

California Department of Food and Agriculture
 2017 Healthy Soils Program (HSP) Incentives Program
 Projects Selected for an Award of Funds (Updated as of July 9 2018)

Updated as of 6/26/18

Recipient Organization	Project Description	Amount Awarded	Estimated Cost Sharing	County	GHG Reduction Estimation (Tonnes CO ₂ eq/yr)
Alexis Robertson / Skyelark Ranch	The project will establish legume cover crop, windbreaks, riparian forest buffer and silvopasture on a riparian section of the Shasta River, with the intent of increasing carbon sequestration, biodiversity, wildlife and pollinator habitat and improving soil health and water quality.	\$11,346.45	\$1,200.00	Siskiyou	17.60
Acorn Alegria Winery	A 501 foot hedgerow will span the two adjacent parcels that comprise the vineyards. Hedgerow will include California native shrubs that attract and provide habitat for birds, bees, and beneficial insects. The hedgerow will also protect neighbors from noise, dust, and spray from the vineyard.	\$3,075.94	\$1,000.00	Sonoma	0.80
Alexandre Dairy	The project implemented will heal the soil through continued application of compost and planting of cover crops, while creating new practices to install riparian buffers and herbaceous vegetative that actively protect and promote soil health.	\$50,000.00	\$114,169.44	Del Norte	783.90
Amy Davidson Skezas	The project will implement two healthy soils practices in the program: 1). Compost application to grazing land. 2). Establish woody cover.	\$1,026.56	\$9,653.55	Sonoma	5.00
Calcareous Vineyard LLC	The Recipient will implement soil practices including reduced/no-till, cover cropping, mulch and compost application. Project area will correlate to planted vineyard acreage and adjacent plots of concern, roughly 45 acres. The project will decrease erosion from winter rains, prevent spread of weeds, regulate soil temperature, increase biological health of soil, increase nutrients available to crop, reduce labor costs, reduce fuel dependency, increase water infiltration, improve biodiversity.	\$11,898.05	\$17,200.00	San Luis Obispo	70.10
Campodonico Olive Farm LLC	This project will: 1) introduce yearly cover cropping of mixed legumes and grasses for the three project years in the nine-acre olive orchard to improve water infiltration, increase organic matter content of the soil and promote nitrogen fixation and reduce energy use. This part of the project consists of two fields designated as A/B and C/D. The A/B field has been certified organic by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) since 2013. Field C/D is slated for organic transition in 2020. 2) establish a hedgerow along the west boundary of field A/B to reduce drift from chemical herbicides, pesticides & fertilizers as well as increase carbon storage in the biomass and soil and create additional habitat for beneficial insects and birds. The hedgerow planting will include native California shrubs and perennial grasses.	\$6,983.76	\$3,650.00	Lake	6.00
Capay Hills Orchard	The Recipient will implement Soil Management - Compost, no Till, cover crops Field Border development Hedgerow Planting.	\$4,281.00	\$3,100.00	Yolo	57.00

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Charles Starr	The project will plant cover crop and reduce till by tilling only every other row.	\$25,472.48	\$17,570.00	San Joaquin	31.00
Crossland Family Revocable Trust	The project will implement soil management practices on 71.89 acres of wine grapes. Certified compost will be banded and hydraulically ripped into the root zone of the vines. Soil samples will be taken annually to monitor soil health and changes due to management losses from harvesting. This project is expected to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 110.1 tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent per acre.	\$14,893.67	\$17,046.03	San Luis Obispo	110.10
Crystal Hap LLC	The Recipient will implement water conservation practices and improve soil fertility by adding compost in the specialty crop areas and mulching orchards with compost. The operation will also host site visits by other farmers to showcase the soil building project.	\$19,079.00	\$9,539.00	Riverside	213.00
Deep Springs College Corporation	The Recipient will add woody hedgerow along field edges, and add yearly compost application to alfalfa fields. Hedgerow establishment will help reduce soil loss due to wind erosion, maintain soil structure, and increase moisture retention in soil. Yearly compost applications will help to increase organic matter and carbon content in soil, increase soil health, and increase moisture retention in the soil. In combination, these two projects will work in tandem to not only reduce water requirements and increase crop yields, but also increase carbon uptake in the soil and contribute to increasing soil health. The Recipient will establish a woody hedgerow along the northernmost edge of the field, approximately 1400 feet in length. With the windbreak in place, increased compost applications will increase in efficiency and effectiveness, helping to increase the yields and decrease other inputs (water and fertilizer) on alfalfa fields.	\$44,116.00	\$21,000.00	Inyo	566.00
Farm Space LLC	The project will offset all greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on 30-acre property, including GHG sources from the Recipient's home, vegetable/fruit production, and cattle operation while showing how carbon sequestration can act as systemic ecosystem restoration. The projects carbon farming plan includes replacing a significant area of grazing land with native forest, primarily along an eroded ephemeral drainage. The project will also implement extensive hedgerow and silvoculture planting to provide habitat to fauna, reduce desiccation of forage and improve cattle health by eliminating imported, GHG-heavy feed.	\$49,861.07	\$36,414.00	Sonoma	126.10

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Gaytan Family Farm Inc	The project will enable the operation to capture carbon and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG). By improving soil with compost, the Recipient will also further conserve water by retaining more water in the soil via improvement of the soil structure with compost. This will lead to increasing nutrient cycling resulting in increased crop yield and provide families with high quality, nutrient dense produce.	\$7,970.00	\$4,311.00	Riverside	86.00
Gerald Chooljian Farms	The Recipient will add manure, compost, and gypsum to sandy soils along with various cover crops to boost organic matter and give the vines optimum nutrients.	\$46,457.01	\$8,000.00	Fresno	377.20
Hammond Crossland Vineyard	This project is for compost soil management practices to improve soil health on 57.36 acres of wine grapes at Hammond Crossland Vineyard, near Paso Robles, in San Luis Obispo County. Compost is banded and hydraulically ripped into the root zone of the vines. A non-leguminous over crop of Blando Brome and Zorro Fescue is seeded immediately with rubber tracked/low pressure tractor tires to reduce soil compaction. Soil samples will be taken annually to monitor soil health and changes due to soil management losses from harvesting.	\$11,844.08	\$13,579.60	San Luis Obispo	91.10
Hector Barraza	The Recipient will apply compost and cover crops to 14 acres of almonds.	\$3,831.79	\$2,103.00	Stanislaus	35.40
Jackelyn Lundy	This project will establish woody cover practices by planting and developing 2,971 feet of hedgerows (1,651 feet on North hedgerow and 1,320 feet on South hedgerow) to help provide a habitat for terrestrial wildlife as well as enhance pollen, nectar, and nest habitat for pollinators.	\$18,047.74	\$8,850.00	Yolo	4.00
Jess Wade	The project will focus on sustainability, soil health, and reduction of greenhouse gases (GHG).	\$3,138.00	\$17,476.40	Sonoma	23.20
John P. Wick	The Recipient will add compost application on grazed rangelands.	\$49,714.00	\$52,104.00	Marin	598.30
John T. Ham Jr.	The Recipient will implement cover crops practices and apply the no-till farming on organic walnut orchard.	\$12,840.65	\$10,884.81	Lake	30.20
Jose L. Robles	The Recipient will be using compost, planting cover crops, and also planting 2,688 feet of hedgerow for beneficial insect habitat on 12 acres of almonds.	\$21,703.98	\$7,952.00	Stanislaus	58.10
KLT Vineyards LLC	The Recipient will implement Cover crop, Compost, Mulching, Soil Testing and Soil Moisture Monitoring to this project.	\$16,744.70	\$8,700.00	Sonoma	70.10

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Matthiasson Family Vineyards	This project will implement new farming practices with the goal of building soil organic carbon and reducing atmospheric greenhouse gasses (GHG). Year 1 of the project will include planting perennial cover crops, applying compost and establishing hedgerows. Year 2 and 3 of the project will include applying compost and maintaining the perennial cover crops and hedgerows.	\$30,887.17	\$15,075.00	Napa	43.80
McGinnis Ranch LLC	This project will implement cover crops, compost and woody cover (hedgerow) on a 14-acre multi-crop operation currently undergoing transition from conventional to organic production. Crops include: flowers, row vegetable crops, strawberries and caneberries.	\$12,577.70	\$13,454.00	Monterey	29.70
Michael Broadhurst / Dragon Spring Farm	The project will implement soil management in the forms of mulching, reduced tilling, cover crop application, and compost application to the perennial crops and annual crop fields.	\$4,509.63	\$1,900.00	San Luis Obsipo	11.30
Michelle Rossow	This project will implement the following practices on one irrigated cropland field that consists of 70 acres. The Recipient will incorporate five soil management practices. The practices include testing soil annually for organic matter, planting a multi-species legume cover crop annually, spreading compost and mulch evenly across the field annually, and residue and tillage management of intensive till to reduce till. Implementing these management practices are anticipated to improve soil health. Monitoring and evaluation of the practices will be conducted for ensuring long term success and sustainability of the project. The goal of the project will be to improve plant health and yields, increase water infiltration and retention, sequester and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG), reduce sediment erosion and dust, improve water and air quality, and improve biological diversity and wildlife habitat.	\$50,000.00	\$100,745.20	Merced	345.60
Nancy E Osborne	Since 2013, the Capay Rancho Herb Co. sells culinary and medicinal herbs and fruits. The operation seeks to become a viable, sustainable business and a model for other small acreage farms. Currently, permaculture principles are used in the operation and has been registered organic with the Tehama County since 2014. The business has been working to minimize water usage by adding compost; however, limited resources have prohibited the expanded use of compost, mulch, hedgerows and restoring riparian area along the Sacramento River in a way that captures more carbon, builds native habitat, and reduces atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHG).	\$16,491.55	\$5,700.00	Tehama	12.70

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Naturipe Berry Growers, Inc.	The Azevedo ranch, jointly owned by the Nature Conservancy and the Monterey County Agricultural and Historical Land Conservancy, encompasses 74.55 acres of mostly arable land bordering the Elkhorn Slough. Historically, this ranch has served as a study site for sustainable farming in a sensitive wetland watershed. For 25 years, Elkhorn Berry Growers has farmed the 34.6 acre northern portion of the ranch. Over that time, it has successfully implemented management practices to mitigate water and nutrient runoff, increase organic matter, and improve soil health. Recently, an intensively farmed southern portion of the ranch was acquired. This 29.1+ acre area is in dire need of soil health improvements. The soil health on the new ground will be improved by 1) Cover crop and rotation 2) Addition of soil amendments to increase organic matter and 3) Conversion of 10% to 12% of land neighboring the slough to native grassland buffer to reduce run-off to a sensitive wetland area.	\$50,000.00	\$28,268.69	Santa Cruz	271.20
Oak Knoll Farming Co.	This project will improve the health of the operations vineyards and build the soil organic material for healthy vines, soil, and a more productively sustaining environment.	\$31,452.24	\$75,872.00	Napa	330.80
Pacific Gold Agriculture LLC	The Recipient is requesting funding for cover crops as a new practice.	\$49,240.74	\$21,192.60	Colusa	45.00
Patricia Diane Vineyards LP	The project will implement soil management practices on 124.55 acres of wine grapes. Certified compost will be banded and hydraulically ripped into the root zone of the vines. Soil samples will be taken annually to monitor soil health and changes due to management losses from harvesting. This project is expected to reduce annual greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 194.20 tonnes of CO ₂ equivalent.	\$25,483.65	\$29,418.60	San Luis Obispo	194.20
Pie Ranch	This project will improve the soil health on 33 acres of cropland by adding seasonal cover crops and applying compost each year. The fields that are part of this project have been fallow for the last three years, but prior to 2014 these acres were part of a flower farm that grew annual flowers for 44 years using conventional methods.	\$20,815.12	\$18,655.86	San Mateo	161.10
Quaker Oaks Farm	This grant will help the farm become more resilient by building soil health, sequestering carbon and reducing atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHG). The project will achieve these outcomes by implementing management practices such as cover crops, hedgerow plants, mulching, compost applications and silvopasture areas on Quaker Oaks Farm. These practices will have positive benefits on soil health, overall farm resiliency and the surrounding area by reducing pollutants in the air and water.	\$12,568.23	\$13,000.00	Tulare	21.40

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Red Gate Ranch LLC	The Recipient will re-design and expand the operations market garden to incorporate permaculture concepts and no-till farming for maximum profit to the farm and maximum benefit to the environment. Some of the practices that will be used include no-till, compost and mulch applications, as well as hedgerows/windbreaks and storm water mitigation using swales and berms. The placement of permanent raised beds on contour, within field blocks, will help retain water and prevent erosion while producing high volume annual output, and effectively building soil. Inter-planting, crop rotation, and bed clearing by cutting plants at their base to leave the roots in the soil, are all practices that will be used to maintain soil organic matter (SOM) and microbial life.	\$12,929.11	\$5,873.00	Tehama	7.10
Redwood Empire Vineyard Management, Inc.	This project will implement the following practices: Cover Crop, Compost, Mulching, Soil Testing and Soil Moisture Monitoring.	\$49,315.61	\$28,665.00	Sonoma	216.20
Robert E. Bauer	The project will use poultry litter as a mulching material that will be incorporated into the soils of a walnut orchard after it fulfills its purpose for erosion control. The litter will be spread late in the fall season using an existing spreader, and will follow NRCS CPS 484 guidance and meet the requirements for mulching when implementing the practice. In the spring time of the following year, the poultry litter will be incorporated in the soil using a tilling and roller implement. Once the litter is tilled, a mixture of legume cover crops will be seeded to stabilize the soil, reduce winter runoff, and increase the retention of beneficial nutrients for the walnut orchard.	\$5,052.80	\$10,000.00	Merced	4.00
Roberto Perez	The Recipient will be adding cover crops, compost, and hedgerows to farms operation on several parcels in Merced and Stanislaus counties. These techniques will help build soil structure on the almond orchards which are in need of organic matter.	\$46,022.75	\$20,043.00	Merced, Stanislaus	221.60

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Rock Front Ranch LLC	<p>2225 Foothill Road New Cuyama - An organic and fully mature jujube orchard of 12 acres has been scientifically neglected for six years. This orchard will benefit by implementing methods to improve soil health and conserve water while simultaneously mitigating greenhouse gases (GHG) by sequestering carbon from the atmosphere. Zizyphus jujuba's resilience is matched only by its prolific production of a nutritious fruit. The project will demonstrate that the implementation of conservation management practices have immediate and long term rewards for the soil, the biome and the planet.</p> <p>10590 Highway 166 - A young organic jujube orchard of three acres planted with the idea of harmonizing production and environment. This orchard will be a barometer to establish reproducible positive parameters for carbon sink methodology using techniques that only enhance and improve soil nutrition and soil microbial health which will translate into healthy yields while sequestering carbon from the atmosphere.</p>	\$16,248.60	\$9,950.00	Santa Barbara	9.70
Rock N Almonds	<p>A three year project to annually apply compost as the primary source of nutrients and a cover crop for 67 acres of an organic and 169 acres of conventional almond orchards. The purpose is to improve soil health, water retention, soil permeability, carbon sequestration, biodiversity and reduce greenhouse gasses (GHG).</p>	\$49,999.52	\$127,630.00	Merced	1088.00
Ronald Dewey	<p>The project will provide a long term comprehensive program to improve the soil quality, reduce soil and wind erosion on a 40 acres of lemon orchard. The farm consists of two nominal 20 acre parcels. The first parcel known as lot 159 consists of approximately 19 acres of four year old lemon trees. The second parcel known as lot 154 consists of approximately 19 acres of newly planted lemon trees less than one year old. The project will install a 15 foot strip of cover crop between each row of trees on both parcels. The project will install a single line of Hybrid Poplar wind break trees along 1,593 feet of the West and North boundaries of Lot 154. The project will also install 630 feet of Hedgerow along the North boundary of lot 154.</p>	\$13,270.95	\$10,897.00	Santa Barbara	15.00

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Seth & Michelle Rossow Farms	<p>This project will implement five soil management practices on one irrigated cropland field that consists of 94 acres. The practices include testing soil annually for organic matter, planting a multi-species legume cover crop annually, and spreading compost evenly across the field annually, spreading mulch evenly across the field annually, and residue and tillage management of intensive till to reduce till. These practices are anticipated to improve soil health. The monitoring and evaluation of the practices will be conducted to ensure long term success and sustainability of the project. The goal of the project will be to improve plant health and yields, increase water infiltration and retention, sequester and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG), reduce sediment erosion and dust, improve water and air quality, and improve biological diversity and wildlife habitat.</p>	\$50,000.00	\$152,377.84	Merced	455.80
Sierra Orchards	<p>The Recipient will take a broad and committed approach toward a vibrant and balanced soil ecosystem through the establishment of a diverse perennial cover crop over three years, accompanied by three years of intensive composting with a high carbon compost. The Recipient will improve soil organic matter, significantly reduce compaction, and foster a soil that can store the atmospheric carbon mineralized by crops in its dynamic ecosystem.</p>	\$50,000.00	\$49,158.83	Solano	520.50
Stemple Creek Ranch Inc	<p>Stemple Creek Ranch will implement compost application and seeding seasonal legume cover crop in pastures. This project will continue to work with Conservation Carbon Plan and put more acreage into the category of rangeland that has received compost application. To go along with this, seasonal legume cover crops will be planted to provide added ground cover, integrate the compost into the soil, provide additional nutrients, protect the soil from the elements, enhance wildlife habitat, and contribute filtration of water running off the land and into Stemple Creek.</p>	\$29,882.00	\$15,100.00	Marin	242.10

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Steve L. Scheenstra / Silverwood Ranch	Two stone fruit orchards totaling 205 acres planted in 1998 will be excavated in late 2017 and ground up with a horizontal grinder in early 2018 and the wood chips will be spread back onto the orchard soil as a mulch, at the expense to the grower of \$900 acre. Nonpareil and Monterey almonds on Brights-H5 rootstock will be planted and oriented in a north to south direction in February 2018. The wood chips will be worked into the soil over the first two years in anticipation for harvest when the orchard floor needs to be free of debris on the third year. The wood chip mulch was estimated at over 60 tons per acre. Soil carbon and organic matter will be monitored for three years by UC Cooperative Extension Farm Advisors. The Recipient hopes the additional carbon and organic matter will increase soil carbon and nutrition and orchard and productivity. Preliminary results from the UC shows Whole Orchard Recycling could be a viable alternative to burning or co-generation burning.	\$50,000.00	\$310,189.60	Fresno	42.00
The Cloverleaf Farm	The Recipient will be building soil organic matter and increasing carbon sequestration in its vegetable production plots in the next three to seven years. This will be achieved through the implementation of several soil health related conservation practices.	\$7,848.85	\$12,979.39	Solano	2.30
The Grove LLC	The farm will increase composting over the course of the next three years to reduce water consumption, and improve the soil which will sequester carbon and reduce greenhouse gases (GHG). Over the years, the farm has diversified its crops and has a variety of citrus, avocados, stone fruit and persimmons. The farm seeks to improve soil and beneficial microorganisms. Large amounts of compost will promote soil activity and has the advantage of helping to control weed growth. Additionally, more compost will improve the retention of nutrients in the soil and hopefully result in increased crop yields. Crops are sold at local farmers markets and through the local school district's farm to school program.	\$3,539.00	\$2,175.00	Riverside	38.00

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Toluma Farms, Inc.	The farm is utilized for sheep/goat pasture, dairying and cheese making. Forty acres are for growing grass hay, a small apple orchard and riparian exclusion area. The Recipient will maximize production, maintain an economically viable operation while protecting soil and water quality. The property's pastures, riparian corridors, manure management, and feed production present opportunities to increase soil carbon while improving the amount, quality, and seasonal availability of forage. Woody, herbaceous, and no-till vegetative plantings, in the pastures, riparian and wetland habitats would provide benefits to carbon sequestration, soil health, stability, hydrology and overall habitat value. Through windbreaks, compost application and agroforestry, the project will increase photosynthesis plant growth (roots and shoots), increase organic matter, increase species diversity, control invasive weeds, promote desirable perennials and reduce erosion by increasing soil cover.	\$49,445.36	\$15,100.00	Marin	385.20
True Grass Farms	True Grass Farms will integrate trees and carbon sequestering potential to the currently regenerative managed coastal prairie which promotes and show case for future farms the potential of a diversified agricultural production zone. The Recipient will apply the following practices: 1) Compost application to grazed rangeland to five acres. 2) CPS 391 - Riparian forest buffer by replacing a strip of grassland near water ways for seven acres and one acres of large container / one acres of small container / five acres of medium to large cuttings. 3) CPS 422 - Hedgerow planting (linear wind break) on 1200 ft. 4) CPS 381 - Sylvo pasture – for seven acres.	\$49,954.96	\$15,628.00	Marin	40.00
Valley Fresh Foods Inc	The grant will be used to plant a clover cover crop on a 500 acre almond orchard in Denair, CA. There are eight blocks of almonds, four of which are six to nine year-old trees and four blocks are new plantings. Many of the soil management practices are already in place and the grant will be use to apply a cover crop including legumes to the soil health management program. Seeds will be broadcast and rolled into prepared ground to maximize the germination rate. The cover crop is applied between the perennial trees in order to improve soil health, structure, and increase soil carbon and organic matter; to avoid nitrate leaching; to provide habitat and nutrition to pollinators; to provide habitat for beneficial insects; to compete against undesirable weeds; to supplement nitrogen without synthetic fixation; to slow run-off and erosion; and to decrease dust pollution during harvest.	\$37,000.00	\$32,599.40	Merced, Stanislaus	36.00

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W H Latimer Properties LLC	The Recipient will apply composted dairy manure to citrus orchards at two dry tons per acre per year. The objective is to increase organic matter in the soil. The potential positive outcomes include increasing microbial diversity in the root zone, carbon sequestration and reduced release of greenhouse gases (GHG), increased water retention and efficiency, and increased slow-release nutrient availability for less dependence on synthetic fertilizers over time.	\$45,800.00	\$22,900.00	Tulare	520.00
Wild Farmlands Foundation	Restoration Oaks Ranch and Santa Barbara Blueberries is a 955 acre cattle ranch and berry farm located in the epicenter of the California drought, Santa Barbara County. This project will implement the following practices: Add Mulch to Cropland, Compost Application to Grazed Rangeland, Hedgerow Planting and Silvopasture Planting.	\$18,982.30	\$19,060.00	Santa Barbara	90.80