



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
Food and Agriculture

BUTTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU: 2024 HEALTHY SOILS GRANT APPLICATION



California State University Chico
Center for Regenerative
Agriculture and
Resilient Systems

2024 Healthy Soils Grant Application



<https://www.buttefarmbureau.com/programs/healthy-soils-grant>



AGENDA

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

A photograph of a field of yellow mustard flowers in bloom. The flowers are bright yellow and are scattered throughout a dense field of green leaves. In the background, there are bare trees and a clear sky. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text "GRANT OVERVIEW" in white, bold, uppercase letters.

GRANT OVERVIEW

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.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
Food and Agriculture

**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 eligibility criteria, application procedures, project scope, evaluation metrics, and post-award requirements (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.₈

A photograph of a lush green rice field. The foreground is filled with tall, slender rice stalks with developing panicles. The background shows a vast, flat expanse of similar greenery stretching to a line of dark trees under a bright sky. A white rectangular border is superimposed over the center of the image, containing the text 'ACCEPTED PRACTICES' in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

ACCEPTED PRACTICES



CROP LAND PRACTICES

- 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



ORCHARDS & VINEYARDS

- 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



RANGELANDS & GRAZING LANDS

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

Cover Crops

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.



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

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.



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.



Soil Inoculants, Compost and Manures

Soil amendments that address fertility and soil biodiversity.



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.



APPLICATION WALK-THRU

<https://www.buttefarmbureau.com/programs/healthy-soils-grant>

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 DEMO

<https://replan-tool.org/cdfa/>

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=IOGIUJ20KOGmTrSUv4YfN2>)



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 CO ₂ e/yr)*	Amount requested in the grant term
Orchard	Compost Application <u>(USDA NRCS CPS 808)</u>	8.81	39	\$13,600.85
Orchard	Cover Crop (USDA NRCS CPS 340)	6.17	9	\$2,836.79
Practice total		8.81**	48	\$16,437.64
Total number of soil samples		<u>1 samples / year for 3 years</u>		\$150.00
Project total		\$16,587.64		

* 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).

** 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**

** 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	Agricultural system	Agricultural management practice	Practice implementation	Payment scenario	Field name	Crop(s) grown in the past 1 to 3 years	Proposed crop(s) in the grant term	Approximate center latitude, longitude
7433210461	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	WALNUTS	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)	County	Total acres	Practice implementation acres	Acres of pollinator species planted	Plant species	Implementation timeline	Number of years to be funded	Payment rate (\$ per acre or foot)	Estimated funding amount for practice implementation during the grant term	Number of soil samples for soil organic matter test per project year	Number of years to be funded for soil sampling grant term	Estimated funding amount for soil samples during grant term	Annual GHG emission reduction benefits (metric ton CO2 equivalent/year)
0432-330-018-000	Butte	8.81	8.81	0.00		Project year 1, Project year 2, Project year 3	3	\$514.56	\$13,600.85	1	3	\$150.00	39
0432-180-018-000	Butte	8.81	6.17	6.17	Vigna unguiculata ssp. unguiculata (Cowpea), Vicia sativa (Common vetch), Triticosecale rimpaul (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

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



TIMELINES

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

*Subject to change

A photograph of a herd of cows in a lush green field under a clear blue sky. The cows are of various colors, including brown, black, and white. The text "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS (TAP)" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font, centered within a white rectangular border.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS (TAP)

**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:

Purpose: Seeking Funding for Projects

Description: Formal Request for Grant Funding

Content:

- Detailed Project Proposal
- Budget Allocation
- Implementation Plan

Outcome: Grant Award for Eligible Projects

Technical Assistance Request:

Purpose: Seeking Guidance and Support

Description: Request for TAP Assistanes

Content:

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

Outcome: Application Assistance

BCFB HSP Application

Technical Assistance Request

THANK YOU

Weekly Q&A For General Questions:



**Thursday Coffee Hour
Every Week**

**Starting March 14th
Running Until Grant
Ends**

<https://csuchico.zoom.us/j/89068875958?pwd=a0ZHVDVxeC9vOV00eWJBWDFjTHFrZz09>

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