

# Solutions From the Land

Developing a New Vision  
for United States  
Agriculture, Forestry,  
and Conservation

*Bioenergy Sustainability:  
Charting the Path toward a  
Viable Future*  
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“The policies and practices of the past will not meet the needs of tomorrow”



...but understanding the past has never been more important!



# A Little Background...

## 25x'25: a National Alliance

- Formed in Spring 2004 through a grant from the Energy Future Coalition
  - Organized to explore agriculture and forestry's role in energy production
- Four-phase project
  - create a vision
- - build an energy alliance
  - construct an implementation strategy
  - work to bring 25x'25 to life

## **The Vision:**

By the year 2025, America's farms, ranches and forests will provide 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the U.S. while continuing to produce safe, abundant and affordable food, feed and fiber.

**25x'25**

# Current Mission:

Document and affirm the fact that America's working lands can secure 25 percent of its energy needs from renewable sources while simultaneously;

- Producing abundant and affordable food, feed and fiber
- Protecting and enhancing the environment
- Strengthening national security and the economy

# Challenges for Land Management

- Loss of working lands
- Conflicting policies and inadequate rewards for ecosystem services
- Declining investments in research and innovation
- The changing climate
- Managing risks, market volatility, and multiple demands



# Agriculture, Forestry and Conservation Provide Solutions

A new, shared vision is urgently needed for higher efficiency, productivity and profitability in agriculture and forestry—at both large and small scales—that supports enhanced conservation of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine ecosystems.



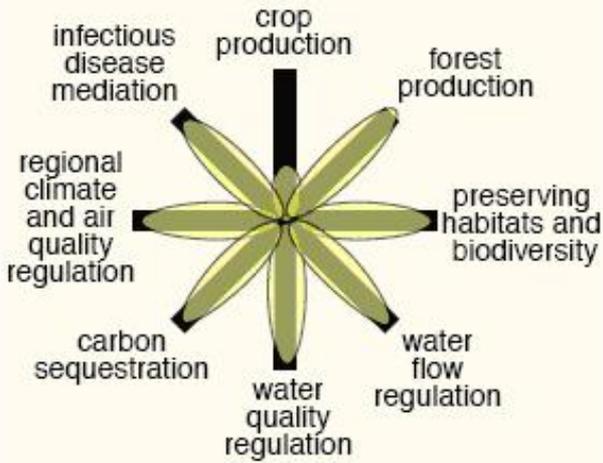
# Solutions from the Land Vision

## **By 2050, agricultural systems and forests can be simultaneously managed to:**

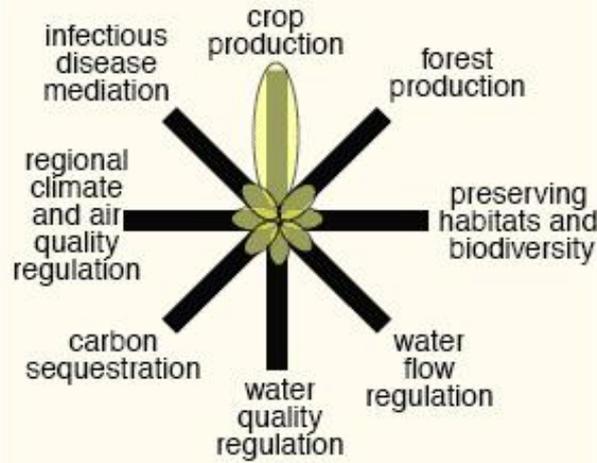
- satisfy domestic and global demand for safe, abundant and affordable food, feed, fuel, and fiber;
- support economic growth and sustainable development; reduce hunger and malnutrition;
- improve soil, water and air quality; enhance biodiversity and ensure ecosystem health, including preserving habitats;
- and deliver mitigation and adaptation solutions to mounting global climate challenges.



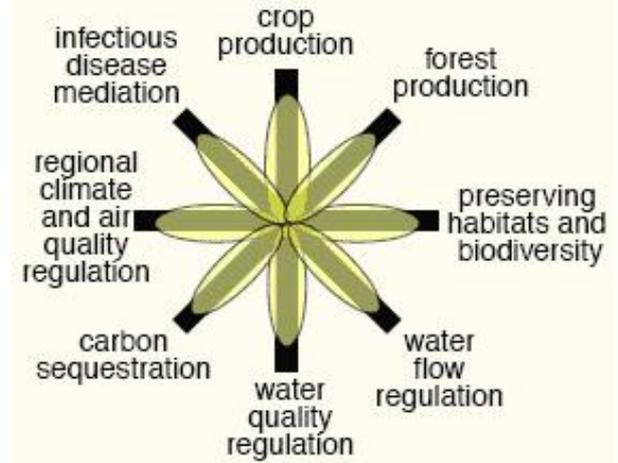
# Integrated Land Management



natural ecosystem



intensive cropland



cropland with restored ecosystem services

# Achieving the Vision

- Implement landscape-scale solutions and partnerships
- Harmonize policy frameworks
- Reward stewardship of ecosystem services
- Energize and coordinate research
- Transform and modernize information networks



# A Path Forward: Ideas for Collaboration

- Create a nationwide inventory of integrated land management projects
- Identify conflicting policies and examples of successful solutions
- Hold regional dialogues on ecosystem markets and sustainable supply chains
- Develop a way to prioritize and streamline research processes
- Identify “meta-metrics” that can serve as broad indicators of sustainability



# Reaching the SFL Vision

- In the short term, we need to better understand each other...where we've been and where we want to go.
- We need to promote integration, and implementation of the best solutions through a strategic alignment of stakeholders.
- In the long term, we need appropriate policies, investments, research and development, markets and measurement tools in place in order to ensure that resources are optimized- we need a strategy that visualizes abundance not a plan that embraces scarcity!



# Solutions from the Land Vision

*“In 2050, U.S. farmers, ranchers, and foresters manage land to produce the food, fiber and energy needed to support a growing population and economy, while simultaneously improving biodiversity and the health of our environment.”*



# Solutions from the Land Mission

*SfL's mission is to bring together a broad range of stakeholders to identify and implement policies and practices to enable land to be sustainably managed to produce food, feed, fiber and energy while protecting and improving critical environmental resources.*



# 5 Objectives to Achieving the SFL Vision

1. Landscape-scale solutions and partnerships
2. Harmonize policy frameworks
3. Reward stewardship of ecosystem services
4. Energize and coordinate research
5. Transform and modernize information networks



# SFL Phase III

- Recruit Champions
- Organize case study field events and state level multi-stakeholder leadership workshops
- Complete and inventory of U.S. integrated land management projects
- Create national awareness of SFL solutions sets
- Identify policies and regulations that work at cross purposes and stymie progress
- Enter the global dialogue



# Join the SFL Dialogue!



[www.SFLDialogue.net](http://www.SFLDialogue.net)

