2021 HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM
INCENTIVES PROGRAM

The 2021 Healthy Soils Program Incentives Program is funded by the California State Budget General Fund and the California Climate Investments.

Request for Grant Applications

Release date: November 1, 2021

Rolling application submission up to 5:00 p.m. PT on February 25, 2022

or until available funds are expended.

Late Submissions will not be accepted.

Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation

California Department of Food and Agriculture

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CONTENTS

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The California Department of Agriculture (CDFA) is pleased to announce funding availability through a competitive grant process for the 2021 Healthy Soils Program (HSP) Incentives Program.

The 2021 HSP Incentives Program is 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 2021 HSP Incentives Program is funded by California State Budget, authorized by the Budget Act of 2021 (SB 129, Chapter 69) and the California Climate Investments.

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 for 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 HSP Incentives Program addresses Objective 1. Objectives 2 and 3 are addressed in the 2021 HSP Demonstration Projects. Request for Applications for both the HSP Incentives Program and the HSP Demonstration Projects are available on the HSP website: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/.

FUNDING AND DURATION

CDFA was appropriated $50 million from the California State Budget and $25 million from the California Climate Investments authorized by the Budget Act of 2021 to fund HSP – Incentives Program and Demonstration Projects. The HSP Incentives Program will provide financial incentives to California growers and ranchers for implementation of agricultural management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs, and improve soil health.

- The maximum grant award is $100,000.
- The application submission period will be on a rolling basis, starting

November 1, 2021 and continuing until February 25, 2021 or until available funds are expended, whichever is earlier.
- Grant funds cannot be expended before the grant agreement is executed or after the grant agreement term has ended.
- Cost sharing (matching funds or in-kind contributions) during grant duration is not required but encouraged (See: Project Duration and Cost Sharing).
- CDFA reserves the right to offer an award different than the amount requested.

The HSP Incentives Program funds may be combined with other funds as match for the same 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 activities or costs funded by other federal or state grant programs.

ELIGIBILITY AND EXCLUSIONS

ELIGIBILITY

- California farmers, ranchers and Federal and California Recognized Native American Indian Tribes are eligible to apply.
- Projects must be located on a California agricultural operation. For the purpose of this program, an agricultural operation is defined as row, vineyard, field and tree crops, commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, and livestock and livestock product operations.
- University and research farms, and city community gardens are not eligible for funding through the HSP Incentives Program. These entities may apply for the HSP Demonstration Projects.
- Awards are limited to one per agricultural operation using a unique tax identification number per round of funding. Individuals or business entities receiving grant award funds must be located in California with a physical California business address.
- All projects must implement at least one of the eligible agricultural management practices listed under Eligible Agricultural Management Practices, on fields where said practice was not implemented previously:
    - A previously implemented practice cannot be implemented on same field. A previously implemented practice is eligible for funding only if it is implemented on a new, different field within the same

APN or a new APN.
    - Practices must be implemented on the same field(s) within the APN and cannot be moved to different field(s) within an APN during the term of the grant agreement.
    - Practices must be implemented on the same total acreage throughout the term of the grant agreement as proposed in the application and memorialized in the grant agreement. Decrease in acreage of practice implementation and quantified GHG reductions in the project after signature by Recipient and execution of grant agreement may result in elimination of that practice from the project and subsequent reduction of project budget. Additionally, project may be considered incomplete, and ten percent of total project budget may be withheld (see Project Verification).
- Projects must result in net GHG benefits (i.e., net positive GHG reductions) from specific eligible agricultural management practices identified in this solicitation for the grant agreement term supported by document(s) of Carbon Sequestration and GHG Estimation Report(s) (See GHG Reduction Estimation).
- Applicants must provide past three years' baseline data on cropping and management histories directly related to fields identified by APNs where eligible agricultural management practices are proposed for implementation to be eligible for funding.
- Applicants must lease, own, or otherwise control the fields and APNs where project activities are proposed to occur for the entirety of the project duration. If leasing land, applicants must ensure the proposed project does not violate their lease agreement and document approval by the landowner to implement proposed practices(s) from date of grant agreement execution to TBD.
- If selected for funding, applicants must be able to execute a grant agreement within 30 days of receiving a notice of award.

EXCLUSIONS

- HSP Incentives Program funds cannot be used to implement management practices that are not listed under Eligible Agricultural Management Practices in this grant solicitation. All requirements for practice implementation must be followed.
- HSP Incentives Program funds cannot be used to fund fields with existing

and ongoing implementation of any agricultural management practices listed under Eligible Agricultural Management Practices.

- Fields that have previously received HSP Incentives or Demonstration awards for a particular practice are not eligible to receive additional funding for the same practice. New fields within a previously funded APN, or new practices to be implemented on previously funded fields are eligible.
- Compost Application Practices and Whole Orchard Recycling 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 NRCS Conservation Practice Standards and NRCS California Practice Scenarios.
- HSP Incentives program funds cannot be used for projects that use potted plants and plant growth media other than soil.

ELIGIBLE AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

CDFA has identified eligible agricultural management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs and improve soil health for 2021 HSP projects. An applicant must include the APN(s) of the field(s) where the eligible management practice(s) will be implemented. An applicant 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 following management practices were selected from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Practice Standards (CPS) and CDFA specified Compost Application and Whole Orchard Recycling Practices. HSP-specific GHG Quantification Methodology is currently available for these practices.

All practices must be implemented in accordance with their respective NRCS CPS requirements for implementation in California, CDFA Compost Application White Paper and CDFA's Whole Orchard Recycling Report. HSP-specific requirements for implementation of eligible practices are based on NRCS CPS documentation and 2021 NRCS California Practice Scenarios (HSP-specific practices only). Refer to the Program Requirements and Appendix A for details.

All eligible practices are divided into the categories below:

I. Cropland

1. Alley Cropping (USDA NRCS CPS 311)
2. Compost Application (Interim 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 (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
    a. Natural Materials (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
    b. Wood Chips (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
14. Multi-story Cropping (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 (601) (USDA NRCS CPS 601)
23. Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 380)

II. Orchard or Vineyard

1. Compost Application (Interim 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
    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 (Interim CPS 808)
11. Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (USDA NRCS CPS 380)

III. Grazing Land

1. Compost Application (Interim 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 is different from that required by USDA-NRCS, and

distinct from the grant duration.

In addition to the NRCS CPS requirements, 2021 NRCS California Practice Scenarios and the table provided above, the following scientific documents were used to establish requirements for implementation of practices:

1. White paper titled 'Compost Application Rates for California Croplands and Rangelands for a CDFA Healthy Soils Incentives Program', available at: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/docs/CompostApplicationRate_WhitePaper.pdf
2. California Air Resources Board (CARB) Healthy Soils Quantification Methodology (QM) available at: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/resources/documents/cci-quantification-benefits-and-reporting-materials.
3. COMET-Planner Report: This report explains the scientific approaches that the quantification methodology has been 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
4. CDFA's Report on Whole Orchard Recycling: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/docs/CDFA_WOR_Report.pdf

Technical information from these documents was evaluated and synthesized to develop Program Requirements and Appendix A.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Submitted applications must meet all applicable requirements in this section to be considered for funding.

- Eligible agricultural management practices can be implemented alone or in combinations, except where specified, on one APN or several APNs. Specific fields within each APN where agricultural management practice(s) will be implemented should be named by Field (Such as Field 1, Field 2, Field 3, etc.).
    - Each field must be outlined clearly on the APN map.
    - All fields must have the selected agricultural management practices implemented each year for the duration of the project term.
    - Implementations must begin prior to the end (i.e., December 31) of

each project year.
    - Multiple management 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.
    - Once awarded, recipients may not change the APNs included in the grant application through the duration of the project.
    - Implementation of eligible management practices will be incentivized based on payment rates provided in Appendix A.

- Projects proposing to implement Prescribed Grazing 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.

- Fields where implementation of Riparian Forest Buffer and/or Riparian Herbaceous Cover 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.

- Projects proposing to implement Conservation Crop Rotation 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.

- Projects proposing to implement Cover Crops may not claim post-termination cover crop residue as mulching practice with natural materials to prevent overestimation of GHG reductions achieved.

- Projects proposing to implement practices that involve establishment of permanent woody cover must take into consideration wildlife and pollinator needs when selecting or siting tree or shrub species. Increasing species diversity, including use of native species, and avoiding species with invasive potential should be considered. Crop trees may not be planted exclusively.

- Implementation of Compost Application practices 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.
  - If compost is purchased:
    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. STA (US Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance Program) or CDFA-OIM (Organic Input Material) Program certified compost is recommended. Applicants may look up certified composting facilities at the CalRecycle SWIS/Site Search website: https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/Search
    b. A report of laboratory analysis on compost C:N ratio is required.
  - If compost is produced on-farm:
    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 five 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.
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.

- Implementation of the Whole Orchard Recycling (WOR) practice must meet the following requirements below:
    - Only orchards with trees at least ten years of age are eligible.
    - Following woodchip incorporation, land must be fallowed or replanted with trees within 3 years.
    - 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 WOR 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.

- CDFA will consider 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 in the same group cannot be implemented on the exact same land area or field, i.e., cannot overlap or be on top of each other, as noted below. If proposed together, only one practice may be funded. CDFA HSP Re-Plan Tool is designed to facilitate applicants avoid selection of 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)
- Group II:
  - Residue and Tillage Management – No-Till (USDA NRCS CPS 329)
  - Residue and Tillage Management – Reduced Till (USDA NRCS CPS 345)
- Group III: Compost Application (Interim CPS 808): Compost must either be
  - Purchased from a Certified Facility, or,
  - On-farm Produced Compost
- Group IV:
  - Mulching (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
  - Whole Orchard Recycling (Interim CPS 808)
- Group V
  - 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 (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)
- Group VI
  - Alley Cropping (USDA NRCS CPS 311)
  - Hedgerow Planting (USDA NRCS CPS 422)
  - Multi-story Cropping (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)
- Group VII
  - Any practice listed in Group V and mulching
  - Any practice listed in Group V and Group VI with reduced-till or no-till.

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

- Requirements noted in Appendix A must be followed for all HSP practices.

- Applicants must use the CDFA HSP Re-Plan Tool to develop their project design, determine if they may be located in AB 1550 Priority Populations, eligibility for Compost Application and Whole Orchard Recycling, and assistance in selecting species to be planted for specific practices based on the USDA NRCS California eVegGuide.

- 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.

- Application ID: The CDFA HSP Incentives Program electronic application platform will generate a unique ID for each application.

- An agricultural operation can only submit one grant application using a unique tax identification number. If an agricultural operation does not have a unique tax identification number, that operation should provide the last four digits of their social security number (e.g., XXX-XX-1234) in their grant application.
  An agricultural operation must use the operation's legal business name and associated tax identification number in their application. The business name provided in the application is the entity to which CDFA will extend a Grant Agreement if the project is selected for an award. (See: Award Process).

- Project Duration and Cost Sharing: The HSP Incentives Program will provide funds for the grant duration. Though not required, applicants are encouraged to provide cost share to the project through the grant duration. Cost sharing can be in the form of matching funds or in-kind contributions. Matching funds refers to a dollar amount committed to a

project from a source other than the HSP Incentives Program. An in-kind contribution is the estimated dollar value of any time, property, or supplies donated to a project, including costs associated with labor for work involved in the implementation of the proposed project. Applicants are required to certify that cost-share, if provided, has been secured at the time of application submission.

Timeline for implementation of awarded projects is provided below:

Project Year	Duration of Project Year	Implementation Must Begin No Later Than
1	Date of grant agreement execution – June 30, 2023	December 31, 2022
2	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024	December 31, 2023
3	July 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025	December 31, 2024

- *Baseline Data:* Applicants must submit the following baseline data at the time of application.
    - Cropping history in the past three years (2019 – 2021) in all APN(s) included in the application.
    - Management practice history in the past three years (2019 – 2021) in all APN(s) included in the application.
    - Provide the proposed plan of crops for all APNs/Fields included in the project during the next three years (2022 through 2025).

  Applicants proposing to include Compost Application and/or Whole Orchard Recycling practices in their projects must use the CDFA HSP Re-Plan Tool to check if the project site is eligible for the practice. Compost Application and Whole Orchard Recycling are not allowed on a field that has soil organic matter content greater than 20 percent by dry weight for a 20 cm (or 8 inch) depth.

- *GHG Reduction Estimation*: An estimation of the reduction in GHG emissions from the selected Eligible Agricultural Management Practices and associated payments must be calculated using the Quantification Methodology (QM) and calculator tools developed by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The QM and calculator tool are adapted from

the USDA-NRCS COMET-Planner methodology. The calculator tool used for HSP is available at http://comet-planner-cdfahsp.com/

COMET-Planner Report will be generated upon completion of the calculation, which must be included as part of the application, and is required for all eligible agricultural management practice(s) selected. Projects eligible for HSP funding must achieve net GHG reductions, i.e., GHG reductions estimated using the QM and calculator tool must be positive in consideration of all the practices selected.

TIMELINE

The application period begins on November 1, 2021. The deadline to submit a grant application is February 25, 2022 by 5:00 p.m. PT. Applications will be accepted on a rolling-basis and reviewed first-come-first serve. No exceptions will be granted for late submissions.

Activity	Date
Invitation to Submit Grant Applications	November 1, 2021
CDFA Grant Application Workshop Webinars	November 18, 2021 December 16, 2021 January 20, 2022
Applications Due	Accepted on a rolling basis until February 25, 2021 or until funds are expended, whichever is earlier.
Review Period and Award Notification	On a rolling basis, until March 2022. Applications will be reviewed in the order received.
Award Process Timeline	See Award Process

WORKSHOPS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

CDFA will conduct three workshops on the 2021 HSP grant application process and program requirements. All workshops will be remotely accessible through live webinar.

CDFA cannot assist in the preparation of grant applications; however, general questions may be submitted to cdfa.HSP_Tech@cdfa.ca.gov. CDFA will conduct two rounds of Questions and Answers (Q&A) to address general questions about the application submission process and program requirements. Responses to all questions received during the workshops and webinars or by email will be posted to CDFA's HSP Incentives Program website according to the schedule below.

Questions Received by	Answers Provided by
November 19, 2021	December 3, 2021
December 24, 2021	December 30, 2021
January 14, 2022	January 21, 2022

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

In addition, CDFA-funded Technical Assistance (one-to-one on-demand assistance) across the state will be provided free of cost to all potential applicants. 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 should 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, availability of a computer and internet to prepare the application. CDFA strongly encourages applicants to obtain technical assistance when developing a grant application.

Information about CDFA-conducted workshops and CDFA-funded Technical Assistance is available at https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/IncentivesProgram.html and https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/technical/.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

HOW TO APPLY

The 2021 HSP Incentives Program is a web-based application process,

accessible at https://webportalapp.com/sp/2021_cdfa_hsp_incentives. The grant application is a series of questions in one or more of the following formats: a drop-down menu; a check box; a text box with predetermined character limitations; or as a document attachment. Responses to all questions must be submitted in the manner and format required by the application questionnaire electronically without exception. Preview of application questions is available in the Preview of Application Questions.

Applicants are encouraged to gather all required information using information provided under Required Application Documents to facilitate effective and timely submission of the grant application.

APPLICATION PERIOD

The 2021 HSP Incentives Program will accept and award applications on a rolling basis starting November 1, 2021 and continue until 5:00 p.m. PT on February 25, 2022, or until available funds are expended, whichever is earlier. Upon submission during this time-frame, a submitted application will be evaluated and decision to award the project will be made according to the Review and Evaluation process. Evaluation process for an application will be conducted in the order it was received during the application period.

APPLICATION SECTIONS

The 2021 HSP Application consists of the following sections available within the web-based application:

Applicant Information: This section includes names and contact information of the applicant organization, applicant, primary contact person(s) and collaborators for the project.

Project Overview: This section includes an overview of project, i.e., a brief description and total project cost.

Project Logistics: This section includes details of the proposed project, such as APNs on which practices will be implemented, number of proposed practices, associated acreage, and project baseline data.

Project Design: This section includes a schematic of the project design with a

map that includes APNs on which project will be implemented, with a detailed layout of practices to be implemented, total acreage of each practice and plant species to be planted on each field (if applicable). The project design must be created using the CDFA HSP Re-Plan Tool.

Project Work Plan: This section must be completed within the template provided by CDFA. Follow instructions provided in the web-based application and template.

Project Budget and GHG Emission Reduction Estimation: Estimate cost of practice implementation and GHG emission reduction must be estimated using the CDFA HSP COMET-Planner tool. Follow instructions provided in the CARB Greenhouse Gas Quantification Methodology for CDFA Healthy Soils Program and the web-based application.

Conservation Plan: Providing a Conservation Plan is optional, however, applications that include a qualified conservation plan with the application will receive additional points during review (See: Evaluation Criteria). A conservation plan is a plan of broad environmental/ecological impacts and solutions for the whole farm and is prepared by an NRCS specialist, an NRCS-trained individual or entity, a certified Crop Advisor, a certified Professional Soil Scientist, or a certified Professional Agronomist. A Conservation Plan should include, at a minimum:

- An aerial photo or diagram of project fields.
- A list of current management decisions.
- The location of and schedule for applying new conservation practices.
- Resource Assessment: inventory of resources and resource concerns, soils information, topographic maps, plan maps showing location of property, existing practices, structures, planned practices, soils, water features and other environmentally sensitive areas, and environmental assessment.
- Information explaining how to carry out specific management decisions.
- A plan for operation and maintenance of the management practice(s).

Additional Priority: This section consists of one optional question where applicants may indicate if they belong to Socially Disadvantaged Groups. Not answering this question will not negatively impact the application; however, providing a response will assist CDFA in prioritizing funding to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers. See Funding Priority.

REVIEW AND EVALUATION PROCESS

REVIEW PROCESS

CDFA will conduct multiple levels of review during the grant application process. The first level review is an administrative review to determine whether application is complete, program requirements were met and if applicable, assess an applicant's past grant performance. All required documentation must be submitted to avoid disqualification. Projects that do not pass the first level review will not be moved to the second level review.

The second level review is a technical review to evaluate the feasibility and overall likelihood of project success, including selection of HSP practices associated with suitable crop/land type, a clear and proper project design, a reasonable implementation timeline (work plan), and the correct estimation of GHG emission reductions and carbon sequestration. The technical review committee comprises of academic researchers, extension specialists and farm advisors affiliated with the University of California and California State University systems.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria (see Detailed Scoring Criteria for additional information). An application must score a minimum of 40 points to be considered for funding.

Criteria	**Score**
Project Logistics	10
Project Design	10
Project Work Plan	10
Project Budget and GHG Emission Reduction Estimation	20
Conservation Plan (if applicable)	10
Total	**60**

FUNDING PRIORITY

Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the funds available for HSP Incentives Program will be awarded to projects that benefit Socially Disadvantaged Farmers or Ranchers[1]. CDFA will ensure the inclusion of Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers in all programs, including HSP, consistent with the Farmer Equity Act of 2017.

Benefits to Priority Populations

SB 535 established statutory requirements that a minimum of 25 percent of California Climate Investments is allocated to projects that provide benefits to disadvantaged communities, and of that 25 percent, a minimum of 10 percentage points is allocated to projects that are also located within disadvantaged communities. AB 1550 (Gomez, Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016), amended these requirements by increasing the percent of funds for projects located in disadvantaged communities from 10 to 25 percent and added a focus on investments in low-income communities and households. Collectively, these communities are referred to as 'priority populations'. AB 1550 investment minimums apply to the overall appropriations of monies from the GGRF.

In 2021, CARB has established an overall target of 35% of funds appropriated to the HSP from the California Climate Investments to be invested in projects providing benefits to priority populations. This includes a target of 20% for projects benefitting disadvantaged communities and 15% for projects benefitting low-income communities, respectively.

Priority populations can be identified using the mapping tools provided by CARB at www.arb.ca.gov/cci-resources. Projects are not required to provide benefits to priority populations. However, projects that are determined to be providing benefits will be prioritized for funding. Projects benefitting Priority Populations will be identified automatically by the CDFA HSP RePlan Tool based on project location and net criteria air pollutant emission reductions determined consistent

[1] "Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher" means a farmer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. "Socially disadvantaged group" means 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:
(1) African Americans (2) Native Indians (3) Alaskan Natives (4) Hispanics (5) Asian Americans (6) Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

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.

NOTIFICATION AND FEEDBACK

All applicants will be notified by email regarding the status of their grant application. Applicants may expect to receive feedback on their grant application within 6 weeks of submission.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

The following will result in the disqualification of a grant application:

1. Incomplete grant applications: applications with one or more unanswered questions necessary for administrative or technical review.
2. Incomplete grant applications: applications with missing, blank, unreadable, corrupt, or otherwise unusable attachments.
3. Applications requesting funding for more than the maximum award amount.
4. Applications with unallowable costs or activities not necessary to complete the project objectives.
5. Applications that do not comply with Eligibility and Exclusions or do not meet Program Requirements.

APPEAL RIGHTS: Any discretionary action taken by the Office of Grants Administration (OGA) may be appealed to CDFA's Office of Hearings and Appeals 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 his/her authorized agent. It must state the grounds for the appeal and include any supporting documents and a copy of the OGA 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.

AWARD PROCESS

PAYEE DATA RECORD

If an application is selected for an award, the applicant will receive a

notification email with the request to fill out the payee data record form. The applicant must complete the form following the instructions provided on the form, electronically sign, and submit within 5 business days. Late submission of the payee data form may result in delay of grant execution or cancelation of award.

PRE-PROJECT CONSULTATION

After receiving notification of award, the grant recipient may be contacted by CDFA via email to conduct a pre-project consultation. In some cases, a phone call with grant recipient may be necessary. A CDFA environmental scientist will discuss with the recipient the project work plan, including management practice(s), APN, field number, acreage, materials and/or plant species (if applicable) associated with practice implementation, and budget. The purpose of the pre-project consultation is to ensure that practices and implementation methods in the funded project are compliant with 2021 HSP Incentives Program requirements and to allow CDFA to schedule verification site visits, if needed.

GRANT AGREEMENT

CDFA will initiate the Grant Agreement process with applicants selected to receive a 2021 HSP Incentives Program grant award. This process of executing a grant agreement is estimated to take several months. Following a pre-project consultation (if needed), applicants with projects selected for an award of funds will receive a Grant Agreement package with specific instructions regarding award requirements including information on project implementation, verification, and payment process.

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 grant recipient.	Variable
Grant agreement execution	Up to 120 days
Processing advance payments – if awardees request and are granted approval for an advance payment, it	Up to 4 weeks

may take up to 4 weeks to process this payment after execution of the grant agreement.	

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Once a Grant Agreement is executed, the grant recipient may begin implementation of the project. Recipients are responsible for the overall management of the awarded project to ensure all project activities are completed as identified in the Grant Agreement.

Implementation must begin on or after the date the Grant Agreement is executed, and no later than December 31, 2022. Failure to begin project implementation prior to December 31, 2022 may result in all or any portion of the grant funding withheld or termination of the Grant Agreement. Implementation of HSP practices in years 2 and 3 must begin prior to December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2024, respectively.

PROJECT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Recipients are required to report annually soil organic matter content for each APN/ Field where HSP Management Practices are implemented. For this purpose, soil samples must be taken once prior to project implementation, and; one, two and three years following initial project implementation.

Each submission should contain a laboratory report of soil organic matter content for each field from any of the accredited soil analytical laboratories recommended by CDFA[2]. The soil sampling protocol provided in HSP Soil Sampling Protocol for Soil Organic Matter Analysis must be followed when collecting soil samples.

PAYMENT PROCESS

Grant payment for the 2021 HSP Incentives Program is a flat-rate payment system on a reimbursement basis through yearly invoicing upon practice verification.

CDFA will provide the grant recipient with the necessary grant award and invoicing documents (See: Project Verification)

[2] CDFA recommended soil analytical labs are listed in HSP Soil Sampling Protocol for Soil Organic Matter Analysis.

Note: For projects implementing compost application, information provided below must be noted:

- The estimated payments provided by the CDFA HSP Comet-Planner tool are based on the maximum allowable application rate for compost. In case of grant recipients applying compost at lower rates, 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 and applications rates must be consistent with those provided in the grant application. If finished compost has a different C:N ratio, application rates 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 project budget.

ADVANCE PAYMENTS

If selected for funding, recipients may be eligible for advance payments of up to 25 percent of the grant award, subject to the provisions of section 316.1 "Advance Payments" of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1, Chapter 5.

PROJECT VERIFICATION

Recipients will be subjected to verification that the eligible agricultural management practices are implemented in a manner consistent with the USDA NRCS CPS guidelines, and Program Requirements in Appendix A. Verification will be conducted by CDFA environmental scientists who may conduct field evaluations by APN and/or remote evaluations through phone, video conferencing or emails to verify program compliance during the grant agreement term. CDFA may request any or all of the documentation listed in Appendix A in order to successfully complete project verification.

The purpose of project verification is to determine whether and when deliverables are being met and evaluate project progress to ensure the eligible agricultural management practice(s) are completed within the grant agreement term. Recipients may be required to submit project-related financial records and documentation (such as receipts for payment of services/goods) to ensure HSP Incentives Program funds are used in compliance with the Grant Agreement terms and conditions. Specific verification requirements for each

practice implementation are noted in Appendix A and will be provided in the Grant Awards Procedures manual. The verification must be completed prior to payment of grant funds. CDFA will withhold up to 10 percent from the total grant award until the verification requirements are complete.

The State of California has the right to review project documents and conduct audits during project implementation and over the project life.

POST-PROJECT COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Execution of the Grant Agreement is conditional upon agreement to post-project completion requirements. Recipients are required to maintain implementation of practices incentivized through this program through the term of the grant agreement. However, benefits from implementation of practices are expected to be achieved in the long term. Recipients are encouraged to continue and/or expand these practices on their operations to achieve long-term benefits. Additionally, grant recipients are required to maintain, three years after completion of project, documentation related to their HSP funded projects, including records documenting maintenance of the agricultural management practice(s) and any soil testing reports for the project APNs/fields, to keep records of actual benefits achieved from the project, and provide organic matter testing report for soil samples taken at 3-year after practice implementation.

Failure to work with CDFA to provide the necessary project-related documentation will be considered non-performance. In the event of non-performance, CDFA may take any action deemed necessary to recover all or any portion of the grant funding.

CDFA will contact a subset of awarded projects to collect data including, but not limited to, eligible agricultural management practice implementation and GHG reduction estimates, for three years after project completion.

STATE AUDIT AND ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS

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

AUDIT 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 audit, Grantee will be contacted in advance. The audit shall include all books, papers, accounts, documents, or other records of Grantee, as they relate to the project. All project expenditure documentation should be available for an audit, whether paid with grant funds or other funds.
Grantee 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. Grantee must provide a copy of any document, paper, record, etc., requested by the auditor.

ACCOUNTING REQUIREMENTS

Grantee 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. Grantee must retain all project records at least one (1) year following an audit.

DETAILED SCORING CRITERIA

CRITERIA	MAX POINTS
1. PROJECT LOGISTICS • Proposed practice not implemented in the field currently or last year. • For practice expanding to new acres: only new acres are eligible for funding. • Proposed practice implementation methods must be consistent with the requirements in the corresponding NRCS CPS	**10**

documentation, CDFA Compost Application White Paper and/or CDFA Whole Orchard Recycling Report.	
2. PROJECT DESIGN • Project design schematic (map) created using the CDFA HSP Re-Plan tool (other schematics or maps not accepted). Plant species in the project if applicable (e.g., for Cover Crop) is provided. • Compost Application: C:N ratio and application rate are indicated and within eligible range.	**10**

3. PROJECT WORK PLAN
• Tasks necessary to accomplish implementation of each proposed practice are feasible and all necessary tasks for each of the Project Year are included.
• Timeline for completing all tasks is reasonable and achievable.
• Please check:
  ○ All practices must be implemented/maintained each year for three years.
  ○ Soil samples must be taken prior to, one, two and three years after practice implementation.
	10

4. PROJECT BUDGET AND GHG EMISSION REDUCTIONS • Only budgets prepared using the CDFA HSP COMET-Planner tool are allowed. • CDFA HSP COMET-Planner Report is provided. • Acres/feet in the budget is only for new practice(s) and/or new acres of existing practice(s). Input data (county, practice, and acreage) is consistent with what is provided in the project design. For cover crop practice implementation where legume and non-legume species are to be used in the same field, only acreage for legume species should be entered.	**20**
5. CONSERVATION PLAN • Documents: meet minimum requirements for the conservation plan.	**10**
TOTAL POINTS	**60**

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

All required application documents must be submitted by the deadline specified in this solicitation. In addition to the mandatory and optional attachments each applicant will provide, applicants must download, complete and upload the workplan template provided on this page: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/incentivesprogram.html.

- Project Work Plan Template

Additional mandatory and applicable attachments include:

- CDFA HSP RePlan Report (mandatory; automatically uploaded to the application when completed in CDFA HSP RePlan Tool)
- CDFA-HSP COMET-Planner Report (mandatory)
- Landowner Agreement (if applicable).
- Conservation Plan (if applicable).
- A Grazing management plan for Prescribed Grazing Practice (if practice is included).

APPENDIX A

2021 HSP Incentives Program: Payment Rates, Requirements, and Implementation Guidelines

Application Phase							Implementation Phase	
Agricultural System	**HSP Practice**	**Practice Implementation**	**Payment Scenario**	**Payment Rate ($/Unit)**	**Number of Years to be Paid**	**Required Document or Information at Submission of Application**	**Implementation Guidelines**	**Verification Requirements**
Cropland	Alley Cropping (NRCS CPS 311)	Replace 20% of Annual Cropland with Woody Plants	Tree-planting, single row	$2,107.20 /Ac	1	Species and number of trees	(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 (CDFA)	Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application to annual crops	On-farm produced compost	$50.00/ton	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate, Acres to Be Implemented	(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://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I2735C56A57C94FB0BB2C821C37CA68B5?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default).	(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; (5) Verification when compost is spread.

		Compost (C:N > 11) application to annual crops					(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://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I2735C56A57C94FB0BB2C821C37CA68B5?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default).	
Cropland	Compost Application (CDFA)	Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application to annual crops	Purchased from a Certified Composting Facility	$50.00/ton	3		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 CalRecycle SWIS Facility/Site; (5) Verification when compost is spread.
		Compost (C:N > 11) application to annual crops					Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acre	
Cropland	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/ Legume cover	Introduced species	$273.78/Ac	1	(1) Introduced perennial or selected using CalFlora, (2) seeding rate & planting method	(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	$458.16/Ac			(1) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	

Cropland	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/ Legume cover	Native species	$305.60/Ac	1	(1) Mix of native perennials, (2) seeding rate & planting method	(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	$567.56/Ac				
Cropland	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/ Legume cover	Monarch species – mix species	$1,370.78 /Ac	1	(1) Mix of native perennial grass & forbs for wildlife, pollinators, or ecosystem restoration; (2) Seeding rate & planting method	(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.	
			Monarch species – mix species with foregone income	$1,383.20 /Ac				
Cropland	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/ Legume cover	Pollinator species	$1,095.52 /Ac	1	(1) Mix of native perennial grasses, legumes, and forbs to provide habitat for pollinators; (2) Seeding rate & planting method	(1) Mixed native species with less than 50% grasses; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and good 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.
			Pollinator species with foregone income	$1,088.74 /Ac	1			
Cropland	Conservation Crop Rotation (NRCS CPS 328)	Decrease Fallow Frequency or Add Perennial Crop to Rotations	Basic rotation	$20.48/Ac	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	$54.64/Ac				

Cropland	Contour Buffer Strips (NRCS CPS 332)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Unfertilized Grass/Legume Cover	Introduced species, foregone income	$434.16/Ac	1	(1) A design schematic; (2) Perennial species; (3) seeding rate and planting method.	(1) Width of strips: ≥15 feet wide if ≥50% grass species OR ≥30 feet wide when legume/forbs are used alone, or ≥50% legumes; (2) Seeding rate at 41-60 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.
			Native species, foregone income	$464.02/Ac	1	(1) A design schematic; (2) Native perennial species; (3) seeding rate, planting method	(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.	
Cropland	Contour Buffer Strips (NRCS CPS 332)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Unfertilized Grass/Legume Cover	Wildlife Pollinator, foregone income	$464.02/Ac	1	(1) A design schematic; (2) at least 3 pollinator friendly native perennial species; (3) Seeding rate, planting method	(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 in the project term.
Cropland	Cover Crop (NRCS CPS 340)	Add Legume/ Non-Legume Seasonal Cover Crop to Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland	One species	$102.98/Ac	3	(1) APN/field and acres; (2) cover crop species; (3) Seeding rates; (4) Planting date and method; (5) Termination date and method	(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	$126.04/Ac				

Cropland	Field Border (NRCS CPS 386)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Permanent Unfertilized Grass/Legume Cover	Introduced species	$164.84/Ac	1	Introduced perennial species, seeding rate, planting method	(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	$245.08/Ac	1	Native perennial species; seeding rate; planting method	(1) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Maintain good plant growth during the project term.	
Cropland	Field Border (NRCS CPS 386)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Permanent Unfertilized Grass/Legume Cover	Pollinator Species	$766.26/Ac	1	Diverse mix of native perennial grasses, legumes and forbs that are pollinator friendly; seeding rate; planting method	(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.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established field border (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term.
Cropland	Filter Strip (NRCS CPS 393)	Convert Strips of Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/ Legume Cover	Native species	$363.56/Ac	1	(1) Filter strip design map; (2) Perennial plant species names; (3) Seeing rate and planting method	(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.
			Introduced species	$272.24/Ac	1		(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 (NRCS CPS 512)	Conversion of Annual Cropland to Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Grass/Legume Forage/Biomass Crops	Nonnative, high seeding rate with lime	$475.02/Ac	1	Plant species, seeding rate, planting method, and irrigation availability	(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	$334.28/Ac				
			Nonnative, standard seeding rate with	$257.78/Ac			(1) Introduced perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs; (2) Seeding rate of 9 lb/acre pure live seed (PLS) or 21-40	

			fertilizer				pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Fertilizer application if applicable.	
			Nonnative, standard seeding rate without fertilizer	$131.28/Ac				
Cropland	Grassed Waterway (NRCS CPS 412)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Base Waterway	$2,399.04 /Ac	1	For area where peak runoff is expected, and erosion control is needed. A design schematic, plant species and planting method.	(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) Maintain plant growth.	(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.
Cropland	Grassed Waterway (NRCS CPS 412)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Base waterway with checks	$3,717.92 /Ac	1	For area where peak runoff is expected, and erosion control is needed. A design schematic, plant species and planting method.	(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.	(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 and function of grassed waterway during the project term.
Cropland	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Replace a Strip of Cropland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	Single Row	$10.32/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each 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) (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	$0.14/Ft	1	cool season perennial plant species, seeding rate and planting method	(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 photos taken at both ends & middle of the established barriers (>60% plant cover). (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Species name and seeding rate; (4) Maintain plant growth in the project term.
Cropland	Mulching (NRCS CPS 484)	Add Mulch to Croplands	Natural Materials	$358.32/Ac	3	Cropland condition where mulch to be implemented, mulch materials and source	(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 the 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.
Cropland	Mulching (NRCS CPS 484)	Add Mulch to Croplands	Wood Chips	$2,518.86 /Ac	3	Cropland condition where mulch to be implemented, mulch materials and source	(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 (NRCS CPS 379)	Replace 20% of Annual Cropland with woody plants	Native Tree or shrub planting	$321.60/Ac	1	Plant species and number of each 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) Tree maintenance in the project

								term.
Cropland	Multistory Cropping (NRCS CPS 379)	Replace 20% of Annual Cropland with woody plants	Non-native tree or shrubs planting	$375.20/Ac	1	Plant species and number of each 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.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing planted trees, (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Tree maintenance in the project term.
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	$15.06/Ac	3	For cropland where synthetic nutrient fertilizers have been applied annually. Nitrogen application rate and associated crop(s) in the past 3 years.	(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) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing the crop and fertilization event(s), (2) Receipts of nitrogen fertilizers purchased, (3) 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, (4) Verification is at the end of the project year or crop year as applicable.
Cropland	Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (NRCS CPS 329)	Convert Tillage to No Till in on Irrigated or Non-irrigated Cropland	No-Till or Strip-Till	$31.72/Ac	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	$28.18/Ac	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 Cropland	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Cropland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Bare-root, hand planted	$2,999.08 /Ac	1	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	$3,315.18 /Ac	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	$7,290.46 /Ac	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.	
Cropland Cropland	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Cropland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Small container, hand planted	$5,941.60 /Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Potted seedling size: 1 quart to 1 gallon; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing live plants, (2) Receipts for sizes of seedlings/cuttings purchased; (3) Species and number of live trees/shrubs; (4) Tree protection and maintenance.
			Large container, hand planted	$12,168.34 /Ac	1		(1) Potted seedling size: 2 gallons or larger; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants per acre.	
Cropland	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (NRCS	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated	Broadcast Seeding	$1,346.18 /Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be	(1) Native perennial grasses, legumes and forbs with ≤50% grasses; (2) Broadcast planting	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing established riparian cover

	CPS 390)	Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/legume Cover Near Aquatic Habitats	Broadcast Seeding with Foregone Income	$2,605.28 /Ac		upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	and/or no-till drill seeded at rate of 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft; (3) Plant maintenance in the project term.	(>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.
			Plug Planting	$30,544.36 /Ac	1.00		(1) Native aquatic plants plug-planted; (2) Plant density at 19,360 plants per acre (3) Plant maintenance in the project term.	
Cropland	Riparian Herbaceous Cover (NRCS CPS 390)	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/legume Cover Near Aquatic Habitats	Combination Broadcast Seeding and Plug Planting	$15,602.28 /Ac	1.00	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(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 rate of 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft; (3) Plant maintenance in the project term.	(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.
			Pollinator Cover	$2,350.50 /Ac	1.00	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(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 in the project term.	
Cropland	Strip Cropping (NRCS CPS 585)	Add Perennial Cover Grown in Strips with Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Annual Crops	Wind and water erosion control	$2.94/Ac	1	Strip design: diagram on the APN where strips are located, number of strips, width & length of each strip. Plant species, sending rate and method.	(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, browse protection	$1,024.42 /Ac	1	Plant species and number of each species	(1) Bareroot shrub seedings at 6-18 inches tall or hardwood seedlings at 18-36 inches tall. (2) Plant protection and 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.
Cropland	Vegetative Barrier (NRCS CPS 601)	Convert Strips of Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized Grass or Grass/Legume Cover	Vegetative Planting	$1.58/Ft	1	Location: where sheet or rill erosion is of concern. Plant species: must meet stiffness index and is tolerant to soil erosion, seeding rate and method	(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.
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	$1.30/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each species	(1) Containered 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 in the project term.
Cropland	Windbreak/ Shelterbelt Establishment (NRCS CPS 380)	Replace a Strip of Cropland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	1-row, trees or shrub, with wind protection fence	$2.40/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each species	(1) Containered 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 (CDFA)	Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application to orchards or vineyard	Purchased from a Certified Composting Facility	$50.00/ton	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate, Acres to Be Implemented	Application rate must be between 2-4 tons/acres	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and field ground right after compost is completely

		Compost (C:N > 11) application to application to orchards or vineyard					Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acres	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; (5) Verification when compost is spread.
Orchard or Vineyard	Compost Application (CDFA)	Compost (C:N ≤ 11) application to orchards or vineyard	On-farm produced compost	$50.00/ton	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate, Acres to Be Implemented	(1) Application rate must be between 2-4 tons/acres; (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://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I2735C56A57C94FB0BB2C821C37CA68B5?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default).	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is applied, (2) A composting log including materials, method and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied; (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (5) Verification is when compost is spread.
		Compost (C:N > 11) application to application to orchards or vineyard					(1) Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/Acres;(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://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I2735C56A57C94FB0BB2C821C37CA68B5?viewType=FullText&originationContex	

							t=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default).	
Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Idle Land near Orchard/Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/Legume cover	Introduced species	$273.78/Ac	1	(1) Introduced perennial or selected using CalFlora, (2) seeding rate & planting method	(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	$458.16/Ac			(1) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and growth maintenance.	
Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Idle Land near Orchard/Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/Legume cover	Native species	$305.60/Ac	1	(1) Mix of native perennial, (2) seeding rate & planting method	(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.
			Native species with foregone income	$567.56/Ac				
			Monarch species – mix species	$1,370.78 /Ac	1	(1Mix of native perennial grass and forbs for wildlife, pollinators or ecosystem restoration (2) seeding rate & planting method.	(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.	
			Monarch species – mix species with foregone income	$1,383.20 /Ac				
Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Idle Land near Orchard/Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/Legume cover	Pollinator species	$1,095.52 /Ac	1	(1) Mix of native perennial grasses, legumes, and forbs to provide habitat for pollinators, (2) seeding rate & planting method	(1) Mixed species with less than 50% grasses; (2) Seeding rate at 21-40 pure live seeds per sqft; (2) Plant protection from animal damage and good 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.
			Pollinator species with foregone income	$1,088.74 /Ac				

Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Plant Permanent Grass Cover or Grass /Legume Cover in Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	Orchard or Vineyard Alleyways	$185.58/Ac	1	Perennial species, seeding rate and planting and maintenance methods	(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)	Add Legume /Legume Mix or Non-Legume Cover Crop to Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	One species	$102.98/Ac	3	(1) APN/field and acres; (2) cover crop species; (3) Seeding rates; (4) Planting date and method; (5) Termination date and method	(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 of fields showing established cover crops (≥60% coverage), (2) Receipts of cover crop seeds purchased, (3) Cover crop species name and seeding rate.
			Multiple species	$126.04/Ac				
Orchard or Vineyard	Filter Strip (NRCS CPS 393)	Convert Idle Land Near Orchard/Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass /Legume Cover	Native species	$363.56/Ac	1	Filter strip design map, plant species, seeing rate, and planting method	(1) Native perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at 41-60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain plant growth in project term.	(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.
			Introduced species	$272.24/Ac	1		(1) Introduced perennial species; (2) Seeding rate at ≥60 pure live seeds per sqft; (3) Maintain plant growth in the project term.	
Orchard or Vineyard	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Plant 1 Row of Woody Plants on Border of Orchard/Vineyard	Single Row	$10.32/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each 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	$358.32/Ac	3	Orchard/Vineyards where mulch to be implemented, mulch materials and source	(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 the 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.
		Add Mulch to Orchard or Vineyard	Wood Chips	$2,518.86 /Ac	3		(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 at ≥40 cubic yards/acre or ≥10 tons/acre.	
Orchard or Vineyard	Nutrient Management (NRCS CPS 590)	Improved N Fertilizer Management on Orchard/Vineyard - Reduce Fertilizer Application Rate by 15%	Basic nutrient management	$15.06/Ac	3	Nitrogen application rate and associated crop(s) in the past 3 years.	(1) A nutrient management budget/plan will be developed for each field/crop based on soil test analysis and University of California recommendation rates. (2) A farming log records all fertilization activities (fertilizer name, nitrogen content, application rate and date) for each crop or project year.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs showing the crop and fertilization event(s), (2) Receipts of nitrogen fertilizers purchased, (3) 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; (4) Verification is at the end of the project year or crop year as applicable.
Orchard or Vineyard	Residue and Tillage Management	Convert Tillage to No Till in Orchard/Viney	No-Till or Strip-Till	$31.72/Ac	3	Tillage implemented prior to	(1) No tillage; (2) all planting methods are no-till drill or broadcast if applicable. (3)	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos showing field operations, field floor and overview of

	, No-Till (NRCS CPS 329)	ard Alleys				application deadline	Residues are kept on soil surface and not burned or removed; (4) A farming log recording all field activities.	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/Viney ard Alleys	Reduced-Till	$28.18/Ac	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 (CDFA)	Whole Orchard Recycling Followed by Orchard Replant within 3 years	Whole Orchard Recycling Followed by Orchard Replant within 3 years	$861.42/Ac	1	Age of recycled trees, time to be chipped and incorporated, time of new trees to be planted, acres to be implemented	(1) An operation log recording the whole process; (2) Chips must be incorporated into soil to at least 6 inches deep	(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.
Orchard/ Vineyard	Windbreak/ Shelterbelt Establishment (NRCS CPS 380)	Plant 1 Row of Woody Plants on Border of Orchard/Viney ard	1-row trees, containers, hand planted, with tree protected	$ 1.30/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each species	(1) Containered 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 or shrubs, with wind protection fence	$2.40/Ft			(1) Containered 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 to Grassland (CDFA)	Compost (C:N > 11)Application to Grazed Grassland, Grazed, Irrigated Pasture	Compost purchased from a certified composting facility	$50.00/ton	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate, Acres to Be Implemented	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; (5) Verification when compost is spread.
			On-farm produced compost	$50.00/ton	3	Compost C:N ratio, Application Rate, Acres to Be Implemented	(1) Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/Acres; (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://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I2735C56A57C94FB0BB2C821C37CA68B5?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default).	(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; (5) Verification when compost is spread.
Grazing Land	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Replace a Strip of Grassland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	Single Row	$10.32/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each 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.

Grazing Land	Prescribed Grazing (NRCS CPS 528)	Grazing Management to Improve Irrigated Pasture Condition or Rangeland or Non-Irrigated Pasture Condition	Pasture, basic	$23.34/Ac	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	$5.26/Ac				
Grazing Land	Range Planting (NRCS CPS 550)	Seeding forages to improve rangeland condition	Native species broadcast	$577.74/Ac	1	Plant species (must be mixture of native perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs), seeding/planting rate, 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	$511.26/Ac			(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	$358.36/Ac			(1) Predominately native adapted perennial species; (2) no-till or range drill seeding at 18 lb/acre PLS or 40 pure live seeds/sqft.	
Grazing Land	Range Planting (NRCS CPS 550)	Seeding forages to improve rangeland condition	Nonnative species broadcast	$173.60/Ac	1.00	Plant species (must be mixture of Introduced perennial grasses, legumes, and/or forbs), seeding/planting rate, planting method	(1) mixture of non-native adapted perennial species; (2) Seedbed preparation; (3) 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.
			Nonnative species drilled	$164.12/Ac			(1) Mixture of non-native adapted perennial species; (2) No-till or range drill seeding at 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft.	

			Shrub plugs	$4,105.36 /Ac		Shrub species, planting density (at least 1000 plants/ac) and 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.	
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	$2,999.08 /Ac	1	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 per 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) proof of planting method; (5) Tree protection (fence or other protection, and irrigation as needed) and maintenance.
			Cuttings, Small to Medium Size	$3,315.18 /Ac			(1) Cutting size: 1/4 to 1 inch in diameter and 24-48 inches long; (2) Plant protection; (c) ≥35 live plants per acre. (3) For cuttings, medium to large size:	
			Cuttings, Medium to Large Size	$7,290.46 /Ac			(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	$5,941.60 /Ac			(1) Potted seedling size: 1 quart to 1 gallon; (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant Density ≥35 live plants per acre.	

			Large container, hand planted	$12,168.34 /Ac			(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	$213.02/Ac	1	Plant species and number	(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).
Grazing Land	Tree/Shrub Establishment (NRCS CPS 612)	Conversion of Grassland to a Farm Woodlot	Conservation, hand planted, browse protection	$ 1,024.42 /Ac	1	Plant species and number of each species	(1) Bareroot shrub seedings at 6-18 inches tall or hardwood seedlings at 18-36 inches tall. (2) Plant protection and 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.
Grazing Land	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	$ 1.30/Ft	1	Length to plant, Plant species and number of each species	(1) Containered 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

			1-row, trees or shrub, with wind protection fence	$2.40/Ft			(1) Containered 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.	irrigation; (5) Plant maintenance during the project term.

Definitions:
Cropland, Annual or Perennial: Land where the crop(s) grown is identified as annual or perennial crop according to the Annual and Perennial Crop List for the Purpose of Conservation Compliance 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 is 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. (Ev. 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. Grantee

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.