

## SPREADING COMPOST ON RANGELANDS



For farmers, ranchers, conservation planners, and practitioners

Join the **Alameda County Resource Conservation District** and its partners for a discussion about spreading compost on rangelands. We will look at costs, compost quality, and lessons learned from demonstration carbon farming projects. We will hear from ranchers about their experiences applying compost through CDFA's Healthy Soils Program Demonstration and Incentives projects.

### RSVP:

Click [here](#) to register.

Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spreading-compost-on-rangelands-registration-136041308215>

This event will be held on Zoom. Details will be sent upon registration.

Questions?  
[stephanie.lew@acrcd.org](mailto:stephanie.lew@acrcd.org) | 925-453-3859

**FEBRUARY 9, 2021**  
**3PM-5PM PST**

Virtual event

### ORGANIZER



### PRESENTERS



**Paulo Farms**



Carbon Cycle Institute

### COLLABORATORS





# CARBON FARMING

Alameda County  
Resource Conservation District

## What is Carbon Farming?

Carbon Farming is the use of farming, ranching and ecological practices to capture and **retain carbon dioxide** in vegetation and soils. Carbon Farming is not new; it is simply a different way of planning and prioritizing on-farm management.

Compost addition, cover cropping, riparian planting, and prescribed grazing are a few practices that effectively improve soils and capture carbon.



## Why is Carbon Farming important?

There are environmental and economic benefits. Certain practices **improve production while enhancing soil health**. For example, compost addition increases soil organic matter, which allows soils to absorb and hold more water, nourish plants, extend the green season, and reduce erosion, all of which provide economic benefits.





# Be a Carbon Farmer

Alameda County  
Resource Conservation District

## Funding for Carbon Farming

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) (via grants) provide **funding for most of the practices** identified in Carbon Farm Plans. Examples of practices include:

- ◇ Cover cropping
- ◇ Compost application
- ◇ Hedgerow
- ◇ No-till or reduced till
- ◇ Mulching
- ◇ Riparian planting

For more information, visit

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/>

## Carbon Farm Plan

**ACRCD can assist in developing a Carbon Farm Plan**, which outlines opportunities to capture carbon and reduce on-farm carbon emissions on your property.

Get started or learn more.

Ian Howell  
Email: [ian.howell 'at' acr.cd.org](mailto:ian.howell@acr.cd.org)  
925-371-0154

3585 Greenville Rd.  
Livermore, CA 94550  
[www.acr.cd.org](http://www.acr.cd.org)





# FIRST HOUR

SOIL, CARBON, WATER,  
CLIMATE: THE CARBON CYCLE  
AS AN ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE IN  
AGRICULTURE

A CARBON FARMING  
PARTNERSHIP & HSP  
DEMONSTRATION

Q&A

# SECOND HOUR

Compost for Carbon  
Farming

Calhoun Ranch & HSP  
Incentives

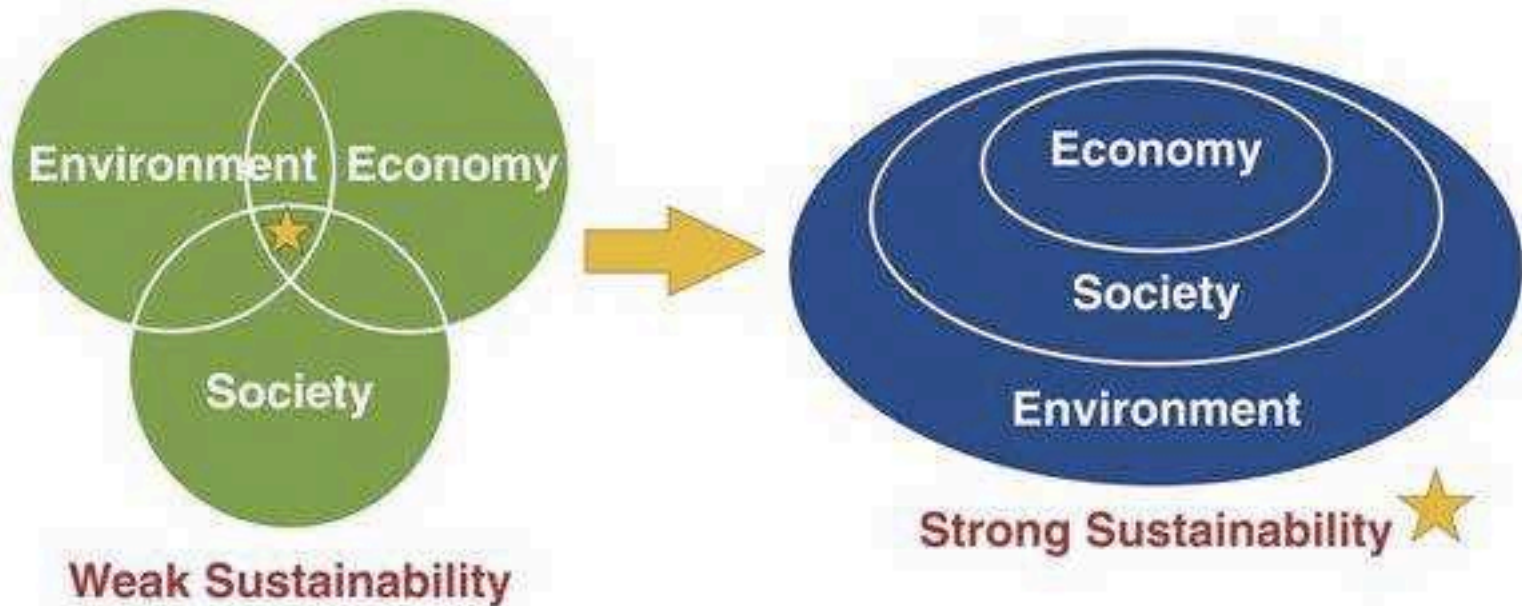
Q&A

Funding Resources &  
Evaluation



# Triple Bottom Line

*Interconnected and Interdependent Benefits*



Source: Maureen Hart - Sustainable Measures



# ***Carbon Farming***

## ***Soil, Carbon, Water, Climate***

The Carbon Cycle as an Organizing  
Principle in Land Stewardship



**ARCD**

**2/9/21**

**Jeffrey Creque, Ph.D.**  
**[jcreque@carboncycle.org](mailto:jcreque@carboncycle.org)**

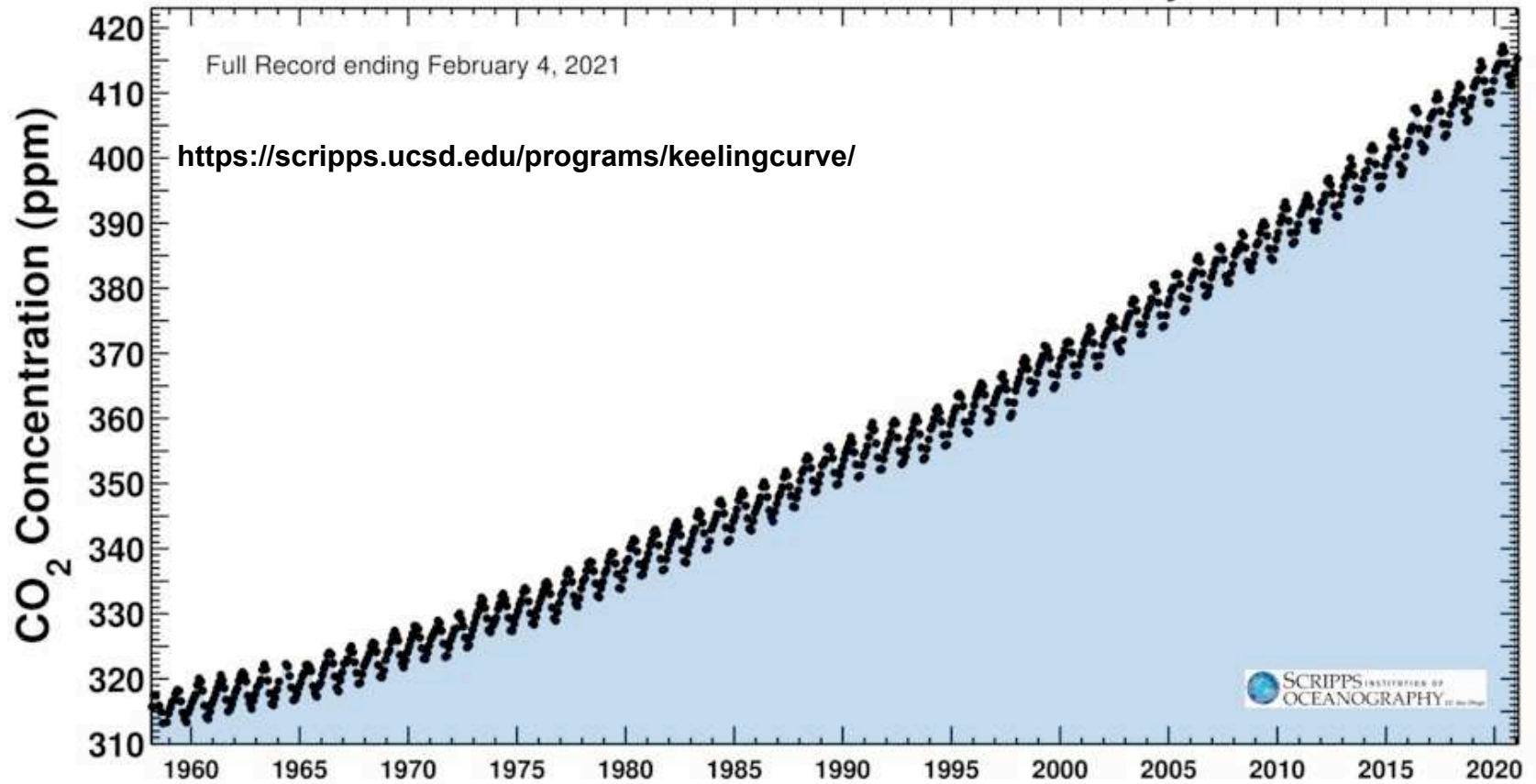
**Carbon Cycle Institute**  
**[www.carboncycle.org](http://www.carboncycle.org)**



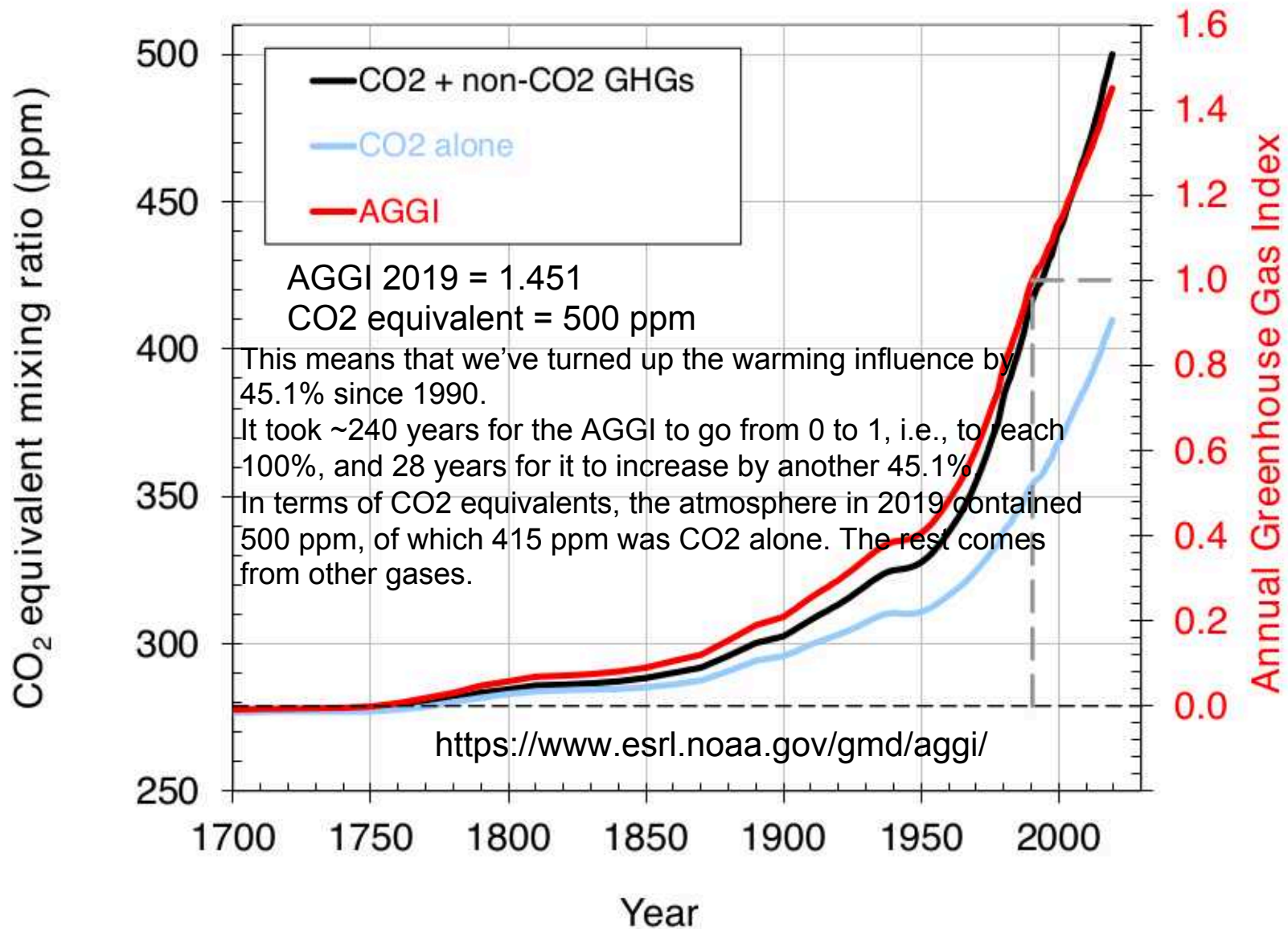
Latest CO<sub>2</sub> reading: **415.71 ppm**

February 03, 2021

### Carbon dioxide concentration at Mauna Loa Observatory





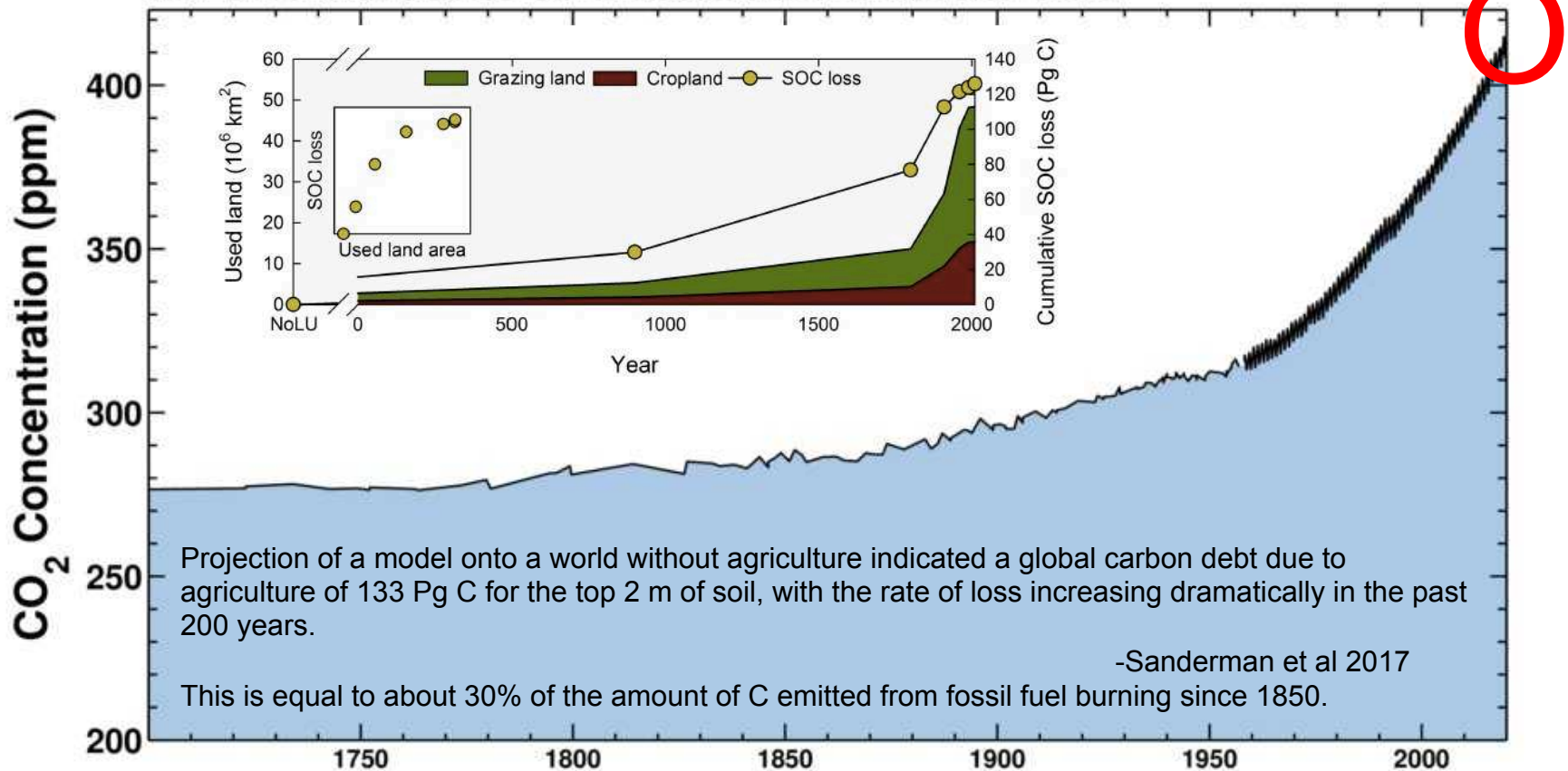




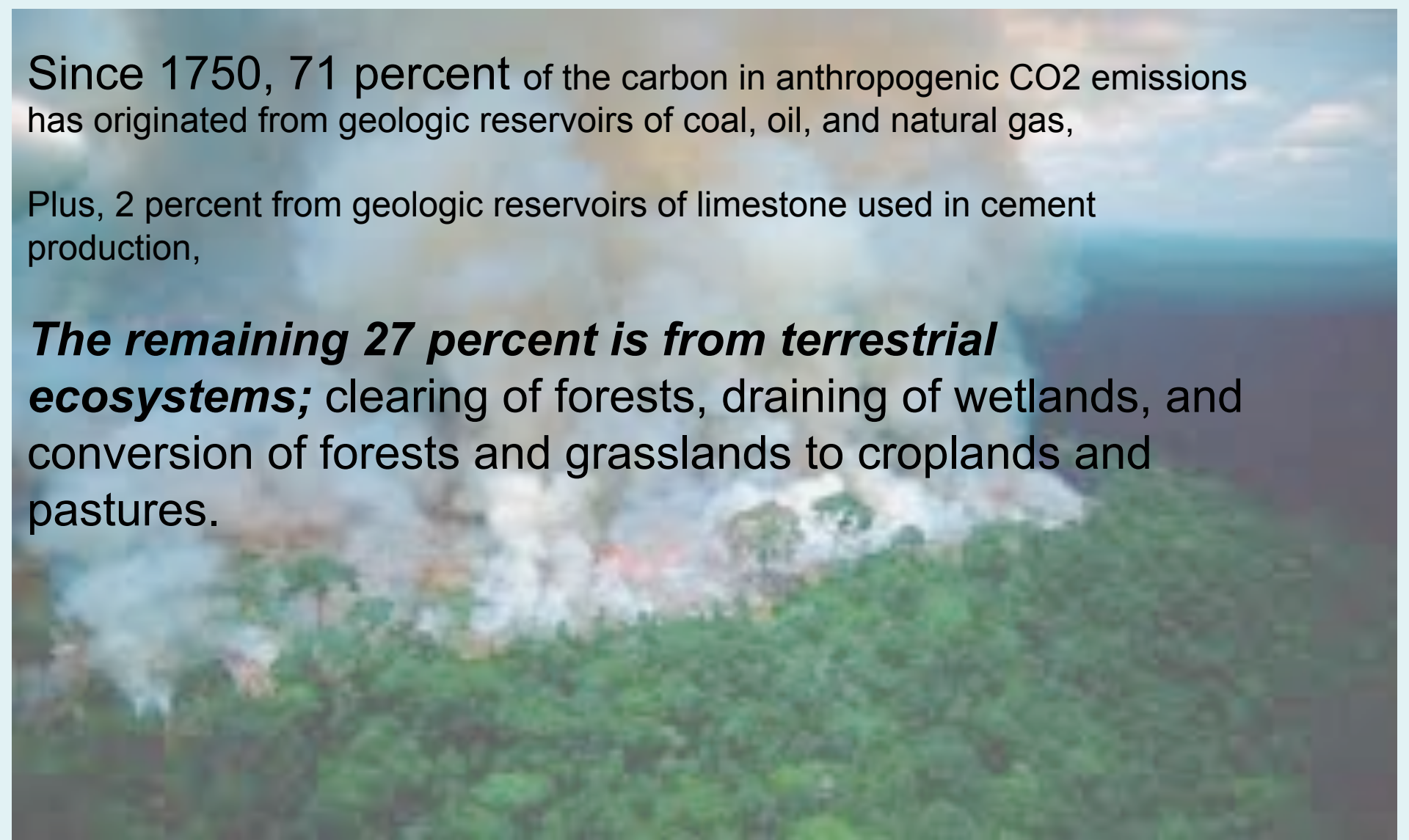
Latest CO<sub>2</sub> reading: 415.71 ppm

February 03, 2021

Ice-core data before 1958. Mauna Loa data after 1958.







Since 1750, 71 percent of the carbon in anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions has originated from geologic reservoirs of coal, oil, and natural gas,

Plus, 2 percent from geologic reservoirs of limestone used in cement production,

***The remaining 27 percent is from terrestrial ecosystems;*** clearing of forests, draining of wetlands, and conversion of forests and grasslands to croplands and pastures.

[https://www.google.com/search?q=photos+of+amazon+agriculture&client=firefox-b-1-d&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=ZJJTtLxkKD-ifM%253A%252CYcppXkbSCVBGFM%252C\\_&vet=1&usg=AI4\\_-kRU0j7DIPK2CydEENMnH9sjWtMp8g&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjw9T\\_iv\\_kAhVMs54KHUdTCigQ9QEwAXoECAUQCQ#imgsrc=ZJJTtLxkKD-ifM:](https://www.google.com/search?q=photos+of+amazon+agriculture&client=firefox-b-1-d&tbm=isch&source=iu&ictx=1&fir=ZJJTtLxkKD-ifM%253A%252CYcppXkbSCVBGFM%252C_&vet=1&usg=AI4_-kRU0j7DIPK2CydEENMnH9sjWtMp8g&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjw9T_iv_kAhVMs54KHUdTCigQ9QEwAXoECAUQCQ#imgsrc=ZJJTtLxkKD-ifM:)



*... agriculture is more exposed to climate change impact than any other sector.*

-COP 23, Bonn, Germany, 12 November 2017

<http://enb.iisd.org/climate/cop23/agriculture-action-day/>

*“A large fraction of the anthropogenic climate change resulting from CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is **irreversible** on a multi-century to millennial time scale, **except in the case of a large net removal of CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere over a sustained period.**”*

IPCC SRC 2.4(14)

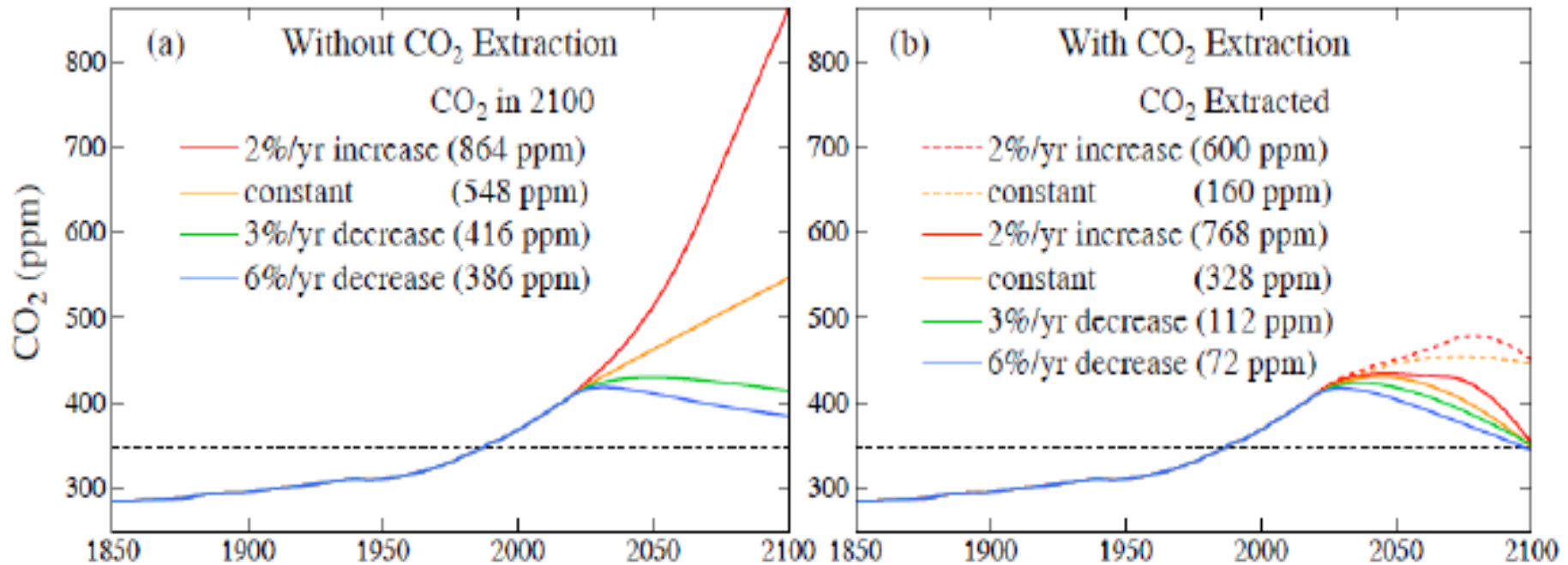
*“...enhancing soil carbon is the only viable option to achieve negative emissions.”*

Celine Charveriat, Executive Director, Institute for European Environmental Policy, 2017



# We cannot stop global warming without increasing the carbon content of our working landscapes

Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> without/with CO<sub>2</sub> Extraction



(a) Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction scenarios

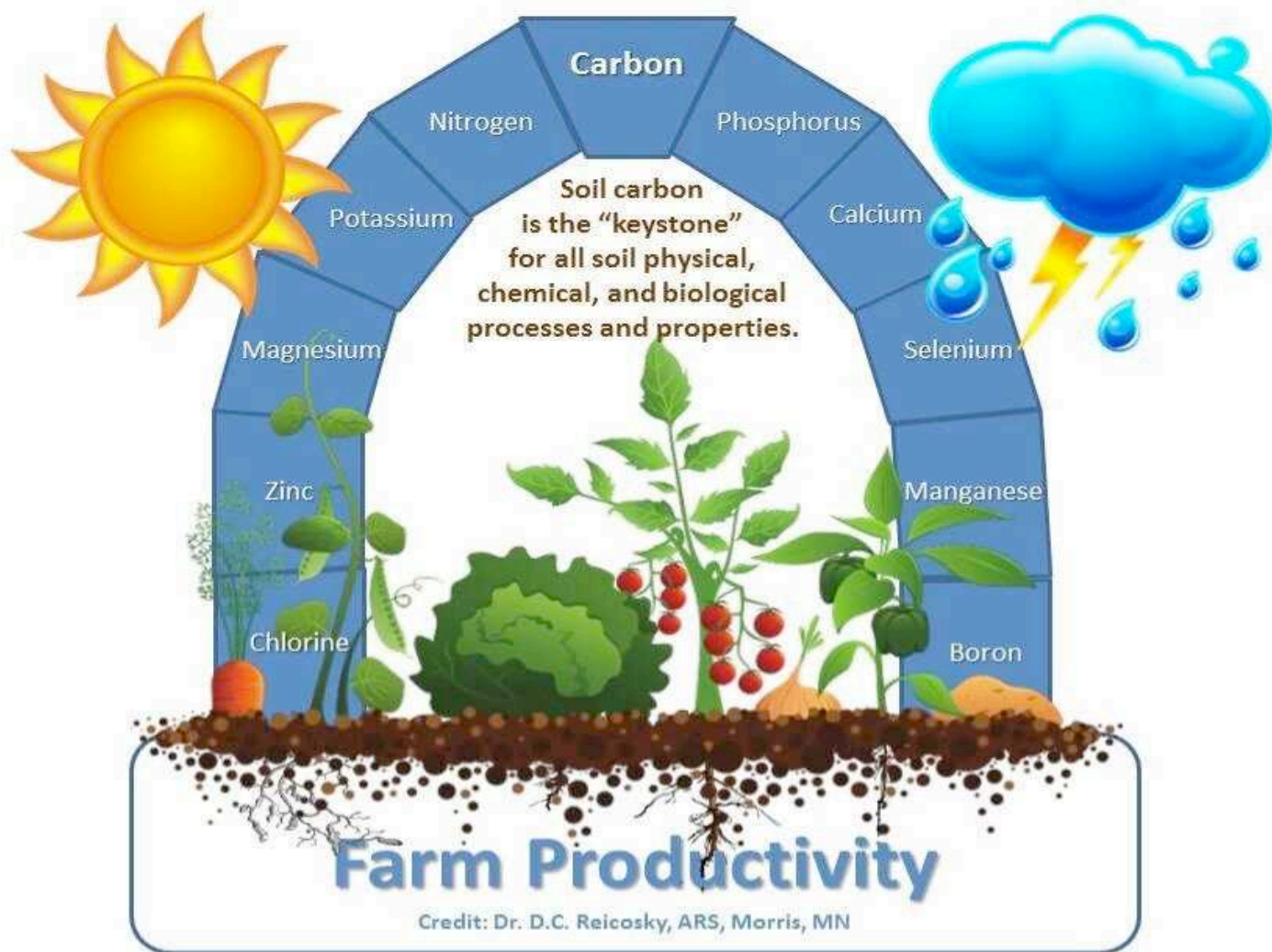
(b) Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> including effect of CO<sub>2</sub> extraction that increases linearly after 2020 (after 2015 in +2%/year case). (1 ppm is ~2.12 GtC).

Hansen et al 2017. Earth Syst. Dynam., 8, 577–616,  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/esd-8-577-2017>



# CARBON

## Key to Agricultural Productivity and Resilience





# “Healthy” Soil

*Well aggregated; biologically active, carbon rich*

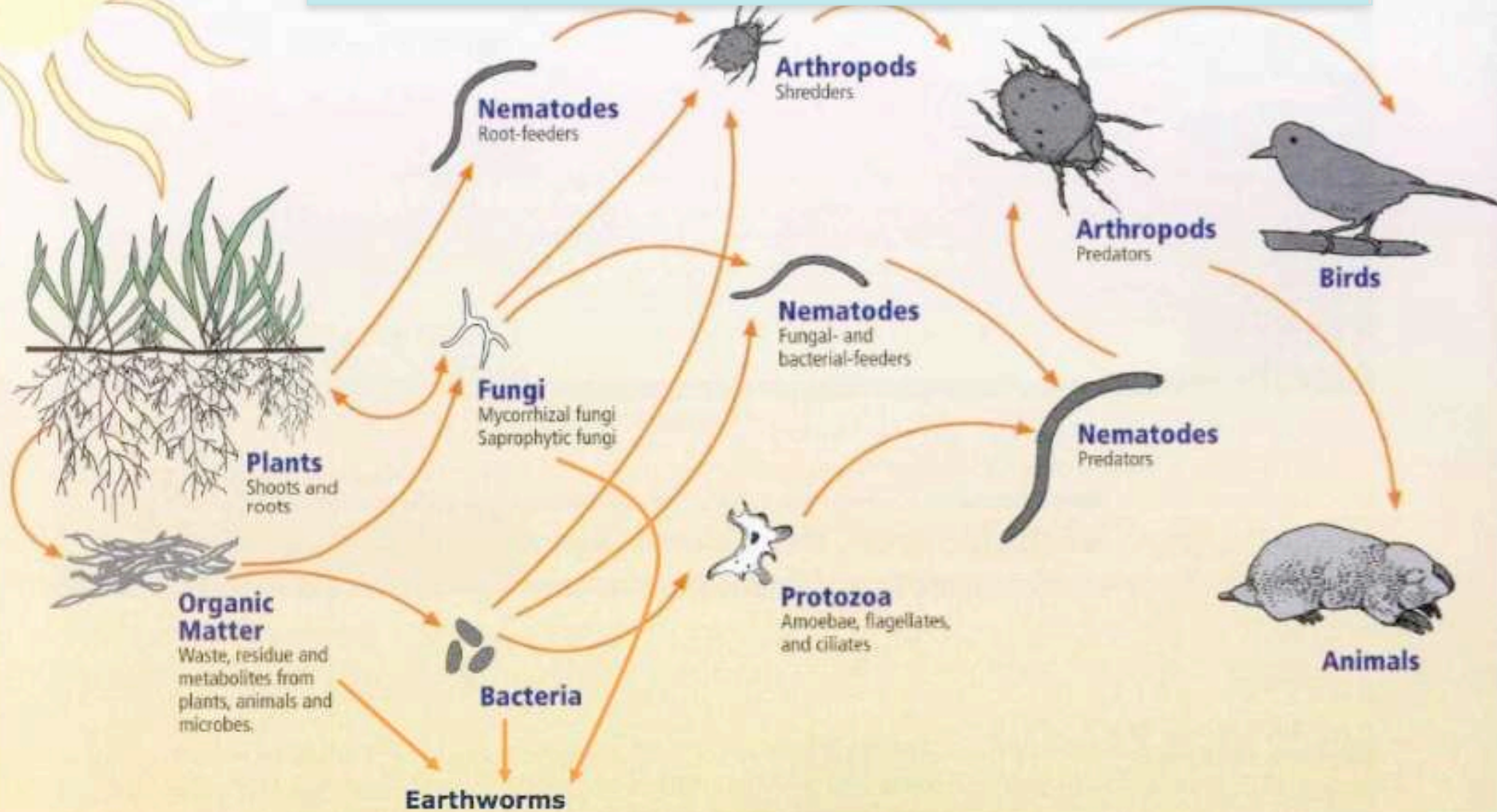


Photo: Ron Nichols, USDA

“Fertility is the ability of soil to receive, store, and release energy.” -Leopold 1949



# Managing Carbon (Energy!) Flow Through The Ecosystem



First trophic level:  
Photosynthesizers

Second trophic level:  
Decomposers Mutualists  
Pathogens, Parasites  
Root-feeders

Third trophic level:  
Shredders  
Predators  
Grazers

Fourth trophic level:  
Higher level predators

Fifth and higher  
trophic levels:  
Higher level predators

©CarbonCycleInstitute



# Carbon Farm Planning:



## Toward a *Climate Beneficial Agriculture*

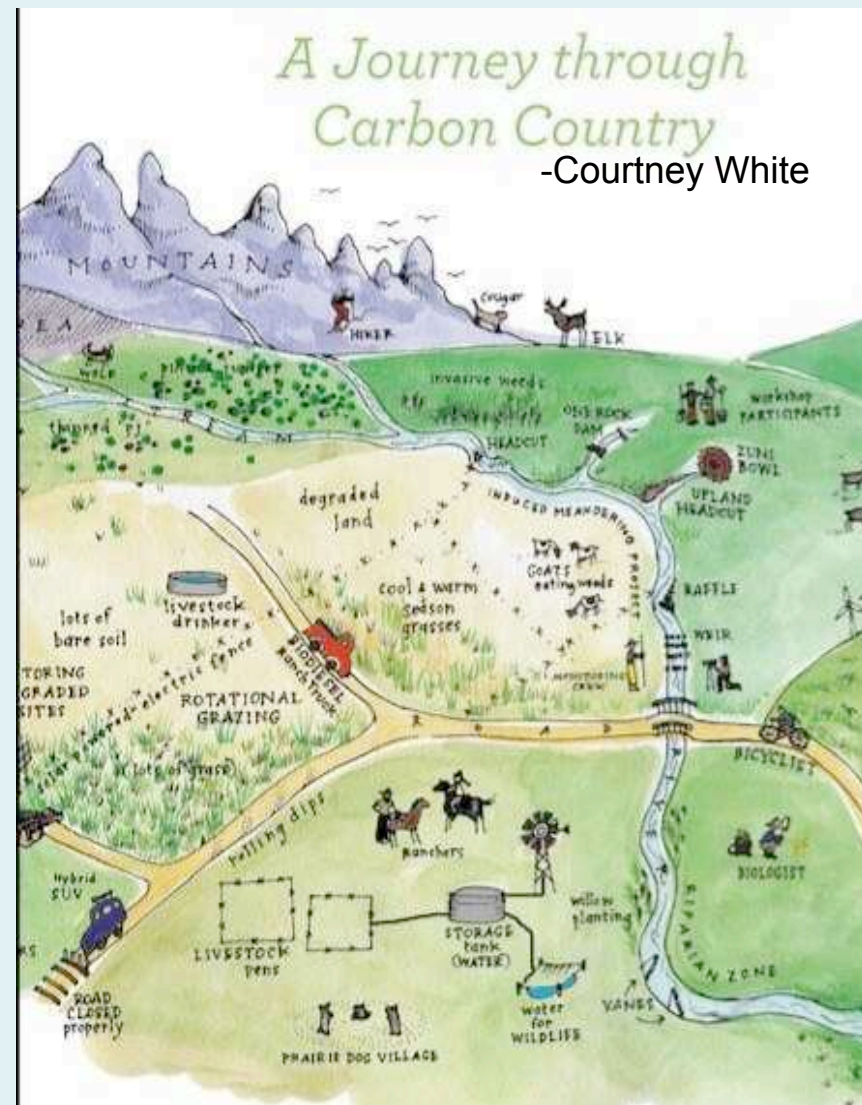




# Carbon Farm Planning

# WHOLE FARM CONSERVATION PLANNING *Through a Carbon Lens:*

- *Increase terrestrial carbon*
- *Reduce GHG emissions*
- *Quantify carbon benefits of conservation practices*
- *Recognize the co-benefits of increasing on-farm carbon:*
  - *Production*
  - *Soil 'Health'*
  - *Water Quantity*
  - *Water Quality*





The USDA Entity-Scale GHG Methods Report is a transparent, scientifically rigorous set of standardized methods that can be used to quantify changes in GHG emissions and carbon storage following a change in management or adoption of a new practice or technology.



United States Department of Agriculture

Office of the  
Chief Economist

Climate Change  
Program Office

Technical  
Bulletin 1939

July 2014

## Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Agriculture and Forestry: Methods for Entity-Scale Inventory



Eve, M., D. Pape, M. Flugge, R. Steele, D. Man, M. Riley-Gilbert, and S. Biggar, (Eds), 2014. *Quantifying Greenhouse Gas Fluxes in Agriculture and Forestry: Methods for Entity-Scale Inventory*. Technical Bulletin Number 1939. Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC. 606 pages.



# Carbon Farming: Quantifying On-farm Carbon Capture Potential



**COMET-PLANNER**  **USDA** 

Carbon and greenhouse gas evaluation for NRCS conservation practice planning

This tool was developed with the generous support of the Rathmann Family Foundation and the Marin Carbon Project

Evaluate potential carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas reductions from adopting NRCS conservation practices

[Click to View Introduction Video](#)

*NRCS Conservation Practices included in COMET-Planner are only those that have been identified as having greenhouse gas mitigation and/or carbon sequestration benefits on farms and ranches. This list of conservation practices is based on the qualitative greenhouse benefits ranking of practices prepared by NRCS.*

Project Name:

State:

County:



## NRCS Conservation Practices - Select Your Practice(s)

Name CPS (Conservation Practice Standard Number)

+ Cropland Management (9 Items)

+ Cropland to Herbaceous Cover (10 Items)

+ Cropland to Woody Cover (7 Items)

+ Grazing Lands (3 Items)

+ Restoration of Disturbed Lands (5 Items)

And/or LOCAL DATA, where available...  
COMPOST: Ryals et al 2013; DeLonge et al 2013  
CREEK CARBON: Lewis et al 2015



# CALIFORNIA CLIMATE STRATEGY

*An Integrated Plan for Addressing Climate Change*



## VISION

**Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions  
to 40% Below 1990 Levels by 2030**

***Carbon Neutrality by 2045  
Agriculture: 36 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e/year***

## GOALS



**50%  
renewable  
electricity**

**50%  
reduction  
in petroleum  
use in vehicles**



**Double energy  
efficiency savings  
at existing buildings**



**Carbon  
sequestration  
in the land base**



**Reduce  
short-lived  
climate pollutants**



**Safeguard  
California**





## JANUARY 2019 DRAFT California 2030 Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan





# Carbon Farming and Compost

Compost is particularly effective as a C-farming strategy because of its multifaceted impacts. Decomposition within the compost environment maximizes carbon conservation as compost biomass, while minimizing emissions of short-lived climate pollutants, including black carbon associated with burning of biomass that might otherwise have been composted, and CH4 emissions from anaerobic disposal alternatives.

Compost offers the simplest and fastest way to safely increase SOM on working lands. The compost environment effectively pre-processes and stabilizes organic materials for safe and beneficial application to working land soils, eliminating or radically reducing pathogens, weed propagules and soluble nutrients.

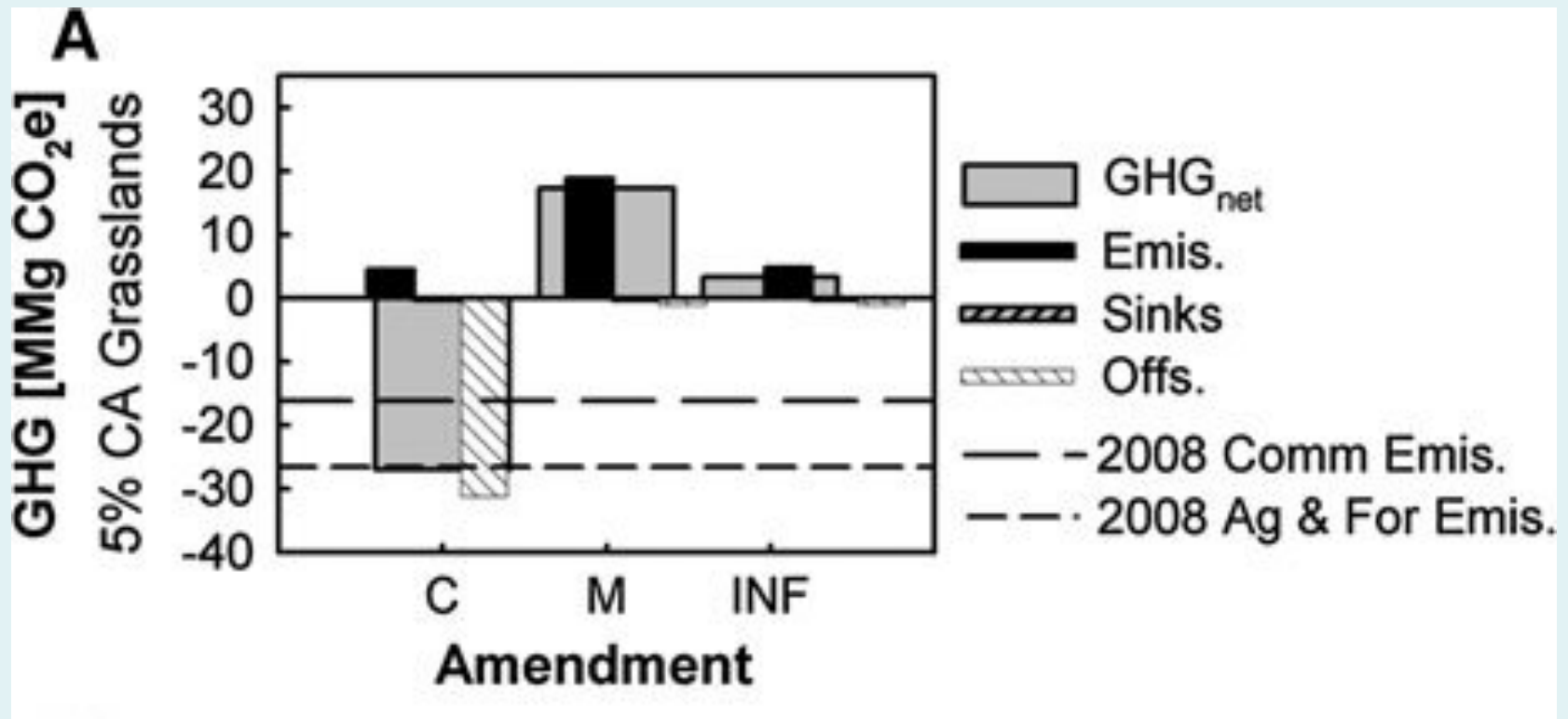
COMET-Planner estimates assumed partial substitution of compost (eg, C:N ratio of 20; N%= 1.8) for synthetic N fertilizer. The scenario assumes that synthetic N amounts are gradually reduced by 4% per year for 5 years, achieving a 20% reduction in N fertilizer use after year 5 and remaining constant at that level. Compost is added at a rate that supplies 20% of the total N applied to the system.

*Estimates are not meant to apply to any specific site conditions but rather represent the range of expected values to be found over the multi-county region and reflect the assumptions above. Multiple alternative scenarios are clearly possible.*



	CO2	N2O	CH4	GHG
Annual Crops	4.535	-0.190	0.003	4.347
Per/Orch/Vin	4.610	-0.184	0.002	4.428
Grazed Irr. Pasture	4.580	-0.215	0.001	4.366
Grazed Grassland	4.541	-0.092	0.003	4.451

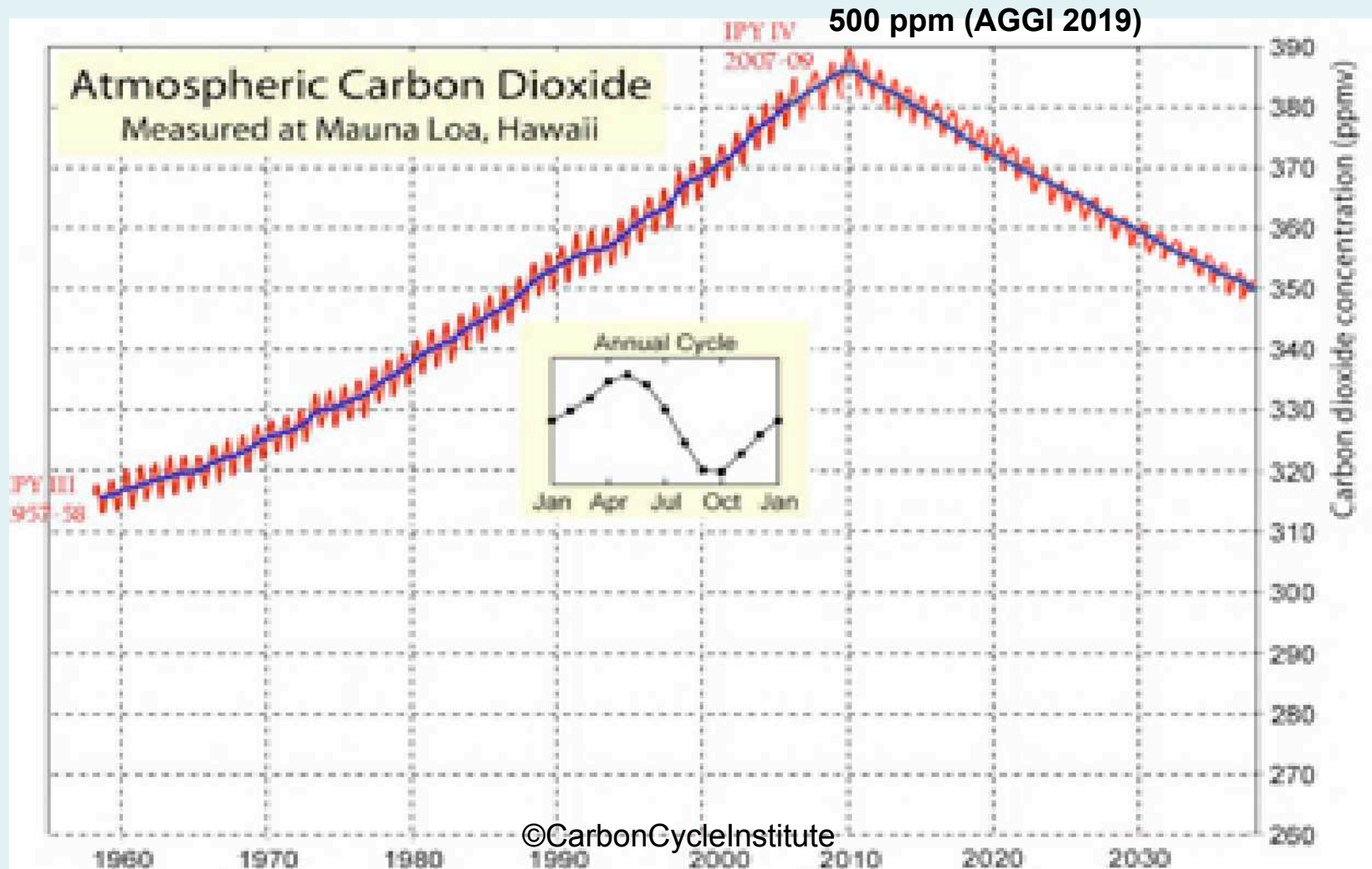
# Potential impacts of soil amendments on net greenhouse gas fluxes when applied to 5% of California grasslands.



Emissions from the California Agriculture and Forestry and Commercial Sectors (CARB 2011) shown for comparison.



Measured effect of ***unintentional*** anthropogenic forcing of atmospheric C, with ***intentional*** anthropogenic forcing of soil organic C at global scale



what's underneath

healthy soil has amazing water-retention capacity.



Every

1%

increase in organic  
matter results in  
as much as

25,000

gal of available  
soil water per acre.

*Source: Kansas State Extension Agronomy e-Updates, Number 357, July 6, 2012*



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Want more soil secrets?

Check out [www.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov)

<https://www.agronomy.k-state.edu/documents/eupdates/eupdate070612.pdf>;

Emerson, W.W. 1995. Water retention, organic carbon and soil texture.



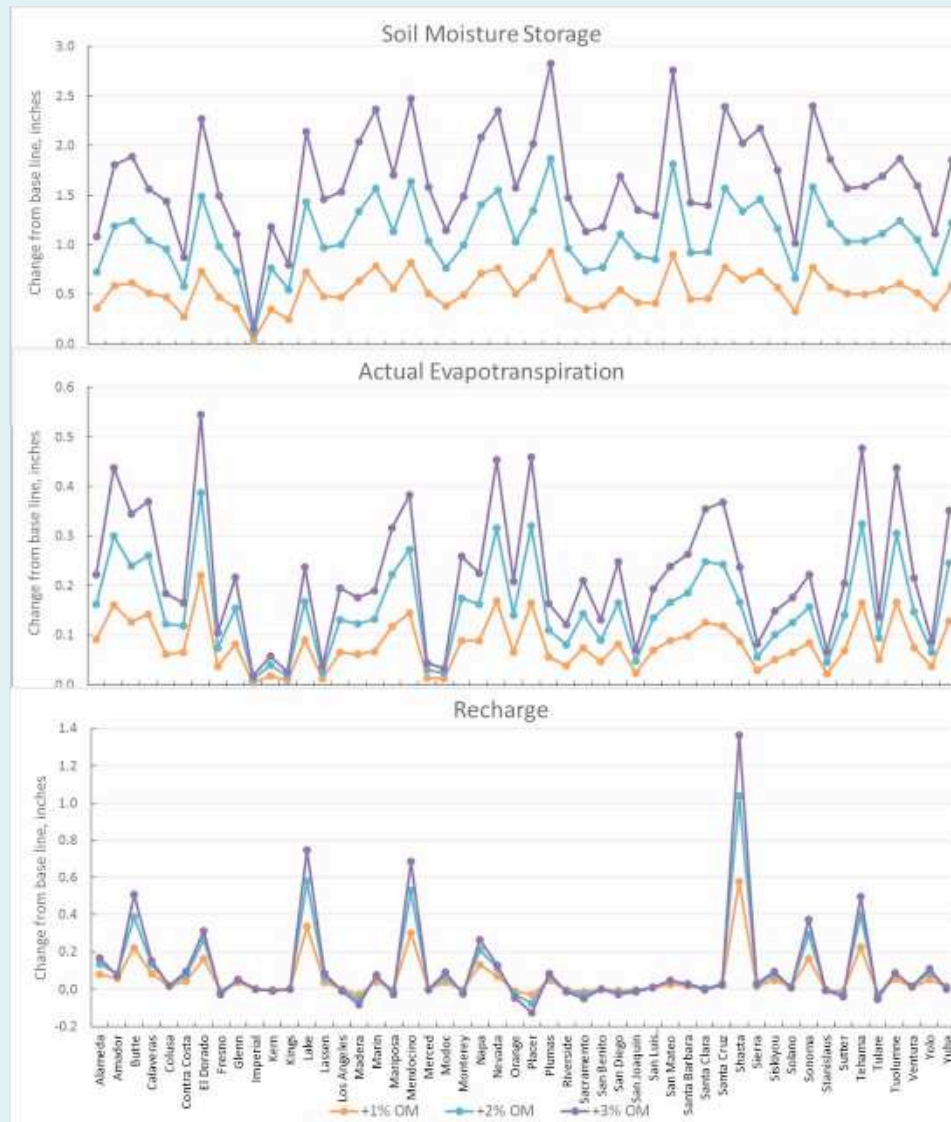
**Farmland after rain (right): waterlogging due to poor structure resulting from cultivation, compaction and lack of soil cover (and roots!). Different management, including denser groundcover, on the adjacent paddock (left) results in higher soil carbon, leading to better structure and improved water absorbing and holding capacity.**



Patrick Francis, Australian Farm Journal

Models suggest Increasing Soil Organic Matter Concentration by 3% on 44 Million acres of CA Working Lands would Yield roughly 6 Million acre feet of Hydrologic Benefit

The state is currently considering spending \$1.3 Billion to increase storage in Shasta Reservoir by 634,000 acre feet: this suggests 6 M AF has a value of at least \$10 B.



County averaged results for 1981-2010 as a change from baseline soil organic matter to an

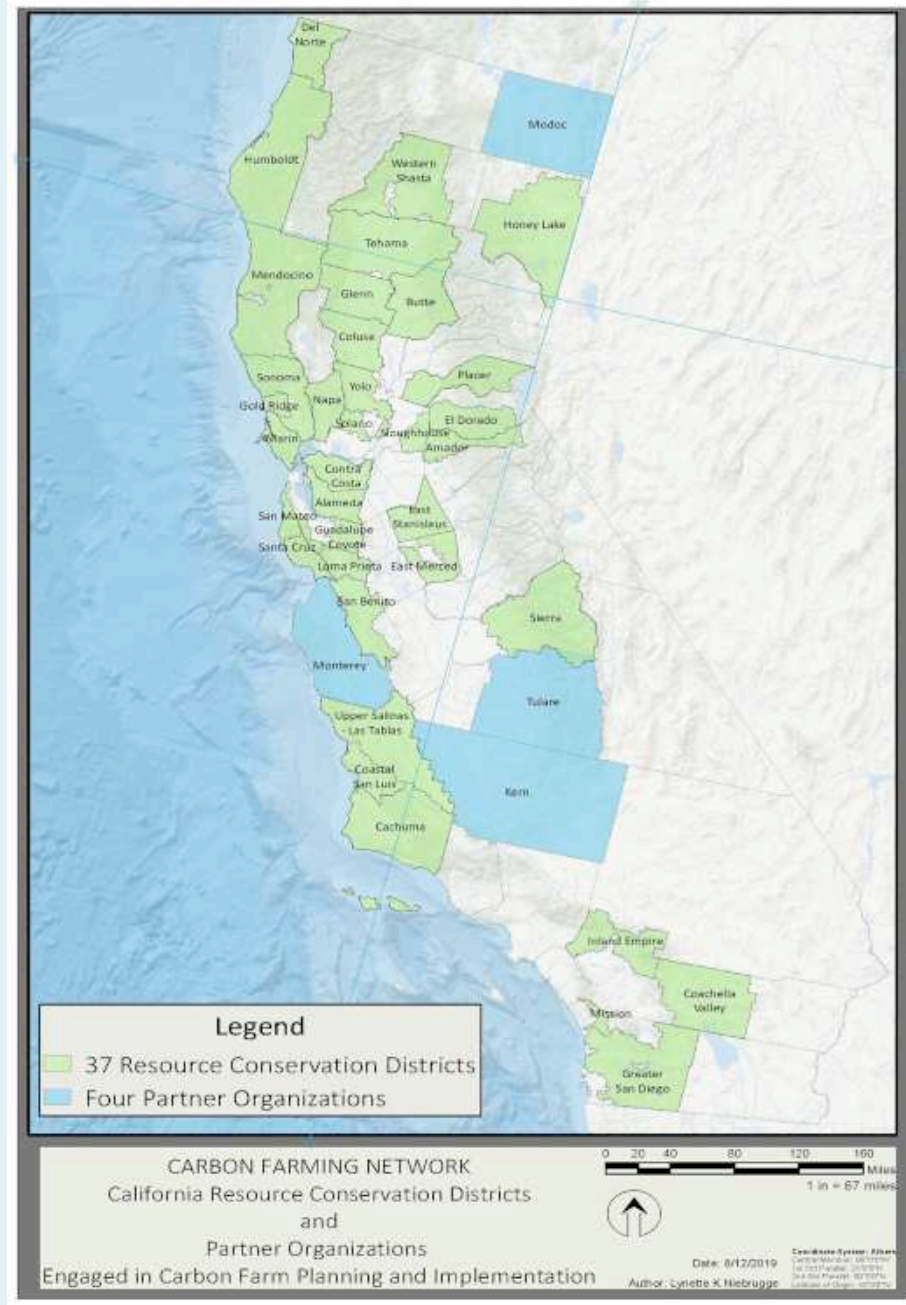


# Scaling Up: Carbon Farming with Resource Conservation Districts and other partners

Over 100 CFPs; **1.5 MMT CO<sub>2</sub>e (20 yrs)**

58 CFPs in development

Additional 49 producers in line for CFPs



**Good News:** Excess Carbon Dioxide in the Atmosphere Can Be Transformed to Food, Fuel, Flora, Fiber, ***and Soil Fertility,*** Yielding Production, Biodiversity and other Ecosystem Benefits ***and*** New Opportunities for Agriculture

**NB:** Climate science and all empirical evidence suggest we must act NOW, at scale, to avoid a 3°C rise in global temperature by 2100.





# Questions?

## MISSION

The Carbon Cycle Institute advances the carbon cycle as the fundamental organizing concept underlying land management and on-farm conservation in our efforts to mitigate and adapt to the global climate crisis.

[jcreque@carboncycle.org](mailto:jcreque@carboncycle.org)

[www.carboncycle.org](http://www.carboncycle.org)

What does  
**your Carbon Farming**  
journey look like?



<https://carbonfarmersofaustralia.com.au/carbon-farming/>

©CarbonCycleInstitute



Spreading Compost on Rangelands  
February 9, 2021

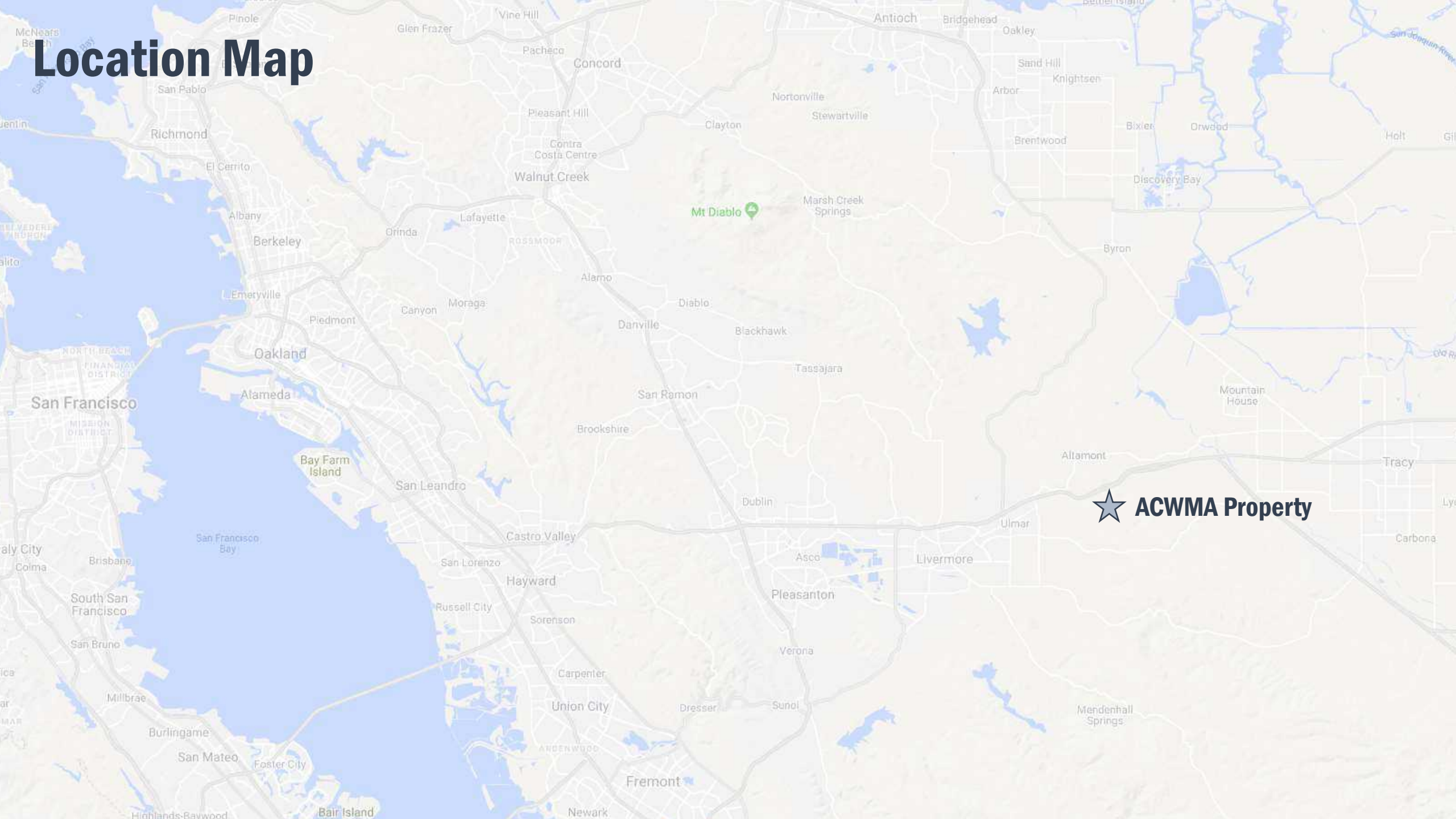
# Partners in a Healthy Soils Program Compost Demonstration Project

Ian Howell, Resource Conservationist, Alameda County RCD  
Kelly Schoonmaker, Property Manager, StopWaste



**STOPWASTE**  
at home • at work • at school

# Location Map





2018

ACVMA property

# StopWaste Altamont Property

Legend



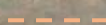
Communication Tower



Wind Turbines



Grazing



Underground Utilities



Residence



South Flynn Road

North Flynn Road

Patterson Pass Road

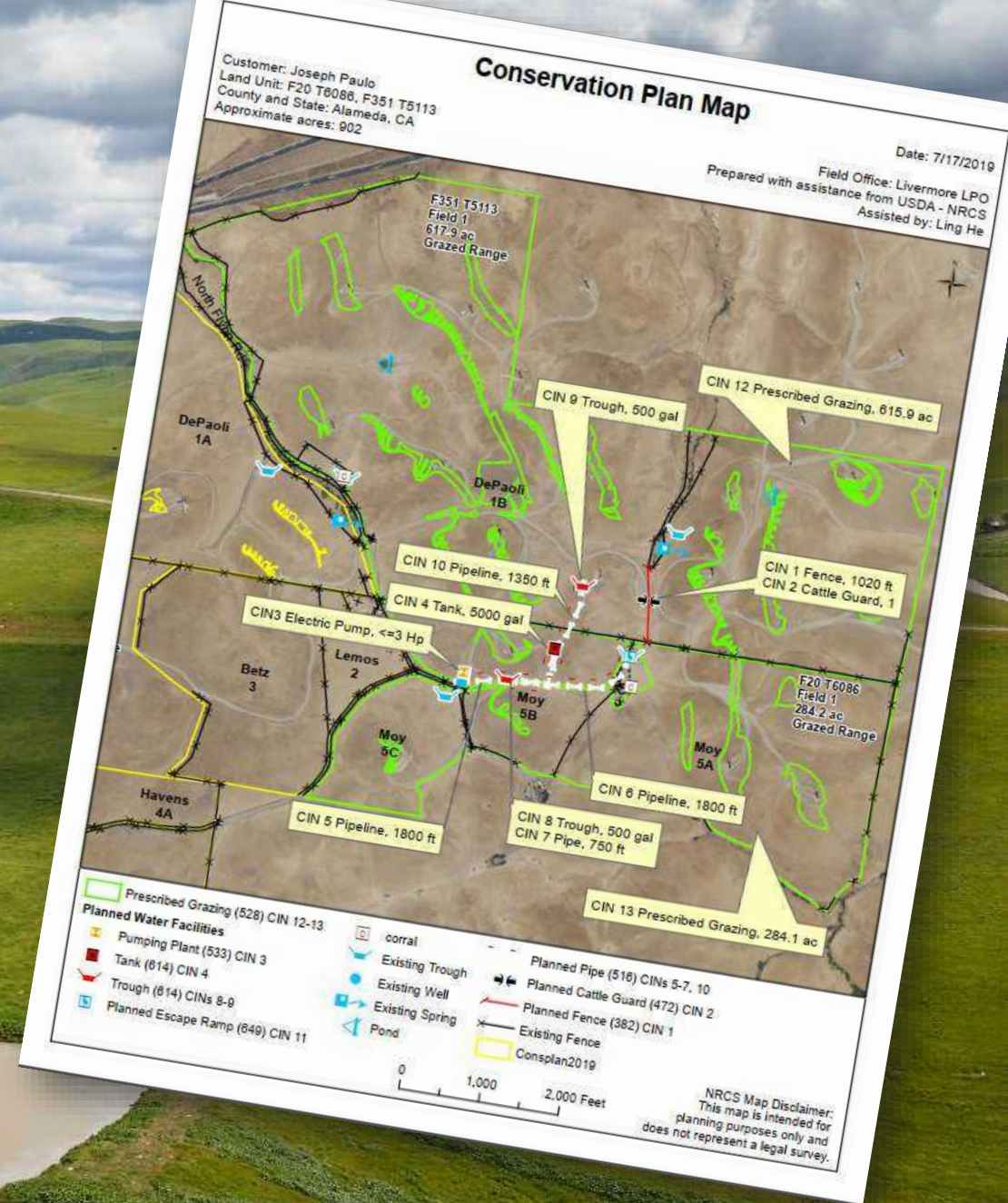


# Planning with Alameda County Resource Conservation District



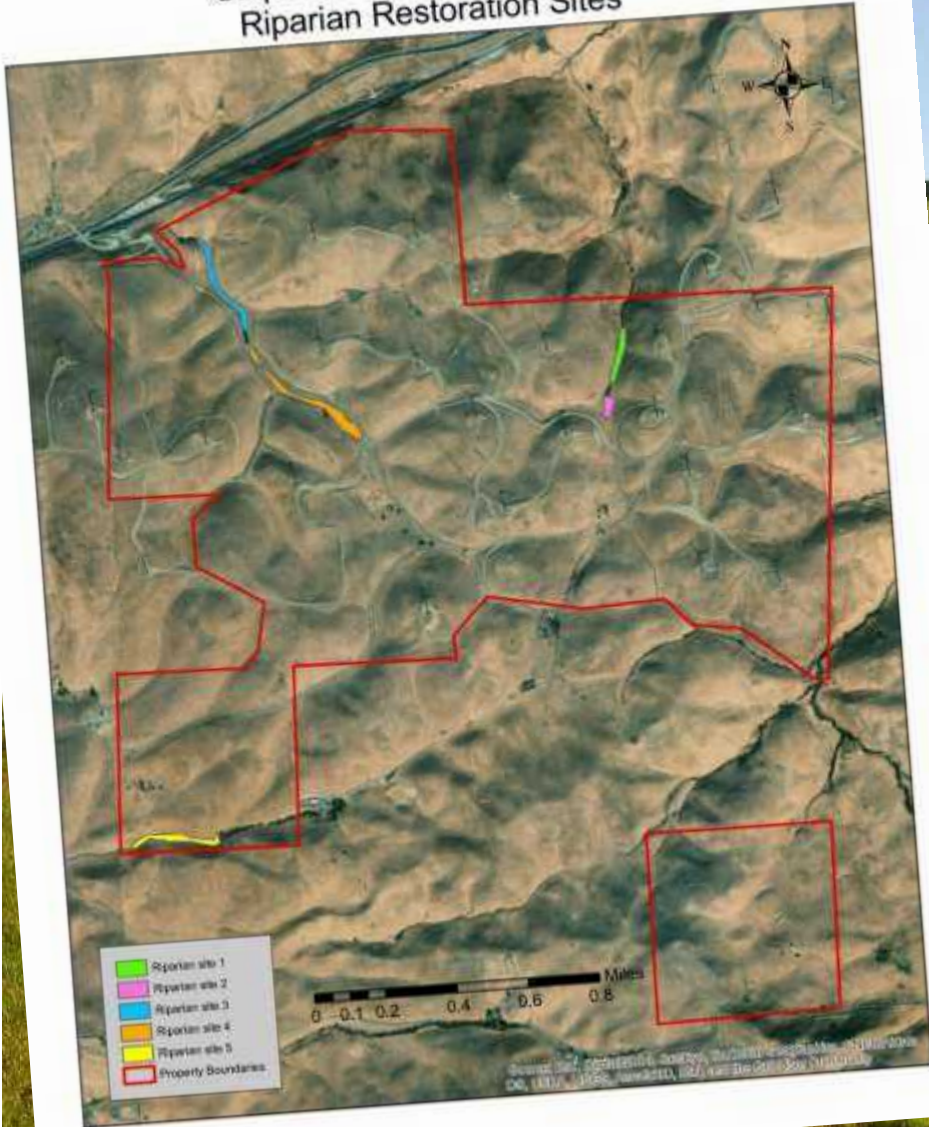


# Stockwater & Aquatic Habitat





## StopWaste Altamont Property Riparian Restoration Sites



**Riparian Areas**





# Common and Sensitive Wildlife



Davor Desancic





**December 2019**

**CDFA Healthy Soils Program**  
*Demonstration grant*







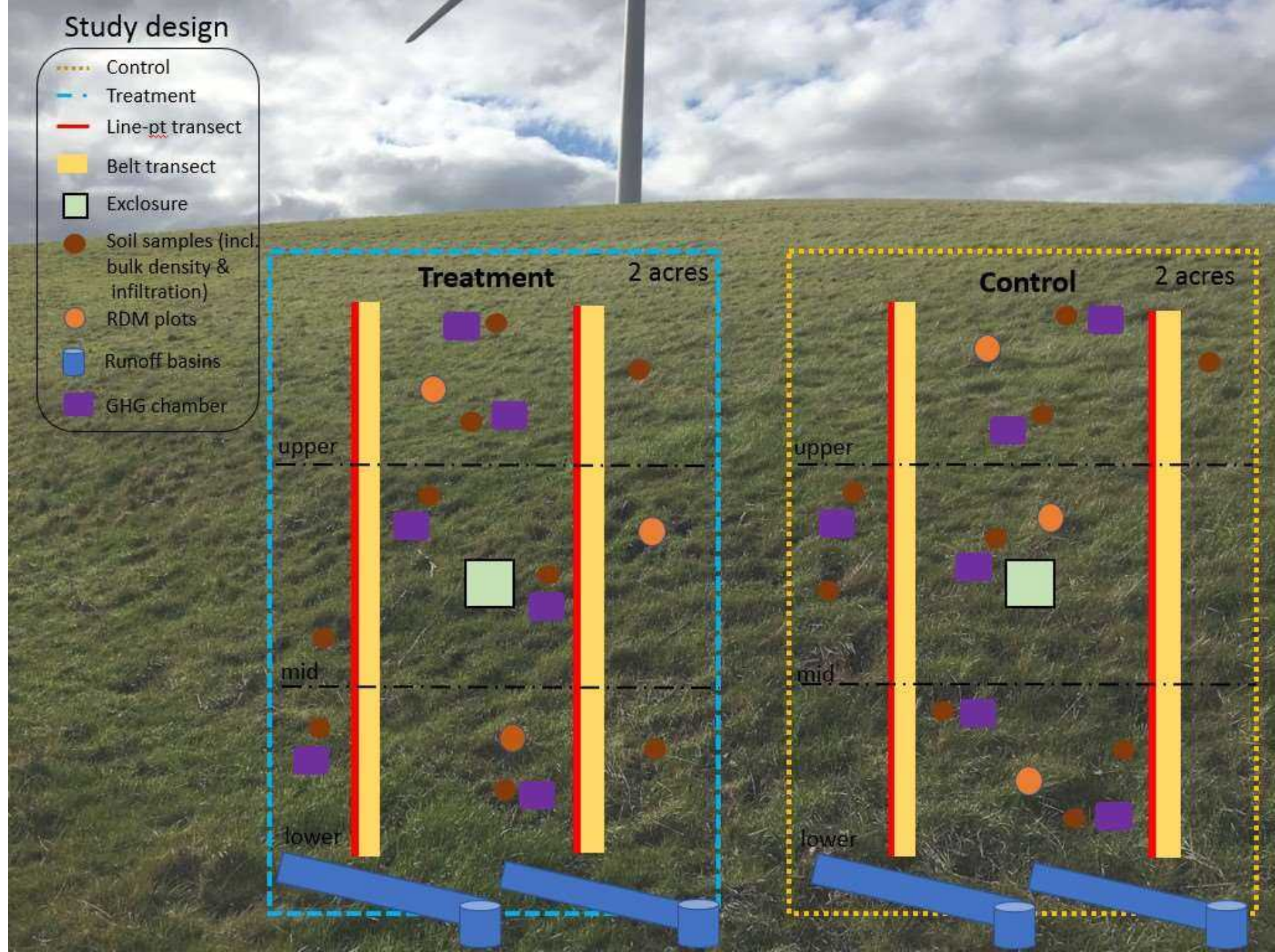
**Control Plot**

**Test Plot**

**15-30%  
slope**



# HSP Demo grant





# Contractors & Logistics





# Preparing



© Dave Fenton, courtesy of StopWaste



© Dave Fenton, courtesy of StopWaste











**12.5 acres**

**420 cubic yards**

**372.5 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e  
sequestered –  
20 years**

(Ryals and Silver, 2013)

**\$27,000 direct  
costs**

© Dave Fenton, c

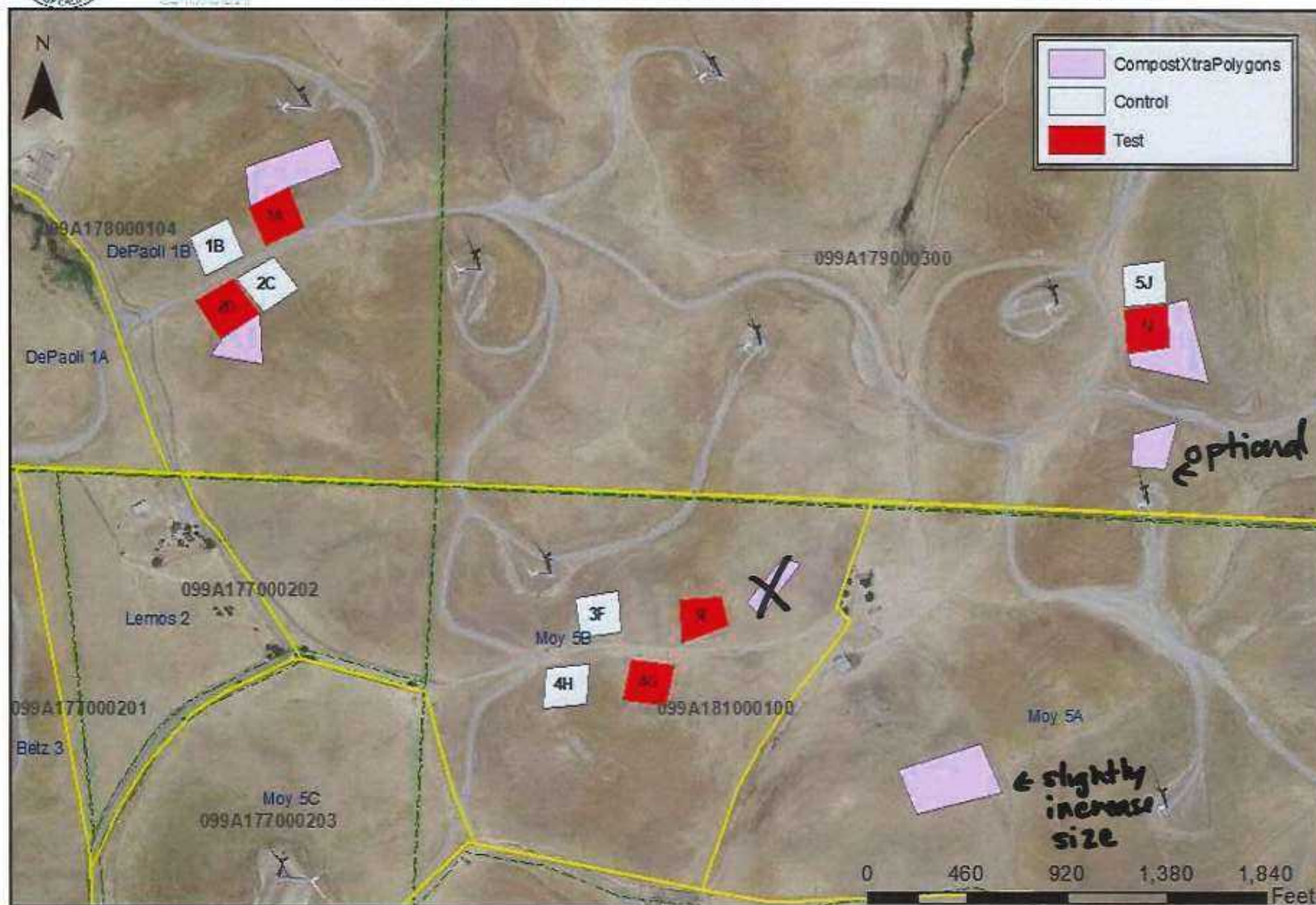


## StopWaste (ACWMA) Altamont - Study Plot Locations & Soils

Grant No. 4600011919

Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014

I. Howell 8/28/2019

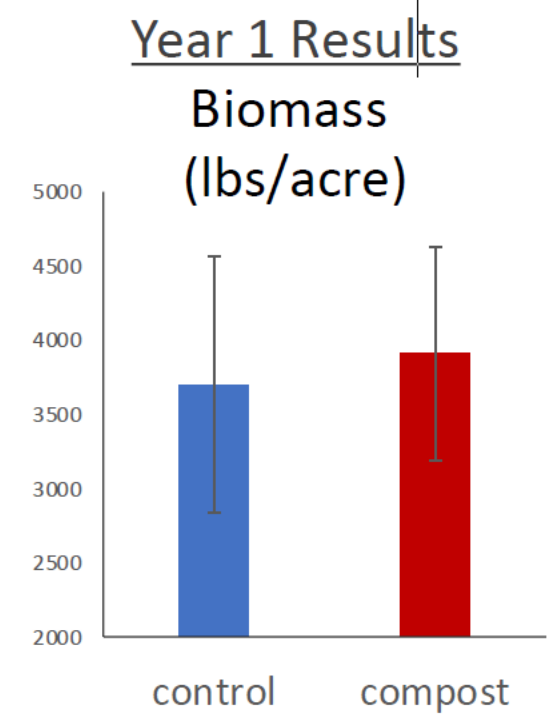








# Vegetation Productivity







The image shows a person kneeling on a patch of grass and soil. They are wearing blue jeans, white socks, and black and tan work gloves. One glove has the words "GENERAL PURPOSE" and a logo on it. The person is using a black rubber mallet with a yellow handle to drive a white PVC pipe into the ground. The pipe has a circular mesh screen at its base. The ground is uneven, with some loose soil and dry grass. The text "Testing Runoff" is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

**Testing Runoff**

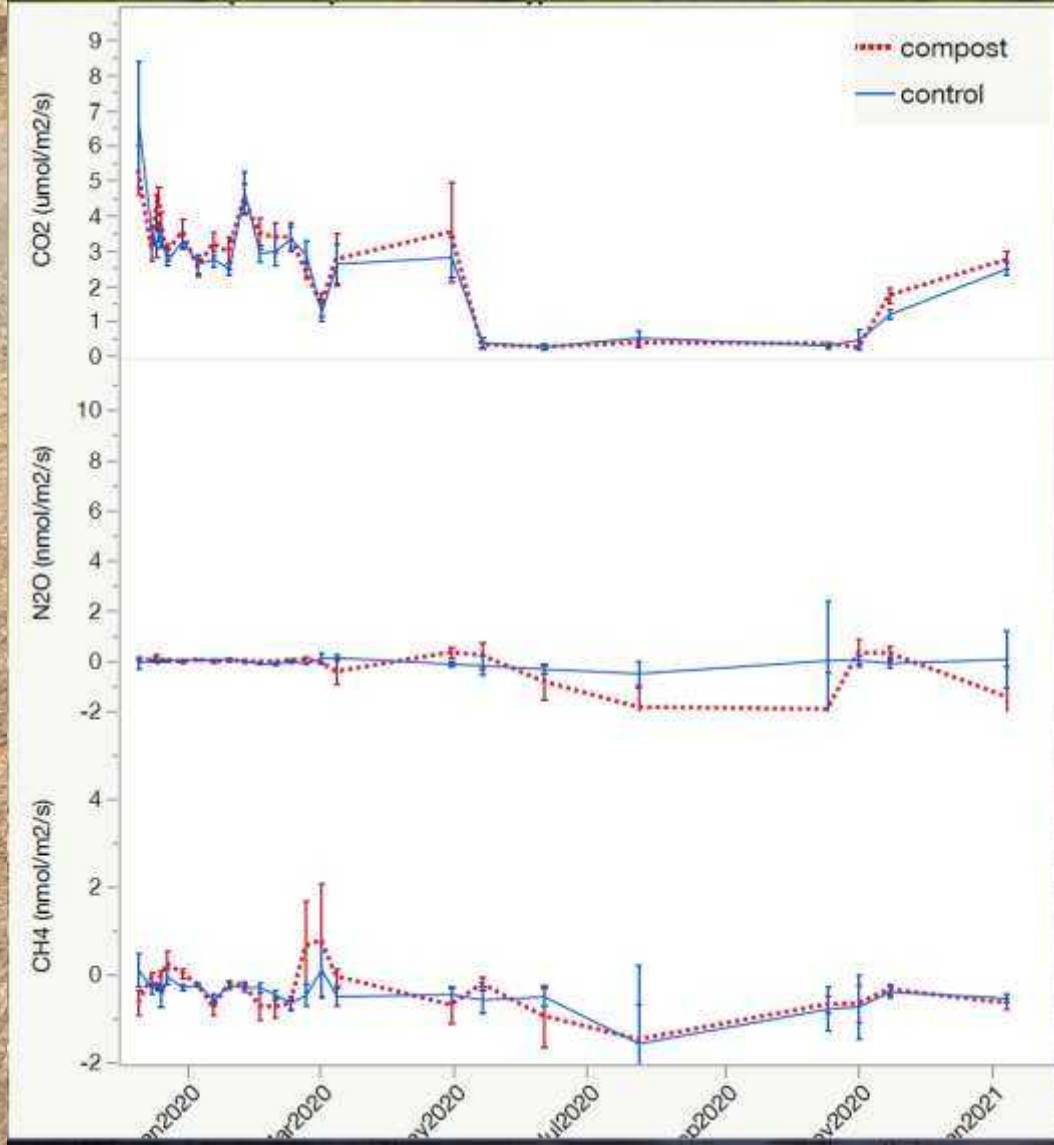


# Measuring Soil Greenhouse Gas Fluxes





# Measuring Soil Greenhouse Gas Fluxes









## StopWaste Compost

Approximate area planned for compost spreading.



## Planned Conservation Practices for Grazing Management

Date: 8/20/2019

Customer: ACWMA

Property Name: ACWMA Altamont Property

Approximate acres: 1650

County and State: Alameda, CA

Assisted by: Alameda County Conservation Partnership





# Project Partners

**Paulo Farms**

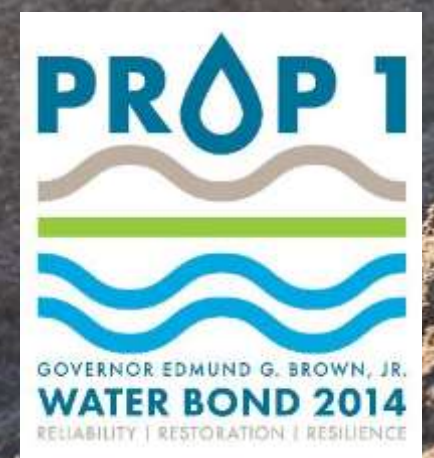


Carbon Cycle Institute

**MARIN CARBON PROJECT**



Thank you!





**Questions for Jeff, Joe, Kelly, or Ian?**







February 9, 2021

# Compost for Carbon Farming

Ian Howell, Resource Conservationist, Alameda County RCD  
Kelly Schoonmaker, Property Manager, StopWaste



# What compost is NOT:



soil



fertilizer





# What is NOT compost:





# What IS compost?

**Compost is the product of  
managed aerobic  
decomposition.**

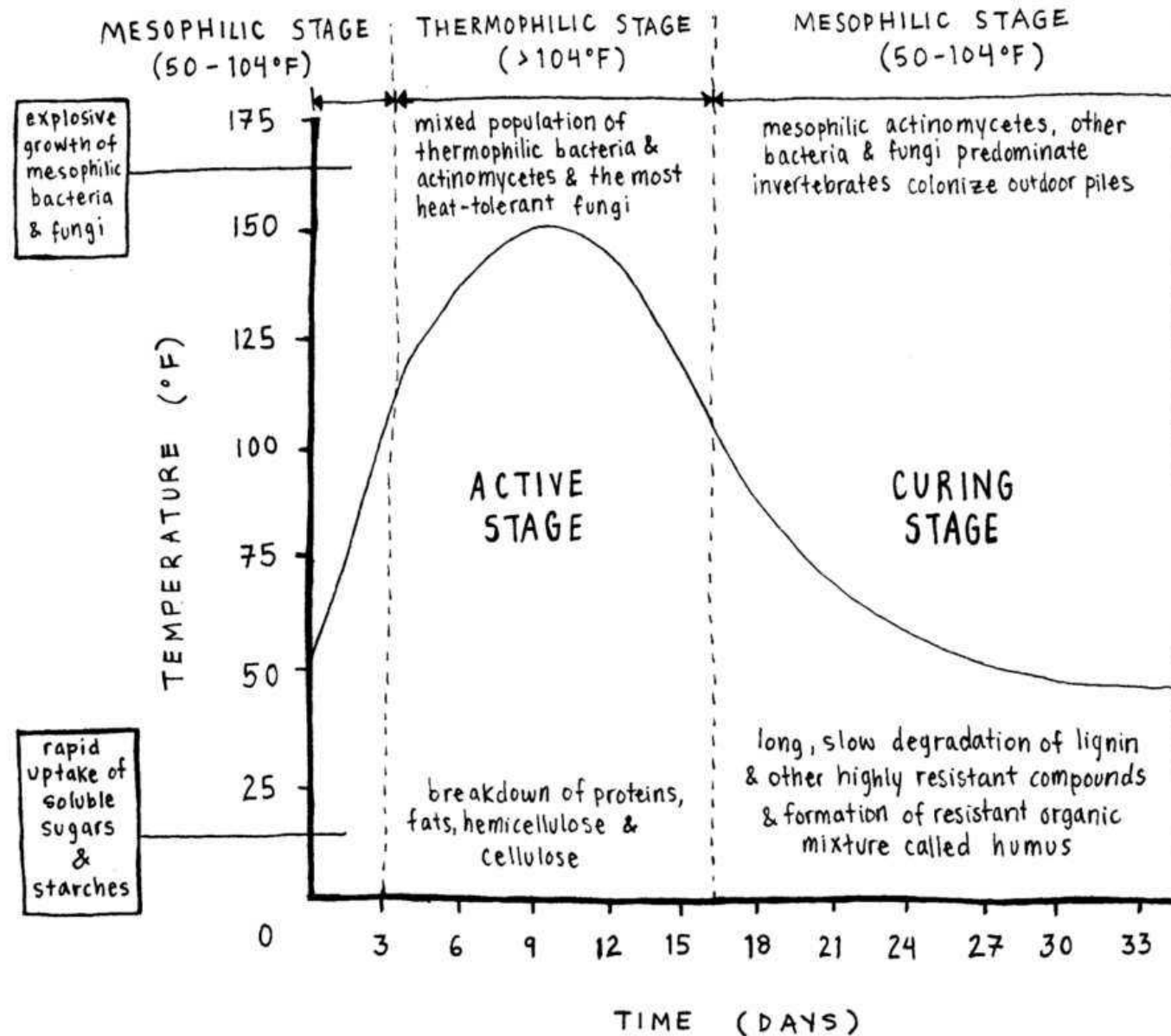








# Composting process









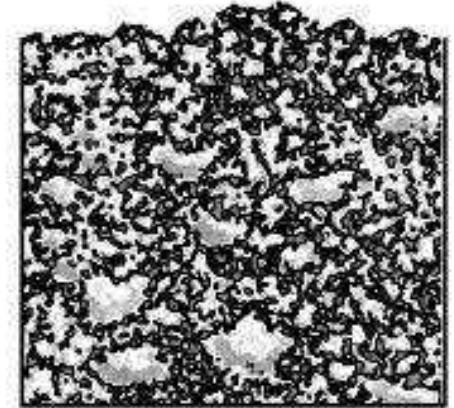
# Benefits of compost

- Improved soil structure
- Water holding capacity
- Drainage
- Improved nutrient exchange
- Healthier plants
- Carbon sequestration

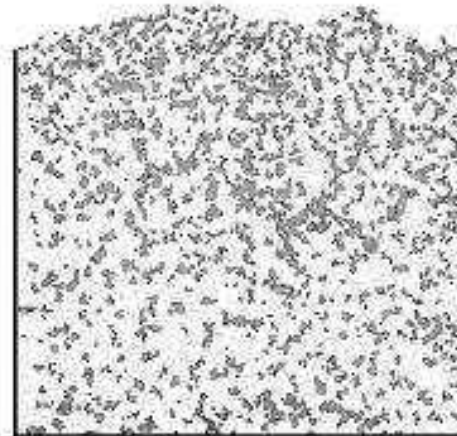
CLAY



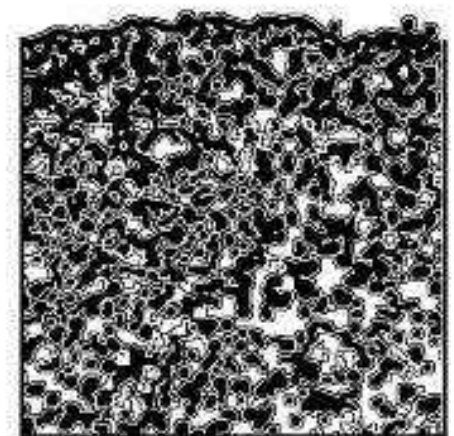
CLAY with COMPOST



SANDY



SANDY with COMPOST







**Top-dressing**



# Incorporation



Photo: John Holland



# Erosion control

**Blown-on straw**

**Compost**







[compostingcouncil.org](http://compostingcouncil.org)  
[calrecycle.ca.gov](http://calrecycle.ca.gov)  
[lawntogarden.org](http://lawntogarden.org)



**Where to get  
compost?**



# How to get good compost - standards

- Permitted facility
- Standards





# Testing data

- Depends on application
- Consistency
- Physical (inert) contaminants

US COMPOSTING COUNCIL  
Seal of Testing Assurance  
Date Sampled/Received: 29 Jan. 20 / 29 Jan. 20

COMPOST TESTING REPORT

LABORATORY: Soil Control Lab, 42 Hangar Way, Gilroy, CA 95020

Account No.: 10717 - 1/5 - 1589  
Group: Jan20E No. 26

INTERPRETATION:  
Is Your Compost Stable?  
Respiration Rate: 1.6 mg CO<sub>2</sub>-C/g OM/day  
Biodegradability: < Stable >= M

Is Your Compost Mature?  
Ammonia/Nitrate-N ratio: 0.044 Ratio  
Ammonia N ppm: <10 mg/kg  
Nitrate N ppm: 1.8 mg/kg  
pH value: 6.1

Does Your Compost Meet the Requirements?  
Fecundity: 0.14  
Salmonella: 0.25  
Metals: Pass

What are the Physical Properties?  
Percent Ash: 43.2 Percent dry wt.  
Sieve Size % > 6.3 MM (0.25"): 3.1 Percent dry wt.

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTS and BACTERIOLOGISTS  
Approved by State of California  
SOIL CONTROL LAB  
Z-Best Products  
980 State Highway 25  
Gilroy, CA 95020  
Attn: Beto Ochoa

Date Received: 29 Jan. 20  
Sample Identification: 2020 Z-best Organic Compost  
Sample ID #: 10717 - 1/5

Nutrients

Parameter	Value	Units	Stability Indicator
Total Nitrogen	1.8	mg/kg	mg CO <sub>2</sub> -C/g OM/day
Ammonia (NH <sub>4</sub> -N)	0.61	mg/kg	mg CO <sub>2</sub> -C/g OM/day
Nitrate (NO <sub>3</sub> -N)	1.2	mg/kg	mg CO <sub>2</sub> -C/g OM/day
Organic Nitrogen (Org.-N)	0.85	mg/kg	mg CO <sub>2</sub> -C/g OM/day
Phosphorus (as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	2700	mg/kg	Stability Rating
Phosphorus (as P)	1000	mg/kg	
Potassium (as K <sub>2</sub> O)	9000	mg/kg	
Calcium (as CaO)	290	mg/kg	
Magnesium (as MgO)	61	mg/kg	
Soluble Salts	0.14	mg/kg	
Particle Size	0.25	mm	
Stability Indicator	0.081	mg/kg	
CO <sub>2</sub> Evolution	7.89	mg/kg	

As Recd. units

Stability Indicator

CO<sub>2</sub> Evolution

mg CO<sub>2</sub>-C/g OM/day

mg CO<sub>2</sub>-C/g OM/day

Stability Rating

Maturity Indicator: Cucurbit

Emergence (%)

Seeding Vigor (%)

Description of Plants

Pathogens

Fecal Coliform

Salmonella

Date Tested: 29 Jan. 20

Physical Contaminants\*\*

Total Plastic

Film Plastic

Glass

Metal

Sharps

Total

Size Distribution

Greater than 4mm in size (Sharps greater than 2mm)

Analyst: Assaf S.

x6





**Visit the composting facility**





**Load check**



A photograph of three brown cows in a grassy field. In the foreground, a cow stands facing right, its head near a large, textured pile of brown organic material, possibly manure or compost. Two other cows are visible in the background, one partially obscured by the first. The scene is brightly lit, casting shadows on the grass.

# Our priorities

**Minimal inerts**  
**Available N**  
**Distance**



# Compost Facility Survey

- Within 70 miles of Sunol, Alameda County
- US Compost Council's Seal of Testing Assurance
- Organic Materials Review Institute-listed / CDFA Organic Registration

Compost Facility	Location	Feedstock Material	Distance from Sunol, CA (miles)
*California Soils, Inc.	Vernalis	Self-haul green waste	45
Harvest Power	Lathrop	Curbside yard and food waste	47
Napa Recycling	Napa	Curbside yard and food waste	59
Recology – Blossom Valley Organics	Modesto	Curbside yard and food waste	48
Recology – Jepson Prairie Organics	Vacaville	Curbside yard and food waste	63
*Recology – South Valley Organics	Gilroy	Curbside and self-haul yard waste	52
Republic Services – Newby Island Resource Recovery Park	San Jose	Curbside yard and food waste	18
Vision Recycling	Livermore	Self-haul yard waste	17
West Marin Compost	Nicasio	Self-haul yard waste, dairy manure	69
WM Earth Care	Livermore	Curbside yard and food waste	21
Z-Best Composting	Gilroy	Curbside and self-haul yard waste	53



# Compost Cost & Freight Estimates

- Assume delivery to Sunol, Alameda County
- Assume 680 cubic yards / approximately 300 tons of compost
- Contacted in winter 2019

Compost Facility	Cost per Ton	Cost per Cubic Yard	680 Cubic Yards	Delivery Fee	Total Cost
Harvest Power	<b>\$13.00</b>	\$5.85	\$3,978	\$4,896	\$8,874
Napa Recycling		\$10.00	\$6,800	-	-
Recology – Blossom Valley Organics	<b>\$10.00</b>	\$4.50	\$3,060	\$5,200	\$8,260
Recology – Jepson Prairie Organics		\$12.00	\$8,160	\$8,296	\$16,456
Republic Services – Newby Island Resource Recovery Park		\$9.00	\$6,120	\$4,060	\$10,180
Vision Recycling					\$14,606
West Marin Compost		\$20.00	\$13,600	\$12,240	\$25,840
WM Earth Care		\$18.00	\$12,240	\$7,684	\$19,924
Z-Best Composting		\$12.00	\$8,160	\$7,000	\$15,160



# Compost Spreading Estimates

- Assume work in Sunol, Alameda County
- Assume 680 cubic yards compost over 20 acres
  - 1/4-inch application
- No real-world site factors

Application Method	Company	Location	Cost per Acre	Cost per Cubic Yard	Total Cost for 680 cubic yards
Mechanical	Dores Ag Services	Stevinson	\$136.00	<b>\$4.00</b>	\$2,720
	Holsapple's Fertilizer Spreading Inc.	Turlock	\$238.00	<b>\$7.00</b>	\$4,760
	Santucci General Engineering	Livermore	\$400.00	\$11.76	<b>\$8,000</b>
Blowing	Applied Landscape Materials Inc.	Rocklin	\$1,184.30	\$34.83	<b>\$23,686</b>
	JetMulch Inc.	Capitola	\$1,216.20	\$35.77	\$24,324



# Real Projects!

- Two Alameda County projects implemented December 2019
- Compost: Vision Recycling, Livermore
- Different spreading methods

Project	Compost in Cubic Yards	Cost per Yard	Compost Cost	Delivery Cost	Miles	Tax	Compost & Delivery
StopWaste - Altamont	420	\$14	\$5,880	\$700	4.5	\$608.65	<b>\$7,188.65</b>
Calhoun Ranch	134	\$14	\$1,876	\$720	14	\$240.13	<b>\$2,836.13</b>

Project	Spreading Type	Service	Acres	Cost per Yard	Extra Equipment	Spreading
StopWaste - Altamont	Blown-on	JetMulch, Inc	12.5	\$44.95	\$1,200	<b>\$20,079.00</b>
Calhoun Ranch	Mechanical	Santucci General Engineering	5.9	\$19.10	-	<b>\$2,560.00</b>

Project	Cost per Acre	Cost per Yard	TOTAL COST
StopWaste - Altamont	\$2,181.41	\$64.92	<b>\$27,267.65</b>
Calhoun Ranch	\$914.60	\$40.27	<b>\$5,396.13</b>



# Final Thoughts

## Freight

- Distance
- Truck size
  - Trips
  - Site access

## Contingency

## Equipment bottlenecks







# Calhoun Ranch

Conservation and carbon farming with Nancy Mueller, Susie Calhoun, and Merry Carter  
– 3 Calhoun Sisters



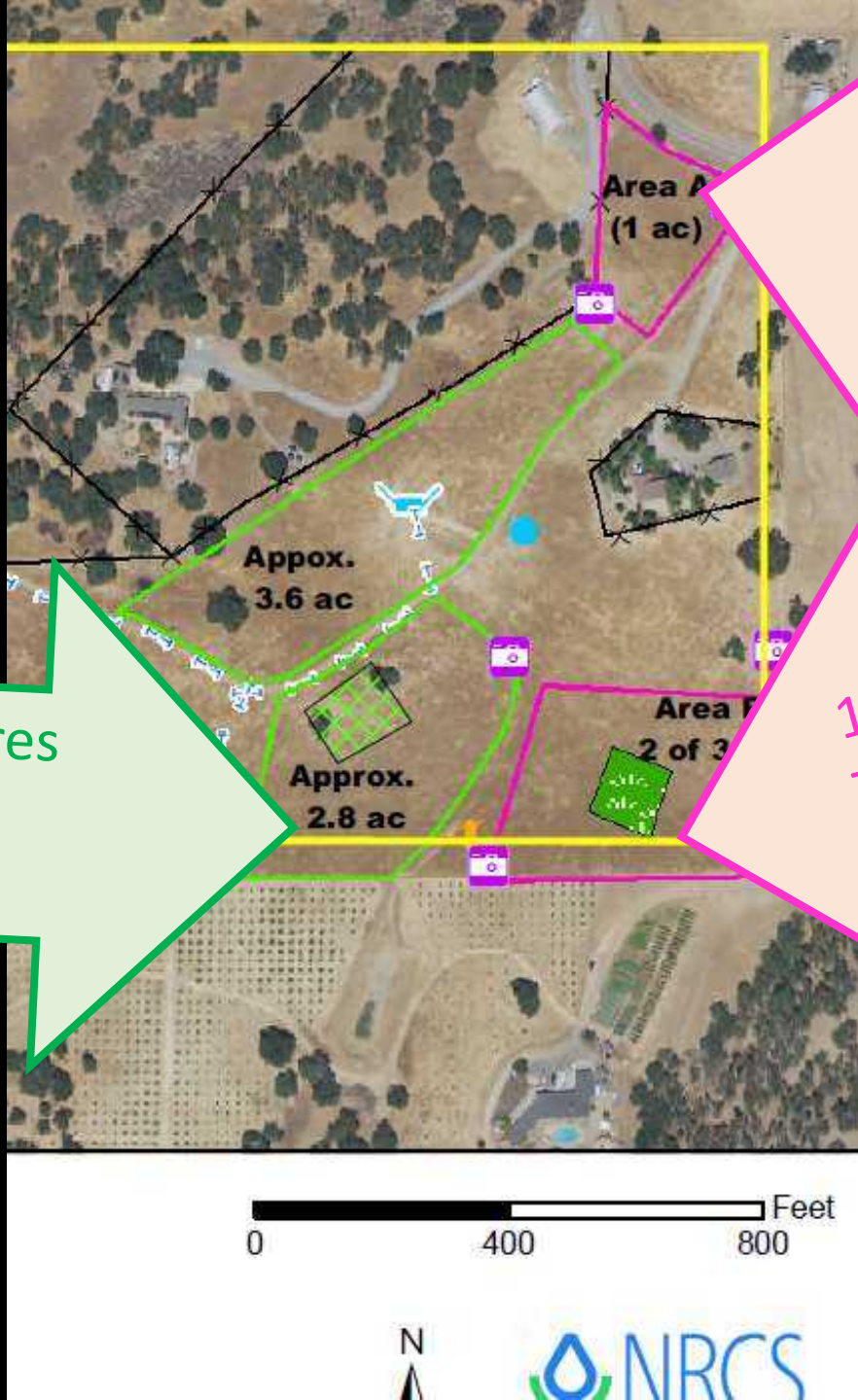
# Compost Set Up

- Same compost
- Same spreading

1/4-inch compost on 2 acres  
One time  
DWR grant funding

59.6 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e sequestered  
over 20 years

- Ryals & Silver 2013



1/10-inch compost on 3 acres  
Three consecutive years  
CDFA Healthy Soils Incentives

1/10-inch compost on 3 acres  
Three consecutive years  
CDFA Healthy Soils Incentives

42 MTCO<sub>2</sub>e avoided /  
sequestered over three  
years of CDFA HSP  
Incentives

- COMET-Planner











# Compost Spreading





# Compost Spreading





# Compost Spreading





# Compost Spreading





# Compost Spreading









# Compost Spreading





# Compost Spreading



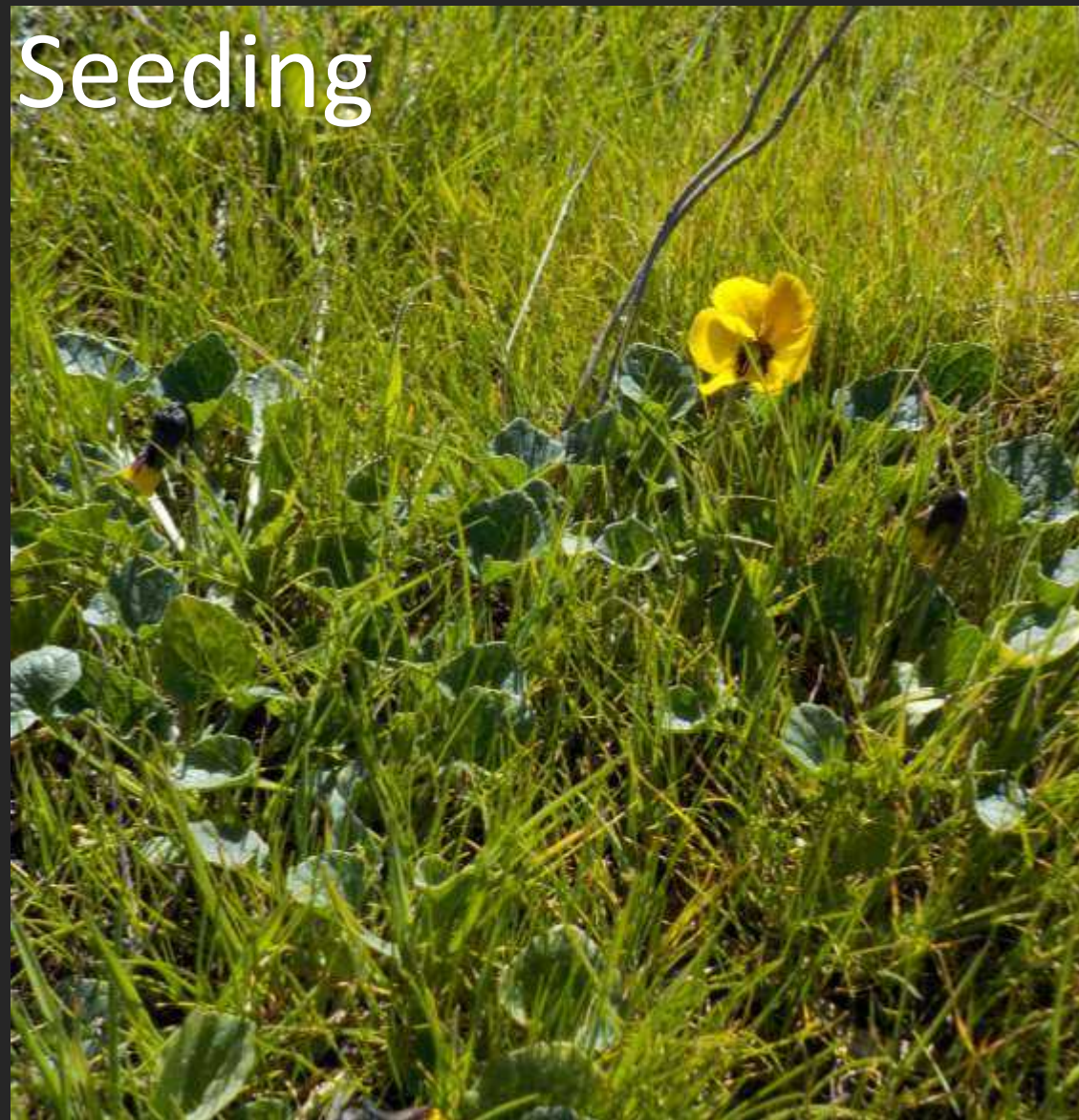


# Compost Spreading





# Range Seeding





# Range Seeding





# Range Seeding





# Range Seeding





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings





# Pollinator & Milkweed Plantings









# Healthy Soils Program (HSP) Incentives Program

Program by California Department of Food  
and Agriculture

Spreading Compost on Rangelands

February 9, 2021

Stephanie Lew, Alameda County Resource  
Conservation District







# Healthy Soils Program (HSP) Incentives Program

## Financial incentives

to implement conservation  
management practices that:

- Improve soil health
- Capture carbon in soil
- Reduce GHG emissions



# Eligible Practices

- Compost application (CPS pending)
- Hedgerow planting ([USDA NRCS CPS 442](#))
- Prescribed grazing ([CPS 528](#))
- Range planting ([CPS 550](#))
- Silvopasture ([CPS 381](#))
- Windbreak/shelterbelt establishment ([CPS 380](#))
- Riparian forest buffer ([CPS 391](#))
- Tree/shrub establishment ([CPS 612](#))

Full list here:

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/IncentivesProgram.html>



# Eligibility

- CA farmer, rancher, or federal/CA recognized Native American Indian Tribe
- Located in California
- Agricultural operation: row, vineyard, field & tree crops, commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, livestock and livestock product operations
- Must have GHG benefits
- Must own or lease the land
- New practice
- Practices on land that qualify by NRCS



# Application Contents

- I. Project Overview
- II. Project Logistics
- III. Project Design
- IV. Project Work Plan
- V. Project Budget and GHG Reduction
- VI. Conservation Plan (Optional)
- VII. Benefits to (Optional, Prioritized)
  - I. Socially Disadvantage Farmers/Ranchers
  - II. Priority Populations (AB 1550/SB 535)



# Get started!

*Free assistance from:*

- resource conservation districts
- University of California cooperative extension
- + other resource organizations

## **For a full list of providers:**

<https://www.cdffa.ca.gov/oefi/healthysoils/IncentivesProgram.html>

*Get help with:*

- Online grant application
- Gathering information and preparing program requirements
- Consultation
- Project planning and implementation