

Emergency Supplemental Fund Program

Salida District
Colorado State Forest Service
7980 W. Hwy 50
Salida, CO 81201
PH: 719-539-2579

General Information: The Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) has received funding from the USDA Forest Service that it is offering as grants for forest and fuels management projects on non-federal lands. The “*Emergency Supplemental Fund*” (ESF) Program offers funds for the purpose of accomplishing **on-the-ground projects that result in acres treated**. It is not intended for planning, research, educational, and other activities. Those submitting projects for grant funding must complete and submit an ESF Grant Program application form to the CSFS Salida District, which will be reviewed and then forwarded to the CSFS ESF Program Administrator for funding approval or disapproval. **The ESF Program will only reimburse for projects that were previously approved and awarded an ESF Grant. The ESF Program will not reimburse for any work done on a proposed project prior to ESF Grant Application approval and notification of grant award, or for previously implemented projects.** ESF funds will pay up to, but not to exceed \$470 per acre for either contractual services or for project work done by a landowner (at \$20.25/hour rate), plus the cost of any supplies and materials he/she used. Capital expenditures are not authorized.

Preference will be given to projects that:

- Emphasize fuels reduction
- Involve cooperation between property owners (i.e., Homeowner associations, etc.)
- Provide protection to adjacent landowners
- Include collaboration with partners
- Add to or continue an existing project or other ongoing forest and fuel management effort
- Have landscape/watershed scale impacts
- Benefit larger social and/or land units
- Implement an existing forest management or community wildfire protection plan (CWPP)
- Entail full or partial wood utilization

Projects that treat a large number of acres in a short period of time are favored. Although project duration of one to four years is allowed, 1-2 year projects are preferred. Projects must meet CSFS standards for forest management and fuel mitigation treatments (visit CSFS website or inquire with the. Grant applications will be processed on a first come/first served basis. ESF Grants will be available until funding is depleted or the program is terminated.

Maximum Award \$470/acre: The ESF Program is not a cost share program. ESF pays up to \$470/acre for forest and fuels management projects. To be eligible, forest management projects should have a fuels reduction component, therefore reforestation, afforestation, site preparation, grass seeding, etc., do not qualify. Any costs above \$470/acre are not reimbursable and will be borne by the landowner. Landowners are responsible for paying all project costs upfront, and then are reimbursed the appropriate amount of eligible expenses. Reimbursement is based on the number of acres treated and actual costs as illustrated in the following examples.

Example 1: An ESF grant is awarded for 40 acres of hand thinning at a cost of \$750/acre (\$30,000 total cost and \$18,800 in grant funding). All 40 acres are treated and the landowner pays the entire \$30,000, and submits a grant reimbursement request to CSFS for \$18,800 (\$470/acre x 40 acres). The landowner is not reimbursed for the additional \$280/acre that was paid over the \$470/acre reimbursement limit (\$280/acre x 40 acres, or \$11,200).

Example 2: An ESF grant is awarded for 20 acres of mechanical brush mastication at a cost of \$400/acre (\$8,000 total cost and \$8,000 in grant funding). All 20 acres are treated and the landowner pays the entire \$8,000, and submits a grant reimbursement request to CSFS for \$8,000 (\$400/acre x 20 acres). Since cost was less than the \$470/acre reimbursement limit, the grant pays the entire cost. The landowner is not reimbursed \$470/acre since the cost was only \$400/acre.

Example 3: An ESF grant is awarded for 50 acres of fuels reduction work by a wildfire mitigation company at a cost of \$550/acre (\$27,500 total cost and \$23,500 in grant funding). Due to extenuating circumstances, only 35 of the 50 acres are treated. The landowner pays the entire cost \$19,250 (\$550/acre x 35 acres), and then submits a grant reimbursement request to CSFS for \$16,450 (\$470/acre x 35 acres). The landowner is not reimbursed for the additional \$80/acre paid over the \$470/acre reimbursement limit (\$80/acre x 35 acres, or \$2,800). The \$7,050 in obligated but unused grant funding is made available to another applicant.

Example 4: An ESF grant is awarded for 30 acres of thinning at a cost of \$700/acre (\$21,000 total cost, \$14,100 in grant funding). 35 acres are treated and the landowner pays the entire \$24,500 (\$700/acre x 35 acres), and then submits a grant reimbursement request to CSFS for \$14,100 (\$470/acre x 30 acres) because the landowner cannot be reimbursed for the five additional acres treated that exceeded the 30 acre grant award. The landowner is also not reimbursed for the additional \$230/acre paid over the \$470/acre reimbursement limit (\$230/acre x 30 acres, or \$6,900).

Documentation/Accountability/Payments: All requests for payment must be documented by receipts, paid invoices, landowner's hours worked per day, etc., and tracked on Form D-ES (Emergency Supplemental Funds/Landowner Assistance Programs Cost Documentation). A second form that must be submitted for payment processing is C-ES (Accomplishment Report for Reimbursement). Requests for periodic partial grant payments are allowed. Before processing a payment, CSFS will do a field check to verify the amount and suitability of work performed. Payments will be issued by Accounts Payable at Colorado State University.

Applications: ESF 2010 Project Grant Applications, ESF/Financial Assistance Programs Applications, and other program forms can be downloaded from the Salida District website at <http://csfs.colostate.edu/pages/salida-fire-mitigation.html>. They can also be emailed or mailed upon request of the Salida District office, 719-539-2579. Complete and submit both application forms by email to the CSFS Salida District at: csfssalida@lamar.colostate.edu or megans@lamar.colostate.edu (electronic applications in MSWord are preferred since they can be easily revised if necessary). Applications can also be dropped-off, mailed, or faxed. There is no application deadline and applications will be processed on a first-come/first-served basis. Applicants should be notified if their grant is awarded approximately 2-3 weeks after submission. It is important that instructions on the grant application are closely followed. Failure to adequately provide requested information could delay application processing or result in the grant being denied.

For further information: Contact Megan Sweeney at 719-539-2579 or email megans@lamar.colostate.edu. Mailing address: 7980 W. Highway 50, Salida, CO 81201.