

**USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program
California Application Checklist**

A. Entity Information: An Entity Submitting Multiple Parcels for consideration are only required to submit Entity Information Once
(The Entity that will be accepting the Federal Contribution)

INFORMATION REQUIRED (Required Attachments in Bold Letters)	Check if Included
Evidence of an established a farmland protection program (state, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or non-governmental organization mission statement attached).	
Evidence of a commitment to long-term conservation of agricultural or ranch lands through the use of voluntary conservation easements that protect farm or ranch lands from conversion to nonagricultural uses (list of easements acquired and held by the cooperating entity).	
Evidence of the authority and demonstrated capability to acquire conservation easements or their equivalent (state, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or non-governmental organization mission statement attached) (list of easements acquired by the cooperating entity).	
Evidence of the authority and demonstrated capability to hold, manage, or enforce conservation easements or their equivalent (state, Tribal, or local government statute or ordinance or non-governmental organization mission statement attached) (list of easements held, managed, and enforced by the cooperating entity).	
Evidence of title and appraisal policies or standards (attach policies or standards).	
Evidence of staff capability dedicated to easement monitoring and stewardship (number of easements held and managed and current staff available).	
Evidence of the availability of funds equal to at least 50 percent of the estimated fair market value of the conservation easement (including landowner donation)(State, Tribal, or local government appropriation or statement from non-government organization that funds are available attached).	

B. Parcel (Farm or Ranch) Information	Check if Included
Entity or Entities Associated with the Parcel	
State and County or Parish	
Map of the parcel showing the proposed protected area. (Map attached)	
Names of the landowners of the parcel.	
Address of the parcel.	

Location map of the parcel. (Map attached)	
Legal Description of the parcel (Document attached).	
Size of the parcel, in acres.	
Pending offer for the parcel (Signed written offer attached).	
Acres of the prime, unique, or Statewide and locally important soil in the parcel (one of three eligibility criteria).	
Map and table of the prime, unique, or Statewide or locally important soils for the parcel. (Map and table attached)	
Historical or archaeological resources proposed to be protected, a brief description of the sites' significance and documentation of the site's listing on the Federal, Tribal, or State register. The listing document that describes the significance of the site must be included in the application to compare with the cooperating entity's ability to manage and enforce the easement for historic preservation of the site (one of three eligibility criteria) (Listing Document attached).	
Manner that each parcel supports a State or local farm or ranch land protection program, if applicable. (one of three eligibility criteria) (Evidence of how parcel supports the policy such as location within a focus area of statement from the unit of government indicating that the parcel supports the unit of government's policy, map or statement attached).	
Acres of Cropland	
Acres of Pastureland	
Acres of Hayland	
Acres of Rangeland	
Acres of Forest (Sum of Wetland and Non-Wetland Forest)	
Acres of Incidental Land (including farmstead and non-forested wetland)	
Acres of Forested Wetlands (forest with hydric soil)	
Acres of Non-wetland Forest (forest without hydric soil)	
Acres of Non-Forested Wetland (hydric soil without forest cover)(part if incidental land)	
Map showing the location of other protected parcels in relation to the land parcels proposed to be protected (Map attached).	
Estimated value of the easement of the parcel (should equal the sum of the estimated cooperating entity contribution, landowner donation, and Federal contribution).	
Estimated contribution by the cooperating entity (dollars).	
Estimated landowner donation (the appraised fair market value minus the amount that the landowner will accept for the easement) (not a cash donation) (dollars).	
Expected Federal contribution. (cannot be more than 50% of the appraised fair market value of the land) (dollars).	
Estimated cooperating entity's recommended stewardship fee to be paid by the landowner (dollars).	

Indication of the accessibility to markets for the parcel (miles to grain elevators, livestock markets, milk processors, cotton gins, etc).	
Indication of an existing agricultural infrastructure, on- and off-farm, and other support system(s) (miles to tractor dealers, agricultural chemical, feed and fertilizer dealers).	
Statement regarding the level of threat from urban development for the parcel (attached).	
Percent impervious surface.	
Percent impervious surface requested (limited to 2% of the easement area without an approved waiver).	
Ownership of subsurface mineral rights for each parcel. Mining is prohibited on FRPP easements. Subsurface mineral rights owned by third parties must be subordinated or a mineral remoteness test conducted to assess the chance of the minerals being extracted by the third party. Parcels that have a high potential of being mined will not be accepted into FRPP. Exploration and extraction of oil and gas is negotiable and deeds must be written to minimize the disturbance caused by the exploration and extraction.	
Desire of landowners to subdivide each parcel. Subdivision in FRPP is generally prohibited. Parcels for which landowners know the exact locations and dimensions of the subdivided parcels should submit the parcels as separate parcels to be ranked at their subdivided size. If a landowner wants the option to subdivide at a date after the application is submitted, permission must be written into the conservation easement deed. The size of the subdivided parcels must be an economically viable size for a farm or ranch in the county in which the parcel is located. Lot sizes less than the size of the average farm in the county at the time of deed approval will not be permitted.	
Desire of the landowner to construct additional residences on the easement parcel. Construction of new residences is generally prohibited on FRPP easements. If a landowner wants the option to construct additional residences for children returning to the farm or ranch or full time farm or ranch employees after the application is submitted, permission must be written into the conservation easement deed. The size and location of the residences must also be specified in the conservation easement deed. The deed must state that occupant of each residence must be a full time farm or ranch employee.	
Minimum parcel size permitted under current zoning regulations.	
Water supply and infrastructure and whether water rights are 1 st or 2 nd priority and fully adjudicated.	
On-farm or ranch facilities for storing and/or processing materials produced on the property.	
Letters of support from local community, governmental and non-governmental agencies (if any) (attached)	
Multifunctional benefits of the project, including social, economic, historical, archeological, and environmental benefits.	