

Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program (CAPGP)

Environmental Farming Act, Science Advisory Panel
September 2022



Funding and Duration

The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$17 million to CDFA for Technical Assistance and Conservation Management Plans.

CAPGP will provide up to \$15 million in funding to eligible applicants for the development of plans.

- Reimbursement will be based upon a flat payment rate established for each type of plan.
- The maximum award amount is \$250,000 per applicant.
- \$6 million will be reserved for plans that support organic transition(Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition (CPA 138), Organic System Plan or Transition to Organic (DIA 140).
- The duration of the grant agreement will be 24 months from the date of execution.



Eligible Entities

Entities applying for CAPGP must collaborate with farmers and ranchers that need assistance with conservation agriculture planning activities.

➤ Individuals

- [Technical Service Providers](#) (TSPs) registered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Farmers and ranchers – in collaboration with qualified experts that meet minimum qualifications criteria
- Professionals with the following certifications: Certified Crop Advisor(CCA), Pest Control Advisor (PCA), Certified Rangeland Manager

➤ Federal and California-Recognized Native American Indian Tribes

➤ Organizations

- Not-for-profit entities including agricultural industry not-for-profit entities
- Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs)
- Federal and University Experiment Stations
- University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources(UC ANR) and Cooperative Extension (UCCE)
- Public universities such as University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) and community colleges
- Agricultural cooperatives
- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)



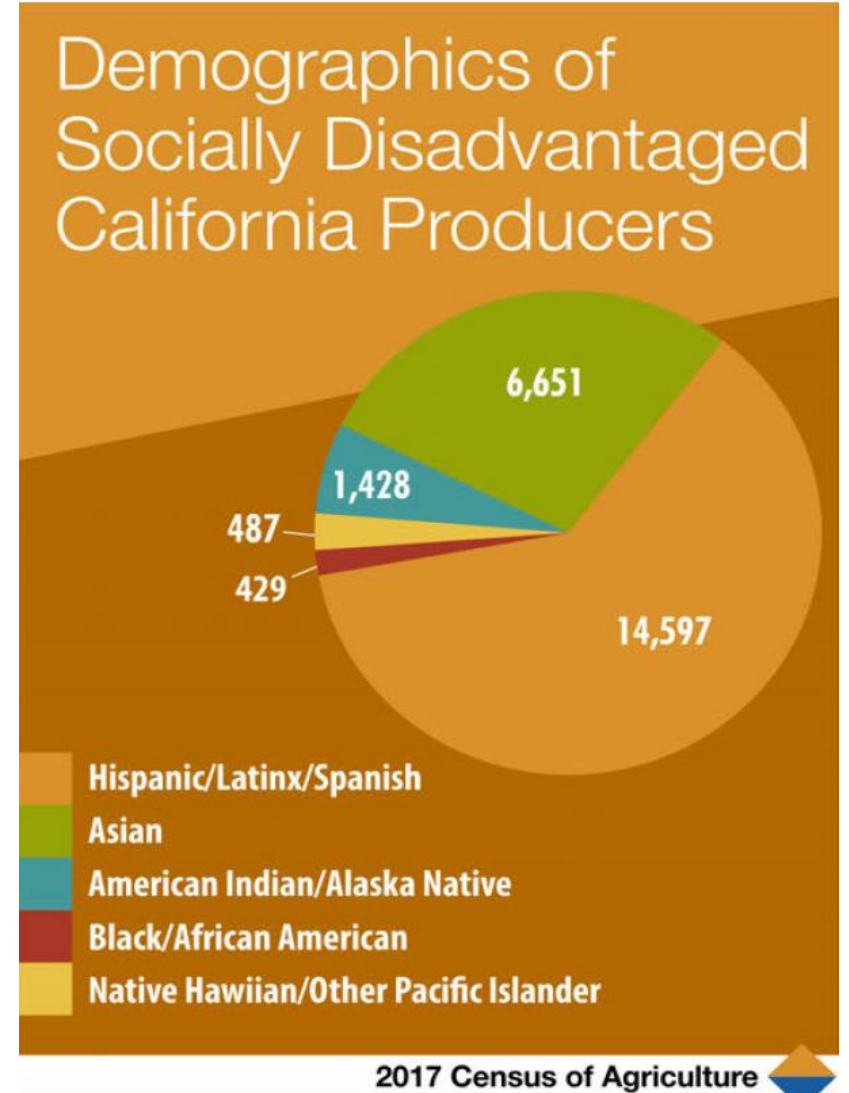
Program Priorities

CDFA aims to expend 25% of the planning assistance funds to benefit Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFRs). Will prioritize CAPGP applications from:

1. SDFR farmer applications that meet minimum qualifications.
2. Non-farmer applicants that commit to expending 25% of the funding to provide planning assistance to SDFR farmers.

CDFA encourages applications from organizations who serve the following: Small to medium-sized California food producers and farmworkers, Socially disadvantaged California food producers and farmworkers, including but not limited to BIMPOC (Black, Indigenous, Multiracial, and People of Color), LGBTQ+, women and veterans.

2020 Report to the California Legislature on the Farmer Equity Act



Plans Eligible for Funding

USDA NRCS has divided Conservation Activity Plans into three categories: Conservation Planning Activity (CPA), Design and Implementation Activity (DIA), and Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA).

[More Info on USDA NRCS Conservation Activity Plans](#)

- **Conservation Planning Activities**

(CPAs): Activities that result in a conservation plan. The CPA will document client decisions regarding selected alternatives including identification of desired primary and supporting practices that the client would like to use to treat identified resource concerns.

- **Design and Implementation Activities**

(DIAs): Activities that allow for development of specific practice designs, management prescriptions, or other instructions that allow the client to implement the conservation practice or system of conservation practices. (Does not include assistance with conservation practice installation, review, and checkout.)

- **Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities**

(CEMAs): Activities that include evaluation, monitoring, testing, or assessment for a specific purpose, to complete practice implementation requirements, or to determine the effectiveness of conservation practices and activities.

Conservation Planning Activity (CPA)	Design and Implementation Activity (DIA)	Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activities (CEMA)
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CPA 102)	Comprehensive Nutrient Management (DIA 101)	Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Assessment (CEMA 218)
Soil Health Management Plan (CPA 116)	Agricultural Energy Design Plan (DIA 120)	Agricultural Energy Assessment (CEMA 228)
Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition (CPA 138) or Organic System Plan	Transition to Organic (DIA 140)	
Carbon Farm Plan	Fish and Wildlife Habitat (DIA 144)	
	Pollinator Habitat (DIA 148)	
	Nutrient Management (DIA 157)	
	Grazing Management (DIA 159)	
	Pest Management Conservation System (DIA 161)	
	Soil Health Management (DIA 162)	
	Irrigation Water Management Design (DIA 163)	

Program Timeline

Activity	Tentative Dates*
Release Request for Grant Applications	July 29, 2022
CDFA Hosts Application Webinars	August 3 & August 17, 2022 CDFA - OEFI - Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program (ca.gov)
Grant Applications Due	October 23, 2022, 5 PM Pacific Time
Review Period	October – December 2022
Announce and Award Funding	January 2023

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Pollinator Habitat Program

CDFA OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING & INNOVATION

Environmental Farming Act,
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Funding Appropriation

SB 170, Skinner. Budget Act of 2021.

Chapter 240. SEC. 170. Item 8570-102-0001. (1). 7.

"Of the amount appropriated in this item, \$15,000,000 shall be available for the Pollinator Habitat Program. The department shall prioritize the planning of native habitats for the benefit of native biodiversity and the use of locally appropriate native plant seed mixes when feasible."

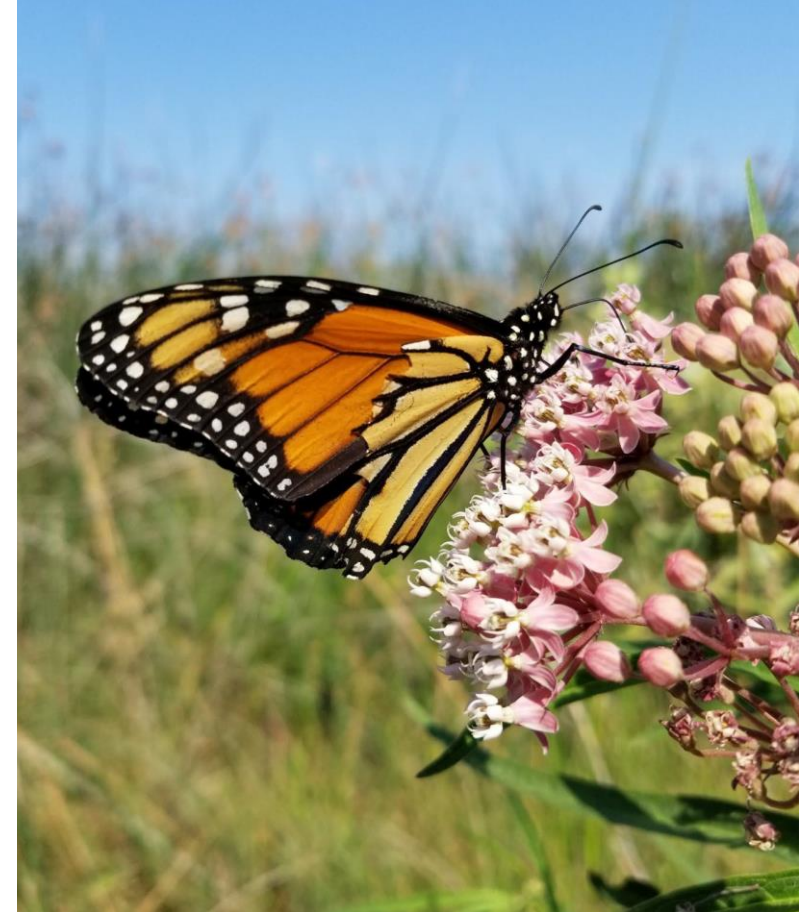
- \$15 M available in 2021-2022
- \$15 M available in 2022-2023



Public Input Process

Summary of Major Updates:

- Increase maximum award from \$1 M to \$2 M
- 18% of total award can be used for technical assistance and administrative tasks
- Additional practices added including alley cropping, contour buffer strips, critical area planting, and others
- More clarification on provision of Integrated Pest Management Training



Application Period to Open
end of August

Applications due in
November

For more info:
www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/php

Contact us:
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