



# **CDFFA's Healthy Soils Program 2024 Incentives Program**



**Presented by the RCDTC**



# Program Overview

- **Healthy Soils Program (HSP)**
  - Stems from California Healthy Soils Initiative, a collaboration of state agencies and departments that promote the development of healthy soils on California's farmlands and ranchlands.
  - Competitive grant program: HSP Incentives Program, HSP Demonstration Projects, and **New Pilot Block Grants**.
- **Objectives:** To build soil organic carbon and reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs).
- **HSP Incentives Program** provides financial incentives to California growers and ranchers to implement agricultural management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric GHGs and improve soil health.

# Funding and Duration

## Funding and Award Terms

- Approximately \$11 million available to allocate
- Maximum award per grant is \$100,000
- 3-year grant terms

## Application Tools

- **New!** Amplifund application tool
- **New!** Simplified RePlan tool

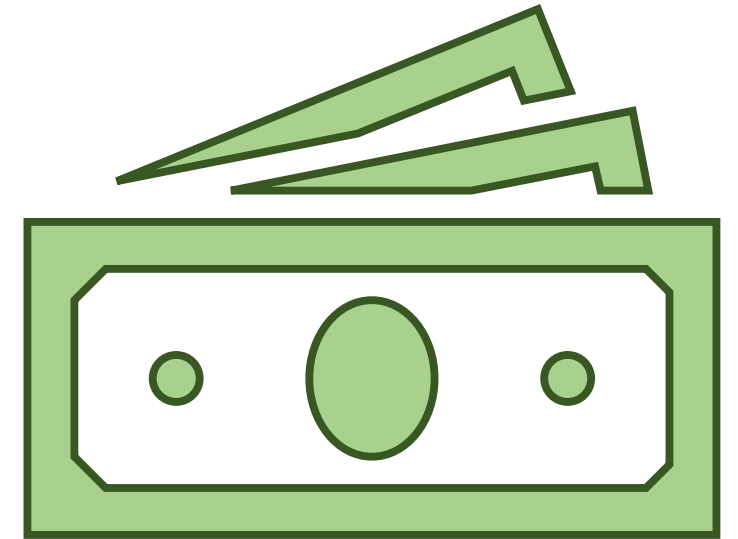
## Review Process

- Technical Review process removed
- HSP goal to allocate at least 25% of total grant funding to SDFRs
- 3-week solicitation

## Resources

Preview RGA and related documents on CDFAs Incentives Page

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthsoils/IncentivesProgram.html>



# CDFA Solicitation Timeline

Activity	Timeline (subject to change)
Questions received Periods <i>December 11, 2023-January 10, 2024</i>	Response Posted January 16, 2024
Solicitation <b>O</b> pens	January 22, 2024 (by 12 pm PST estimate)
CDFA Grant Application Webinars	Within first week of solicitation
Questions received Periods <i>January 11, 2024 -January 26 ,2024</i>	Response Posted January 30, 2024
Solicitation <b>C</b> loses	February 9, 2024 at 5 pm PST
Application Review and Selection	Ongoing until all funds are allocated

# Grant Recipient and Project Eligibility



## Grant Recipient eligibility requirements:

- California farmers, ranchers, and agricultural business entities **are** eligible.
- Native Americans, **are** eligible to apply.
- Nonprofit organizations as agriculture operations **are** eligible to apply.
- Grant Recipients must be at least 18 years old.
- Cannabis cultivation operations **are not** eligible to apply.
- Hemp cultivation operations **are** eligible to apply.

# Grant Recipient and Project Eligibility



## Project eligibility requirements:

- Projects must be located on agricultural operations in California.
- Projects located on grazing lands (including grasslands, rangelands, and pastures, as defined at the bottom of Appendix A) are eligible.
- Grant funds cannot be used for projects that use potted plants and plant growth media other than soil.
- Grant funds cannot be used for research and product development activities.
- All entities receiving grant funds must have a physical California business address.
- Awards are limited to one per agricultural operation using a unique tax identification number per round of funding, including applications submitted to Block Grant Recipients. If a unique tax identification number is used for multiple applications, only one can be funded.
- Compost Application and Whole Orchard Recycling: HSP will not incentivize these practices on APNs where soil organic matter content is greater than 20 percent by dry weight in the top 20 cm (or 8 inch) depth.

# Changes to 2024 Incentives Program

## Leasing Land

- Allowing applicants to apply even if lease does not cover whole project term.
- Landowner Agreement Template available on Healthy Soils Incentives' website.

## Grant Recipient Eligibility

- Previous HSP Grant Recipients are not eligible to receive funds for implementing the same practice on the same field funded previously. However, a new landowner or lessee may be eligible to implement the same practice on the same field previously funded.
- HSP staff will be checking APNs/practices and recipients for funded projects during application review process.

# Changes to 2024 Incentives Program

## **Woodchip Mulching**

- Changed from annually implemented practice to one-time implemented.

## **Whole Orchard Recycling**

- Removal of "land use following WOR" requirement to allow for flexibility in cropping systems.

## **Application Portal**

- Now using Amplifund (previously used WizeHive).

## **Simplified Application due to RePlan Tool Improvements**

- In previous years, applicants would need to work with two different web-based tools and answer repetitive questions within the application. RePlan tool updates and integration with the Comet Planner Tool has streamlined this process.
- Will walk through a demonstration later in the presentation.



# Changes to 2024 Incentives Program

**Conservation plans are no longer a part of the application**

## **Application and Review Process**

- Eliminated Technical Review and changed to "Pass/Fail" review process.

## **Application Review and Award Prioritization**

- 1) Applications benefitting SDFRs and Priority Populations (min. 25% of funds)
- 2) first-time HSP applicants
- 3) multiple practices proposed (no more than 80% of funding to one practice)
- 4) all other applications

## **Geographic prioritization**

- Applications in counties that are not within service areas of HSP Block Grant Recipients or HSP technical assistance providers will receive the first review within their priority category, as feasible: Del Norte, Inyo, Lassen, Mariposa, Mono, Orange, Plumas, Sierra, and Trinity.

# Changes to 2024 Incentives Program

## Applicants

- *Landowner Permission Letter Template* – for use if project to be implemented on leased land. There will be a place in the application to upload form.
- *Grazing Management Plan Template* – for use if project will have a grazing management plan. There will be a place in the application to upload completed plan.

## Grantees

- *On-Farm Composting Log Template* – for use during grant implementation for grantees that have "on-farm compost" practice. To be submitted yearly with other verification materials.

# Implementation recommendations



- CDFA strongly encourages applicants to implement soil conservation practices incentivized by the HSP on lands that will be temporarily taken out of production due to the 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.



# RePlan Tool Demonstration



# RePlan Tool Demonstration: 1 Practice



## Welcome to the CDFA HSP RePlan Tool

The Healthy Soils Program (HSP) provides financial incentives to California growers and ranchers to implement conservation management practices that help sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases, and improve overall soil health. This web application provides easy access to the spatially explicit data that helps inform the Healthy Soils Program (HSP) managed by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).

**IF** you are arriving from the Replan Program page, you are free to explore the tool by selecting a grant program, clicking the **Begin** button at the bottom of the page, and following the steps provided.


**IF** you wish to apply for Healthy Soils Program grant funding, you need to download the PDF and Excel of your work within this tool to your computer upon completion. The two reports are required application documents. That PDF contains a link to reopen this tool, which enables you to edit your information at any point.

### Select a grant program to begin.

Grant Program

Incentives Program

**START** by zooming to your desired location by typing in an Address or County/APN number using the finder fields at the top of the map. Alternatively, you can pan and zoom to your area of interest using your mouse.

You can visualize different spatial data by first clicking on **Layers** and then selecting individual datasets from the major headings provided. Click on the arrow to expand the list and check the box to display the layer on the map. Clicking  opens up a new window in Data Basin for more detailed information and exploration.

You can download a PDF of your work within this tool without saving to a CDFA HSP application. That PDF contains a link to reopen this tool.

Begin

Address Finder

APN Finder

Tehama

Help

50 m

200 ft

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# RePlan Tool Demonstration: 1 Practice



## CDFA HSP RePlan Tool

### 1. Choose a practice

Agricultural System  
*Make sure the agricultural system chosen matches the proposed crop(s) in the grant term.*

Orchard

Practice  
Cover Crop

Is this practice currently being implemented or was it implemented in the field in the previous year?  
No

Implementation  
Add Legume/Legume Mix Cover Crop to Orchard/Vineyard Alleys

Payment Scenario  
One species

Years Implemented  
This practice will be implemented for project years 1-3

Select where the practice will be implemented  
Alleys

### 2. Define your field

Draw new field

Choose existing field

#### 2a. Provide field name

Field 1

Cancel

Save

Address Finder

APN Finder Tehama

Help

Layers

50 m  
200 ft

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# RePlan Tool Demonstration: 1 Practice



**and proposed crops**

Enter the crop(s) grown on the field in the past year

*For rangeland or pasture, enter "grass". You may enter 'fallow,' 'unknown,' or 'field in transition' if no crop is currently present or you do not know the history on that field. If there is more than one crop grown on the field in the past year, please separate the crop types with a comma (example: tomato, corn)*

Enter proposed crop(s) in the grant term

*If you are planning on growing more than one crop type, please enter all crop types and separate the crop types with a comma (example: tomato, corn)*

### 3. Select species to plant

Cereal rye, Field mustard, Common vetch, Cultivated radish

### 4. Review costs

	Quantity	Payment rate	Cost
Implementation costs	17.0 practice implementation acres for 3 years	\$122.46 per acre per year	\$6,238.22
Soil samples	2 samples for 3 years	\$50.00 per sample per year	\$300.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$6,538.22</b>

Address Finder

APN Finder Tehama    [Help](#)

Layers

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# RePlan Tool Demonstration: 2 Practices



## CDFA HSP RePlan Tool

### 1. Choose a practice

Agricultural System

Make sure the agricultural system chosen matches the proposed crop(s) in the grant term.

Orchard

Practice

Compost Application

Is this practice currently being implemented or was it implemented in the field in the previous year?

No

Implementation

Compost (C:N > 11) Application to Perennials, Orchards, and Vineyards - Compost Purchased from a Certified Facility

Payment Scenario

6 tons/acre

Years Implemented

This practice will be implemented for project years 1-3

### 2. Define your field

Draw new field

Choose existing field

2a. Provide field name

Young Walnut Block 2

2b. Draw field on the map

Cancel

Save

Layers

Address Finder

APN Finder

Tehama

Help

X

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100 ft



# RePlan Tool Demonstration: 2 Practices



3.45 acres in parcels within California.

This field is located in a community included under AB 1550 Low-income Communities or SB 535 Disadvantaged Communities.

## 2e. Choose number of soil samples in field

How many soil samples will you be taking on this field each year?

## 2f. Provide prior and proposed crops

Enter the crop(s) grown on the field in the past year

*For rangeland or pasture, enter "grass". You may enter 'fallow,' 'unknown,' or 'field in transition' if no crop is currently present or you do not know the history on that field. If there is more than one crop grown on the field in the past year, please separate the crop types with a comma (example: tomato, corn)*

Enter proposed crop(s) in the grant term

*If you are planning on growing more than one crop type, please enter all crop types and separate the crop types with a comma (example: tomato, corn)*

## 3. Review costs

	Quantity	Payment rate	Cost
Implementation costs	3.45 acres for 3 years	\$385.92 per acre per year	\$3,989.75
Soil samples	3 samples for 3 years	\$50.00 per sample per year	\$450.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$4,439.75</b>

Cancel

Save

Address Finder

APN Finder    [Help](#)

Layers

30 m  
100 ft

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# RePlan Tool Demonstration: 2 Practices



## CDFA HSP RePlan Tool

### Mature Walnut Block 3: Cover Crop

Practice implementation cost: \$6,238.22

[delete](#) | [edit](#)

Parcels

(24.3 acres, 17.0 practice implementation acres)

### Young Walnut Block 2 : Compost Application

Practice implementation cost: \$3,989.75

[delete](#) | [edit](#)

Parcels

(3.45 acres)

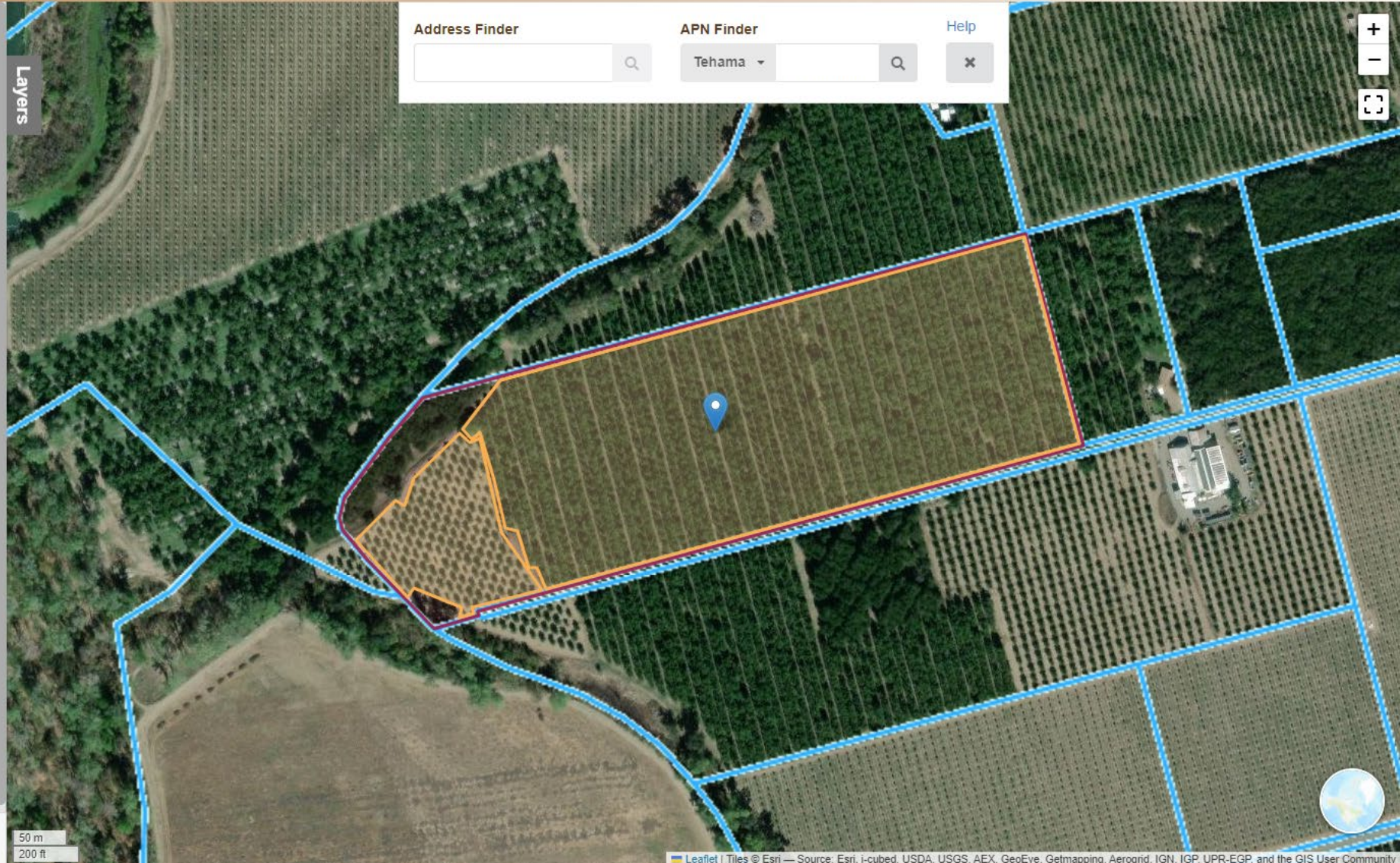
[+ Add New Practice](#)

## Project costs

	Description	Cost
Practice total	\$6,238.22 Cover Crop \$3,989.75 Compost Application	\$10,227.97
Soil samples	5 total samples per year for 3 years at \$50.00 per sample	\$750.00
	<b>Total funding requested</b>	<b>\$10,977.97</b>

[Introduction](#)

[Finished](#)



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# RePlan Report

- Total GHG reductions must be greater than 0 to eligible for funding.
- Download the PDF and Excel RePlan files and upload both files with your application.
- Link to your RePlan tool is on the front page of your report.

## 2023 HEALTHY SOILS PROGRAM

### CDFA HSP RePlan Report

Tracking number: 7701510055

Total grant amount requested:

\$10,977.97

Prepared 12/21/2023

using

CDFA HSP RePlan Tool

(<https://replan-tool.org/cdfa/?s=bcV7jwbzCarYiXWMojeGZ4>)



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

# Application Checklist

- Complete Application (Amplifund)
- CDFA HSP RePlan Report (pdf) – includes Project Site Map
- CDFA HSP RePlan Report (excel)
- Landowner Permission Letter (*if applicable*)
- Grazing Management Plan prepared by a professional Certified Rangeland Manager (*if applicable*)

# Review Process

- HSP staff to review applications on rolling basis based on prioritization criteria.
- Applications that "pass" will receive a congrats email with next steps.
- Applications that "fail" within the solicitation period will receive a regrets email with details on the resubmission process. No cap on number of times to resubmit.
- Applications that are not reviewed due to completed fund allocation will receive email notice.
- Applications not funded are eligible to be added to the California Carbon Sequestration and Climate Resiliency Project Registry if "yes" selected in RePlan process. Registry estimated to be available end of 2024.

# Available HSP Block Grants

Lead Organization Name	Partner Organization	Award Amount	Contact Information	County
American Olive Oil Producers Association	Center for Regenerative Agriculture and Resilient Systems, CSU Chico	\$2,499,695.20	Kimberly Houlding: 559-940-6878 <a href="mailto:khouding@aoopa.org">khoulding@aoopa.org</a>	Butte, Colusa, Fresno, Glenn, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Tehama, Tulare, and Yolo
Butte County Farm Bureau	Center for Regenerative Agriculture and Resilient Systems, CSU Chico	\$5,000,000.00	Colleen Cecil: 530-533-1473 <a href="mailto:info@buttefarmbureau.com">info@buttefarmbureau.com</a>	Butte, Glenn, and Tehama
Glenn County Resource Conservation District	UCCE-Glenn County	\$5,000,000.00	Kandi Manhart: 530-934-4601 ext. 5 <a href="mailto:hsp-sweep@glenncountyr cd.org">hsp-sweep@glenncountyr cd.org</a>	Glenn



# Thank you! Questions?

Contact us

Amy Kendrick or Kevin Greer

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