

**TASKS AND SUBTASKS – VCC Ag Ecos – Draft 4/23/2021**

<p><b>Task 5A– Develop a current carbon budget</b></p>	
	<p>1. Engage contractor and shape scope clearly</p>
	<p>2. Coordinate with other Tasks to ensure budget meets their needs</p>
	<p>3. Advise contractor on methodology &amp; approach</p>
	<p>4. Explore TEK in relation to the carbon budget</p>
<p><b>Task 5B – Identify and develop initiatives, programs and strategies that reduce gross and net annual greenhouse gas emissions from Vermont’s natural lands &amp; forests</b></p>	
	<p>1. Carbon budget capturing natural lands and forests (including wild v. managed forests)</p>
	<p>2. Explore existing programs and what is working for forests, non-timbered forests, and riparian areas, and not, tie to existing resources</p>
	<p>3. Explore new programs and possibilities,</p>
	<p>4. Review for any maladaptive practices</p>
	<p>5. Look at land conversion (residential, commercial, roads, dams) impacts to C, and programs, efforts to address, particularly keeping forests in forest</p>
	<p>6. Look at emissions from the forestry sector</p>
	<p>7. Consider foragers, roles, tools, public lands (and conserved)</p>
	<p>8. Identify clear objectives or goals under this broad goal</p>
<p><b>Task 5C – Identify and develop initiatives, programs and strategies that reduce gross and net annual greenhouse gas emissions from Vermont’s agricultural land and agricultural operations</b></p>	

	1. Defining terms (ag lands, etc.)
	2. Review of existing ag inventory by DEC; understand quantification; gaps; etc.; review protocols
	3. Gross emissions moving toward net; another column in the ledger (Soil Carbon budget work)
	4. Review of existing programs direct or co-benefit outputs for GHG + resilience
	5. Review of existing plans, climate action council, & regional states (ME, NY)
	6. Explore and identify TEK: harvesting bark, fiddleheads, mushrooms, ramps, including restoration and proper practices
	7. Develop initiatives, programs, current, gaps, and new
	8. Gaps and knowledge gaps needing contractor support (net inventory, impact assessment, etc.)
	9. Prioritize choices and guidance for full SC
	10. Identify clear objectives or goals under this broad goal
<b>Task 5D – Identify and develop initiatives, programs and strategies to improve adaptation of Vermont’s natural and working lands.</b>	
	1. Definitions and key terms
	2. Nature based solutions are qualitative thus explain and describe; values assessment
	3. Inventory of state based programs, regulations, TEK, additional non-state considerations
	4. Identifying gaps and needs and human impediments to nature-based solutions
	5. Prioritizing with the MCA tool
	6. Working across tasks and coordinating
	7. ID partners and stakeholders

	8. Engage public
<p><b>Task 5E</b> – Identify and develop climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts that <b>improve healthy soils, create greater access to healthy, local foods for all Vermonters, and improve water quality, while enhancing Vermont’s sustainable, local agricultural and forest sector economies.</b></p>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What does a resilient food &amp; forest system look like (vision) (building on FS Strat Plan)?</li> <li>2. How does that relate to these many factors?</li> <li>3. How do these factors relate to people, food and land access, equity, food insecurity?</li> <li>4. What are CC significant risks to current FS &amp; forest structure, supply chain, etc., and recommendations would change or alter that structure for greater resilience?</li> <li>5. What are existing or new programs, strategies, investments, and TEK that advance health of land, soils, water AND people?</li> </ol>