

C-SIP

What is the C-SIP?

The Climate Stewardship Incentive Program (C-SIP) is a branch of the Healey Administration *Forests as Climate Solutions Initiative* providing financial encouragement to private forest landowners and municipalities to carry out stewardship practices focused on soil protection, carbon retention and increasing forest adaptive capacity when pursuing forest management activities.

Application Process Overview

Contact your private consulting forester. If you need to find one, use our [Licensed Forester Directory](#).

With the assistance of a private consulting forester, think about and outline your wood's needs and priorities.

Download a [C-SIP application](#) from the [DCR Service Forestry website](#).

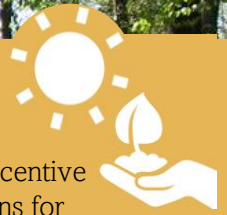
Fill out required and relevant sections in the C-SIP application.

Submit your application to DCR Service Forestry.

Objectives

The objective of the Climate Stewardship Incentive Program (C-SIP) is to center climate concerns for resilience and carbon storage while encouraging long-term stewardship and management of non-industrial private and municipal forestlands for sound economic, environmental, and social benefits.

This cost-share opportunity was developed to assist family forest landowners, municipalities, and natural resource professionals with the costs of addressing impacts on forests, forest carbon, and the rural economy from climate change.



Eligibility

Land

- Forest land with an approved or submitted Long-term Forest Cutting Plan (greater than 1 acre).
- Or an applicant with Forestland that intends to submit a Long-term Forest Cutting Plan designated as "Long-Term" within 20 days of C-SIP Application submission to DCR.

Applicant

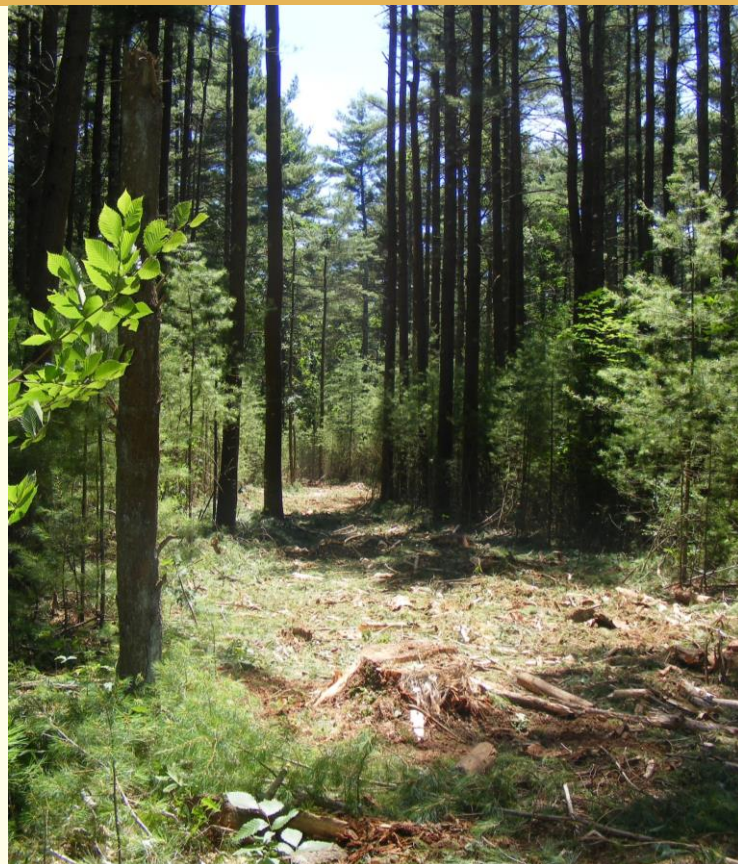
- Any individual, municipality, or Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that owns in-fee forest land in MA.
- MA Licensed Timber Harvester with an approved or submitted Long-term Forest Cutting Plan for C-SIP 5.
- MA Licensed Timber Harvester intending to submit a Long-term Forest Cutting Plan within 20 days of C-SIP Application submission to DCR for C-SIP 5.

C-SIP

Climate Stewardship Incentive Practices

Practices

There are a total of five practices, some of which may have more than one component. Landowners may apply for all practices that would benefit their land and its climate-oriented goals.



C-SIP 1 Harvest Layout

Proper design and layout of skid roads in the harvesting area prioritizes the protection of soils, especially wetland soils which can store over 300 tons of carbon per acre. Soil compaction, mixing and erosion can lead to soil carbon loss.



C-SIP 2 Legacy Tree Retention

Biologically old and very large trees are uncommon in our landscape. Their preservation retains carbon, increases stand complexity and provides refuge to plant and animal species that are slow to colonize new areas.

C-SIP 3 Tree Marking for Increasing Future Adapted Species and Structural Diversity

Marking allows specific trees to remain standing during a timber harvest to increase forest health, vigor, and regeneration. This practice is done in a way that supports increased structural diversity within the harvested stand.

C-SIP 4 Invasive Plant Control

A changing climate allows invasive plant species to thrive and spread. Reducing their population increases the health, vigor, and diversity of desirable, native plant populations. This in turn increases the health and resilience of forests.



C-SIP 5 Climate Smart BMP for Forest Operators

Shifts in seasonal temperatures and precipitation patterns lead to unpredictable harvesting conditions. Heavy rain coupled with large equipment in a forest increases the chance of erosion, flooding, and sedimentation in water sources. Best Management Practices for erosion control are proven techniques used to minimize the effect of timber harvests on water and soil quality.

Contact DCR Service Forestry



Find your district's Service Forester
www.mass.gov/info-details/service-forestry



Sara Wisner
Program Analyst
DCR.Forestry@mass.gov
(857) 408-4154