

California Healthy Soils Program

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

Since 2017, California's CDFA has issued \$105M+ in grants for 1,500+ farm projects using compost, cover crops and reduced tillage. Modelled reductions total 1.1M tCO₂e, though peer-reviewed reviews flag real uncertainty in soil-carbon measurement.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	2/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	0/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	2/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[California Department of Food and Agriculture \(CDFA\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[CDFA Healthy Soils Program overview](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[CDFA Press Release #24-009: Grant Funding for Healthy Soils Program](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems: Grounding US soil-carbon policy in science \(2023\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

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