

PL 115-334 Agricultural Improvement Act of 2018 (Became law 12/20/2018)

SEC. 2408. FERAL SWINE ERADICATION AND CONTROL PILOT PROGRAM.

- (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish a feral swine eradication and control pilot program to respond to the threat feral swine pose to agriculture, native ecosystems, and human and animal health.
- (b) **DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.**—In carrying out the pilot program, the Secretary shall—
 - (1) study and assess the nature and extent of damage to the pilot areas caused by feral swine;
 - (2) develop methods to eradicate or control feral swine in the pilot areas;
 - (3) develop methods to restore damage caused by feral swine; and
 - (4) provide financial assistance to agricultural producers in pilot areas.
- (c) **ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary may provide financial assistance to agricultural producers under the pilot program to implement methods to—
 - (1) eradicate or control feral swine in the pilot areas; and
 - (2) restore damage caused by feral swine.
- (d) **COORDINATION.**—The Secretary shall ensure that the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service coordinate for purposes of this section through State technical committees established under section 1261(a) of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3861(a)).
- (e) **PILOT AREAS.**—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program in areas of States in which feral swine have been identified as a threat to agriculture, native ecosystems, or human or animal health, as determined by the Secretary.
- (f) **COST SHARING.**—
 - (1) **FEDERAL SHARE.**—The Federal share of the costs of activities under the pilot program may not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of such activities.
 - (2) **IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.**—The non-Federal share of the costs of activities under the pilot program may be provided in the form of in-kind contributions of materials or services.
- (g) **FUNDING.**—
 - (1) **MANDATORY FUNDING.**—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section \$75,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2019 through 2023.
 - (2) **DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS.**—Of the funds made available under paragraph (1)—
 - (A) 50 percent shall be allocated to the Natural Resources Conservation Service to carry out the pilot program, including the provision of financial assistance to producers for on-farm trapping and technology related to capturing and confining feral swine; and

(B) 50 percent shall be allocated to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to carry out the pilot program, including the use of established, and testing of innovative, population reduction methods.

(3) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 10 percent of funds made available under this section may be used for administrative expenses of the pilot program.