HEALTHY SOILS – INCENTIVES PROGRAM

DRAFT Request for Grant Applications

Release date: To Be Determined (TBD)

Application due date: 5:00 pm PT on TBD

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation

California Department of Food and Agriculture

1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

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Major Changes to the 2023 HS Incentives Program RGA

The 2023 Request for Grant Applications for the Healthy Soils (HS) Incentives Program includes several programmatic updates, as indicated below.

Program Requirements

- Increase in project award cap from $100,000 to $200,000 (Funding).
- If leasing land, applicants must provide written approval from the landowner. If the lease term is shorter than the grant term, lessees should provide a written statement from the landowner that lease renewal will be discussed in good faith. Applicants must lease, own, or otherwise control the fields where project activities are proposed to occur for the entirety of the project duration. CDFA will provide a Landowner Agreement Template for applicant use (Implementation Requirements).

Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older (Grant Recipient Eligibility).
- Previous HSP Grant Recipients are not eligible to implement the same practice on the same field funded previously. A new landowner may be eligible to implement the same practice on the same field previously funded to the old landowner, however, a CDFA provided Attestation Form must be submitted at application (Eligibility and Exclusions).

Practice Eligibility

- Woodchip mulching has been changed from an annual practice to a one-time implemented practice. Please see practice implementation requirements in Appendix A for more details.
- The following Whole Orchard Recycling requirement has been removed to allow for flexibility in cropping systems post WOR: "Following woodchip incorporation, land must be fallowed or replanted with trees within 3 years." (Practice Implementation Requirements).
- Clarification added on multiple types of certifications allowed for purchased compost (see under Practice Implementation Requirements).

Application and Review Processes

- Conservation Plans will no longer be included as part of the application.
- Technical review will no longer be part of the review process.
- Scoring criteria will change from numeric scale to "Pass/ Fail".
- Applications will be reviewed and awarded in the following order of priority: 1) SDFRs applicants, or projects that are in a Priority Population location and provides co-benefits, 2) first-time HSP applicants, 3) multiple

practices proposed, and 4) all other applications. Details on this can be found under Review and Notification.

About the Program

Background and Purpose

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is pleased to announce funding availability for the Healthy Soils (HS) Incentives Program. The funds will be awarded on a rolling basis until the end of the solicitation period, or until available funds are expended, whichever is earlier.

The HS Incentives Program is a part of the Healthy Soils Program (HSP), which stems from the California Healthy Soils Initiative, a collaboration of state agencies and departments that promotes the development of healthy soils on California's farmlands and ranchlands.

The objectives of the HSP are to increase statewide implementation of conservation management practices that improve soil health, sequester carbon and reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs) by (1) providing financial incentives to California growers and ranchers to implement agricultural management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs and improve soil health, (2) funding on-farm demonstration projects that conduct research and/or showcase conservation management practices that mitigate GHG emissions and improve soil health, and (3) creating a platform promoting widespread adoption of conservation management practices throughout the state. The HS Incentives Program addresses objective 1, similar to the HS Block Grant Pilot Program, while objectives 2 and 3 are addressed in the HS Demonstration Program.

Funding and Duration

CDFA was appropriated $70 million from the California State Budget, authorized by the Budget Act of 2022 (SB 154). CDFA will make available approximately $32 million for the Incentives Program.

- The grant term is three years.
- The maximum award is $200,000.
- All activities must occur within the grant term. Costs incurred outside of the grant term will not be reimbursed.
- CDFA reserves the right to offer an award amount different than the amount requested.
- Cost share

- Using matching funds or in-kind contributions during the grant term is encouraged but not required.
- Awarded funds may be combined with other funds as cost share for the same overall project, such as funds from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). However, HSP funds cannot cover the activities or costs funded by other federal or state grant programs.
- Awards made through the HS Incentives Program cannot be used as cost share for any other awards made through the HS Demonstration Program, the HS Incentives Program, or the HS Block Grant Pilot Program.

Grant Recipient and Project Eligibility

The HS Incentives program is designed to incentivize California farmers and ranchers to implement conservation management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs, improve soil health, and provide co-benefits. The program's primary goal is to promote long-term and widespread adoption of these practices throughout the state.

Grant Recipient eligibility requirements:

- California farmers, ranchers, business entities, and California Native American Tribes are eligible to apply.
- Nonprofit organizations as agriculture operations are eligible to apply.
- Grant Recipients must be at least 18 years old.
- Cannabis cultivation operations are not eligible to apply.
- Hemp cultivation operations are eligible to apply.

Project eligibility requirements:

- Projects must be located on agricultural operations in California. For the purposes of this program, an agricultural operation is defined as row, vineyard, field and tree crops, commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, and greenhouse operations producing food crops or flowers as defined in Food and Agricultural Code section 77911.
- Grant funds cannot be used for projects that use potted plants and plant growth media other than soil.
- Grant funds cannot be used for research and product development activities.

- All entities receiving grant funds must have a physical California business address.
- Awards are limited to one per agricultural operation using a unique tax identification number per round of funding.
- Each project can request up to $200,000. The payment rate for each practice must not exceed amounts listed in Appendix A.

Executive Order N-6-22 – Russia Sanctions

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order (EO) N-6-22 regarding Economic Sanctions against Russia and Russian entities and individuals. "Economic Sanctions" refers to sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine, as well as any sanctions imposed under state law. By submitting a bid, proposal, or application, Bidder/Applicant represents that it is not a target of Economic Sanctions. Should the State determine Bidder/Applicant is a target of Economic Sanctions or is conducting prohibited transactions with sanctioned individuals or entities, that shall be grounds for rejection of the Bidder's/Applicant's bid/proposal/application any time prior to contract/agreement execution, or, if determined after contract/agreement execution, shall be grounds for termination by the State.

Program Requirements and Guidance

This section describes the program requirements that must be met for on-farm projects. Project designs must be completed using the CDFA HSP RePlan Tool. Approval of an on-farm project for grant funding does not imply that the project complies with all local, State, and Federal regulations. The Grant Recipient shall be responsible for observing and complying with all applicable local, State, and Federal laws and regulations.

Eligibility and Exclusions

Eligibility:

- Projects must implement at least one of the practices listed under Eligible Agricultural Management Practices.
- Multiple practices may be included within the same APN (except for Non-Overlapping Practices), and multiple APNs within the same agricultural operation may be included in the project.

Exclusions:

- Previous HSP Grant Recipients are not eligible to implement the same practice on the same field funded previously. A new landowner may be eligible to implement the same practice on the same field previously funded to the old landowner, however, a CDFA provided Attestation Form must be submitted at application.
- Practices cannot be moved to different APNs during the grant term.
- University and research farms, and city community gardens are not eligible for funding through this program. These entities may apply for the Healthy Soils Demonstration Program.
- HSP Incentives Program funds cannot be used to implement practices that are not listed under Eligible Agricultural Management Practices in this grant solicitation. All requirements for practice implementation must be followed whenever applicable.
- **Compost Application** and **Whole Orchard Recycling:** These practices may not be implemented on APNs where soil organic matter content is greater than 20 percent by dry weight in top 20 cm (or 8 inch) depth.
- Practices may not be implemented on lands or crop types that are not suitable based on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Practice Standards (CPS) or the 2023 NRCS California Scenarios.

Implementation Requirements

- Practices must be implemented on the same total acreage throughout the grant term unless a project modification is approved and processed by CDFA.
- Projects must result in net GHG benefits (i.e., net reductions of GHG emissions) from eligible agricultural management practices (See Technical Specifications for Estimation of GHG Benefits).
- Applicants must use the CDFA HSP Re-Plan Tool to develop their project design, work plan, budget, and estimation of GHG emissions reduction.
- Specific fields where agricultural management practice(s) will be implemented should be named by Field (e.g., Field 1, Field 2, Field 3, etc.) and outlined clearly on the RePlan map.
- If leasing land, applicants must provide written approval from the landowner. If the lease term is shorter than the grant term, lessees should provide a written statement from the landowner that lease renewal will be discussed in good faith. Applicants must lease, own, or otherwise control the fields where project activities are proposed to occur for the entirety of

the project duration. CDFA is providing a Landowner Agreement Template for applicants to use.

- Implementation of eligible management practices will be incentivized based on payment rates provided in Appendix A. Specific implementation and verification requirements noted in Appendix A must be followed for all practices.
- Applicants must submit the following baseline data at the time of application using the RePlan Tool:
    - Cropping history of previous year for all fields included in the application.
    - Declare whether the proposed practice was implemented in the previous year on the field(s).
    - Provide the proposed plan of crops for all fields included in the project during the next three years.

Implementation Recommendations

- CDFA strongly encourages applicants to implement soil conservation practices incentivized by the HSP for land that will be temporarily taken out of production due to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- CDFA strongly encourages applicants to enhance on-farm biodiversity through utilizing plant species (in applicable management practices) that support pollinator habitat and help meet the goals identified in the California Biodiversity Action Plan.

Eligible Agricultural Management Practices

CDFA has identified eligible agricultural management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs, and improve soil health. On-farm project proposals must include the APN(s) of the field(s) where the eligible management practice(s) will be implemented. The on-farm project proposals may include multiple practices on the same APN or the same practice on multiple APNs. Some practices may not be implemented on the exact same field as part of the same project. Refer to Non-Overlapping Practices for details. The Healthy Soils Program incentivizes two types of practices based on implementation timelines:

1. **Annually implemented practices**: Practices that are implemented once in each project year and are implemented a total of three times during the

grant term (e.g., Compost and Cover Crop.) These practices must be implemented once in each project year to be eligible for reimbursement.

2. **One-time implemented practices**: Practices that are implemented only once in the grant term and are maintained for project life (e.g., Hedgerow Planting and Conservation Cover).

The following management practices were selected and must be implemented in accordance with their respective requirements for implementation in California based on USDA NRCS Conservation Practice Standards (CPS), 2023 NRCS California Scenarios, CDFA Compost Application White Paper and CDFA's Whole Orchard Recycling Report. Refer to the Program Requirements and Appendix A for details.

All eligible practices are divided by agricultural system below. The updated CPS for each practice can be found at: List of Agricultural Management Practices Eligible for Funding Through the CDFA HSP.

I. Cropland

1. Alley Cropping (USDA NRCS CPS 311)
2. Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808)
    a. Compost Purchased from a Certified Facility
    b. On-farm Produced Compost
3. Conservation Cover (USDA NRCS CPS 327)
4. Conservation Crop Rotation (USDA NRCS CPS 328)
5. Contour Buffer Strips (USDA NRCS CPS 332)
6. Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)
7. Field Border (USDA NRCS CPS 386)
8. Filter Strip (USDA NRCS CPS 393)
9. Forage and Biomass Planting/Pasture and Hay Planting (USDA NRCS 512)
10. Grassed Waterway (USDA NRCS CPS 412)
11. Hedgerow Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 422)
12. Herbaceous Wind Barrier (USDA NRCS CPS 603)
13. Mulching (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
    a. Natural Materials (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
    b. Wood Chips (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
14. Multi-story Cropping/Forest Farming (USDA NRCS CPS 379)
15. Nutrient Management (USDA NRCS CPS 590) (15% reduction in fertilizer application *only*)

16. Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till (USDA NRCS CPS 329)
17. Residue and Tillage Management − Reduced Till (USDA NRCS CPS 345)
18. Riparian Forest Buffer (USDA NRCS CPS 391)
19. Riparian Herbaceous Cover (USDA NRCS CPS 390)
20. Strip Cropping (USDA NRCS CPS 585)
21. Tree/Shrub Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 612)
22. Vegetative Barriers (USDA NRCS CPS 601)
23. Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 380)

II. Orchard or Vineyard

1. Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808)
    a. Compost Purchased from a Certified Facility
    b. On-farm Produced Compost
2. Conservation Cover (USDA NRCS CPS 327)
3. Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)
4. Filter Strip (USDA NRCS CPS 393)
5. Hedgerow Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 422)
6. Mulching (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
    a. Nature Materials (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
    b. Wood Chips (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
7. Nutrient Management (USDA NRCS CPS 590) (15% reduction in fertilizer application *only*)
8. Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till (USDA NRCS CPS 329)
9. Residue and Tillage Management − Reduced Till (USDA NRCS CPS 345)
10. Whole Orchard Recycling (USDA NRCS CPS 808)
11. Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 380)

III. Grazing Land

1. Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808)
    a. Compost Purchased from a Certified Facility
    b. On-farm Produced Compost
2. Hedgerow Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 422)
3. Prescribed Grazing (USDA NRCS CPS 528)
4. Range Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 550)
5. Riparian Forest Buffer (USDA NRCS CPS 391)
6. Silvopasture (USDA NRCS CPS 381)
7. Tree/Shrub Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 612)
8. Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 380)

Technical Specifications for Estimation of GHG Benefits

Expected Life of Practices

To estimate the net GHG benefits due to a practice implementation, the expected life of the practice is as follows:

Eligible Agricultural Management Practice	Expected Life of Practice*
Practices that involve planting of woody cover (trees and shrubs)	10 Years
All other practices	3 Years

*Expected Life of Practice for the HSP may be different from that required by USDA-NRCS.

GHG Emissions Estimates

An estimation of the reduction in GHG emissions from the selected Eligible Agricultural Management Practices is calculated using calculator tools developed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB), including the Healthy Soils Quantification Methodology (QM), available at: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-quantification-benefits-and-reporting-materials. The QM and calculator tool are adapted from the USDA-NRCS COMET-Planner methodology. The COMET-Planner Report explains the scientific approaches that the quantification methodology has utilized to estimate greenhouse gas reduction benefits for the CDFA HSP, and is available at: http://bfuels.nrel.colostate.edu/health/COMET-Planner_Report_Final.pdf. The GHG emission reductions will be automatically estimated in the CDFA HSP RePlan Tool.

Practice Implementation Requirements

Technical information from the GHG Emission Estimate documents listed above were evaluated and synthesized to develop the Program Requirements and Appendix A.

- **Prescribed Grazing:** Projects proposing to implement this practice must be located on grazing lands (i.e., rangelands, grazed grasslands, and pastures).
    - Applications for prescribed grazing projects must include a Grazing Management Plan prepared by a professional Certified Rangeland

Manager and meet all criteria listed in Prescribed Grazing Practice Standards (USDA NRCS CPS 528).

- **Riparian Forest Buffer and/or Riparian Herbaceous Cover:** Fields where implementation of these practices is proposed must be adjacent to and upgradient from water courses or water bodies. Please refer to the USDA NRCS CPS 390 and 391 for more information.
- **Conservation Crop Rotation:** Projects proposing to implement this practice must provide a detailed plan for crop rotation, listing all cash crops and/or cover crops to be planted in the correct sequence as part of the Work Plan.
- **Cover Crops:** Projects proposing to implement this practice may not claim post-termination cover crop residue as mulching practice with natural materials to prevent overestimation of GHG reductions achieved.
- **Establishment of Permanent Woody Cover:** Projects proposing to implement these practices must take into consideration wildlife and pollinator needs when selecting tree or shrub species. Increasing species diversity, including use of native species, and avoiding species with invasive potential should be considered. Cash crop trees may not be planted exclusively.
- **Compost Application:** Implementation of this practice must meet the requirements below.
    - Compost Application Rates eligible for funding are provided in the table below.

Agricultural System	Compost Type	Tons/Acre*
Cropland	Higher N (C: N ≤ 11)	3 – 5
	Lower N (C: N > 11)	6 – 8
Orchard/Vineyard	Higher N (C: N ≤ 11)	2 – 4
	Lower N (C: N > 11)	6 – 8
Grazing Land	Lower N (C: N > 11)	6 – 8

*Compost application rates eligible for funding through this program were developed under the guidance of the Environmental Farming Act – Science Advisory Panel (EFA-SAP) and are published in a white paper report titled "Compost Application Rates for California Croplands and Rangelands for a CDFA Healthy Soils Incentives Program" (abbreviated as Compost Application White Paper) by CDFA.

    - Sources of compost eligible for funding must meet the following requirements.

- **<u>If compost is purchased</u>**:
  a. Compost must be produced by a facility permitted or otherwise authorized by state and local authorities that can demonstrate compliance with all state regulations. The composting facility must comply with the state minimum standards set forth in California Code of Regulations Title 14 (14 CCR) 14 CCR, Division 7, Chapter 3.1, Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. Grant recipients must ensure that the composting facilities are listed on one of the following websites:
     - CalRecycle SWIS/Site Search website with facility's site regulatory status being "Permitted" or "Notification" https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/Search
     - CDFA -OIM Certified Facilities (Only Dry Compost Eligible) https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/pdfs/RegisteredOrganicInputMaterial2022.pdf
     - STA Certified Compost Participants (California Only) https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/participants#CA

  b. A report of laboratory analysis on compost C:N ratio measured within 6 months prior to compost application is required.
- **<u>If compost is produced on-farm</u>**:
  a. Plant and animal materials must be composted through the processes outlined below and a farm log must be maintained to document the process.
     - ***In-vessel or Static Aerated Pile System*:** Maintain a temperature between 131°F and 170°F for 3 consecutive days.
     - ***Windrow Composting*:** Maintain a temperature between 131°F and 170°F for 15 consecutive days. The materials must be turned a minimum of 5 times.

  b. C:N ratio of the compost to be applied must be verified through laboratory testing before application. Type of material(s) used for composting must be documented. Lab analysis for C:N ratio is only valid for up to 6 months prior to compost application.

c. Compost used in this practice must be produced at the agricultural operation where the project is located. Externally sourced compost must be purchased from a certified facility.
d. Compost used in this practice cannot be vermicompost.

- **Whole Orchard Recycling**: Implementation of this practice must meet the following requirements below:
  - Only orchards with trees at least ten years of age are eligible.
  - Orchards should be chipped and incorporated in place on the field in which they were grown, without exporting chips off-site or to new fields.
  - The practice must not be implemented in soils with Soil Organic Matter greater than 20%.
  - Chips must be evenly distributed throughout the orchard. If a service provider is contracted, their commitment to spread the wood chips must be in the contract/invoice for verification purposes.
  - Chips must be incorporated into the soil to at least 6 inches depth.
- **Effective Practice Implementation Acreage:** The Program considers the acreage of orchard and vineyard alleys as the effective practice implementation acreage for cover crop, conservation cover, reduced-till, and no-till practices. For the purposes of the HSP, effective practice implementation acreage is considered 70% of the whole field acreage for orchard alleys, and 60% for vineyard alleys, respectively.

Non-Overlapping Practices

For the purposes of the HSP, practices listed in the same groups below cannot be implemented on the exact same land area or field, i.e., cannot overlap or be on top of each other. CDFA HSP Re-Plan Tool is designed to prevent applicants from selecting non-overlapping practices.

- Group I:
  - Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)
  - Conservation Cover (USDA NRCS CPS 327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (USDA NRCS CPS 328)
  - Strip Cropping (USDA NRCS CPS 585)
  - Mulching: Wood Chip (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
- Group II: Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808): Compost must either be:
  - Purchased from a Certified Facility, or
  - On-farm Produced Compost

- Group III:
  - Mulching (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
  - Whole Orchard Recycling (USDA NRCS CPS 808)
- Group IV
  - Conservation Cover (USDA NRCS CPS 327)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (USDA NRCS CPS 332)
  - Field Border (USDA NRCS CPS 386)
  - Filter Strip (USDA NRCS CPS 393)
  - Forage and Biomass Planting/Pasture and Hay Planting (USDA NRCS 512)
  - Grassed Waterway (USDA NRCS CPS 412)
  - Herbaceous Wind Barrier (USDA NRCS CPS 603)
  - Range Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 550)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (USDA NRCS CPS 390)
  - Vegetative Barriers (601) (USDA NRCS CPS 601)
  - Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till (USDA NRCS CPS 329)
  - Residue and Tillage Management − Reduced Till (USDA NRCS CPS 345)
- Group V
  - Alley Cropping (USDA NRCS CPS 311)
  - Hedgerow Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 422)
  - Multi-story Cropping/Forest Farming (USDA NRCS CPS 379)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (USDA NRCS CPS 391)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 612)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 380)
  - Silvopasture (USDA NRCS CPS 381)
  - Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till (USDA NRCS CPS 329)
  - Residue and Tillage Management − Reduced Till (USDA NRCS CPS 345)
- Group VI
  - Any herbaceous planting practice listed in Group IV and mulching.

Note: There may be practices (individual or combination), in addition to those listed above, that should not overlap for a specific project. These may be evaluated by CDFA on a case-by-case basis and addressed during pre-project consultation.

Timeline

The application period begins TBD. The deadline to submit a grant application is TBD at 5:00 pm Pacific Time. No exceptions will be granted for late submissions.

Tentative timeline (subject to change):

Program Activity	**Timeframe**
Invitation to submit grant applications	TBD
CDFA Grant Application Webinars	TBD
Grant Applications Due	TBD
Administrative Review	Ongoing until all applications reviewed
Announce Awards	Ongoing until funds are expended
Award Process	See Award Process

Program Priorities

The Healthy Soils Program prioritizes assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFRs). "Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher" means a farmer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. "A Socially disadvantaged group" is defined by 2017 Farmer Equity Act (AB 1348 (Aguiar-Curry, 2017)) as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups include all of the following:

- African Americans
- Native Indians
- Alaskan Natives
- Hispanics
- Asian Americans
- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

The Healthy Soils Program aims to allocate at least twenty-five percent (25%) of total grant funding to projects carried out by SDFRs. It also seeks to support benefits to priority populations as defined in SB 535 and AB 1550. Projects that are determined to provide benefits to priority populations may be prioritized for funding. Priority populations can be identified using the mapping tools provided by CARB at https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/PriorityPopulations/. Projects benefitting Priority Populations will also be identified automatically by the CDFA

HSP RePlan Tool based on project location and pre-determined net criteria air pollutant emission reductions, consistent with the CARB Healthy Soils Quantification Methodology and Co-Benefits Calculator Tool available at: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-quantification-benefits-and-reporting-materials.

California Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resiliency Project Registry

SB 27 (Chapter 237) requires the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to establish and maintain a registry for the purposes of identifying and listing projects in the state that drive climate action on the state's natural and working lands, and which sought funding from state agencies or private entities but were unfunded. Projects that sequester carbon on natural and working lands and meet minimum California Climate Investment program requirements, but did not receive funding due to the limited availability of funds, may be listed on the registry.

If CDFA has insufficient funding to meet the demand for on-farm projects, CDFA may offer applicants the opportunity to have their projects listed on the registry. If the applicant chooses to be listed, they must provide CDFA with a consent letter authorizing CDFA to share project-relevant data to CNRA or its affiliates, when the registry is operational. The project-level data may include but is not limited to applicant name, project description, project budget, estimated GHG and co-benefits, project location, and applicant contact information.

The Registry will be accessible online by 2024. Funding offers may vary from what Healthy Soils supports. An applicant's project listing will be removed from the Registry after one year unless the applicant chooses to renew it.

Grant Application Process

Questions and Answers

During the application period, CDFA will host two informational webinars to provide an overview of program guidelines and application materials. Visit the HSP Incentives Program webpage for more information and to register for the webinars.

General questions regarding the solicitation process may be submitted to cdfa.hsp_tech@cdfa.ca.gov. Responses to all questions received by email will be posted to CDFA's HSP website according to the following schedule:

Questions Received By:	Responses Provided By:
TBD	TBD
TBD	TBD

To maintain the integrity of the grant process, CDFA is unable to advise and/or provide individuals with any information regarding specific grant application questions during the solicitation process.

Technical Assistance

CDFA-funded technical assistance will be provided free of cost to all potential applicants, across the state. These technical assistance providers (TAPs) consist of experts in agricultural management practices from California academic research institutions, Resource Conservation Districts, and non-profit organizations. TAPs may not charge any additional fees or subsequent commitments (financial or otherwise) to help submit applications. Assistance may include technical aspects of the application process such as GHG calculation requirements, practice selection, project design, or availability of a computer and internet to prepare the application. CDFA strongly encourages applicants to obtain technical assistance when developing a grant application. Contact information for CDFA-funded TAPs can be found on the HSP Incentives Program webpage, under "Technical Assistance Resources."

How to Apply

CDFA uses an online application platform to accept applications. The Amplifund application portal link can be accessed through the HS Incentives Program website. Applicants must create a user account to submit a grant application. Email is the primary form of communication at CDFA, so please ensure that the email used for the application is accurate and up to date for getting in contact with the applicant. Please double-check that applicant information is entered accurately and spelled correctly, as it can help determine eligibility for an award. This information is verified across different sources such as the Internal Revenue Service and California Secretary of State resources. Incorrect information may result in award disqualification.

To ensure applications and attachments are submitted successfully, CDFA strongly encourages all applicants to comply with the computer system recommendations provided by Amplifund:

- Use Chrome, Firefox, Edge or Safari;
- Avoid using an iPad, iPhone or similar mobile device;
- Save work often, as the system will time out periodically, and any unsaved work will be lost.

CDFA cannot guarantee that the Amplifund system will be compatible with particular browsers or operating systems.

All applications, supporting documents, and submissions are potentially subject to public disclosure under the Public Records Act. The application will include the following sections: 1) Opportunity Details, 2) Applicant Information, 3) Required Document Uploads, and 4) Submission. All required application documents must be submitted by the deadline specified in this solicitation.

- CDFA HSP RePlan Report (pdf) – Project Site Map
- CDFA HSP RePlan Report (excel)
- Landowner agreement (if applicable)
- Attestation Form (if applicable)
- Grazing Management Plan prepared by a professional Certified Rangeland Manager (if applicable)

For more details on the application components, applicants are encouraged to review the Preview of Application Questions.

Review and Notification

Review and Selection Process

CDFA will conduct an administrative review of the applications to determine whether program requirements are met. Applications will be reviewed in the order of submission date and time until all applications submitted are reviewed or all funding is committed. The review process will likely extend past the solicitation period.

Applications that pass administrative review will be selected by CDFA for funding on a first-come-first-served basis and prioritized for funding according to the prioritization order listed below. The selection of applications for awards will occur once at the end of the first month of the solicitation and then once every two weeks until all funding is allocated. During the first month, CDFA will first review applications benefitting SDFRs and priority populations and may opt not

to review other applications. Throughout the review and selection process, CDFA reserves the right to withhold funds to meet goals for SDFRs and priority populations.

Prioritization Order for Review and Selection

1. **Applications benefitting SDFRs and Priority Populations**: These applications will be awarded first in alignment with the HSP's funding priorities.
2. **Applications from first-time HSP applicants**: These applications will be awarded second to support the equitable distribution of funds across the state and encourage adoption of conservation management strategies by new eligible farmers and ranchers.
3. **Applications with multiple conservation management practices proposed**: These applications will be awarded third to encourage the development of applications with project designs including more than one conservation management practice.
4. **All other applications**: Applications that do not fall into the criteria listed above will be awarded last.

Evaluation Criteria and Disqualifications

During the administrative review, the items listed below will be reviewed and applications will either "pass" or "fail". The application will be disqualified if it "fails".

Disqualification criteria include:

- Projects don't meet program requirements.
- Applicants don't meet applicant eligibility.
- Application funding request exceeds the maximum allowable funding of $200,000.
- Applications are incomplete: applications with one or more unanswered questions necessary for administrative review, missing, blank, unreadable, corrupt, or otherwise unusable attachments.
- Applications include activities outside the grant term.
- Applicants that would receive grant funds are not located in California with a physical California business address.

Application Resubmission

If an applicant is notified that their application has been disqualified within the solicitation period, the applicant is allowed to submit a new application for consideration within the solicitation period. There is no cap on the number of

resubmissions.

Appeal Rights

Any discretionary action taken by the Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation (OEFI) may be appealed to CDFA's Office of Hearings and Appeals Office within ten (10) days of receiving a notice of disqualification from CDFA. The appeal must be in writing and signed by the responsible party named on the grant application or the authorized agent. It must state the grounds for the appeal and include any supporting documents and a copy of the OEFI decision being challenged. The submissions must be emailed to CDFA.LegalOffice@cdfa.ca.gov (preferred)or sent to the California Department of Food and Agriculture Office of Hearings and Appeals, 1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. If submissions are not received within the time frame provided above, the appeal will be denied. Appeal rights are only afforded to disqualifications.

Notification and Feedback

All applicants will be notified by email regarding the status of their grant application. Applicants whose applications are selected for awards will receive instructions regarding the award process. Upon completion of grant agreement execution, CDFA will post an updated list of awarded projects on the program website. Applications will be treated in accordance with Public Records Act requirements, and certain information, subject to those requirements, may be disclosed.

Award Process

Pre-Project Consultation

After receiving notification of award, the awardee may be contacted by CDFA via email to conduct a pre-project consultation. In some cases, a phone call with the awardee may be necessary. The purpose of the pre-project consultation is to ensure that practices and implementation methods in the funded project are compliant with the program requirements. Email is the primary form of communication at CDFA, so please ensure CDFA has the correct email for reaching the awardee.

Grant Agreement

CDFA will initiate the Grant Agreement process with awardees selected to receive a grant award. The process of executing a grant agreement is estimated to take several months. Following a pre-project consultation (if needed), awardees will receive a Grant Agreement package via email with specific instructions regarding award requirements, including information on project implementation, project reporting, verification, and payment process. Communication during the grant execution process is done primarily via email. CDFA reserves the right to rescind an award due to lack of response from an award recipient. Grant Recipients are expected to sign time-sensitive documents from CDFA administrative staff within five (5) business days. Email correspondence from CDFA will indicate the due dates for signed documents.

Grant Agreement Stage	Estimated Time for Stage Completion*
Grant packet is completed – during this step, CDFA will work with awardees to get the information necessary to execute the grant agreement. Timeline for this step is dependent on how promptly information is provided to CDFA by the awardee	Variable
Grant agreement execution	Up to 120 days
Processing advance payments – if awardees request and are granted approval for an advance payment, it takes approximately 45 days to process this payment after execution of the grant agreement.	Approximately 45 days

*Subject to change

Project Implementation

Project Duration

The project duration will be from the official grant start date to TBD. The official grant start date for an individual awarded project is determined based on the date of grant agreement execution, or the grant term start date on the first page of the agreement, whichever date is later. The timeline for funding expenditures of awarded projects is provided in the table below.

Project Year	Duration of Project Year

1	Date of grant agreement execution – TBD
2	TBD - TBD
3	TBD - TBD

Implementation should not begin prior to grant agreement execution, or the grant term start date on the first page of the agreement, whichever date is later. Implementation of some eligible management practices, such as cover cropping, are encouraged to begin prior to December 31 in each project year to allow adequate time for plant establishment and biomass accumulation.

Recipients are responsible for the overall management of the awarded project to ensure all project activities are completed as identified in the grant agreement. Failure to do so may result in all or any portion of the grant funding being withheld, or termination of the Grant Agreement.

Project Verifications

All awarded projects will be subject to verification to ensure that the agricultural management practices are implemented in a manner consistent with the USDA NRCS CPS guidelines, and Healthy Soils Program Requirements (Appendix A). Grant Recipients are required to collect and submit all documents listed in Appendix A during the verification process. Verification will be conducted by CDFA, who may conduct field evaluations by APN and/or remote evaluations via phone, video conferencing, or emails to verify program compliance during the grant term. CDFA may request any or all documents listed in Appendix A to successfully complete the project verification. The verification must be completed prior to payment of grant funds. Grant Recipients must retain verification documents three (3) years after grant agreement expiration date or as specified in the closeout notification.

Grant Recipients are expected to communicate with their CDFA grant manager promptly if they foresee an issue with grant implementation. If a grant extension is needed, and available within fund liquidation deadlines, Grant Recipients must request for an extension no later than sixty (60) days prior to the grant agreement end. CDFA cannot guarantee extensions will be granted if the requested advanced notice is not provided.

Bi-Annual Progress Reporting

Twice annually, all awarded projects will complete a brief progress report to update CDFA on the status of project implementation. This report will likely take the form of an emailed survey with a few questions for the Grant Recipients to respond to.

Post-Project Completion Requirements

Grant Recipients are required to maintain implementation of practices incentivized through this program throughout the term of the grant agreement. However, benefits from implementation of practices are expected to be achieved in the long term, and Grant Recipients are encouraged to continue and/or expand these practices on their operations to achieve long-term benefits. Grant Recipients must agree to post-project completion requirements which require them to take soil samples and provide a soil organic matter analysis report after the third year of initial implementation. This soil analysis will occur outside the grant term and therefore should be covered by the Grant Recipient's funds as a cost share. Additionally, Grant Recipients are required to maintain documentation related to their HSP-funded projects for three (3) years after completion of the project.

Failure to work with CDFA to provide the necessary project-related documentation, including the post-project soil organic matter analysis reports, will be considered non-performance and may impact consideration for future funding. CDFA may take any action deemed necessary to recover all or any portion of the grant funding.

The State of California has the right to review project documents and conduct audits during the project life. CDFA, or its designated representative, may contact a subset of awarded projects to collect data including, but not limited to, eligible agricultural management practice implementation and GHG emissions reduction estimates for three (3) years after project completion.

Soil Organic Matter Reporting Requirements

The Grant Recipients are required to take soil samples right before starting practice implementation and within the grant term for accurate soil organic matter (SOM) evaluation. Additionally, Grant Recipients are required to sample SOM content annually, prior to each year's practice implementation. Ideally,

this should be done in the same month as the baseline soil sample and should be tested by the same laboratory. Altogether, soil samples must be taken once prior to project implementation and one, two, and three years following initial project implementation. Expenses of soil samples (including sample collection and analysis) may be reimbursed on a flat-rate basis ($50 per SOM analysis) if they were incurred within the grant term. However, if the soil samples are outside the grant term (such as the final soil sample), the Grant Recipients must pay out of pocket for these analyses (see table below).

Each submission should contain a laboratory report of SOM content for each field. The laboratory can be from any of the accredited soil analytical laboratories recommended, but it is not required to be recommended by CDFA. CDFA strongly recommends sending soil samples for the same project to the same soil analytic laboratory throughout the grant term to reduce errors due to different laboratory operational procedures. The soil sampling protocol provided in HSP Soil Sampling Protocol for Soil Organic Matter Analysis must be followed when collecting soil samples.

Sample Year	Inside Grant Term	Reimbursable by CDFA
Year 1 Prior to Implementation	Yes	Yes
Year 2	Yes	Yes
Year 3	Yes	Yes
Year 4 – post grant term	No	No

Invoicing and Payments

Reimbursement

Grant payments for the 2023 HSP Incentives Program are made using a flat-rate reimbursement system, through yearly invoicing, following yearly practice verification. Reimbursement rates are provided in Appendix A. After project verification, CDFA will send a Grant Recipient an invoice for signature and processing. Processing time for invoice reimbursement takes 45 days after the recipient's signature and department approval.

For projects implementing compost application, the estimated payments provided by the CDFA HSP Comet-Planner tool are based on the maximum allowable application rate for compost. In cases where Grant Recipients apply compost at a lower rate, the amount for reimbursements may be adjusted by CDFA to be consistent with tons of compost applied as part of the project. In case of projects applying on-farm produced compost, C:N ratio(s) and

application rate(s) must be consistent with those provided in the grant application. If a finished compost has a different C:N ratio, its application rate may be adjusted by CDFA to be consistent with allowable application rates for the HSP. This may result in a change in estimated payments and in the project budget. Please refer to the compost application table under Practice Implementation Requirements for more details.

Failure to work with CDFA or its designees to provide the necessary project-related documentation will be considered non-performance. If it is determined by CDFA through a Critical Project Review that at that time the grant project is not meeting, and is unlikely to meet certain milestones, CDFA has the right to terminate the Grant Agreement pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of the Grant Agreement. Termination may result in forfeiture of funds by the Grant Recipients.

Advance Payments

Grant recipients may be eligible for an advance payment of up to 25 percent of the total grant award to begin project implementation, subject to the provisions of section 316.1 "Advance Payments" of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1, Chapter 5. The remaining funds will be allocated on a reimbursement basis.

State Audit and Accounting Requirements

In addition to Healthy Soils program requirements, awarded projects may be subject to State Audit and Accounting Requirements listed below.

Audit and Critical Project Review Requirements

Projects are subject to audit by the State annually and for three (3) years following the final payment of grant funds. If the project is selected for an audit, the Grant Recipients will be contacted in advance. The audit shall include all books, papers, accounts, documents, or other records of the Grant Recipients, as they relate to the project. All project expenditure documentation should be available for an audit, whether paid with grant funds or other funds.

The Grant Recipients must have project records, including source documents and evidence of payment, readily available and must provide an employee with knowledge of the project to assist the auditor. The Grant Recipients must provide a copy of any document, paper, record, etc., requested by the auditor.

Accounting Requirements

The Grant Recipients must maintain an accounting system that:

- Accurately reflects fiscal transactions, with the necessary controls and safeguards.
- Provides a good audit trail, including original source documents such as purchase orders, receipts, progress payments, invoices, employee paystubs and timecards, evidence of payment, etc.
- Provides accounting data so the total cost of each individual project can be readily determined.

Records Retention

Records must be retained for a period of three (3) years after final payment is made by the State or as specified in closeout notification. The Grant Recipients must retain all project records at least one (1) year following an audit.

Appendix A: Practice Payment Scenarios, Rates, Requirements, and Implementation Guidelines

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Alley Cropping (NRCS CPS 311)	Replace 20% of Annual Cropland with Woody Plants	Tree- planting, single row	Ac	$2,447.20	1	Tree crop name(s)	(1) Potted seedling size at ≥2 gal; (2) Plant density at ≥40 trees/acre; (3) Tree protection and irrigation.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing established trees, (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Maintenance of plant growth in the project term and beyond.
Cropland	Compost Application (NRCS CPS 808)	Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application to annual crops, on-farm produced compost	3 tons/Acre	Ac	$192.96	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	(1) Application rate must be between 3-5 tons/acre; (2) Compost materials, method and Composting process must be documented. (3) Feedstocks may include green materials, food materials, wood waste, yard trimmings, agricultural materials or biosolids as defined in 14 CCR Section 17852 (https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/california/14-CCR-17852).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is applied; (2) A composting log including raw materials, method, and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied; (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio.
			4 tons/Acre	Ac	$257.28	3			
			5 tons/Acre	Ac	$321.60	3			
		Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application to annual crops, purchased compost	3 tons/Acre	Ac	$192.96	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	Application rate must be between 3-5 tons/acre	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and field ground right after compost is completely applied, (2) A copy of receipt for compost purchased; (3) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (4) A certificate of the compost facility if it is not included in the list at https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/SearchSite.
			4 tons/Acre	Ac	$257.28	3			
			5 tons/Acre	Ac	$321.60	3			

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Compost Application (NRCS CPS 808)	Compost (C:N > 11) application to annual crops, on-farm produced compost	6 tons/Acre	Ac	$385.92	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	(1) Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acre; (2) Compost materials, method and Composting process must be documented. (3) Feedstocks may include green materials, food materials, wood waste, yard trimmings, agricultural materials or biosolids as defined in 14 CCR Section 17852 (https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/california/14-CCR-17852).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is applied; (2) A composting log including raw materials, method, and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied; (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio.
			7 tons/Acre	Ac	$450.24	3			
			8 tons/Acre	Ac	$514.56	3			
		Compost (C:N > 11) application to annual crops, purchased compost	6 tons/Acre	Ac	$385.92	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acre	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and field ground right after compost is completely applied, (2) A copy of receipt for compost purchased; (3) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (4) A certificate of the compost facility if it is not included in the list at https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/SearchSite.
			7 tons/Acre	Ac	$450.24	3			
			8 tons/Acre	Ac	$514.56	3			
Cropland	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume cover	Introduced species	Ac	$403.70	1	Introduced perennial species	(1) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Introduced species with foregone income	Ac	$555.82	1		(1) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	
			Native species	Ac	$350.34	1	Mix of native perennial species	(1) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	
			Native species with foregone income	Ac	$660.34	1			

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume cover	Monarch species – mix species	Ac	$1,404.68	1	Mix of native perennial grass & forbs including native milkweeds for wildlife, pollinators, or ecosystem restoration	(1) At least 4% native milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) and less than 50% grasses; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Monarch species – mix species with foregone income	Ac	$1,443.92	1			
			Pollinator species	Ac	$1,138.96	1	Mix of native perennial grasses, legumes, and forbs to provide habitat for pollinators	(1) Mixed native species with less than 50% grasses; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Plant protection from animal damage and good maintenance.	
			Pollinator species with foregone income	Ac	$1,134.30	1			
Cropland	Conservation Crop Rotation (NRCS CPS 328)	Decrease Fallow Frequency or Add Perennial Crop to Rotations	Basic rotation	Ac	$23.34	3	A rotation plan including all crops in the sequence with at least one annual crop.	Effective implementation of the rotation plan to add higher residue and/or perennial crops to reduce erosion and increase other benefits.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of the field showing crops in the rotation (2) A farming log recording rotation implementation.
			Specialty crops	Ac	$62.24	3			
Cropland	Contour Buffer Strips (NRCS CPS 332)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume cover	Introduced species, foregone income	Ac	$587.10	1	Perennial species	(1) Width of strips: ≥15 ft wide if ≥50% grass species OR ≥30 ft wide when legume/forbs used alone, or ≥50% legumes; (2) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Inoculate legumes at planting if legume is used; and (4) Good maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established strips (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Native species, foregone income	Ac	$563.08	1	Native perennial species	(1) Width of strips: ≥15 ft wide if grass species consists of 50% or more OR ≥30 ft wide when legume/forbs are used alone, or legumes consist of 50% or more; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Inoculate legumes at planting if legume is used; and (4) Good maintenance.	

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Contour Buffer Strips (NRCS CPS 332)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/ Legume cover	Wildlife Pollinator, foregone income	Ac	$563.08	1	Native perennial species with at least 3 pollinator friendly species	(1) Width of strips: ≥15 feet wide if grass species consists of 50% or more OR ≥30 feet wide when legume/forbs are used alone, or legumes consist of 50% or more; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Inoculate legumes at planting time if legume species is used; and (4) Good maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established strips (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term.
Cropland	Cover Crop (NRCS CPS 340)	Add Legume or Non-Legume Seasonal Cover Crop to Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland	One species	Ac	$122.46	3	Cover crop species	(1) Single or multiple species cover crop is planted without fertilizer. (2) Cover crop is allowed to grow to produce as much biomass as possible. (3) Cover crop biomass/residue should not be removed to other places.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing established cover crops in the field (≥60% coverage), (2) Receipts of cover crop seeds purchased, (3) Cover crop species name and seeding rate.
			Multiple species	Ac	$153.32	3			
Cropland	Field Border (NRCS CPS 386)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Introduced species	Ac	$247.90	1	Introduced perennial species	(1) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Maintain good plant growth during the project term.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established field border; (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Native Species	Ac	$282.78	1	Native perennial species	(1) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Maintain good plant growth during the project term.	
			Pollinator Species	Ac	$756.74	1	Diverse mix of native perennial grasses, legumes and forbs that are pollinator friendly	(1) Species flower throughout the growing season with ≤50% grasses in the mix; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain plant growth in the project term.	

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Filter Strip (NRCS CPS 393)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Introduced species	Ac	$371.66	1	Introduced perennial plant species	(1) Native perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain good plant growth during project term.	3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established filter strip (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Native species	Ac	$407.92	1	Native perennial plant species	(1) Introduced cool season perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at ≥60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain good plant growth during the project term.	
Cropland	Forage and Biomass Planting / Pasture and Hay Planting (NRCS CPS 512)	Conversion of Annual Cropland to Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Grass/Legume Forage/Biomass Crops	Nonnative, high seeding rate with lime or similar amendment	Ac	$744.86	1	Perennial species	(1) Introduced perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs; (2) Seeding rate of 30 lb./acre pure live seed (PLS) or 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Lime application if applicable.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plantings (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Maintain plant growth during the project term.
			Nonnative, high seeding rate without lime	Ac	$509.66	1			
			Nonnative, standard seeding rate with fertilizer	Ac	$395.34	1		(1) Introduced perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs; (2) Seeding rate of 9 lb./acre pure live seed (PLS) or 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Fertilizer application if applicable.	
			Nonnative, standard seeding rate without fertilizer	Ac	$177.92	1			

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Grassed Waterway (NRCS CPS 412)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Base Waterway, Pacific Region	Ac	$2,704.02	1	Perennial species	(1) Planting area is from tops of the bank on both sides; (2) Perennial species at seeding rate ≥60 pure live seeds per sqft. (3) Plant maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established grassed waterway (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Maintain plant growth during the project term.
			Base waterway with checks	Ac	$4,431.28	1	Perennial species	(1) Planting area is from tops of the bank on both sides; (2) Perennial species at seeding rate ≥60 pure live seeds per sqft. (3) Fabric or stone checks installed every 100 feet along the waterway perpendicular to waterflow and 2/3 the waterway top width to reduce maintenance and provide temporary protection until vegetation is established. Fabric Checks are installed 18" deep with 12" laid over on the surface.	
Cropland	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Replace a Strip of Cropland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	Single Row	Ft	$11.82	1	Hedgerow species	(1) Pollinator-friendly trees, shrubs, and perennial wildflowers; (2) Plant density at ≥200 live plants/acre; (3) Average height at ≥3 feet and extend 15 feet wide at maturity; (4) Plant protection & irrigation.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established hedgerow plants. Photos are taken at both ends & middle of the hedgerow line. (2) Receipts of plants purchased; (3) Plant species name and number of live plants; (4) Maintain plant growth in the project term.
Cropland	Herbaceous Wind Barriers (NRCS CPS 603)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Cool Season Perennial Species	LnFt	$0.16	1	Cool season perennial species	(1) Plant species must be tolerant to soil deposition and stiff; (2) Width of the Herbaceous Wind Barrier must be at least 2 feet.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established grassed waterway (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Maintain plant growth during the project term.

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Mulching (NRCS CPS 484)	Add Mulch to Croplands	Natural Materials	Ac	$518.38	3	Natural materials	(1) Materials produced off site; (2) ≥70% of the acreage covered by mulch materials at 1-3 inches thickness or 1-2 tons/acre if using straw. (3) Natural materials include chipped brush, bark, wood shavings, sawdust, leaves, leaf mold, pine needles, grass hay, rice hulls, grasses, grass clippings, crop residues, straw, almond/walnut shells, cocoa bean hulls or coconut fiber. Provide name(s) of natural material(s).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing mulching is completely implemented including thickness measured by a ruler and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials purchased, or donated with proof documents.
			Wood Chips	Ac	$4,385.44	1	Wood chips	(1) Materials produced off site (2) Wood Chips are characterized as chemically untreated, woody material that is ¾ -2 inches in diameter, without leaves and hardy enough to last for several years; (3) Mulch thickness at 2-4 inches; (4) Application rate at ≥40 cubic yards/acre or ≥10 tons/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing mulching is implemented including thickness measured by a ruler and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials if purchased or donated with proof documents.
Cropland	Multistory Cropping /Forest Farming (NRCS CPS 379)	Replace 20% of Annual Cropland with woody plants	Native Tree or shrub planting	Ac	$364.80	1	Native tree or shrub species	(1) Native seedlings with 50% medium size (1 quart to gallon pot or 10 cubic inches container); (2) Plant density at ≥40 live trees/acre; (3) Tree protection and irrigation.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing planted trees, (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Plant maintenance.
			Nonnative tree or shrub planting	Ac	$429.60	1	Nonnative tree or shrub species	(1) Shrub seedlings: bare root at 36-60 inches tall or container ≥20 cubic inches; tree seedlings: bare root or container ≥20 cubic inches; (2) Plant density at ≥40 live trees/acre; (3) Tree protection and irrigation.	

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Nutrient Management (NRCS CPS 590)	Improved N Fertilizer Management on Irrigated or Non-irrigated Cropland - Reduce Fertilizer Application Rate by 15%	Basic nutrient management	Ac	$17.80	3	An eligible field(s) is where synthetic nutrient fertilizers have been applied annually	(1) A nutrient management plan for each field/crop based on soil test analysis and University of California or CDFA recommended rates. (2) A farming log records all fertilization activities (fertilizer name, nitrogen content, application rate & date) during each project year.	(1) Crop name(s); (2) the farming log must demonstrate that nitrogen application rate is 15% less than what was used in the past 3 years or UC recommended rate; (3) Receipts of nitrogen fertilizers purchased as applicable; (4) Verification is at the end of the project year or end of fertilization cycle as applicable.
Cropland	Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (NRCS CPS 329)	Convert Tillage to No Till on Irrigated or Non-irrigated Cropland	No-Till or Strip-Till	Ac	$32.96	3	Tillage implemented prior to application deadline	(1) No tillage; (2) All plantings must no-till drill or broadcast if applicable. (3) Residues kept on soil surface, not burned, or removed; (4) A farming log recording all field activities related to soil disturbance, dates of activities and equipment used.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos for each field showing field operations (including equipment used), field floor and overview of the whole field at end of each project year. (2) A farming log to demonstrate implementation requirements are met; (3) Verification by the end of the project year.
Cropland	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (NRCS CPS 345)	Intensive Till to Reduced-Till on Irrigated or Non-irrigated Cropland	Reduced- Till	Ac	$40.74	3	Conventional tillage implemented prior to application deadline	(1) Tillage methods (Mulch/vertical tillage, chiseling, or disking) that limit soil disturbance, or (2) Fewer tillage operations. (3) Plant residue covering soil surface during winter- spring period; (4) A farming log recording all field activities related to soil disturbance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos for each field showing field operations (including equipment used), field floor and overview of the whole field at end of each project year. (2) A farming log to demonstrate implementation requirements are met; (3) Verification by the end of the project year.
Cropland	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Cropland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Bare-root, hand planted	Ac	$3,862.26	1	Tree and/or shrub plants, Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Seedling size: 18-36 inches tall or 10-20 cubic inches container for shrubs and hardwood; 1-year old seedlings or 4-6 cubic inches container for conifer; (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant density ≥35 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of the field showing planted trees, (2) Receipts for number and sizes of seedlings/cuttings purchased; (3) Species and number of live trees/shrubs at verification; (4) Tree protection and maintenance.

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Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Cropland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Cuttings, Small to Medium Size	Ac	$4,516.20	1	Tree and/or shrub plants, Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Size: 0.25-1 inch in diameter and 2-4 feet long; (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant density ≥35 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of the field showing planted trees, (2) Receipts for number and sizes of seedlings/cuttings purchased; (3) Species and number of live trees/shrubs at verification; (4) Tree protection and maintenance.
			Cuttings, Medium to Large Size	Ac	$8,254.12	1		(1) Size: medium (0.25-1" diameter and 2-4' long) to large (2-6" diameter and 6' long); (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants/acre.	
			Small container, hand planted	Ac	$6,980.70	1		(1) Potted seedling size: 1 quart to 1 gallon; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants/acre.	
			Large container, hand planted	Ac	$12,925.20	1		(1) Potted seedling size: 2 gallons or larger; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants per acre.	
Cropland	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (NRCS CPS 390)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume cover Near Aquatic Habitats	Broadcast Seeding	Ac	$1,404.16	1	Native perennial species, Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Native perennial grasses, legumes, and forbs with ≤50% grasses; (2) Broadcast planting and/or no-till drill seeded at rate of 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft; (3) Plant maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing established riparian cover (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts for materials purchased; (3) Planting method and seeding rate; (4) Maintenance of established riparian zone - an adapted, diverse vegetative plant community that is under close management to ensure long term survival & ecological succession.
			Broadcast Seeding with Foregone Income	Ac	$2,904.24	1			
			Plug Planting	Ac	$30,420.90	1		(1) Native aquatic plants plug-planted; (2) Plant density at 19,360 plants/acre (3) Plant maintenance.	
			Combination Broadcast Seeding and Plug Planting	Ac	$15,571.50	1		(1) Native perennial grasses, legumes, and forbs with ≥50% grasses; (2) Plug planting at density of 9,680 plants/acre and broadcast planting and/or no-till drill seeded at 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft; (3) Plant maintenance.	
			Pollinator Cover	Ac	$2,474.26	1		(1) Native perennial species with ≤50% grasses; (2) 2-12 species to ensure ≥2 species in bloom at any given time of the growing season; (3) Broadcast or no-till drill seeded at rate of 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft; (4) Plant maintenance.	

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Cropland	Strip Cropping (NRCS CPS 585)	Add Perennial Cover Grown in Strips with Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Annual Crops	Wind and water erosion control	Ac	$3.30	1	Perennial species that are erosion resistant	(1) Two or more strips are required; (2) ≥ 50% vegetation cover must be perennial and erosion resistant species. (3) Do not include erosion-susceptible crops in adjacent strips at the same time during the year.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established strips (>60% plant coverage); (2) receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Number, width & length of strips; (4) Maintenance in project term.
Cropland	Tree/Shrub Establishment (NRCS CPS 612)	Conversion of Annual Cropland to a Farm Woodlot	Conservation, hand planted	Ac	$603.00	1	Tree and/or shrub species	(1) Shrub seedings at 6-18 inches tall or ≤10 cubic inches container; Tree or hardwood seedlings at 18-36 inches tall or 10-20 cubic inches container. (2) Plant growth maintenance. (3) Plant density: ≥150 live trees per acre	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing planted trees/shrubs; (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased, species and number of live plants; (3) Tree protection, and irrigation as needed; (4) Tree growth maintenance during the project term.
			Conservation, hand planted, browse protection	Ac	$1,526.54	1		(1) Shrub seedings at 6-18 inches tall or ≤10 cubic inches container; Tree or hardwood seedlings at 18-36 inches tall or 10-20 cubic inches container. (2) Plant protection from animal damage and wood stake to fasten plants in place. (3) Growth maintenance. (4) Plant density: ≥150 live trees per acre.	
Cropland	Vegetative Barrier (NRCS CPS 601)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Vegetative Planting	Ft	$1.90	1	Perennial plant species - must meet stiffness index and is tolerant to soil erosion; Location is where sheet or rill erosion is of concern.	(1) Permanent strips of stiff, dense vegetation established along the general contour of slopes; with vegetation stiffness index (VSI) of 0.05-0.10; (2) Broadcast or drill seeds in a strip of 3 feet or wider; (3) plant maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs taken at both ends & middle of established barrier (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Established plants at verification; (4) Plant maintenance during project term.

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Cropland	Windbreak/ Shelterbelt Establishment (NRCS CPS 380)	Replace a Strip of Cropland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	1-row, trees, containers, hand planted, with tree protected	Ft	$1.66	1	Tree and/or shrub species	(1) Container seedlings at 15-20 cubic inches or bare root seedlings at 2-3 years old before transplanting (2) Plant protection and irrigation are required; (3) Plant density ≥200 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs taken at both ends & middle of the tree line; (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Tree protection and irrigation; (5) Plant maintenance.
			1-row, trees and/or shrub, with wind protection fence	Ft	$2.68	1		(1) Container seedlings at 15-20 cubic inches or bare root seedlings at 2-3 years old before transplanting (2) A wind-protection fence and irrigation are required; (3) Plant density ≥200 live plants/acre.	
Orchard or Vineyard	Compost Application (NRCS CPS 808)	Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application Orchard or Vineyard, On-farm produced compost	2 tons/Acre	Ac	$128.64	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	(1) Application rate must be between 2-4 tons/acre; (2) Compost materials, method and Composting process must be documented. (3) Feedstocks may include green materials, food materials, wood waste, yard trimmings, agricultural materials or biosolids as defined in 14 CCR Section 17852 (https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/california/14-CCR-17852).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is applied; (2) A composting log including raw materials, method, and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied; (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio.
			3 tons/Acre	Ac	$192.96	3			
			4 tons/Acre	Ac	$257.28	3			
		Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application Orchard or Vineyard, Purchased compost	2 tons/Acre	Ac	$128.64	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	Application rate must be between 2-4 tons/acre	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and field ground right after compost is completely applied, (2) A copy of receipt for compost purchased; (3) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (4) A certificate of the compost facility if it is not included in the list at https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/SearchSite.
			3 tons/Acre	Ac	$192.96	3			
			4 tons/Acre	Ac	$257.28	3			

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Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Orchard or Vineyard	Compost Application (NRCS CPS 808)	Compost (C:N > 11) application Orchard or Vineyard, On-farm produced compost	6 tons/Acre	Ac	$385.92	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	(1) Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acre; (2) Compost materials, method and Composting process must be documented. (3) Feedstocks may include green materials, food materials, wood waste, yard trimmings, agricultural materials or biosolids as defined in 14 CCR Section 17852 (https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/california/14-CCR-17852).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is applied; (2) A composting log including raw materials, method, and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied; (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio.
			7 tons/Acre	Ac	$450.24	3			
			8 tons/Acre	Ac	$514.56	3			
		Compost (C:N > 11) application Orchard or Vineyard, Purchased compost	6 tons/Acre	Ac	$385.92	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acre	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and field ground right after compost is completely applied, (2) A copy of receipt for compost purchased; (3) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (4) A certificate of the compost facility if it is not included in the list at https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/SearchSite.
			7 tons/Acre	Ac	$450.24	3			
			8 tons/Acre	Ac	$514.56	3			
Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Idle Land near Orchard/ Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume cover	Introduced species	Ac	$403.70	1	Introduced perennial species	(1) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Introduced species with foregone income	Ac	$555.82	1		(1) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	
			Native species	Ac	$350.34	1	Mix of native perennial species	(1) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	
			Native species with foregone income	Ac	$660.34	1			

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Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Idle Land near Orchard/ Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume cover	Monarch species – mix species	Ac	$1,404.68	1	Mix of native perennial grass & forbs including native milkweeds for wildlife, pollinators, or ecosystem restoration	(1) At least 4% native milkweeds (*Asclepias* spp.) and less than 50% grasses; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Monarch species – mix species with foregone income	Ac	$1,443.92	1			
			Pollinator species	Ac	$1,138.96	1	Mix of native perennial grasses, legumes, and forbs to provide habitat for pollinators	(1) Mixed native species with less than 50% grasses; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Plant protection from animal damage and good maintenance.	
			Pollinator species with foregone income	Ac	$1,134.30	1			
		Plant Permanent Grass or Grass/Legume Cover in Orchard/ Vineyard Alleys	Orchard or Vineyard Alleyways	Ac	$271.80	1	Perennial species	(1) Inoculate legumes at planting time if legume species is used, and (2) Maintain permanent vegetation	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established alley plants (>60% plant coverage), (2) Receipts of seeds purchased, species names and seeding rate; (3) method of alley plants maintenance.
Orchard or Vineyard	Cover Crop (NRCS CPS 340)	(1) Add Legume or Non-Legume Cover Crop to Orchard/ Vineyard Alleys	One species	Ac	$122.46	3	Cover crop species	(1) Single or multiple species cover crop is planted without fertilizer. (2) Cover crop is allowed to grow to produce as much biomass as possible. (3) Cover crop biomass/residue should not be removed to other places.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing established cover crops in the field (≥60% coverage), (2) Receipts of cover crop seeds purchased, (3) Cover crop species name and seeding rate.
			Multiple species	Ac	$153.32	3			

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Orchard or Vineyard	Filter Strip (NRCS CPS 393)	Convert Idle Land Near Orchard/ Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Introduced species	Ac	$371.66	1	Introduced perennial species	(1) Native perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain plant growth.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established filter strip (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Native species	Ac	$407.92	1	Native perennial species	(1) Introduced perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at ≥60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain plant growth.	
Orchard or Vineyard	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Plant 1 Row of Woody Plants on Border of Orchard/ Vineyard	Single Row	Ft	$11.82	1	Hedgerow species	(1) Pollinator-friendly trees, shrubs, and perennial wildflowers; (2) Plant density at ≥200 live plants/acre; (3) Average height at ≥3 feet and extend 15 feet wide at maturity; (4) Plant protection & irrigation.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs taken at both ends & middle of the hedgerow line. (2) Receipts of plants purchased; (3) Plant species name and number of live plants; (4) Maintain plant growth in the project term.
Orchard or Vineyard	Mulching (NRCS CPS 484)	Add Mulch to Orchard or Vineyard	Natural Materials	Ac	$518.38	3	Natural materials	(1) Materials produced off site; (2) ≥70% of the acreage covered by mulch materials at 1-3 inches thickness or 1-2 tons/acre if using straw. (3) Natural materials include chipped brush, bark, wood shavings, sawdust, leaves, leaf mold, pine needles, grass hay, rice hulls, grasses, grass clippings, crop residues, straw, almond/walnut shells, cocoa bean hulls or coconut fiber. Provide name(s) of natural material(s).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing mulching is completely implemented including thickness measured by a ruler and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials purchased, or donated with proof documents.
			Wood Chips	Ac	$4,385.44	1	Wood chips	(1) Materials produced off site (2) Wood Chips are characterized as chemically untreated, woody material that is ¾ -2 inches in diameter, without leaves and hardy enough to last for several years; (3) Mulch thickness at 2-4 inches; (4) Application rate at ≥40 cubic yards/acre or ≥10 tons/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing mulching is implemented including thickness measured by a ruler and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials if purchased or donated with proof documents.

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Orchard or Vineyard	Nutrient Management (NRCS CPS 590)	Improved N Fertilizer Management on Orchard/Vineyard - Reduce Fertilizer Application Rate by 15%	Basic nutrient management	Ac	$17.80	3	An eligible field(s) is where synthetic nutrient fertilizers have been applied annually	(1) A nutrient management plan for each field/crop based on soil test analysis and University of California or CDFA recommended rates. (2) A farming log records all fertilization activities (fertilizer name, nitrogen content, application rate & date) during each project year.	(1) Crop name(s) and age or yield target; (2) the farming log must demonstrate that nitrogen application rate is 15% less than what was used in the past 3 years or UC recommended rate; (3) Receipts of nitrogen fertilizers purchased as applicable; (4) Verification is at the end of the project year or end of fertilization cycle as applicable.
Orchard or Vineyard	Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (NRCS CPS 329)	Convert Tillage to No Till in Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	No-Till or Strip-Till	Ac	$32.96	3	Tillage implemented prior to application deadline	(1) No tillage; (2) all planting methods are no-till drill or broadcast if applicable. (3) Residues are kept on soil surface and not burned or removed; (4) A farming log recording all field activities.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos showing field operations, field floor and overview of the whole field at end of project year; (2) A farming log; (3) verification at the end of project year.
Orchard or Vineyard	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (NRCS CPS 345)	Convert Tillage to Reduced Till in Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	Reduced- Till	Ac	$40.74	3	Conventional tillage implemented prior to application deadline	(1) Tillage methods (Mulch/vertical tillage, chiseling, or disking) that limit soil disturbance, or (2) Fewer tillage operations. (3) Plant residue covering soil surface during winter- spring period; (4) A farming log recording all field activities related to soil disturbance dates of activities and equipment used.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos for each field showing field operations (including equipment used), field floor and overview of the whole field at end of each project year. (2) A farming log to demonstrate implementation requirements are met; (3) Verification by the end of the project year.
Orchard	Whole Orchard Recycling (NRCS CPS 808)	Whole Orchard Recycling	Whole Orchard Recycling	Ac	$861.42	1	Age of trees at application	(1) Only orchards with trees at least ten years of age at application are eligible; (2) Orchard trees should be chipped and incorporated on the field where they were grown, not to export to new fields.; (3) Chips must be evenly distributed throughout the orchard and incorporated into the soil to at least 6 inches depth.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing tree removal, chipping, spreading and incorporation of wood chips; (2) A farm log including chipping details (e.g., tons of chips, size); (3) Before and after pictures of orchard; (4) Verification is when chips are incorporated.

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Orchard or Vineyard	Windbreak/ Shelterbelt Establishment (NRCS CPS 380)	Plant 1 Row of Woody Plants on Border of Orchard/Vineyard	1-row, trees, containers, hand planted, with tree protected	Ft	$1.66	1	Tree and/or shrub species	(1) Container seedlings at 15-20 cubic inches or bare root seedlings at 2-3 years old before transplanting (2) Plant protection and irrigation are required; (3) ≥200 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs taken at both ends & middle of the tree line. (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Tree protection and irrigation; (5) Plant maintenance during the project term.
			1-row, trees and/or shrub, with wind protection fence	Ft	$2.68	1		(1) Container seedlings at 15-20 cubic inches or bare root seedlings at 2-3 years old before transplanting (2) A wind-protection fence and irrigation are required; (3) ≥200 live plants/acre.	
Grazing Land	Compost Application (NRCS CPS 808)	Compost (C:N >11) Application to Grazed Grassland, or Grazed, Irrigated Pasture, purchased compost	6 tons/Acre	Ac	$385.92	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/Acres	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and field ground right after compost is completely applied, (2) A copy of receipt for compost purchased; (3) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (4) A certificate of the compost facility if it is not included in the list at CalRecycle SWIS Facility/Site.
			7 tons/Acre	Ac	$450.24	3			
			8 tons/Acre	Ac	$514.56	3			
		Compost (C:N >11) Application to Grazed Grassland or Grazed, Irrigated Pasture, on-farm produced compost	6 tons/Acre	Ac	$385.92	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate	(1) Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acre; (2) Compost materials, method and Composting process must be documented. (3) Feedstocks may include green materials, food materials, wood waste, yard trimmings, agricultural materials or biosolids as defined in 14 CCR Section 17852 (https://www.law.cornell.edu/regulations/california/14-CCR-17852).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and compost on the field floor, (2) A composting log including raw materials, method, and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio.
			7 tons/Acre	Ac	$450.24	3			
			8 tons/Acre	Ac	$514.56	3			
Grazing Land	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Replace a Strip of Grassland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	Single Row	Ft	$11.82	1	Hedgerow species	(1) Pollinator-friendly trees, shrubs, and perennial wildflowers; (2) Plant density at ≥200 live plants/acre; (3) Average height at ≥3 feet and extend 15 feet wide at maturity; (4) Plant protection & irrigation.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs taken at both ends and middle of the hedgerow line. (2) Receipts of plants purchased; (3) Plant species name and number of live plants; (4) Maintain plant growth in the project term.

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Grazing Land	Prescribed Grazing (NRCS CPS 528)	Grazing Management to Improve Rangeland, Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Pasture Condition	Pasture, basic	Ac	$81.54	3	A grazing management plan by a certified range manager or equivalent professional to enhance pasture or rangeland health & ecosystem function	(1) Follow the grazing management plan, (2) A grazing log records of grazing dates and stubble height after grazing; (3) Monitoring - photos of forage before and after grazing; (4) Sensitive area protection as applicable.	(1) The grazing log; (2) 3-5 geotagged photos monitoring forage, and other documents as applicable; (3) verification at the end of each project year.
			Range, basic	Ac	$7.10	3			
Grazing Land	Range Planting (NRCS CPS 550)	Seeding forages to improve rangeland condition	Native species broadcast	Ac	$633.56	1	Plant species (must be mixture of native perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs), planting method	(1) Native adapted perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at 18 lb./acre PLS or 40 pure live seeds/sqft.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established range plants (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Species, seeding rate; (4) Documentation of planting method (farming log and photos); (5) Maintenance of range plants.
			Native species high forb drilled	Ac	$552.56	1		(1) Native perennial species; and (2) No-till or range drill seeding at 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft.	
			Native species low forb drilled	Ac	$403.60	1		(1) Predominately native adapted perennial species; (2) no-till or range drill seeding at 18 lb./acre PLS or 40 pure live seeds/sqft.	
			Nonnative species broadcast	Ac	$222.50	1	Plant species (must be mixture of Introduced perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs), planting method	(1) mixture of nonnative adapted perennial species; (2) Seedbed preparation; (3) Seeding rate at 18 lb./acre PLS or 40 pure live seeds/sqft.	
			Nonnative species drilled	Ac	$211.82	1		(1) Mixture of nonnative adapted perennial species; (2) No-till or range drill seeding at 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft.	
			Shrub plugs	Ac	$4,821.94	1	Shrub species and planting method	(1) Shrub species such as Sage Brush, Bitter Brush, or other species; (2) seedling or transplant; bareroot shrubs at 3-5 feet tall or containerized seedlings ≥20 cubic inches; (3) Planting density at 1000 plants/acre.	

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Grazing Land	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Grassland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Bare-root, hand planted	Ac	$3,862.26	1	Tree and/or shrub species, Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Seedling size: 18-36 inches tall or 10-20 cubic inches container for shrubs and hardwood; 1-year old seedlings or 4-6 cubic inches container for conifer; (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant density ≥35 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of the field showing planted trees, (2) Receipts for number and sizes of seedlings/cuttings purchased; (3) Species and number of live trees/shrubs at verification; (4) Tree protection and maintenance.
			Cuttings, Small to Medium Size	Ac	$4,516.20	1		(1) Cutting size: 0.25-1 inch in diameter and 2-4 feet long; (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant density ≥35 live plants/acre.	
			Cuttings, Medium to Large Size	Ac	$8,254.12	1		(1) Cutting size: medium (0.25-1 inch in diameter and 2-4 feet long) to large (2-6 inch in diameter and 6 ft long); (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants/acre.	
			Small container, hand planted	Ac	$6,980.70	1		(1) Potted seedling size: 1 quart to 1 gallon; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants/acre.	
			Large container, hand planted	Ac	$12,925.20	1		(1) Potted seedling size: 2 gallons or larger; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants per acre.	
Grazing Land	Silvopasture (NRCS CPS 381)	Tree/Shrub Planting on Grazed Grasslands	Establish trees, existing grasses	Ac	$313.50	1	Trees and/or shrubs	(1) Seedling size: containerized conifer at 4-6 cubic inches; or bare root conifer at one year old; (2) Plant density at ≥20 live plants per acre; (2) Tree protection (fence and irrigation, etc.)	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing planted trees/shrubs; (2) Receipts showing sizes & number of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live trees/shrubs; (5) Tree protection (fence or other protection and irrigation as needed).

Application Phase								Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Unit**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document /Information at Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Grazing Land	Tree/Shrub Establishment (NRCS CPS 612)	Conversion of Grassland to a Farm Woodlot	Conservation, hand planted	Ac	$603.00	1	Trees and/or shrubs	(1) Shrub seedings at 6-18 inches tall or ≤10 cubic inches container; Tree or hardwood seedlings at 18-36 inches tall or 10-20 cubic inches container. (2) Plant growth maintenance. (3) Plant density: ≥150 live trees/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing planted trees/shrubs; (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased, species and number of live plants; (3) Tree protection, and irrigation as needed; (4) Tree growth maintenance during the project term.
			Conservation, hand planted, browse protection	Ac	$1,526.54	1		(1) Shrub seedings at 6-18 inches tall or ≤10 cubic inches container; Tree or hardwood seedlings at 18-36 inches tall or 10-20 cubic inches container. (2) Plant protection from animal damage and wood stake to fasten plants in place. (3) Growth maintenance. (4) Plant density: ≥150 live trees/acre.	
Grazing Land	Windbreak/ Shelterbelt Establishment (NRCS CPS 380)	Replace a strip of grassland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	1-row, trees, containers, hand planted, with tree protected	Ft	$1.66	1	Tree and/or shrubs	(1) Container seedlings at 15-20 cubic inches or bare root seedlings at 2-3 years old before transplanting (2) Plant protection and irrigation are required; (3) ≥200 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs taken at both ends & middle of the tree line. (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Tree protection and irrigation; (5) Plant maintenance during the project term.
			1-row, trees and/or shrub, with wind protection fence	Ft	$2.68	1		(1) Container seedlings at 15-20 cubic inches or bare root seedlings at 2-3 years old before transplanting (2) A wind-protection fence and irrigation are required; (3) ≥200 live plants/acre.	
Any of above	Soil Sampling	N/A	Soil organic matter (SOM) analysis	Per SOM Analysis Result	$50.00	3	No	(1) Soil sample(s) must be taken from the same field location once prior to practice implementation and one, two, and three years following initial practice implementation; (2) it is recommended they be sent to the same soil analytic laboratory in the grant term; (3) Follow instructions in HSP Soil Sampling Protocol for Soil Organic Matter Analysis when taking soil sample(s).	A soil test report in each project year including soil organic matter content for field(s) where practice implementation is funded. A soil test report at three years following initial practice implementation may occur outside the grant term and the associated expense will be covered by the Grant Recipients.

Definitions:
Cropland, Annual or Perennial: Land where the crop(s) grown is identified as annual or perennial crops according to the Conservation Compliance Agricultural Commodity List under the Food and Security Act of 1985, as amended, or is determined as annual or perennial by the local USDA NRCS if it is not included in the list. Perennial cropland includes orchards and vineyards.
Grazing land: Land used primarily for production of forage plants maintained or manipulated primarily through grazing management.
Grassland: Land where the vegetation is dominated by grasses and other herbaceous (non-woody) plants, such as forbs.
Rangeland: Land on which the potential plant cover is composed principally of native grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing and browsing, and introduced forage species that are managed like rangeland.
Pasture: A land use type having vegetation cover comprised primarily of introduced or enhanced native forage species that is used for livestock grazing. Pasture receives periodic renovation and cultural treatments such as tillage, fertilization, mowing, weed control, and may be irrigated. Pasture vegetation can consist of grasses, legumes, other forbs, shrubs, or a mixture. Pasture differs from range in that it primarily produces vegetation that has initially been planted to provide preferred forage for grazing livestock.
Foregone Income: Reduced revenue that is generated mainly from reduced production because the land area used for growing cash crop(s) will be converted to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/ Legume Cover. A payment scenario name that includes Foregone Income has higher payment rate because it takes consideration of both the reduced revenue and the expense for implementing the conservation management practice.
Geotagged photograph: A geotagged photograph is a photograph which is associated with a geographic position by assigning a latitude and longitude to the image. For pictures taken with a mobile phone or digital camera, this can be achieved by enabling the GPS function of the device prior to capturing a picture. Geotagging helps CDFA confirm the correct location of practice implementation consistent with Project Design at the time of verification. Please check the link https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/docs/InstructionsOnHowToTakeGeotaggedPhotos.pdf for instructions on how to take and send geotagged photos.

Appendix B: Confidential Information

The California Public Records Act (Government Code sections 6250, et seq.) and related statutory definitions of "confidential or proprietary information" (also known as "trade secrets") determine what information provided by the applicant is exempt from public disclosure. The following describes how questions are resolved regarding what information is confidential, the legal protections for confidential information, and internal and program procedures to maintain confidentiality.

What is "confidential?"

The California Public Records Act prevents the disclosure of confidential or proprietary information including, but not limited to:

- Confidential Business and financial information, including volume of business, costs and prices, customers, financial condition, trade secrets, and similar information obtained under an express or implied pledge of confidence. (Eva. Code § 1060 and Gov. Code § 6254).
- Personal data including tax information prohibited from disclosure. (Gov. Code § 6254 and Rev. & Taxation Code § 19542.
- Information Practices Act of 1977 (Civ. Code section 1798 et seq.)

Applicants are directed to clearly marked, on each page, "confidential/proprietary information" those documents they feel contain confidential or proprietary information. However, the mere marking of documents as "confidential/proprietary information" will not result in their being treated as confidential if they are not exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

What if there is a question about what is confidential?

The CDFA Legal Office will review the records and make a determination as to whether or not the records are exempt from disclosure.

What program procedures will keep information confidential?

Financial information will be analyzed, on a need-to-know basis, by staff from the CDFA, kept confidential, and will be maintained with restricted access. Grant Recipients businesses will agree to provide specific key financial information for three years to develop benchmarks to evaluate the program. The records will be kept for the amount of time set forth in CDFA's Internal Record Retention Policy.

Appendix C: Navigation of Application Process

Appendix to be provided in final version of the Request for Grant Applications.