

# CFIP

## California Forest Improvement Program



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# The California Forest Improvement Program-CFIP

- The California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) provides technical and financial assistance to nonindustrial forest landowners for a suite of forest management actions that can include management plans, site preparation, tree planting, thinning, pruning, follow-up, release and land conservation.
- The California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) program is established to encourage private and public investment in, and improved management of, California forest lands and resources.

# The California Forest Improvement Program-CFIP

- CFIP will reimburse landowners from 75% -90% of the cap rate cost for allowable activities.
- Up to 90% on projects where forestland has been damaged by a catastrophic event (e.g., wildfire) or for properties under 500 acres.
- CFIP funding/staff levels up considerably over past levels with over \$12 million encumbered over the last 3 years. Currently waiting on new funding with the next budget.

# The California Forest Improvement Program-CFIP

Allowable activities include:

- Management Plan Development
- RPF Supervision
- Site Preparation
- Reforestation
- Tree Shelters
- Pre-commercial Thinning
- Pruning
- Release
- Follow-up
- Habitat Improvement/Land Conservation/ Wildlife/Fisheries
- “Fuels treatment”- PCT + follow up + pruning

# CFIP Eligibility

- Landowners must have 20 acres minimum, 5,000 acres maximum of forestland in CA.
- Must be nonindustrial private forestland that can support at least 10% native tree canopy.
- Landowner must agree to keep land in a compatible use (i.e., no conversion), and in forest management for a minimum of 10 years. Must record Land Use Addendum if not zoned TPZ.
- \$100,000 maximum project cost at any one time.

# CFIP Eligibility

- Land zoning must be compatible with forest resource management.\*
- Land in Agricultural Preserve (Williamson Act) also qualifies.
- Properties with Conservation Easements qualify if no restrictions on forest management practices are placed on it.

\* Most qualify unless prevented by homeowner association Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs)

# CFIP Eligibility

- Can not be used to complete requirements of other State programs (i.e., Timber Harvesting Plans, PRC § 4291 fire clearances).
- Eligible practices must comply with established rates.
- Can't be combined with Federal Cost Share programs to meet cost share requirements
- Requires the RPF and CAL FIRE Forestry Assistance Specialist (FAS) to work with the landowner.

# CFIP Eligibility

- Eligible land owners include
  - Individual or married landowners
  - Multiple related or unrelated landowners
  - Corporations, LLC, legal partnerships
  - Public entities, agencies, non-profits
  - Trusts

# The California Forest Improvement Program

## To get started:

- Contact a Forestry Assistance Specialist (FAS) in your region to confirm eligibility.
- Complete an application to the program.
- Contract the services of a Registered Professional Forester to plan treatments, write management plan, project description and supervise work.
- Submit a completed Project Agreement package

# Contact Info

- CFIP web page -  
[http://calfire.ca.gov/resource\\_mgt/resource\\_mgt\\_forestryassistance\\_cfip.php](http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_forestryassistance_cfip.php)
- Or just Google “CFIP”
- Forestry Assistance Contacts
  - Meghan Reeves, Sonoma/Napa- 707-888-7331
  - Dale Meese, Stewardship Forester- 530-224-2480
  - Stewart McMorrow, Deputy Chief Forestry Assistance- 530-379-5085