Riparian Forest Buffer
(CPS 391)

Payment Rate: depending on planting type $2,223.16/Ac to $9,427.38/Ac

An area predominantly trees and/or shrubs located adjacent to and up- gradient from watercourses or water bodies. Riparian forest buffers are applied on areas adjacent to permanent or intermittent streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. They are not applied to stabilize stream banks or shorelines.

Co-benefits

- Reduces excess amounts of sediment, organic material, nutrients and pesticides in surface runoff and reduces excess nutrients and other chemicals in shallow ground water flow
- Creates or improves riparian habitat and provide a source of detritus and large woody debris
- Reduces pesticide drift entering the water body
- Restores riparian plant communities

>Example Riparian Forest Buffer Project Description

XX Farm is a family farm that raises pasture eggs from about XX chickens and grazes XX beef steer on XX acres in Marin County. The proposed project will establish XX feet of riparian forest buffer alongside XX creek/pond which has been largely denuded. The mixed species, riparian planting will consist of locally-adapted California native trees and shrubs, which will be selected based on what is best for the site (determined by soil, water, wind and light conditions of site) and what is available at local native plant nurseries or other appropriate sources. The project will include fencing to protect the area from grazing livestock while plants are being established. Ultimately, the plantings will improve aquatic and terrestrial wildlife habitat and act as a buffer to filter out sediment, organic material, fertilizer, pesticides, and other pollutants that may adversely impact the water body. Other benefits include increased carbon storage in the soil, improved soil health, and increased biodiversity on the farm. This project will be in collaboration with XXX (MRCD/MALT/NRCS), which provides planning, design and implementation assistance to landowners. XXX (MRCD/MALT/NRCS) will provide technical assistance and support for the life of the project, through the monitoring phase.

>Example Riparian Forest Buffer Project Design

RePlan Tool

3. Species Selection

- Write-Ins: We recommend you write in the following, tailored to the plant types you will be using in your project: *"The mixed species planting that has been selected consists of locally-adapted California native trees, shrubs and forbs, which are selected based on what is most suitable for the site (determined by soil, water, wind and light conditions). The plant list may be revised based on what is available at local native plant nurseries or other appropriate*

sources." This may allow you some extra flexibility in selecting plant species upon project implementation, if needed.

- **Recommended Species:** See the document in *Step 3: Project Design* titled *Native Plant Species Adapted to Marin County, Listed by Practice* for specific local suggestions.

Planting Project Timeline ***(Hedgerow, Windbreak, Riparian Forest Buffer, Silvopasture, Tree and Shrub Establishment)***

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Source container plants												
Collect soil samples												
Plant container plants												
Plant willow stakes										*Install when dormant*		
Maintain planting: irrigation, weeding, and herbivore protection												