

**HAZARDOUS FUELS ON NON-FEDERAL LANDS (NFL) GRANT APPLICATION
STATE OF NEW MEXICO, ENERGY, MINERALS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT, FORESTRY DIVISION**

Updated 02/22/2023

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The State of New Mexico, Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD), Forestry Division (Forestry Division) Hazardous Fuel Treatments on Non-Federal Lands (NFL) Grant Program exists to reduce the fire threat to New Mexico Communities by thinning forests along non-federal and federal lands. Eligible applicants are non-federal governmental entities, including tribes, that are surrounded by hazardous forest fuels, which pose a threat in the event of a wildland fire. Funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS) with Wildland Fire Hazardous Fuels (WFHF) funding. The Forestry Division may consider projects not funded with WFHF funding for other federal and state hazardous fuels reduction funding that may become available.

The Forestry Division accepts applications for NFL grants year-round. The maximum individual grant request is \$400,000.00. Applications are reviewed and ranked only once per year after the USFS delivers an annual Offer of Funding to the State Forester.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements apply to all proposed projects:

1. Projects must complement hazardous fuel reduction on USFS lands in high priority areas such as those identified in [Community Wildfire Protection Plans](#) (CWPPs) or equivalent collaborative plans.
2. If Applicants submit projects that occur on private land that include specific properties (*i.e.* if Applicants name a private property landowner in the Application), those private landowners must have been competitively procured prior to including them in the Application. In this event, Applicants shall include a copy of the competitive procurement document (public notice, Request for Proposals, etc.) along with their completed Application.
3. Projects shall reference the adjacent USFS project and identify potential impacts to state or private lands that are to be mitigated using these granted funds.
4. Projects must show collaboration and consultation between local USFS officials and community leaders. The adjacent National Forest must be involved in project planning and implementation. All proposed projects need to contribute to strengthen the partnership between the state, USFS, and affected communities.

5. Projects require the completion of the appropriate environmental documentation.
6. All successful Applicants shall provide the Forestry Division with spatial data depicting the area where hazardous fuel activities were accomplished.
7. Matching funds are not required; however, the Forestry Division encourages the use of non-federal funds or in-kind contributions.
8. Projects must be completed within two years.
9. Project costs may include all costs necessary to plan and implement the projects on non-federal land only. Costs may not include those associated with educational programs, public meetings, and other activities that are not directly related to implementing a project on the ground.
10. The Forestry Division will place more emphasis on projects that are adjacent to federal projects identified in a CWPP and that involve collaboration with project partners.
11. Funding priority is for private, tribal, and pueblo lands, then state or other non-federal lands, such as county, and municipal-owned lands, as well as lands managed by Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
12. All proposed projects must:
 - a. benefit a community-at-risk listed in the current year Communities at Risk (CAR) Plan, available on the [CWPP webpage](#);
 - b. incorporate socio-cultural values and promote the economic well-being of the area (*i.e.* use of local thinning contractor, material used by either local business or within the regional area, etc.); and
 - c. include a maintenance plan.

ADDITIONAL NOTICES

- All Applicants must complete and submit a [Financial Capability Questionnaire](#) and submit it with their application.
- All Applicants must review the criteria indicated on the [Federal Eligibility Checklist](#). Successful Applicants will be required to comply with the Federal Eligibility Checklist.
- Award of agreements is contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorization being made by the Forest Service.
- Where applicable, Applicants must factor in Governmental Gross Receipts Tax (GGRT) as part of their responses. Any response that does not clearly indicate GGRT is included in the cost section may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.
- The Forestry Division may reject any and all applications when it is in the State of New Mexico's best interest.
- The Forestry Division may conduct discussions with Applicants who submit applications but may also accept applications without such discussions.
- The last funded project may receive only partial funding if the Forestry Division lacks sufficient monies to fully-fund that project. Project contacts will be notified

by the Forestry Division Program Manager before any partial funding is approved.

SUBMISSION AND REVIEW

Applications are reviewed and ranked annually after the annual deadline identified on the Forestry Division [Forestry and Fuels Grants webpage](#). To apply, complete Attachment 1 and email it with project area shapefiles and a completed Financial Capability Questionnaire to Jacob Pederson, Forest Restoration Officer, at jacob.pederson@emnrd.nm.gov. Applications will be scored and ranked according to criteria specified in Attachment 2.

ATTACHMENT 1

HAZARDOUS FUELS ON NON-FEDERAL LANDS APPLICATION FORM

1	Applicant Information		
	Applicant:		
	Contact Person:		
	Address:		
	City/Zip Code:		
	Phone (Work/Cell):		
	Email:		
	Fax:		
2	Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)		
	Does this community have a wildfire protection plan that has been updated in the last five years and that follows the Healthy Forest Restoration Act CWPP guidelines? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> in process of update		
	Name of CWPP and location:		
	Is this project designated as a priority fuel treatment area in the CWPP plan? (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no		
	Priority area:		
	County:		
	Latitude (decimal degrees):	Longitude:	
	Does the project benefit a community at risk listed in the current year Communities at Risk Plan?		<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	Communities and risk ratings:		
	Is this project within an area listed as a priority in the 2020 NM Forest Action Plan ?		<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	Is the adjacent National Forest involved in your project planning? If so, provide name of the USFS project:		<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
	In areas that do not have National Forest involvement, is there local collaboration with adjacent federal, state, tribal or local agencies?		<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no

3

Project Area Description

All information for the project must fit into the space provided below.

Provide a brief overview of the project and the project area, include description of the vegetation types and how the project incorporates socio-economic values and promotes the economic well-being of the area. (i.e. use of local thinning contractor, material used by either local business or within the regional area). Attach a map showing the location of the proposed project and relationship to US Forest Service lands or projects.

Provide land ownership (i.e. private, state, BLM, USFS, tribal, or pueblo) of the project area and the name or location of any Forest Service or other projects this proposal ties to. If on state lands, include how the cultural resource assessment will be completed.

Clearly explain how the project will be maintained and who will be responsible for maintenance activities over the next 10 years.

4	Scope of Work / Project Timeline All information for the project must fit into the space provided below.
	<i>Provide a brief scope of work which clearly describes how <u>grant</u> funds will be spent. (This should be more specific than the project description.) Project costs include all costs necessary for grantee to plan, implement and maintain the projects over the life of the grant. Project costs apply to non-federal lands only.</i>
	What is the duration of this project? (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> One Year <input type="checkbox"/> Two Years
	Is this a continuing project from previous year/s? (check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If your proposal is a continuation of an earlier project, explain why it's important to expand what has already been done.</i>
	<i>Provide a timeline for the project.</i>
5	Interagency Collaboration and Match <i>Specify the private, local, tribal, county, state, federal, or non-governmental (501c3) organizations that have committed to participating in your project or contributing to its completion. Describe what each will do to make the project a success. List briefly the contributions each partner will make (i.e. cash match or in-kind match such as donating time/equipment, funding, etc.).</i>

6	Hazard Fuels Reduction		
	Number of acres to be treated:		
	Number of communities directly affected by this project:		Estimated cost per acre:
7	Project Budget (\$ Amount Requested up to \$400,000)		
	Personnel/Labor:		
	Operating:		
	Travel:		
	Contractual Services:		
	Equipment:		
	Indirect Costs:		
	TOTAL:	\$	

Submitted by:

 Authorized Representative (Please print name)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

ATTACHMENT 2

HAZARDOUS FUELS ON NON-FEDERAL LANDS SCORING CRITERIA

Meets the funding authority requirements		Yes = Eligible for scoring	No = Ineligible		
Has been reviewed by local Forestry Division District Office		Yes = Eligible for scoring	No = Ineligible		
1	Is this project achievable (time, goals, etc.)? Does this project's budget agree with the number of acres treated?	Yes = 20	Yes but needs revision = 10	No = 0	
2	Is the National Forest involved in the project planning?	Yes = 5		No = 0	
3	Is this project measurable? (# of acres treated, material being utilized locally, project completed by local contractor)	Yes = 15	Yes but needs revision = 5	No = 0	
4	Does the proposal discuss how the project will be maintained? Does the project have a maintenance plan? (Note: Preference will be given to those projects clearly showing how it will remain effective over time)	Yes = 20	Yes but needs revision = 10	No = 0	
5	Is the Applicant clearly showing collaborative elements and committed partners?	Yes = 5		No = 0	
6	Does the project either tie into a completed project, or leverage an ongoing project or a planned project? (USFS)	Yes = 5		No = 0	
7	Is this project implemented from an existing CWPP? (Note: The Forestry Division will give preference to those projects that are listed as priority in a completed plan.)	Completed with an update in progress = 10	Completed = 8	Initial CWPP in progress = 5	None = 0
8	Does the project budget clearly show costs and match that are reasonable and tie directly to the scope of work?	Yes = 20	Yes but needs revision = 15	No = 0	
Total points possible = 100					