

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program
Commonly Asked Questions and Answers
2015

THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE UPDATED WEEKLY DURING THE FIRST FUNDING CYCLE OF THE PROGRAM.

Please refer to the SALCP web site for additional information:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/SALCP/Pages/Index.aspx>

January 23, 2015

Conservation Easement Grants

1. Can SALCP funds be applied to a current CFCP conservation easement project?

No. CFCP will not be able to accommodate amendments to existing grant agreements to include funds from a new source such as the SALCP. Each fund source has specific requirements and processes that limit the ability to combine them under existing agreements.

2. The timeline for 2015 applications is extremely short. What if we are not able to complete applications on time?

The February 6 pre-proposal and April 1 full application deadlines may make it difficult for applicants to complete the diligence necessary to enable a funding recommendation during the 2014-15 fiscal year. However, the program expects that opportunities for review will continue into fiscal year 2015-16. Submitting a pre-proposal by the due date, along with an estimated timeline for completion of a full application, will provide an option for early screening and allow SALCP staff to evaluate data gaps or other improvements needed in order to ensure that a complete application is filed, whether in the current or future fiscal year.

3. What is the difference between this program and the Agricultural Land Mitigation Program (ALMP) in the San Joaquin Valley?

The ALMP is designed specifically to purchase agricultural conservation easements in San Joaquin Valley counties that will be impacted by construction of the High Speed Rail project (Merced to Kern). This mitigation program will purchase easements on Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Farmland of Local Importance, and Unique Farmland as mapped by the California Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP), at a ratio of no less than 1:1 for each acre impacted by the project's alignment and maintenance facilities. The total acreage to be mitigated will also account for unusable remnant parcels and indirect impacts that will be calculated as land is purchased and reconveyed during the project's construction.

Easements purchased through the ALMP will be fully funded by the High Speed Rail Authority. No match funding will be required. For more information about this funding option, please visit

http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/cfcp/mitigation/Pages/AgLandMitigation_HSRA.aspx.