



HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM



The Healthy Soils Program (HSP) is administered by the Office of Environmental Farming & Innovation, a division of the California Department of Food and Agriculture

What is the Healthy Soils Program?

The Healthy Soils Program (HSP) promotes the development of soil health on California's farmlands and rangelands through conservation management practices, using three grant types:

- The **HSP Incentive Grants** provide financial incentives directly to growers and ranchers to implement practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), and improve soil health.
- The **HSP Demonstration Grants** fund on-farm demonstration projects that collect data, promote and display conservation management practices, and assess the potential of innovative practices in California.
- The **HSP Block Grant Pilot** funds projects by farmers and ranchers through regional block grant administrators, while building their technical assistance capacity.

What is the history of the program?

Following the passage of Senate Bill 859, state agencies and departments in the Healthy Soils Initiative collaborated to launch HSP in 2016. All projects that receive HSP grant funds are required by statute (Government Code Section 16428.9) to achieve GHG reductions benefits and further the purposes of the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32).

How is HSP funded?

The HSP has received multiple rounds of funds through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (part of California Climate Investments), the State's General Fund, and Parks and Water Bond of 2018 (Proposition 68).

How much funding has been distributed?

Since 2017, the program has awarded \$167 million to 1467 Incentive projects and 72 Demonstration projects; 14 Block Grant Recipients will support several hundred on-farm projects.

HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS



1.1 million
estimated metric tons
of CO₂e sequestered
over lifespan of
projects
equivalent to removing



240,000
cars from the road
for a year

and building soil health on



130,000
acres

What benefits healthy soils provide?

Reduce erosion, maximize water infiltration, improve nutrient cycling, save money on inputs, ultimately improve the resilience of agricultural lands, and provide the foundation of productive, sustainable agriculture.

Scan the QR Code to learn about
the Healthy Soils Program and
the Office of Environmental
Farming & Innovation





FUNDED HSP DEMONSTRATION AND INCENTIVE PROJECTS

How does this program benefit Californians?

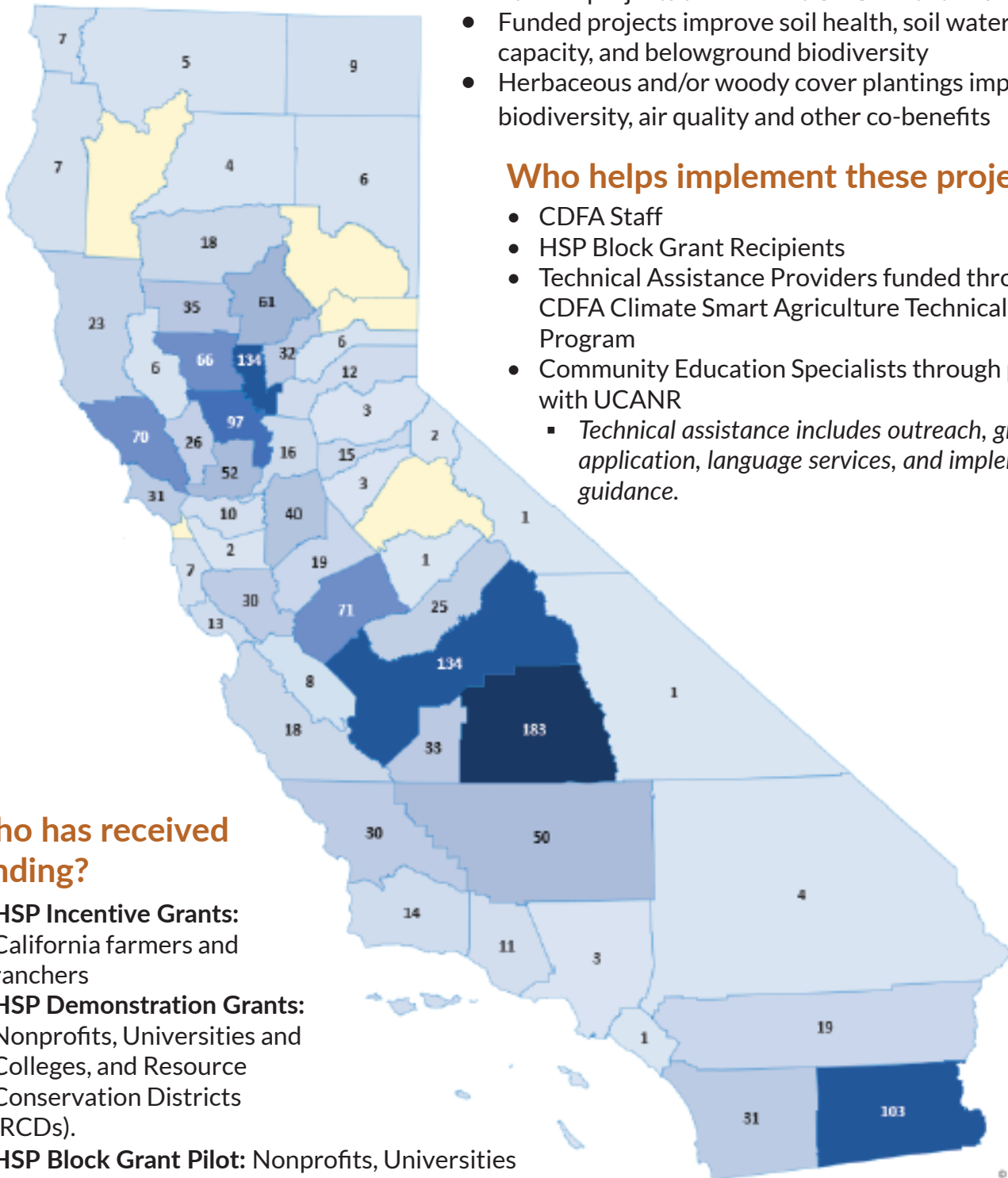
- Funded projects achieve net GHG reductions
- Funded projects improve soil health, soil water-holding capacity, and belowground biodiversity
- Herbaceous and/or woody cover plantings improve biodiversity, air quality and other co-benefits

Who helps implement these projects?

- CDFA Staff
- HSP Block Grant Recipients
- Technical Assistance Providers funded through the CDFA Climate Smart Agriculture Technical Assistance Program
- Community Education Specialists through partnership with UCANR
 - *Technical assistance includes outreach, grant application, language services, and implementation guidance.*

Who has received funding?

- **HSP Incentive Grants:** California farmers and ranchers
- **HSP Demonstration Grants:** Nonprofits, Universities and Colleges, and Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs).
- **HSP Block Grant Pilot:** Nonprofits, Universities and colleges, RCDs, Native American Tribes, local or regional government agencies, and state agricultural associations



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