



NOTICE OF GRANT AND AGREEMENT AWARD

1. Award Identifying Number NR249104XXXXC035	2. Amendment Number	3. Award /Project Period 09/01/2024 - 08/31/2025	4. Type of award instrument: Cooperative Agreement
5. Agency (Name and Address) Natural Resources Conservation Service 430 G Street, Suite 4164 Davis, CA 95616		6. Recipient Organization (Name and Address) GUADALUPE-COYOTE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT 888 N 1ST ST STE 204 SAN JOSE CA 95112-6314 UEI Number / DUNS Number: X3FFNK6GWE83 / 050900120 EIN:	
7. NRCS Program Contact Name: James Booth Phone: (831) 902-2348 Email: james.a.booth@usda.gov	8. NRCS Administrative Contact Name: Marnie Wilson Phone: (801) 844-2916 Email: Marnie.Wilson@usda.gov	9. Recipient Program Contact Name: Stephanie Moreno Phone: 408-288-5888 Email: smoreno@grcrd.org	10. Recipient Administrative Contact Name: Pai Venegas Phone: (408) 824-8550 Email: pai.venegas@gmail.com
11. CFDA 10.902,10.912,10.924	12. Authority CST IR-PL117-169 CTA IR-PL117-169 EQI IR-PL117-169	13. Type of Action New Agreement	14. Program Director Name: Stephanie Moreno Phone: 408-288-5888 Email: smoreno@grcrd.org
15. Project Title/ Description: GRCRD will implement the Farm and Ranch Resilience Program, a multilingual technical assistance and education program for farmers and ranchers in the NRCS Hollister Service Center area.			
16. Entity Type: D = Special District Government			
17. Select Funding Type			
Select funding type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Federal	
Original funds total	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	
Additional funds total	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Grand total	\$75,000.00	\$0.00	
18. Approved Budget			

Personnel	\$0.00	Fringe Benefits	\$0.00
Travel	\$0.00	Equipment	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00	Contractual	\$0.00
Construction	\$0.00	Other	\$75,000.00
Total Direct Cost	\$75,000.00	Total Indirect Cost	\$0.00
		Total Non-Federal Funds	\$0.00
		Total Federal Funds Awarded	\$75,000.00
		Total Approved Budget	\$75,000.00

This agreement is subject to applicable USDA NRCS statutory provisions and Financial Assistance Regulations. In accepting this award or amendment and any payments made pursuant thereto, the undersigned represents that he or she is duly authorized to act on behalf of the awardee organization, agrees that the award is subject to the applicable provisions of this agreement (and all attachments), and agrees that acceptance of any payments constitutes an agreement by the payee that the amounts, if any, found by NRCS to have been overpaid, will be refunded or credited in full to NRCS.

Name and Title of Authorized Government Representative Carlos Suarez State Conservationist	Signature GEORGE ROLFES Digitally signed by GEORGE ROLFES Date: 2024.08.29 08:20:57 -07'00'	Date <i>Acting for Carlos Suarez</i>
Name and Title of Authorized Recipient Representative Stephanie Moreno Executive Director	Signature <i>Stephanie Moreno</i>	Date <i>8/28/2024</i>

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

The above statements are made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Section 522a).

Statement of Work

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement, between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Guadalupe-Coyote Resource Conservation District (GCRCD) – which is in the process of transitioning to its new name of North Santa Clara Resource Conservation District – (Recipient), is to extend the Farm and Ranch Resilience Program, a multilingual program offering technical assistance and educational opportunities to historically underserved farmers and ranchers in the USDA Hollister Service Center area.

Objectives

California agricultural producers are experiencing increased conservation challenges due to extreme natural events, including but not limited to drought, floods, catastrophic fires and high wind events, and are looking to integrate climate smart agricultural practices to address specific resource concerns. Additionally, farmers and ranchers who are just starting out in agriculture within Santa Clara County, particularly those from historically underserved populations, can experience financial, technical and/or cultural challenges that inhibit their ability to obtain technical assistance, negotiate leases, integrate into established agricultural networks, and understand and access USDA Farm Bill conservation programs such as the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and other programs. To address these conservation and accessibility challenges, Recipient has taken the lead to implement a multilingual technical assistance and education program within the USDA Hollister Service Center area designed to: 1) provide culturally appropriate technical assistance and education to agricultural producers regarding conservation practices and climate adaption strategies, with targeted outreach to beginning, limited resource, socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers; and 2) provide direct technical assistance to NRCS staff in the implementation of Farm Bill conservation programs.

Funding from NRCS will be used to retain bilingual services (in languages endemic within the Hollister Service Center region, including but not limited to Mandarin and Cantonese) to continue to conduct outreach, offer educational opportunities, and provide technical assistance to these historically underserved farmers and ranchers. Recipients of these services will be better able to complete and submit applications to NRCS and FSA for a variety of services and financial assistance.

Goal: The goal of this project to continue to provide multilingual farm and ranch outreach, public education, and technical assistance program for historically underserved agricultural producers wishing to implement climate smart conservation practices and Farm Bill conservation programs.

Objectives:

- Objective 1: Provide technical assistance to agricultural producers facing conservation challenges from climate change and extreme weather events to help them integrate climate smart conservation practices into their operations.
- Objective 2: Conduct culturally appropriate regional outreach to historically underserved agricultural producers in at least two languages other than English.
- Objective 3: Provide direct technical assistance to assist NRCS staff in the implementation of Farm Bill conservation programs, such as the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), on eligible lands within the approved project area.

Budget Narrative

The official budget described in this Budget Narrative will be considered the total budget as last approved by the Federal awarding agency for this award.

Amounts included in this budget narrative are estimates. Reimbursement or advance liquidations will be based on actual expenditures, not to exceed the amount obligated.

TOTAL BUDGET \$75,000

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDS \$75,000

PERSONNEL \$61,440

Conservation Program Coordinators. The coordinators will provide technical assistance, conduct outreach, and deliver educational workshops to historically underserved farmers and ranchers in languages endemic within the Hollister Service Center region. Their expertise and language skills will ensure effective communication and culturally appropriate support for approximately 32 hours/week over an 11-month period.

1536 hours x \$40.00 hrs. = \$61,440

FRINGE BENEFITS \$11,120.64

Fringe benefits include, but are not limited, to the costs of employee insurance, payroll taxes, and unemployment benefits for the Bilingual Conservation Program Coordinator.

Approximate fringe rate is 18.1% of salaries and wages $\$61,440.00 \times 18.1\% = \$11,120.64$

TRAVEL \$737

Funds will be allocated to cover local travel expenses for project employees associated with field visits, attending meetings and conducting outreach activities.

100 miles/month x 11 months x $\$0.67/\text{mile} = \737.00

SUPPLIES \$182.36

Supplies: Funds will be allocated to provide a series of bilingual educational workshops for historically underserved agricultural producers. The workshops will provide opportunities for farmers and ranchers to learn about conservation practices, receive technical assistance, and engage in knowledge-sharing with experts and peers. Supplies may include office goods (such as pens, paper, copies, etc.) and educational/technical assistance supplies (such as soils/water testing kits, field publications, etc.). Supplies estimated as follows: office supplies $\$36.47$ and educational/technical assistance supplies $\$145.89$. $\$36.47 + \$145.89 = \$182.36$

CONTRACTUAL \$1,320

Partner RCD Support to coordinate producer outreach, public education, and the provision of technical assistance. This budget will support coordination time expended by the partner RCD staff in furtherance of meeting project objectives.

$\$82.50/\text{hour} \times 6 \text{ hours} \times 2 \text{ RCDs} = \990.00

Translation Services. This budget will support contractual translation services for workshops and site visits. $\$110/\text{hour} \times 3 \text{ hours} = \330.00

OTHER \$200

Funds will be allocated to provide a series of bilingual educational workshops for historically underserved agricultural producers. The workshops will provide opportunities for farmers and ranchers to learn about conservation practices, receive technical assistance, and engage in knowledge-sharing with experts and peers. Venue rental/fee = $\$200.00$

TOTAL DIRECT COSTS \$75,000**INDIRECT COSTS \$0**

Recipient has elected to voluntarily waive indirect costs.

Responsibilities of the Parties:

If inconsistencies arise between the language in this Statement of Work (SOW) and the General Terms and Conditions attached to the agreement, the language in this SOW takes precedence.

NRCS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide, as needed, technical assistance as available and approved by NRCS.
2. Provide availability to NRCS technology and technical tools to the maximum extent possible and provide quality assurance.
3. Collaboration or joint participation with workshops, field visits, and other grower engagement activities.
4. Having direct NRCS operational involvement or participation during the activity upon request.

RECIPIENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Perform the work and produce the deliverables as outlined in this Statement of Work.
2. Comply with the applicable version of the General Terms and Conditions.
3. Submit reports and payment requests to the ezFedGrants system or the Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) Grants and Agreements Division via email to FPAC.BC.GAD@usda.gov as outlined in the applicable version of the General Terms and Conditions. Reporting frequency is as follows:
 - Performance reports: Semi-annual
 - SF425 Financial Reports: Semi-annual

Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables

The project will be one year in duration. Project activities, objectives and outcomes should be completed within the 12-month time frame. 50% of work completed by May 31, 2025 and 100% of work completed by August 31, 2025.

Planned Activities:

- Continue providing 30-hour average per week conservation program coordinator services for bilingual public education, outreach, and technical assistance services within the project area. (Ongoing through August 2025)
- Host a series of educational workshops focusing on the protection of agricultural health (such as integrated pest management, managing wildlife conflicts, and nutrient management) for up to thirty (30) participants in a language other than English. (By May 2025)
- Provide technical assistance to help identify and address resource concerns for up to an additional twelve (12) agricultural producers. (Ongoing through August 2025)
- Provide direct technical assistance to USDA staff in the implementation of Farm Bill conservation programs, such as the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), on eligible lands within the project area. (Ongoing through August 2025)

Recipient will evaluate accomplishments and outcomes by tracking and preparing quarterly reporting on the products completed; the hours of service; the number of agricultural producers contacted through the agricultural producer engagement plan; the number of attendees at the workshop; and the number of site visits completed. Additionally, USDA will be able to separately gauge increased access to its programs as a result of the project. Recipient will use the reports to evaluate the success of the program and to determine the viability of continuing the program past the expiration of the grant using District and/or other revenue streams.

Resources Required

See the Responsibilities of the Parties section for required resources, if applicable.

Milestones

See the Expected Accomplishments and Deliverables section for milestones.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please reference the below link(s) for the General Terms and Conditions pertaining to this award:
<https://www.fpacbc.usda.gov/about/grants-and-agreements/award-terms-and-conditions/index.html>



Subject: MGT – Delegation of Authority

Date: July 15, 2024

To: State Executive Team

File Code: 330

During my absence from the office in Davis, the Acting State Conservationist is delegated all responsibilities and authority for the State Conservationist position, in the following order:

- RaeAnn Dubay, Deputy State Conservationist
- Curtis Tarver, Special Assistant State Conservationist
- Tony Rolfes, State Soil Scientist
- Jon Gustafson, State Resource Conservationist
- Diana Waller, Assistant State Conservationist for Management and Strategy
- Allen Curry, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area 2)
- Johnnie Siliznoff, Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area 3)
- Brandon Bates, Assistant State Conservationist for Programs
- Ernesto De La Riva, State Conservation Engineer
- Jenna Ganoung, State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area 1)
- Jonathan Groveman, Public Affairs and Outreach
- Arnelis Crespo, Acting Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations (Area 4)

As a reminder, all items requiring my signature must follow the procedure that has been set in place. During telework, items must be placed in the drop box that has been created on the share drive under SET. Please make Marina aware of urgent items requiring signature.

**CARLOS SUAREZ
OLIVA**

Digitally signed by CARLOS
SUAREZ OLIVA

Date: 2024.07.15 16:33:27 -07'00'

CARLOS SUAREZ
State Conservationist