

South Central Coast Hub

Cachuma RCD, Coastal San Luis RCD, Upper Salinas Las Tablas RCD, Ventura County RCD

Agricultural Summary

Source: 2017 and 2018 County Crop Reports

Rangeland/Pasture 1,808,930 acres

Fruit & Nut Crops 141,427 acres

Truck Crops 293,765 acres



Agricultural Demographics – 2017 Census of Agriculture

White 84%	Latinx 10%	American Indian 1%	Asian 4%	Multi-Race 1%
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Important Characteristics of the Hub

Agriculture is one of the leading economic drivers in the South Central Coast Region. The region's diverse climate, topography, and agricultural systems presents ample opportunity for implementing a wide variety of carbon farming practices. The RCDs in the region have engaged successfully with the agricultural community to implement carbon farming practices through the CDFA Healthy Soils Program.

Ag Sector Partnerships

The RCDs in the South Central Coast Hub have enjoyed long and successful partnerships with the ranching community. The Coastal San Luis RCD and California Polytechnic State University, long-time partners on innovative projects, collaborated closely to successfully develop the first carbon farm plan in San Luis Obispo County on four university owned ranches. The properties will be used as carbon farm teaching and demonstration sites.

The Upper Salinas – Las Tablas RCD is partnering with a vineyard management company to implement climate beneficial conservation practices on four vineyards. The goal of the project is to better understand outcomes of different soil health practices based on feasibility, cost, and ecological benefits. These will then be demonstrated to other stakeholders in the area by way of workshops and a site-tour to each vineyard to increase the efficacy and application within the region.

Carbon Farming Success Stories

There are currently seven (7) trained RCD carbon planners in the Hub, with eleven (11) carbon farm plans completed or in progress encompassing 17,291 acres of agricultural land.

In 2015, the **Ted Chamberlin Ranch** in Santa Barbara County partnered with the **Cachuma RCD** and **CCI** to develop the first carbon farm plan in the county. The Ranch is now a CDFA Healthy Soils Demonstration Project showcasing carbon farm plan implementation for the wider ranching community in the county.

The **City of San Luis Obispo** has set an ambitious target of being carbon neutral by 2035. To meet that goal, the City has engaged the **Coastal San Luis Obispo RCD** to develop a pilot carbon farm plan for the Johnson Ranch Open Space and SLO City Farm, with the objective of developing a comprehensive plan for all open spaces and greenbelts in the City.