

For Central Valley, CA Farmers Interested in Soil, Water & Land Use Conservation Practices

The American Farmland Trust (AFT) and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) have collaborated to create an opportunity for farmers in **Fresno, Madera, Merced, Stanislaus and Tulare counties** to get financial and technical assistance for on-farm practices that can help with water resilience, soil health, and more. This program is similar to the NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). See <https://farmland.org/RCP/> for more information.

This work is a partnership between four Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs): East Stanislaus RCD, East Merced RCD, Madera-Chowchilla RCD, Sierra RCD, as well as AFT and NRCS offices in the San Joaquin Valley.

This collaboration assists local farmers with financial support for the following 13 land and water conservation practices:

Soil health practices that improve soil water holding capacity and infiltration

- o Conservation Cover
- o Cover Crops
- o Reduced Till
- o No-till
- o Soil Carbon Amendments such as compost
- o Irrigation Water Management
- o Biochar

Land use enhancement

- o Critical Area Planting (planting on sites with soil erosion vulnerability or other difficulty)
- o Hedgerows
- o Upland Wildlife Habitat Management
- o Wildlife Habitat Planting

Water conveyance & recharge

- o Irrigation Pipelines
- o Pumping Plants
- o Structure for Water Control

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis, and the next deadline will likely be Winter 2023/2024. Farmers and Landowners interested in funding and support with these practices, please contact:



East Stanislaus RCD – Stanislaus County – 209-287-3672

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East Merced  Resource Conservation District

East Merced RCD – Merced County – 209-756-2421

Ursula Stock (Mgr): manager@eastmercedrkd.org



Madera-Chowchilla RCD – Madera County

Amy Siliznoff (Mgr): amy@maderachowchillarcd.org
Chris Yohannan (staff share conservation planner w/ ESRCD): chris.yohannan@eaststanrkd.org



Sierra RCD - Fresno County - 845-527-6590

Karin Roux (staff lead for RCPP): kroux@sierrarc.com

Tulare County

Lurana Strong (NRCS manager): Lurana.strong@usda.gov
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