

Forest Conservation Fund Fact Sheet

❖ About the Forest Conservation Fund

The Forest Conservation Fund was established pursuant to the Tropical Forest Conservation Act (TFCA) of 1998 which was enacted to offer eligible developing countries to relieve identified official debt owed to the United States of America while at the same time generating funds to support local tropical forest conservation activities.

The Forest Conservation, Debt Swap and Swap Fee Contractual Agreements were signed on September 21, 2004 by the Governments of Jamaica and the United States of America, the Nature Conservancy and the Jamaica Protected Areas Trust. This paved the way for the creation of the Forest Conservation Fund (FCF). The GOJ will deposit US\$16 million into the FCF over a period of nineteen years. These monies are to be used solely for the purposes delineated in the Forest Conservation Agreement (FCA).

❖ The Oversight Committee

All decisions relating to the use of FCF income, as well as general management of the FCF Secretariat reside solely with this Committee which was established by the Forest Conservation Agreement (FCA). The Oversight Committee (OC) of the FCF has seven voting members – three Permanent members and four Temporary members. The latter grouping serve for a fixed term and are drawn from varied sectors of the society. The current members of the OC are:

Permanent	Term
<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Government of Jamaica (GOJ) – Forestry Department❑ United States Government (USG)❑ The Nature Conservancy (TNC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association (JHTA)❑ Jamaica Protected Areas Network (JPAN)❑ Jamaica Institute of Environmental Professionals/Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (JIEP/PSOJ)❑ Ministry of Local Government and the Environment (MLG&E)

❖ The Fund Administrator

The OC appointed the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) as the Fund Administrator (FA) in 2005. The role of the FA is to administer the grant making process.

❖ **Eligible Activities**

Grant Income must be used within the Priority Sites to -

- ⊗ Establish, restore, protect and maintain reserves, parks, and protected areas;
- ⊗ Develop and implement natural resource management;
- ⊗ Implement training programmes to build the capacity of entities involved in conservation efforts;
- ⊗ Sustainably use, restore and protect diverse animal and plant species;
- ⊗ Research medicinal uses of tropical forest life to treat human health-related concerns; and;
- ⊗ Develop and support alternate livelihoods of buffer zone communities.

❖ **Eligible Entities**

The Entities that are eligible for funding include -

- ⊗ Environmental, forestry or conservation NGO's;
- ⊗ Local or regional entities active in Jamaica;
- ⊗ Individuals through a NGO, CBO or other similar group
- ⊗ In exceptional instances the GOJ.

❖ **Non-Eligible Entities**

Non-eligible entities include-

- ⊗ The Fund Administrator;
- ⊗ Persons employed to a member of the Oversight Committee (OC) or an Advisory Committee; and;
- ⊗ Any other Person designated by the OC as Non-Eligible.

❖ **Types of Grants**

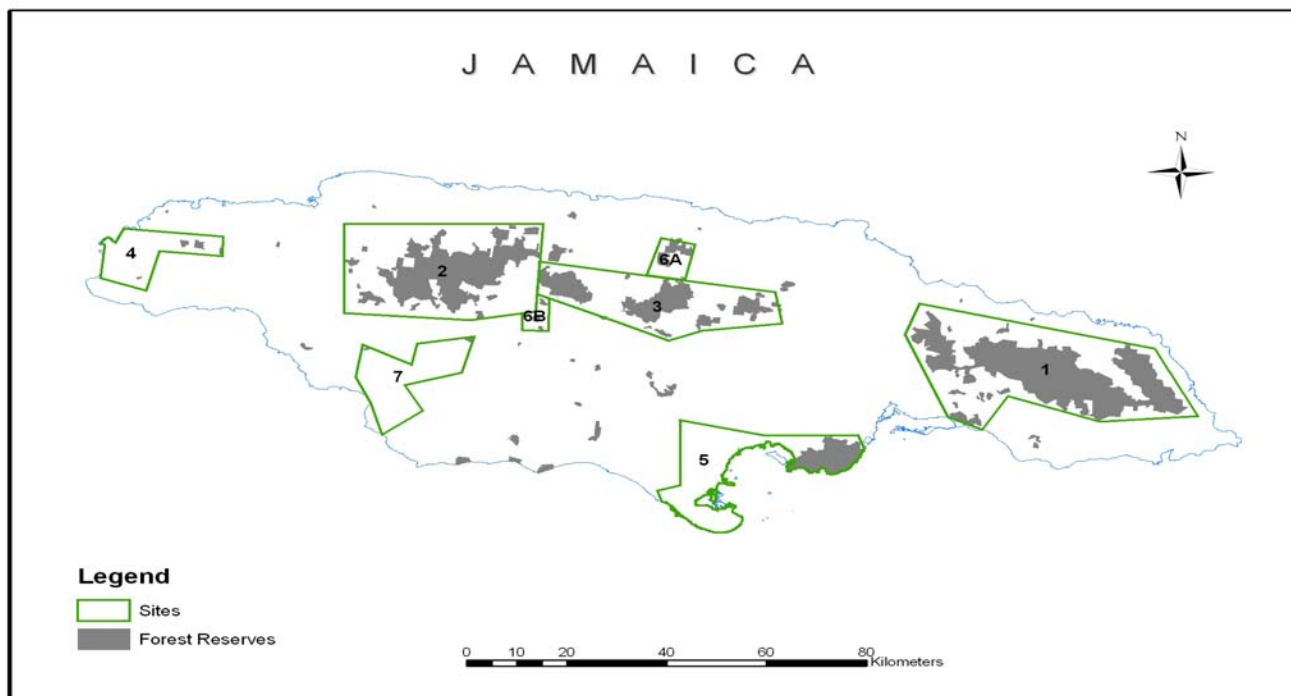
The FCA makes provision for two types of grants, which can be made to recipients from the Fund. These are directly related to the duration of the programme and can be loosely defined in the following manner.

- ⊗ **Short Term Grants** — Grants that govern programmes for periods of three years or less; and
- ⊗ **Long Term Grants** — Grants for programmes over three years in duration.

❖ Priority Sites

Seven Priority Sites have been chosen. These are shown in the *Map 1*.

Map 1: Map showing the Seven Priority Sites



Site #	Description
1	Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (Blue Mountain Forest Reserve), adjacent National Water Commission lands, plus buffer areas of unprotected closed broadleaf forest in the Rio Grande, Swift River, Buff Bay, Morant, Yallahs, Hope and Wag Water watersheds
2	Cockpit Country Forest Reserve, plus outlying Forest Reserves, and adjacent areas of closed broadleaf forest
3	Litchfield Matheson's Run and Stepheney-John's Vale Forest Reserves, adjacent Crown lands, outlying Forest Reserves (Bull Head and Mount Diablo) extending into the upper portions of the Rio Minho, Rio Cobre and Rio Bueno/White River watersheds, Crown lands in the Dunn's River watershed, and the Dry Harbour Mountains
4	Inland portion of Negril Protected Area, plus the forested area in and around Dolphin Head Mountains (Retirement, Raglan Mtn., Geneva and Bath Mtn., Quasheba Mtn. and Baulk Pen) and Burnt Savannah
5	Portland Bight Protected Area, Terrestrial portion of the Portland Bight Sustainable Development Area located in the lower Rio Minho and Rio Cobre watersheds
6A & B	Other forest reserves and Crown lands managed by the Forestry Department such as Gourie, Ballintoy Forest Reserve, Hellshire and Lowe River Forest Reserves
7	Spring Vale and Bogue Forest Reserves plus the Upper and lower Black River Morasses

❖ **WHERE TO GET**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT -

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