

**Build Back Better Act — Rules Committee Print  
Section-By-Section**

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# **Build Back Better Act — Rules Committee Print Section-By-Section**

## **TITLE I — COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE**

### **SUBTITLE A — GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### *Section 10001. Definitions.*

This section defines the term “insular area” to have the same meaning as in section 1404 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977. The section also defines “Secretary” to mean “Secretary of Agriculture.”

### **SUBTITLE B — FORESTRY**

#### *Section 11001. National Forest System Restoration and Fuels Reduction Projects.*

Section 11001 appropriates \$10 billion for hazardous fuels reduction projects within the wildland-urban interface; \$4 billion for, on a determination by the Secretary that hazardous fuels within the wildland-urban interface have been planned to protect, to the extent practicable, at-risk communities, hazardous fuels reduction projects outside the wildland-urban interface; \$1 billion for vegetation management projects on National Forest System land that have submitted proposals in accordance with section 4003 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009; \$400 million for vegetation management projects on National Forest System land that have a water source management plan or a watershed protection and restoration action plan; and \$400 million for vegetation management projects on National Forest System land that (1) maintain old growth characteristics, (2) prioritize small diameter trees and prescribed fire to modify fire behavior, and (3) maximize the retention of large trees.

This section also appropriates \$450 million for the Legacy Roads and Trails program of the Forest Service; \$350 million for National Forest System land management planning and monitoring prioritized on specific goals; \$100 million for the maintenance of trails on National Forest System land, with a priority on trails that provide underserved communities access to such trails; \$100 million for capital maintenance and improvements on National Forest System land with a priority on maintenance level 3, 4, and 5 roads and improvements that restore ecological integrity and conditions for at-risk species; and \$100 million for the Chief of the Forest Service to conduct more efficient and effective environmental reviews to satisfy the obligations of the Chief of the Forest Service under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

This section also appropriates \$50 million to develop and carry out activities for the protection of older and mature forests on National Forest System land in addition to completing an inventory of such forests; \$50 million to develop and carry out activities for the maintenance and restoration of habitat conditions necessary for the protection and recovery of at-risk species on National Forest System land; \$50 million to carry out post-fire recovery plans that emphasize the use of locally adapted native plant materials to restore the ecological integrity of disturbed areas and do not include salvage logging; and \$50 million to develop and carry out non-lethal activities to reduce human-wildlife conflicts on National Forest System land.

Subsection (b) requires the Secretary to consider specific attributes of projects in certain paragraphs when prioritizing funding for these projects.

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Subsection (c) provides limitations for funding in this section.

Subsection (d) defines the term “at-risk community” to have the same meaning as in section 101 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003. The subsection defines “collaboratively developed,” with respect to projects located exclusively on National Forest System land, as a project developed and implemented through a collaborative process with specific requirements. The subsection defines “decommission,” with respect to a road, as (1) reestablishing native vegetation on the road; (2) restoring any natural drainage, water-shed function, or other ecological processes that were disrupted or adversely impacted by the road; and (3) effectively blocking the road to vehicular traffic. The subsection defines “ecological integrity” and “restoration” to have the same meaning as in section 219.19 of title 36, Code of Federal Regulations. The subsection defines “hazardous fuels reduction project” as an activity, including the use of prescribed fire, to protect structures and communities from wildfire that is carried out on National Forest System land. The subsection defines “vegetation management project” to mean specific activities carried out on National Forest System land to enhance ecological integrity and achieve the restoration of a forest ecosystem. The subsection defines “water source management plan” to mean a plan developed under section 303(d)(1) of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003. The subsection defines “watershed protection and restoration action plan” to mean a plan developed under section 304(a)(3) of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003. The subsection defines “wildland-urban interface” to have the same meaning given the term in section 101 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003.

Subsection (e) specifies that this section does not authorize funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation for activities under this section if Commodity Credit Corporation funds are not expressly authorized or currently used for such activities.

Subsection (f) requires that any partnership agreements using funds under this section be subject to a non-Federal cost-share requirement of not less than 20 percent of the project cost, which may be waived at the discretion of the Secretary.

### *Section 11002. Non-Federal Land Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction Projects and Research.*

Section 11002 appropriates \$2 billion to award grants to eligible entities to support forest restoration and resilience projects on non-Federal land; \$1 billion to award grants to eligible entities to implement community wildfire protection plans, purchase firefighting equipment, provide firefighter training, and increase the capacity for planning, coordinating, and monitoring projects on non-Federal land to protect at-risk communities; \$250 million to award grants to eligible entities for projects on non-Federal land to aid in the recovery and rehabilitation of burned areas; and \$175 million to award grants to eligible entities for projects on non-Federal land to expand equitable outdoor access and promote tourism on non-Federal forested land for members of underserved groups.

This section also appropriates \$150 million for the State Fire Assistance and Volunteer Fire Assistance programs established under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to be

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distributed at the discretion of the Secretary; and \$150 million for the implementation of State-wide forest resource strategies under section 2A of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.

This section also provides funding for competitive grant programs under section 13A of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 in the following amounts: \$250 million for a cost share to carry out climate mitigation or forest resilience practices in the case of underserved forest landowners; \$250 million for grants to support the participation of underserved forest landowners in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience; \$250 million for grants to support the participation of forest landowners who own less than 2,500 acres of forest land in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience; and \$500 million to provide grants to eligible entities to provide payments to owners of private forest land to provide measurable increases in carbon sequestration and storage beyond customary practices on comparable land, subject to specific conditions.

This section also provides funding for the forest inventory and analysis program established under section 3(e) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Research Act of 1978 in the following amounts: \$50 million for activities and tactics to accelerate and expand existing research efforts to improve forest carbon monitoring technologies to better predict changes in forest carbon due to climate change; \$100 million to carry out recommendations, from a panel of relevant experts convened by the Secretary, regarding the current priorities and future needs of the forest inventory and analysis program with respect to climate change, forest health, sustainable wood products, and increasing carbon storage in forests; and \$50 million to provide enhancements to the technology managed and used by the forest inventory and analysis program.

This section also provides funding for the research mission area of the Forest Service in the following amounts: \$50 million to accelerate and expand existing research efforts relating to strategies to increase carbon stocks on National Forest System land; and \$50 million to carry out greenhouse gas life cycle analyses of domestic wood products.

This section also appropriates \$775 million to provide grants under the wood innovation grant program under section 8643 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, including for the construction of new facilities that advance the purposes of the program, subject to conditions.

Subsection (b) allows the Secretary to use amounts made available under this section to carry out eligible projects on non-Federal land upon the request of the Governor of the State.

Subsection (c) requires that any partnership agreements using funds made available under this section be subject to a non-Federal cost-share requirement of not less than 20 percent of the overall project. This requirement may be waived at the discretion of the Secretary.

Subsection (d) specifies that this section does not authorize funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation for activities under this section if Commodity Credit Corporation funds are not expressly authorized or currently used for such activities.

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### *Section 11003. State and Private Forestry Conservation Programs.*

Section 11003 appropriates \$1.25 billion to provide competitive grants to States through the Forest Legacy Program established under section 7 of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to acquire land and interests in land, with priority for grant applications that (1) offer significant natural carbon sequestration benefits, or (2) contribute to the resilience of community infrastructure, local economies, or natural systems, or provide benefits to underserved populations; \$2.5 billion to provide multi-year, programmatic competitive grants to eligible entities through the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance program established under section 9(c) of the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 for tree planting and related activities to increase tree equity and community tree canopy and associated societal and climate co-benefits, with a priority for projects that benefit underserved populations; and \$100 million for the acquisition of urban and community forests through the Community Forest and Open Space Program of the Forest Service.

Subsection (b) allows for any non-Federal cost-share requirement otherwise applicable to projects carried out under this section to be waived at the discretion of the Secretary.

### *Section 11004. Limitation.*

Section 11004 provides a limitation that funds made available under this subtitle are subject to the condition that the Secretary shall not enter into any agreement that is for term extending past September 30, 2031, and under which any payment could be outlaid or funds disbursed after September 30, 2031, and shall not use any other funds to satisfy obligations initially made under this subtitle.

### *Section 11005. Appropriations.*

Section 11005 provides \$200 million to the Secretary for administrative costs of the agencies and offices of the Department of Agriculture for costs related to implementing this subtitle.

## **SUBTITLE C — RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURAL CREDIT AND OUTREACH**

### **PART 1 – RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

### *Section 12001. Additional Support for the USDA Rural Water Programs.*

Section 12001 provides \$97 million to the Secretary for the cost of grants for rural water and wastewater programs under sections 306, 306C, and 306D of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act in insular areas, persistent poverty counties, Tribal lands, and colonias.