

Funding Opportunities for Working Lands 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 (SWEEP)	Funding to improve irrigation systems for water savings and reduced energy use.	Max award: \$200,000	Application currently closed.	Continue to check website for future updates.	Assistance with applications through UCCE Sonoma County Office. (707) 565-2621	CDFA SWEEP Website (check for updates): https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/oeffi/sweep/
	Healthy Soils Program (HSP) - Incentive	Covers many carbon farm practices including riparian forest buffer, range seeding, compost application, prescribed grazing, etc. (Does NOT provide funding for supporting practices like fence and water development)	Fixed rate incentive reimbursement, depending on practice; typically does not cover full amount. Can be matched with other cost-share funds. Total amount available depends on annual state budget allocation. Previous round: \$75 million was available state-wide.	Application currently closed.	Continue to check website for future updates.	Projects awarded 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 Local TA providers at Marin RCD and UCCE: Michelle Katuna, (415) 663-1170 x 304, michelle@marinrcd.org Randi Black, 707-565-2648, rablack@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 past rounds; 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 of each year.	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. Funds renewed July 1 of each year.	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 SAP website: https://malt.org/stewardship-assistance/ DRAWS website: https://malt.org/stewardship-assistance-draws-initiative/
	Drought Resilience & Water Security (DRAWS) initiative	Funds projects centered around long-term water security. MALT staff will assist farmers and ranchers in planning, designing and implementing conservation practices specific to water development and security.	MALT will reimburse 85% of the total project cost (material and labor) with a cap of \$15,000.	Applications accepted year-round. Funds renewed July 1 of each year.	Applications accepted year-round.	Any ag producer in Marin can apply.	
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	Incentive funding to help landowners and lessees address specific resource concerns. 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.	Sign-up deadline for next batch will likely be winter 2022.	Applications accepted year-round.		
	Conservation Incentive Contracts (CIC)	For cropland systems. Possible practices include nutrient management, cover crop, mulch, no-till, or soil carbon amendment.	Program now focused on conservation management of - must target 1 of 3 resource concerns: soil quality limitations, field pesticide loss, and/or field sediment. Payment rates are the same for CIC as EQIP and CSP but, unlike CSP, there are no base acre payments, existing practice payments, or Historically underserved rates.	Sign-up deadline for next batch will likely be winter 2022.	Applications accepted year-round.		Evelyn Denzin evelyn.denzin@usda.gov Acting District Conservationist USDA/NRCS Petaluma General Office #: (707) 794-1242 x3
	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 for operating and maintaining your current conservation efforts.	Sign-up deadline for next batch will likely be winter 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 opens May 2, 2022.	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 opens May 2, 2022.	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.	Application currently closed - check website and sign up for newsletter for updates.	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 or leo@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. Fill out Compost Connector Project Request Form on website	Check website for updates. https://www.zerofoodprint.org/compost	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. "Everyone is eligible, though farms willing to take larger amounts of compost will likely be prioritized. Projects can be submitted at any time, and will be fulfilled on a rolling basis."	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 Bricmont Hardship Assistance Fund	Helping certified organic producers recover from any economic hardship	\$1000-\$2500	Applications will be open April 26 – May 26, 2022.	Check website for future updates.		https://www.ccof.org/page/bricmont-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.	Contact Ag Commissioner for information.		
US Department of Food and Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA)	Drought Loan Program (USDA #S5146)	For Farmers and ranchers who conduct family-sized farming operations. Emergency farm loans for both physical and crop production losses as a direct result of the disaster [drought].	Up to \$500,000 loan	8-Dec-22			Contact Lisa Velasquez, County executive director or Ana Cecilia Medina, farm program technician; (707) 794-1242 lisa.velasquez@usda.gov; ana.medina@usda.gov; Para ayuda en español: 707-794-1242 x 100 (o x 115) Website: https://www.farmers.gov/protection-recovery/drought AND https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/farm-loan-programs/index Hearing impaired individuals may call 1-800-877-8339.
	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 Fall 2022.			
Food Animal Concerns Trust (FACT)		Funds to improve livestock infrastructure for health and welfare of animals.	Average grant size is \$2300	Applications open Fall 2022.			https://foodanimalconcernstrust.org/grants
U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)	Small Business Drought Loan Program (SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans)	For small, non-farm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, and most private non-profit organizations of any size. Small businesses include those that do business directly with the growers, such as truckers and suppliers of agricultural equipment or services.		8-Dec-22			Contact SBA at 1-800-659-2955, or visit SBA's website at: www.sba.gov/disaster , or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov