

Hazardous Fuels Transportation Assistance Program

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Who can apply?

- a. Any entity engaged in the transportation of hazardous fuels from, or adjacent to, national forests. All applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) with the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). This is the government-wide web-based system that supports all contracts, grants, and the electronic payment system. In order to expedite and streamline the grant process and distribution of payments, funding may be awarded to a Grant Administrator(s) who then oversee(s) and distribute(s) funding for the selected proposals and/or projects. The Forest Service will review and award grants and may engage with 3rd party administrator(s) to deliver the program. If an award is made directly from the Forest Service to an awardee, a full, active registration with SAM.gov is required.

2) What are the eligible projects and forest products?

- a. Eligible timber includes logs, roundwood, chips, biomass, and other byproducts from authorized existing Forest Service projects transported to facilities for use in manufacturing wood products and/or wood energy/services. Eligible timber shall be sourced using one or more of the following contract or agreement mechanisms:
 - Decked Wood Timber Sale Contracts FS-2400-2 and 6/6(T) when material is 100% post-harvest decked wood timber) – 100% eligible.
 - Any No-bid timber sale that is picked-up off the shelf will be evaluated on a project-by-project basis to determine if transportation is the limiting factor to economic viability. They will not automatically be approved by default. Forest Service policy does not require local units to sell no bid sales off the shelf to meet the objectives of this grant program.
 - Products from any Forest Service contract or agreement where haul is not a specific pay item may be considered.
 - Post-award SERVICE Contracts or agreements that contain “Included Timber” (mandatory removal) may be eligible to be modified to re-calculate or remove the haul pay item and thus be eligible if the applicant can demonstrate transportation of material renders the project not financially viable (e.g. Timber that is currently not being hauled due to unfavorable market conditions or hauled at a loss). Local and current market conditions will be considered.
 - Existing contracts or agreements may be eligible for grant funding when unforeseen **significant deviation** occurs between appraised delivery sites and available delivery sites post award.
 - Timber Subject to Agreement (TSA) and other material not listed for mandatory removal in standard timber sale contracts (FS-2400-6/6T, 3T, 3S, and 13/13T) is eligible.

- By-products from facilities generated from Hazardous Fuels Treatments from, or adjacent to, national forests.
- 3) Are projects not in Wildfire Crisis Strategy Landscapes or high risk fireheds eligible?
 - a. Yes, however, Wildfire Crisis Strategy Landscapes or high risk fireshed is a rating factor in selection.
 - 4) How is it determined that a project is eligible?
 - a. If there is a deficit haul making the project not economically viable.
 - b. There is no minimum haul time or distance, therefore the applicant must demonstrate in their application that haul costs are the limiting factor to project viability.
 - 5) How do I get paid?
 - a. Invoices must be submitted to the administrator, documenting all eligible expenses, including match. The administrator will reimburse applicants. The administrator may be a partner organization or the Forest Service.
 - 6) Can I use the Hazardous Fuels Transportation grant to make a profit?
 - a. No, 2 CFR 200.400 (g) states: The non-Federal entity may not earn or keep any profit resulting from Federal financial assistance, unless explicitly authorized by the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The Forest Service will NOT explicitly authorize profit for these grants.
 - 7) What are the reporting requirements?
 - a. Quarterly performance and financial reporting are required.
 - 8) What are the audit requirements?
 - a. Any grant recipient that expends \$750,000 or more of Federal funding within a fiscal year must have a Single Audit, as required by 2 CFR 200 part F.