

(1) Authorized restoration services

The term “authorized restoration services” means similar and complementary forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration services carried out—

(A) on Federal land and non-Federal land; and

(B) by either the Secretary or a Governor pursuant to a good neighbor agreement.

(2) Federal land**(A) In general**

The term “Federal land” means land that is—

- (i) National Forest System land; or
- (ii) public land (as defined in section 1702 of title 43).

(B) Exclusions

The term “Federal land” does not include—

- (i) a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System;
- (ii) Federal land on which the removal of vegetation is prohibited or restricted by Act of Congress or Presidential proclamation (including the applicable implementation plan); or
- (iii) a wilderness study area.

(3) Forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration services**(A) In general**

The term “forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration services” means—

- (i) activities to treat insect- and disease-infected trees;
- (ii) activities to reduce hazardous fuels; and
- (iii) any other activities to restore or improve forest, rangeland, and watershed health, including fish and wildlife habitat.

(B) Exclusions

The term “forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration services” does not include—

- (i) construction, reconstruction, repair, or restoration of paved or permanent roads or parking areas; or
- (ii) construction, alteration, repair or replacement of public buildings or works.

(4) Good neighbor agreement

The term “good neighbor agreement” means a cooperative agreement or contract (including a sole source contract) entered into between the Secretary and a Governor to carry out authorized restoration services under this section.

(5) Governor

The term “Governor” means the Governor or any other appropriate executive official of an affected State or the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(6) Road

The term “road” has the meaning given the term in section 212.1 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on February 7, 2014).

(7) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means—

(A) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System land; and

(B) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect to Bureau of Land Management land.

(b) Good neighbor agreements**(1) Good neighbor agreements****(A) In general**

The Secretary may enter into a good neighbor agreement with a Governor to carry out authorized restoration services in accordance with this section.

(B) Public availability

The Secretary shall make each good neighbor agreement available to the public.

(2) Timber sales**(A) In general**

Subsections (d) and (g) of section 472a of this title shall not apply to services performed under a cooperative agreement or contract entered into under subsection (a).

(B) Approval of silviculture prescriptions and marking guides

The Secretary shall provide or approve all silviculture prescriptions and marking guides to be applied on Federal land in all timber sale projects conducted under this section.

(3) Retention of NEPA responsibilities

Any decision required to be made under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) with respect to any authorized restoration services to be provided under this section on Federal land shall not be delegated to a Governor.

(Pub. L. 113-79, title VIII, § 8206, Feb. 7, 2014, 128 Stat. 921.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is Pub. L. 91-190, Jan. 1, 1970, 83 Stat. 852, which is classified generally to chapter 55 (§ 4321 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4321 of Title 42 and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agricultural Act of 2014, and not as part of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 which comprises this chapter.

§ 2114. Administration**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall administer this chapter in accordance with regulations that the Secretary shall develop.

(b) Guidelines

The regulations promulgated under this chapter shall include guidelines for the administration of this chapter at the Federal and State levels and shall identify the measures and activities that are eligible for cost sharing under this chapter.

(c) Existing mechanisms

Existing mechanisms shall be used to the extent possible to make payments and deliver services to the landowner under this chapter.

(d) Land grant universities

The Secretary, in consultation with State foresters or equivalent State officials, may provide assistance directly to other State and local natural resource management agencies and land grant universities in implementing this chapter in cases in which the State foresters or equivalent State officials are not able to make fund transfers to other State and local agencies.

(Pub. L. 95-313, §20, as added Pub. L. 101-624, title XII, §1223, Nov. 28, 1990, 104 Stat. 3542.)

CHAPTER 42—EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Sec.	
2201.	Payments to agricultural producers for carrying out wind erosion control or rehabilitation measures; criteria.
2202.	Payments to agricultural producers for carrying out water conservation or water enhancing measures; criteria.
2203.	Emergency measures.
2204.	Authorization of appropriations; availability of funds; implementation of provisions; limitations on expenditures.
2205.	Regulations for implementation of provisions.
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§ 2201. Payments to agricultural producers for carrying out wind erosion control or rehabilitation measures; criteria

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make payments to agricultural producers who carry out emergency measures to control wind erosion on farmlands or to rehabilitate farmlands damaged by wind erosion, floods, hurricanes, or other natural disasters when, as a result of the foregoing, new conservation problems have been created that (1) if not treated, will impair or endanger the land, (2) materially affect the productive capacity of the land, (3) represent damage that is unusual in character and, except for wind erosion, is not the type that would recur frequently in the same area, and (4) will be so costly to rehabilitate that Federal assistance is or will be required to return the land to productive agricultural use.

(Pub. L. 95-334, title IV, §401, Aug. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 433.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Pub. L. 95-334, title IV, §406, Aug. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 434, provided that: "The provisions of this title [enacting this chapter] shall become effective October 1, 1978."

§ 2202. Payments to agricultural producers for carrying out water conservation or water enhancing measures; criteria

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make payments to agricultural producers who carry out emergency water conservation or water enhancing measures (including measures carried out to assist confined livestock) during periods of severe drought as determined by the Secretary.

(Pub. L. 95-334, title IV, §402, Aug. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 434; Pub. L. 101-82, title V, §502, Aug. 14, 1989, 103 Stat. 586.)

AMENDMENTS

1989—Pub. L. 101-82, §502(1), inserted "(including measures carried out to assist confined livestock)".

Pub. L. 101-82, §502(2), temporarily substituted "any fiscal year in which there is a period of severe drought" for "periods of severe drought". See Effective and Termination Dates of 1989 Amendment note below.

EFFECTIVE AND TERMINATION DATES OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-82, title V, §502(2), Aug. 14, 1989, 103 Stat. 586, provided in part that amendment by section 502(2) of Pub. L. 101-82 is effective only for fiscal year 1989.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1978, see section 406 of Pub. L. 95-334, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

§ 2203. Emergency measures

(a) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to undertake emergency measures, including the purchase of floodplain easements, for runoff retardation and soil-erosion prevention, in cooperation with landowners and land users, as the Secretary deems necessary to safeguard lives and property from floods, drought, and the products of erosion on any watershed whenever fire, flood, or any other natural occurrence is causing or has caused a sudden impairment of that watershed.

(b) Floodplain easements

(1) Modification and termination

The Secretary may modify or terminate a floodplain easement administered by the Secretary under this section if—

(A) the current owner agrees to the modification or termination; and

(B) the Secretary determines that the modification or termination—

(i) will address a compelling public need for which there is no practicable alternative; and

(ii) is in the public interest.

(2) Consideration

(A) Termination

As consideration for termination of an easement and associated agreements under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall enter into compensatory arrangements as determined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

(B) Modification

In the case of a modification under paragraph (1)—

(i) as a condition of the modification, the current owner shall enter into a compensatory arrangement (as determined to be appropriate by the Secretary) to incur the costs of modification; and

(ii) the Secretary shall ensure that—

(I) the modification will not adversely affect the floodplain functions and values for which the easement was acquired;

(II) any adverse impacts will be mitigated by enrollment and restoration of other land that provides greater floodplain functions and values at no additional cost to the Federal Government; and

(III) the modification will result in equal or greater environmental and economic values to the United States.