

Forestry Financial Incentive Program

<i>Name:</i>	<b>CREP: Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program</b>	<b>EQIP: Environmental Quality Incentive Program</b>	<b>FSP: Forest Stewardship Program</b>
<i>Program Focus:</i>	Restoration of degraded agricultural lands to native forest communities	Plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.	Management of forest resources for conservation, restoration, or timber production
<i>Eligible Lands:</i>	Land must be physically and legally capable of being agriculturally productive. There are two land classifications, cropland and marginal pastureland, that land is classified under. Cropland must have been cropped 4 out of 6 years; and marginal pastureland is everything else but land must be adjacent to a water source (riparian area, pond, etc) to be eligible.	Owners of land in agricultural or forest production or persons who are engaged in livestock, agricultural or forest production on eligible land	Eligible on private owned or leased forested or formally forested lands through Hawaii.
<i>Applicant Eligibility:</i>	Landowner or land operator with legal authority to manage the offered area. Applicant is required to provide the names of any associated entities to the offered area. *Applicant is subject to USDA Farm Bill AGI limitation	Landowner or land manager with legal authority to manage the offered area. Applicant is subject to USDA Farm Bill AGI limitation.	Landowner or land manager with legal authority to manage the offered area.
<i>Minimum Enrollment:</i>	For marginal pastureland minimum enrollment is 30 foot buffer from riparian area. No minimum buffer for cropland.	No minimum enrollment	Minimum enrollment is 5 contiguous acres. Interested parties may combine resources with surrounding neighbors in order to meet minimum acreage requirement.
<i>Sign-up Information:</i>	Continuous sign-up. Maui and Hawaii Island eligible for enrollment starting April 2009; Molokai and Lanai eligible enrollment October 2010; Kauai eligible for enrollment October 2011; and Oahu eligible October 2012.	Continuous sign-up with established application 'cut-off' or submission deadline dates for evaluation and ranking for available annual funding.	Continuous sign-up, eligible projects are reviewed by the State Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee and the Department of Land and Natural Resources.
<i>Facts to Consider:</i>	Offered area must be removed from agricultural production for the duration of the program agreement	Subject to USDA Farm Bill AGI limitations	Application for the program is a two step process, involving the submission of a project proposal and management plan.
<i>Contract length:</i>	Requires a 15 year agreement	Minimum commitment is 1 year after completion of conservation practice. Maximum term of 10 years. Dependent on scheduled conservation practices.	Minimum commitment 10 years of management. An additional maintenance period may be negotiated for up to 20 additional years (minimum term for timber production is 30 year agreement).
<i>Implementing Agency:</i>	Farm Service Agency, NRCS, & HI Division of Forestry and Wildlife	NRCS	Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife
<i>Financial Incentives:</i>	Federal: Sign-up Incentive Payment (\$100/acre); Annual Rental Payment (\$43/acre/yr to \$219/acre/yr); Cost-share Reimbursement (50% based on allowed rates); and Practice Incentive Payment (40% for select practices). State: Hawaii CREP Incentive Payment (\$17/acre/yr); Cost-share Reimbursement (based on annual availability); and Conservation Easement support.	50% reimbursement of incurred costs (based on allowed rates); historically underserved may be eligible for payments up to 90%.	50% reimbursement of allowed practices as approved in management plan. The program may also be able to fund the development of the management plan (up to 75%).

Forestry Financial Incentive Program

<i>Name:</i>	<b>PFW: Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program</b>	<b>RCCP: Regional Conservation Partnership Program</b>	<b>CSP: Conservation Stewardship Program</b>
<i>Program Focus:</i>	Habitat restoration of private lands through financial and technical assistance, for the benefit of Federal Trust Species.	Similar to EQIP, but focuses on remote project sites. Plan and implement conservation practices to increase the restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife and related natural resources on regional or watershed scales.	Encourage producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by undertaking additional conservation activities; and improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities.
<i>Eligible Lands:</i>	Private lands, County, and Hawaiian Homelands	Public and private forestland in remote areas.	Available on private agricultural lands and non-industrial private forest land; cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pastureland, rangeland, and nonindustrial private forest land.
<i>Applicant Eligibility:</i>	Landowner or a third-party with written permission from the landowner to conduct conservation activities.	Applicant is subject to USDA Farm Bill. <u>No AGI limitation</u> (AGI waiver accepted) so large landowners can apply. Non-profits can apply on behalf of a Watershed Partnership. Applicant must prove “control of the land” (i.e.: authorization to conduct management) through long-term (10 year+) agreement (CL, ROE, etc.)	Individual, legal entities, joint operations that are the operator of record in the USDA farm records management system; have effective control of the land for the term of the proposed contract; be in compliance with the highly erodible land and wetland conservation provisions; and include the eligible land in their entire agricultural or forestry operation.
<i>Minimum Enrollment:</i>	10 acre minimum size, and maximum of \$25,000 per conservation agreement (additional funds available with waiver)	No minimum enrollment	No minimum enrollment
<i>Sign-up Information</i>	Continuous sign-up. Check Grants.gov or contact the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Coordinator	Applicant must be “eligible” (register with FSA, obtain DUNS, SAM.gov) and create a Conservation Plan. Annual submission deadline TBD.	Continuous sign-up with established application 'cut-off' or submission deadline dates for evaluation and ranking for available funding.
<i>Facts to Consider:</i>	Project funding shall not exceed \$25,000 with an equal amount match from the landowner. Projects needed more than \$25,000 or a greater match from the federal government, are allowed on a case-by-case basis.	No AGI limitations. Max. award per applicant = \$450k. If applicant receiving funds from another NRCS program, total cannot exceed \$450k. Reimbursement only. Does not fund animal removal.	Although there is no enrollment limit, it may be more financially attractive for larger scale projects. Also applications are subject to the USDA Farm Bill AGI limitations. Payment limitation - may not receive more than \$40,000 in any year or more than \$200,000 during any 5-year period.
<i>Contract length:</i>	Requires a 10 year landowner commitment to implement, and maintain the conservation actions.	4 year contract. Applicant must start implementing practices within 12 months of contract start date	5 year contracts
<i>Implementing Agency:</i>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	NRCS, Hawaii Division of Forestry and Wildlife	NRCS
<i>Financial Incentives:</i>	Federal to landowner match is 1:1	1:1 match required. State required to provide match. \$ does NOT pass through DLNR. All NRCS funds go directly to applicant.	Annual payment is available for installing new conservation activities and maintaining existing practices, the higher the operational performance, the higher their payment. A supplemental payment is available to participants who also adopt a resource-conserving crop rotation.