



VINEYARD TEAM

Promoting Sustainable Winegrowing

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www.vineyardteam.org



grown for the greater good

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Setting the Gold Standard

- ✓ Rigorous threshold for eligibility
- ✓ Prohibits use of high risk pesticides
- ✓ Third-party inspection
- ✓ Transparent
- ✓ No conflict of interest
- ✓ Social responsibility
- ✓ Public comment
- ✓ Seal on the bottle

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40,000

Acres of SIP Certified vineyards

TWO
million

SIP Certified cases of wine



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Compliance Overview



- **Dec. 1 - Nov. 30 Certification Season**
- **Farm Plan Standards = Requirements + Management Enhancements**
 - Meet ALL Requirements
 - Must achieve 75% of all available points
 - Documentation Required
- **Annual Inspections (on site & records)**
- **Blind Auditor Reports Verified by Certification Advisory Committee**

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Standards Requirements



Water Quality Components

- Pest Management
- Irrigation Management
- Nutrient Management
- Soil & Erosion Management

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Requirements (Examples)



- **Pest Management**
 - **Prohibits Use of High Risk Pesticides**
 - **Groundwater Contaminants**
 - **Toxic Air Contaminants**
 - **Cholinesterase Inhibitors**
 - **Restricted Materials (CA & Fed)**
 - **Monitoring & Recording of Pest, Disease, & Weed Pressure**

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Requirements (Examples)



- **Nutrient, Soils, Erosion**
 - Nutrient Budget
 - Water, Soil & Tissue Analysis
 - Permeability and Runoff Rates
 - Winter Cover Crop
 - BMPs to Prevent Off Site Movement of Soil and Water
 - Vegetated Perimeter Buffers (streams & wetlands)

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Requirements (Examples)



- **Irrigation Management**
 - Drip irrigation
 - Water budget
 - Irrigation system evaluations
 - Irrigation scheduling tools
 - Wellhead & backflow protection

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Inspection



- **Third Party Inspection:** Independent inspectors review and confirm Standards' responses and documentation.
- **June 1 – July 15**
- **3 Year Cycle**
 - Cycle 1 = records and on-site (8-15 hrs.)
 - Cycle 2 & 3 = records (1-3 hrs.)
 - 10% of renewals = records and on-site (2-4 hrs.)
 - 1 renewal = impromptu (2-4 hrs.)
 - A single farming company is subject to one onsite or impromptu in cycles 2 & 3

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Advisory Committee



External Certification: Independent panel grants certification based on anonymous auditor reports.

Balanced make up of government, academic and industry professionals

- **Janice Campbell** – Deputy Ag Commissioner, County of San Luis Obispo
- **Hunter Francis**– Professor, Cal Poly State University, SLO
- **Julian Malone** – Vineyard Manager, Coastal Vineyard Care
- **Steve Sainz** – Regional Water Quality Control Board
- **Jill Whitacre** – Independent

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