



ADAM H. PUTNAM  
COMMISSIONER

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Florida Forest Service

**LONGLEAF PINE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION  
LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM APPLICATION**

Application / Agreement Contract No. \_\_\_\_\_

**LANDOWNER INFORMATION:** (please print)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last (or name of entity) First M.I.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ FFS Forester Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPERTY LOCATION:** County: \_\_\_\_\_ S-T-R: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Lat: \_\_\_\_\_ Long: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** In order to process your application and pay you under this agreement, the State of Florida - Department of Financial Services has advised us that a Taxpayer Identification Number is required. **Therefore, please complete a Federal W-9 (Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification) and return it with your application.** <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** (round all monetary values to nearest whole dollar)

**Fill in this section after practice is completed**

Check up to 4	Practice	Initial stand stocking	Final stocking target	Acres to be treated	No. of seedlings to purchase	Incentive Payment rate	Payment initially requested	Total acres treated	No. of seedlings purchased	Total cost incurred	Final payment requested
<input type="checkbox"/>	Invasive Exotic Treatment <sup>3</sup> Species Treated: _____		N/A		N/A	\$ /ac	\$		N/A	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timber Stand Improvement				N/A	\$ /ac	\$		N/A	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prescribed Burn		N/A		N/A	\$ /ac	\$		N/A	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Native Plant Understory Establishment <sup>3</sup>		N/A			\$ /ac	\$			\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mech. Underbrush: Mower type _____		N/A		N/A	\$ /ac	\$		N/A	\$	\$
<input type="checkbox"/>	Longleaf Seedlings: cont.____ bareroot ____	N/A		N/A		\$ /1000	\$	N/A		\$	\$
	Site Preparation				N/A	\$ /ac	\$		N/A	\$	\$
	Planting Method: machine____ hand____				N/A	\$ /ac	\$		N/A	\$	\$

**TOTALS** (payment requested not to exceed \$10,000) : \_\_\_\_\_ ac \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$

Predominant pine species: \_\_\_\_\_ Stand Age: \_\_\_\_\_ yrs Planned time of treatment (month/yr): \_\_\_\_\_

Other Specifications: \_\_\_\_\_

\***Attach to this application:** (1) a tract map that meets ALL specifications and requirements listed in the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration Landowner Incentive Program Technical Guidelines booklet Appendix 3, and (2) a completed federal W-9 form, and (3) a detailed plan if requesting native plant understory or invasive exotic treatments.

**INITIAL PROJECT APPROVAL:**

By signing this document I certify that I have read and agree to all program requirements and covenants listed on the back of this application.

**Participating Landowner:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check all that apply:**

- I have a current (prepared within the last 5 years) multi-resource forest management plan on file with a FFS County Forester.
- I do not have a current multi-resource forest management plan, but hereby commit to having a plan prepared or having my old plan updated.

**FFS Forester Approval:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Coordinator Approval:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Div. of Administration Approval:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**All practices must be completed by this date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Extended Completion Date (if granted):** \_\_\_\_\_

**FINAL PAYMENT APPROVAL:**

I hereby submit to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services my completed Recovery Act Questionnaire (DACS-11052) and my attached documentation of expenses incurred during the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration practice on my property in accordance with program requirements and the completion summary table above.

**Participating Landowner:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FFS Forester Approval:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*I certify that the practice has been completed according to program requirements, and that the information listed above is correct to the best of my knowledge.

**Program Coordinator Approval:** Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING USE ONLY**

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved for Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

## Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration Landowner Incentive Program Application

Please read the Technical Guidelines booklet for a full list and description of all program requirements and procedures.

The Guidelines are incorporated by reference and can be found at : [http://www.fl-FFS.com/forest\\_management/fm\\_pdfs/LLP\\_LIP\\_guidelines2011.pdf](http://www.fl-FFS.com/forest_management/fm_pdfs/LLP_LIP_guidelines2011.pdf)

### Summary of Eligibility and Program Requirements

1. Only non-industrial private forest (NIPF) landowners who own at least 10, but not more than 5000, acres of land in Florida are eligible. These may include private individuals or entities, joint owners, non-profit organizations, or corporations that are not wood-using industries and have no publicly traded stock.
2. This program is applicable only for properties located in the historic range of longleaf pine. A list of Florida counties can be found in the Technical Guidelines booklet.
3. Eligible landowners may apply to receive incentive payments for completion of approved Longleaf Pine Ecosystem restoration practices. Payment is made at a standard rate assigned for each practice and will not exceed \$10,000 per state fiscal year (July 1–June 30).
4. Only one application per landowner is allowed per state fiscal year. If an individual owns land (in full or in part) in the name of more than one legal landowning entity, application should be made on behalf of only one of those landowning entities per state fiscal year.
5. Practices assisted through this program must be conducted on a minimum of 10 contiguous acres in the state of Florida, all of which are owned in the name of the same landowning entity.
6. Each practice (with the exception of Longleaf Seedling Establishment) must be applied to an existing longleaf pine stand, defined for the purposes of this program as a forest stand (plantation or natural) in which Longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) constitute at least 50% of the stand's basal area or stem density.
7. Any practices performed before the landowner receives written application approval are not eligible for incentive payments.
8. Acreages enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), or other programs that may prohibit receipt of federal funds from more than one source for the same acreage, are not eligible for treatment under this incentive payment program.
9. Stands established or treated through this program must not be clearcut or intentionally destroyed for at least ten (10) years after completion of the restoration practice. The only exception to this requirement is for stands (or sections thereof) that must be harvested or salvaged due to a spreading bark beetle infestation, disease infection, wildfire, or other natural disaster. In such cases, the landowner must acquire an on-site authorization from a FFS forester prior to harvest. Failure to abide by this requirement will result in the recapture of incentive payments.
10. Practices must be conducted in a manner that avoids or greatly minimizes injury to the residual stand. The Florida FFS reserves the right to deduct areas with excessive ( $\geq 25\%$  of the stand) root injury, trunk injury, crown scorch ( $\geq 75\%$  of canopy) or tree mortality from the final payment acreage.
11. Submitting an application to the Florida Forest Service **does not** guarantee project approval for payment, even if the landowner meets all the given criteria. Eligible applications received during the sign-up period will be evaluated, scored and ranked using established criteria to determine which applications can be approved with the available grant funds. Tie scores will be ranked by random order. The FL FFS will make final approval recommendations.
12. Practice installation expenditures must be supported by accurate and legible documentation such as invoices, billing statements, etc.
13. Incentive payments are available only for authorized/eligible treatments, verified and certified complete by a FFS forester.
14. On a given application, a landowner may request incentive payment funds for up to four (4) of the available practice options described below.

### Summary of Approved Practices and Practice Requirements

1. **Invasive Exotic Plant Treatment.** Must be applied to control Invasive exotic plants (as described in the program technical guidelines) growing in a longleaf pine stand or site to be planted to longleaf under this incentive program. 1 acre minimum; 100 acre maximum.
2. **Timber Stand Improvement.** Must be applied to a Longleaf pine stand with an average basal area of at least 80 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre or 300 longleaf trees per acre. After treatment, the average basal area of the stand must be at least 60 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre but must not exceed 80 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre. A fixed, dollar-per-acre incentive will be paid to the landowner for implementation of this practice. 200 acre maximum.
3. **Prescribed Burning.** Must be applied in an existing Longleaf pine stand and in accordance with State Chapter 590, F.S. and/or F.A.C. 5I-2 and local laws, regulations, and burning restrictions. A burning authorization must be obtained from FFS. The practice must be conducted between Sept. 15 and May 15. 660 acre maximum.
4. **Native Plant Understory Establishment.** Landowners establishing or enhancing native understory vegetation in a longleaf pine stand may receive incentive payments for the cost of the seed or plants (containerized or bareroot) and the planting operation (machine or hand planting). A minimum of 400 live seedlings/acre must be living at the time of a survival check conducted by the FFS Forester in August-October following planting. Maximum overstory basal area of 50 ft<sup>2</sup> at time of planting. 33 acre maximum. See additional practice requirements in the Technical Guidelines booklet.
5. **Mechanical Underbrush Treatment.** Must be applied to an existing Longleaf pine stand with an average basal area of at least 30 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre. Competing underbrush and other woody vegetation must be reduced with 1) a Gyro-Trac, Posi-trac or equivalent mulching-head equipment, or 2) a bush hog, Brown Tree Cutter, or other brush mowing equipment. Injury to roots and stems of residual pines must be avoided/minimized. 200 acre maximum.
6. **Longleaf Seedling Establishment.** Landowners establishing a longleaf pine plantation on appropriate sites may receive incentive payments for the cost of seedlings (containerized or bareroot), site preparation, and the planting operation (machine or hand planting). Planting density must be at least 605 trees/acre. A minimum of 400 seedlings/acre must be living at the time of a survival check conducted by the FFS Forester in August-October following planting. 100 acre maximum. See additional practice requirements in the Technical Guidelines booklet.

**Note:** Only those expenses incurred for approved treatments listed on the application/agreement are eligible for incentive payments. If necessary, previously approved treatments may be altered on the application only if the total incentive payment amount does not exceed the original amount approved, and the landowner receives prior written approval from the Florida Forest Service Longleaf Program Coordinator, with consultation from the county forester.

### Summary of Landowner Application Procedure

1. Landowner obtains a copy of the Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Landowner Incentive Program Technical Guidelines, application form and a Federal W-9 form.
2. The landowner contacts the forester or natural resource professional of his/her choice to receive practice recommendations and/or assistance with completing the application form and a tract map (see Appendix 3 of Technical Guidelines booklet for tract map requirements).
3. The landowner requests a tract visit from a FFS forester, who verifies that the stand conditions meet the specific requirements for the proposed treatment and that the proposed practice is feasible. The landowner and FFS forester sign the application form under the section labeled "Initial Project Approval."
4. The landowner mails the signed application along with the attached W-9 form and the tract map to: **Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration LIP, c/o Conservation Programs Manager, Florida Forest Service, 3125 Conner Blvd I-273, Tallahassee, FL 32399-1650.**
5. Upon project approval, the program coordinator will keep a copy of the application and send duplicate originals to both the landowner and the FFS county forester to hold on file until final project completion.
6. After the landowner receives written approval and a copy of the signed application from the program coordinator, implementation of the practice may begin. The landowner is responsible for seeing that the approved practice is carried out according to the Project Description on the application form and all practice requirements. Practices must be completed by completion date indicated on the form.
7. Upon completion of the practice, the landowner contacts the FFS forester to schedule a performance check. The FFS forester revisits the property, brings the original application form, and verifies that the practice and target stocking level (if applicable) were achieved according to program requirements.
8. The landowner shows the FFS forester legible documentation (original receipts/invoices) of all practice costs incurred, with total costs clearly indicated.
9. Once satisfied with completion, the FFS forester verifies that the remaining items on the application form are filled out correctly (including total acres treated, total cost incurred, and final payment requested). The landowner and the FFS forester sign the form under the section labeled "Final Payment Approval."
10. Any change in treatment area(s) or practice(s) will require the FFS forester to submit a revised map clearly showing the area(s) by treatment accomplished.
11. The landowner mails the original application form, along with copies of all receipts and invoices, along with a completed Recovery Act Questionnaire (DACS-11052) to the program coordinator for processing (see address in item 4 above).
12. Upon submittal of proper documentation, incentive payments will be reimbursed to the legal owner of the land in accordance with Subsection 215.422 Florida Statute. The State of Florida performance and obligation to pay under this contract is contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature.

**Covenants:** By signing the reverse side of this application, I make the following certification and agreements in favor of the Florida Forest Service:

1. I certify that I am the legal owner of the land described on the reverse side of this application.
2. I agree to conduct the approved management practice on my property in accordance with the requirements above and in the Technical Guidelines, and by the completion date assigned.

3. I further certify that participation by me or on my behalf in the Florida Longleaf Ecosystem Restoration Landowner Incentive Program is not fraudulent or otherwise illegal, and that all expenditures submitted on my behalf for payment under this program are legitimate claims under the requirements of the program.