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Financial Assistance Programs for Small Forest Landowners

Fundable Practices

- Planting trees & shrubs
- Pruning
- Wildlife habitat enhancement
- Small business feasibility study
- Small business start-up costs
- On-farm research & development
- Alternative energy
- Forest road repair
- Bird boxes
- Wetland restoration/creation
- Fish habitat enhancement
- Riparian restoration
- Development rights



Types of \$\$\$ Assistance

- Cost-share
- Conservation Easements
- Grants
- Loans



Cost-share

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) – NRCS
 - Forest Management Plan
 - Timber stand improvement
 - Wildlife habitat enhancement
 - Biodiversity
- Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) – DNR
 - Fish blockage removal, replacement
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) – CD/FSA
 - Riparian restoration
- Local Conservation District Funds
 - Habitat
 - Wildfire risk reduction
 - Forest Health
- Oregon Department of Forestry

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Timber Stand Improvement

- Pre-commercial thinning
- Inter/Under-planting
- Pruning
- Increasing species diversity
- Root rot mitigation
- Remove invasives
- Stand release
- Forest slash treatment
- Reforestation



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

- Planting fruit & nut trees/shrubs
- Bird boxes
- Snags and downed logs
- Habitat piles
- Increasing tree/shrub diversity
- Elk forage
- Streamside planting



EQIP Scenario #1

0-15 years

1. **Forest management plan: \$1,300**
2. **Pre-commercial thinning: \$216/acre**
3. **Replant gaps**
 1. **Site prep: \$209/acre**
 2. **Planting trees: \$1.19**
 3. **Post-plant weed control: \$0.45**
4. **Seedling release: \$135.50/acre**
5. **Replant margins with wildlife trees/shrubs**
 1. **Site prep: \$209/acre**
 2. **Planting trees/shrubs: \$1.19**
6. **Invasive species control & replant**
 1. **Hand slash invasives: \$209/acre**
 2. **Site prep for planting: \$135/acre**
7. **Fencing: \$3.49/ft**



EQIP Scenario #2

15 – 30 years

1. Forest management plan: \$1,300
2. Pre-commercially thin: \$216/acre
3. Habitat piles & downed logs: \$119
4. Snags: \$23
5. Bird boxes: \$33
6. Species diversification:
 1. Site prep: \$209/acre
 2. Planting conifers: \$1.19
 3. Tree cages: \$1.48
 4. Post-plant weed control: \$0.45
7. Pruning: \$250





United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Service Agency

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Related Topics

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Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

In the News

[USDA and Colorado Announce Rio Grande Basin Water Conservation Project Agreement](#)[USDA Expands Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program by 20,000 Acres to Benefit Chesapeake Bay Watershed in Mid-Atlantic States](#)

What is the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program?



The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is an offshoot of the [Conservation Reserve Program \(CRP\)](#), the country's largest private-land conservation program. Administered by the [Farm Service Agency \(FSA\)](#), CREP targets high-priority conservation issues identified by local, state, or tribal governments or non-governmental organizations. In exchange for removing

Conservation Easements

- Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP) – DNR
 - 50-year easement on riparian timber
- Forest Legacy Program – DNR
 - Perpetual conservation easement on HCVF
- Riparian Open Space Program – DNR
 - Perpetual conservation easement on timberland in stream channels
- Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) – NRCS
 - Wetland restoration
 - Conservation easement
- Purchase of Development Rights – County, Land Trusts
 - Perpetual easement that extinguishes development rights
- Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) – County

Grants

Grants

- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
 - Wildlife habitat enhancement/restoration
- USDA Rural Development Program
 - Value-added Producers Grant
 - Rural Business Enterprise Grant
 - Rural Business Opportunity Grant
 - Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Grant
- Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education
 - On-farm research & demonstration
 - Public education



Additional Grants - Oregon

Grants

- **Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Small Grants**
 - Focus is set by a local grant team that covers a few watersheds
 - Work with an SWCD or Watershed Council to access
 - Up to \$10,000
 - 25% match required
- **Metro Nature in Neighborhoods (NIN) Restoration Grants**
 - Up to \$50,000, but \$25,000 more likely
 - This is ending, but may be renewed in the future
 - Need multiple partners, so working with SWCD, WC, or other non-profit is best

Loans

Loans

- USDA Rural Development Program
 - Business & Industry Loan & Grant Program
- Craft3



Other opportunities with SWCDs

Cost Share

- Metro area SWCDs fund some work out of their own budget
- East Multnomah, West Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, others
- Wildlife habitat
- Forest health
- Invasive species removal
- Stormwater management
- Streamside plantings
- Oak habitat



NRCS in Lower Willamette Basin

Biodiversity

- Transform Douglas-fir plantations into diverse, multi-layered forests
 - Thinning
 - Planting
 - Weed control
 - Seeding

Afforestation

- Plant on underproductive land
 - Planting
 - Weed control
 - Habitat structures
 - seeding



Forest Carbon

- The Pinchot Institute - www.pinchot.org
- Carbon Calculation based on basic inventory
- Aggregate properties
- Acreages >50 acres ideal
- Douglas-fir forests
 - Wood volume: Grow ~180 cubic feet per acre per year





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