

RURAL VERMONT CALL TO ACTION ON 30X30!

THE VERMONT CONSERVATION STRATEGY INITIATIVE (VCSI) IS UNDERWAY - AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE USE OUR VOICE TO INFLUENCE IT!



ACT 59 WAS PASSED IN 2023 WITH A GOAL TO CONSERVE 30% OF VERMONT'S TOTAL AREA BY 2030 AND 50% BY 2050.

As Vermont is developing a new conservation plan - its policies and regulations more broadly - must protect and support food sovereignty, and the rights of people and communities articulated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas: **“Peasants and other people living in rural areas have the right to land, individually and/or collectively (...), including the right to have access to, sustainably use and manage land and the water bodies, coastal seas, fisheries, pastures, and forests therein, to achieve an adequate standard of living, to have a place to live in security, peace and dignity and to develop their cultures.”** - Article 17, UNDROP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas, 2018)

JOIN RURAL VERMONT IN URGING THE AGRICULTURAL WORKING GROUP BEFORE WEDNESDAY 3/13 AT 11AM (THEIR LAST MEETING DURING THE INVENTORY PHASE) TO:



- Affirm the consensus of the PES and Soil Health Working Group against new programs based on financializing measured outcomes in agriculture.
- Protect 30x30 and land conservation efforts from being financed by and coordinated with carbon and / or other “off-set” markets.
- Recommend policies that ensure conserved land is protected from corporate and consolidated ownership, and which facilitate farmland access and ownership for farmers and farmworkers; maintaining and growing community sovereignty over land use.
- Protect all farmland in VT from development in perpetuity, with flexibility for development of housing and essential infrastructure, and enable and support the conversion of land (including conserved land) into agriculture, and into the hands and control of the people working the land.
- Invite meaningful participation of VT’s indigenous community in the 30 x 30 process.
- Recognize that the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets is the authority regulating VT agriculture.

HOW TO TAKE ACTION!

STEP 1: VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.RURALVERMONT.ORG/ACTION-ALERTS](https://www.ruralvermont.org/action-alerts) FOR SAMPLE MESSAGING, FULL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS ACTION ALERT, A LIST OF REFERENCES, AND A GLOSSARY OF TERMS THERE.

STEP 2: EMAIL ALL MEMBERS OF THE AG WORKING GROUP OF THE VCSI BEFORE WEDNESDAY 3/13 AT 11AM (THEIR LAST MEETING DURING THE INVENTORY PHASE) AND EXPRESS YOUR SUPPORT FOR ANY OR ALL OF OUR RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE INVENTORY REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN VERMONT. FEEL FREE TO EDIT THE SAMPLE MESSAGE YOU CAN FIND TOGETHER WITH THE EMAIL ADDRESSES ONLINE.

STEP 3: JOIN THE (30X30) VT CONSERVATION STRATEGY INITIATIVE FOCUS GROUP FOR "SMALLHOLDER FARMERS" TAKING PLACE ON TUESDAY MARCH 12 FROM 2 - 3:30 PM BY ZOOM. YOU NEED TO REGISTER TO GET THE ZOOM LINK. REGISTRATION IS [HERE](#)! THE SESSION WILL BE RECORDED BY THE HOSTS. THERE IS A STIPEND BEING OFFERED FOR ATTENDEES THAT YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR UPON REGISTRATION.