



Oconee County Conservation Bank Application for Funding

Oconee County, South Carolina

Completed Application to be forwarded to:

Oconee County Conservation Bank Board
c/o Clerk to Council
Oconee County Administrative Offices
415 South Pine Street
Walhalla, SC 29691

or

via email to: ksmith@oconeesc.com

SECTION I

I. General Information:

Acquisition type: ___ Fee Simple ___ Conservation Easement

Landowner's Name

Mailing Address:

Daytime Telephones

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Eligible OCCB Recipient Seeking Funding

(See Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16, Section II,G)

Name of Organization

Authorized Agent Name:

Mailing Address:

Daytime Telephones

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II. Property Information

Legal Description

County: Oconee

Tax Map #

Assessor's Plat & Lot Numbers:

Deed Reference [Book & Page]

Current Zoning Classification

Location on County Map (attach copy as **EXHIBIT A**)

Brief description of property including:

- a. Total Acres
- b. Total Forested
- c. Total Cleared / Open
- d. Total Wetlands
- e. Creeks and/or Rivers

Please include any surveys, USGS maps, directions, county locator map, or any other pertinent information.

III. Miscellaneous Information:

Who is the Party responsible for managing the land?

Name

Address:

Telephone Number

Who is responsible for enforcing any conservation easements or other restrictions on this property?

Name

Address:

Telephone Number

IV. Adjoining landowners.

Adjoining landowners must be notified of this grant request by Oconee County ordinance. Please attach an affidavit that all adjoining landowners have been notified.

Signature of Eligible OCCB Recipient (Applicant)

Date

Section II
To be filled out by the landowner

1. Has the Eligible OCCB Recipient seeking funding notified you in writing:
(See Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16, Section VII)
- a. That interests in land purchased with trust funds result in a permanent conveyance of such interests from the landowner to the eligible trust fund.
- _____ yes _____ no
- b. That it may be in the landowner's best interests to retain independent legal counsel, appraisals, and other professional advice.
- _____ yes _____ no
2. Are there any existing liens, mortgages, or encumbrances that currently exist on this property?
- _____ yes _____ no If yes, please explain below:

Oconee County Conservation Bank—Landowner Inspection Consent Agreement.

I, _____, as the landowner or landowner's agent agree to allow inspection, or appraisal if necessary, of the property being presented to the OCCB Board for consideration. I agree to allow authorized or designated agent or staff to inspect this property as may be required. Reasonable notice of inspection will be given.

Signature of Landowner/Agent

Date

Section III

To be filled out by the Eligible OCCB Recipient seeking funding (Applicant)

Organization Name

Address

Daytime Telephones

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Contact Person

Organization EIN Number:

NOTE: You are required to attach certification that this is a charitable not-for-profit corporation or trust authorized to do business in this state; whose principal activity is the acquisition and management of land for conservation or historic purposes and which has tax-exempt status as a public charity under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or Certification that the applicant is an otherwise qualified entity under Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16, Section II and Section VII.

How will you be able to complete the project and acquire the interests in the proposed lands?

How many total acres of lands or projects have you preserved in this State? In this County?

Briefly describe the lands your organization has preserved in this State, and then County, including their size, location and method of preservation. Note: this section need not be complied with for specific preserved lands if the privacy or proprietary interests of the owners of such preserved lands would be violated.)

Has the Eligible OCCB Recipient notified the owner of the land that is the subject of the potential OCCB grant of the following in writing? (See Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16, Section VII)

- a. That interests in land purchased with trust funds result in a permanent conveyance of such interests in land from the landowner to the eligible trust fund recipient or it assignees.

- b. That it may be in the landowner’s interest to retain independent legal counsel, appraisals and other professional advice.

Note: Applications not having affirmation that the notice requirement of this section has been met will not be considered for funding requests.

Does the Eligible OCCB Recipient or the landowner have a general summarized land management plan for this proposal? If so, please attach.

_____ yes _____ no

Explain how the Eligible OCCB Recipient intends to enforce the easement restrictions on this proposal, if a conservation easement is proposed. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Does the Eligible OCCB Recipient agree that OCCB funds may only be used for the acquisition of interests in land including closing costs and not for management, planning, staffing, or any costs not associated with the purchase of interests in lands?

_____ yes _____ no

Does the Eligible OCCB Recipient have reasonable documentation to support this request?
Please attach.

The proposal will not be considered without adequate substantiation of estimated Fair Market Value and a qualified and competent appraisal establishing fair market value and/or the value of the proposed easement will subsequently be required prior to closing.

(See Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16, Section VII,B,f)

_____ yes _____ no

What is the amount of support sought for this proposal?

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Explain how this proposal will satisfy the Criteria listed in Sections Four and Five of the ensuing pages. **(Please attach a narrative of what your intended plans are and how you plan to accomplish them.)**

Signature of Authorized Agent for Eligible OCCB Recipient (Applicant)

Notary Signature

My commission expires: _____

Section IV
Conservation Criteria
Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16, Section VI
Information to be considered in filling out the application

1. Does the property contain or adjoin wetlands? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, please attach certification by USACOE or NRCS.

2. Does the property contain or adjoin a USGS Blue Line Stream or Lake?

If yes, please provide USGS topographic map showing such stream or lake in relation to property.

3. Does the property contain or adjoin Water Classified as either (i) Outstanding Natural Resource Water (ii) Outstanding Resource Water or (iii) Trout Water, by South Carolina DHEC.

If yes, please provide evidence of such classification by SC DHEC.

4. Does the property currently contain threatened or endangered species or habitat suitable for threatened or endangered species?

If yes, please provide a certification by SC DNR, NRCS, USFS or other qualified professional providing evidence of such species existence on the property or of such habitat suitability.

5. Does the property currently contain native wildlife species or habitat suitable for native wildlife species?

If yes, please provide substantial evidence (e.g. Statement from a qualified agency or professional, etc.) of such species existence on the property of such habitat suitability.

6. Does the property currently contain special or concentrated biodiversity?

If yes, please provide substantial evidence (e.g. Statement from a qualified agency or professional, etc.) of such biodiversity on the property.

7. Does the property currently contain a unique geological feature, such as a mountain, rock outcropping, waterfall or other similar feature?

If yes, please provide substantial evidence (e.g. Statement from a qualified agency or professional, etc.) of such geological feature on the property.

8. Does the property share a boundary with other Protected Land? For purposes of this question, "Protected Land" includes any land or byway substantially protected from development or designated as scenic or protected through any federal, state, or local act.

(a) If yes, what percentage of a boundary is shared with such Protected Land?

_____ 1%-25%

_____ 26%-50%

_____ Greater than 50%

(b) If yes, please describe the Protected Land and present a legible map showing such Protected Land in relation to the property.

9. Does the property contain any of the following pre-historic or historic features or designations?

(a) Listing on the National Historic Register? If yes, please provide a letter or other evidence from the Department of the Interior demonstrating such listing.

(b) Eligible for listing on the National Historic Register? If yes, please provide a letter or other evidence from the SC State Historic Preservation Office demonstrating such eligibility.

(c) Contains historic or pre-historic structures? If yes, please provide evidence in the form of photographs and statement of a qualified agency or professional describing the structure(s) on the property.

(d) Contains a site of historic or pre-historic significance? If yes, please provide evidence in the form of photographs and statement of a qualified agency or professional describing the site(s) on the property.

10. Does the property contain fifty percent (50%) or greater surface area of soils classified as Prime or Important by the State of South Carolina?

(a) If yes, what percentage of the property contains soils classified as Prime or Important by the State of South Carolina?

_____ 50%-60%

_____ 61%-75%

_____ Greater than 75 %

(b) If yes, please provide a legible soil overlay map showing such Prime or Important soil types upon the property.

11. Has the property been Actively Farmed as defined under one of the following qualifications?

- (a) The landowner has filed IRS Form Schedule F in the previous two tax years? If yes, please provide evidence of such tax filings and a notarized statement affirming that such farming activities pertained to the property referred to in this application;
- (b) The landowner has filed IRS Form Schedule F in seven of the last ten years? If yes, please provide evidence of such tax filings and a notarized statement affirming that such farming activities pertained to the property referred to in this application; or
- (c) The landowner can produce documentation demonstrating that the landowner has produced significant agricultural products in Oconee County in the last two years? If yes, please provide such documentation and a notarized statement affirming that such farming activities pertained to the property referred to in this application.

12. Does the property allow public viewing:

- (a) ...from a Federal, State or County maintained road? If yes, please provide documentation describing precise location of point along a Federal, State or County Road where property is visible. Include a photograph taken from this point.
- (b) ...from any other public access land or waterway? If yes, please provide documentation describing precise location of point along such public access land or waterway where property is visible. Include a photograph taken from this point.

13. Does the property provide a Scenic View to the public or help maintain the Scenic Nature of an area in the County? For purposes of this question, a Scenic View includes mountain, river, lake, forest, pasture, agricultural and other pastoral views which are viewable by the public from a public roadway or other publically accessible area.

If yes, please provide photograph evidence to support the Scenic View, a description of the Scenic View and a description of the specific locations with map references from which the public may observe the Scenic View.

14. Does the proposal for the conservation project on the Property allow...

- (a) ...Limited Access by the public to the property? For purposes of this question, Limited Access means any access which is less than access on a year round and continual basis, but allows access by the public for some limited time or seasonal period(s).

If yes, please provide documentation supporting such Limited Access, including any formal agreements with agencies or groups authorized to use the property, a description of the use(s) permitted and the times or seasons when the property will be accessible by the public.

(b) ...Unlimited Access by the public to the property? For purposes of this question, Unlimited Access means any access which provides the public access to the property on a year round and continual basis and, additionally, requires that such access is (or will be) communicated to the public.

If yes, please provide documentation supporting such Unlimited Access, including any formal agreements with agencies or groups authorized to use the property, a description of the use(s) permitted and the times or seasons when the property will be accessible by the public. In addition, please provide evidence that the Unlimited Access is (or will be) reasonably communicated to Oconee County citizens.

15. Is the property located in any one or more of the following locations? If yes, for each such location please provide an aerial map and supporting documentation which demonstrates such location in relation to the relevant municipality or other land.

- (a) Is the property located within or adjacent to land of the United States Forest Service, a South Carolina State Forest, a State Park, a County Park or a Park of Municipality located in Oconee County, South Carolina?
- (b) Is the property located within 1 mile of a municipality?
- (c) Is the property located from 2-5 miles of a municipality?
- (d) Is the property located greater than 5 miles from a municipality?

16. What is the approximate size (in acres) of the property? Please provide documentation to support the stated acreage, including survey(s), tax information, deeds or other similar documentation.

Section V - Financial Criteria
Oconee County Ordinance 2011-16 Section VI
Information to be considered in filling out the application

1. (a) What is the Total Market Value of the proposed conservation project? _____
(Total Market Value for a fee simple project is the total fair market value of the property as supported by a current appraisal. Total Market Value for a conservation easement project is the value of the conservation easement as determined under the methods prescribed in IRS Treasury Regulations 1.170A-14(h) as supported by a current appraisal.)

(b) What is the amount of the grant requested from the OCCB? _____

Based on the figures above, what is the total percentage of funding requested for the project from the OCCB. *(Divide Sum (b) by Sum (a) to Find Percentage)?* _____

2. Please list and describe any other grants, contributions or gifts from any non-governmental agencies, groups, entities or individuals which will support the proposed conservation project?

For any listed grant, contribution or gift, please provide evidence or a written pledge of such support from the relevant non-governmental party.

3. How does the proposal present a unique value opportunity in that it protects land at a reasonable cost? Parcel:

_____ is available at a low cost per acre

_____ is available from a willing seller at a reasonable price

4. How does the proposal leverage OCCB funds by including funding or in-kind assets or services from other governmental sources?

Have matching funds of any kind or services-in-kind been applied for or received?

Please explain and described the in-kind services or amount of financial support applied for or r received. Please also provide written documentation to support such application or receipt of such support.

5. Please describe any other financial advantage of the proposed conservation project which helps ensure that the project represents a good use of limited OCCB funds and/or provides a good return on investment for the citizens of Oconee County?

Please explain any other such financial advantage and provide documentation to support your answer to this question.