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# TITLE VIII—FORESTRY

## Subtitle A—Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978

- Sec. 8001. National priorities for private forest conservation.
- Sec. 8002. State-wide assessments and strategies for forest resources.
- Sec. 8003. Changes to Forest Resource Coordinating Committee.
- Sec. 8004. Changes to State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committees.
- Sec. 8005. Competition in programs under Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.
- Sec. 8006. Innovative education, outreach, and technology transfer projects.

## Subtitle B—Amendments to Other Laws

- Sec. 8011. Healthy forest reserve program.
- Sec. 8012. Emergency forest restoration program.
- Sec. 8013. Office of International Forestry.
- Sec. 8014. Rural revitalization technologies.

## Subtitle C—Miscellaneous Provisions

- Sec. 8031. Hispanic-serving institution agricultural land national resources leadership program.

2     **Subtitle A—Cooperative Forestry**  
3             **Assistance Act of 1978**

4     **SEC. 8001. NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR PRIVATE FOREST**  
5             **CONSERVATION.**

6             Section 2 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act  
7 of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101) is amended—

8                     (1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as  
9             subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

10                    (2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
11             lowing new subsections:

12                    “(c) PRIORITIES.—In allocating funds appropriated  
13 or otherwise made available under this Act, the Secretary

1 shall focus on the following national private forest con-  
2 servation priorities:

3 “(1) Conserving and managing working forest  
4 landscapes for multiple values and uses.

5 “(2) Protecting forests from threats to forest  
6 and forest health, including wildfire, hurricane, tor-  
7 nado, windstorm, snow or ice storm, flooding,  
8 drought, invasive species, or insect or disease out-  
9 break, and restoring appropriate forest types in re-  
10 sponse to such threats.

11 “(3) Enhancing public benefits from private  
12 forests, including air and water quality, forest prod-  
13 ucts, forestry-related jobs, production of renewable  
14 energy, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and recreation.

15 “(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than  
16 September 30, 2011, the Secretary shall submit to Con-  
17 gress a report describing how funding was used under this  
18 Act to address the national priorities specified in sub-  
19 section (c) and the outcomes achieved in meeting the na-  
20 tional priorities.”.

21 **SEC. 8002. STATE-WIDE ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGIES**  
22 **FOR FOREST RESOURCES.**

23 The Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 is  
24 amended by inserting after section 2 (16 U.S.C. 2101)  
25 the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 2A. STATE-WIDE ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIES FOR**  
2 **FOREST RESOURCES.**

3 “(a) ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIES FOR FOREST  
4 RESOURCES.—For a State to be eligible to receive funds  
5 under the authorities of this Act, the State forester of the  
6 State or equivalent State official shall develop and submit  
7 to the Secretary, not later than two years after the date  
8 of the enactment of **【the 2007 Farm Bill】**, the following:

9 “(1) A State-wide assessment of forest resource  
10 conditions, including—

11 “(A) the conditions and trends of forest re-  
12 sources in that State;

13 “(B) the threats to forest lands and re-  
14 sources in that State consistent with the na-  
15 tional priorities specified in section 2(c);

16 “(C) any areas or regions of that State  
17 that are of priority; and

18 “(D) any areas, known as multi-State  
19 areas, that are of priority to more than just  
20 that State.

21 “(2) A State-wide forest resource strategy for  
22 the upcoming year, including—

23 “(A) strategies for addressing threats to  
24 forest resources in the State outlined in the as-  
25 sessment required by paragraph (1); and

1                   “(B) a description of the resources avail-  
2                   able to the State forester or equivalent State of-  
3                   ficial from all sources to address the State-wide  
4                   strategy required by subparagraph (A).

5           “(b) UPDATING.—The State forester or equivalent  
6 State official shall submit the State-wide strategy required  
7 by subsection (a)(2) on an annual basis. The State-wide  
8 assessment of forest resource conditions required by sub-  
9 section (a)(1) shall be updated as the Secretary or State  
10 Forester or equivalent State official determines to be nec-  
11 essary.

12           “(c) COORDINATION.—In developing the State-wide  
13 assessment and annual strategy under subsection (a), the  
14 State forester or equivalent State official shall coordinate  
15 with the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Com-  
16 mittee established for the State under section 19(b) of this  
17 Act.

18           “(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than  
19 September 30, 2011, the Secretary shall submit to Con-  
20 gress a report describing how funding was allocated under  
21 this Act to address the national priorities specified in sec-  
22 tion 2(c) and the outcomes achieved in meeting the na-  
23 tional priorities.”.

1 **SEC. 8003. CHANGES TO FOREST RESOURCE COORDI-**  
2 **NATING COMMITTEE.**

3 Section 19 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance  
4 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2113) is amended by striking sub-  
5 section (a) and inserting the following new subsection:

6 “(a) FOREST RESOURCE COORDINATING COM-  
7 MITTEE.—

8 “(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall es-  
9 tablish a committee, to be known as the ‘Forest Re-  
10 source Coordinating Committee’ (in this section re-  
11 ferred to as the ‘Coordinating Committee’) , to co-  
12 ordinate private non-industrial forestry activities  
13 within the Department of Agriculture and with other  
14 Federal and State government agencies and the pri-  
15 vate sector.

16 “(2) COMPOSITION.—The Coordinating Com-  
17 mittee shall be composed of the following:

18 “(A) The Chief of the Forest Service.

19 “(B) The Chief of the Natural Resources  
20 Conservation Service.

21 “(C) The Administrator of the Farm Serv-  
22 ice Agency.

23 “(D) The Administrator of the Cooperative  
24 State Research, Education, and Extension Serv-  
25 ice.

1           “(E) Non-Federal representatives ap-  
2           pointed by the Secretary every three years, ini-  
3           tially with staggered terms, including the fol-  
4           lowing:

5                   “(i) At least three State foresters or  
6                   equivalent State officials from geographi-  
7                   cally diverse regions of the United States.

8                   “(ii) A private non-industrial forest  
9                   landowner.

10                   “(iii) A forest industry representative.

11                   “(iv) A conservation organization rep-  
12                   resentative.

13                   “(v) A land-grant university or college  
14                   representative.

15                   “(vi) A private forestry consultant.

16                   “(vii) Such other persons as deter-  
17                   mined by the Secretary to be appropriate.

18           “(3) CHAIRPERSON.—The Secretary shall des-  
19           ignate the Chief of the Forest Service as chairperson  
20           of the Coordinating Committee,

21           “(4) DUTIES.—The Coordinating Committee  
22           shall—

23                   “(A) provide direction and coordination of  
24                   actions within the Department of Agriculture  
25                   and other Federal and State agencies, and co-

1           ordination with the private sector, to effectively  
2           address the national priorities specified in sec-  
3           tion 2(c), with specific focus on private non-in-  
4           dustrial forest landowners;

5           “(B) clarify individual agency responsibil-  
6           ities of each agency represented on the Coordin-  
7           ating Committee concerning the national pri-  
8           orities specified in section 2(c), with specific  
9           focus on private non-industrial forested land;

10          “(C) provide advice on the allocation of  
11          funds, including the competitive funds set-aside  
12          by sections 8004 and 8005 of the **【2007 Farm**  
13          **Bill】**; and

14          “(D) provide to the Secretary, the Com-  
15          mittee on Agriculture of the House of Rep-  
16          resentatives, and the Committee on Agriculture,  
17          Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate an an-  
18          nual report describing Department of Agri-  
19          culture and other Federal agency outcomes re-  
20          garding assistance to private non-industrial for-  
21          est landowners.

22          “(5) MEETING.—The Coordinating Committee  
23          shall meet biannually to discuss progress in address-  
24          ing the national priorities specified in section 2(c)

1 and issues regarding non-industrial private forest  
2 land.

3 “(6) COMPENSATION.—

4 “(A) FEDERAL MEMBERS.—Members of  
5 the Coordinating Committee who are full-time  
6 officers or employees of the United States shall  
7 receive no additional pay, allowances, or bene-  
8 fits by reason of their service on the Committee.

9 “(B) NON-FEDERAL MEMBERS.—Non-fed-  
10 eral members of the Coordinating Committee  
11 shall serve without pay, but may be reimbursed  
12 for reasonable costs incurred while performing  
13 their duties on behalf of the Committee.”.

14 **SEC. 8004. CHANGES TO STATE FOREST STEWARDSHIP CO-**  
15 **ORDINATING COMMITTEES.**

16 Section 19(b) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance  
17 Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2113(b)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking “a Forest  
19 Stewardship Plan under paragraph (3)” and insert-  
20 ing “the State-wide assessment of forest resource  
21 conditions under section 2A”;

22 (2) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4); and

23 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as  
24 paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively.

1 **SEC. 8005. COMPETITION IN PROGRAMS UNDER COOPERA-**  
2 **TIVE FORESTRY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1978.**

3 (a) COMPETITION.—Beginning not later than three  
4 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
5 retary of Agriculture shall competitively allocate a portion,  
6 to be determined by the Secretary, of the funds available  
7 under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978  
8 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) to State foresters or equivalent  
9 State officials.

10 (b) DETERMINATION.—In determining the competi-  
11 tive allocation of funds under subsection (a), the Secretary  
12 shall consult with the Forest Resource Coordinating Com-  
13 mittee established by section 19(a) of the Cooperative For-  
14 estry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2113(a)).

15 (c) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority for  
16 funding to States for which the strategies submitted under  
17 section 2A(a)(2) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance  
18 Act of 1978 will best promote the national priorities speci-  
19 fied in section 2(c) of such Act.

20 **SEC. 8006. INNOVATIVE EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND**  
21 **TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROJECTS.**

22 (a) INNOVATIVE EDUCATION, OUTREACH, AND  
23 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROJECTS.—The Secretary of  
24 Agriculture may competitively allocate not more than five  
25 percent of funding available under the Cooperative For-  
26 estry Assistance Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.) to

1 support innovative national, regional, or local education,  
2 outreach, or technology transfer projects that the Sec-  
3 retary determines would substantially increase the ability  
4 of the Department of Agriculture to address the national  
5 priorities specified in section 2(c) of such Act.

6 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding the eligibility  
7 limitations contained within the Cooperative Forestry As-  
8 sistance Act of 1978, any State or local government, In-  
9 dian tribe, land-grant college or university, or private enti-  
10 ty shall be eligible for funds under subsection (a).

11 (c) COST-SHARE REQUIREMENT.—In carrying out  
12 subsection (a), the Secretary shall not cover more than  
13 50 percent of the total cost of a project under such sub-  
14 section.

## 15 **Subtitle B—Amendments to Other** 16 **Laws**

### 17 **SEC. 8011. HEALTHY FOREST RESERVE PROGRAM.**

18 Section 508(2) of the Healthy Forests Restoration  
19 Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6578(2)) is amended by striking  
20 “2008” and inserting “2012”.

### 21 **SEC. 8012. EMERGENCY FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM.**

22 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Title IV of the Agricultural  
23 Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201–2205) is amended—

24 (1) by redesignating sections 404, 405, and 406  
25 as sections 405, 406, and 407, respectively; and

1           (2) by inserting after section 403 the following  
2           new section:

3   **“SEC. 404. EMERGENCY FOREST RESTORATION PROGRAM.**

4           “(a) AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary  
5 of Agriculture is authorized to provide financial and tech-  
6 nical assistance to an owner of non-industrial private for-  
7 est lands to assist with developing and implementing an  
8 approved plan in accordance with subsection (c)(2).

9           “(b) AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—

10           “(1) COST SHARE.—Payments under subsection  
11 (a) may not cover more than 75 percent of the total  
12 cost of measures implemented pursuant to an ap-  
13 proved plan in accordance with subsection (c)(2).

14           “(2) ANNUAL LIMIT.—An owner of non-indus-  
15 trial private forest lands may not receive more than  
16 \$50,000 per year under this section.

17           “(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for assistance  
18 under this section, a landowner must—

19           “(1) have suffered a loss of, or damage to, non-  
20 industrial private forest land due to events, including  
21 wildfires, hurricanes, drought, windstorms, insect  
22 and disease, ice storms, or invasive species, as deter-  
23 mined by the Secretary; and

24           “(2) develop a plan, in cooperation with the  
25 Secretary, and agree to implement the plan during

1 the 10-year period beginning on the date of the loss,  
2 that—

3 “(A) provides for reforestation, rehabilita-  
4 tion, and related measures for the non-indus-  
5 trial private forest land;

6 “(B) restores the land and related natural  
7 resources;

8 “(C) uses best management practices on  
9 the forest land, in accordance with the best  
10 management practices as determined by the  
11 Secretary; and

12 “(D) incorporates good stewardship and  
13 conservation practices on the land, while main-  
14 taining the land in a forested state.

15 “(d) NON-INDUSTRIAL PRIVATE FOREST LAND DE-  
16 FINED.—In this section, the term ‘non-industrial private  
17 forest land’ means rural lands, as determined by the Sec-  
18 retary, that—

19 “(1) have existing tree cover or are suitable for  
20 growing trees; and

21 “(2) are owned by any non-industrial private  
22 individual, group, association, corporation, Indian  
23 tribe, or other private legal entity so long as the in-  
24 dividual, group, association, corporation, tribe, or

1       entity has definitive decision-making authority over  
2       the lands.”.

3       (b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than one year after the  
4       date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agri-  
5       culture shall issue regulations to carry out section 404 of  
6       the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978, as added by sub-  
7       section (a).

8       **SEC. 8013. OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL FORESTRY.**

9       Section 2405(d) of the Global Climate Change Pre-  
10       vention Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6704(d)) is amended by  
11       striking “2007” and inserting “2012”.

12       **SEC. 8014. RURAL REVITALIZATION TECHNOLOGIES.**

13       Section 2371(d)(2) of the Food, Agriculture, Con-  
14       servation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 6601(d)(2))  
15       is amended by striking “2004 through 2008” and insert-  
16       ing “2008 through 2012”.

17                   **Subtitle C—Miscellaneous**  
18                   **Provisions**

19       **SEC. 8031. HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTION AGRICUL-**  
20                   **TURAL LAND NATIONAL RESOURCES LEAD-**  
21                   **ERSHIP PROGRAM.**

22       (a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Agri-  
23       culture may make grants, on a competitive basis, to His-  
24       panic-serving institutions for the purpose of establishing  
25       an undergraduate scholarship program to assist in the re-

1   cruitment, retention, and training of Hispanics and other  
2   under-represented groups in forestry and related fields.

3       (b) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Grants made under this  
4   section shall be used to recruit, retain, train, and develop  
5   professionals to work with Federal and State agencies,  
6   such as the Forest Service, to work in forestry and related  
7   fields.

8       (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
9   are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for  
10  each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 such sums as may  
11  be necessary to carry out this section.