



Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

OVERVIEW

The Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP), administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA), provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) land in order to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster. Available funding for EFRP is determined annually by Congress.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

EFRP is administered by FSA state and county committees and offices. Subject to availability of funds, locally-elected members of FSA county committees are authorized to implement EFRP for all disasters except drought and insect infestations, which are authorized at the FSA national office. To learn more about FSA county committees, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

LAND ELIGIBILITY

FSA county committees determine land eligibility using on-site damage inspections that assess the type and extent of damage. To be eligible for EFRP, NIPF land must:

- Have existing tree cover (or had tree cover immediately before the natural disaster occurred and is suitable for growing trees) and;
- Be owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation or other private legal entity that has definitive decision-making authority over the land.

In addition, the natural disaster must have resulted in damage that, if untreated, would:

- Impair or endanger the natural resources on the land and;
- Materially affect future use of the land.

PAYMENTS

EFRP program participants may receive financial assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost to implement approved emergency forest restoration practices as determined by FSA county committees.

Individual or cumulative requests for financial assistance of \$50,000 or less per person or legal entity, per disaster are approved by the county committee. Financial assistance from \$50,001 to \$100,000 is approved by the state committee. Financial assistance over \$100,000 must be approved at the FSA national office. A payment limitation of \$500,000 per person or legal entity applies per disaster.

ELIGIBLE FOREST RESTORATION PRACTICES

To restore NIPF, EFRP program participants may implement emergency forest restoration practices, including emergency measures:

- Necessary to repair damage caused by a natural disaster to natural resources on nonindustrial private forest land and;
- Restore forest health and forest related resources on the land.

Other emergency measures may be authorized by FSA county committees, with approval from FSA state committees and the FSA national office.

ENROLLMENT PERIODS

Producers should check with their local FSA county offices regarding EFRP enrollment periods, which are set by FSA county committees.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information on EFRP is available at FSA offices, USDA service centers and on the FSA website at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov> and www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

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