

Polansky, Adrian - FSA, Manhattan, KS

From: Wikoff, Carla - FSA, Manhattan, KS
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 3:07 PM
To: Polansky, Adrian - FSA, Manhattan, KS
Cc: Winkler, Rod - FSA, Manhattan, KS; Kunze, Jean - FSA, Manhattan, KS
Subject: ECP Bullet Points

Emergency Conservation Program

- ECP payments are subject to eligibility and availability of funds.
- HELC and WC provisions apply to ECP (producer must complete AD-1026)
- Maximum ECP payment per person or legal entity, per disaster is \$200,000
- Direct Attribution provisions apply
- Cost share payment is provided to help eligible participant perform approved restorative measures
- Payment must never exceed 75% of the producer's actual cost to perform the practice (90% if limited resource producer status)
- Payment cannot exceed 50% of agricultural market value of the affected land
- C/S is to replace or restore fences or conservation structures to a condition and function similar to that existing before being damaged or destroyed by natural disaster
- Minimum requirement is to meet NRCS technical standards and specifications
- Reimbursement for expenses for eligible personal equipment or personal labor shall be less than that charged by contractors
- Minimum qualifying cost of \$1,000 or \$250 for limited resource producers based on total eligible cost of all practices for same disaster
- Cannot approve C/S if the applicant clearly has adequate financial resources and COC determines that the applicant can repair the damage without assistance and without causing a financial hardship
- ECP eligibility is limited to agricultural producers (If producer is owner, landlord, tenant, or sharecropper of a farm or ranch and animals only for recreational purposes are not considered an agricultural producer for ECP purposes)
- Land must be physically located in a County that has been approved for ECP and the land has been used for farming or ranching operations
- The costs of installing the part of the structure that is larger than the part that originally existed and beyond the minimum restoration needed is the participant's responsibility
- Signup Period – March 28, 2016 through May 26, 2016
- No guarantee of funds before the producer's application has been approved
- FSA must complete an onsite inspection as soon as possible to document damage

EC3 – Restoring Permanent Fences

- Regardless of type of fence requiring rehabilitation or replacement, material and design must restore the fence function to a condition and function similar to that existing before natural disaster but at a minimum must be NRCS standards and specifications
- Must be for agricultural purposes
- Practice must be maintained for 10 years following year of installation
- C/S is authorized for:
 - fences needed to return the land to productive agricultural use
 - livestock inclusion or wildlife exclusion fence
 - cross fence

- boundary fences
- cattle gates
- simple fence reconstruction with minor damage when materials from the previous fence are used

EC4 – Restoring Conservation Structures and Other Installations

- Apply this practice on farmland which conservation structures and other installations have been seriously damaged by approved disaster
- C/S available for windmills or solar units for livestock water damaged by wildfire and pipeline
- Practice must be maintained for 10 years following year of installation

Thank you,
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