EQIP Forestry

ANDREW LEE
AREA FORESTER (AREA 1)
530 737 5215
ANDREW.LEE@USDA.GOV
What is EQIP

- Part of the Farm Bill
- California statewide
  - All land uses

Environmental Quality Incentives Program
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Benefits of EQIP

- One on one help
  - Connection to natural resources professionals
- Develop a plan!
- Improve forest health and reduce wildfire hazard on property
Forest Health
Fuel Reduction
Financial Incentive

- Incentive rates
  - Anticipate out of pocket costs
  - Vary by project
  - Change every fiscal year

- Examples from FY 23
  - Forest stand Improvement removing small trees: $1074 per acre
  - Woody residue treatment of heavy slash: $337 per acre
Environmental Quality Incentives Program

- Participation is voluntary
- There are eligibility requirements
- Applications process is competitive
  - No guarantee of funding
- Cost share assistance at a set per acre rate
  - Must be installed to our specs before payment

Start by working with your local field office!
Where to Start?

- Field Office!

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/find-a-service-center
Be Prepared

- Basic information we need to assist you:
  1. Map of your property
     - Otherwise the APN number is good
  2. You contact information including both an address and working phone number
  3. It’s extremely helpful to know your goals for the property
     - They don’t have to be super specific to start
Planning process

- Work with the local office to develop a Conservation Plan
  - You will work with an NRCS staff and go through the planning process
Eligibility

- Your specific situation matters
- Some items
  - Non-Industrial Private Forestland
  - AGI limits
  - Land Ownership
  - Farm Records with FSA
  - Forest Management Plan
    - This is not a THP or NTMP
    - NRCS staff can develop or you can use an RPF
# Timelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Batching Period</th>
<th>Ranking Pool</th>
<th>Application Cutoff</th>
<th>Funding Selections</th>
<th>Eligibility paperwork due</th>
<th>Obligations completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Classic EQIP</td>
<td>Dec 9, 2022</td>
<td>March 15, 2023</td>
<td>April 14, 2023</td>
<td>June 23, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>EQIP-CIC</td>
<td>Jan 31, 2023</td>
<td>March 15, 2023</td>
<td>April 14, 2023</td>
<td>June 23, 2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Select fund pools</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>August 30, 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Dates for Fiscal Year 2024 may be different but highly likely to follow the same general scheme*
Questions