

**Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program
Agricultural Land Conservation Strategies and Outcomes Summary**

Project Recommended for FY 2015-16 Funding

SALCP_SOG_01_2016

Applicant	Monterey County Resource Management Agency (RMA)		
Project Location	Monterey County, including the cities of Salinas, Gonzales, Greenfield, King City, and Soledad		
Project Description	The Monterey County Resource Management Agency (RMA) will use funding to implement the Agricultural Land Mitigation Program, which was adopted under the County's 2010 General Plan update. The program will enhance and support long-term productivity and commercial viability of the County's agricultural industry, particularly in the Salinas Valley, by addressing growth trends in the unincorporated area and of the partner cities, which can put valuable farmland at risk.		
Joint Application for Agricultural Conservation Easement (ACE)	RMA has partnered with the Ag Land Trust for a joint agricultural conservation easement (ACE) grant application (SALCP15_PP5_Monterey). This ACE would conserve 129-acres of at risk farmland just outside of Salinas (1 mile west of the City limits of Salinas and ½ mile to the city Sphere of Influence).		
Strategic Value of the Project	The value of Monterey County agriculture is among the highest anywhere in the United States. Protecting this resource base through a coordinated approach will be a long term investment in the agricultural economy of the Salinas Valley. The ACE project linked to this Grant exemplifies the greenhouse gas benefits that would accrue by preventing future subdivision or development of the property. It will contribute to a farmland perimeter and greenbelt west of Salinas. The co-applicant (Ag Land Trust) holds numerous other ACEs in the County.		
Land Use Conversion Threat-ACE project	Risk Option 5, urban zoning density. This designation is derived from the conversion threat analysis completed for the companion ACE grant project (SALCP15_PP5_Monterey).		
GHG reduction estimates (30 year)—ACE project ^{1 2}	903 development rights extinguished.	973,059,630 VMT	425,227 MT CO ₂
Co-benefits	Coordinated planning and retention of open space within the Salinas River watershed.		
SALC Program Funding Request	\$182,365.80	10% Strategy and Outcome match standard met	
Match Funding	\$20,365		
Local Coordination	Letter of Collaboration from the Ag Land Trust; support from the American Farmland Trust		
Disadvantaged Community Status	NA		

¹Under the approved 2015-16 Quantification Methodology, the California Emissions Estimator Model (CALEEMOD) is used to calculate estimated CO2 reductions with a 30 year project life. However, SALC Program ACES will be in perpetuity.

²Under the 2015-16 SALC Program Guidelines, an approved ACE linked to a Strategy and Outcome Grant is considered the quantifiable greenhouse gas reduction outcome for the Strategy and Outcome Grant.

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