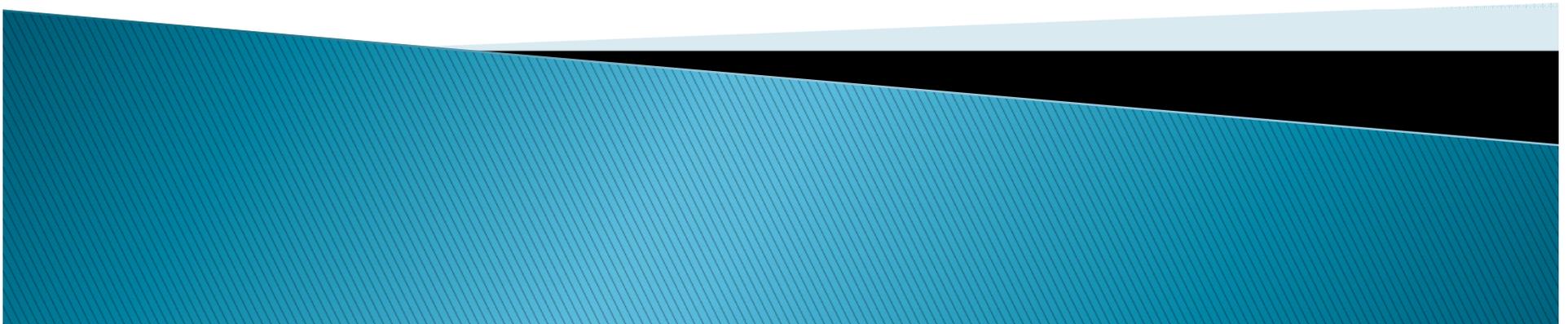


Emergency Watershed Protection Program Floodplain Easements (EWP- FPE)

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Types of EWP assistance

- ▶ Traditional EWP
- ▶ EWP-FPE



Traditional EWP Overview

- ▶ The EWP Program administered by NRCS assists sponsors, landowners, and operators in implementing emergency recovery measures to relieve imminent hazards to life and property created by a natural disaster that causes a sudden impairment of a watershed. Impairments may include but are not limited to:
 - ▶ Debris-clogged stream channels
 - ▶ Undermined and unstable streambanks
 - ▶ This program provides both technical and financial assistance to local sponsoring authorities in order to preserve life and property. If a site is eligible, NRCS provides up to 75 percent of the costs for the repairs. The other 25 percent must be provided by a local sponsor and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. The local sponsor can be a city, county, conservation district, or Tribal organization.



EWP–FPE Overview

- ▶ The Emergency Watershed Protection – Floodplain Easement Program (EWP–FPE) provides an alternative measure to traditional EWP recovery, where it is determined that acquiring an easement in lieu of recovery measures is the more economical and prudent approach to reducing a threat to life or property.
- ▶ The easement area will be restored to the maximum extent practicable to its natural condition. Restoration utilizes structural and nonstructural practices to restore the flood storage and flow, erosion control, and improve the practical management of the easement.



Land eligibility

- ▶ NRCS may purchase EWP–FPE permanent easements on floodplain lands that:
- ▶ The floodplain lands were damaged by flooding at least once within the previous calendar year or have been subject to flood damage at least twice within the previous 10 years ¹.
- ▶ Other lands within the floodplain are eligible, provided the lands would contribute to the restoration of the flood storage and flow, provide for control of erosion, or that would improve the practical management of the floodplain easement.
- ▶ Lands would be inundated or adversely impacted as a result of a dam breach.
- ▶ ¹If FPE is being offered as recovery for a specific natural disaster, at least one of the instances of flooding must have been a result of that natural disaster.



Enrollment Options

- ▶ **Enrollment Option**
- ▶ A permanent easement is the only enrollment option available for EWP–FPE floodplain easements. Permanent FPE easements are available on the following types of land:
- ▶ Agricultural or open lands. In these cases, NRCS will pay up to 100% of the easement value and up to 100% of the costs for easement restoration. A project sponsor is not required for this option.
- ▶ Lands primarily used for residential housing. In these cases, NRCS will pay up to 100% of the easement value and up to 100% of the costs associated with demolishing and removing or relocating structures. A project sponsor is required for these projects.



Hurricane Sandy EWP–FPE

- ▶ In response to Hurricane Sandy, NRCS is accepting applications from July 1, 2013 till September 2, 2013.



Land eligibility for Sandy EWP–FPE

- ▶ Documentation of flood damage and indisputable proof that damage was a result of Hurricane Sandy.
- ▶ Land is outside of FEMA “Coastal” Flood Zones (Zones V, VE or V1–30)
- ▶ Application is within a county where Stafford Act disaster declaration was made (All RI counties except providence County).



Contacts

- ▶ For applicants located in Kent and Washington Counties, please contact John Richard, District Conservationist to schedule a sign-up appointment. Telephone: (401) 822-8838, E-mail: john.richard@ri.usda.gov
- ▶ For applicants located in Bristol and Newport Counties, please contact Melissa Hayden, District Conservationist to schedule a sign-up appointment. Telephone: (401) 822-8847, E-mail: melissa.hayden@ri.usda.gov
- ▶ Providence County was not declared eligible for the EWP-FPE program as a result of Hurricane Sandy pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

