HEALTHY SOILS – BLOCK GRANT PILOT PROGRAM

Draft Request for Grant Applications for public comments

Release date: November 16, 2022

Public comments due date: December 15, 2022

Submit comments to: cdfa.hsp_tech@cdfa.ca.gov

Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation

California Department of Food and Agriculture

1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

Contents

Definitions

Name	Definition	Eligible Entities and/or Persons
Block Grant Recipient (BGR)	The entities that will receive the Healthy Soils Block Grants. These entities will enter into agreements with CDFA to disburse funds to Grant Beneficiaries for on-farm projects. These entities will select Grant Beneficiaries and assist them with project implementation and verification. BGR, or their subcontracted Technical Assistance Providers (TAP), will provide technical assistance to the Grant Beneficiaries to select and implement eligible soil conservation management practices.	Resource Conservation Districts (RCD); University of California (UC), California Community Colleges, or California State Universities (CSU); Federally- and California-Recognized Native American Indian Tribes; Local or regional government agencies such as air pollution control districts; Non-profits including, but not limited to: Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, Irrigation districts, Land trusts.
Grant Beneficiary	Individuals or entities that either own or control the agricultural land where Healthy Soils eligible practices will be implemented. These individuals or entities may be referred to as farmers, ranchers, agricultural operations, or farm lessee.	California Farmers / Ranchers; California Agricultural Operations; Non-profit organizations working as agriculture operations; Federal and California Recognized Native American Indian Tribes.
Technical Assistance Provider (TAP)	Entities with demonstrated technical expertise in designing and implementation agricultural management practices, who will assist Grant Beneficiaries with project design and implementation. For the Healthy Soils Block Grant, BGR can also serve as TAPs if they are eligible under AB 2377, or a separate entity subcontracted by the BGR.	Resource Conservation Districts; University of California Cooperative Extension; Non-profit Organizations.

Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFR)	A socially disadvantaged group is defined by the 2017 Farmer Equity Act as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.	African Americans Native Indians Alaskan Natives Hispanics Asian Americans Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders
Priority Populations	Populations located in disadvantaged communities or low-income communities as defined by AB 1550.	Priority populations can be identified using a mapping tool developed by California Air Resources Board at www.arb.ca.gov/cci-resources.

Background and Purpose

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is pleased to announce funding availability for the Healthy Soils - Block Grant Pilot Program. The funds will be awarded through a competitive grant application process.

The Healthy Soils - Block Grant Pilot 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 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 Healthy Soils - Block Grant Pilot Program addresses objective 1, while objectives 2 and 3 are addressed in the Healthy Soils - Demonstration Program. The Block Grant Pilot Program is designed to facilitate financial assistance to California agricultural operations through regional block grant administrators. The Block Grant Pilot Program grant recipients will select projects and disperse funds to California farmers and ranchers to meet objective 1.

Funding and Duration

CDFA was appropriated $85 million for the Heathy Soils Program from the California State Budget authorized by the Budget Act of 2022 (SB 154). CDFA will make available approximately $35 million for the Block Grant Pilot Program.

- The grant term is four years.
- The minimum and maximum award per block grant application is $2,000,000 and $5,000,000 respectively.
    - 15% of the awarded funds may be used for all direct and indirect costs of administering the block grant program.
    - In addition to 15% administrative cost, the block grant recipient or the technical assistance partners are eligible for up to 5% of awarded funds for technical assistance activities as specified in AB 2377 (2018). See Technical Assistance

    - The remainder of the grant funds must be used to implement the eligible practices on grant beneficiaries' farms or ranches or reimburse grant beneficiaries to implement eligible practices.
- All activities must occur within the grant terms. Costs incurred outside of the grant agreement period will not be reimbursed.
- The maximum award per grant beneficiary for an on-farm project is $200,000 for the grant term of 3 project-years.
- CDFA reserves the right to offer an award different than the amount requested.
- CDFA will consider equitable regional distribution of funds along with evaluation criteria while selecting awards.
- All grant reimbursement payments will be made to the block grant recipients. Block grant recipients will be responsible for further disbursement of funds to partners and grant beneficiaries.

Program Objectives and Structure

CDFA aims collaborate with entities with a mission to develop climate change resilient agriculture. CDFA acknowledges the trusted connections that exist between farmers and ranchers and regional entities such as Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), University Cooperative Extension Offices, Tribal Governments, Land Trusts, and other nonprofits organizations. CDFA wishes to leverage and strengthen these connections through the Block Grant Pilot Program.

For the purpose of this program there are three entities of interest:

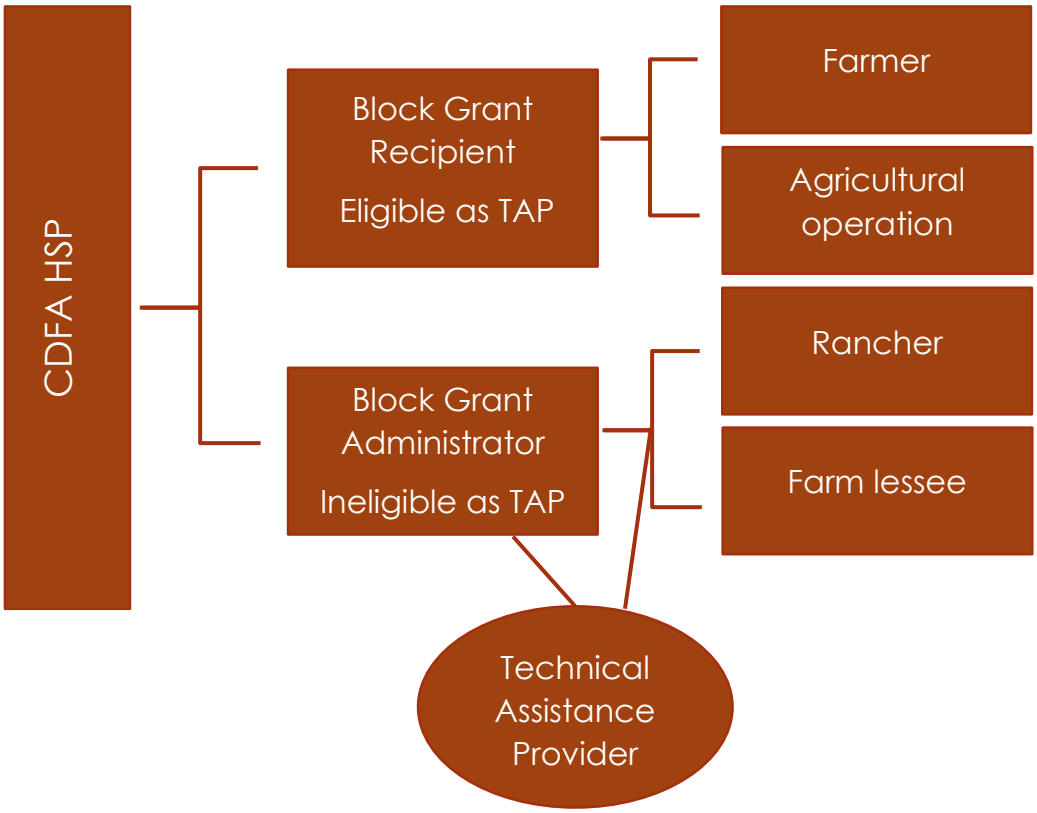
1) Block Grant Recipients (BGR/BGRs)
   The entities that will receive the Healthy Soils Block grants. These entities will enter into agreements with CDFA to disburse funds for on-farm projects. These entities will select on-farm projects and assist farmers and ranchers with project implementation and verification. BGRs, or their subcontractors, will provide technical assistance to the grant beneficiaries to implement eligible soil conservation management practices. See Eligibility and Exclusions
2) Grant Beneficiaries
   California farmers/ ranchers or agricultural operations that either own or control the agriculture land where HSP eligible practices will be implemented. These are the ultimate beneficiaries of these grants. See Eligibility and Exclusions
3) Technical Assistance Providers (TAP)
   Technical Assistance Providers are defined in Assembly Bill 2377 (Irwin, 2018) as, "resource conservation districts, the University of California

Cooperative Extension, and nonprofit organizations, with demonstrated technical expertise in designing and implementing agricultural management practices." See Technical Assistance section.

Figure 1 below illustrates this structure and the relationship among various entities. BGRs may be one of the organizations listed in AB 2377 that can provide technical assistance or may contract with a technical assistance provider (TAP). BGRs and TAPs will work together to support the development and implementation of on-farm HSP projects.

The Block grant recipient may either choose to directly assist with the implementation of on-farm projects or they may award monies to grant beneficiaries to implement their own projects. The ultimate outcome will be a verifiable implementation of practices for each project. BGRs and TAP must not charge any fees to the grant beneficiaries for any activities related to grant awards including but not limited to selection, implementation, verification or payment reimbursement.

Figure 1. Structure of the Block Grant Program



Eligibility and Exclusions

Block Grant Recipients

The following entities are eligible to apply for the Block Grant Program:

- Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs)
- University of California (UC), California Community Colleges, or California State Universities (CSU)
- Federally- and California-Recognized Native American Indian Tribes
- Local or regional government agencies such as air pollution control districts.
- Nonprofits including, but not limited to:
    - Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
    - Irrigation districts
    - Land trusts
- Applicant organizations are required to provide technical assistance to grant beneficiaries as required by AB 2377. Applicant organizations may partner with other entities such as RCDs, University of California Cooperative Extension Offices, and nonprofit organizations. If the Block grant recipient organization is not one of entities listed in AB 2377 then they must partner with one such organization for technical assistance.

CDFA encourages applications from organizations who serve small to medium sized and socially disadvantaged California food producers and farmworkers, including but not limited to BIMPOC (Black, Indigenous, Multiracial, and People of Color), LGBTQ+, women and veterans. CDFA also encourages prioritizing projects that benefits priority populations as defined in SB 535 and AB 1550.

The applicant entities must have a demonstrated track record and expertise in soil conservation management, grant administration and outreach. The partnership among various organization is strongly encouraged to leverage expertise across various organizations and connections to the agricultural community.

Grant Beneficiaries

The program is designed to encourage farmers and ranchers to implement soil conservation practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs, improve soil health and provide co-benefits while reducing the economic burden of trying new practices. CDFA's theory of change is that grant beneficiaries will experience the benefits of these practices and then incorporate them into their normal agriculture operations after the grant term has ended. For the purposes of this program, an agricultural operation is defined

as row, vineyard, field and tree crops, commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, and greenhouse operations producing food crops or flowers as defined in Food and Agricultural Code section 77911. The following entities or individuals are eligible as grant beneficiaries:

- California farmers, ranchers and Federal and California Recognized Native American Indian Tribes.
- Nonprofit organizations working as agriculture operations.
- Projects must be located on agricultural operations, as defined in the Food and Agricultural Code section 77911.
- The project boundaries must be with the state of California.
- University and research farms are not eligible for funding. These entities may apply for the HS Demonstration Program.
- Awards are limited to one per agricultural operation using a unique tax identification number per appropriation.
- Individuals or business entities receiving grant award funds must be located in California with a physical California business address.
- Grant beneficiaries must be at least 18 years old.
- Grant funds cannot be used for projects that use potted plants and plant growth media other than soil.
- Cannabis cultivation operations are not eligible as grant beneficiaries.

Technical Assistance Providers

AB 2377 requires CDFA to establish a Technical Assistance Grant Program to provide funds to Technical Assistance Providers to assist the applicants of Healthy Soils Program. Following entities with demonstrated technical expertise in designing, and implementing agricultural management practices are eligible per AB 2377 (See Technical Assistance):

- Resource Conservation Districts
- University of California Cooperative Extension
- Nonprofit organizations

If the block grant applicant is not one of the entities listed above, they must partner with one such entity.

Executive Order N-6-22 – Russia Sanctions

On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order (EO) N-6-22 regarding Economic Sanctions against Russia and Russian entities and individuals. "Economic Sanctions" refers to sanctions imposed by the U.S. government in response to Russia's actions in Ukraine, as well as any sanctions

imposed under state law. By submitting a bid, proposal, or application, Bidder/Applicant represents that it is not a target of Economic Sanctions. Should the State determine Bidder/Applicant is a target of Economic Sanctions or is conducting prohibited transactions with sanctioned individuals or entities, that shall be grounds for rejection of the Bidder's/Applicant's bid/proposal/application any time prior to contract/agreement execution, or, if determined after contract/agreement execution, shall be grounds for termination by the State.

Timeline

Tentative timeline (subjected to change)

Program Activity	**Timeframe**
Receive Public Comment on Draft Request for Grant Applications (RGA)	November 16 – December 15, 2022
Finalize RGA and Develop Application Portal	December 2022 - January 2023
Release Final Request for Grant Applications	February 2023
CDFA Grant Application Webinars	February 2023
Grant Applications Due	April 2023
Administrative and Technical Review	May 2023
Announce Awards	June 2023
Award Process	See Award Process

On-Farm Project Selection and Approvals

Upon grant agreement execution, BGRs and TAPs may start their outreach process to identify interested farmers and ranchers. Prior to the on-boarding process, both BGRs and TAPs must ensure that grant beneficiaries are fully aware of program requirements and continuing expectations. See program requirements.

BGRs, in collaboration with TAPs, will design and implement a robust outreach campaign to ensure awareness and access in their service area. Through reporting, CDFA will require information on outreach activities including details about outreach events, methods of communication, and efforts to support outreach in languages other than English. BGRs will start the onboarding process while ensuring program requirements are met. BGRs, potentially in collaboration with TAPs, will complete the project design and quantify GHG emissions reduction and co-benefits using CDFA required tools for each selected project. BGRs will work with CDFA to ensure that the selected projects have not

previously received HSP funding. The BGR must maintain all required documents for three years after grant expiration. CDFA may request project specific documents during the approval process. See Reporting.

On-farm projects may be disqualified for reasons including but not limited to following:

Disqualification

- Projects that do not meet program requirements.
- The would-be grant beneficiaries requesting funds for multiple grants.
- Projects proposing previously awarded and/or implemented practices on the same fields.
- The request exceeds the maximum allowable funding of $200,000 per on-farm project.

Project Implementation and Verification

All awarded projects will be subject to verification to ensure that the agricultural management practices are implemented in a manner consistent with the USDA NRCS CPS guidelines, and Program Requirements (Appendix A). BGRs will ensure that all project activities are completed according to the work plan and meet program requirements. BGRs are required to verify and certify successful implementation of the HSP practices in their reports. BGRs are required to collect and maintain all required documents listed in Appendix A during the verification process. CDFA will audit and review 25% of awarded on-farm projects for their completeness. CDFA may audit additional projects if deemed necessary. CDFA staff or its representative may request a field visit to verify program compliance during the grant agreement term. CDFA may request any or all the documentation listed in Appendix A to audit project verifications.

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

Technical Assistance

The awarded entities must provide technical assistance to grant beneficiaries at no cost. AB 2377 (Irwin, 2018) requires CDFA to establish a technical assistance grant program to provide funds to TAPs to assist program applicants with activities ranging from conducting initial program outreach to project design, development, and implementation. AB 2377 stipulates that CDFA will make available no less than 5%, but not more than $5 million, of each appropriation for technical assistance to farmers and ranchers over three years. AB 2377

further defines eligible technical assistance entities as Resource Conservation Districts, the University of California Cooperative Extension, and nonprofit organizations with demonstrated technical expertise in designing and implementing agricultural management practices. If the BGR applicant is not one of these entities, they must partner with one to be eligible for block grant funds. Entities lacking technical assistance resources are encouraged to partner with UC community education specialists, RCDs or other organizations with expertise in technical assistance and outreach.

TAPs may not charge fees for their services. Outreach materials prepared by the grant recipient must indicate that no fees or costs will be imposed on the farmer or rancher. TAPs may not require farmers and ranchers to include specific products or specific practices or favor specific contractors or other service providers when assisting with project design.

TAPs must declare all conflict(s) of interest including sponsorship or funding by any corporation that may profit from CDFA's CSA incentives programs. Block grant recipients along with TAP must prioritize assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFRs), and farms and ranches that are 500 acres or less. Additionally, grant recipients should also prioritize assistance to AB 1550 Priority Populations where feasible.

Technical Assistance Activities

TAPs are required to conduct pre-project and project implementation activities during the grant agreement term as described below.

Pre-project activities refer to tasks or activities conducted after the execution of agreement between CDFA and the BGR, and before selection of projects and implementation of practices. These tasks and activities must include but are not limited to outreach and promotion of Healthy Soils Program practices and their benefits, connecting interested farmers and ranchers to the BGR, and assisting beneficiaries with the selection of practices, project design and planning. During the pre-project phase, the TAP may assist the BGR and grant beneficiaries with project design, GHG emissions reductions and co-benefit estimates using tools provided by the CDFA.

Project Implementation activities refer to tasks or activities conducted after a farmer or rancher has been selected by the BGR for an award. Tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Assisting farmers and ranchers with all activities related to on-farm implementation of project activities including, but not limited to working with service providers for implementation of healthy soils practices.

- Communicating with vendors and/or facilitating discussions between farmer/ranchers and vendors
- Assisting with potential on-farm project design and budget revisions
- Providing assistance to farmers and ranchers for invoicing, and matching funds coordination. Such assistance may include a variety of activities including, but not limited to, gathering receipts and records of plant species selected, compost analysis reports and soil testing for HSP recipients, and/or project oversight and post-project reporting
- Providing regular follow-up with farmers and ranchers for their technical assistance needs. For example, assisting in the evaluation of alternative choices and availability of allowable plant species for HSP projects.

Eligible block grant applicants must include with their application a statement of qualifications, work plan, and itemized budget for technical assistance as part of their application package. See How to Apply.

Project Verification Activities: Block grant recipients will also be responsible for verifying the successful implementation of heathy soils practices. CDFA will provide training and template(s) on how to verify and document practice implementation. BGRs are required to report project status in their quarterly reports, along with the following tasks on ongoing basis:

- Attend mandatory HSP project verification training(s)
- Communicate with grant beneficiaries regarding project verification.
- Review the practice implementation guidelines and verification documents requirements on Appendix A.
- Collect and review documents to verify that practices are implemented per program requirements.
- Complete HSP-provided verification forms as required.
- Submit all documents to the designated CDFA HSP staff.
- Retain verification documents 3 years after grant agreement expiration date.

Priority Populations

BGRs, in coordination with TAPs, must prioritize assistance to Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFRs), and farms and ranches that are 500 acres or less. At least 25% of awarded funds must benefit SDFRs. A farmer or rancher that belongs to a socially disadvantaged group is a SDFR. A socially disadvantaged group is defined by the 2017 Farmer Equity Act (AB 1348 (Aguiar-Curry, 2017)) as a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups include all of the following:

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

California Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resiliency Project Registry

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

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

Program Deliverables

Block Grant applicants must include all of the following activities in their proposal:

1. **Outreach Plans and Estimated Number of Grant Beneficiaries**
   BGRs must develop a robust outreach plan to ensure that information about the available funding is shared widely. The plan must include specifics on how the applicant will ensure outreach to and prioritize the participation of SDFRs and priority populations in the program. AB 2377 requires that 25% of HSP funding, as well as the funding allocated to technical assistance, is utilized to benefit SDFRs. For this reason, 25% of the projects identified by Block Grant Recipients for project development must be associated with SDFRs (e.g., farm/ranch owner, farm lessee).

Block grant applicants should provide a goal or estimate of the number of farms that will ultimately benefit from the program.

2. **Project Development Technical Assistance**
   BGRs, in collaboration with TAPs, must provide free- technical assistance to farmers and ranchers consistent with AB 2377.
3. **Submit Project Level Data for CDFA Clearance**
   During the project selection process, BGRs must provide project level data to CFDA for clearance. CDFA review is essential to ensure that funding is not provided to prior program beneficiaries for the same practices on same fields. Necessary data may include the farm's assessor parcel number or other identifying information.
4. **Provide Project Implementation Technical Assistance**
   After an on-farm project has been cleared by CDFA, project implementation may begin. Technical assistance should continue to be available during the implementation stage and includes but is not limited to working with vendors to coordinate implementation of HSP practices, assisting in potential on-farm project design and budget revisions.
5. **Disbursement of Funding**
   The BGR will be responsible for tracking its own administrative expenses and those of its partners, and for disbursing funds to partners and grant beneficiaries. On a quarterly basis, Block Grant Recipients will submit invoices for reimbursement from CDFA with a brief explanation of the costs incurred.
6. **Verify and Report Progress on HSP Projects**
   BGRs will verify practice implementation for awarded projects according to the project implementation timelines and ensure adherence to HSP program guidelines and provide a report to CDFA at the end of the grant.
7. **Communication and Reporting**
   CDFA recognizes that to maintain consistency and quality of projects amongst the various BRGs, trainings will be required. CDFA will provide the required trainings on various block grant administration steps. All BGRs are required to attend the trainings and can invoice CDFA for the time spent participating. The BGR will also maintains communication with CDFA in the form of reports and/or regular check-in.

BGRs and TAPs must discuss, assign, and memorialize all program activities and who is responsible for each. The table below provides an overview of the primary Healthy Soils Block Grant Program objectives and gives examples of potential responsible entities for each objective.

	Objective	Description	Responsible Entity
1	Outreach Plan	Block Grant Recipient will perform outreach and identify farmers and ranchers for participation	BGR
2	Project Development Technical Assistance	Technical Assistance Provider will work closely with the grant beneficiary to gather necessary information, prepare a project design, and other project documents	TAP and Grant Beneficiary
3	Submit Project Level Data for CDFA clearance	The Block Grant Recipient will submit Project level data and supporting documentation to CDFA for clearance	BGR and TAP
4	Provide Implementation Technical Assistance	Technical Assistance Providers will support project implementation	TAP and Grant Beneficiary
5	Disbursement of Funding	The Block Grant Recipient will disburse funding to partners and Grant Beneficiary or directly to vendors by utilizing advances and reimbursements from CDFA.	BGR
6	Verify and Report Progress on HSP Projects	The Block Grant Recipient will collect documents supporting successful implementation as directed by CDFA and submit verification reports and associated documents to CDFA	BGR
7	Communication and Reporting	The Block Grant Recipient will attend required trainings provided by CDFA and maintain communication with CDFA	BGR

Reporting

The BGRs and TAPs are responsible for keeping CDFA up to date on grant activities. There are three main reporting categories:

1. On-Farm Project Selection and Approval

As the BGR selects the on-farm projects, the projects may be submitted to CDFA for clearance on an ongoing basis. The following will be required for CDFA to review:

1. Letter of commitment
2. Project details
    a. Grant Beneficiary Name/Organization
    b. Project location (latitude and longitude), county, and assessor's parcel number/field name,
    c. Work Plan
    d. If not selected for funding, is the applicant willing to list project on CNAR Carbon registry for other agencies/ investors to fund*? (Y/n); if yes, provide Letter of consent
    *Disclaimer: agreeing to list your project on the CNRA Carbon registry implies that applicant is giving permission to CDFA and its affiliates to share project data including but not limited to 1) project description 2) project budget 3) Project location, 4) estimated GHG and co-benefits, 5) contact information and other project attributes as required by the registry to CNRA or its affiliates. See California Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resiliency Project Registry

2. Quarterly Progress Report

Both BGRs and TAPs are subject to quarterly reporting. The detailed progress reports should identify practices implemented, tasks and activities accomplished during the reporting period. The reports should include but not limited to following topics:

- Progress status of each awarded project
- Practices implemented during the reporting period
- Soil organic matter reports of awarded projects
- Funds dispersed
- Changes and delays encountered in project implementation
- TAP must report all activities carried out during reporting period including number of projects assisted, number of SDFR, priority populations, and farms and ranches 500 acres or less.

3. Final Report

At the close of the grant agreement term, or when all projects' activities have been completed, the Recipient will submit a final report including project level metrics on a CDFA provided template. Following submission of

final report, a CDFA staff, or a CDFA-contracted third party, may conduct an exit interview with the BGR or grant beneficiary(ies).

Invoicing and Payments

The BGR will receive payment through both advances and reimbursements. CDFA will provide grant recipients with the necessary grant award and invoicing documents. Invoices must be submitted quarterly and include all supporting financial documentation to substantiate expenses.

The BGR are eligible for 15% of awarded fund as administrative expenses. The administrative costs may be requested quarterly. BGR may request advance payments of up to 25% of the award amount on a recurring basis. Additional advance payment request may not be processed without a proof of successful dispersal of prior advance payment. Advance payments are subjected to the provisions of section 316.1 "Advance Payments" of the California Code of Regulations, Division 1, Chapter 5. If appropriate justification is submitted and awardee is in compliance with grant management requirements, additional advance payments may be issued in accordance with CDFA's Grant Administration regulations.

No more than $100,000 may be reimbursed annually to the TAP. CDFA may be withhold 10 percent from the total grant award until a final report is submitted to ensure grant recipients (BGR and TAP) meet all program and reporting requirements. Invoicing and closeout of all project expenditures must be completed within 60 days after the grant agreement term expires.

Post-Project Completion Requirements

Grant Beneficiaries are also 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, and grant beneficiaries are encouraged to continue and/or expand these practices on their operations to achieve long-term benefits. BGR and grant beneficiaries must agree to post-project completion requirements which require grant beneficiaries to take soil samples and provide a soil organic matter report after the third year of initial implementation. This soil analysis will be outside the grant term and therefore should be covered by matching funds. Additionally, grant beneficiaries and BGR are required to maintain, documentation related to their HSP funded projects three years after completion of the project.

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

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

State Audit and Accounting Requirements

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

Audit and Critical Project Review Requirements

Projects are subject to audit by the State annually and for three (3) years following the final payment of grant funds. If the project is selected for an audit, the Grantee will be contacted in advance. The audit shall include all books, papers, accounts, documents, or other records of the 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.

The 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. The 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.

How to Apply

CDFA uses an online application platform to accept applications. The application portal link can be accessed at the HSP webpage. Applicants must create a user account to submit a grant application. All applications, supporting documents, and submissions are subject to public disclosure including posting on the CDFA OEFI website.

Eligible organizations may submit one application for an award of $2 million to $5 million. The lead organization on the application can't be party to other applications. TAP organizations may partner with more than one BGR organization, however they must disclose and address their organizational capacity to successfully execute activities with highest costumer services. If awarded, the HSP grant agreement will be between CDFA and the lead applicant organization, and the lead organization must ensure that all required and proposed tasks are completed as approved in the agreements. CDFA will not be able to mediate any dispute between lead and partnering organizations. The lead organizations must obtain and submit letters of commitment from all partners and contractors.

The application package will cover the following areas to assess the quality of the application and the expertise of the applicant organization(s). The online application process includes the following stages: 1) Opportunity Details, 2) Project Information, 3) Application Forms, 4) Budget Template, and 5) Submission.

Questions and Answers

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

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

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

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

Review Process and Notification of Application Status

Applications will be reviewed in a two-stage process: Administrative Review and Technical Review.

Administrative Review

The purpose of the Administrative Review is to determine whether the eligibility criteria and grant application requirements are met.

Disqualifications

During the Administrative Review, the following will result in the automatic disqualification of a grant application:

- Incomplete grant applications: applications with one or more unanswered questions necessary for administrative or technical review, missing, blank, unreadable, corrupt, or otherwise unusable attachments
- Applications that include activities outside the grant duration.
- Applications with unallowable costs or activities necessary to complete the project objectives.
- Requests for more than the maximum award amount or less than the minimum award.
- Applications that do not comply with Eligibility or meet Program Requirements and Restrictions.

Appeal Rights

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

Appeal rights are only afforded to disqualifications.

Technical Review

The second level of review is a Technical Review to evaluate the merits of the application and overall expected success of the application. The applications will be scored based on the scoring criteria explained below. CDFA may take into consideration the past performance of applicants in the OEFI's Climate Smart Agriculture Programs during selection. Past performance criteria may include timely and satisfactory completion of funded activities and reporting requirements, data on meeting funding priorities, quantity and quality of past project performance including project termination or incomplete projects, or unresponsiveness.

Scoring Criteria

The technical reviewers will do an in-depth evaluation of each application and will use a one-hundred-point scale to evaluate the merits of the proposed application and the capacity and qualifications of the applicant. The table below shows and describes the distribution of points among the scoring criteria:

Criteria	Maximum Points
Qualification of Applicants Does the organization provide evidence of capacity to administer the program? Does the project team have expertise in soil conservation management and implementation to be able to support agricultural operations?	25
Strategic Partnerships Does the proposed partnership extend the expertise or capacity of the team as opposed to duplication?	10
Workplan Merit and Feasibility Does the proposal clearly identify activities to address each of the program deliverables? Does the workplan address the needs that were identified in Statement of Needs? Is the workplan feasible with the requested budget?	25
Budget Are the costs outlined in the budget reasonable? Is the budget completed correctly and include costs associated with all required deliverables? Does the budget reflect dedication to CDFA's Priorities?	15

Statement of Need Does the proposal identify the needs of the agricultural operations in the service area? Does the proposal outline the demographic communities that would be served, and their language or technical assistance needs?	25
Total	**100**

Qualification of Applicants

Applicants must provide a statement of qualification describing their expertise in soil conservation management; grant administration; technical assistance and outreach; relationship building with farming communities including SDFRs, farms and ranches 500 acres or less, and priority populations.

Strategic Partnership

CDFA encourages strategic partnerships among various regional organizations to leverage diverse expertise. Applicants must provide a detailed description of how the proposed partnership is beneficial to the farming communities and how this partnership can extend the impact of the project as opposed to the duplication of efforts. Applicants must also provide resumes of key personnel.

Work Plan Merit and Feasibility

The applicant will outline a proposal for how projects will be selected for a HSP grant (e.g., competitive, first-come first-served, others). The applicant must propose a method of review and transparency in this process. For example, an applicant may subcontract a third party to participate in the selection process. Applicants will provide detailed descriptions of how equity will be incorporated into their funding decisions, and whether multilingual services will be provided, if so, to what extent. Additionally, applicants will provide detailed Work Plan, listing each task to address the program deliverables. The Work Plan should also provide a start and end date, and title of the personnel responsible for each task.

Budget

Applicants will submit itemized budget outlining tasks and costs associated with each task. Budget categories will include Personnel – Wages; Personnel – Fringe; Supplies and Equipment; Travel; Labor; and Other. Through the narrative applicants will indicate projected/estimated expense related to administration, technical assistance and on-farm projects.

Statement of Need

The applicant must provide a statement describing the need for funding, and how HSP funding can address the needs of the community and prepare farming operations for climate resiliency. Applicants will provide a map of the geographic area they are intending to cover, and whether the applicant organization will consider applications outside of their service area. The applicant should describe the target community and any related language needs or equity considerations.

Notification and Feedback

Successful applicants will be notified of their grant award through email and will enter the grant agreement execution process. Applications that are not selected for funding will receive feedback on their grant application within 60 business days after receiving notification. CDFA will publish information on the HSP website regarding the applications received at least 10 days before awarding grant funds. After projects are selected, and all funds are encumbered, CDFA will post an updated list of awarded projects. Applications will be treated in accordance with Public Records Act requirements and certain information, subject to those requirements, may be disclosed.

Award Process

Grant Agreement Execution

CDFA will initiate the Grant Agreement process with applicants selected to receive a grant award. This process of executing a grant agreement is estimated to take several months. A CDFA HSP staff member may contact each applicant selected for award to schedule a pre-project consultation. CDFA will review submitted budgets to confirm costs are allowable. Applicants selected for award will receive a Grant Agreement package with specific instructions regarding award requirements including information on project implementation, reporting, verification, and payment process.

Award Timeline

Grant Agreement Stage	Estimated Time for Stage Completion*
Grant packet is completed – During this step, CDFA will work with awardees to get the information the state needs to execute the grant. The timeline for this step is dependent on how quickly information is provided to CDFA staff.	Variable

Grant Execution	Up to 90 days
Processing advance payments – If awardees request and are granted an advance payment, please be aware that it will take up to 4 weeks to process this payment once the grant is executed. (See Invoicing and Payment)	Up to 4 weeks

*Subjected to change

Healthy Soil Program Requirements for On-Farm Projects

This section discusses the program requirements that must be met when BGRs select on-farm projects, support implementation, and verify the practices.

- All projects must implement at least one of the eligible agricultural management practices listed under Eligible Agricultural Management Practices, on fields where the practice was not implemented in the previous year (At the time of application submission):
    - A previously implemented practice is eligible for funding on a same APN but on a different field.
    - HSP funded 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. The practices that are required to be implemented three times during project term, must be implemented once in each project year on the same field.
    - Practices must be implemented on the same total acreage throughout the term as specified in original proposal. Decrease in acreage of practice implementation and quantified GHG emissions reductions in the project may result in elimination of that practice from the project and subsequent reduction of project budget. see Project Implementation and Verification.
- Projects must result in net GHG emissions benefits (i.e., net positive GHG emissions reductions) (See GHG Reduction Estimation).
- Applicants must provide baseline data of previous year on cropping and management histories directly related to fields identified by APNs where eligible agricultural management practices are proposed.
- 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 provide written approval from the landowner. If lease term is shorter than the project term, lessees should provide a written statement from landowner that lease renewal will

be discussed in good faith.

- HSP 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.
- Each on-farm project can request up to $200,000 and the payment rate and total reimbursable cost for each practice must not exceed as listed in Appendix A.
- HSP funds cannot be used for research and product development activities.
- Fields that have previously received HS Incentives or Demonstration Program 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.

Eligible Agricultural Management Practices

CDFA has identified eligible agricultural management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs and improve soil health. 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 Healthy Soils Program incentivizes two types of practices based on implementation timelines:

1. **Annual practices**: Practices that are implemented once in each project year and are implemented a total of three times during project term (e.g., Compost and Cover Crop.) The annual practices must be implemented once in each project year to be eligible for reimbursement.
2. **One-time practices**: Practices that are implemented only once and are maintained for project life (e.g., Hedgerow Planting and Conservation Cover).

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 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:

Cropland

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

Orchard or Vineyard

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

Grazing Land

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

Technical Specifications for Estimation of GHG Benefits

Expected Life of Practices:

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

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

*Expected Life of Practice for the HSP may be different from that required by USDA-NRCS, and distinct from the grant duration.

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

- 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
- 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
- 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
- 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.
- 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 annual practices must begin prior to the end 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 and meet all criteria listed in Prescribed Grazing Practice Standards (USDA NRCS CPS 528).
- 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 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
                - CalRecycle SWIS/Site Search website: https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/SolidWaste/Site/Search
                - A valid certificate is required for compost if purchased from a facility listed at the links below.
                  CDFA -OIM Certified Facilities (Only Dry Compost Eligible)
                  https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/pdfs/RegisteredOrganicInputMaterial2022.pdf
                  STA Certified Compost Participants (California Only)

https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/participants#CA

b. A report of laboratory analysis on compost C:N ratio is required.

- **<u>If compost is produced on-farm</u>**:
  a. Plant and animal materials must be composted through the processes outlined below and a farm log must be maintained to document the process.
     - ***In-vessel or Static Aerated Pile System*:** Maintain a temperature between 131°F and 170°F for 3 consecutive days.
     - ***Windrow Composting*:** Maintain a temperature between 131°F and 170°F for 15 consecutive days. The materials must be turned a minimum of 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. Lab analysis is only good for up to 6 months before implementation
  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.
  - 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.
- Program 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. 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)
  - Mulching: Wood Chip (USDA NRCS CPS 484)
- 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 (USDA NRCS 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 implement soil conservation practices incentivized by HSP for land that will be temporarily taken out of production due to Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- CDFA strongly encourages applicants to enhance on-farm biodiversity through utilizing plant species (in applicable management practices) that support pollinator habitat and help meet the goals identified in the California Biodiversity Action Plan.
- The BGR shall only award one grant per tax identification number. An agricultural operation must use the operation's legal business name and associated tax identification number in their application. (See: Award Process).
- Project Duration: The BGR or grant beneficiary can be reimbursed for up to maximum rate provided in the Appendix A. The BGR are encouraged to find efficiencies to reduce per unit costs and increase total acreage impacted.

Timeline for implementation of awarded projects is provided below:

Project Year	Duration of Project Year	Implementation Must Begin No Later Than
1	TBD	TBD
2	TBD	TBD
3	TBD	TBD

- *Baseline Data:* Applicants must submit the following baseline data at the time of application. This data will be submitted in RePlan Tool while designing project.
    - Cropping history of previous year for all fields/ APN(s) included in the application.
    - Declare whether, the proposed practice was implemented in the previous year on the fields/APN(s) or not?
    - Provide the proposed plan of crops for all APNs/Fields included in the project during the next three years.
- *GHG Reduction Estimation*: An estimation of the reduction in GHG emissions from the selected Eligible Agricultural Management Practices 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 GHG reductions will be automatically estimated in the RePlan Tool.

Soil Organic Matter Reporting Requirements

Prior to project implementation, grant beneficiaries must provide baseline soil organic matter (SOM) report(s) taken within the grant term. The grant beneficiaries are encouraged to take soil samples right before the practice implementation for more accurate SOM evaluation. The cost of baseline soil sample analysis could be reimbursed if sampling and analysis is done within the project term, however, baseline soil organic matter reports taken one year prior to practice implementation date may be accepted. Additionally, Grant beneficiaries are required to report annual soil organic matter content prior to each year's practice implementation and preferably in same month of the baseline soil sampling. For this purpose, soil samples must be taken once prior to project implementation and one, two and three years following initial project

implementation. Since, the final soil sample analysis will be outside the agreement term, grant beneficiary must pay out of pocket for these analyses.

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[1]. The soil sampling protocol provided in HSP Soil Sampling Protocol for Soil Organic Matter Analysis must be followed when collecting soil samples.

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

Appendix A

Healthy Soils – Block Grant Pilot 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 Time of 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 of fields 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 (CPS 808) - On-farm produced compost	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.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is applied; (2) A composting log including raw materials,

		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.	method and temperatures during composting process; (3) Estimated total tonnage of compost applied; (4) Compost analysis report on C:N ratio; (5) Verification is conducted when compost is spread.
	Compost Application (CPS 808) - Purchased from a Certified Composting Facility	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 of fields showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is 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 is conducted 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)

			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.	Good plant growth during the project term.
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) Plant species must be 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.	
			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) Plant species must be mix of native 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.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Monarch species – mix species with foregone income	$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) Perennial species includes mix of native 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	
			Pollinator species with foregone income	$1,088.74/Ac	1			

							damage and good maintenance.	
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 annually planted 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 including width, length and slope of strips; (2) Perennial species; (3) seeding rate and 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 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 coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good plant growth during the project term. (5) Design schematic
			Native species, foregone income	$464.02/Ac	1	(1) A design schematic including width, length and slope of strips; (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	

			Wildlife Pollinator, foregone income	$464.02/Ac	1	(1) A design schematic including width, length and slope of strips; (2) 3 or more native perennial species that are pollinator friendly; (3) Seeding rate, planting method	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	Cover Crop (NRCS CPS 340)	Add 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 (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Good
			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.	plant growth during the project term.
			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; (2) Maintain plant growth in 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.	(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 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/sqft; (3)	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plantings (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and
			Nonnative, high seeding	$334.28/Ac				

			rate without lime				Lime application if applicable.	seeding rate; (4) Maintain plant growth during the project term.
			Nonnative, standard seeding rate with fertilizer	$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 pure live seeds/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 are required at submission.	(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) For waterway with checks, 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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established grassed waterway (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased; (3) Plant species name and seeding rate; (4) Maintain plant growth during the project term.
			Base waterway with checks	$3,717.92/Ac				

							installed 18" deep with 12" laid over on the surface.	
Cropland	Hedgerow Planting (NRCS CPS 422)	Replace a Strip of Cropland with 1 Row of Woody Plants	Single Row	$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 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 during 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 photographs taken at both ends and middle of established barrier (>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% soil coverage by mulch materials at 1–3-inch thickness or 1-2 tons/acre if using straw.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing mulching is implemented including thickness and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials if purchased, or estimated amount of materials if produced on farm 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) Chip size 3/4-2 inch in diameter; (3) Mulch thickness at 2-4 inches; (4) Application rate at ≥40 cubic yards/acre or ≥10 tons/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing mulching is implemented including thickness and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials if purchased, or estimated quantity of materials if produced on farm 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 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	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 containered ≥20 cubic inches; tree seedlings: bare root or containered ≥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 budget/plan will be developed for each field(s) 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 and date) for each crop year.	(1) Receipts of nitrogen fertilizers purchased, (2) the farming log must demonstrate that nitrogen application rate is 15% less than what was used in the past 3 years or UC/CDFA recommended rate, (3) 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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos of each field showing field operations (including equipment used), field floor and overview of the whole field at end of each project year. (2) The

							farming log recording all field activities related to soil disturbance.	farming log demonstrates that implementation requirements are met; (3) verification at the end of 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 photographs of fields showing practice is implemented, (2) Must meet depth, frequency or percent area of soil disturbance as described/proposed in the project scope of work, (3) A field operation log for the entire project year, (4) Verification by the end of the project year.
Cropland	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Cropland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Bare-root, hand planted	$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) proof of planting method; (5) Tree protection (fence

			Cuttings, Small to Medium Size	$3,315.18/Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Cutting size: typically 0.25-1 inch in diameter and 2-4 feet long; (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant density ≥35 live plants/acre.	or other protection, and irrigation as needed) and maintenance.
Cropland	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Cropland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Cuttings, Medium to Large Size	$7,290.46/Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Cutting size: between medium (0.25-1 inch in diameter and 2-4 feet long) and large (2-6 inch in diameter and 6 ft long); (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥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) proof of planting method; (5) Tree protection (fence or other protection, and irrigation as needed) and maintenance.
			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.	
			Large container, hand planted	$12,168.34/Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Potted seedling size: 2 gallons or larger; (2) Plant protection; (3) ≥35 live plants per acre.	
Cropland	Riparian Herbaceous	Convert Irrigated or Non-Irrigated Cropland to Permanent Unfertilized	Broadcast Seeding	$1,346.18/Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be	(1) Native perennial grasses, legumes and forbs with ≤50%	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established

	Cover (NRCS CPS 390)	Grass or Grass/legume Cover Near Aquatic Habitats	Broadcast Seeding with Foregone Income	$2,605.28/Ac		upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	grasses; (2) Plug planting, 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.	riparian herbaceous cover (>60% plant coverage); (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		(1) Native aquatic plants plug-planted; (2) 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	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Native aquatic plants plug-planted; (2) Native perennial grasses, legumes and forbs with ≥50% grasses broadcast 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 of fields showing established riparian herbaceous cover (>60% plant coverage); (2) Receipts for materials purchased; (3) Planting method and seeding rate; (4) Maintenance of established riparian zone - an adapted,

			Pollinator Cover	$2,350.50/Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Native perennial grasses, legumes and forbs with ≤50% grasses; (2) 2-12 species that bloom sequentially and ensure at least 2 species in bloom at any given time during the growing season; (3) Broadcast and/or no-till drill seeded at rate of 41-60 pure live seeds/sq ft; (4) Plant maintenance in the project term.	diverse vegetative plant community that is under close management to ensure long term survival & ecological succession.
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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing planted trees/shrubs, (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased, species and number of live plants;

							growth maintenance. (3) Plant density: ≥150 live trees per acre	(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 of fields taken at both ends and 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 of fields taken at both ends and middle of planted tree rows; (2) Receipts of seedlings purchased; (3) Species and number of live plants; (4) Tree protection and irrigation; (5) Plant

			1-row, tree 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.	maintenance during the project term.
Orchard or Vineyard	Compost Application (CPS 808)	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 of fields showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is 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 is conducted when compost is spread.
		Compost (C:N > 11) application to application to orchards or vineyard					Application rate must be between 6-8 tons/acres	
Orchard or Vineyard	Compost Application (CPS 808)	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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after

							process must be documented.	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 or visible.
		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.	
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) Plant species must be 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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including
			Native species with foregone income	$567.56/Ac				

							growth maintenance.	species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
Orchard or Vineyard	Conservation Cover (NRCS CPS 327)	Convert Idle Land near Orchard/Vineyard to Permanent Unfertilized Grass Cover or Grass/Legume cover	Monarch species – mix species	$1,370.78/Ac	1	(1) Plant species must be mix of native 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.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing established plants (>60% plant cover); (2) Receipts of seeds purchased including species names; (3) Good plant growth during the project term.
			Monarch species – mix species with foregone income	$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) Perennial species includes mix of native 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 plant 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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields at both ends and middle of the plant row (2) Receipts of plants purchased; (3) Plant species name and number of live

							≥3 feet and extend 15 feet wide at maturity; (4) Plant protection & irrigation.	plants; (4) Maintain plant growth during 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% soil coverage by mulch material at 1–3-inch thickness or 1-2 tons/acre if using straw.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing mulching is implemented including thickness and mulch coverage, (2) Receipts of materials if purchased, or estimated quantity of materials if donated with proof documents.
		Add Mulch to Orchard or Vineyard	Wood Chips	$2,518.86/Ac	3		(1) Materials produced off site; (2) Chip size 3/4-2 inch in diameter; (3) Mulch thickness at 2-4 inches; (4) Application rate 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(s) based on soil test analysis and University of California recommendation rates or crop removal rates by a professional	(1) Receipts of nitrogen fertilizers purchased, (2) the farming log must demonstrate that nitrogen application rate is 15% less than what was used in the past 3 years or UC/CDFA recommended rate, (3) Verification is at the end of the project year or

							agronomist, forester or biologist. (2) A farming log records all fertilization activities (fertilizer name, nitrogen content, application rate and date) for each crop or project year.	crop year as applicable.
Orchard or Vineyard	Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till (NRCS CPS 329)	Convert Tillage to No-Till in Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	No-Till or Strip-Till	$31.72/Ac	3	Tillage implemented prior to application deadline	(1) No tillage; (2) Cover crop planting method is no-till drill or broadcast if applicable. (3) Residues are kept on soil surface and not burned or removed; (4) A farming log recording all field activities.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photos of each field showing field operations (including equipment used), field floor and overview of the whole field at end of each project year. (2) The farming log demonstrates that implementation requirements are met; (3) verification at the end of project year.
Orchard or Vineyard	Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (NRCS CPS 345)	Convert Tillage to Reduced-Till in Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	Reduced-Till	$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	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields showing practice is implemented, (2) Must meet depth, frequency or percent area of soil disturbance as described/proposed in the project scope of work, (3) A field

							period; (4) A farming log recording all field activities.	operation log for the entire project year, (4) 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 trees to be chipped. Information on when existing trees to be chipped and incorporated and when trees to be replanted. Acres of implementation.	(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/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) ≥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

			1-row, tree 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) ≥200 live plants/acre.	maintenance during the project term.
Grazing Land	Compost Application to Grassland (CPS 808)	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 of fields showing compost piles, compost being spread and ground right after compost is 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 is conducted 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.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of fields 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 is conducted 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	Pasture, basic	$23.34/Ac	3	A grazing management plan by a certified range manager or equivalent professional to	(1) A grazing log records of grazing dates and stubble height after	(1) The grazing log; (2) 3-5 geotagged photos monitoring forage, and other documents as

		or Non-Irrigated Pasture Condition	Range, basic	$5.26/Ac		enhance pasture or rangeland health & ecosystem function	grazing; (2) Monitoring - photos of forage before and after grazing; (3) Sensitive area protection as applicable.	applicable; (3) verification at the end of each project year.
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	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

			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.	rate; (4) Documentation of planting method (farming log and photos); (5) Maintenance of range plants.
			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: 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: typically 1/4 to 1 inch in diameter and 24-48 inches long; (2) Plant protection; (3)	

							≥35 live plants per acre.	
Grazing Land	Riparian Forest Buffer (NRCS CPS 391)	Replace a Strip of Grassland Near Watercourses or Water Bodies with Woody Plants	Cuttings, Medium to Large Size	$7,290.46/Ac	1	Area of practice implementation must be upgradient from and adjacent to a stream	(1) Cutting size: between medium (0.25-1 inch in diameter and 2-4 feet long) and large (2-6 inch in diameter and 6 ft long); (2) Plant protection; (3) Plant density ≥35 live plants/acre.	(1) 3-5 Geotagged photographs of the field showing planted trees, (2) Receipts for number and sizes of seedlings/cuttings purchased; (3) Species and number of live trees/shrubs at verification; (4) proof of planting method; (5) Tree protection (fence or other protection, and irrigation as needed) and maintenance.
			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) Plant density ≥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	(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

							(fence and irrigation, etc.)	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 and middle of tree row, (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, tree 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.	

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.