Emergency Watershed Protection Cost Share

The NRCS contribution toward the implementation of emergency measures may not exceed 75 percent of the construction cost, including work done to offset or mitigate adverse impacts as a result of the emergency measures.

If NRCS determines that an area qualifies as a limited resource area, the Federal contribution toward the implementation of emergency measures may not exceed 90 percent of the construction cost of such emergency measures.

NRCS may provide technical assistance as services and/or funds to plan, design, and contract the emergency measures, subject to an agreement between NRCS and the Sponsor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Installation / Construction</th>
<th>Engineering / Technical Assistance</th>
<th>Real Property Rights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Watershed Protection</td>
<td>No more than 75 percent, or 90 percent for limited resource areas</td>
<td>No more than 100 percent</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Due to extreme rainfall on December 28, 2019, Tillatoba Creek in the Town of Charleston, Tallahatchie County, Mississippi, had extensive flood flows which caused bank sloughing that endangered the main access road to the local hospital and other associated infrastructure.

After EWP repairs, the road shoulder was restored and the streambank stabilized to prevent further sloughing and danger to the traveling public on the hospital road.

The program can include purchasing floodplain easements. These easements restore, protect, maintain, and enhance the functions and values of the floodplain, including associated wetlands and riparian areas. They also conserve natural values including fish and wildlife habitat, water quality, flood water retention, and ground water recharge, as well as safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and the results of erosion.

EWP work is not limited to any one set of prescribed measures. NRCS completes a Damage Survey Report which provides a site-by-site investigation of the work necessary to repair or protect a site and protect life and property. NRCS will only provide funding for work that is necessary to reduce applicable threats. Should sponsors want to increase the level of protection, the sponsor will be responsible for paying 100 percent of the costs of the upgrade and additional work.

Eligibility
Public and private landowners are eligible for assistance but must be represented by a project sponsor. Sponsors include legal subdivisions of the State, such as a city, county, general improvement district, conservation district, or any Native American tribe or tribal organization as defined in section 4 of the Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

Criteria for Assistance
All EWP work must reduce threat to life and property; be economically, environmentally, and socially defensible; and be technically sound.

How Do I Obtain Assistance?
If your land has suffered severe damage that may qualify for the EWP Program, you should contact your local authorities and request assistance. City, county, state and governments, flood and water control districts, and soil and water conservation districts are the most common sponsors of EWP projects. More information is available from NRCS offices throughout the United States and the Caribbean and Pacific Islands areas.

Contact Information
Contact your local USDA Service Center for more information or: www.nrcs.usda.gov