

USDA Funding Programs for farmers and ranchers

*A few opportunities that might be right for you from the
Farm Service Agency (FSA) and Natural Resource
Conservation Service (NRCS)*

Thursday, December 3, 2020

4:00-5:00pm

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Lisa Velasquez, County Executive Director

Sonoma-Marín County Office

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 (CFAP 2)



Who is Eligible?

Producers who:

- **Are in the business of farming at the time of application**
- **Have risk in the production of eligible commodities that apply to any of the 3 categories:**
 - Price Trigger Commodities
 - Flat Rate Crops
 - Specialty (Sales-Based) Commodities

Applicable forms include:

- **AD-3117, “CFAP 2 Application”**
- **CCC-902 (Parts A, B & L), “Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility”**
- **CCC-901, “Member Information for Legal Entities”, *if applicable***

Applicable forms also include:

- **CCC-941, Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification**
- **CCC-942, Certification of Income Farming, Ranching, and Forestry Operations”, *optional***
- **AD-1026, HELC & WC Certification**
- **AD-2047, Part A only**

- **One application nationwide per producer**
- **Producer Certification**
 - Documentation is **only** required upon spot check or when requested by COC.
- **Completed AD-3117 may be submitted to any USDA Service Center**
- **Recording County responsible for acting on AD-3117.**

To get started contact the
FSA Call Center
1-877-508-8364



Website – Forms can be
downloaded at
www.farmers.gov/cfap
when you call FSA Call Center
they can email you forms.



Or you can call the office to request a sign-up package to be emailed to you directly.

1-707-794-1242 select option. 2



If phone lines are busy, please
leave a message with your
name and phone number. (we
will call you back)




After you have completed your application and forms, submit to the office for review.
If you need assistance call for a phone appointment. (Try Call Center first, it will be faster than local office)




Sign-up Period – CFAP 2

Begins – September 21, 2020

Ends – December 11, 2020

September 2020							October 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
 21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2020							December 2020						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	 11	12	13
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
30													

allmonthscalendar.com

Other Important Programs

- **2020 Livestock Feed Program (LFP)**
- **Seafood Trade Relief Program (STRP)**
- **2020 Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)** *Glass & LNU Fires Sonoma County only*
- **2021 Non-insured Assistance Program (NAP)**
- **2021 Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC)**
- **Tree Assistance Program (TAP)**

for more detailed Information

FSA Website Links:

www.farmers.gov/cfap

www.farmers.gov/seafood

www.farmers.gov/program-deadlines

www.farmers.gov/cfap/faq

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Nick Goodman, Senior Soil Conservationist

Petaluma Service Center



United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service

Nick Goodman

Federal Funding Programs for Farmers & Ranchers

December 3rd 2020



Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov/

What does NRCS do?

- ▶ NRCS is a voluntary agency.
- ▶ NRCS offers free, science-based advice to farmers, ranchers, and private forestland owners.
- ▶ NRCS is non-regulatory.
- ▶ NRCS helps create conservation plans for your individual operation which can then be eligible for financial assistance to implement.
- ▶ NRCS has a number of professional scientific advisors within the agency including:
 - ▶ Soil Conservationist,
 - ▶ Rangeland Specialist,
 - ▶ Agriculture Engineer, civil engineers
 - ▶ Wildlife biologists
 - ▶ Forest specialist
 - ▶ Wetland specialists,
 - ▶ Soil scientists,
 - ▶ Agronomists,
 - ▶ Air quality specialists,
 - ▶ Archeologists
 - ▶ Geologists and more!



United States Department of Agriculture



FROM 2014-2017,

\$2.6 BILLION

WAS INVESTED IN THE **PLANNING**
AND **IMPLEMENTATION** OF
CONSERVATION PRACTICES.



GENERATING AN AVERAGE OF

\$1 BILLION

IN ANNUAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.



CTA

SUPPORTING

12,100 JOBS

EACH YEAR.



United States Department of Agriculture

FROM 2014-2017,

\$3.5 BILLION

WAS INVESTED IN **NEW**
CONSERVATION PRACTICES,

GENERATING AN AVERAGE OF

\$1.7 BILLION

IN ANNUAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY,

SUPPORTING

22,800 JOBS

EACH YEAR.

EQIP



EQIP - Environmental Quality Incentives Program

- ▶ NRCS works with private farmers, ranchers, and non-industrial forest landowners.
- ▶ EQIP contracts include conservation practices to address resource concerns associated with fire recovery and erosion control
- ▶ No invoicing necessary
- ▶ Practices must meet NRCS standards and specifications

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ca/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=stelprdb1247015>





How can NRCS help on cropland?

- ▶ Organic or conventional!
Microirrigation, nutrient management, cover crop, mulching, irrigation water management, hedgerow plantings.



USDA How NRCS can help on grazing lands?

- ▶ Cross fencing, watering facilities, range and pasture planting, herbaceous weed control, brush management, prescribed grazing plan.





How NRCS can help on confined animal feeding operations?

- ▶ Assistance in getting a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) that will identify ways to protect water quality, improve soil health, and propose a sustainable operation by managing manure.
- ▶ Improve barn infrastructure with roofs and covers, manure transfer, waste separation facilities and more.



NRCS Assistance following Wildfire

NRCS works with private farmers, ranchers, and non-industrial forest landowners.

Technical Assistance:

- ▶ Provide free on-site assessments and advise
- ▶ Offers expertise, technical planning, documentation, engineering, etc.
- ▶ Numerous handouts and fact sheets available

Financial Assistance:

- ▶ EQIP – Catastrophic Fire Recovery
- ▶ EWP – Emergency Watershed Protection Program



EQIP - Catastrophic Fire Recovery

- ▶ Ranking pool is to provide immediate resource protection in areas burned by catastrophic fires in the past three years
- ▶ Priority resource concerns for forest and grazing lands include:
 - ▶ immediate soil erosion protection,
 - ▶ minimize noxious and invasive plant proliferation,
 - ▶ protect water quality,
 - ▶ reduce fire hazard due to excess dead vegetation build-up,
 - ▶ and restore livestock infrastructure necessary for grazing management.
- ▶ <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ca/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=stelprdb1247015>

Typical Conservation Practices for Fire Recovery

Treat hazard trees, dead and dying vegetation, address soil erosion and bare soil:

- ▶ Forest Stand Improvement
- ▶ Woody Residue Treatment
- ▶ Tree/shrub Establishment
- ▶ Invasive weed control/Brush Management
- ▶ Mulching
- ▶ Critical Area Planting
- ▶ Access Road
- ▶ Stream Crossing





United States Department of Agriculture

FROM 2014-2017,

\$4.2 BILLION

WAS INVESTED IN **NEW & EXISTING**
CONSERVATION PRACTICES,

GENERATING AN AVERAGE OF

\$1.2 BILLION

IN ANNUAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY,

SUPPORTING

15,700 JOBS

EACH YEAR.



CSP



▶ CSP

- ▶ helps agricultural producers maintain and improve their existing conservation systems
- ▶ pays participants for conservation performance— the higher the performance, the higher the payment.
- ▶ Is different than EQIP in several ways

▶ **Examples:**

- Retrofitting fences to makes them “wildlife-friendly”, while still providing a means to control movement of livestock and vehicles
- Cover crop to minimize soil compaction
- Establishment of perennial or self-sustaining vegetation such as grasses, forbs, legumes, shrubs and trees for the purpose of increasing or maintaining organic matter levels in the soil
- Improved grazing management through monitoring activities
- Establishing tree & shrub species to restore native plant communities
- Mechanical, chemical, or biological treatment of herbaceous weeds to create, release, or restore desired forage



Program Eligibility

- ▶ Applicant must be an Agriculture producer or private non-industrial forest landowner
- ▶ Applicant must have control of the land (deed/lease)
- ▶ Comply with adjusted gross income limitation (AGI) provisions (\$900,000 for last 3 tax years)
- ▶ Historically Underserved clients are eligible for higher payment rate and advanced payments.





How the application process works

- ▶ 1. Contact our office
- ▶ 2. Set up a site visit
- ▶ 3. Apply for the program and certify program eligibility
- ▶ 4. Develop a conservation plan
- ▶ 5. The plan is ranked
- ▶ 6. If selected for funding, it can be signed into contract
- ▶ 7. A Biological and Cultural Resources review is conducted
- ▶ 8. Once reviews are complete, practices may be installed according to implementation requirements
- ▶ 9. Once the practices are installed, a site visit will be conducted to inspect/certify them.
- ▶ 10. The certified practices are paid.

Contacts at Petaluma NRCS Field Office

Nick Goodman

Senior Soil Conservationist
(707) 794-1242 x114

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NRCS CA - www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov

EQIP - www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/

Post Fire Publications -

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/newsroom/features/>

Drew Loganbill

District Conservationist
(707) 794-1242 x107

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Q & A

Q & A

(see below for links shared during the Q&A section)

CFAP 2 Eligible Commodities Finder (Type in your crop and find out if it is eligible to receive CFAP 2 payments):

<https://www.farmers.gov/cfap/tool>

Forms and information about CFAP 2:

www.farmers.gov/cfap

CFAP Payment calculator (downloadable excel file for estimating your CFAP payment):

<https://www.farmers.gov/sites/default/files/documents/CFAP2-PaymentCalculatorv2-09212020.xls>

Common CFAP 2 myths debunked:

https://www.farmers.gov/connect/blog/disaster-planning-and-assistance/myths-debunked-coronavirus-food-assistance-program-2?utm_campaign=cfap2&utm_content=mythsdebunked&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Q & A

(see below for links shared during the Q&A section)

Money to cover forage loss due to drought: Livestock Forage Program (LFP)

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/livestock-forage/index>

USDA Drought Monitor (They establish the degree of drought and determine eligibility/aid through Livestock Forage Disaster Program):

<https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/fsa/Home.aspx>

Farm startup funding:

Local FSA Loan contact is Ehab Elliessy 530-216-5850, Yuba City Office

USDA Loan discovery tool:

<https://www.farmers.gov/fund/farm-loan-discovery-tool>

Upcoming webinar on USDA funds for food & ag enterprises:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-navigate-usda-funding-for-your-food-farm-business-tickets-131241592135>

Websites

www.farmers.gov/fund

www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs

www.growninmarin.org

Contact information:

Farm Service Agency (FSA), Sonoma-Marin County Office

Lisa Velasquez, County Executive Director

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Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Petaluma
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(707) 794-1242, x114 / Nickolas.Goodman@usda.gov

UC Cooperative Extension, Marin County

**Vince Trotter, Sustainable Ag Coordinator & Agricultural
Ombudsman**

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