



Farmer- and Rancher-Led Climate Change Solutions Stakeholder Meetings

Perennial Crops Session 1

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Governor Newsom Launches Innovative Strategies to Use California Land to Fight Climate Change, Conserve Biodiversity and Boost Climate Resilience

Published: Oct 07, 2020

“The state’s natural and working lands sustain our economy, support our unique biodiversity and contribute to the global food supply.”

“California relies on 100 million acres of land for food, water and habitat, and feeds the nation and world through its agricultural activities.”

“The \$50 billion California agriculture industry produces over 400 commodities, including over a third of the nation’s vegetables and two-thirds of the nation’s fruits and nuts.”



EXECUTIVE ORDER N-82-20

2. To support the global effort to combat the biodiversity and climate crises, it is the goal of the State to conserve at least 30 percent of California's land and coastal waters by 2030. The California Natural Resources Agency and other relevant state agencies, in consultation with the Collaborative, are directed to develop and report strategies to the Governor no later than February 1, 2022 to achieve this goal in a manner that:
 - a. Safeguards our State's economic sustainability and food security.
4. To advance efforts to conserve biodiversity, the California Department of Food and Agriculture is directed to take the following actions with existing authority and resources:
 - a. Coordinate with other relevant state agencies and private partners to reinvigorate populations of pollinator insects across the State, which restore biodiversity and improve agricultural production.
 - b. Implement strategic efforts to protect California's native plants and animals from invasive species and pests that threaten biodiversity and economic activities.
 - c. Enhance soil health and biodiversity through the Healthy Soils Initiative.

CA.GOV

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Programs Services Meetings Laws/R

Proposed budget for 2021-'22 – highlights for CDFA

Posted on January 8, 2021 by Office of Public Affairs

For CDFA, Governor Newsom's proposed budget represents an important step in facilitating economic recovery after the tumult of 2020. And of course, we're still facing those challenges, but we're also leaning forward to embrace what's ahead.

Like all business and life in California, the agricultural sector suffered disruptions and lost markets but rapidly pivoted to protect workers, divert food without markets to food banks and other charities, and find innovative ways to meet new local market opportunities. Agriculture has an essential role to play in our economic recovery as well as the health and well-being of Californians.

This budget includes strategic investments to support California's agriculture industry as it addresses continued challenges and rapid innovation while also advancing the state's climate resilience objectives.

Climate Smart Agriculture

Building on California's leadership in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting communities and the environment from climate impacts, the Budget includes investments to support the agriculture industry in its advancement of Climate Smart Agriculture.

Healthy Soils Program—\$30 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the Department of Food and Agriculture to provide grants for on-farm soil management practices that sequester carbon.

<https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/10.07.2020-EO-N-82-20-.pdf>

<https://plantingseedsblog.cdfa.ca.gov/wordpress/?p=22319>



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8. The California Department of Food and Agriculture shall work with agricultural stakeholders to identify farmer- and rancher-led solutions to inform the next Scoping Plan process.



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Top Climate-related Highlights for CDFA

Engagement Opportunities On Farmer- And Rancher-Led Climate-Change Solutions

The CDFA will hold stakeholder meetings in February to solicit feedback from the public and agricultural stakeholders on climate-change solutions that sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gases and enhance biodiversity.

The meetings will be organized around three agricultural categories: livestock and dairy; row and field crops (annual crops); and trees and vines (perennial crops). For each agricultural category CDFA will host two meetings of approximately two hours each. The first meeting will include an introductory presentation followed by an opportunity for stakeholder input. The second meeting will allow further discussion and capture additional feedback. Those interested in attending are invited to register via the following links:

- Livestock and Dairy Meeting #1, February 8 at 2 p.m.: <https://csus.zoom.us/j/8456789012>
- Livestock and Dairy Meeting #2, February 12 at 9 a.m.: <https://csus.zoom.us/j/9012345678>
- Annual Crops Meeting #1, February 16 at 2 p.m.: <https://csus.zoom.us/j/1234567890>

News Release

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE


Media Contacts: Steve Lyle (CDFA), 916-654-0462, officeofpublicaffairs@cdfa.ca.gov



CDFA ANNOUNCES STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES ON FARMER- AND RANCHER-LED CLIMATE- CHANGE SOLUTIONS



Release #21-009

 Print This Release

Español

SACRAMENTO, January 28, 2021 – The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), per the Governor's Executive Order N-82-20, will be holding stakeholder meetings in February to solicit feedback from the public and agricultural stakeholders on farmer-and rancher-led climate solutions that sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gases and enhance biodiversity.

"These outreach meetings are essential to ensure we gain information and knowledge from the people who live and work on the land and the organizations that support them," said CDFA Secretary Karen Ross. "We want to hear from all those interested in discussing farmer- and rancher-led efforts to help ensure climate resilience, greenhouse gas mitigation, biodiversity and food security."

The meetings will be organized around three agricultural categories: livestock and dairy; row and field crops (annual crops); and trees and vines (perennial crops). The resulting report will be made available for a 30-day Public Comment period, after which the information will be used to inform CDFA and other state agencies about farmer- and rancher-led climate solutions. The collected information will also inform the next update of the California AB 32 and SB 32 Scoping Plan, and ongoing and future work of the Natural Working Lands Climate Smart strategy.



Next

WHO?



We are at Toluma Farms and we also have a creamery. We make goat and sheep cheeses here



California Dairy Farmer
Dominic Assali



I'm a third-generation farmer. My grandparents started the dairy.



and our grandchildren of course will hopefully be the next generation



We all have pollinators to thank for so much of what's going on



Dairy Farmer
Paula De Snayer

Dairymen really care so much about the environment because this is where we live.



As our resources are dwindling, such as water, and energy prices going up



Jill Klein
Matthiasson
Family Vineyards

You have plants along the ditch to filter water.

HOW?

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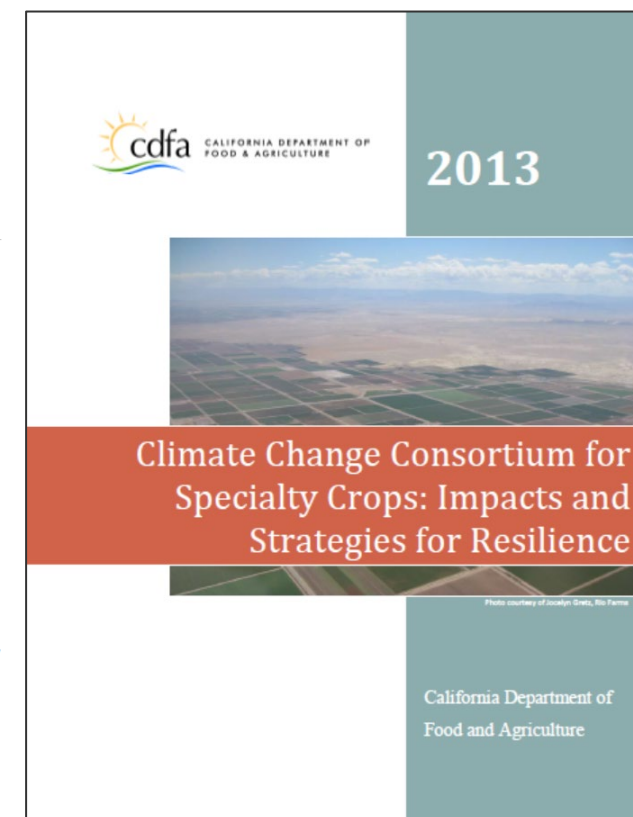
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Climate Change Consortium for Specialty Crops

Climate Change Consortium – Statewide Effort (2012-2013)

In the summer of 2012 CDFA announced the formation of the Climate Change Consortium for Specialty Crops to identify solutions for climate change impacts to California's valuable specialty crop industry. The Consortium was comprised of 21 people including growers from the top ten specialty crops; agricultural association representatives and stakeholders; researchers from the University of California and California State University systems; an agricultural commissioner; a certified crop advisor/ pest control advisor; and a member of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts. The Consortium members met for four two-day meetings over the course of six months. At each meeting the Consortium heard from various researchers working on the interface of agriculture and climate change. The Consortium was asked to assume that climate change is occurring and to make recommendations to CDFA drawing on their own backgrounds and expertise. [The final report](#) summarizes the potential impacts of climate change to California's specialty crop industry and outlines the recommendations of the Consortium.

- ▶ [Final Report – Climate Change Consortium for Specialty Crops: Impacts and Strategies for Resilience](#)
- ▶ [Outreach Presentation on the Impacts of Climate Change on California's Specialty Crops](#)
- ▶ [Acknowledgements](#)
- ▶ [Summary of Recommendations](#)
- ▶ [Summary of CDFA's Response to the Climate Change Consortium's Recommendations](#) – October 2016



HOW?

Climate Change Scoping Plan

<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/ab-32-climate-change-scoping-plan>

The 2017 Scoping Plan identifies how the State can reach our 2030 climate target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent from 1990 levels, and substantially advance toward our 2050 climate goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels.

CDFA Incentive Programs



Climate Change Research Plan (4th Climate Assessment Research)

<https://www.climateassessment.ca.gov/about/>

California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment (Fourth Assessment) advances actionable science that serves the growing needs of state and local-level decision-makers from a variety of sectors.

State Adaptation Strategy


<https://www.slc.ca.gov/sea-level-rise/safeguarding-california-plan-2018-update/>

The 2018 Update to the Safeguarding California Plan is a roadmap showing how California's state government is taking action to respond to climate change.

Recommendation	Key Partners	Level of Priority	Timeframe	Potential Cost to CDFA
<p>Improve Growers' Ability to Adapt to Climate Change</p> <p>CDFA should support USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in a review and/or creation of policies to improve growers' ability to adapt to climate change. These policies should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote new technologies for climate change relevant to water, soil, and pest management; Incentivize grower adoption of technologies and practices for improved water management, which includes use of: water meters, soil moisture sensors, on-farm water storage, and groundwater recharge where possible; Suggest ways to scale best management practices (BMPs) to all sizes of farms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Ag Associations & Commodity Groups Growers Resource Conservation Districts UC ANR Cooperative Extension Irrigation districts California Department of Water Resources (DWR) 	Secondary	Medium	Low

Used feedback to inform;

- AB 32 Scoping Plan update (Climate change mitigation focused)
- Safeguarding California Report (Climate change adaptation focused)
 - 4th Assessment for Climate Change (Research)
- Budget change proposals
 - Development of incentive programs using California Climate Investment Funds (Greenhouse gas reduction fund)

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SWEEP;

- Promotes new technologies
- Incentivizes grower adoption of technologies and practices for improved water management
- Scales conservation management practices to all sizes of farms



SWEEP provides financial assistance in the form of grants to implement irrigation systems that reduce greenhouse gases and save water on California agricultural operations

Total awarded = \$87.5 million

Number of projects funded = 828

Total number of acres covered = 134,000

Total match to date = \$50.1 million

Total GHG reductions = 80,000 MTCO₂e/year

Total Water Reductions = 115,000 Acre feet/year

Projects are CDFA verified

3-year reporting on GHG and water savings post project implementation



First Climate Smart Agriculture incentive program set up by CDFA (2014)

Incentive programs allow growers to try one or more of 27 management practices that they may have or have not done before or implemented in parts of their agricultural operation to sequester carbon

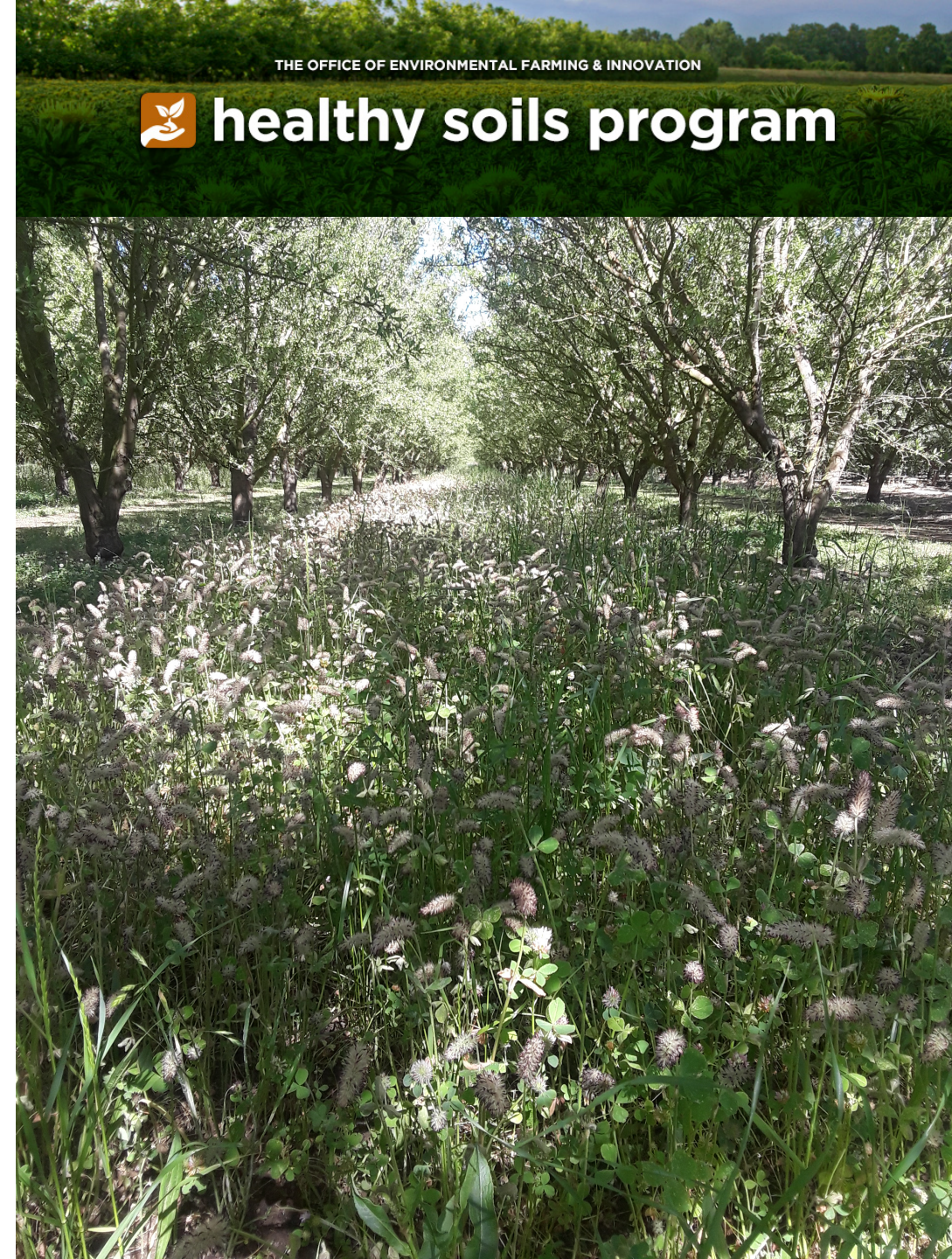
<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/IncentivesProgram.html>

First in nation to tie soil management practices with GHG reductions in soils (Comet-Planner)

Contributes to climate change adaptation, GHG mitigation and agricultural sustainability

Also funds Demonstration Projects to further advance HSP adoption

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/DemonstrationProjects.html>



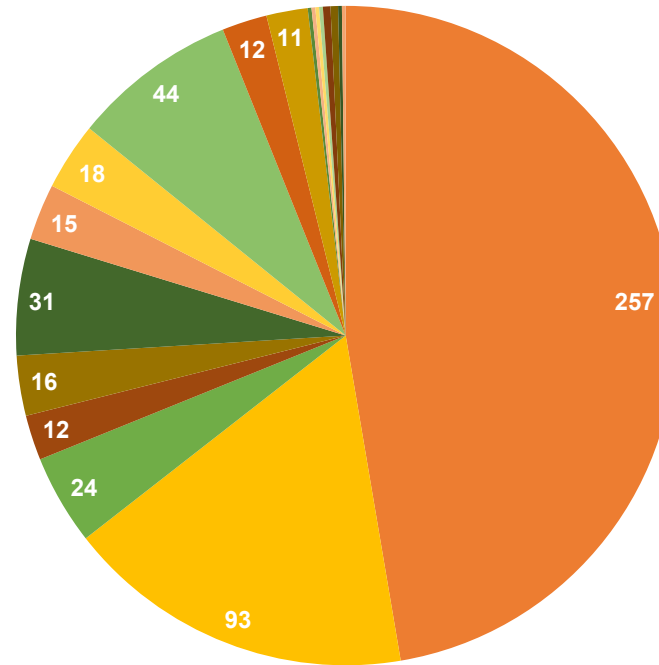


\$48 million total to date
580 Incentive Projects (\$100,000 cap)
66 Demonstration Projects (\$100,000 to \$250,000 cap)
54,000 acres from Incentive Projects
~105,900 MTCO₂e/year reduction from Incentive Projects
Uses GGRF (revenues from Cap-and-Trade Program) and Bond funding
Quantified using COMET-Planner tool

2020 HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM (HSP) INCENTIVES PROGRAM – PROJECTS SELECTED FOR AWARDS

Most Frequently Requested Practices by Number of Projects (Total ~319 projects)

Note: Majority of projects proposed multiple practices.



- Compost Application
- Nutrient Management
- Whole Orchard Recycling
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment
- Silvopasture
- Forage and Biomass Planting
- Prescribed Grazing

- Cover Crop
- Conservation Cover
- Reduced Till
- Range Planting
- Riparian Forest Buffer
- Tree Shrub Establishment

- No-Till
- Hedgerow Planting
- Mulching
- Multi-story Cropping
- Riparian Herbaceous Buffer
- Grassed Waterway



technical assistance

Technical assistance in the form of hands-on application assistance to farmers and ranchers is critical to the success of CDFA's Climate Smart Agriculture programs.

State investment to further advance adoption of climate smart practices.

	AMMP	HSP	Total
Individuals Assisted	41	1,125	1,166
Applications Submitted	23	324	347
SDFR Individuals Assisted	11	166	177
Farming < 500 Acres Assisted	20	723	743
Non-English Speakers	0	107	107
Provided Computer Access	12	68	80
Priority Population Individuals	13	235	248

- 33 Organizations
- Assistance provided in English, Spanish, Chinese, Hmong, Portuguese
- Total Invoiced: \$728,592
- Total Awarded: \$2,139,360 for 3 years



Developing research-based solutions to water-related challenges

Home

- About the Institute
- Programs
 - Climate Smart Agriculture
 - Programs
 - Technical Assistance Providers**
 - News

Technical Assistance Providers

UC ANR/CDFA Climate Smart Agriculture Partnership Contacts

To learn more about climate-smart agriculture in your area, or if you need assistance with the CDFA incentive programs, please contact your nearest specialist:

County	Contact	Email	Phone
Sonoma	Lindsey	ljasperse@ucdavis.edu	



The SALC Program protects at-risk agricultural lands from sprawl development in order to promote growth within existing jurisdictions, ensure open space remains available, and support a healthy agricultural economy. SALC is one of the many California Investments programs. For more information about these investments, visit:

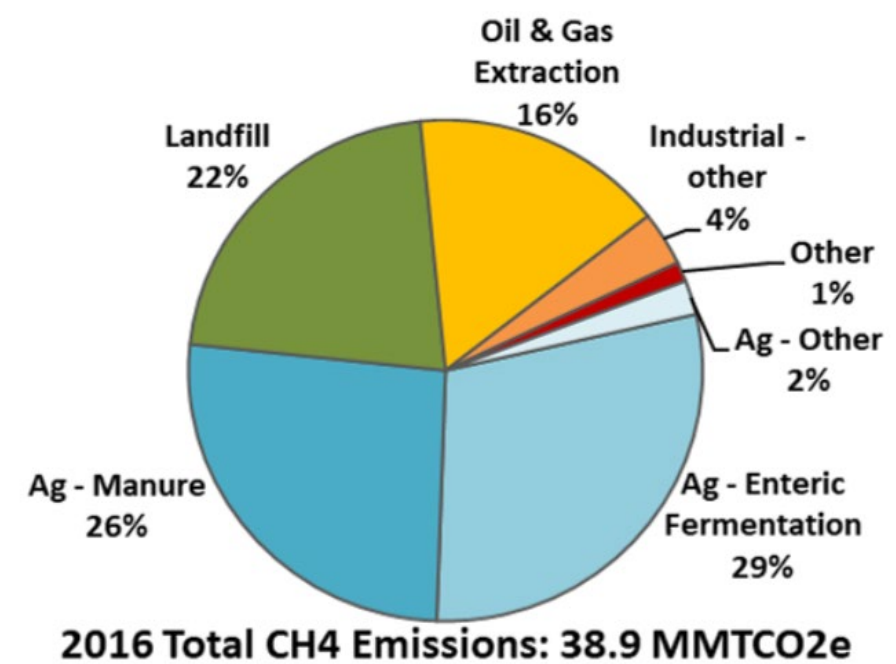
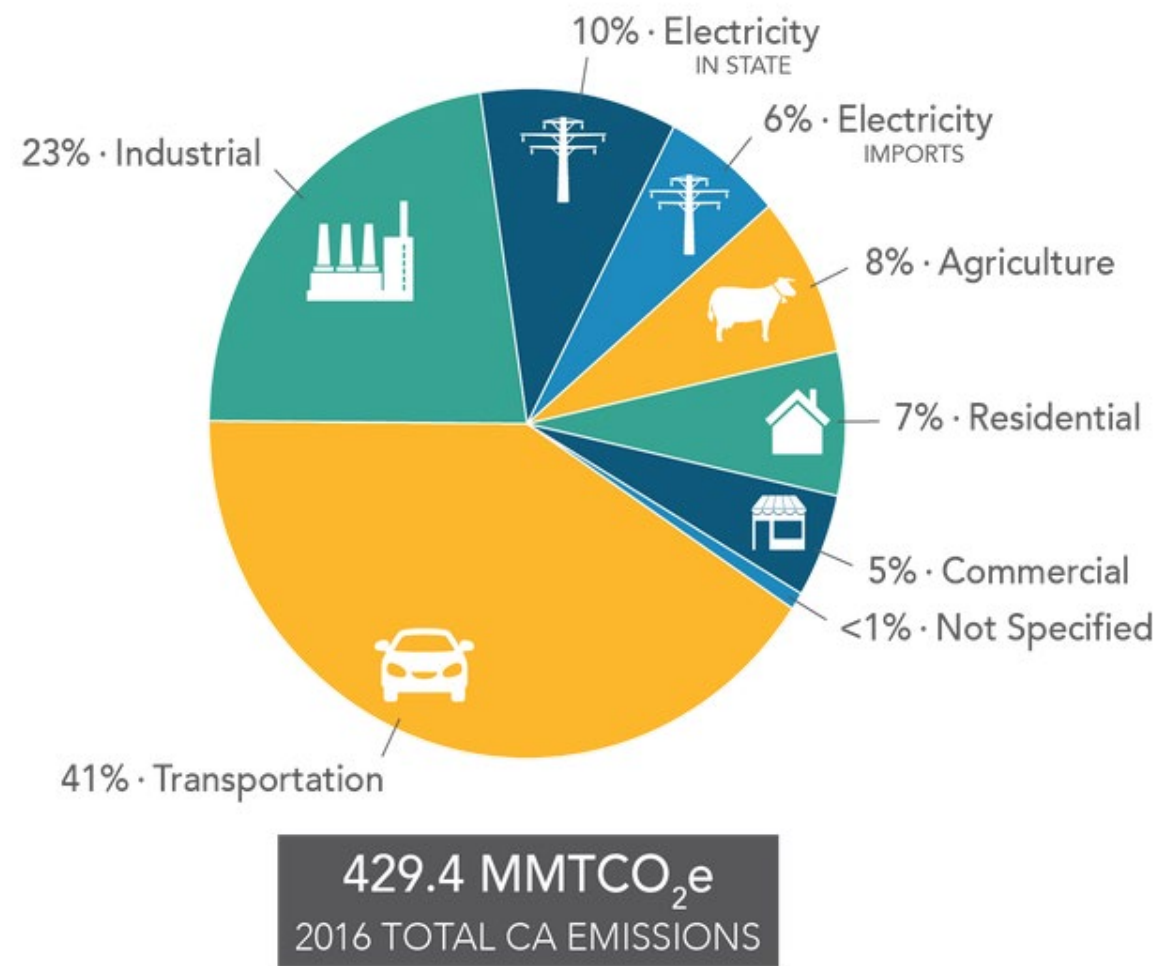
caclimatenvestments.ca.gov



DDRDP and AMMP work to achieve 2030 and 2050 GHG reduction goals set by Governor(s)

80% reduction below 1990 levels by 2050 (2006)

40% reduction below 1990 levels by 2030 (2015)





EXECUTIVE ORDER N-82-20



8. The California Department of Food and Agriculture shall work with agricultural stakeholders to identify farmer- and rancher-led solutions to inform the next Scoping Plan process.

Discussion should also include food processors, renewable energy and engine replacement and understanding biggest barriers to wider adoption of climate solutions (e.g., risk; economic benefits, shortage of labor, technical assistance)



Thank you for your time and look forward to your feedback and comments