



Texas Longleaf Team

Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program Application Packet

Revised September 2025

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

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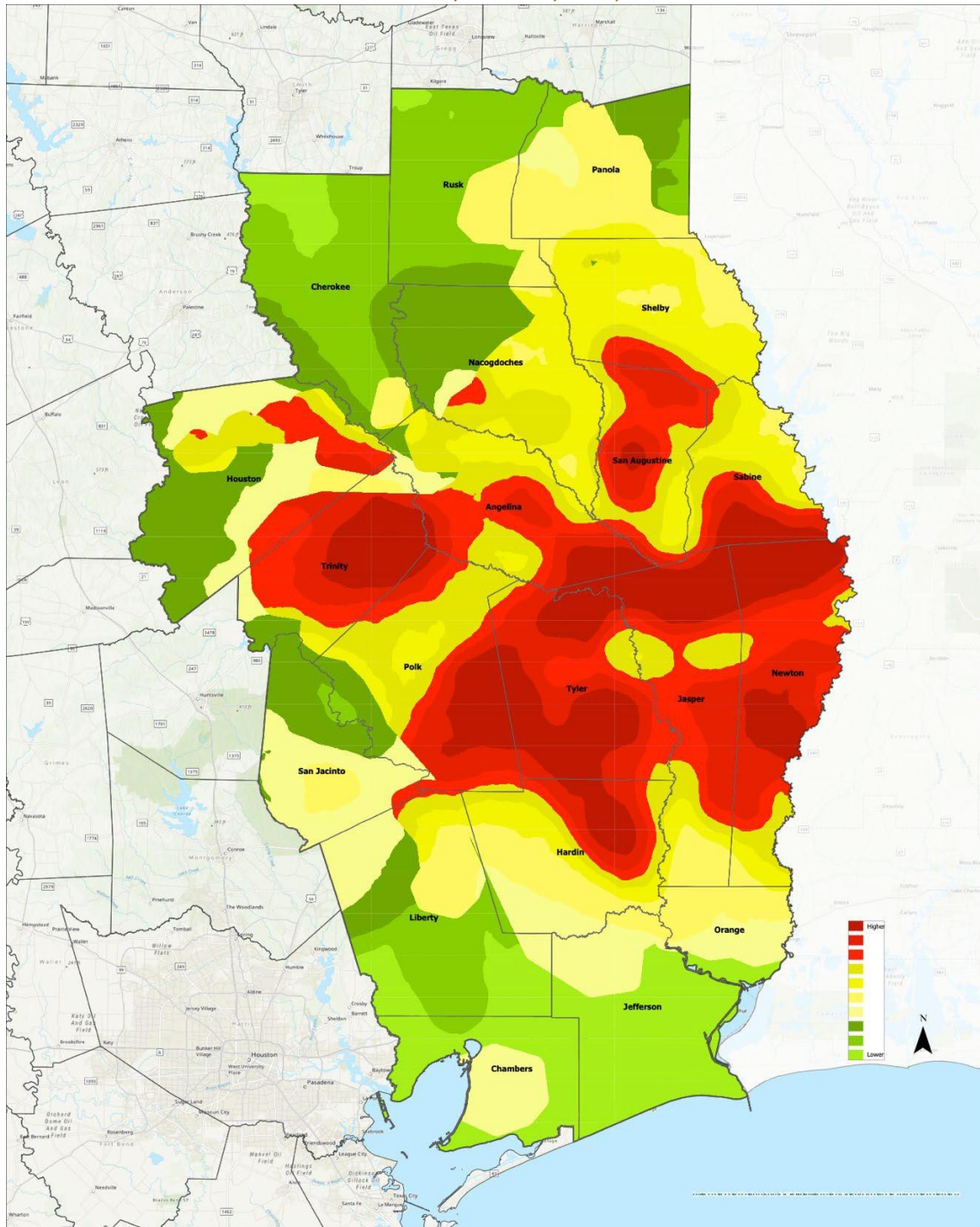
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Priority County Map





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Project Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Value	Score
Proposal Package Complete		
yes	10	
no	0	
Adjacent to other longleaf stands		
yes	10	
no	0	
**If yes, please describe approximate distance, age, and acreage: 200 acres planted by TLCAP in 2022 across the county road.		
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, written management plan, evidence of good habitat management	15	
Property size		
<u>Total current or suitable/planned longleaf acres</u>		
50-100 acres	3	
101-500 acres	7	
>500 acres	10	
Project size		
<u>Project Treatment Area:</u>		
50-100 acres	5	
101-200 acres	10	
>201 acres	15	
Maximum score possible = 80		Total Project Score -> 0



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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 TLT partner organization (Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, etc.), 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 TLT 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.

TLT Steering Committee Roles & Responsibilities

The TLT Steering Committee (hereafter referred to as “the committee”) is responsible for providing overall direction for activities undertaken by TLT partners under the banner of the TLT. 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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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 **TLT Coordinator** by April 15 or September 15..
5. **TLT 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 **TLT 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 **TLT coordinator**, including confirmation photos of project area.
12. **TLT 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/TLT Coordinator**.



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Table 1. Texas Longleaf Conservation Assistance Program Rates

PRACTICE	REIMBURSEMENT RATE
SITE PREPARATION	
Mechanical	\$100/ac
Air or Ground Herbicide	\$50/ac
Rx Fire	\$35/ac
Site Prep Total:	Max: \$185/ac
PASTURE CONVERSION	
Herbicide (up to 4 treatments)	\$30/ac
Mechanical (rip)	\$60/ac
Site Prep Total:	Max: \$185/ac
PLANTING	
Containerized seedlings	\$0.14/ea
Hand-plant	\$30/ac
REPLANT/INTERPLANT	
Containerized seedlings	\$0.05/ea
Hand-plant	\$30/ac
MAINTENANCE	
Rx Fire	\$30/ac
Band spray over planted seedlings	\$30/ac
Hand control of competition	\$100/ac
TSI Skidder Spray	\$90/ac