

Burned Land EQIP Special State Initiative FY 2023 – Fact Sheet

Purpose: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is helping farmers and ranchers who have been impacted by fires that were declared as a disaster in the 2022 calendar year. NRCS will be assessing the fire burn scar for increased risk of flooding, degradation to natural resources, erosion, accumulated debris, loss of vegetation, changes to established water flow patterns, and other eligible resource concerns.

Eligible fires:

- Black Fire: 325,136 acres north of Mimbres, Grant, and Sierra County.
- Cerro Pelado Fire: 45,605 acres east of Jemez Springs, Sandoval County.
- Cooks Peak Fire: 59,359 acres north of Ocate, Colfax, and Mora County.
- McBride Fire: 6,159 acres in the Village of Ruidoso, Lincoln County.
- Nogal Canyon Fire: 412 acres west of Capitan, Lincoln County.

NOTE: The Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon Fire is not part of this initiative. Other funds will be available through the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon bill that was passed by congress.

Payment rates: EQIP may provide up to 75 percent of the costs of certain conservation practices. However, socially disadvantaged, limited-resource, beginning, and veteran farmers and ranchers are eligible for cost-share rates of up to 90 percent.

Spending plan: \$1,000,000 allocated.

Maximum number of days for the local office to assess and rank an application: 30 Applications must be ranked and preapproved in the order received. The State Office will

establish a process to ensure applications are processed in the order received.

Application Deadline: March 24, 2023

Ranking deadline (all applications below the threshold may be considered for funding if any funding remains): **April 14th, 2023**

Eligible practices: Practices with an asterisk may only be included in the practice schedule to replace or restore structures damaged by the fire or subsequent flooding. The replacement practice does not need to be planned at the exact location as the original but must meet the same intent as the original practice and be reasonably the same extent or size. For example, a new 1260 square foot high tunnel may replace a 1200 square foot high tunnel that was

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destroyed by the fire because 1260 square feet is the closest size of kit available. Example: Access Roads are to access ag lands. This is not intended to rebuild private driveways.

EQIP Practice	Practice	Unit
	Code	
Access Road *	560	Ft
Channel Bed Stabilization	584	CuYd
Clearing and Snagging	326	FT
Critical Area Planting	342	Ac
Diversion	362	CuYd
Fence *	382	Ft
Grade Stabilization Structure	410	SqFt
High Tunnel System *	325	SqFt
Irrigation Ditch Lining *	428	CuYd
Irrigation Field Ditch *	388	CuYd
Irrigation Pipeline *	430	Lb
Irrigation System, Microirrigation *	441	Ac
Land Levelling	464	CuYd
Land Smoothing	462	Ac
Livestock Pipeline *	516	Lb
Mulching	484	Ac
Obstruction Removal	500	Ac
Pasture and Hay Planting	512	Ac
Pond *	378	CuYd
Pumping Plant *	533	Kw
Spoil Disposal	572	CuYd
Spring Development *	574	No
Stormwater Runoff Control	570	Ac
Structure for Water Control	587	No
Tree/Shrub Establishment	490	Ac
Water and Sediment Control Basin	638	CuYd
Water Well *	642	Ft
Watering Facility *	614	Gal
Woody Residue Treatment	384	Ac

Ranking: Only applications with a yes to all the applicability questions will be ranked.

- Are contracted practices are located entirely within the project area designated by NRCS? Geospatial question
- Will contracted practices only restore infrastructure damaged by the fire or are practices needed to protect eligible land from erosion, debris, and flooding?
- Can participant complete all contracted practices by September 30, 2026?

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Practice CAPS: None. Payments will be limited to \$450,000 per participant for all EQIP contracts entered into between 2019 and 2023 per 530.406 C (i).

AGI waivers: Will be requested in accordance with NI 440-314 "Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Waiver Process".

Early start waiver (ESW): ESW must be approved by the state conservationist only for practices that have completed cultural resource reviews.

Contract lengths: Ideally to have all practices completed in the next 4 years since the goal is to restore production as soon as possible.

Outreach Plan: Local District Conservationist will inform the public with the following outreach efforts:

- News release in the following newspapers or newsletters
- Flyers posted at these locations
- Email notifications
- Fact sheets to these other organizations
- Public meetings
- Other outreach efforts

Map of disaster area: (See next page)

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Disaster Area



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