlife habitat and create economic benefit from the timber revenues and jobs created through the timbering industry.

**Linkage Opportunities:** This tract is surrounded on three sides by publicly or privately protected lands and is near the St. James Santee Parish's historic Brick Church. It is also adjacent to two other Greenbelt protected lands.

### **Compliance with Greenbelt Plan:**

- Provides 1,191 acres toward meeting the goal of protecting 10,275 acres of Francis Marion National Forest Lands.
- Provides 259 acres toward meeting the goal of protecting 5,610 acres of Lowcountry Wetlands.
- Provides lands for public passive recreational opportunities.

### **Items to Note:**

- An updated appraisal is needed of the exact land being purchased.