



Conservation Assistance for Almond Growers



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NRCS Conservation Planners are trained to help you identify conservation practices to support both your conservation objectives and your bottom line. Working together with an NRCS Conservation Planner, you can create a Conservation Plan that tackles your management objectives. There are several different types of assistance and programs available to support implementation of your plan. The Conservation Planner will help locate those that best fit your needs.

You're a good fit for an application if, for example, you want to:

- Add mating disruption to your Naval Orange Worm (NOW) control program
- Increase the precision of your nutrient or pesticide applications
- Reduce herbicide use by using mulch for weed control
- Optimize irrigation scheduling with increased soil moisture monitoring and automation
- Evaluate your pump and irrigation system to ensure they are working optimally
- Explore low dust harvesters and road dust control to meet dust reduction goals
- Reduce emissions with a cleaner running tractor
- Chip orchard waste
- Add cover crops to your orchard
- Increase pollinator and beneficial insect benefits in your orchards

Submit an application at any time.

There are multiple review deadlines throughout the year for financial assistance for eligible growers.

Visit [Almonds.com](https://www.farmers.gov) for deadline details.

Financial assistance is available for eligible applicants

NRCS offers two great programs to help farmers achieve and maintain their stewardship goals. NRCS conservation planners will help producers decide which program works best for their goals and operation. *The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)* is a voluntary program that shares with participants the cost of planning and installing conservation practices. The *Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)* offers additional opportunities for those already meeting a baseline level of stewardship. You may apply at any time of the year for either program. Eligible projects will be evaluated, prioritized and selected for funding as budget allows.

Farm Services Agency (FSA) colleagues assist to review eligibility for financial assistance as the ability to use NRCS programs involves income limits. They will need the following information:

- Location of the property (APN number/map)
- Copy of your current deed or signed lease
- *AD-2047 Customer Data Worksheet –basic information to establish a record
- If applying as an entity the following also needed
 - Proof of signature authority (LLC documents, Minutes of Corporation, etc.)
 - *CCC-901 Members Information
- Proof of identification of individual and/or entity members (photo ID such as driver's license)
- *CCC-941 Average Adjusted Gross Income Certification (for entity & members) (*AGI averaged over three tax years prior to application of \$900,000 or less is eligible.*)
- Form *AD-1026 Highly Erodible Land/Wetland Certification

**FSA and NRCS will provide these forms and assist in completing them. See them at this link if you want to see more detail about what they ask, note, you have to scroll to the bottom.*

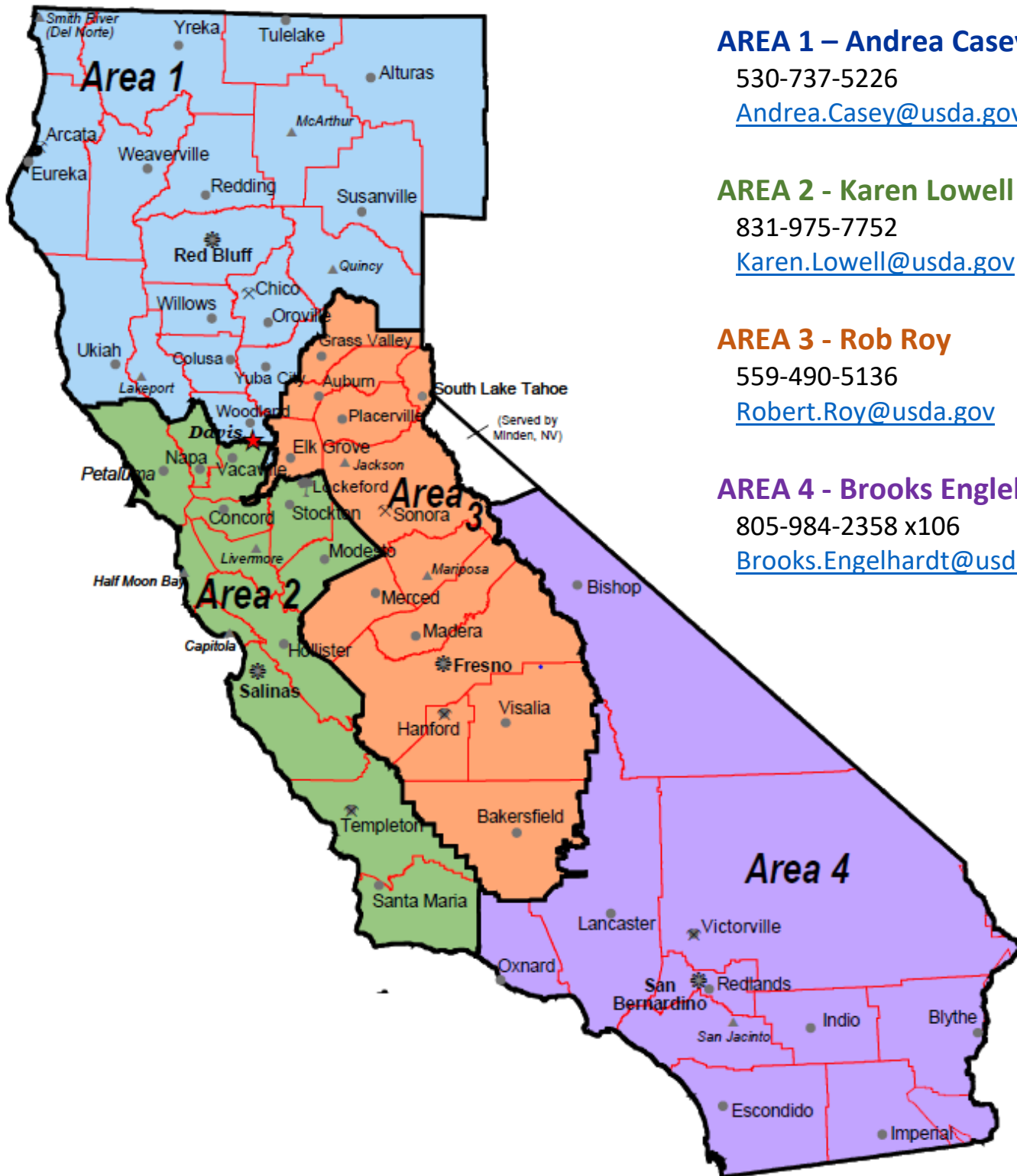
<https://www.farmers.gov/recover>

Helpful Hints:

- If you are already enrolled in other USDA programs (e.g. crop insurance, loan programs, past NRCS work, COVID related relief, etc.) your eligibility review is likely simple and quick.
- Sharing documentation of conservation achievements as tracked by the California Almond Sustainability Program (CASP) may help make additional opportunities available, especially for CSP.

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER, LENDER AND EMPLOYER

Contact NRCS to apply for Conservation Assistance



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