



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE TRUST LANDS
RESOLUTION 2020-03**

Advancing Climate Solutions on Working Forest Lands

Whereas, the National Association of State Trust Lands (“NASTL”) and its member states manage over 5.5 million acres of forested trust lands; and

Commented [VA(1)]: WSLCA “Forested Trust Lands” fact sheet says 4M acres but does not include the 1.5M from Minnesota.

Whereas, members of NASTL have state constitutional mandates to manage millions of acres of lands for economic development, public education, conservation, recreation, and other public purposes provided by state law; and

Whereas, NASTL member states with forested lands fulfill their constitutional mandates through the sustainable management of forest resources; and

Whereas, NASTL members have an ongoing commitment to the economic viability of the forested trust lands under their management; and

Whereas, NASTL and its members proactively research and identify innovative economic opportunities that would advance sustainable forest management practices on state trust lands; and

Whereas, NASTL and its members develop sustainable forest management policies through research in an effort to support the economic viability of state trust lands; and

Whereas, NASTL and its members recognize the economic potential of forestlands throughout the United States to provide positive benefits through carbon storage in an effort to mitigate climate change and greenhouse gas emissions.

Whereas, the use of forestlands for carbon storage offers enormous greenhouse gas benefits by avoiding the discharge of millions of metric tons of carbon dioxide; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. NASTL supports improved forest management practices on state trust lands to expand carbon storage opportunities and goals by establishing a public policy reflecting the carbon neutrality of a forest-based economy; and
2. NASTL urges the U.S. Congress to acknowledge that sustainable forest management and the long-term products of the forest industry avoids and reduces greenhouse gas emissions and promotes the efficient use of domestic natural resources; and
3. NASTL urges the U.S. Congress to include language in the FY2020 Farm Bill directing the US Dept. of Interior Environmental Protection Agency, the US Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service and Dept. of Energy to create a policy that reflects the climate benefits of long-term carbon storage through sustainable forest management practices and a viable forest products industry.

Adopted this 15th day of July, 2020.

President, NASTL

Secretary, NASTL

*This Resolution will remain in effect through July 31, 2022
unless otherwise terminated, amended, or replaced by the Association.*