

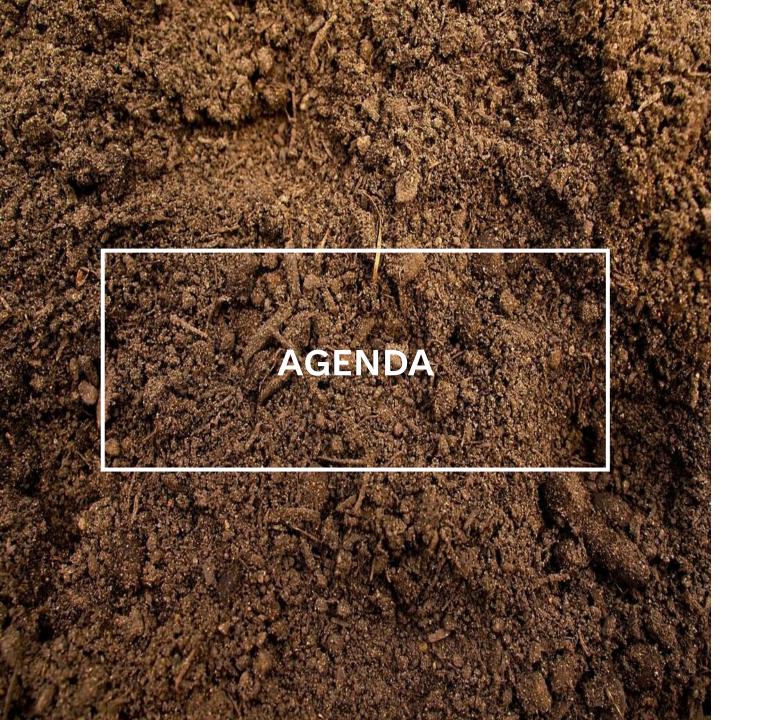


CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF cdfa Food and Agriculture

# BUTTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU: 2024 HEALTHY SOILS GRANT APPLICATION







- Grant Overview
- Supported Practices
- ❖ Application Walk-Thru
- Replan Tool Demo
- Soil Sampling
- **❖** Timeline
- **❖** TAP Assistance
- Conclusion



## HEALTH SOIL PROGRAM: CDFA

The Healthy Soils Program Incentive which originates from the California Healthy Soils Initiative. This initiative is a collaborative effort among various state agencies and departments, aimed at fostering the cultivation of healthy soils across California's agricultural lands.

The grants offered under the Healthy Soils Program serve to provide direct financial incentives to growers and ranchers in California. These incentives are intended to facilitate the adoption of conservation management practices that contribute to carbon sequestration, the reduction of atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), and the enhancement of soil health.



## HEALTH SOIL PROGRAM:

## BUTTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Butte County received a grant of \$4,000,000.00 from the CDFA for their Block Grant under the Healthy Soils Program. This Block Grant Pilot is a component of the broader Healthy Soils Program (HSP), which originates from the California Healthy Soils Initiative. This initiative involves collaboration among various state agencies and departments, all aimed at promoting the cultivation of healthy soils on California's farmlands and ranchlands.

The Block Grant Pilot is specifically crafted to streamline financial assistance to California agricultural operations. It operates through regional block grant administrators, making the process more accessible and efficient for eligible recipients.

Accepted Counties: Butte, Glenn, and Tehama



# GRANT GUIDELINES LINK & QR CODE



The Grant Guidelines document is an exhaustive resource meticulously delineating every facet of the Butte County Farm Bureau Healthy Soil Grant initiative.

This comprehensive document serves as a roadmap, offering intricate insights into <u>eligibility criteria</u>, <u>application procedures</u>, <u>project scope</u>, <u>evaluation metrics</u>, <u>and postaward requirements</u> (Appendix)

#### **Grant Guidelines Link:**

https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:us:9f9d48ec-0c91-4607-8f81-41b147a1cefe

## FUNDING AND DURATION

The Butte County Farm
Bureau was awarded four
million dollars from the
California Department of
Food and Agriculture in
2023. BCFB will offer up to
three rounds of block grant
funding beginning in 2024 or
until all funding has been
awarded

#### **Grant Term:**

Duration: 1 - 3 years Depending on Practice

#### **Maximum Award:**

Limit: \$100,000.

#### **Activity Constraints:**

All activities must occur within the grant term.

Costs incurred outside the grant term will not be reimbursed.

#### **Award Considerations:**

BCFB reserves the right to offer an award amount different from the requested amount.

#### **Cost Share Guidelines:**

Awardees may utilize matching funds or in-kind contributions during the grant term.

BCFB does not mandate or prioritize cost share contributions.

#### **Funds Usage Restrictions:**

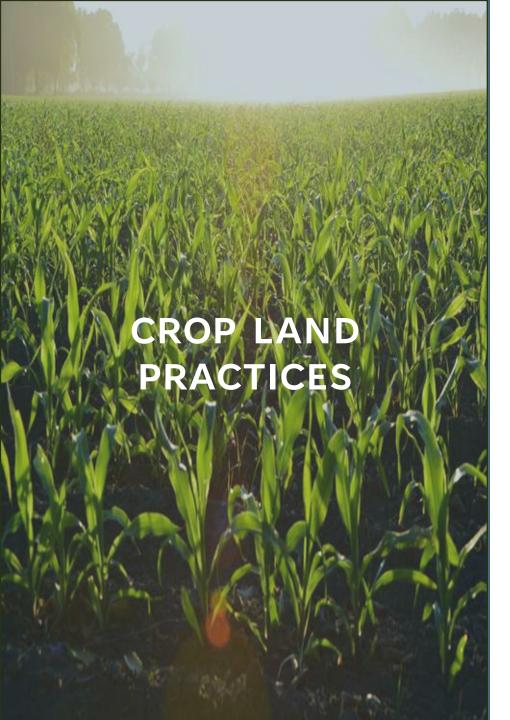
HSP funds cannot support the same practice(s) on the same field(s) as other supporting funds (E.G., USDA NRCS EQIP).

HSP funds may be combined within a broader farm plan, supporting different practices on the same field(s) or the same practice(s) on different field(s).

#### **Limitations On Awardee Actions:**

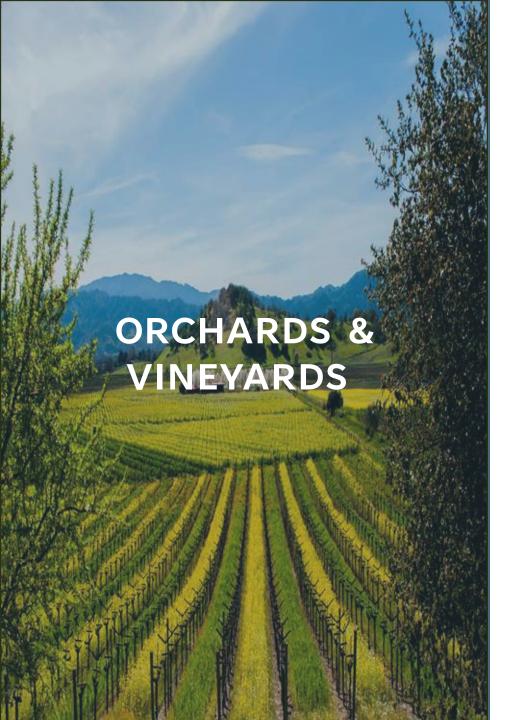
Awardees cannot use HS incentives awards as cost share for awards from HS program incentive grants, HS demonstration program, or HS block grant pilot program,





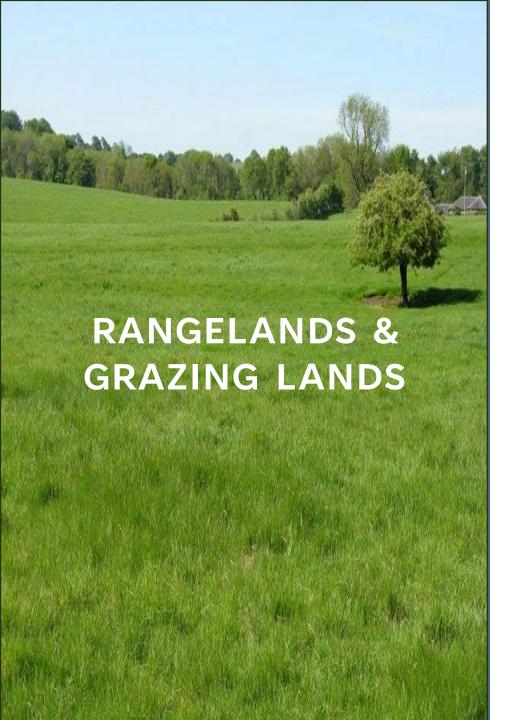
- Alley Cropping
- Compost Application
- Conservation Cover
- Conservation Crop Rotation
- Contour Buffer Strips
- Cover Cropping
- Field Borders
- Filter Strips
- Forage and Biomass
   Planting/Pasture and Hay
   Planting
- Grassed Waterway
- Hedgerow Planting
- Herbaceous Wind Barrier
- Mulching
- Multi-story Cropping/Forest Farming
- Nutrient Management Residue and Tillage Management
- Riparian Forest Buffer

- Riparian Herbaceous Cover
- Strip Cropping
- Tree/Shrub Establishment
- Vegetative Barriers
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt
   Establishment



- Compost Application
- Conservation Cover
- Cover Crop
- Filter Strip
- Hedgerow Plantings
- Mulching
- Nutrient Management
- Residue and Tillage Management

- Whole Orchard Recycling (USDA NRCS CPS 808)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt
   Establishment



- Compost Application
- Hedgerow Planting
- Prescribed Grazing
- Range Planting
- Riparian Forest Buffer
- Silvopasture
- Tree/Shrub Establishment

Cover crops play a
crucial role in
regenerative agriculture
by enhancing soil health
through increased
organic matter, nitrogen
fixation, and erosion
prevention. They also
contribute to
biodiversity and weed
suppression while
providing habitat for

beneficial insects.

#### **Cover Crops**



#### **Hedgerows**



Hedgerows are essential components of regenerative agriculture, acting as natural barriers that reduce soil erosion, provide habitat for wildlife, and enhance biodiversity within agricultural landscapes. They also serve as windbreaks, nutrient sinks, and corridors for beneficial insects, promoting overall ecosystem resilience and sustainability.

Compost is a cornerstone of regenerative agriculture, enriching soil fertility, structure, and microbial activity while sequestering carbon and reducing the need for synthetic fertilizers. It fosters healthy plant growth, enhances water retention, and mitigates soil erosion, contributing to sustainable and resilient farming practices.

#### Compost



#### **Whole Orchard Recycling**



Whole orchard recycling is a vital regenerative agriculture method where entire trees are returned to the soil post-harvest, enriching it with organic matter, nutrients, and microbial diversity. This practice enhances soil health, fertility, and water retention, while also reducing waste and promoting carbon sequestration for sustainable orchard management.

# INFORMATION ON CONSERVATION PRACTICE



https://www.csuchico.edu/regenerative agriculture/ra101-section/index.shtml The website of the Chico State Center of Regenerative Agriculture and Resilient Systems offers an abundance of resources for those interested in regenerative agricultural practices.

#### Regenerative Agriculture Practices That Improve Soil Health

Regenerative practices include cover cropping and biomass; crop rotation; soil inoculants, compost and manures; conservation tillage (no till, strip till, ridge till, mulch till, vertical/shallow till); managed grazing and livestock incorporation; rangeland seeding and biomass; hedgerows and pollinator habitat; riparian plantings, buffer and filter strips; silvopasture; alley cropping. All of these choices support soil health but specific ones are better for certain situations than others. Click the links below to learn more.



Cover Cropping and Biomass
Crops that are used specifically for
the purpose of improving soil health.



Crop Rotation
Growing a series of different crops
with different nutrient usage and
nutrient fixing qualities in succession.



Manures
Soil amendments that address
fertility and soil biodiversity.

Soil Inoculants, Compost and



Reduced Tillage
No till, strip till, ridge till, mulch till, and vertical/shallow till.



Adaptive Grazing and Regenerative Ranching Adaptive multi-paddock grazing, animal impact, and riparian

restoration.



Multispecies Grazing
Grazing multiple species on the same pasture.



# HSP APPLICATION NEEDED INFORMATION

When compiling documentation for the grant, there are several essential aspects to consider in order to accurately provide the required information.

#### **Section I: application information**

- Legal name of operation
- Total agricultural acreage
- Mailing address (Operation or Applicant)
- Etc. Applicant Information (Phone #, Email, First & Last Name)

#### Section II: Previously Funded Project

(Only Needed if You have received Previous HSP Funding)

- Previous Healthy Soil Agreement Number(s)
- Asser's Parcel Number for Previous Implemented practices

#### Section III: Replan Tool Data Upload and Information

- Project Implementation Acres
- Total GHG Reduction
- Number of Practices
- Replan PDF & Excel Upload

#### **Section IV: Practices**

- Names of Practices Requested for Funding
- Highest Dollar amount requested

#### Section V: Project location Information

- -Assessor's Parcel Number(s)
- Address of Project Sites
- (Optional) GPS Coordinates

#### Section VI & VII

- Grower Matched Funds & Grant Requested Funds
- (Only for Compost Projects): Compost Source



## REPLAN TOOL PDF

The PDF component of CDFA's Replan tool will provide a thorough overview of the projects it encompasses, featuring the project summary, budget, and work plan. This PDF is essential for the application process and must be uploaded accordingly.

#### **2023 HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM**

#### **CDFA HSP RePlan Report**

Tracking number: 7433210461

Total grant amount requested: \$16,587.64

Prepared 02/19/2024
using
CDFA HSP RePlan Tool
(https://replan-tool.org/cdfa/?s=IOGIUI20KOGmTrSUv4YiN2)



Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation California Department of Food and Agriculture 1220 N Street Sacramento, CA 95814

## Project summary and budget

Agricultural system	Practice	Implementation acres	Estimated GHG reductions (MT CO2 e/yr)*	Amount requested in the grant term
Orchard	Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808)	8.81	39	\$13,600.85
Orchard	Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)	6.17	9	\$2,836.79
Practice total	I	8.81**	48	\$16,437.64
Total number o	f soil samples	1 samples / year f	or 3 years	\$150.00
Project tota	al			\$16,587.64

<sup>\*</sup> The estimation of Carbon Sequestration and Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions is based on CDFA HSP COMET-Planner (http://comet-planner-cdfahsp.com/) developed by USDA-NRCS and Colorado State University coordinated by the CDFA and the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

<sup>\*\*</sup> The total project implementation acreage is the total ground acreage where the project is to be implemented.

### **Project implementation work plan**

Page	Ag. system	Practice implementation	Payment scenario	Field	Implementation acres	Timeline	Soil samples
6	Orchard	Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808) - Compost (C:N > 11) Application to Perennials, Orchards, and Vineyards - Compost Purchased from a Certified Facility	8 tons/ acre	West Walnuts	8.81	Project year 1, Project year 2, Project year 3	1 / yr for 3 years
10	Orchard	Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340) - Add Legume/ Legume Mix Cover Crop to Orchard/ Vineyard Alleys	Multiple species	East Walnuts	6.17	Project year 1, Project year 2, Project year 3	1 / yr for 3 years**

<sup>\*\*</sup> The number of soil sample(s) is counted only once per field even though it may appear for each practice to be implemented on that field.

#### REPLAN TOOL EXCEL

The Excel segment of CDFA's Replan tool will generate a data table containing details of the implemented practices. This Excel file is a necessary component for the application process and must be submitted accordingly.

Tracking number 7433210461		Agricultural management practice Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808	Practice implementation ) Compost (C:N > 11) Application to Perennials, Orchards, and Vineyards - Compost Purchased from a Certified Facili	Payment scenario 8 tons/acre ty	Field name WEST	Crop(s) grown in the past 1 to 3 years WALNUTS	Proposed crop(s) in the grant term WALNUTS	Approximate center latitude, longitude 392.72268, -1212.90559
7433210461	Orchard	Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)	Add Legume/Legume Mix Cover Crop to Orchard/Vineyard Alleys	Multiple species	EAST	WALNUTS	WALNUTS	392.72268, -1221.90559
Total		Compost Application (USDA NRCS CPS 808); Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)						39.72268, -121.90559

Parcels (APNs) 0432-330-018-000	County Butte	<u>Total acres</u> 8.81	Practice implementation acres 8.81	Acres of pollinator species planted 0.00	Plant species	Implementation timeline Project year 1, Project year 2, Project year 3	Number of years to be funded		Estimated funding amount for practice implementatio during the grant term \$13,600.85	•	years to be	samples during	g Annual GHG emission reduction benefits (metric ton CO2 equivalent/year) 39
0432-180-018-000	Butte	8.81	6.17	6.17	Vigna unguiculata ssp. unguiculata (Cowpea), Vicia sativa (Common vetch), Triticosecale rimpaui (Triticale \Quickguard), Vicia faba (Bell bean \ Horsebean \ Fava bean) Sinapis alba (White / yellow mustard)	Project year 1, Project year 2, Project year 3	3	\$153.32	\$2,836.79	1**	3**	\$150.00**	9
042-180-018-000	Butte		8.81	6.17					\$16,437.64	1		\$150.00	48



### SOIL SAMPLING NEEDS AND INFORMATION

Grant recipients must conduct soil sampling just before commencing practice implementation and within the grant term to ensure an accurate evaluation of soil organic matter (SOM). Additionally, it is mandatory for recipients to sample SOM content annually, preceding each year's practice implementation. For precise results, this should align with the baseline soil sample month and employ the same testing method at the same laboratory.

Source: Butte County Healthy Soils Program Incentive Grant Guidelines, Page 23.

#### Sampling Timing:

- Before Implementation
- Annually during Grant Term

#### Method:

- Align with baseline sample month
- Use same method and lab

#### Frequency:

- Start of project
- Year 1, 2, 3, and post-implementation

#### Costs:

- Grant Term: Reimbursed at \$50 per SOM analysis
- Outside Grant Term: Recipient's responsibility (see table)

#### Lab Recommendations:

- Preferred: Accredited labs
- Consistency reduces errors

**Protocol:** Follow HSP Soil Sampling Protocol strictly.

Sample Year	Inside Grant Term	Reimbursable by BCFB
Year 1	Yes	Yes
Year 2	Yes	Yes
Year 3	Yes	Yes
Year 4	No	No 23



### **GRANT TIMELINE**

The application period begins March 6, 2024. The deadline to submit a grant application is May 3, 2024, at 5:00 pm pacific standard time. No exceptions will be granted for late submissions.

Tentative timeline (subject to change):

Program Activity	Timeframe
BCFB Grant Guidelines Available	February 28, 2024
BCFB Grant Guidelines Available	March 6, 2024
Grant Application Deadline	May 3, 2024 at 5 pm PST
Administrative Review	May 2024
Announce Awards	June 2024
Award Process	-

## AWARD TIMELINE

Grant Agreement Stage	Estimated Time for Stage Completion*
Grant packet compilation – during this step, BCFB will work with awardees to get the information necessary to execute the grant agreement.  Timeline for this step is dependent on how promptly the awardee provides information to BCFB	Variable
Grant agreement execution	Up to 120 days
Processing advance payments – if awardees request and are granted approval for an advance payment, it takes at least 45 days to process this payment after execution of the grant agreement.	At least 45 days

<sup>\*</sup>Subject to change



# TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE



California State University Chico
Center for Regenerative
Agriculture and
Resilient Systems

Navigating the grant application process can be perplexing, especially when utilizing the CDFA Replan tool and determining the most suitable practices for your operation. In such instances, the Chico State Center of Regenerative Agriculture is ready and available to aid, offering guidance to ensure a smoother and more informed application experience.

Technical Assistance Request Form:

https://form.jotform.com/240507416823150



# UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE: HSP APPLICATION VS. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST

#### **HSP Application:**

<u>Purpose</u>: Seeking Funding for Projects <u>Description</u>: Formal Request for Grant

Funding Content:

- Detailed Project Proposal
- Budget Allocation
- Implementation Plan

<u>Outcome</u>: Grant Award for Eligible Projects

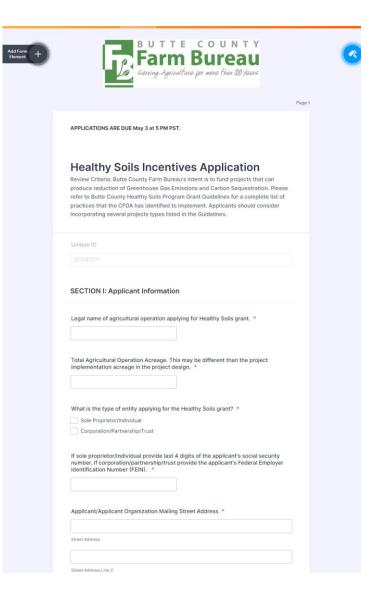
#### **Technical Assistance Request:**

<u>Purpose</u>: Seeking Guidance and Support <u>Description</u>: Request for TAP Assistances <u>Content</u>:

- 1. Specific Queries or Issues
- 2. Areas Needing Improvement
- 3. Desired Guidance

**Outcome**: Application Assistance

#### **BCFB HSP Application**



#### **Technical Assistance Request**

Soutte County Farm Bureau - CDFA - lealthy Soils Block Grant Itte County Farm Bureau (BCFB) has been awarded a \$5M grant to subsidize tite, Glenn, and Tehama county farmers who implement resilient agricultural actices that help build healthy soils. Awards of up to \$100,000 are being grant implement on-farm soil health practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissior d store carbon in soil, trees, and shrubs. Please fill out this brief form so we m ip you get started implementing eligible practices.  The start Name  Last Name  Last Name  Phone Number  (000) 000-0000  Please enter a valid phone number.	🍃 🗾 he	ealthy s	oils program
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Walnuts	Other		
Walnuts	Which cropping sys	tem describes your fa	arming operation?
Fruit trees Rice Row crops			
	Fruit trees	Rice	Row crops

### THANK YOU

### **Weekly Q&A For General Questions:**



Thursday Coffee Hour Every Week

Starting March 14<sup>th</sup>
Running Until Grant
Ends

https://csuchico.zoom.us/j/89068875958?pwd=a0ZHVDVxeC9vOVo0e WJBWDFjTHFrdz09 Lindsey Hethcote

Project Manager: Conservation Planning
and Education

Center of Regenerative Agriculture and
Resilience System

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Zion Brigham

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