



NATURAL DISASTER RECOVERY ASSISTANCE THROUGH EWP

When natural disasters strike, the Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program offers vital recovery options for local communities. Administered by USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, the program is designed to help people reduce hazards to life and property caused by floodwaters, droughts, wildfires, earthquakes, windstorms, and other natural disasters.

Project funds address erosion related watershed impairments by supporting activities such as removing debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges; reshaping and protecting eroded banks; correcting damaged drainage facilities; repairing levees and structures; and reseeding damaged areas.

Types of Assistance

Exigency: An imminent threat to life and property exists and requires immediate Federal action. Projects in this category should be completed within 10 days.

Non-Exigency: A situation where the threat to life and property exists, but the situation is not considered urgent and compelling. Projects in this category should be completed within 220 days.

Eligibility

Public and private landowners are eligible for assistance, but all projects must be sponsored by a legal subdivision of the State. This includes any city, county, general improvement district, conservation district, or Native American tribe or tribal organization. Sponsors are responsible for:

- Providing land rights to do repair work,
- Securing all necessary permits,
- Furnishing the local cost share,
- Implementation of work, and
- Operation and maintenance of the completed project.

Generally, NRCS will pay between 75 and 90 percent of the restoration costs, and the sponsor is responsible for the remaining balance of funding needs, which can include in-kind support. Sponsors have 60 days from the disaster occurrence to request Federal assistance.

Visit www.farmers.gov/service-locator to find a USDA service center near you.

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Quickly address serious and long-lasting damages to infrastructure with EWP funding.

**Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service**

nrcs.usda.gov/ewp