

OBJECTIVE THREE: STRENGTHEN CONSERVATION CAPACITY



This objective is focused on expanding the conservation community's ability to sustainably protect and steward land.

This plan's success is dependent on having the people, programs, funding and innovations needed to successfully implement Act 59 in years to come. This work includes strengthening the whole conservation community, including the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, the Agency of Natural Resources, conservation organizations, municipalities, landowners, and the many public and private organizations that support community-level conservation. Phase 1 input reported concerns about underfunding and limited access to financing tools. Stakeholders requested streamlined, permanent funding mechanisms and equitable access to technical support.

Potential Pathways to the Future

These potential pathways are an initial starting point to developing the Vermont Conservation Plan, These will be further refined by the various technical working groups and shaped by stakeholder input.

INCREASE AND OPTIMIZE FUNDING AND FINANCING



This pathway will propose ways to increase funding and financing to support the land protection, stewardship, and capacity of the conservation community.

SUPPORT STEWARDSHIP AND RESTORATION



This pathway will identify the actions, innovations and new partners needed to better support the sustainable stewardship and strategic restoration of lands and their natural functions.

PROMOTE CONSERVATION AT DIFFERENT SCALES



This pathway will identify systems and investments to support conservation organizations operating at local, regional, statewide, and transboundary scales.

EXPAND THE SUPPORT SYSTEM AND CONSERVATION COMMUNITY



This pathway will identify strategies and investments that will grow the support system of practitioners, natural resources management contractors, and community leaders needed to support conservation efforts into the future. This pathway will also expand the conservation community to be representative of Vermont's diverse communities and viewpoints.

DEVELOP NEW PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES



This pathway will identify new programs and tools that help increase the pace, quality and impact of our conservation investments to expand our ability to meet our conservation goals.

