



United States Department of Agriculture



Federal Programs and Incentives in Oregon to Improve Soil Health and Carbon Sequestration

May 27, 2021 ♦ Cory Owens, CPSS ♦ Oregon NRCS State Soil Scientist

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov/

Soil Health in Oregon

High Functioning Soils:

- Cycle nutrients
- Store carbon
- Promote root growth
- Reduce erosion
- Hold water
- More resilient to drought
- Stabilize yields
- Reduce pest and disease pressures



Oregon NRCS is committed to high functioning soils because we are committed to a high functioning Oregon. Our crops, grazing lands, forests, and economy depend on it.



Soil Health in Oregon



FEED

Continuous and Diverse Carbon (energy) inputs

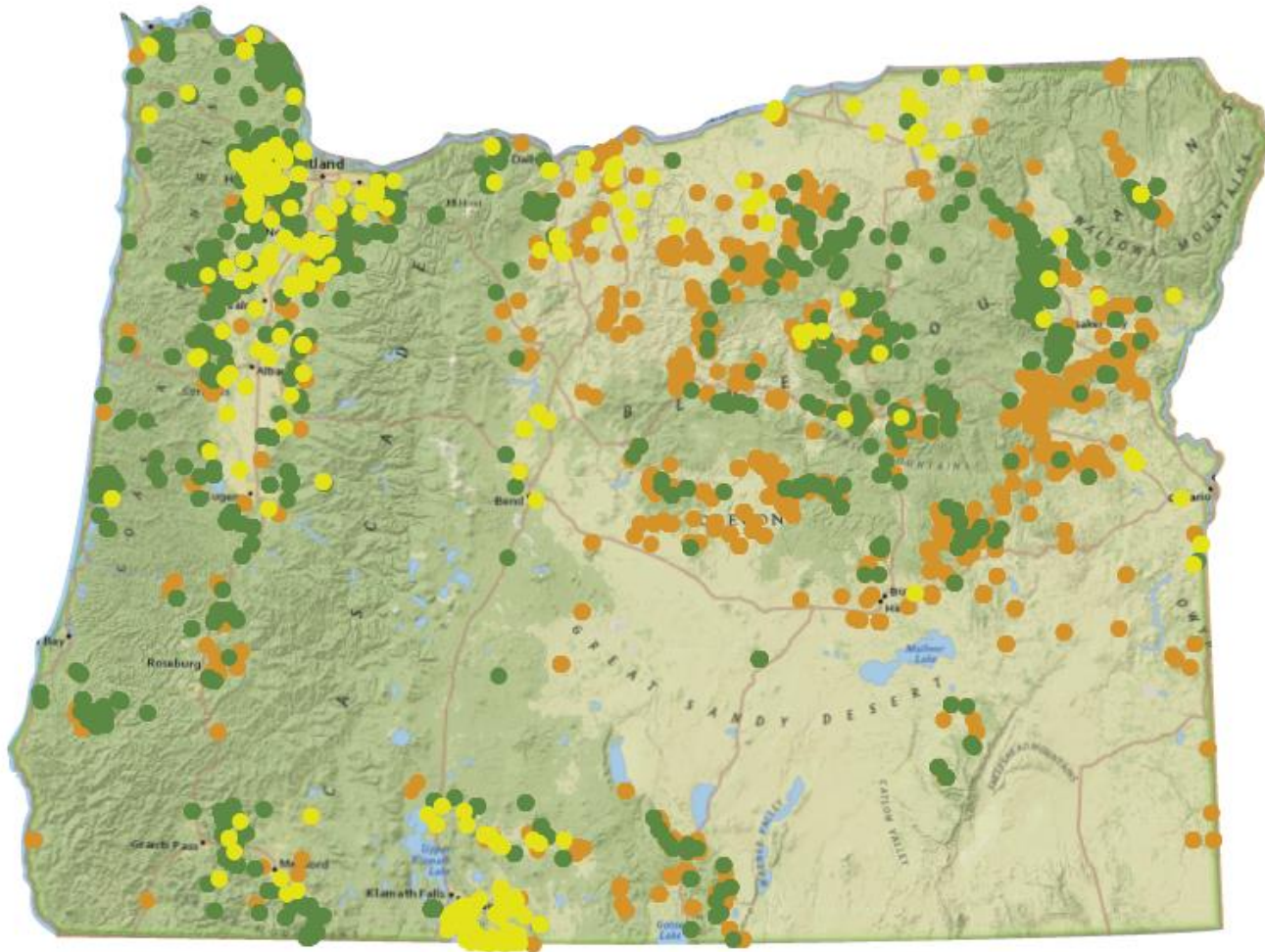


PROTECT

Habitat via aggregates and organic matter



SOIL HEALTH PRACTICE DISTRIBUTION ACROSS OREGON, 2009-2016



CROPLAND
Practices



FOREST
Practices



RANGE
Practices

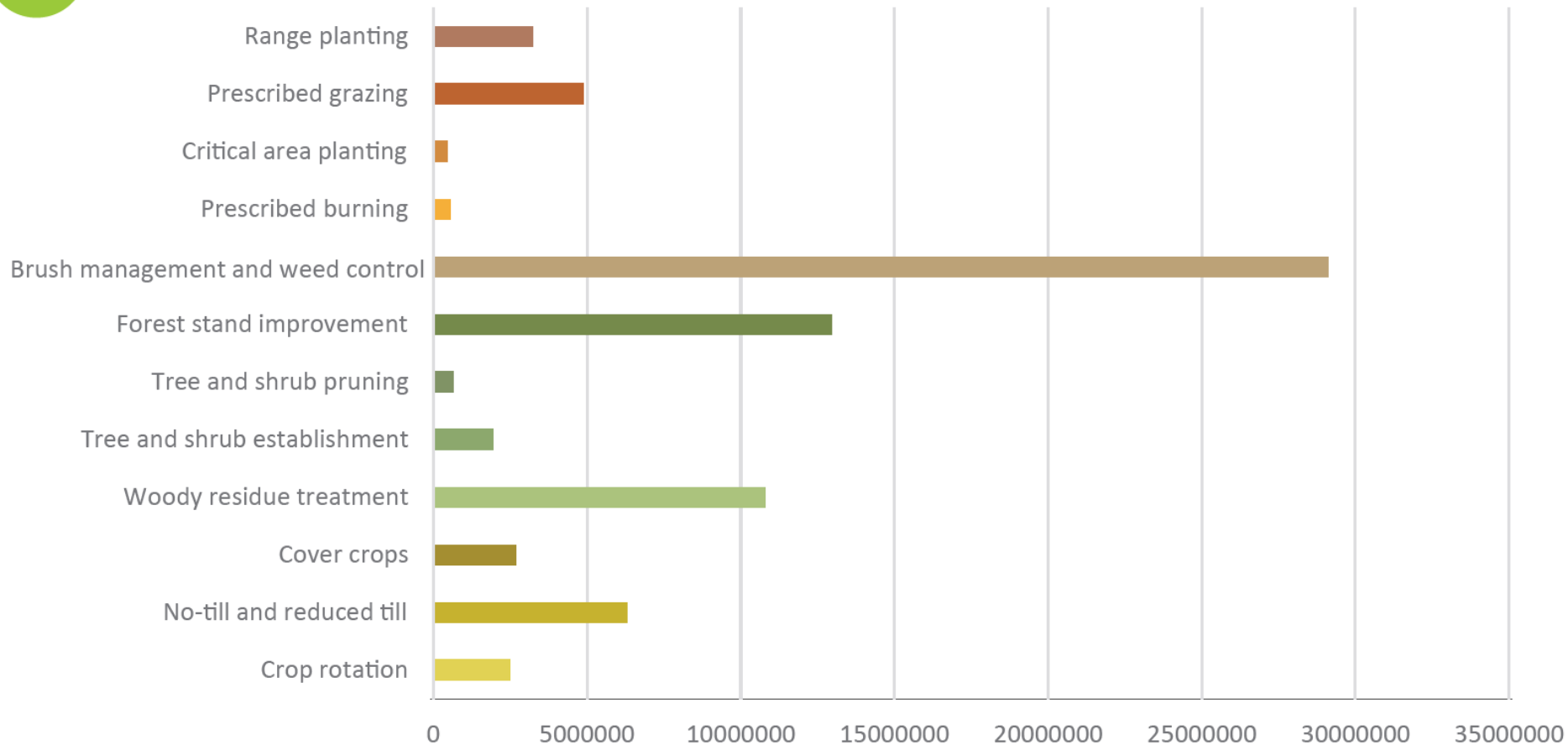
Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

nrcs.usda.gov/

TOTAL SOIL HEALTH EQIP INVESTMENT 1997-2017



TOTAL INVESTMENT in EQIP by Soil Health Practice



TOTAL investment: **\$76,032,644.35**

Current Opportunities

EQIP

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

- Conservation Implementation Strategies
- Organic EQIP
- High Tunnels
- Can include soil health practices

CSP

Conservation Stewardship Program

Operation wide program to take conservation to the next level.

-Can include soil health practices, enhancements, or bundles



Future Opportunities



EQIP

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

- Conservation Implementation
- Organic EQIP
- High Tunnels
- Can include soil health practices



EQIP-CIC

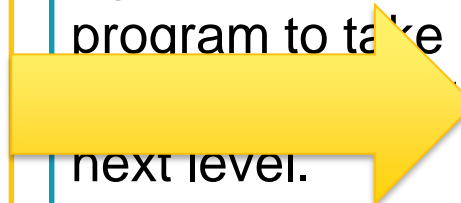
EQIP – Conservation Incentives Contracts

- Pilot Program debuting SOON!
- 2021 Statewide focus on Soil Health
- Bridge between EQIP and CSP
- Combo of practices, enhancements, and bundles

CSP

Conservation Stewardship Program

- Operation wide program to take the next level.
- Can include soil health practices, enhancements, or bundles thereof



Thank-you! – cory.owens@usda.gov

CIVIL RIGHTS

In accordance with Federal Civil Rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Civil Rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior credible activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

If we are bold in our thinking, courageous in accepting new ideas, and willing to work with instead of against our land, we shall find in conservation farming an avenue to the greatest food production the world has ever known - not only for the war, but for the peace that is to follow.

Hugh Hammond Bennett

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service



The USDA-NRCS is and equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

nrcs.usda.gov/