



KANSAS FOREST LEGACY PROGRAM APPLICATION 2025

The Kansas Forest Legacy Program is a voluntary program that encourages the protection of environmentally important privately owned forestlands from conversion to non-forest use.

Proposal Instructions

The Kansas Forest Service, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, is pleased to request applications for the 2025 Forest Legacy Program (FLP).

Resources: Find information about Kansas's FLP in the [Kansas Forest Action Plan](#). Information on the National Forest Legacy Program is available on the [USFS Forest Legacy website](#). For more information or support, call KFS at 785-532-3300 or email rarmbrust@ksu.edu.

Deadlines: The state accepts projects on a rolling basis, with the goal of making each project as competitive as possible. For each year, there will be a cut-off date for funding; after this date, eligible projects will be considered for funding the following year.

2025 Application Cut-off date: July 31, 2025

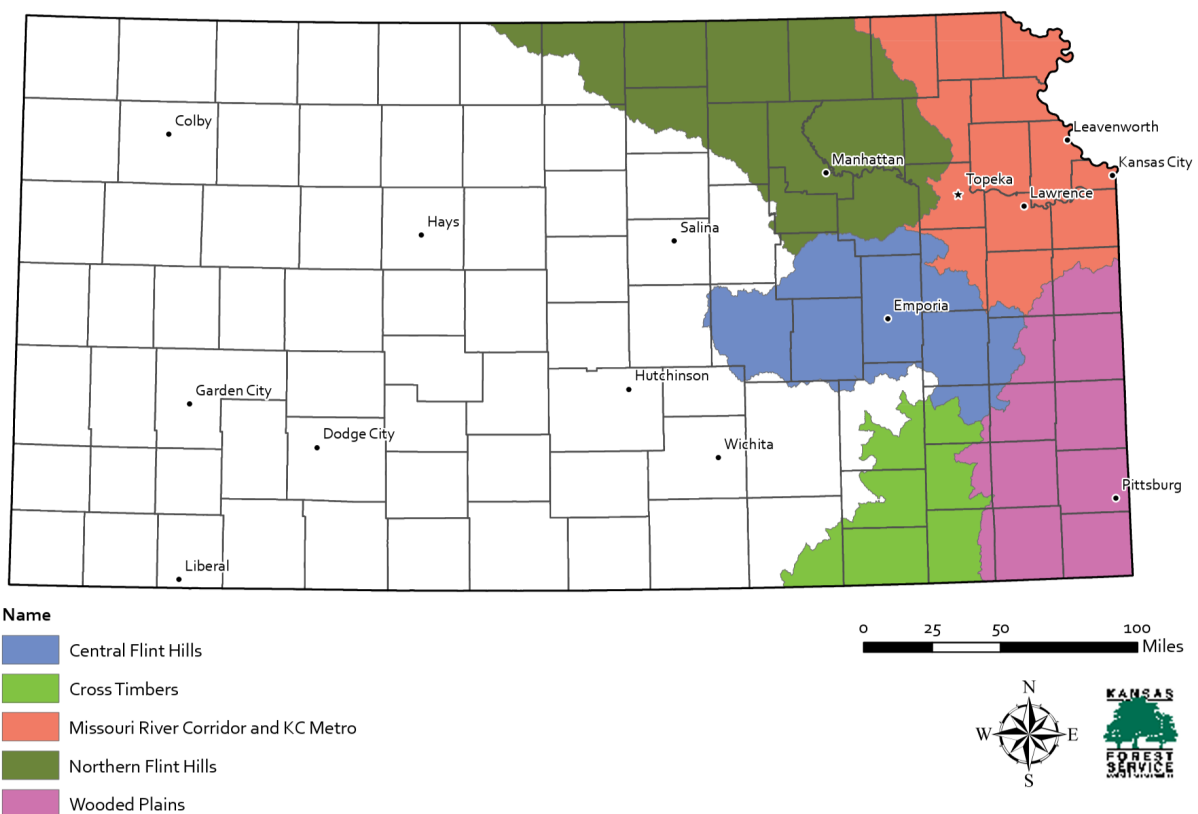
Submit completed applications to KFS:

rarmbrust@ksu.edu
Kansas Forest Service
ATTN: Ryan Armbrust
Forest Legacy Program
2610 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS 66502

Contact for more information:

Ryan Armbrust
KFS Rural Forestry Program Coordinator
rarmbrust@ksu.edu

Forest Legacy Program Areas



Project Eligibility

Property must be within, or partially within, a designated Forest Legacy Area . Please select which one(s):	☐ Central Flint Hills ☐ Cross Timbers ☐ Missouri River Corridor & KC Metro ☐ Northern Flint Hills ☐ Wooded Plains
Is the property privately owned?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Is the landowner a willing and voluntary seller?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Is the property at least 75% forested?	☐ Yes ☐ No
Has the landowner met with a KFS representative?	☐ Yes ☐ No

Applicant Information (complete for each separate landowner tract)

Landowners: Provide the legal names and contact information for all landowners, including business entities with ownership interests in the Property. Together, these are considered the Project Applicant.

Legal name		Phone and email	
Legal name		Phone and email	
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Legal name		Phone and email	
Legal name		Phone and email	

Primary Contact: Provide the point of contact for the Project Applicant who will answer questions and provide information. If the primary contact is someone other than the Project Applicant, describe the relationship of the Primary Contact and provide legal documentation giving the Primary Contact the right to speak for the Project Applicant.

Legal name	
Mailing address	
Phone and email	
Relationship to landowner	

Project Partner: Any entity or individual other than the Project Applicant who will work on the project. The relationship and roles of the project partner must be clearly described, and all contracts between the landowners and project partners provided.

Project partner	
Mailing address	
Phone	
Email	
Describe role	

Project partner	
Mailing address	
Phone	
Email	
Describe role	

Property Information (complete for each separate landowner tract)

Property name (ex: Forested Stream Ranch)	
Property address (If available, include county assessor parcel #)	
County(s)	
Nearest community	
Forest Legacy Area:	☐ Central Flint Hills ☐ Cross Timbers ☐ Missouri River Corridor & KC Metro ☐ Northern Flint Hills ☐ Wooded Plains
Property acres	
Forested acres	
Percent forested	
Brief property description (approximately one paragraph)	
List permanent structures, facilities and infrastructure on the property. <i>(i.e., houses, barns, out-buildings, roads, trails, dams, antennas, etc.)</i>	
List known liens, encumbrances, covenants, title defects, mortgages, easements, rights-of-way, water restrictions, contracts, leases, etc., on the property.	
List proposed future buildings or infrastructure.	

Maps and Documents

Include the following items with this application. These may be updated as the application proceeds through the process. **If requested items are not available, provide an explanation.**

Document/map description		Attached (Y/N)
Vicinity Map (as PDF) - Boundaries of the property and identifiable landmarks - Surrounding landownership - Current development and infrastructure		☐ Yes ☐ No
Property Map (as PDF) - Boundaries of the property - Easement boundaries or part of parcel to be conveyed - Forested versus non-forested area - Aerial photograph - Proposed building envelopes, if applicable		☐ Yes ☐ No
GIS Files (as .shp) - Property boundaries - Proposed building envelopes - Current infrastructure (roads, buildings, ponds)		☐ Yes ☐ No
Property survey		☐ Yes ☐ No
Property documentation. Includes known liens, encumbrances, covenants, title defects, mortgages, easements, rights-of-way, water restrictions, contracts, leases, etc. on the property		☐ Yes ☐ No
Value determination		☐ Yes ☐ No
Match documentation		☐ Yes ☐ No
Forest Stewardship Plan (if present)		☐ Yes ☐ No
Explanation for any missing documents above:		

Photos

Attach and submit no more than **four (4)** high-res photographs highlighting the unique values of the property.

Real Estate

The FLP purchases two types of real estate: Conservation easements or fee simple acquisition. Indicate which this project proposes and fill out the appropriate section.

Conservation easement

This proposal is for a conservation easement. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Building envelopes

The landowner intends to reserve building envelopes. ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, indicate the number of building envelopes to be reserved, up to three: _____

For each building envelope, describe the size, approximate location, and intended uses (e.g., residence, agricultural structures, new buildings, existing buildings, etc.)

Name of building envelope	Acreage	Intended use, including current and proposed structures. How will the building envelope be accessed?

Does the landowner have a preferred easement holder in mind for this acquisition?

Fee simple acquisition

This proposal is for fee title conveyance: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Existing structures

To support the long-term maintenance of the property, list the current structures on the property. This should match the information provided in the Property Information section.

Does the landowner have a preferred (and eligible) permanent owner in mind for this acquisition?

Financial Information

There are two tables below. Fill out the table that applies to the type of real proposed in your project (conservation easement or fee simple acquisition). All projects must fill out the Match Information section. Matching funds (25%) do not need to be secured at this time, although it will make the grant more competitive.

Conservation easement		
A	Property's total acreage	
B	Acreage proposed for CE	
C	Total acreage of proposed building envelopes	
D	Estimated value of CE	
E	Requested transaction and due diligence costs	
F	Total amount of project (D + E)	
G	FLP funding requests (no more than 75% of F)	
H	Amount of cash match from non-federal partners (if known)	
I	Amount of other match (if known)	
J	Total value of match (must be least 25% of F)	

Fee simple acquisition		
A	Property's total acreage	
B	Acreage proposed for FSA	
C	Estimated value of FSA	
D	Requested transaction and due diligence costs	
E	Total amount of project (C + D)	
F	FLP funding requests (no more than 75% of E)	
G	Amount of cash match from non-federal partners (if known)	
H	Amount of other match (if known)	
I	Total value of match (must be least 25% of E)	

Match information

Is 25% match already secured? ☐ Yes ☐ No

List all match partners below. Match documents must be attached as part of the application.

Other comments

Project Readiness

Projects are rated based on a variety of factors. One of these factors is readiness, comprising the factors below. A project receives one point for each factor completed prior to application. More points will result in a more favorable rating. While none of these are required for application, the more that are done in advance, the more favorable rating, and the more competitive the project application will be.

Indicate which of the following items the project has completed and attach the required documents.

For conservation easements Draft conservation easement agreed to by project applicant and KFS	☐ Yes ☐ No
For fee simple acquisition Draft deed language agreed to by the future landowner and KFS	☐ Yes ☐ No
Completed title search with encumbrances identified	☐ Yes ☐ No
Mineral rights holders identified. If mineral rights are severed, mineral assessment and determination of remoteness completed.	☐ Yes ☐ No
Signed purchase option/agreement between landowner and KFS (or other eligible entity as approved by KFS)	☐ Yes ☐ No
25% non-federal grant match secured	☐ Yes ☐ No

Forest Stewardship or Multi-Resource Management Plan

Each project requires a Multi-Resource Management Plan prior to distribution of funding, but this is not required to apply to the program.

Type of Plan	
Does the property already have a Forest Stewardship Plan? - If yes, indicate the year it was created: _____	☐ Yes ☐ No
Will the applicant be requesting funds to update or create a plan as part of the due diligence funding request?	☐ Yes ☐ No

Kansas Application Narrative

The Kansas application narrative describes the project. Under each section, suggested topics are included. Only include what is applicable to your specific project. Follow the formatting specified.

What	Form or maximum number of bullet points allowed	Include as applicable
Project name	Short title	
Project overview	Two paragraphs	Executive summary
Importance	20 bullet points	Include how the project addresses the importance of the following: • Economic benefits from timber and potential forest productivity • Economic benefits from non-timber products and recreation • Threatened or endangered species habitat • Fish, wildlife, plants and unique forest communities • Water supply, aquatic habitat and watershed protection • Cultural/historic • Tribal • Benefits to local communities • Public access • Scenic • Carbon sequestration/climate resilience, adaption to climate change
Threatened	10 bullet points	Describe how the property is threatened with conversion to non-forest land through: • Lack of protection • Land and landowners circumstances • Adjacent land use • Ability to develop • Other specific threats of forest conversion to non-forest uses
Strategic	10 bullet points	Describe how the project is strategic through the ways it: • Contributes to larger conservation initiatives, strategies or plans • Complements protected lands • Benefits to local communities • Provides other landscape-scale goals and public benefits
Supporting parties	Unlimited bullet points	List partners and fiscal contributors

Optional Criteria & Additional Info

Use this space to provide any additional comments not included elsewhere in the application. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Landowner Agreement and Acknowledgement

The information in this application is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I, as the landowner(s), agree to and acknowledge the following:

Willing landowner

I have interest in enrolling my property in the Forest Legacy Program. If awarded, I agree to develop a multi-resource management plan that meets the requirements of the Forest Legacy Program. I also agree that conservation easement or deed terms (which ever are applicable) will be consistent with Forest Legacy Program Implementation Guidelines.

Inspection, appraisal and survey

I agree to allow members of the Kansas Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee, the Kansas Forest Service, and the USDA Forest Service to inspect my property at any reasonable time for the purposes of this application, and to allow inspection, appraisal and survey of my real property being offered for consideration under the Kansas Forest Legacy Program. I understand I shall be notified in advance of all inspection visits.

Project timeline

I understand that once awarded, projects are generally expected to close within two years. I agree to develop and submit a project timeline to meet these goals if funded.

Amicable agreement acknowledgement

Prior to closing, the value of the property or interest in the property as determined by an approved appraisal will be communicated to me in writing. I acknowledge and understand that the sale of the property as part of this program is strictly voluntary, and that eminent domain will not be used if negotiations do not result in an amicable agreement.

Application only

I also understand that this application is only a request for the nominated property to be considered for the Kansas Forest Legacy Program. This application does not constitute an agreement to purchase, lease or otherwise compensate the landowner for any property interests.

Printed Landowner Name

Signature

Date

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

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