



Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Technical Services

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION
FSA | NRCS | RMA | Business Center

Idaho Technology Team Staffing

■ **Current employees and position**

- Misty Beals- State Resource Conservationist
- Travis Youngberg- State Agronomist
- Jen Skeldon- State Biologist
- Jordyn Gallegos-State Certified Nutrient Management Program Lead (Dairys)
- Maureen Pepper-State Water Quality Specialist
- Neal Callister- Aberdeen Plants Materials Center Manager
- Derek Jolley- Aberdeen Plants Materials Center Farm Assistant
- Nicole Fish- Administrative Assistant
- Darwin Hertzell- Acting State Archeologist (3/2026)
- Kelly Mitchell- Partner Archeologist
- Vacant- State Range Specialist
- Vacant- State Forester
- Vacant- Archeologist



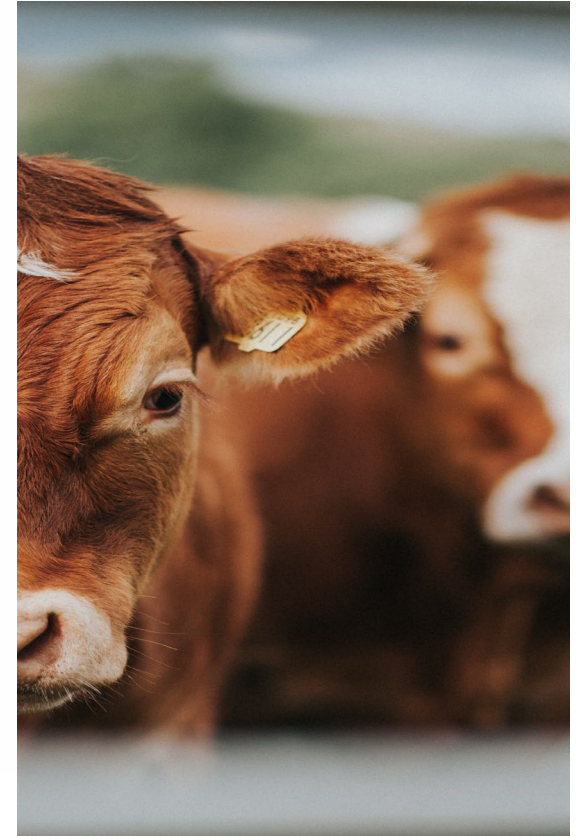
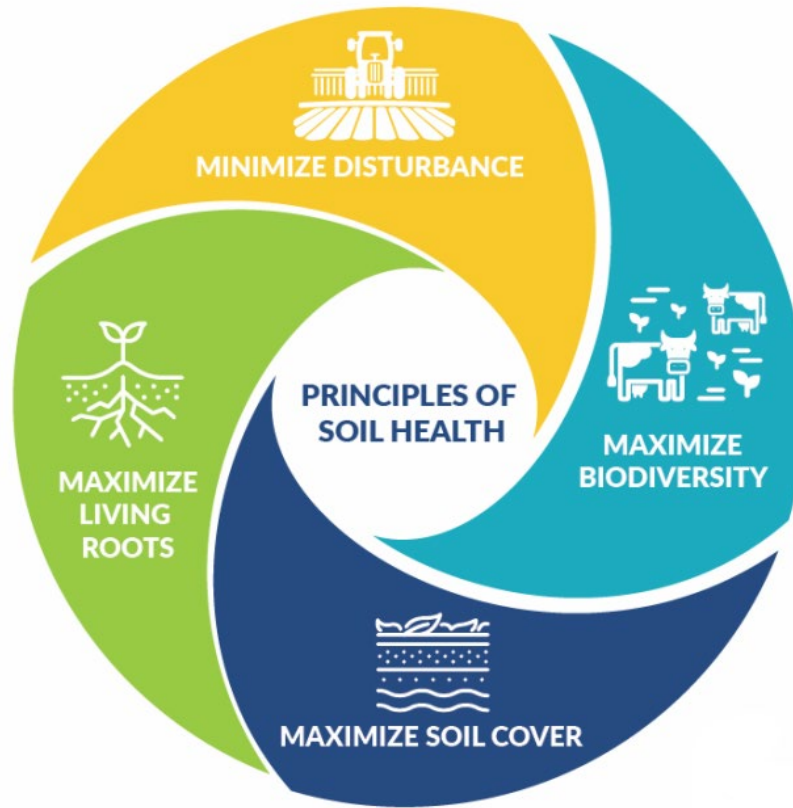
Regenerative Pilot Program

PRESS RELEASE



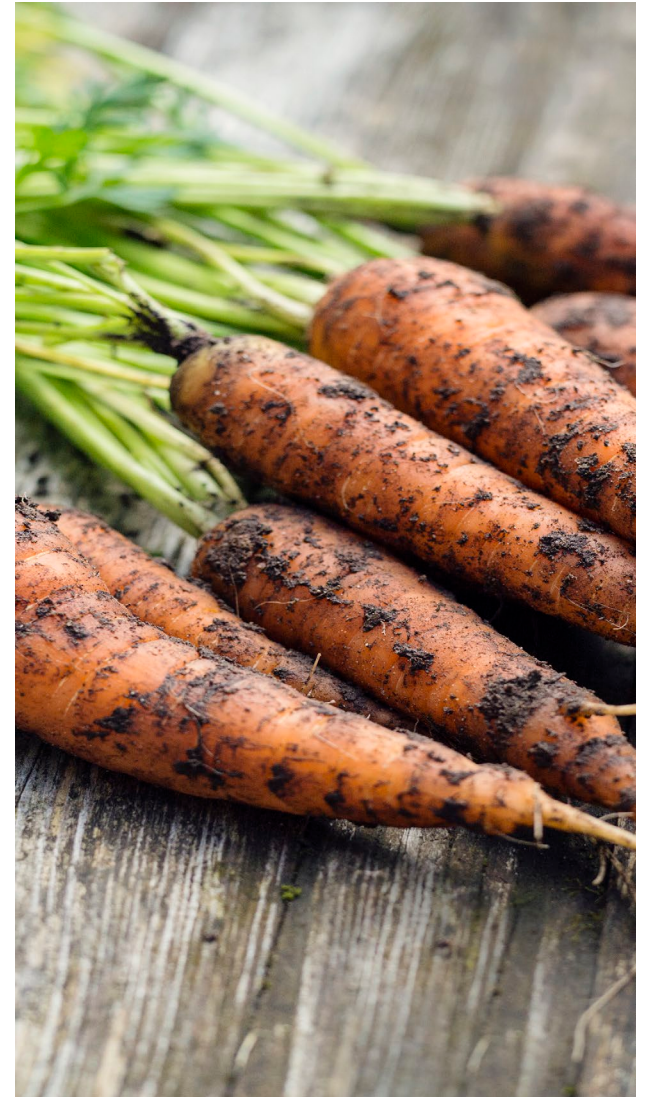
USDA Launches New Regenerative Pilot Program to Lower Farmer Production Costs and Advance MAHA Agenda

December 10, 2025



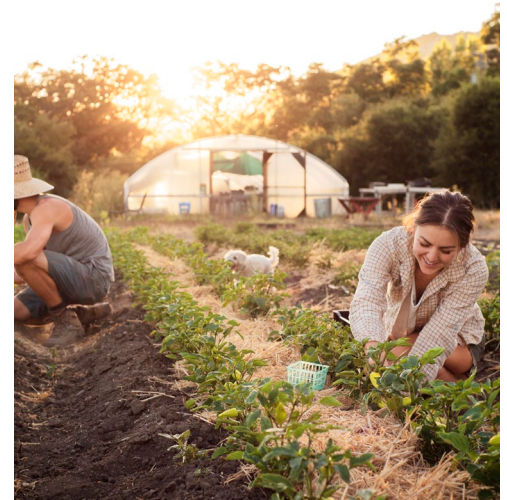
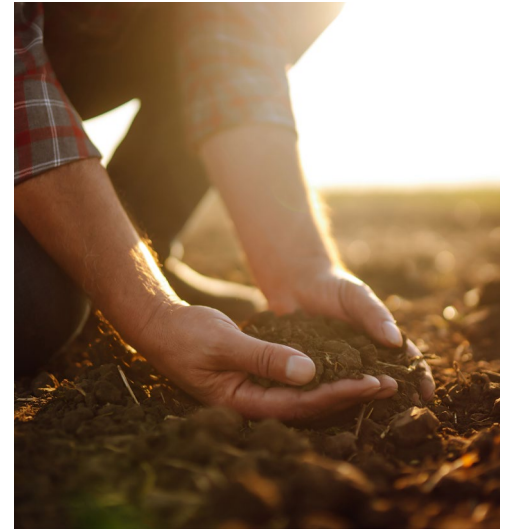
2026 Regenerative Pilot Program

- Launched in December of 2025
- Goal to put Farmers first as part of the solution to Make America Healthy Again
- Improve access to American-grown whole foods and giving Americans more access to healthy choices
- Engaging the supply chain to give farmers assistance and credit for taking care of the soil, water and land while productively bringing food to our tables.



Regenerative Pilot Program

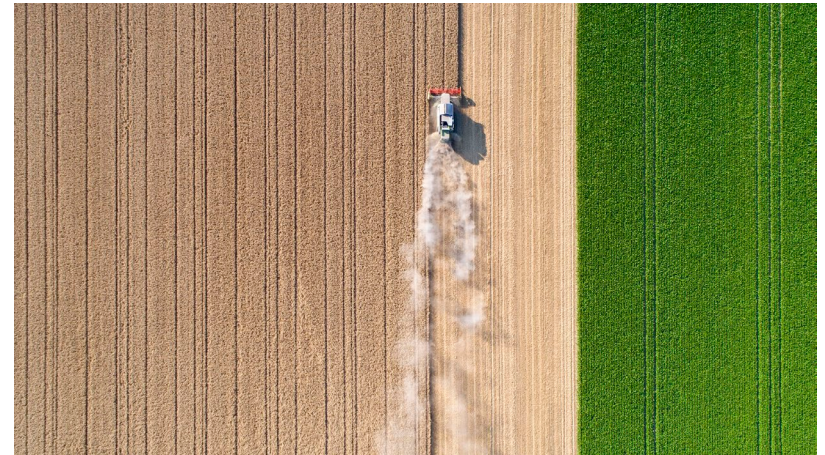
- Benefits to Producers:
 - Bundled practices integrated into a **single application** making programs easier to access.
 - Whole-farm holistic conservation planning.
 - Conservation planning and producer objectives drive the process.
 - Outcomes are tracked, measured and credited back to the farmer
 - Producers at every stage of experience will find a pathway through the pilot program



Regenerative Pilot Program

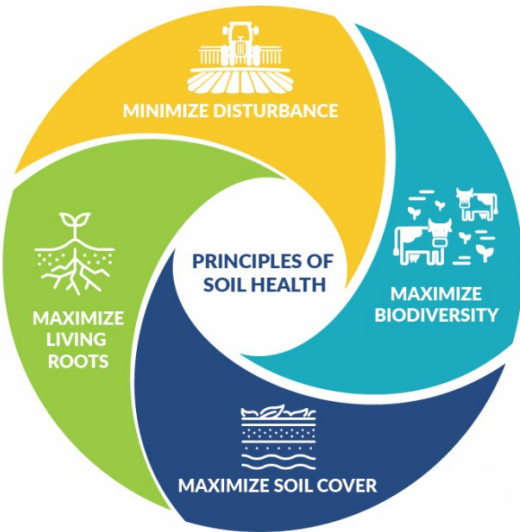
- Eligible Land Uses:

- Cropland
- Rangeland
- Pasture
- Forestry



Funding for RPP

- \$700 Million
 - \$400 Million in Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
 - \$300 Million in Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)



RPP Requirements

- Work with NRCS staff, partners or technical service providers to conduct a **whole farm assessment**;
- Use at least one primary **regenerative management practice**;
- Agree to perform **soil health testing** in the first and last year of the contract (at a minimum) to establish a starting baseline and to record the resulting changes.



RPP Primary Practices

- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Drainage Water Management (554)
- Forage Harvest Management (511)
- Forest Stand Improvement (666)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Mulching (484)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Pest Management Conservation System (595)
- Grazing Management (528)
- Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329)
- Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced (345)
- Stripcropping (585)



RPP Requirements

- The whole farm assessment includes all applicable resource concerns, and it must meet NRCS planning criteria in all the soil and water resource categories by the end of the plan/contract.





Regenerative Pilot Program Recap



5 Year contracts minimum



Soil health testing first year and last year



Applicants must include at least 1 of 15
NRCS conservation practices (existing or
planned)



Questions??

