



USDA CLIMATE SMART PROJECT APPLICATION (AMRO-1200)

Applicant (Decision Maker): _____

Application Date: _____

Telephone: _____

Receive text messages (optional): Yes No

Contact Address: _____

Email: _____

Location Address where assistance is requested: _____

Assistance Requested: _____

1. Do you have a customer record with the Farm Service Agency (FSA)?

Yes No. If no, you must establish one with the appropriate FSA office before applying.

2. Interested in participating in the following (select all that apply):

- USDA Climate Smart Commodities
- Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

a) Program enrollment type, activity type, and/or project name, as applicable:

3. Applicant Information:

Select the business structure and enter the legal name and tax identification number for all applicants who will be participants on the contract or agreement including the decision maker.

Business Structure (Mark with an X)		Applicant Legal Name	Tax Number (last 4 digits)
Individual	Entity		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

a) If applicant is a legal entity or joint operation, do you have appropriate documents including proof to sign for the entity or joint operation?

Yes No N/A



b) Complete the table below for all applicants who meet the requirements for one or more of the historically underserved categories. Refer to the instructions at end of document to learn more about the requirements. If none, leave blank. (optional)

Applicant Legal Name	Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher	Beginning Farmer or Rancher	Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher	Veteran Farmer or Rancher	Small Farm Producer	Specialty Crop Producer
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Land Information. The following questions apply to the land being offered for enrollment through this application.

a) Land Type (check all that apply):

- Private Land
- Public Land: Federal Government State Government Local Government
- Indian Land: Allotted Tribal Trust Land Tribal Non-Trust Land Other

b) Control of Land Documentation (check all that apply):

- Deed or other evidence of land ownership
- Written lease agreement
- Other agreement or legal conveyance (describe):

c) Is the land currently enrolled in other USDA conservation program(s)?

- Yes No **Which program(s):**

d) Organic Certification:

- Certified Organic by the National Organic Program (NOP)
- Transitioning to become Certified Organic by the NOP
- Exempt from Organic Certification as defined by the NOP
- Not Applicable



e) What is the primary crop type(s)?

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f) What is the primary livestock type(s)?

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The applicant agrees not to start any financially assisted conservation practice or activity or engage the reimbursable services of a certified technical service provider before an obligating document is executed by AMRO Forestry. The applicant understands that if they start a conservation practice or activity prior to AMRO Forestry executing an obligation the applicant will be ineligible to receive payment for the conservation practice or activity. The applicant may request a waiver to begin a conservation practice or activity early by submitting their written request to the applicable AMRO Forestry Personnel. Applicants must provide AMRO Forestry with written authorization from the landowner to install structural or vegetative practices on leased land included in this application.

The applicant acknowledges that they have or will file all other required eligibility information including highly erodible land conservation/wetland conservation certifications, and member information for entities and joint operations with the FSA, as applicable, prior to AMRO Forestry approving an agreement based on this application.

The applicant may obtain a copy of the applicable conservation program contract appendix, which defines the full terms and conditions of program participation at the AMRO Forestry office.

Applicant Signature	Date

Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher – The term “Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher” means a participant:

- With direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous two years, and
- Who has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of county median household income in each of the previous two years.

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify. A Self-Determination Tool is available to the public and may be completed on-line or printed and completed hardcopy at: <http://www.lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/>



Beginning Farmer or Rancher– The term “Beginning Farmer or Rancher” means a participant who:

- Has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years. This requirement applies to all members of a legal entity, and who
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch.

In the case of a contract with an individual, individually or with the immediate family, material and substantial participation requires that the individual provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm or ranch, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the farm is located.

In the case of a contract made with a legal entity, all members must materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. Material and substantial participation requires that the members provide some amount of the management, or labor and management necessary for day-to-day activities, such that if the members did not provide these inputs, operation of the farm or ranch would be seriously impaired.

Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher- The term “Socially Disadvantaged” means an individual or entity who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. For an entity, at least 50 percent ownership in the farm business must be held by socially disadvantaged individuals. A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.

These groups consist of the following:

- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Asians
- Blacks or African Americans
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders
- Hispanics
- Women farmers/owners

Veteran Farmer or Rancher- The term “Veteran Farmer or Rancher” means a farmer or rancher who:

- Served in the active military, naval, or air service, and
- Who was discharged or released from the service under conditions other than dishonorable, and
- Who has not operated a farm or ranch; or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years.

A legal entity or joint operation can be a Veteran Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify.

Small Farm Producer- The term “Small Farm Producer” means a farmer or rancher who operates a small farm – generally those with less than \$350,000 in annual gross cash farm income.

Specialty Crop Producer - The term “Specialty Crop Producer” means a farmer or rancher who grows fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture).

Eligible plants must be cultivated or managed and used by people for food, medicinal purposes, and/or aesthetic gratification to be considered specialty crops. Additional information is available in these links:

https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/USDA_Specialty_Crop_Definition.pdf

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/R/R44719/5>