



Cracking the Code

Forest Carbon Aggregation in Vermont

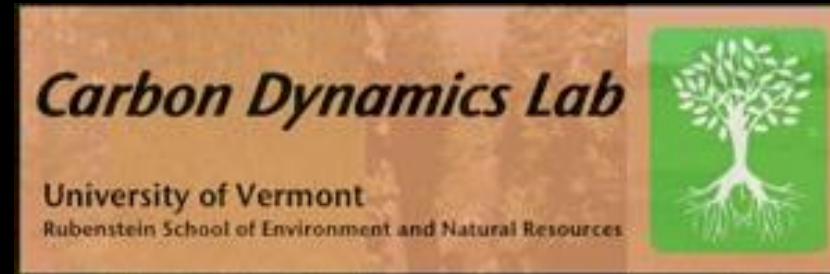
The Keys

- In Vermont, forestland conservation suffers a disproportionate lack of funding, especially for small scale parcels that typify the Northeast.
- We know what we need to do- the science is broadly clear about where conservation would make the difference, and we haven't missed the chance in Vermont.
- Carbon credits are enticing- and difficult to match to our landscape. So far there has been very little carbon project development in VT.
- VLT has organized a team and is using some different approaches, at a landscape scale, to test forest carbon as a conservation tool.

The Carbon Opportunity in Vermont

- **\$45 Million- \$90 Million** per year in sequestered carbon.
- Carbon sequestration in Vermont from annual forest growth exceeds carbon emissions from all transportation at least. We may in fact be “net zero” as a state thanks to our forested landscape.
- Much of this not now (nor likely ever) commercially viable...
- But very useful- Beyond having a price- carbon has a intrinsic value to many Vermonters who care about and see the impacts of climate change.
- Correlates well with a lot of other values that we care about.

Our Team



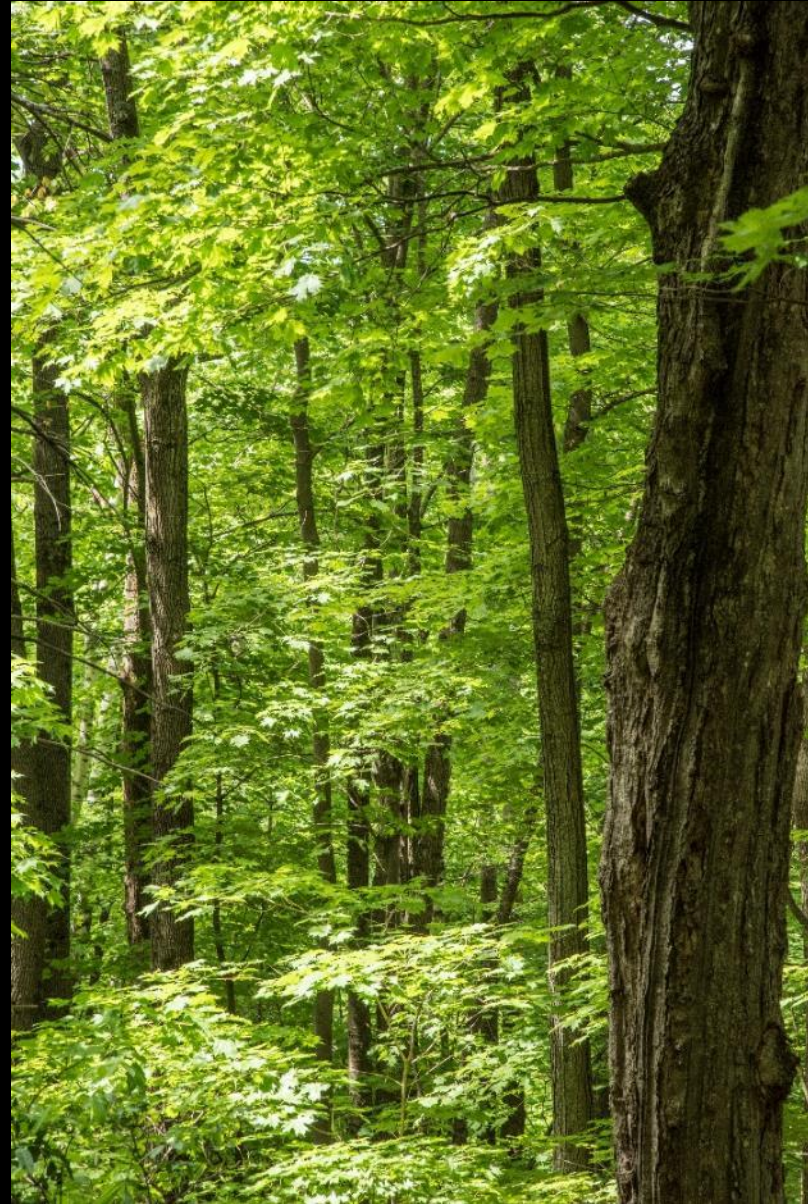
Seeking to build on, not re-create prior work

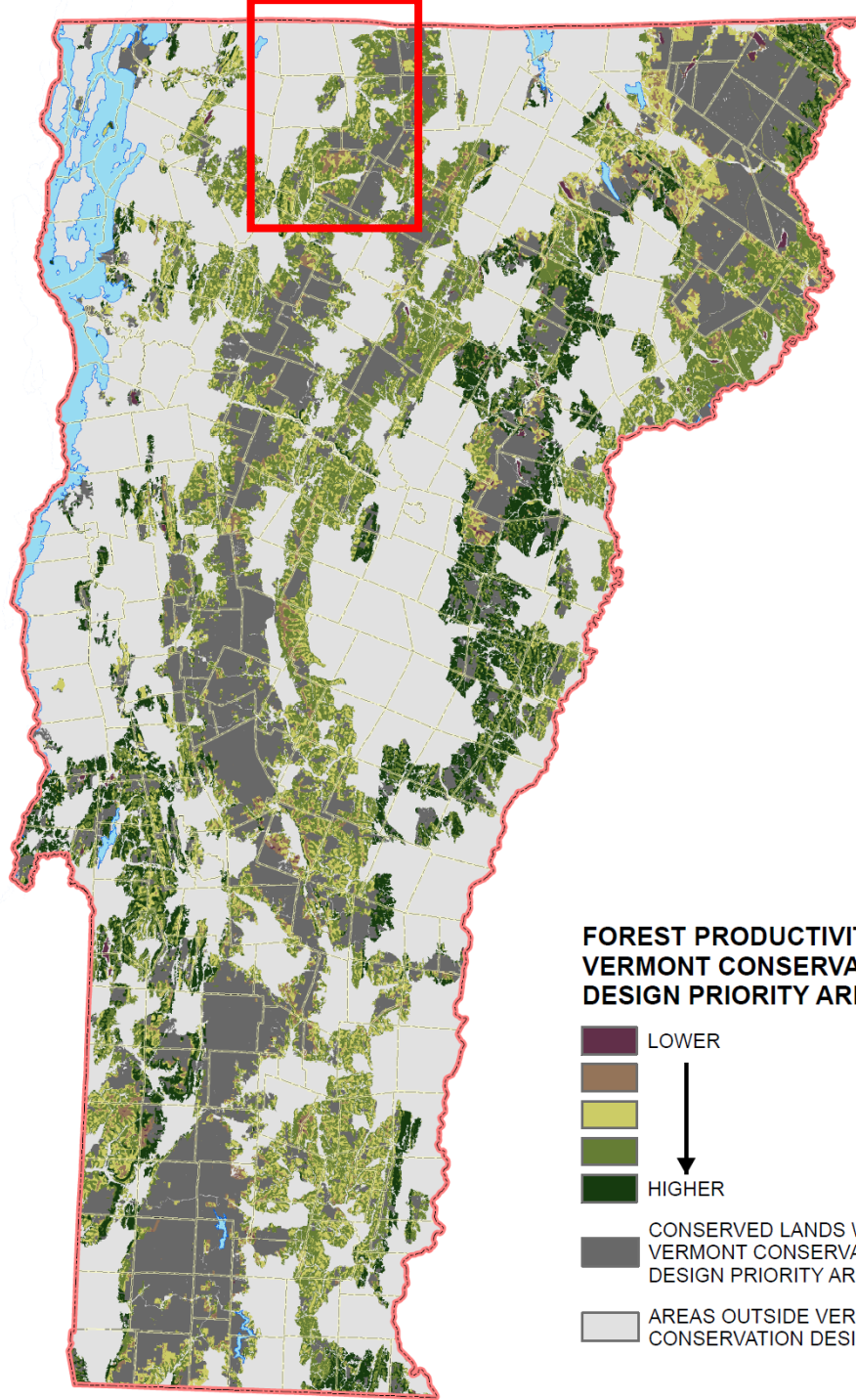
- Northern Forest Center/Manomet Study in 2012
- OSI resilience mapping and Delaware watershed work
- David Publicover, AMC self-developed project in Maine
- Working Woodlands Initiative (TNC)
- And more...

A wide-angle landscape photograph of a forested mountain range. The foreground is filled with a dense forest of tall, dark evergreen trees on the left and lighter green deciduous trees on the right. The middle ground shows a vast expanse of rolling hills covered in a thick, vibrant green forest. In the distance, more mountain ranges are visible under a sky filled with large, grey, dramatic clouds. The overall scene is lush and scenic, typical of the Vermont landscape.

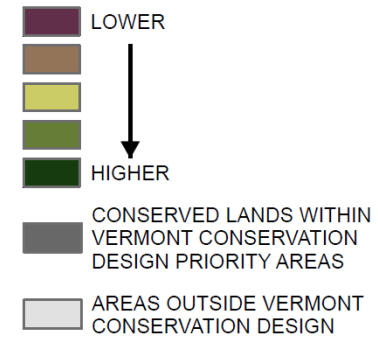
Vermont's Forests- a quick primer

- More than 75% of Vermont is in forest cover (4.5 Million acres), approximately 80% of which is privately owned.
- Despite great progress, only 10% of the privately held land is conserved.
- Many critical privately owned forest parcels remain outside the framework of protection created by state ownership, conservation, and current use.
- Privately owned forests in Vermont face increasing fragmentation and parcelization (subdivision) from exurban sprawl, leading to the diminishment of a range of ecosystem services.



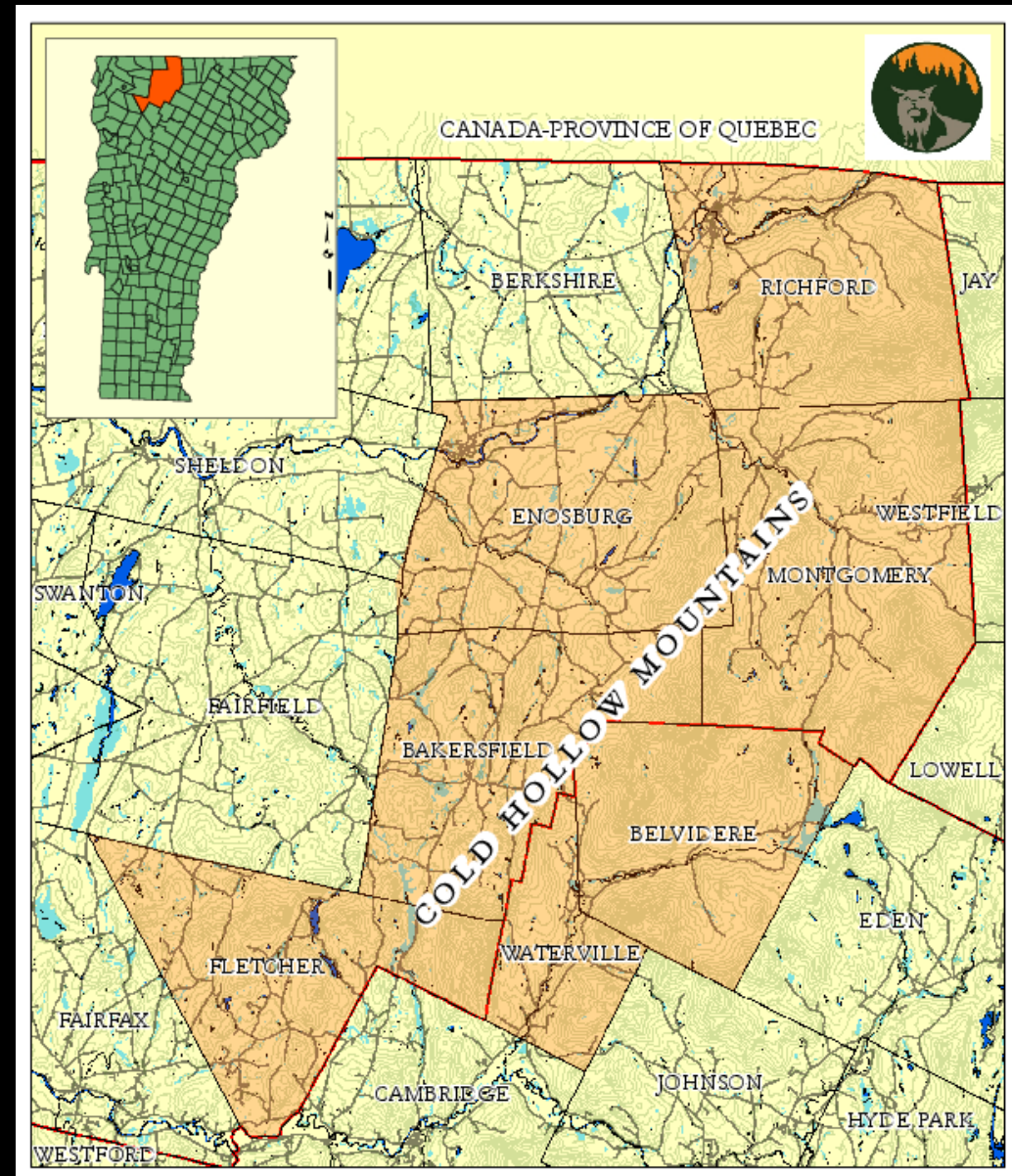


**FOREST PRODUCTIVITY IN
VERMONT CONSERVATION
DESIGN PRIORITY AREAS**



Fostering Community Connections- Cold Hollow to Canada

- Highly regarded Regional Conservation Partnership (RCP)
- Northern Green Mountains Focus
- Grass-roots, all volunteer organization, but high capacity
- Deep relationships with landowners
- Track record of success attracting funding and support



Staged, Realistic, Goals Build on Core Strengths

- Elevate the conversation about carbon in Vermont
- Develop a robust, data-driven answer to the question of where and how carbon is a viable tool, and share it
- Pick away at the key issues related to scale, using existing infrastructure
- Attract philanthropy to sticking points
- Tie carbon with other ecosystem values



Questions?