



United States Department of Agriculture

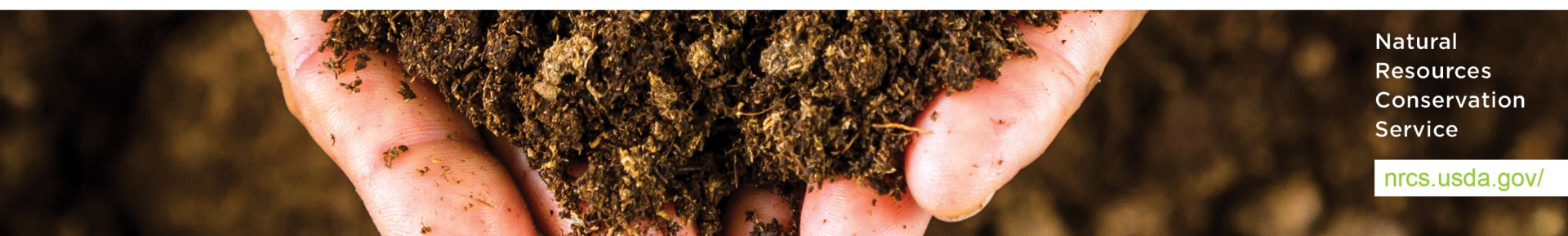


REGIONAL CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM (RCPP)



Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

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Regional Conservation Partnership Program

The purpose of RCPP is to further the conservation, protection, restoration and sustainable use of soil, water, wildlife, agricultural land, and related natural resources on eligible land on a regional or watershed scale.

It is a collaborative effort between NRCS and a variety of partners to implement conservation, use innovative solutions and provide measurable improvements and outcomes to the identified resource concerns



Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) vs Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

RCPP is different from EQIP in that the funding is targeted to a specific geographic area with specific resource concerns. Only applications within the project boundary, addressing the identified resource concerns are eligible to apply to RCPP. However, the application process and the eligibility (land, producer) requirements are the same as EQIP.

- Established Farm Records with FSA
 - Be in compliance with HEL/WC provisions
 - Be within Adjusted Gross Income Limits
- The local NRCS Field Office can assist with explaining eligibility requirements



RCPP 18 Projects

- 12 Projects across California
- Addressing a wide variety of resource concerns but most notably
 - Water Conservation
 - Soil Health
 - Forest Health
 - Aquatic and Terrestrial Habitat
- Utilizing Land Management Contracts (EQIP/ CSP like), Rentals (CRP like) and Easements (ALE like)

RCPP 18 in FY 23

- One renewal project was awarded
 - Crisis to Opportunity; Sierra Nevada Recovery and Resilience
 - **GOAL:** *to address the forest health crisis by removing dead trees from high mortality areas, and reduce fuels by thinning and removing fuel loads*

Crisis to Opportunity

- Expands upon the successes of the first RCPP agreement
- Added Butte County into the agreement boundary for a total of 11 counties.
 - Butte, Placer, El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa, Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern
- Awarded a 5 year agreement for a total of \$10,000,000.00

Crisis to Opportunity

- Previous Agreement – between 2019 and 2022
 - 235 Contracts
 - \$6,407,736.00
 - On track to contract an additional \$1,000,000.00 in 2023

Other RCPP Forestry / Fire Management Projects in CA

- **Building Fire Resiliency in CA Coast Range**
 - Covers: Colusa, Yolo, Solano, Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, and Napa Counties
- **GOAL:** implement land management practices which minimize wildfire impacts on human life and property in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), restore natural fire regime patterns in undeveloped areas, and improve resource conditions following recent wildfires.

Applying for Assistance

Technical Assistance – technical assistance is provided at any time to assist you in identifying solutions to your resource concerns.

Financial Assistance – financial assistance is provided during specific periods of time throughout the fiscal year. Funding opportunities for fiscal year 2023 has ended, but fiscal year 2024 opportunities will begin tentatively in January 2024.

Applying for Assistance

Please visit your local NRCS Field Office to discuss whether RCPP is right for you.

Our Planners, District Conservationists, and Partners will be happy to explain the program, discuss your resource concerns, and assist you in applying for financial assistance if that is your need.

Resources

- For more information about RCPP, please visit our website at:
- <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/rcpp-regional-conservation-partnership-program/california/regional>

Contact

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