



United States
Department
of Agriculture

Farm and Foreign
Agricultural Services

Larimer County Farm
Service Agency
2150 Centre Ave
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FACT SHEET

EMERGENCY FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM

Overview:

USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) 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. Funding for EFRP is appropriated by Congress.

Program Administration:

EFRP is administered by FSA's State (STC) and County Committees (COC) and offices. Subject to availability of funds, locally-elected COCs are authorized to implement EFRP for all disasters except drought and insect infestations, which are authorized at the FSA National Office.

Land Eligibility:

County FSA 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 the COC. 25 percent of the cost of all approved practices must be paid by the individual applicant from their own funds. Individual or cumulative requests for financial assistance of \$50,000 or less per person or legal entity, per disaster are approved by the FSA County Committee. Financial assistance from \$50,001 to \$100,000 is approved by the FSA 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.

Emergency Forest Restoration Practices

To restore NIPF, EFRP program participants may implement emergency forest restoration practices (as prescribed by the Colorado State Forest Service) 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 Committee, with approval from FSA State Committee and the FSA National Office.

Sign-up Period

The actual enrollment dates (set by the local COC) have not yet been announced; however, it is anticipated that signups will be taken soon. Producers should check with the Larimer County FSA Office (contact information shown below) to place their name on a list for future personal contact when the enrollment period begins. It is expected that enrollment period in Larimer County will run for 60 days.

For More Information

Additional information on EFRP is available at FSA offices and on FSA's website at:
<http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov> and www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation

[A map of the Emergency Forest Restoration Program, as of January 2012, is available here -PDF 2MB](#)

Local Office Contact Information:

Larimer County Farm Service Agency, USDA, 2150 Centre Avenue, Building A, Suite 116, Fort Collins, CO 80524
Phone: 970-295-5665
FAX: 970-295-5668
Email: wayne.rieger@co.usda.gov

Call or visit this office for more information about the program or to place your name on an enrollment contact list.



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • FARM SERVICE AGENCY

USDA Larimer County Farm Service Agency
2150 Centre Ave
Building A, Suite 116
Fort Collins, CO 80526

To: LOCAL NEWSPAPERS
Date: 07/27/2012

Contact: Wayne K. Rieger, Exec. Dir.
(970) 295-5665

DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR HIGH PARK FIRE VICTIMS

Fort Collins, Colorado (07/27/2012) - The High Park Fire that recently burned northwest of Fort Collins has caused severe damage to approximately 40,000 acres of nonindustrial private forest land (NIFP). Private landowners of forest land in the burn area may be eligible for assistance under the Emergency Forest Restoration (EFRP), a possible newly authorized program administered by the Larimer County Farm Service Agency (FSA). FSA is a U S Department Of Agriculture agency who's jurisdiction covers all of Larimer County. Eligibility for this program is dependent on whether the damaged area, if left untreated, would impair or endanger the natural resources on the land and materially affect the normal use of the land in the future.

A producer qualifying for the EFRP assistance may receive financial assistance from USDA at levels not to exceed 75 percent of the eligible costs of restoration measures. The approved emergency measures must restore the forest health and protect forest-related resources. Types of conservation practices that may be eligible for cost-sharing include removing debris, site preparation for new seedlings, the establishment of new seedling trees, grass reestablishment, restoring conservation structures, and other measures.

Producers who have suffered losses from this natural disaster and who are interested in participating in this program should contact the Larimer County Farm Service Agency by visiting their office at 2150 Centre Avenue, Building A, Suite 116 or calling their office at 970-295-5665 for additional information. The sign-up period for this program has been set for August 1st through September 28th.

To be eligible for cost-share assistance, practices must NOT be started until ALL of the following requirements are met:

- an application is signed and submitted to the office.
- the local FSA County Committee (COC) or it's representative has conducted an onsite inspection of the damaged area.
- the Colorado State Forest Service, assigned technical agency for the program, has made a determination of needs and feasibility for the needed practices.
- final approval is granted to the applicant to proceed with approved practices.

Final appropriations to finance the program have not been made at the time of this press release. The total appropriation amount will be determined and final approval for the program granted at the end of the signup period when the full extent of damages needing assistance is known.