# Sample Stewardship Policy for Management of Fee Owned Lands

**Mission**[INSERT LAND TRUST MISSION HERE]

**Stewardship Principles**The management of land trust preserves will be guided by two principles: what is ecologically appropriate and what is feasible given the human and financial resources available. Management implies an explicit plan to maintain or move toward a particular desired ecosystem that will serve to promote regional biodiversity.

[INSERT LAND TRUST’S OWN STEWARDSHIP PRINCIPLES]

**Management Plans**A management plan shall be developed for all lands held in fee by the Trust to guide stewardship activities. The purpose of land management planning is to guide the management of land owned by the Trust. Management plans shall be developed from CLCC’s recommended Land Management Plan Outline and be consistent with the land trust’s principles and policies and shall include:

* Characteristics of the property including resource concerns, current land uses and documentation of existing conditions
* Description of surrounding land uses and how the property fits in larger landscape scale context
* A vision of the desired future conditions of the property
* Community input (social stakeholder analysis)
* The management recommendations and timeline needed to reach the vision of the future conditions; and
* The steps that will be taken to monitor changes on the property and evaluate the effectiveness of the plan at meeting the desired future condition for the property.
* Maps showing property characteristics, natural resources, infrastructure and other pertinent features of the property.

**Process**

The [INSERT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR STEWARDSHIP] will coordinate initial inventory and assessment of preserves with the [INSERT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR LAND PROTECTION]. The two committees will consult to ensure the highest quality management plan possible with reference to sound conservation science and practices. [INSERT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR STEWARDSHIP] will prepare recommendations for Board review and approval of management plans in consultation with the Executive Committee. Management plans will be reviewed periodically and revised as needed, based on changed conditions on the preserve or in the surrounding environment. All preserves will be actively monitored to prevent misuse, to observe the natural succession, and to evaluate active management efforts.