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Production
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SUBJECT: Re-opening of Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) for
Damages Related to Hurricane Michael

Hurricane Michael occurred on October 10, 2018. The storm traveled Northeast, affecting the majority of the Florida Panhandle, Georgia, eastern Alabama, and North Carolina. EFRP implementation was approved in several counties for all 4 states.

EFRP is administered by Farm Service Agency (FSA) and provides payments to eligible owners of nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) land in order to carry out emergency measures to restore land damaged by a natural disaster.

To be eligible for EFRP, NIPF land must:

- Have existing tree cover (or had tree cover immediately before the natural disaster occurred and is suitable for growing trees); and
- Be owned by any nonindustrial private individual, group, association, corporation, or other private legal entity.

EFRP is performance based therefore payments are not issued until the practice is completed and the TSP or FSA has certified the practice as complete and within standards and specifications for EFRP. A producer may also certify to the completion of practices according to current policy in 1-EFRP.

DAFP is now authorizing the re-opening of EFRP for damages related to Hurricane Michael and this memorandum serves as approval to implement EFRP following details apply:

- 60-day signup starting January 19, 2021 and ending March 11, 2021
- An onsite waiver is required for damages now being claimed from the 2018 storm
- The Programmatic 850 signed on 11/6/2018 and Phase 2 (GA) signed on 12/14/2018 will apply to the current signup.

Normal implementation, approval, and certification and payment rules will apply according to Handbook 1-EFRP. If questions arise, please contact ECP/EFRP Program Manager, Shanita Landon.