

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Grants



Overview

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

What is the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund ?

- A fund established by law in 2012 to receive State Cap and Trade Auction proceeds.
- A portion of the funds (\$42 out of \$872 million) were included in the Governor's Budget Act of 2014 and assigned to CAL FIRE.
- Projects must further the goals of AB 32, the Global Climate Warming Solution Act, and strategies contained in the Air Resources Board Updated Scoping Plan.
- One strategy is forestry projects that lead to greenhouse gas emissions reductions and increased carbon sequestration.

Overview

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants

- Seven Forest Management Programs.
- Programs directly administered by CAL FIRE.
- All projects must contribute directly to increased carbon sequestration or greenhouse gas emission reduction.
- Pertain to forestlands.
- Must quantify and assure sustaining GHG emission reduction and carbon sequestration benefits.

Overview

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants

- 1. Forest Legacy**
- 2. Forest Pest Control**
- 3. Fuels Reduction:**
 - CFIP
 - Grants
- 4. Reforestation**
 - CFIP
 - Watershed and Restoration Grants
- 5. Programmatic Timberland EIRs**
- 6. Research**
- 7. Urban Forestry**
 - Five programs

Overview

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants

Total available funding - \$38 million

Forest Legacy	\$4.2M
Forest Pest Control	\$1.5M
Fuels Reduction	\$8.3M
Programmatic Timberland EIRs	\$1.2M
Reforestation	\$4.8M
Research	\$2.3M
Urban Forestry	<u>\$15.7M</u>
Total	\$38 M

Forest Legacy Conservation Easements



Projects – Purchase of conservation easements to protect environmentally important forestland threatened with conversion to non-forest uses.

Who – Forest landowners

Where - Non federal forestlands

Grant Amounts – No more than 75% of the appraised value to be conveyed.

When – Concept Proposal period closed; Project Application submission ended 10/24/14

More info – Jeff Calvert, jeff.calvert@fire.ca.gov

Forest Pest Control

Projects - Timber stand improvement/forest health, removal of dead trees, restoration of damaged forests, utilization of biomass, education and research.

Who – Landowners, Native American Tribes, public agencies, universities, 501 c (3) non-profit organizations

Where – Forestlands and urban forests

Grant Amounts – No maximum award. Minimum award \$50,000

When – Project Applications due by April 30, 2015

More info – Dr. Tom Smith, tom.smith@fire.ca.gov



Fuels Reduction

Two Programs

Fuels Reduction Grants

CFIP Fuels Cost Share Agreements

Fuels Reduction Grants

Projects – Selective removal and utilization of vegetation to reduce wildfire hazards. Projects include thinning, pruning, brush removal, and biomass utilization. Targeted for larger, multiple ownership projects.

Who – Native American Tribes, public agencies, or 501 c (3) nonprofit organizations

Where - Forestlands

Grant Amounts – No maximum award

When – Project Applications due by April 30, 2015

More info – Tony Mediati, tony.mediati@fire.ca.gov

CFIP Fuels Reduction Cost Share Agreements

Projects – CA Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) cost share agreements for selective removal of vegetation to reduce wildfire hazards. Projects include thinning, pruning, brush removal, and slash disposal.

Who – Landowners owning between 20 and 5,000 acres

Where – Non federal forestlands

Grant Amounts – State pays up to 75% to 90% of the total fuels reduction costs to a maximum of \$50,000

When – Project Applications due by April 30, 2015

More info – Stephen Smith, stephen.smith@fire.ca.gov



Reforestation

Two Programs:

Watershed Reforestation and Restoration Grants

CFIP Reforestation Cost Share Agreements

Watershed Reforestation and Restoration Grants

Projects – Grants for large scale reforestation and watershed restoration resulting from catastrophic wildfires.

Who – Landowners, Native American Tribes, public agencies, or 501 c (3) nonprofit organizations

Where - Forestlands

Grant Amounts – No maximum award

When – Project Applications due by April 30, 2015

More info – Stephen Smith, stephen.smith@fire.ca.gov

CFIP Reforestation Cost Share Agreements

Projects - CA Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) cost share agreements with small forest landowners for site preparation, seedlings, and planting forest trees.

Who – Landowners owning between 20 and 5,000 acres

Where - Non federal forestlands

Grant Amounts – State pays up to 75% to 90% of the total reforestation costs to a maximum of \$100,000

When – Project Applications invitations to be sent soon

More info – Stephen Smith, stephen.smith@fire.ca.gov

GGRF Details

Programmatic Timberland EIRs Grants

Projects – Grants to develop Program Timberland Environmental Impact Reports designed to increase carbon sequestration and reduce carbon emission from wildland fires.

Who – Nonindustrial landowners owning 5,000 acres or less of timberland in California

Where - Timberland

Grant Amounts – No maximum award

When – To be announced pending Board of Forestry and Fire Protection rulemaking

More info – Matthew Reischman, matthew.reischman@fire.ca.gov

Research

Projects – Carbon sequestration, greenhouse gas reduction in a forestry context. Projects must show a direct GHG reduction, need a field component.

Who – Universities, public agencies, and other organizations or individuals. Applicants must have the scientific capacity to complete a proposed research or monitoring project.

Where – Forestland

Grant Amounts – No maximum award. Minimum award \$10,000

When – Project Applications due by April 30, 2015

More info – Dr. Helge Eng, helge.eng@fire.ca.gov

Urban & Community Forestry Grants

Projects – Five grant programs for urban tree planting to reduce greenhouse gas levels; inventories and management plans; biomass utilization; parcel purchase and greening; and green infrastructure projects

Who – Local government, special districts, and 501 c (3) nonprofit organizations

Where – Projects within census defined urban areas in Cal Enviro Screen 2.0 disadvantaged communities

Grant Amounts – Maximum amount of \$500,000 to \$1,500,000 depending on project type. Match requirement: 25% (can be reduced or waived)

When – Project Applications due by April 30, 2015

More info – John Melvin, john.melvin@fire.ca.gov

Status

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants

Concept Proposals Results

- Received 550 Concept Proposals
- Total request of \$242 million for \$38 million
- Urban Forestry received most Concept Proposal submissions followed by CFIPs, Fuels Reduction Grants

Status

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants

Project Application Invitations Results

229 Project Application invitations sent on February 20, 2015.

62 invitations for Urban Forestry grants sent on February 25, 2015.

9 invitations sent and received for the Forest Legacy Program in October 2014.

CFIP Reforestation cost share agreements invitations will be sent shortly.

Status

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Grants

- 1. Concept Proposal** – Short initial screening of applicant/project. Ended December 31, 2014.
- 2. Project Application** – Full detailed application for those invited. Submission deadline April 30, 2015.
- 3. Grant Agreement** – May- June 2015.
- 4. Grant Award** – August 2015.



More Information including:

Updated Procedural Guidelines and revised Project Applications
now posted on the web

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/grants.php>.