

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 Simone Albuquerque, Marin RCD Conservation Program Manager 415 - 787 - 7452 simone@marinrcd.org
California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)	CA State Water Efficiency & Enhancement Program (SWEET)	Funding to improve irrigation systems for water savings and reduced energy use.	Max award: \$200,000	Applications until Jan 18, 2022 (first come, first served)	Check website for future updates.	Assistance with applications through UCCE Sonoma County Office. (707) 565-2621	CDFA SWEET Website (check for updates): https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/oeffi/sweep/
	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.	\$75 million available state-wide. Fixed rate incentive reimbursement, depending on practice; typically does not cover full amount. Can be matched with other cost-share funds.	As of Nov 1: CDFA's Healthy Soils Incentives Program is now open! Funds are awarded on a rolling basis until they run out, so apply asap to improve your chances of award!	NA.	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): www.cdffa.ca.gov/oeffi/healthysouils/incentivesProgram.html Michelle Katuna, Marin RCD, (415) 663-1170 x 304, michelle@marinrcd.org Randi Black, UC Cooperative Extension, 707-565-2648, rblack@ucanr.edu
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.	Scott Dunbar MALT Stewardship program manager — sustainable agriculture sdunbar@malt.org (415) 663-1158 ext. 313
	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.	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/	
USDA 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.	Must express interest in application by December 10, 2021. NRCS internal ranking deadline: January 28, 2022.	Next EQIP application deadline: April 1, 2022. NRCS internal ranking deadline: May 27, 2022.		
	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.	First round deadline passed in July 2021.	California is participating in pilot program this year. Planned to roll out nationwide in FY 2022. Future deadline not yet announced.		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.	Application deadline: April 1, 2022; NRCS internal ranking deadline: May 27, 2022.	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/wsfrprograms/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.	Application closed November 1, 2021.	Check website for future updates.	https://western.sare.org/grants/farmer-rancher/	
	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.	Application closed November 3, 2021.	Check website for future updates.	https://western.sare.org/grants/professional-producer/	https://western.sare.org/
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.	Open now through December 10, 2021.	New program. Usually several rounds per year. Check website for updates.	In previous rounds, applications were 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 grants@zerofoodprint.org
	Compost Connector	Compost.	Free compost. Farmer/rancher may have to pay for freight and spreading.	Can apply now. Applications accepted on a rolling basis.	New program. Check website for updates.	Zero Foodprint is working with local municipalities to connect composting facilities with farms and ranches so that each region's compost can be put to best use sequestering carbon.	Application and info: https://www.zerofoodprint.org/compost For questions or application assistance: 415.279.1815 hannah@zerofoodprint.org

California Certified Organic Foundation (CCOF)	The Brimont Hardship Assistance Fund	Helping certified organic producers recover from any economic hardship	\$1000-\$2500	Application closed Nov 5, 2021	Check website for future updates.	https://www.ccof.org/page/brimont-hardship-assistance-fund
Marin County	Cost-share for Water-Hauling	Cost-share program to help cover expenses associated with trucking in water due to drought.	Depends on losses	Ongoing	Contact Ag Commissioner for information.	Contact Assistant Ag Commissioner, Scott Wise, or Ag Commissioner, Stefan Parnay, to be included in the program. (415) 473-6700
	Cost-share for Specialty Crop and Nursery Producers	Cost-share program to help cover losses associated with crop failure or fallowed acreage due to drought.	Depends on losses	Application closed Nov 15, 2021	Contact Ag Commissioner for information.	Contact Assistant Ag Commissioner, Scott Wise, or Ag Commissioner, Stefan Parnay, to be included in the program. (415) 473-6700
US Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA)	Pandemic Response & Safety Grant	Funds for producers, processors, distributors and farmers markets to cover expenses associated with adapting to the pandemic and preserving workplace health and safety.	\$1500 - \$20,000	Application closed Nov 22, 2021	Check website for future updates.	https://usda-prs.grantsolutions.gov/usda
	FSA Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)	Cost-share program to help with 5 months of additional livestock feed costs due to forage losses from drought	60% of monthly feed costs for 5 months up to \$125,000	Application closed January 31st, 2022	Submit application documents at Farm Service Agency Sonoma-Marín Office. (707) 794-1242	Farm Service Agency Sonoma-Marín Office. (707) 794-1242
	FSA Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP)	Cost-share program to cover expenses associated with hauling in water due to drought. Also helps with the transportation costs associated with buying in replacement feed (see LFP Program).	No payment limitation	Application closed January 31st, 2022	Submit application documents at Farm Service Agency Sonoma-Marín Office. (707) 794-1242	Farm Service Agency Sonoma-Marín Office. (707) 794-1242
	New crop insurance program for small farms selling locally	Whole-farm revenue coverage with simplified record-keeping for operations grossing less than \$100,000 per year	Depends on losses	Should be available through local insurance agents this Fall		USDA's Insurance Agent Locator tool: https://www.rma.usda.gov/en/Information-Tools/Agent-Locator-Page
Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)		Funds to improve livestock infrastructure for health and well	Average grant size is \$2300	Applications open mid-November		https://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/grants