



The Forest Emergency Recovery & Research Act

INCREASES PEER REVIEWED SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

The Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act would increase the amount of peer reviewed scientific research conducted and made available to the public, federal land managers, and policy makers, ensuring that post catastrophic federal forest recovery projects are based on peer reviewed science.

Partnerships (Title I, Section 101):

- Federal land management agencies would be required to enter into cooperative agreements with land-grant colleges and universities to conduct research on catastrophic events on federal forests.
- Federal agencies would be required to form forest health partnerships with land-grant colleges and universities, including regional institutions, utilizing the education, research, and outreach capacity of universities to address the recovery of forested land after a catastrophic event.
- These forest research partnerships may be aligned with the current network of Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Units (CESU), an extensive coalition of 12 federal agencies, 160 universities and 39 partner institutions (state, tribal, non-governmental organization) linked together to provide research, technical assistance and education in support of federal land management and environmental research.

Research Protocols (Title I, Section 101):

- The Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act calls for the establishment of research conduct protocols for all catastrophic event research projects to collect and analyze scientific data on the effectiveness and ecological impacts of catastrophic event recovery projects and emergency treatments.
- Research protocols must be designed to improve knowledge, understanding, and predictive capabilities. They must include an experimental design or sampling procedures and methods of data analysis and interpretation.
- The research protocols and any modification would be subject to peer review and must be available to the public.