

Lincoln & Otero County

WUI Cost-Share Program

\$\$ Tree Thinning Money Available \$\$

- ❖ **Do you own property in Lincoln or Otero County?**
- ❖ **Are you concerned with fire mitigation and forest health on your property?**
- ❖ **Would you like technical or financial assistance to thin your forest or create defensible space around your home?**

There are state grant programs that can provide landowners with technical and financial assistance to thin privately owned forested land and/or create defensible space around homes. The main objectives of the Lincoln & Otero County WUI Cost Share Programs are to mitigate fire risk while improving forest health. This grant opportunity can reimburse program participants for up to 70% of the cost to treat private land.



If you are interested in the Cost Share Program and would like an application or additional information about available grants for fuel reduction, please call the **South Central Mountain Resource Conservation and Development Council** at (575) 937 - 1789 or send emails to mcaggiano@scmrtd.org.



Cost share Project Summary

This document provides a general overview of the cost-share program and how the process works from start to finish.

- 1- Landowner calls SCMRCD or State Forestry forester inquiring about program.
- 2- Forester sets up appointment for an initial site visit. During the visit, the forester, discusses program details, determines if the property qualifies for the program, determines if it is a good match for the landowner, and comes up with a treatment plan.
- 3- Landowner fills out application and returns to the forester. At this point the forester reserves fund for the project and will notify landowner when funds are available.
- 4- Landowner solicits several quotes, selects contractor, notifies forester which contractor was selected and expected cost.
- 5- Landowner is responsible for flagging treatment area/ property boundary.
- 6- Forester returns to flagged treatment area and marks leave trees. Then notifies landowner when task is complete.
- 7- Landowner notifies contractor the project is ready. Contractor to notify forester when thinning begins.
- 8- Forester inspects thinning project while contractor is working.
- 9- When the contractor is complete, the forester is called for a final inspection.
- 10- When the project passes the final inspection, the forester will notify the landowner, who then pays the contractor.
- 11- Landowner supplies copy of contractors invoice to forester who processes reimbursement.
- 12- Landowner receives partial reimbursement check in the mail 4-5 weeks later.

Additional Notes:

Application needs to be submitted, and project funds need to be spent, in a reasonable amount of time (to be determined by Forester) or obligated funds will return to the funding pool to be spent elsewhere. Landowner is responsible for flagging treatment/property boundaries.

Please review application and associated documents for additional project details.

Not all projects follow this exact process sequentially, the above list is to be used as a guideline.

Any questions about the cost-share program or the thinning project on your property should be directed to the forester.

The costshare program cannot reimburse landowners retroactively for thinning efforts.

Any firewood/logs left on property must be neatly stacked.

Please mail/email/fax your application to Mike Caggiano PO box 457 Carrizozo NM – 575 648 2837 – mcaggiano@scmr.cd.org