

# Groundwater Recharge Pilot Program

February 2023



## Why a pilot program?

NRCS recognized groundwater depletion as a resource concern, and California NRCS developed two interim practice standards for groundwater recharge.

These interim practices must be field tested before being adopted into our Field Office Technical Guide.

Two interim practices are being tested:

- **Groundwater Recharge Basin or Trench** (code 815)- a dedicated, permanent\* recharge feature  
\*15 year lifespan
- **On-Farm Recharge** (code 817)- active farmland flooded on an annual basis for recharge



## How does it work?

Applicants work with NRCS conservationists to develop a conservation plan including the recharge practices and any needed supporting practices.

Supporting practices can include:

- Pipeline
- Land shaping
- Pump
- Ditch
- Water control structures



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## How can I participate?



### Payment Rates:

- Basin: \$4,032-\$4,232 per AF storage
- Trench: \$3.59 per CY excavated
- OFR: \$99-\$103 per acre, per year

Contact your field office for further information:

Fresno Service Center	559-276-7494
Madera Service Center	559-674-4628
Merced Service Center	209-722-4119
Bakersfield Service Center	661-281-2765
Visalia Service Center	559-734-8732

## Eligibility for 2023

Location:

- Madera County
- Fresno County (Fresno Irrigation District only)
- Merced County (Chowchilla Irrigation District only)
- Tulare County (Tulare Irrigation District or Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District only)
- Kern County (Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District only)

Water access:

- Irrigation District
- Winter flood water, with recharge water rights

Project site:

- Site suitability- soils and geology
- Nutrient and pest management plans
- Access to well for monitoring

Applicant:

- Landowner or Grower with lease
- Irrigation District

[California](#)

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