**FRS Section 1 Fish & Wildlife Habitat Actions** (p.11 of Strategy)

From the actions listed below, select the ones that you think hold greatest opportunity in your state/region in the next 1-3 years. If you have an idea for an action that is not listed, please feel free to insert it at the bottom under “additional actions”. For each of your selected actions, copy/paste and answer the following questions:

***a) What network of existing or new partners could be engaged in your state/region to move this action forward?***

***b) List specific ideas for how to move this action forward in your state and how your organization could contribute.***

1. Collaborate with USDA, forestry and wildlife agencies, and nongovernmental partners to **restore 900 miles of riparian forest buffer each year**; sustain and leverage funding available through CREP and other programs.
2. **Focus forest restoration efforts in priority areas to meet brook trout restoration goals**; transfer successful models, such as Trout Unlimited’s Potomac initiative, to other priority areas.
3. Continue to **develop State and local green infrastructure (forest hub-corridor) plans** to help target forest conservation and restoration (for example, in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and New York).
4. Work with the Chesapeake Bay Habitat Goal Implementation Team, State fish and wildlife agencies, natural heritage inventories, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), and other nongovernmental organizations to further **identify restoration priority areas and actions for key forest-dependent species**.
5. **Promote forest restoration as a central BMP to meet Total Maximum Daily Load**/Watershed Implementation Plan targets ***and*** simultaneously achieve habitat goals.
6. **Pursue innovative funding incentives and outreach strategies** to reach landowners in targeted areas through grant programs, such as NFWF, and ecosystem market approaches.
7. Conduct **Designing Sustainable Landscapes pilot project in the Nanticoke and Pocomoke watersheds** with a focus on forest-dependent species and habitat classes (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service/North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative).

**Additional Fish & Wildlife Habitat Actions:**

**FRS Section 2 Mine Lands** (p.16 of Strategy)

From the actions listed below, select the ones that you think hold greatest opportunity in your state/region in the next 1-3 years. If you have an idea for an action that is not listed, please feel free to insert it at the bottom under “additional actions”. For each of your selected actions, copy/paste and answer the following questions:

***a) What network of existing or new partners could be engaged in your state/region to move this action forward?***

***b) List specific ideas for how to move this action forward in your state and how your organization could contribute.***

1. Work with agency and nongovernmental partners to **identify priority areas and sites for targeted mine land reforestation**; incorporate habitat priorities for key bird species, brook trout, and other species of concern.
2. Convene a **regional workshop for watershed groups and agency partners** to promote forest restoration on mine lands in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
3. Host local workshops in targeted areas to **engage landowners and community partners** in mine land reforestation opportunities.
4. Pursue the formation of OSMRE-VISTA **Appalachian Coal Country Teams**, or other community-based mine land reforestation initiatives, in the Bay watershed.
5. **Work with Bay State mining agencies and abandoned mine lands programs** to promote reforestation on reclaimed sites as much as possible.
6. Support the Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative’s outreach and **collaboration efforts with active mining operations** to encourage forestry reclamation in the Bay watershed.

**Additional Mine Lands Actions:**

**FRS Section 3 Agroforestry Actions** (p.21 of Strategy)

From the actions listed below, select the ones that you think hold greatest opportunity in your state/region in the next 1-3 years. If you have an idea for an action that is not listed, please feel free to insert it at the bottom under “additional actions”. For each of your selected actions, copy/paste and answer the following questions:

***a) What network of existing or new partners could be engaged in your state/region to move this action forward?***

***b) List specific ideas for how to move this action forward in your state and how your organization could contribute.***

1. Work with NRCS State Technical Committees in Bay States to **promote agroforestry practices through Farm Bill programs**.
2. Agroforestry is a relatively new concept. **Train-the-trainer workshops** that target resource professionals in the watershed are a first step toward reaching watershed landowners. Subsequent workshops can introduce agroforestry practices to landowners.
3. Establish **agroforestry demonstration areas** by finding early adopters with working farms and forests so that others can see the conservation and economic benefits of agroforestry practices. Pursue **USDA Conservation Innovation Grants** and other funding sources to establish these sites.
4. Work with the NRCS Ecological Sciences staffs in the Bay States to **get the five main agroforestry practices included in the Field Office Technical Guide and Farm Bill programs.**
5. Explore a **Bay Branding campaign** for agroforestry products similar to Edible Chesapeake but focused specifically on foods and products developed from businesses committed to sustaining working forests within the Bay area.
6. Design and implement **agroforestry research projects** to ensure stakeholders have access to cutting-edge and regionally relevant science.
7. Expand application of agroforestry practices and innovations to **small-scale landscapes, including urban settings**.

Based on the newly adopted Sustainable DC plan, there are targets for educational gardens specifically with a focus on food (fruit and nut trees) at public schools and expanded urban agriculture. There is a target of developing orchards or other food producing landscaping on 5 acres of DC publicly owned lands.

**Additional Agroforestry Actions:**

**FRS Section 4 Urban & Community Forestry Actions** (p.26 of Strategy)

From the actions listed below, select the ones that you think hold greatest opportunity in your state/region in the next 1-3 years. If you have an idea for an action that is not listed, please feel free to insert it at the bottom under “additional actions”. For each of your selected actions, copy/paste and answer the following questions:

***a) What network of existing or new partners could be engaged in your state/region to move this action forward?***

***b) List specific ideas for how to move this action forward in your state and how your organization could contribute.***

1. Continue to support communities in using urban tree canopy assessments and i-Tree tools.

Will be implementing a project to provide an urban forestry open space tree map and homeowner and DC owned property tools that will predict environmental benefits as the user selects tree species and tree size; based on i-tree data.

1. Provide **training and technical assistance** to help communities move from assessments to action with supportive **local policies and programs to both preserve and expand tree canopy.**
2. Develop **educational and marketing campaigns**, targeted to distinct audiences, to engage people in planting and caring for trees.

DC UFA will be continuing the CanopyKeepers program to help care for the 6000 trees planted in 2012 and implementing an adopt a block option. We also provide year round updates to citizens as to how they can help us care for trees in the public space.

1. **Focus Urban and Community Forestry program funding** and partnership efforts to support work toward meeting local tree canopy goals.
2. **Existing/new partners - Urban areas with existing canopy plans, urban areas without canopy plans. Major landholders within these jurisdictions – cemeteries, schools, parks and recreation areas, community associations, Federal agencies. Major impervious areas – malls & retail areas, car dealerships, industrial areas, other businesses with large parking lots.**
3. **Ideas:**
   1. **Fund/provide technical resources to urban areas without UTC plans to aid in their plan development.**
   2. **Fund/provide technical resources to urban areas with canopy plans to implement actions detailed in their plans.**
   3. **Fund/provide technical resources for innovative technologies to expand urban tree canopy (innovative growing/planting methods, innovative training & job creation, innovative impervious surface retrofits, innovative tree maintenance techniques, innovative tracking/implementation tools)**
   4. **Fund/provide technical resources to retrofit large impervious surfaces to include treed areas and potentially bioretention tree pits.**
4. **Promote and track tree planting as a cost-effective, core strategy** for meeting local Total Maximum Daily Load targets, MS4 stormwater requirements, and air quality goals.

UFA staffers see this as a specific target for private landowners. We will be providing the open space tree map for this use; when trees are uploaded by homeowners, it will get an x,y coordinate. This means these trees can then be used to meet MS4 stormwater requirements. At this point, only trees located in the public space are counted.

I am not sure what DDOE’s plans are to ramp up planting in the private realm but in the District of Columbia but that is what will get us to our 40% canopy goal. It is the largest land ownership next to the federal portion. In preliminary talks, federal partners let us know they had no plans to increase tree planting. It was related to budget issues and the lack of funding for maintenance. Federal budgets have not improved and it is probably unrealistic to expect them increase tree planting.

1. Transfer successful **turf-to-trees program** models and lessons learned to more localities that have high turf grass cover.
2. **Work with nontraditional partners**, such as civic organizations, business and industry, and local planning agencies, **to increase tree cover on public and private lands.**

We are working with our Department of General Services to inventory and increase tree planting on District owned properties; an implementation grant from Sustainable DC is allowing this practice. We also work with Business Improvement Districts in plant and maintain trees throughout the District.

1. Develop and expand **tree planting initiatives on Federal lands**.

**DDOE response: In the District, this item is key. 1/3 of District lands are Federally-owned and has some of the highest potential for additional planting. Meeting our urban tree canopy goals will not be possible without the aid of Federal agencies.**

1. **Existing/new partners – NPS, DoD, GSA, whoever manages federal cemeteries, USDA, Homeland Security, and the Old Soldier’s Home are prime partners, Washington Council of Governments, District Department of the Environment.**
2. **Ideas:**
   1. **Require federal agencies to develop tree canopy goals/planting plans for parcels larger than 1 acre in size.**
   2. **Perform specific outreach to Federal agencies responsible for lands on their requirements as a part of the Bay TMDL and on how tree planting is a cost-effective method to meet their obligations.**
   3. **Develop a tree canopy pledge (much like the trash-free Potomac pledge) where agencies commit to take specific actions to increase tree canopy. This will both create publicity around tree planting but also provide a way of holding agencies accountable to the public.**

**Additional Urban & Community Forestry Actions:**

**FRS Section 5 Contaminated Lands Actions** (p.31 of Strategy)

From the actions listed below, select the ones that you think hold greatest opportunity in your state/region in the next 1-3 years. If you have an idea for an action that is not listed, please feel free to insert it at the bottom under “additional actions”. For each of your selected actions, copy/paste and answer the following questions:

***a) What network of existing or new partners could be engaged in your state/region to move this action forward?***

***b) List specific ideas for how to move this action forward in your state and how your organization could contribute.***

1. **Identify and fund research needs**. Identify key knowledge gaps and research needs. Target available funds for applied research in partnership with industry.
2. **Existing/new partners – Anacostia Watershed Society, Groundwork Anacostia, NPS, DPR, Pepco, Washington Gas, Navy Yard, Deputy Mayor for Economic Development, Department of the Environment, Urban Forestry Administration, DoD, Washington Parks and People, Anacostia Watershed Toxics Alliance, Washington Council of Governments.**
3. **Ideas:**
   1. **Develop demonstration projects/research project on contaminated sites in each jurisdiction.**
   2. **Partner contaminated sites with university/industry representatives.**
   3. **Fund through NFWF contaminated sites research/demonstration projects.**
   4. **Develop webinars/white papers detailing the current state of the art and continuing research needs for utilizing trees in restoring contaminated lands.**
4. **Develop and deliver technical guidance** on how to effectively utilize trees and shrubs when remediating and restoring sites.
5. **Existing/new partners – Anacostia Watershed Society, Groundwork Anacostia, NPS, DPR, Pepco, Washington Gas, Navy Yard, Deputy Mayor for Economic Development, Department of the Environment, Urban Forestry Administration, DoD, Washington Parks and People, Anacostia Watershed Toxics Alliance, Washington Council of Governments.**
6. **Ideas:**
   1. **Perform tours/webinars on utilizing trees to remediate and restore sites.**
   2. **Develop planting plans for contaminated sites.**
7. Utilize an **information and technology transfer** vehicle, such as EPA’s **Contaminated Site Clean-up Information**, to make technical guidance readily available. Write factsheets for targeted audiences and deliver Web-based training as well as other effective outreach activities.
8. **Facilitate cooperation and coordination among partnerships**. Establish agreements between agencies to facilitate reforestation efforts on contaminated lands through cooperative research efforts, technical data exchange, and locating/identifying appropriate plant material for contaminated sites.
9. **Review State and Federal regulations and guidance documents** to identify impediments to reforestation and recommend revisions. **Identify cross-program incentives** that facilitate reforestation (for example, stormwater controls, tax incentives, smart growth strategies, easements, and site-level planning incentives, among others).
10. **Identify priority areas and sites**. Use geospatial tools to identify and target sites for investment based on potential “keystone” locations or connectivity. Establish partnerships and/or working relationships with professional, nonprofit, and watershed organizations to help with advocacy and educational outreach.

**Additional Contaminated Lands Actions:**

**OTHER THOUGHTS??**

Do you have any other ideas/recommendations for how we can make progress with the Forest Restoration Strategy in the next 1-3 years?

Do you have any further thoughts on what role you/your organization could play in engaging a broader network of partners in the implementing the Forest Restoration Strategy?

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME AND INPUT!!!**