



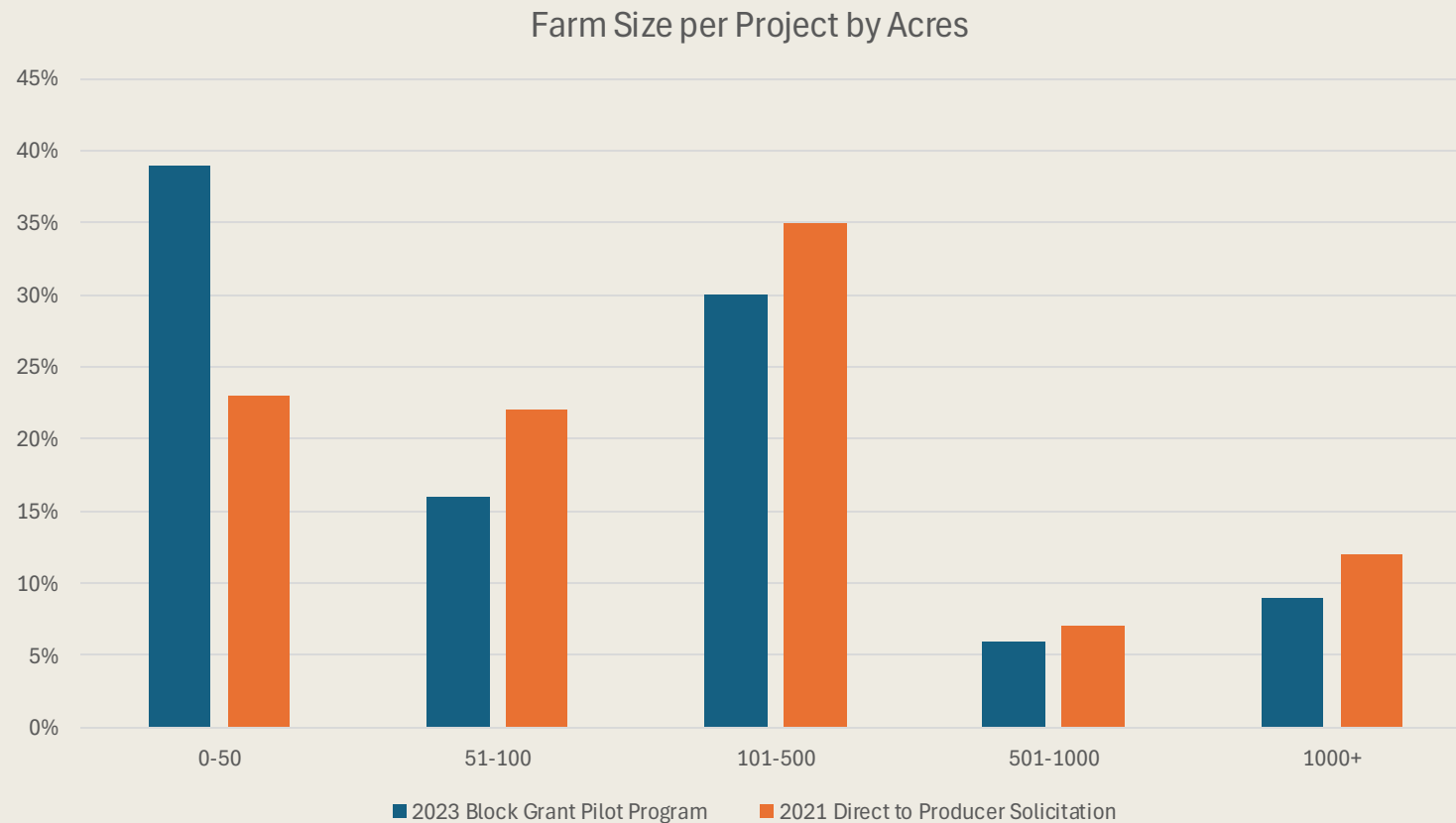
HSP 2023 Block Grant Pilot and 2021-22 Solicitation Data Analysis

2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation

Quick Facts

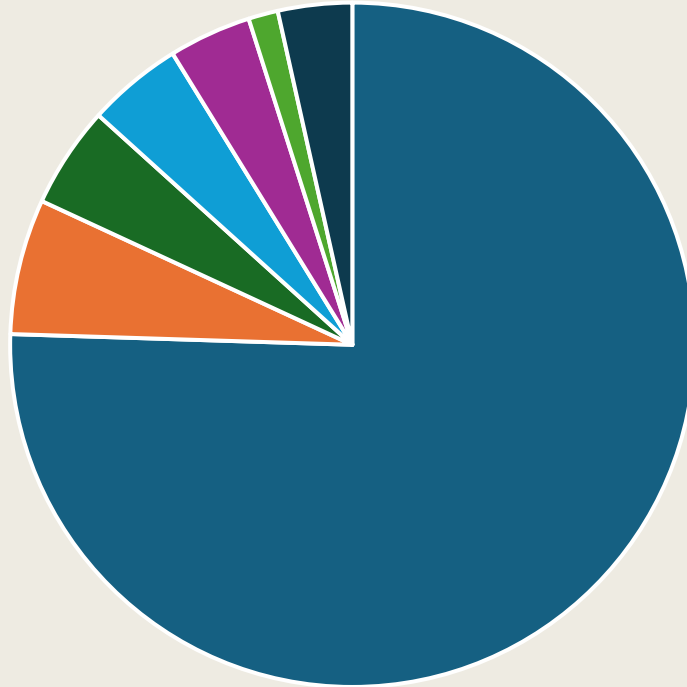
	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation
Projects Awarded	640	940
Total Appropriation	\$70 M	\$75 M
Amount Approved for On-Farm Projects	\$49,698,084	\$66,311,545
SDFR Projects	251	288
Total SDFR Funds	\$18,742,603	\$18,080,359
% of total Funds going to SDFR Projects	38%	27%
On-farm Project Cap	\$200,000	\$100,000
Avg On-farm Project Cost	\$77,653	\$70,544

Self-reported Farm Size Distribution

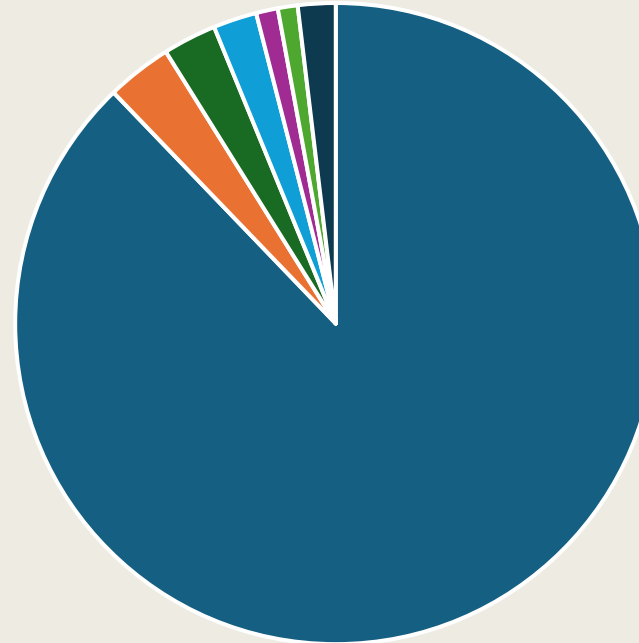


2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation Funding by Practice

2023 Block Grant Pilot Program



2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation



■ Compost (mostly Purchased) ■ Cover Cropping ■ Mulching ■ Hedgerow Planting ■ Range Planting ■ Whole Orchard Recycling ■ Other

2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation Funding by Practice

Practice	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation
Compost (mostly Purchased)	75.5%	87.9%
Cover Cropping	6.4%	3.3%
Mulching	4.8%	2.7%
Hedgerow Planting	4.5%	2.2%
Range Planting	3.9%	1.1%
Whole Orchard Recycling	1.4%	1.0%
Other	3.5%	1.5%

2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation GHG Mitigation

	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation
Total Physical Project Acreage Awarded	47,853	82,433
Total Funds Per Acre to Farmer	\$1,039	\$771
Total GHG Mitigation (mt CO2-eq) including 10-year woody plantings	421,383	767,532
Average Project GHG Mitigation (mt CO2-eq)	658	817
Total GHG Mitigation (mt CO2-eq) per Acre	8.8	9.3

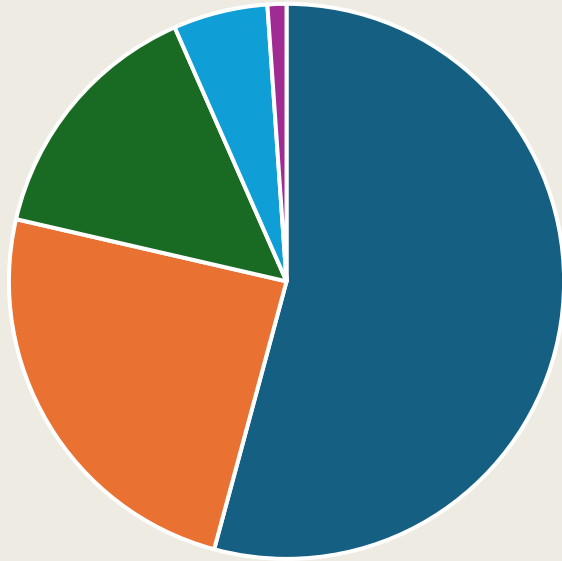
2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation SDFR Analysis

	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation
Number of SDFR Projects	251	288
% of total Funds going to SDFR Projects	38%	27%
Total Amount Awarded to SDFRs	\$18.7 million	\$18.1 million
SDFR Breakdown (some awardees have multiple ethnicities)		
African American	12	8
Asian American	150	212
Hispanic	68	57
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2	1
Native American	22	13

2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation

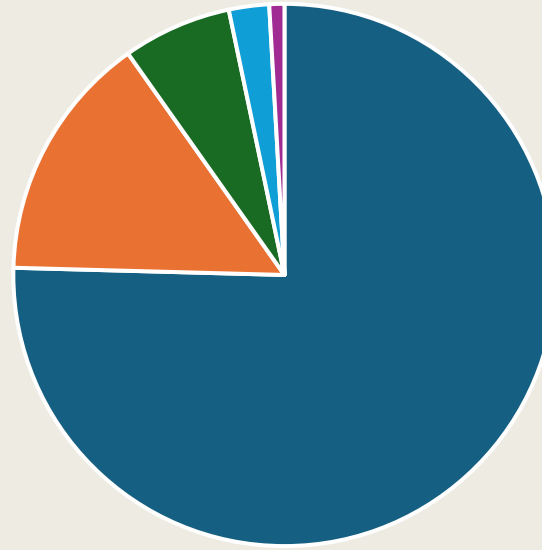
Number of Practices per Project

2023 Block Grant Pilot Program



1 2 3 4 5 or more

2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation



1 2 3 4 5 or more

2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation

Number of Practices per Project

Practice Quantity	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation
1	54.2%	75.5%
2	24.4%	14.8%
3	14.8%	6.5%
4	5.5%	2.4%
5 or more	1.1%	0.9%

2023 BGP vs 2022 Solicitation

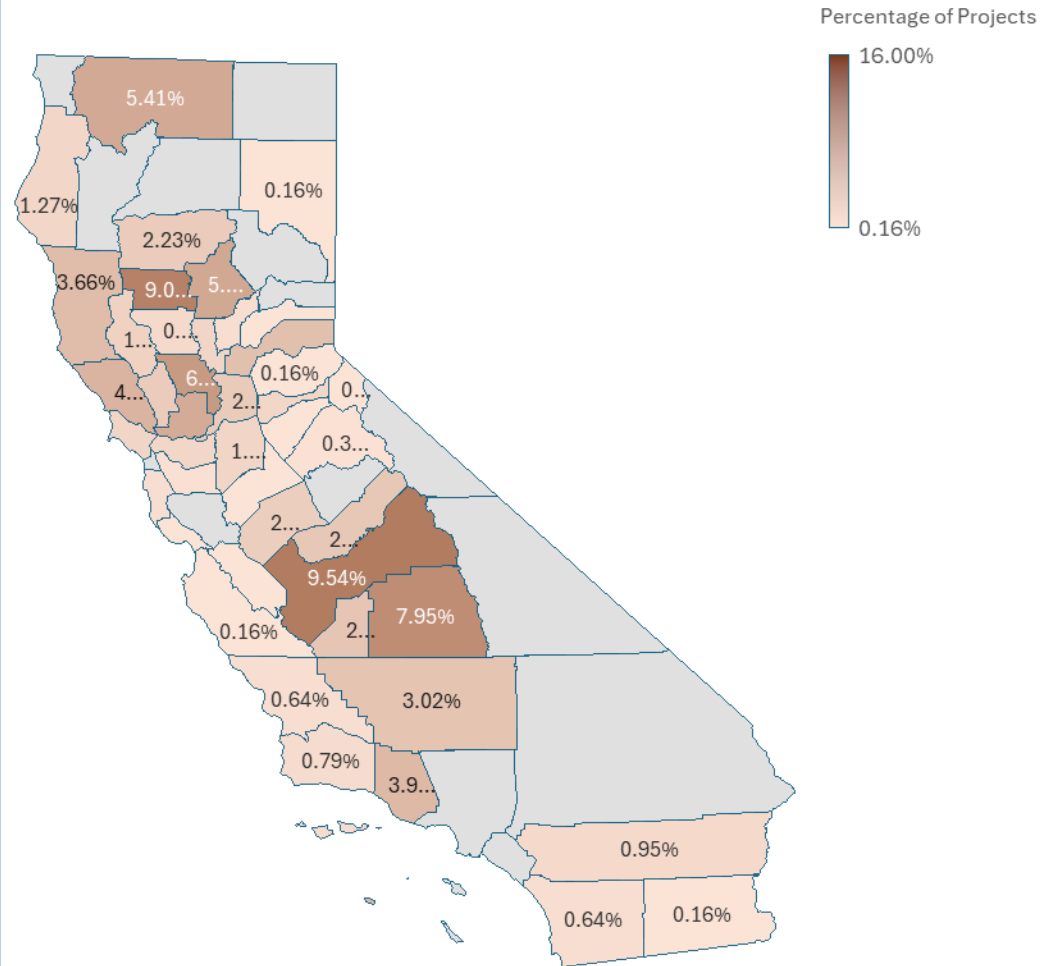
Agricultural System Proportions by Project

System Included	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2022 Direct to Producer Solicitation
<i>(some projects include multiple systems)</i>		
Cropland	16.9%	23.1%
Orchard and Vineyard	71.6%	70.9%
Rangeland	11.6%	10.9%

2023 BGP vs 2022 Solicitation

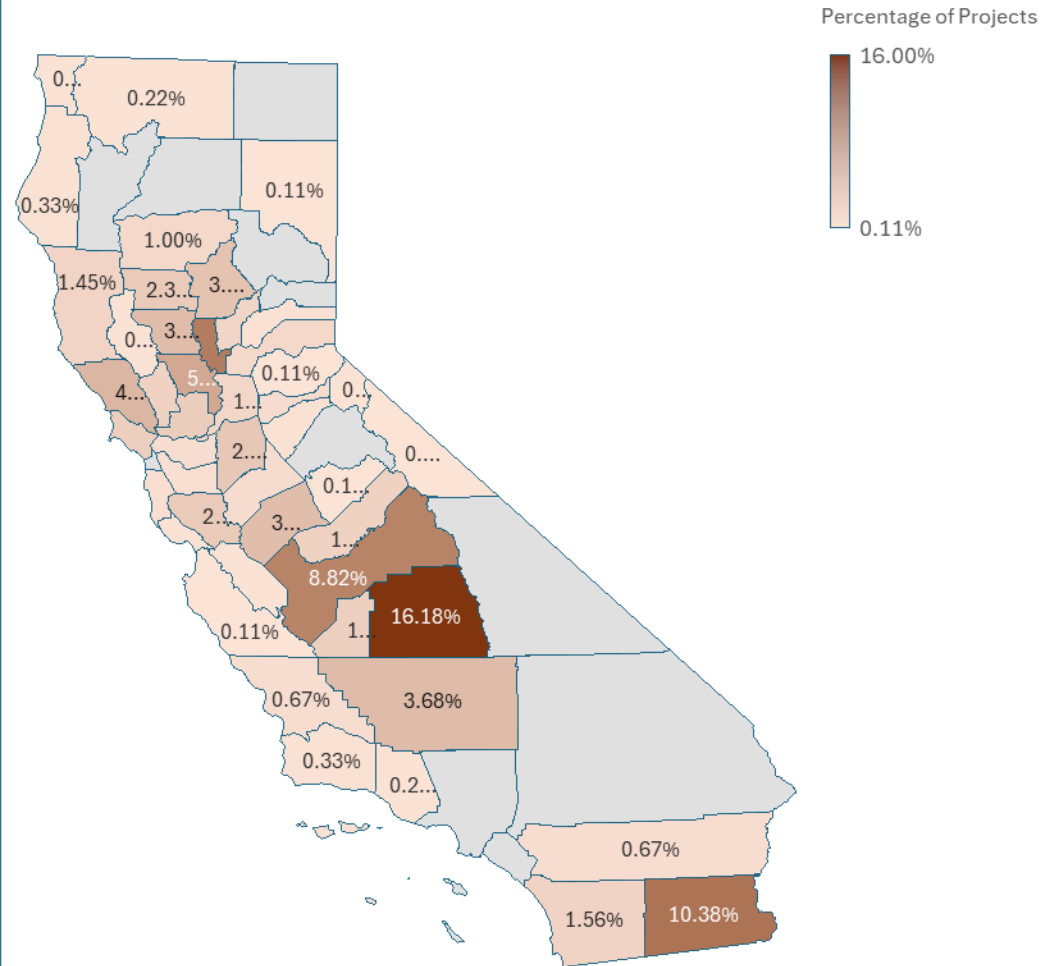
Geographic Distribution

HSP Block Grant Pilot Project Distribution



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HSP 2022 Direct Awards Project Distribution



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Analysis: Project Characteristics

- **Geographic distribution:** Geographic reach was similar, but the BGP had a more even distribution of projects, despite the tendency of some BGRs to award higher-value on-farm projects – which were fewer in number. Future funding should consider geographic distribution in Southern California and within areas of the San Joaquin Valley.
- **Practice Number:** Although more than half of projects in the BGP still had one practice, the BGP made large gains across the board in multi-practice projects.
- **Practice Diversity:** BGP results are more diverse. 14% of the money that would have been spent on compost in the pattern of the 2022 solicitation was spent on other practices, mainly planting and mulching.
- **System served:** Orchards and Vineyards continue to dominate the Program's acreage. The BGP reached less annual cropland than the Direct Solicitation. This should be assessed before execution of the next block grant funds.
- **GHG Mitigation:** BGP had lower benefits per dollar, mainly because of lower allocations to compost, and greater allocations to mulch and range planting.



Analysis: Equity

- **SDFRs:** A larger proportion of total funding went to SDFRs in the BGP than in the 2022 solicitation (38% vs. 27%). (Note the 2021-22 application period was extended in part to meet SDFR awarding goals). Most group sizes were too small to make significant statements, but:
 - Hispanics made proportional gains from 6% to 11% of total awardees, and from 20% to 27% of SDFRs awarded.
 - Asian Americans held steady at 23% of total awardees, despite a proportional loss as “share of SDFRs” from 74% to 60%.
- **Farm size:**
 - <50 acre farms increased from 23% to 39% of projects.
 - <500 acre farms increased from 80% to 85% of projects.
 - Slight decrease in largest farms (>1,000 acres) from 12% to 9% of projects.
- **Project Cost:**
 - Small projects (costing <\$50,000) increased from 28% to 42% of number of projects with the BGP.



Future Funding Notes

- 11/14 of awarded BGRs received Admin and TA funding near the allowed limits (15%/5%).
- Geographical distribution must be addressed over multiple funding rounds.
- There is a tension between seeking wide spatial distribution of projects in block grants vs. the value of having Technical Assistance Providers relatively close to on-farm projects.
- Priorities for SDFRs in Prop. 4 may have knock-on effects on continuing to emphasize smaller farms, but this is not an assured outcome.
- A per-practice cap of \$75,000 (being 50% of a proposed overall project cap of \$150,000) would likely promote more multi-practice projects in the next round.
- Compost continues to consume a very high fraction of HSP funding despite the simultaneous support from SB 1383 programs and associated procurement legislation, which should continue to increase affordable compost supplies. The proposed 50% per-practice cap should bring more balance. Bulk buying or direct-invoicing payments by BGRs may also bring more balance, but that is uncertain.
- Rangeland planting increased almost 4x as a percentage of support, thanks to certain block grant organizations that supported highly-funded projects with large acreages. However, the percentage of projects including rangelands barely increased. HSP is simplifying the guidance for this practice and assessing the other rangeland practices for similar opportunities.
- Annual croplands are falling behind in HSP support. The reasons should be assessed and considered when evaluating the next round of block grant proposals.



2023 BGP vs 2021 Solicitation

Per-Project Farm Size

% of Projects	2023 Block Grant Pilot Program	2021 Direct to Producer Solicitation
Total Farm Size 0-50	39%	23%
Total Farm Size 51-100	16%	22%
Total Farm Size 101-500	30%	35%
Total Farm Size 501-1000	6%	7%
Total Farm Size 1000+	9%	12%
Project Cost Distribution 0-50K	42%	28%
Project Cost Distribution 50-100K	33%	72%
Project Cost Distribution 100-150K	9%	N/A
Project Cost Distribution 150-200K	16%	N/A

Project Cost Distribution

