

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Helping Indiana Forest Landowners

Quick Guide: Forestry Practices and Payment Rates

December, 2014



The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). NRCS ranks EQIP applications based on current natural resource priorities. NRCS selects applications with the highest rankings and authorizes those based on available program funds. Once the application is approved, NRCS develops a contract with the landowner, which identifies practices and payment amounts the participant agrees to implement. When implemented to NRCS standards, NRCS issues payments based on established payment rates.

NRCS establishes payment rates for completing a forestry management plan and installing different conservation practice activities. EQIP participants receive a specific dollar amount for each unit of practice they install. The 2014 Farm Bill recognizes landowners and operators who are socially disadvantaged, have limited resources, are beginning farmers or are a military veteran. These individuals are eligible for a higher Historically Underserved (HU) payment rate. Below is a partial list of common EQIP forestry practice payments for fiscal year 2015 by practice code and name. Because many factors determine these rates, including average costs, rates may change in future years.

PLANNING	Units	General Applicants	Historically Underserved Applicants
[106] Forest Management Plan (FMP)			
FMP Less Than or Equal to 50 Acres	Each	\$624.00	\$749.00
FMP 51 to 100 acres	Each	\$884.00	\$1,061.00
FMP 101 to 200 acres	Each	\$1,352.00	\$1,623.00
FMP 201 to 400 acres	Each	\$2,028.00	\$2,434.00
FMP 401 to 600 acres	Each	\$2,860.00	\$3,432.00
FMP 601 to 1,000 acres	Each	\$3,692.00	\$4,431.00
FMP Greater Than 1,000 acres	Each	\$4,420.00	\$5,305.00
<i>(Developed by a Certified TSP to CAP Criteria)</i>			
CAP: Conservation Activity Plan - http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/IN/CostSenarios_106-Forest_Management_Plan-Other.pdf TSP: Technical Service Provider (Individual who has demonstrated the technical ability necessary to develop a Forest Management Plan consistent with CAP criteria)			
IMPLEMENTATION	Units	General Applicants	Historically Underserved Applicants
[314] Brush Management			
Glade/Savanna Restoration	Acres	\$246.00	\$296.00
Light Brush Management (<10% canopy)	Acres	\$36.00	\$43.00
Medium Brush Management (10-39% canopy; <18% slope; impacted ac only)	Acres	\$59.00	\$71.00
High Brush Management (40-60% canopy or 18-25% slope)	Acres	\$138.00	\$166.00
Very High Brush Management (>60% canopy or > 25% slope)	Acres	\$226.00	\$272.00

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IMPLEMENTATION	Units	General Applicants	Historically Underserved Applicants
[394] Firebreak			
Vegetated Permanent Firebreak	Feet	\$0.13	\$0.15
[666] Forest State Improvement			
Forest State Improvement - Light	Acres	\$89.00	\$106.00
Open Woodland Restoration	Acres	\$219.00	\$263.00
Temporary Forest Openings, patch clearcuts	Acres	\$162.00	\$194.00
[655] Forest Trails and Landings			
Shaping and Grading	Feet	\$0.36	\$0.43
[315] Herbaceous Weed Control			
Blanket Treatment Multi Pass	Acres	\$104.00	\$125.00
Light Spot Treatment	Acres	\$23.00	\$27.00
Medium Spot Treatment	Acres	\$64.00	\$77.00
Tree & Shrub Post-planting Weed Control	Acres	\$102.00	\$122.00
[603] Herbaceous Wind Barriers			
Perennial Species	Feet	\$0.08	\$0.08
[391] Riparian Forest Buffer			
Bare-root, trees and shrubs	Acres	\$767.00	\$834.00
[390] Riparian Herbaceous Cover			
Giant Canebreak Restoration	Acres	\$1,519.00	\$1,736.00
Native Grass	Acres	\$645.00	\$687.00
Prairie Cordgrass Restoration	Acres	\$940.00	\$1,041.00
[612] Tree and Shrub Establishment			
Hardwood Establishment, Bareroot	Acres	\$688.00	\$739.00
[660] Tree and Shrub Pruning			
Pruning	Each	\$0.63	\$0.76
[380] Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment			
3 Row Windbreak - Bare-rooting seedling Planting Stock	Feet	\$1.08	\$1.19
[650] Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation			
Within Row Replacement - Bare-root Planting Stock	Feet	\$0.28	\$0.34

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Environmental Quality Incentives Program visit:
www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/in/programs/financial/eqip/

Definitions of Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, Military Veteran Farmers or Socially Disadvantaged Farmers can be found at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/people/outreach/slbfr/>.

You can find the Limited Resource Farmer "Self-Determination Tool" here: <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/>