



Feral Swine Eradication and Control Pilot Program FY26 Notice of Funding Opportunity

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the minimum and maximum amount that will be awarded?

A: The minimum amount that will be awarded is \$75,000. The expected duration of the pilot projects is 4 to 5 years and the application/proposal will need to include all budget needs for the pilot project duration. The maximum amount that will be awarded per pilot project is \$3,000,000.

Q: Can a potential partner be selected for more than one pilot project?

A: Yes. Partners may submit applications for multiple pilot projects and be selected for multiple awards. If there are three pilot projects in a state, a potential partner may submit an application and be selected for all three pilot projects.

Q: Can potential partners submit a single application for multiple pilot projects?

A: No. An application must be submitted for each pilot project a potential partner wishes to work on. All applications will be subject to the maximum award amount of \$3,000,000.

Q: Is a potential partner able to use the trade-in value of a currently owned piece of equipment as part of the non-federal cost-share?

A: Yes.

Q: For the 25% non-federal cost share required by the potential partner, who can commit funding and what can the funding consist of?

A: Of total project costs, 25% must come from non-federal sources and be committed at the time of application. The 25% cost-share must include cash match, but there is no minimum or maximum specified dollar amount for the cash match. Cost-share can also include in-kind contributions like equipment, volunteer hours, or staff time. The cost-share can be committed by the applicant, potential subawardees, or other entities wishing to assist with the proposed activities.

Q: Is the funding maximum \$3,000,000 per project, per partner, or per state?

A: The funding maximum is per project/application. Each pilot project an applicant/potential partner wishes to work on will require a separate application. If a state has 3 proposed pilot projects and the applicant wishes to work on all of them, they will need to submit an application for each project (for a total of 3 applications) and the maximum amount of funding per award/application is \$3 million. The funding maximum is for the project/award and is not limited by state or potential partner. A single partner may be selected for multiple projects/awards, so the total sum of all awards may exceed the single award funding maximum.

Q: If I'm located outside of the pilot areas, can I still apply or receive assistance?

A: Potential partners do not have to be located within the pilot areas, but must be able to work in the pilot areas. The current Notice of Funding Opportunity is searching for non-federal partners to provide landowner assistance for restoration and/or on-farm trapping efforts and provide related services as part of the pilot projects. When selected partners start work on the projects, then landowners can reach out to the partners for assistance.

Q: Can you clarify the restrictions on lethal removal?

A: The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funds cannot be used for lethal removal like ground shooting, euthanasia, aerial gunning, or any form of hunting. NRCS funds cannot be used for dispatching an animal or the equipment necessary to do so. Dispatching of a pig can be included in the cost-share portion of the project. All state and local laws and regulations must be followed. These restrictions only pertain to the NRCS and partner portion of the project and do not limit what the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service may choose to do.

Q: Are drone accessories or supporting activities/equipment excluded?

A: Yes. At this time and based on the policy as it is currently known, drones and any drone pieces/accessories (like batteries) cannot be purchased using NRCS funds.

Q: Can NRCS funds be used for equipment like vehicles or ATVs?

A: Yes. NRCS funds can be used for things like vehicles, ATVs, or restoration equipment. For items that may be able to be rented, a cost analysis may be necessary to show that purchasing over renting is a better financial option.