

Funding Opportunities for Carbon Farming in Marin County (and beyond)

Agency/Organization	Program	Practices Covered	Funding	Next Deadline	Future Deadlines	Notes	For More Information
Marin Resource Conservation District (Marin RCD)	Various programs, depending on local, state, and federal funding	Depending on grant, may cover water quality, carbon farming designs/implementation; can also help with permitting including CEQA.	Depending on grant and project, funding may cover full project cost (riparian projects) or require a 25% landowner cost-share (which may be covered by in-kind match, NRCS, MALT, or other matching grant).	Currently, no open funding opportunities.	Currently, no open funding opportunities.		Michelle Katuna, Marin RCD Agroecologist (415) 663-1170 x 304 michelle@marinrcd.org Nancy Scolari, Marin RCD Executive Director (415) 663-1170 x 301 nancy@marinrcd.org
California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)	Healthy Soils Program (HSP) - Incentive	Covers many carbon farm practices (NOT including supporting practices like fence and water development) including riparian forest buffer, range seeding, compost application, prescribed grazing, etc.	Fixed rate incentive reimbursement, depending on practice; typically does not cover full amount.	HSP 2021 Round 1: Likely to open July 2021. *Funding is not guaranteed and is dependent on finalization of State Budget	HSP 2021 Round 2: Likely to open Dec 2021. *Funding is not guaranteed and is dependent on finalization of State Budget	Awards will be given on a first-come-first-serve basis so best to have projects thought out before applications open, and to submit quickly.	CDFA Healthy Soils Incentive Website (check for updates as we approach summer 2021): www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthsoils/incentivesProgram.html Round 1 Application Assistance (*pending CDFA-approval): Randi Black, UC Cooperative Extension, 707-565-2648, rblack@ucanr.edu Round 2 Application Assistance (*pending CDFA-approval): Michelle Katuna, Marin RCD, (415) 663-1170 x 304, michelle@marinrcd.org
Fibershed	Carbon Farm Seed Fund	Funds shovel ready projects on working lands including silvopasture, riparian restoration, compost application, hedgerows/windbreaks, etc.	\$2,000-\$6,000 awards in 2020; may change in future rounds. Funds may be used for materials, equipment rentals, supporting practices, and/or labor costs. One year to use funds.	Fibershed sends out an annual announcement usually in August; 2021 round has not been announced.	Not yet announced.	*Must be a Fibershed producer to apply to/access this funding.	Marisol@fibershed.com
Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT)	Stewardship Assistance Program (SAP)	Projects can range from cross fence installation, riparian restoration, water infrastructure development, stream bank stabilization, compost application and more.	SAP funds up to 85% of the landowner's cost share, with a cap of \$15,000 for smaller projects and \$50,000 for larger projects with multiple funding agencies.	Applications accepted year-round.	Applications accepted year-round.	*Must have a MALT agricultural conservation easement to apply to/access this funding.	Eric Rubenstahl Stewardship Program Manager (415) 663-1158, ext. 319 erubenstahl@malt.org
	Drought Resilience & Water Security (DRAWS) initiative	Emergency funding for projects on Marin ag lands to improve water distribution, storage, or security. Covers water development/improvement projects such as extensions to existing water infrastructure, water storage tanks, etc.	Up to \$15,000 available per applicant. As of now, funds are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.	Applications accepted now. DRAWS is a 6-month initiative started in April 2021.	No future deadline.	*Open to all producers, even those without a MALT agricultural conservation easement. Apply as soon as possible since funding may run out. More info here: https://malt.org/stewardship-assistance-draws-initiative/	
Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Covers most to all of practices in carbon farm plan (INCLUDING supporting practices): fence, seeding, water development, compost application, riparian forest buffer, and much more.	Fixed rate reimbursement depending on conservation practice. Higher rates for Historically Disadvantaged farmer/rancher as defined by USDA. Expect out of pocket expenses of 10% installation cost or more.	Not yet announced	Applications accepted year-round. Next batching period expected sometime between November 2021 and March 2022. Usually several ranking periods per year.		
	Conservation Incentive Contracts (CIC)	Through this pilot program, NRCS California has \$22,774,000 for drought-related and other conservation practices. Practices include forest management plans, tree/shrub establishment, brush management, prescribed grazing, pasture and hay planting, wildlife habitat, livestock watering systems, and cover crops. All funds are designated to cover projects addressing certain "Priority Resource Concerns." Specific practices are being announced soon, but haven't been finalized.	CIC contracts must include a CSP type enhancement practice and may include EQIP type practices as well. Payment rates are the same for CIC as both of those other programs but, unlike CSP, there are no base acre payments, existing practice payments, or Historically underserved rates.	Producers in California who are interested in this targeted funding should apply by July 12, 2021 by contacting their local USDA Service Center.	California is participating in pilot program this year. Planned to roll out nationwide in FY 2022.		Drew Loganbill District Conservationist USDA/NRCS Petaluma Office: (707) 794-1242 x107
	Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Multiple enhancement activities and conservation practices available to address and enhance upon resource concerns such as soil health, pollinators, changing weather patterns, western forest health, efficient irrigation, rangeland health and much more.	Fixed payment rates for conservation enhancement activities and/or practices that best fit your operation. CSP payments occur annually for applying these activities on your land and base payments operating and maintaining your current conservation efforts.	Contact NRCS to inquire about next deadline.	Applications accepted year-round.		
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program	Funds conservation projects on private lands. Priorities: migratory birds, anadromous fish (salmon), and/or threatened and endangered species. Riparian restoration, habitat restoration, wetland restoration, native grassland restoration. Program also pairs you with a FWS biologist who may provide assistance in project management.	Cost-share program; 1:1 match preferred but not always required. Funding generally capped at \$100,000.	Applications accepted year-round. Funding for year usually decided in Spring/Summer of that year. Urgent projects may have faster timelines.	Applications accepted year-round.	If you have a project in mind, contact Damion Ciotti who can consult on funding priorities, visit site, and lead application process.	Program Website: https://www.fws.gov/cno/conservation/Partners.html Damion Ciotti Cell: 916-335-7990 Office: 530-889-2327 damion_ciotti@fws.gov
	Coastal Program	Can work on federal lands with this grant program; might be good for ranchers in PRNS.		Applications accepted year-round. Funding for year usually decided in Spring/Summer of that year. Urgent projects may have faster timelines.	Applications accepted year-round.	If you have a project in mind, contact Damion Ciotti who can consult on funding priorities, visit site, and lead application process.	
	National Coastal Wetlands Grant Program	Larger scale projects.	Funding generally capped at \$1 million.	Applications accepted year-round. Funding for year usually decided in Spring/Summer of that year. Urgent projects may have faster timelines.	Applications accepted year-round.	Formal application process.	https://www.fws.gov/wsfprograms/Subpages/GrantPrograms/CW/CW.htm
Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)	Farmer/Rancher	A farmer or rancher (lead) and an agricultural professional (technical advisor) work together to develop a project that conducts both research and outreach on a sustainable agriculture topic.	\$25,000 limit (\$29,900 limit with three or more producers)/one to two years in scope.	Applications open August 2021.	Applications open August 2021.	https://western.sare.org/grants/farmer-rancher/	https://western.sare.org/
	Professional + Producer	An agricultural professional (lead) collaborates with producers to develop a project that conducts both research and outreach on a sustainable agriculture topic.	\$75,000 limit/one-three years in scope.	Applications open August 2021.	Applications open August 2021.	https://western.sare.org/grants/professional-producer/	
Zero Foodprint (ZFP)	Restore CA	Implementation funding for carbon farming practices.	Grant for up to \$25,000. Applicants are required to partner with a Technical Assistance Provider.	Exact date not yet announced but planned for Fall 2021. Check website for updates.	New program. Usually several rounds per year.	Applications ranked based on the "cost per ton of carbon sequestered" which is calculated as the requested grant amount divided by the total metric tons of modeled CO2e (comet-planner.com). You can pair practices so the entire application ranks higher (e.g. compost and riparian planting).	Application and info: www.zerofoodprint.org/apply For application assistance: (813) 575-3949