

Technical Assistance Available Through the Amador Forest Health Assistance Program (FHAP)

The Amador Resource Conservation District (ARCD) is offering technical assistance to landowners in Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne Counties for Forest Health and Fuels Reduction

1. What kind of assistance can be obtained?

Through our Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) program funded through the Natural Resource Conservation Service, we can provide:

1. An initial site visit to assess forest health and fuels accumulation
2. Discussion of NRCS Forestry practices available
3. Property mapping
4. Identification of potential treatment areas

2. Is there a minimum or maximum size property for this assistance?

There is no minimum or maximum size of property we can provide technical assistance on, though we have often provided assistance to property owners who own or lease 2-200 acres.

3. Technical assistance is great, but is there funding available for actually treating my property?

This technical assistance component is a first step toward a funding opportunity in the future. This current RCPP contract, where technical assistance is offered through, runs out at the end of June 2023. Sometime later this year, a new RCPP contract with NRCS will be executed, and it will provide the chance for non-commercial forestland owners to apply for a cost-share program to treat dead vegetation, thin the existing forest stands, and numerous other valuable activities.

3. Do I have to have dead trees to qualify for this assistance?

No, as long as you show some incentive to move forward with an active forest management strategy on your property, we are happy to meet with you on your place and provide you guidance and knowledge.

4. How quickly can I have someone look at my property once I make a request?

We will try to visit with you on-site within 10 working days of your request. If you have blocked off times, let us know and we can usually work around them.

5. What if I have downed trees that were killed by drought, bark beetle, or fire?

This particular RCPP program focuses on giving assistance to smaller parcels who have tree mortality concerns in the Sierra Nevada mountains/foothills. Under this RCPP we are also allowed to propose activities within the 100-foot defensible space zone (DSZ) around homes and structures, unlike EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentive Program).

The ACT Forest Health Assistance Program

Central Sierra RCDs, the California Associations of RCD's and the NRCS have partnered together to provide technical assistance for landowners dealing with tree mortality and forest health issues.

Amador RCD has the ability to assist with the forest rehabilitation process on your land. Let's start the healing!

For more information or to request a site visit:

Contact Amador RCD, Natural Resource
Specialist Gordon Long

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Email: Gordon@AmadorRCD.org

www.AmadorRCD.org/foresthealth



6. Should we provide this information to our neighbors?

This is a non-competitive program, so there is no good reason not to let your neighbors or nearby friends know about it. We don't want anyone to think this program is only offered to certain people. We actually encourage underserved or disadvantaged landowners to reach out to us. Strategically speaking, if we can encourage nearby or adjacent landowners to reach out to us, future funding opportunities might be more attainable if we have "clusters" of landowners collaborating together.

7. What is the likelihood that this Technical Assistance Program will turn into a funded contract for me?

That is totally your decision. If you are committed to helping your ground recover from such natural occurrences like wildfire, prolonged drought, and bark beetle infestation, then we wholeheartedly want you to join forces with us. Even if you decide to apply for a NRCS contract that includes funding, you need to be aware that all NRCS contracts are a cost-share; you will be required to pitch in a significant amount of money into the project. Oftentimes the cost-share that the NRCS will pay is 50-70% of the total cost. It's not free, but it might make the difference of getting valuable work done, and other alternative which often includes crossing one's fingers and hoping for the best. If you want to take an active role in the management of your forested acres, we want to be your partner!



Before and After photos of two recent projects funded through NRCS.



The goal of this Technical Assistance Program would be to get your property into a funded NRCS contract so you will have a healthier forest with reduced fire risk.

