



California  
**Department of  
Conservation**  
Division of Land Resource  
Protection

# Programs and Funding Opportunities

## Working Lands Protection and Capacity Building

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# The Department of Conservation Division of Land Resource Protection



## Agenda:

- Overview of our services and programs
- Provide information on our grant programs
- Answer your questions

## Programs the Division administers:

- Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
- Agricultural Land Mitigation Program
- California Farmland Conservancy Program
- Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program
- Resource Conservation District Assistance Program
- Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program
- Transformative Climate Communities Program
- Watershed Coordinators Program
- Williamson Act

## What does the Division of Land Resource Protection do?

### Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program (FMMP)



Surveys almost all of public and private land in California, using aerial photography



Identifies how land is used (urban, rural, grazing, irrigated farmland, etc.)



Provides maps, statistics, and GIS data to the public and planners



Designed by Julia Cooksby

## HOW?

### 2 WE PROTECT FARMS FROM DEVELOPMENT

(A) CFCP\* and SALCP pay farmers to keep their land in ag, permanently.



(C) Williamson Act reduces the amount of property taxes that farmers pay if they agree not to develop. These are ten- or twenty-year contracts.

\*Program acronyms defined on back

### 1 WE MAP HOW FARMLAND CHANGES OVER TIME

FMMP



(B) ALMP offsets farmland developed for the California High-Speed Rail Authority by conserving farmland elsewhere.

### 3 WE SUPPORT LOCAL PLANNING AND PROTECTION



RCDs and Watershed Coordinators provide services for local conservation projects.

**FARMERS NEED LAND  
TO GROW FOOD**



**43%**  
OF OUR LAND  
IS USED FOR  
AGRICULTURE



THAT LAND SUPPLIES  
**67%**  
OF U.S. FRUITS



AND MORE THAN  
**90%**  
OF U.S. EXPORTED

**CALIFORNIA  
HAS SOME  
OF THE BEST  
FARMLAND  
IN THE WORLD**

**34%**  
OF U.S.  
VEGETABLES



**OUR HIGH QUALITY LANDS  
ARE ALSO THE MOST  
THREATENED BY  
DEVELOPMENT**

CALIFORNIA'S BEST FARMLAND  
IS RIGHT ON THE URBAN EDGE.



WHEN DEVELOPMENT  
LOOMS, LAND PRICES  
SKYROCKET.



RURAL RESIDENTIAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
INHIBITS FARMING.

# Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program



Agricultural conservation easements

Eligible entities: land trusts, cities, counties, RCDs, open space districts, tribes

- Continuously funded by California's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
- 90,000 acres protected
- \$124 million to since FY14/15

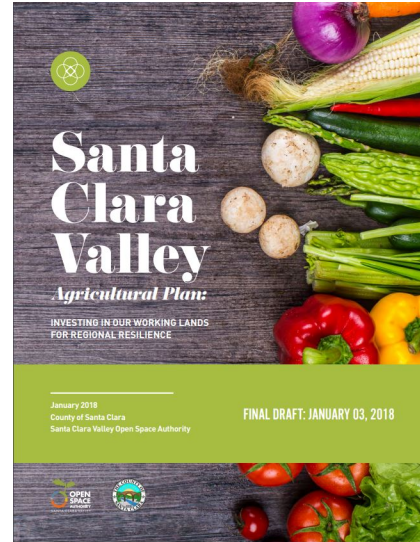


# Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program



## Sustainable Ag Lands Conservation Planning

Eligible entities:  
Cities, counties, LAFCOs, special districts



# California Farmland Conservancy Program



- 59,000 acres protected since 1996
- \$86 million to date, mostly bond funded
- Department of Conservation has requested \$5m for easements for FY 19/20



# Ag Land Mitigation Program



\$17,000,000 is available for agricultural conservation easements

- Funds projects in Fresno, Madera, Merced, Kern, Kings, and Tulare counties
- Funds 100% of project costs
- Funds stewardship endowments
- Guidelines now posted for public comment

# Working Lands and Riparian Corridors Program (Prop 68)



# Land Trust Capacity Projects



\$950,000 is available for two types of land trust capacity projects:

Project Development – up to \$75,000

Priority/Strategic Planning – up to \$10,000

- Solicitation scheduled to be released May 31
- **Applications due July 31**
- Awards announced Sept 5

# Land Trust Capacity Grant Objectives



Land trust capacity grants are intended to achieve the following objectives:

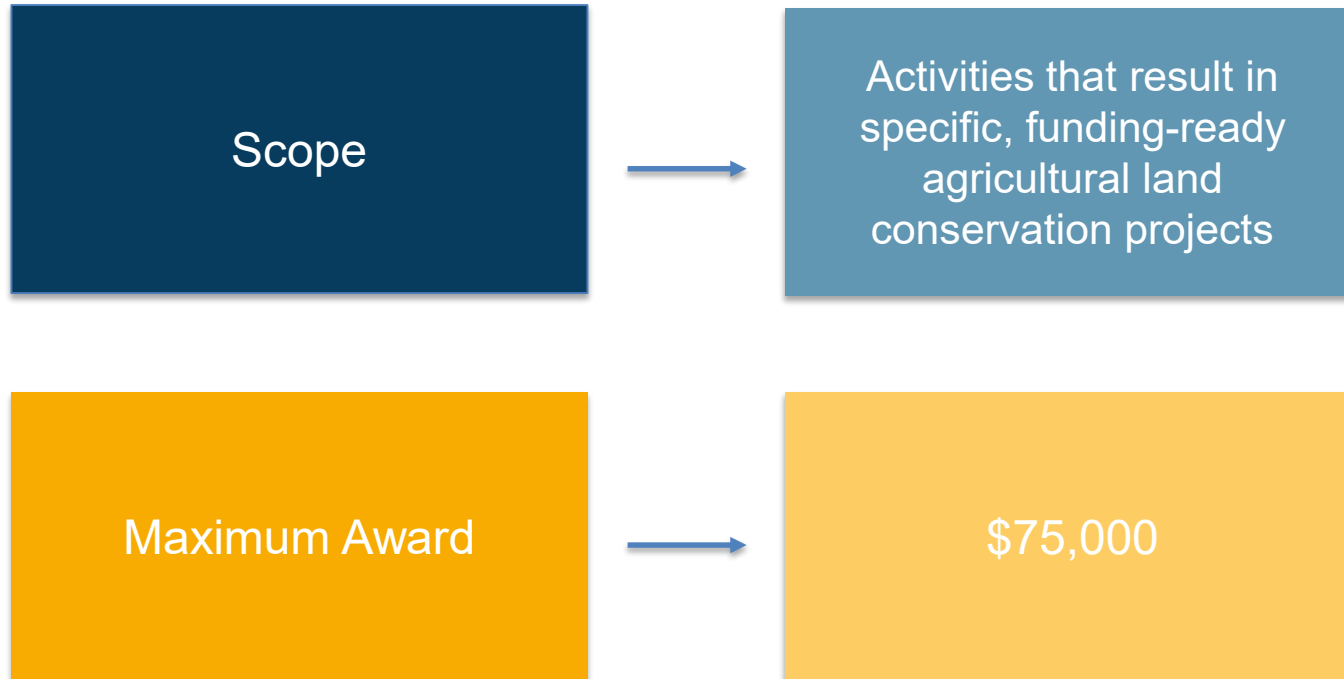
- Increase agricultural land conservation throughout the state
- Support climate adaptation and resilience via agricultural lands conservation

# Eligibility

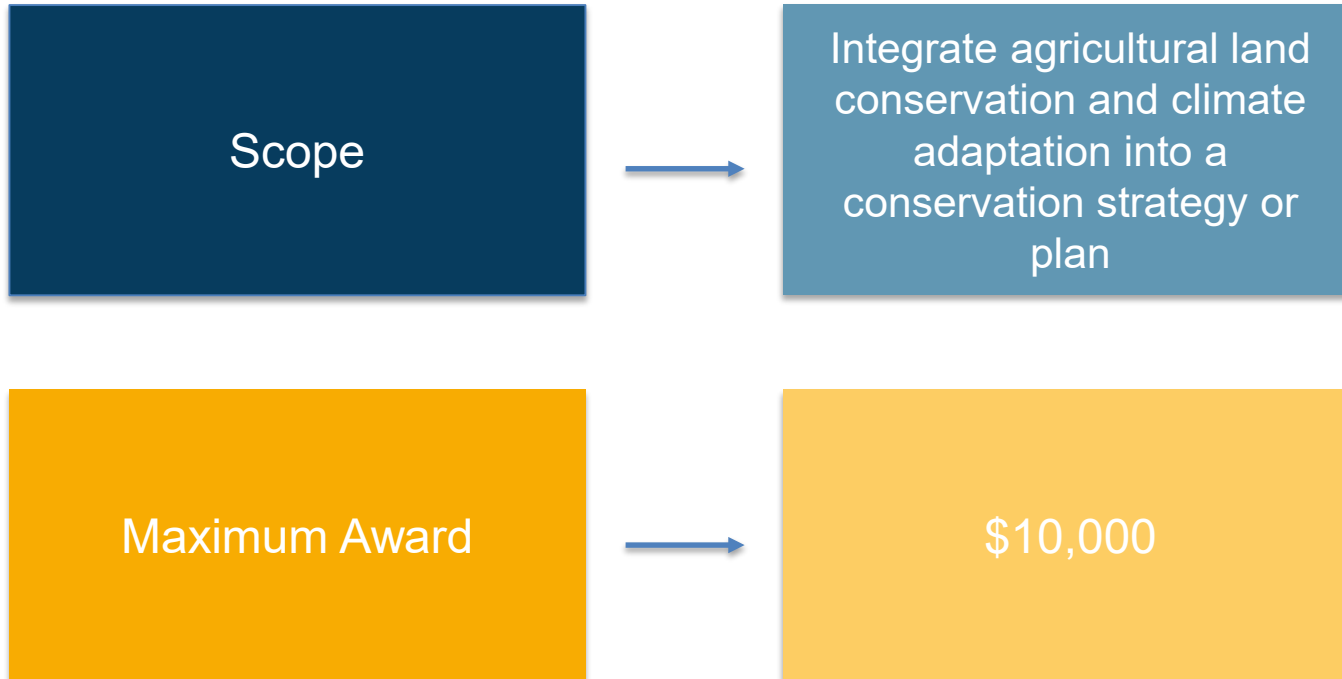


- Land trusts
- Other agricultural nonprofit organizations

# Project Development



# Priority/Strategic Planning



# Eligible Costs



## Staff Time

Hourly Rates  
Benefits

Taxes  
Leave

## Outreach & Collaboration

Collaboration  
Outreach and engagement  
Youth engagement

## Education/Training

Up to 2% of the grant award  
Direct costs to attend trainings and meetings to improve expertise in agricultural land conservation



## Travel

In-State  
Must be necessary to complete the project  
Subject to the grant solicitation and grant agreement

## Indirect Costs

No more than 10% of grant award  
Office space  
Supplies and equipment  
Legal or management oversight  
Insurance

# Local and Regional Planning Projects



\$950,000 is available for 5 types of local and regional agricultural land conservation planning

Climate Action Plans

Sustainable  
Communities  
Strategies

General Plans

Specific Plans

TerraCount Adoption

# Local and Regional Planning Grant Objectives



Planning projects should achieve the following program objectives:

- Protect agricultural and working lands from conversion to more intensified uses
- Protect natural resources
- Support local government efforts to achieve statewide objectives

# Questions?



# THANK YOU

Questions and Comments

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