

Should You Apply to the Forest Health or the Fire Prevention Grant Program?

Both of CAL FIRE's Forest Health and Fire Prevention grant programs fund California Climate Investment projects with proceeds from the Cap-and-Trade Program.



While the two grant programs share the similar goals of protecting communities and forest resources from damaging wildfires and pest disturbances, they have different objectives. For example, an objective of the Fire Prevention Program is to prevent and stop wildfires, while an objective of the Forest Health Program is to reintroduce and expand fire in California's forestlands.

Therefore, while a project might fit into both programs, it will score differently in each of them and will likely be a more competitive and better fit for one over the other.

The purpose of this handout is to help determine which program is right for your project. In addition to this information, you may contact the appropriate grant program staff as listed on the CAL FIRE Grants Website: <http://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/grants>.

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Program	Locational focus	Treatment size	Target funding range
Forest Health	Mid- and upper-watersheds	1,000+ acres	\$1 million - \$10 million
Fire Prevention	Wildland-urban interface	Less than 1,000 acres	Less than \$1 million

Fire Prevention treatments are designed to prevent fires from starting and to create spaces for putting fires out. Strategies for achieving this objective include creating or maintaining fuel breaks or defensible space, reducing fuel loading around critical infrastructure, and implementing chipping programs. The Fire Prevention Program also supports education and planning activities.

Forest Health treatments are designed to reduce wildfire severity, enhance carbon storage, and increase the forest's resilience to disturbance. A resilient forest will be better able to absorb the impacts of a fire and return to a prosperous state following a fire. Strategies for achieving this objective include reducing fuels and removing pest-infested materials, introducing fire through prescribed fire activities, supporting research into resilient land management practices, and restoring damaged forests with reforestation. Biomass utilization also supports healthy forests and climate through market participation and waste diversion.

The Fire Prevention and Forest Health programs are part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities. The Cap-and-Trade Program also creates a financial incentive for industries to invest in clean technologies and develop innovative ways to reduce pollution. California Climate Investments projects include affordable housing, renewable energy, public transportation, zero-emission vehicles, environmental restoration, more sustainable agriculture, and recycling. At least 35 percent of these investments are located within and benefiting residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households across California. For more information, visit the California Climate Investments website: www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov.