

CDFA HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM

Consideration of New Management Practices
for Inclusion in the Healthy Soils Program

Proposal Submission Workshop



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Outline

- Program Overview
- Proposal Process Timeline
- Proposal Requirements
- Submission Guidelines

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **Healthy Soils Program (HSP)**

Stems from California Healthy Soils Initiative, a collaboration of state agencies and departments that promotes the development of healthy soils on California's farmlands and ranchlands.

Competitive grant program: [HSP Incentives Program](#) and [HSP Demonstration Projects](#)

- **Objectives:** To build soil carbon and reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs).
 - **HSP Incentives Program** (1) providing financial incentives to California growers and ranchers to implement conservation management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs and improve soil health.
 - **HSP Demonstration Projects:** (1) funding on-farm demonstration projects that collect data and showcase conservation management practices that mitigate GHG emissions and increase soil health, and (2) creating a platform promoting widespread adoption of these practices throughout the state.
- HSP incentivizes a variety of agricultural management practices that build soil health and reduce GHG emissions. Each practice is associated with a quantifiable GHG emission reduction.
- List of incentivized practices available at:
<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/docs/CDFHealthySoilsPractices.pdf>

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **Practices Currently in the Program**
 - Conservation Management Practices Included in [HSP Incentives Program](#) and [HSP Demonstration Projects](#)
 - 23 Practices in Cropland, 11 Practices in Orchard or Vineyard, 8 Practices in Grazing Land.
 - Conservation Practice Standards (NRCS or CDFA) for practice implementation is available
 - Quantitative Methodology (QM) for Estimation of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction benefit is available via CDFA HSP COMET-Planner developed by CARB, NRCS and CDFA
 - Conservation Management Practices Included exclusively in [HSP Demonstration Projects \(Type A\)](#)
 - 7 Practices in Cropland and/or Orchard or Vineyard, 1 Practice in Grazing Land
 - Data needed for development of standards for practice implementation and QM for estimation of GHG reduction benefits
 - CDFA grants allow data collection for these practices.
- **Current process is for submission of proposals for additional, new Practices to be considered for inclusion in the HSP**

PROCESS TIMELINE

Activity	Dates
Release Request for Proposals	June 29, 2020
CDFA Workshop - Webinars	July 30, 2020, 2:00 – 3:30 P.M. PT July 31, 2020, 2:00 – 3:30 P.M. PT
Submission Due	August 28, 2020, 5:00 P.M. PT
Establish Technical Sub-Committee and Evaluation of Proposals by Technical Sub-Committee	September 2020 – January 2021
Agency Review	February 2020
Public Comment Period	March – April 2021
Finalize Recommendations and QM Development	May - July 2021

PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- The proposed practice must not be proprietary or involve the use of exclusive, proprietary products, materials or equipment
- The proposal must include peer-reviewed and publicly available research literature in support of the proposed practice(s).
- The research literature should include field study and research findings on implementation the proposed practice(s) that must be scientifically sound and statistically significant.
- The research literature should demonstrate that implementation of the proposed practice(s) is
 - To improve soil health (required)
 - To provide GHG reduction benefits including carbon sequestration, carbon dioxide and/or nitrous oxide emission reductions (required)
 - To provide additional environmental co-benefits (strongly encouraged)
- If proposed practice(s) involves addition of soil additives or amendments, the proposal must include an analysis of environmental impacts and materials safety, waste management and disposal procedures.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- A submission should include full name, organizational affiliation (if applicable), and contact information (phone & email) of the submitting individual or entity
- The proposal must be submitted in PDF format, single-spaced with font size of 11 or larger, and maximum three pages, excluding supporting information (research papers and data)
- Proposals must be emailed to cdfa.HSP_tech@cdfa.ca.gov no later than 5:00 p.m. PT, Friday, August 28, 2020.