

FORESTRY

Subtitle A-Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

Sec.8001.Community forests working land program.

Sec.8002.Comprehensive statewide forest planning.

Sec.8003.Landscape scale forestry competitive grant program.

Subtitle B-Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003

Sec.8101.Wood-to-energy program.

Subtitle C-Amendments to Other Laws

Sec.8201.Renewable resources extension activities.

Sec.8202.Office of international forestry.

Sec.8203.Rural revitalization technologies.

FORESTRY

Subtitle A-Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

1 **SEC. 8001. COMMUNITY FORESTS WORKING LAND PROGRAM.**

2 Section 7 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2103c) is

3 amended-

4 (1) by redesignating subsection (m) as subsection (n); and

5 (2) by inserting a new subsection (m) that reads as follows:

6 “(m) COMMUNITY FORESTS WORKING LANDS PROGRAM.-

7 “(1) DEFINITION.-In this section-

8 “(A) COMMUNITY FOREST LAND.-The term ‘community forest land’ means a

9 parcel of land that is-

10 “(i) forested; and

11 “(ii) located, as determined by the Secretary, within, or in close proximity to,

12

1 a population center.

2 “(B) UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.-The term “unit of local government”

3 means a-

4 “(i) town or city; or

5 “(ii) other unit of local government.

6 “(2) PURPOSES.-The purposes of the community forests working land program are

7 to-

8 “(A) help protect environmentally important forest lands near population centers,

9 as determined by the Secretary;

10 “(B) facilitate land use planning by units of local government; and

11 “(C) facilitate the donations, acceptance, and enforcement of conservation

12 easements on community forest land.

13 “(3) ESTABLISHMENT.-The Secretary shall, working with the States, offer financial

14 and technical assistance to units of local government by providing, in priority areas, as

15 defined by the Secretary-

16 “(A) financial assistance to purchase conservation easements on, facilitate the

17 donation, acceptance, and enforcement of conservation easements on, or otherwise

18 acquire, community forest lands; and

19 “(B) technical assistance to facilitate-

20 “(i) conservation of community forests;

21 “(ii) management of community forests;

1 “(iii) training related to forest management and forest conservation; and

2 “(iv) other forest conservation activities, as determined by the Secretary.

3 “(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.-There are authorized to be appropriated to
4 carry out this subsection \$65,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.”.

5 **SEC. 8002. COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FOREST PLANNING.**

6 The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) is amended-

7 (1) by redesignating section 20 (16 U.S.C. 2114) as section 22; and

8 (2) by inserting after section 19 (16 U.S.C. 2113) the following:

9 **“SEC. 20. COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE FOREST PLANNING.-**

10 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.-The Secretary shall provide financial and technical assistance to
11 State Foresters (or equivalent State officials) to develop and implement statewide forest
12 resource assessments and plans which will provide a strategic, inclusive, integrated
13 strategy for addressing pressing resource management concerns in critical forest
14 landscape areas.

15 “(b) STATEWIDE FOREST RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN.-The Secretary may provide
16 assistance to States to develop statewide forest resource assessments and plans that-

17 “(1) identify critical forest landscapes of the State that may be affected by factors
18 such as-

19 “(A) wildland fire;

20 “(B) development pressures;

21 “(C) threats to forest health such as insects and disease;

1 “(D) ecosystem challenges, such as limited clean water or biodiversity; and

2 “(E) forest lands near population centers under section 7(m).

3 “(2) to the extent practicable-

4 “(A) incorporate existing forest management plans of the State;

5 “(B) address-

6 “(i) regional forest management issues, without regard to the borders of States
7 in the region; and

8 “(ii) national priorities regarding forest management; and

9 “(C) provide a comprehensive framework for-

10 “(i) managing forest landscapes;

11 “(ii) ensuring public participation regarding management of forest landscapes;

12 “(iii) monitoring progress in achieving strategic forest management
13 objectives; and

14 “(iv) administering any State, Federal, or private grants awarded to the State
15 under this section or under other provisions of law.

16 “(c) REVIEW BY FOREST SERVICE.-Each forest resource assessment and plan developed
17 by a State shall be submitted to the Secretary.

18 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.-There are authorized to be appropriated to
19 carry out this section up to \$65,000,000 for the period fiscal years 2008 through 2012.”.

20 **SEC. 8003. LANDSCAPE SCALE FORESTRY COMPETITIVE GRANT**
21 **PROGRAM.**

1 The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) is amended
2 by inserting after section 20 (as added by section 8003) the following:

3 **“SEC. 21. LANDSCAPE SCALE FORESTRY COMPETITIVE GRANT**
4 **PROGRAM.**

5 “(a) DEFINITION.-In this section, the term ‘eligible entity’ means-

6 “(1) a State (or a political subdivision of the State);

7 “(2) a tribal government;

8 “(3) a conservation or environmental organization or association;

9 “(4) an owner of private, non-industrial forest land; or

10 “(5) an academic institution.

11 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.-The Secretary shall competitively award grants, including
12 financial and technical assistance, to eligible entities to-

13 “(1) support-

14 “(A) a comprehensive and coordinated approach to forest management
15 encompassing forest lands that are owned by more than one owner; and

16 “(B) collaboration between eligible entities and other public and private persons
17 in the management of critical forest landscapes, particularly critical forest
18 landscapes identified in section 20;

19 “(2) protect critical forest landscapes; and

20 “(3) provide incentives for private sector investments that generate income and
21 employment through-

1 “(A) the development of specialized forest product markets;

2 “(B) the creation of value-added forest product industries; or

3 “(C) the development of local, nontraditional forest product markets.

4 “(c) ACTIVE ENROLLMENT.-In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall
5 actively enroll new and under served owners of family forests, as determined by the
6 Secretary.

7 “(d) DURATION.-A grant awarded under this section shall be for not less than 3, nor
8 more than 5, years in duration.

9 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.-There are authorized to be appropriated to
10 carry out this section up to \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.”.

11 **Subtitle B-Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003**

12 **SEC. 8101. FOREST WOOD TO ENERGY PROGRAM.**

13 (a) In General.-Title II of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C.
14 6531) is amended by adding at the end the following:

15 **“SEC. 204. FOREST WOOD-TO-ENERGY PROGRAM.**

16 “(a) PURPOSE.-The purpose of the forest wood-to-energy program is to improve the
17 conversion of woody biomass to high value products or to renewable energy in order to-

18 “(1) improve forest health in priority areas, as defined by the Secretary;

19 “(2) encourage rural-based jobs in the private sector;

1 “(3) provide incentives for investments by the private sector that will lead to value-
2 added revenue; and

3 “(4) reduce dependence of the United States on non-renewable forms of energy.

4 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.-The Secretary shall establish and carry out a wood-to-energy
5 program to-

6 “(1) accelerate practical commercial development of cellulosic ethanol conversion
7 from a diverse range of woody feedstocks;

8 “(2) increase the use of the knowledge and technical capacity of the Forest Service
9 to advance research and commercialization of woody biomass as transportation fuel;

10 “(3) develop-

11 “(A) sustainable production, management, and harvest systems for woody
12 feedstocks;

13 “(B) new or improved processes for wood-to-ethanol conversion;

14 “(C) small-scale wood-to-energy technology;

15 “(D) biobased products from low-valued woody biomass sources; and

16 “(E) technologies for separating high-value wood from low-value wood for
17 primary and secondary processing;

18 “(4) apply new technologies (including nanotechnology and biorefining

19 technologies) to the development of biobased products from woody feedstocks;

1 “(5) accelerate development and use of new technologies to more productively
2 utilize low-value woody biomass resources; or

3 “(6) increase capacity in the private sector for the creation of value-added products.

4 “(c) COOPERATION AND CONSULTATION.-The Secretary may cooperate and consult with-

5 “(1) forest-based communities;

6 “(2) entrepreneurs;

7 “(3) small businesses;

8 “(4) private investors; and

9 “(5) colleges and universities.

10 “(d) ADMINISTRATION.-

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.-The Secretary may administer this program by-

12 “(A) conducting research, technology development, and technology transfer;

13 “(B) providing technical assistance; and

14 “(C) awarding competitive grants and contracts.

15 “(2) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.-In administering the grant program as provided
16 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall require matching contributions from those
17 persons or entities participating in the program.

18 “(3) COORDINATION.-In administering the program under this section, the Secretary
19 shall, to the maximum extent practicable, coordinate with other Federal agencies and
20 programs.

1 “(e) FUNDING.-

2 “(1) COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION.-Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary
3 shall, to the maximum extent practicable, use \$15,000,000 of the funds of the
4 Commodity Credit Corporation for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to carry out
5 the program under this section.

6 “(2) APPROPRIATED FUNDS.-The funds made available under paragraph (1) are in
7 addition to amounts, if any, made available for similar biomass research under
8 appropriations acts.”.

9 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.-

10 The table of contents of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C.
11 6501 note; 117 Stat. 1887) is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to title
12 II the following:

13 “SEC. 204. WOOD-TO-ENERGY PROGRAM”.

14 **Subtitle C-Amendments to Other Laws**

15 **SEC. 8201. RENEWABLE RESOURCES EXTENSION ACTIVITIES.**

16 (a) Authorization of Appropriations.-Section 6 of the Renewable Resources Extension
17 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 1675) is amended in the first sentence by striking “2007” and
18 inserting “2012”.

1 (b) TERMINATION DATE.-Section 8 of the Renewable Resources Extension Act of 1978
2 (16 U.S.C. 1671 note; Public Law 95-306) is amended by striking “2007” and inserting
3 “2012”.

4 **SEC. 8202. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY.**

5 Section 2405(d) of the Global Climate Change Prevention Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C.
6 6704(d)) is amended by striking “2007” and inserting “2012”.

7 **SEC. 8203. RURAL REVITALIZATION TECHNOLOGIES.**

8 Section 2371(d)(2) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7
9 U.S.C. 6601(d)(2)) is amended by striking “2004 through 2008” and inserting “2008
10 through 2012”.