

13-506-252 - FOCUSED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINE SEDIMENT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) FOR THE NAPA RIVER WATERSHED USING THE FISH FRIENDLY FARMING (FFF) ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

PURPOSE. State shall provide a grant to and for the benefit of Grantee for the purpose of using the FFF Certification Program in implementing Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the Napa River Watershed with a focus on ten (10) tributary watersheds to protect and improve water quality and beneficial uses through reduction of erosion, increased infiltration, reduced sediment delivery to waterways from vineyards and vineyard drainage systems, roads, landslides, and creek channels.

B. Project-specific requirements

1. FFF Program Enrollment

- 1.1 Coordinate with agricultural organizations in the Napa River Watershed, including the Napa County Farm Bureau, Napa Valley Vintners Association, and Napa Grapegrower Association, to advertise for enrollment in the FFF program in newsletters, websites, and at meetings of local agricultural organizations. Submit a copy of the advertisement to the Grant Manager.
- 1.2 Develop a mailing list of vineyard parcel owners in the ten (10) tributary watersheds (Milliken Creek, Tulucay Creek, Cameros Creek, Redwood/Napa Creek, Dry Creek, Bear Canyon Creek/Bale Slough, Sulphur Creek, York Creek, Mill Creek, Kortum Canyon Creek Diamond Mountain Creek), using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and assessor parcel data. Submit the mailing list to the Grant Manager.
- 1.3 Mail an introductory letter and FFF enrollment announcement to the vineyard parcel owners on the mailing list and submit copies to the Grant Manager.
- 1.4 Conduct a minimum of three (3) tours for growers to visit certified sites.
- 1.5 Enroll a minimum of twenty thousand (20,000) acres in the FFF program, with priority given to properties in the ten (10) watersheds listed in Item 1.2. Submit a list of the enrolled properties to the Grant Manager, including total acreage and vineyard acreage for each property.
- 1.6 Prepare three (3) maps for each site, including aerial photography, topographic, and soil maps at one inch equal to five hundred feet (1" = 500') scale. Submit the maps for each property to the Grant Manager.
- 1.7 Prepare a Napa River Watershed GIS map of sites enrolled each year in the FFF program under this grant, including a color-coded breakdown of uncertified sites with farm plans, and certified sites. Submit the map to the Grant Manager.
- 1.8 Provide an FFF BMP workbook and farm water quality plan template for each site. Submit a copy of the workbook and template, and any updates to the Grant Manager.

2. Workshops

- 2.1 Conduct a minimum of two (2) series of four (4) workshops for vineyard parcel owners and/or managers on the FFF program BMPs, assessment methods, and TMDL requirements. Workshops will cover the primary elements of the farm water quality plan, including:
 - Element 3, Managing the Vineyard, covering all sediment sources in the vineyard including vineyard sheet erosion; vineyard drainage and legacy erosion sites as well as chemical use; storage and mix and load; water conservation and supply; ephemeral (class 3) creeks, storm water volumes, and BMPs to reduce pollutant loading;
 - Element 5, Roads, covering all sediment sources on road surfaces; cutbanks; ditches; ditch relief culvert outlets; water bars; stream crossings and hillslope instability; and BMPs and projects to reduce pollutant loading;
 - Element 6, Blue-Line Creeks, covering channel geomorphology; riparian vegetation; invasive plant species; stream bank repair; and other BMPs and projects to sustain riparian and aquatic habitats and reduce pollutant loading; and
 - Element 7, Photo Monitoring, covering photo points and annual photo monitoring to demonstrate BMP and project implementation

- 2.2 Submit copies of the workshop announcements, and sign-in sheets to the Grant Manager.

3. BMP Implementation

- 3.1 Provide technical assistance through site inspections and consultations for each workshop participant to include but not limited to the following assessments:

- Sediment- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of existing sediment sources on the entire property, farm roads not winterized with the vineyard, the entire creek network including reservoir outlets and drainage system, gullies and landslides, and any other site feature.
- Habitat- Assess habitat conditions on perennial and Intermittent creeks and the need for BMPs for enhancement.
- Water- Assess water supply and water conservation practices.
- Chemical Usage - Assess chemical uses.

3.2 Complete farm water quality plans (Plans) for all enrolled sites, incorporating the assessments in Item 3.1 and using the FFF Template and FFF minimum standards.

3.3 Review the final Plans-required BMPs and a timeline for their implementation with vineyard property owners/managers. Discuss how to properly install required BMPs. Determine the need, if any for cost share funds for large projects.

3.4 List and prioritize BMPs according to volume of potential sediment loading and direct delivery of sediment. Submit a copy of the list compiled for all enrolled sites to the Grant Manager.

3.5 Review final farm Plans with each owner/manager for completeness and accuracy prior to certification team review.

4. Certification

4.1 Train certification agency representatives, if needed, on the details of the FFF program BMPs, inventory and assessment, and certification process. Certification agencies may include the Regional Water Board, National Marine Fisheries Service and the County Agricultural Commissioner. Submit a list of trained agency representatives to the Grant Manager.

4.2 Conduct certifications for enrolled sites in conjunction with the landowner/manager and certification team. Compile certification letters when received and issue certificates to landowner/manager. Submit copies to the Grant Manager.

4.3 Make post-certification changes to Plans, reflecting any additional requirements from the certifying agencies, and provide the changed Plans to the vineyard parcel owners/managers.

5. BMP Effectiveness Monitoring and Reporting

5.1 Conduct wet weather Inspections during winter months on sites that have been identified during the Plan development as having a relatively high potential for erosion, to ensure BMPs are working effectively.

5.2 Conduct pre- and post-installation photo monitoring of installed BMPs to determine if BMPs are effective in controlling erosion. Recommend changes to the FFF BMP and farm plan template workbooks, based on review of photo documentation. Submit pre- and post-Installation photo documentation and recommended changes to the FFF BMP workbooks to the Grant Manager.

5.3 Recertify thirty (30) to fifty (50) sites that were previously certified, to ensure the Plans are being implemented and BMPs are effective. Submit the recertification letters to the Grant Manager.

6. Sediment Load Estimates and Metric Reporting

6.1 Submit an estimate of sediment load reductions using the State Water Board Load Reduction form annually.

6.2 Report metrics on the FFF certification Program covered by this grant including: total vineyard parcel acres, total vineyard acres, miles of road assessed and treated, miles of creek/river assessed and treated, number of BMPs Implemented and number of projects implemented. Submit an annual summary of the FFF metrics from the previous year, in the second quarter progress report. Incorporate into the Draft and Final Project Reports