



Climate Action Plan, Regional Decarbonization, and the Pilot Carbon Farming Program

Organic Agriculture Workshop
December 8, 2022

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What are we talking about?

- What is Climate Change?
- What is the Climate Action Plan Update
- Climate Change and Farmworkers
- Regional Decarbonization Framework

What causes Climate Change?



Built Environment and Transportation



Energy



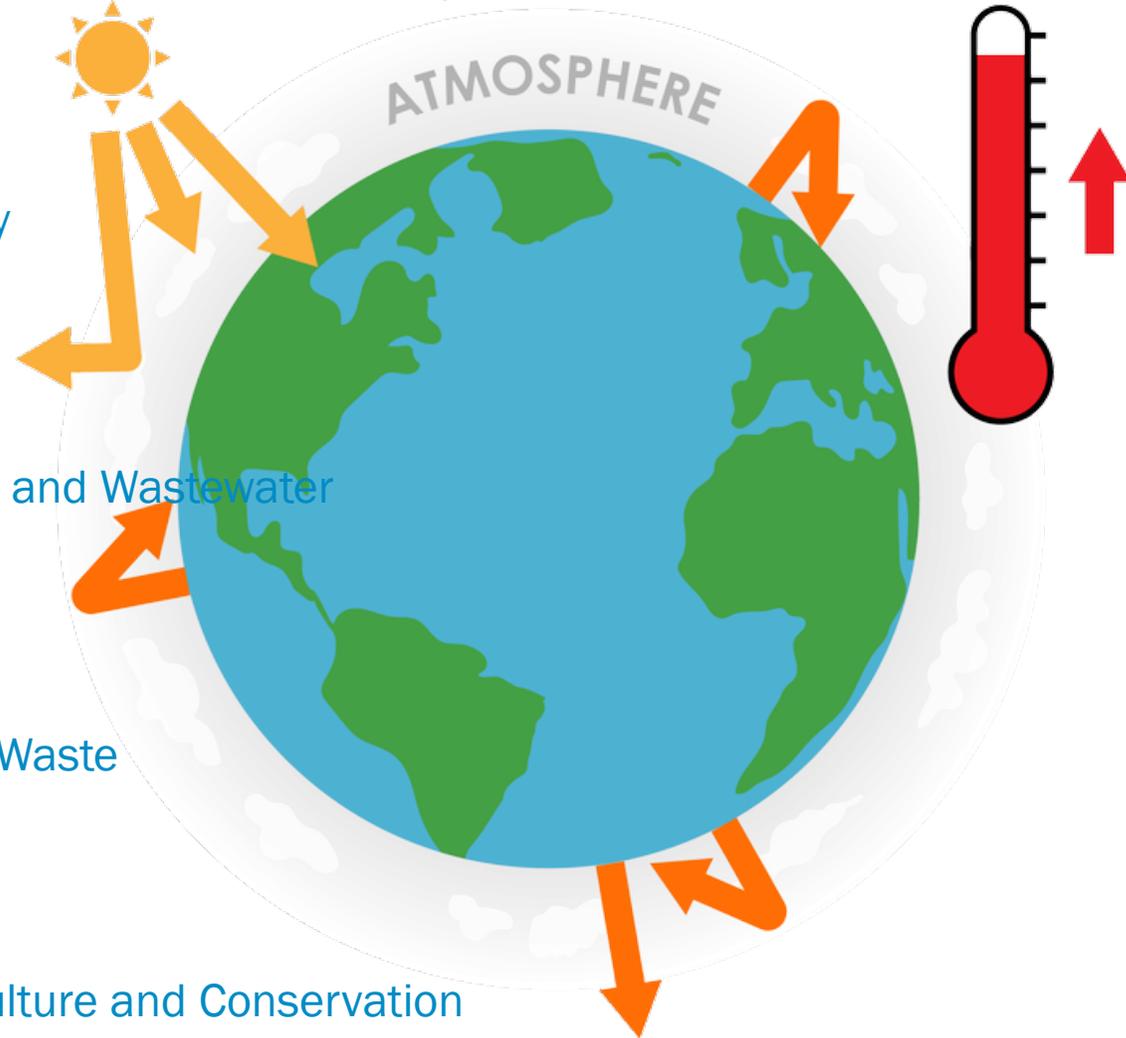
Water and Wastewater



Solid Waste



Agriculture and Conservation





Climate Change Impacts in San Diego County



Climate change will affect everyone differently, and some areas and populations will be more impacted by these changes.



RDF and CAP Alignment

Regional Decarbonization Framework (RDF)

Implementing Activities



Electrical Grid



Transportation Network



Buildings

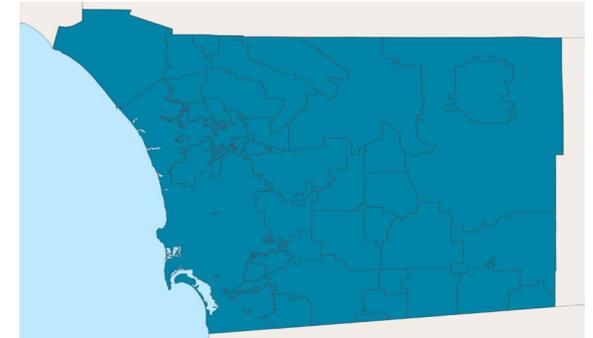


Natural Climate Solutions



Food Systems and Circular Economy

Geography: Regional



Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update

Emissions Sectors



Built Environment & Transportation



Energy



Solid Waste

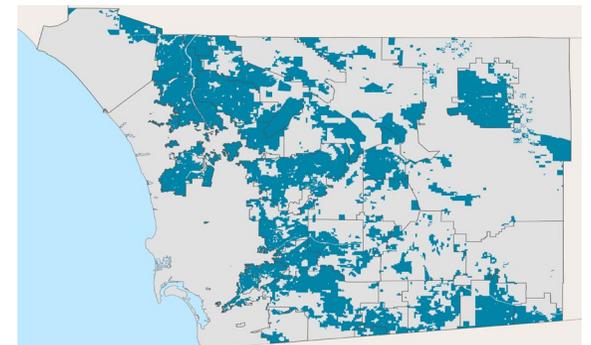


Water & Wastewater



Agriculture & Conservation

Geography: Unincorporated Area



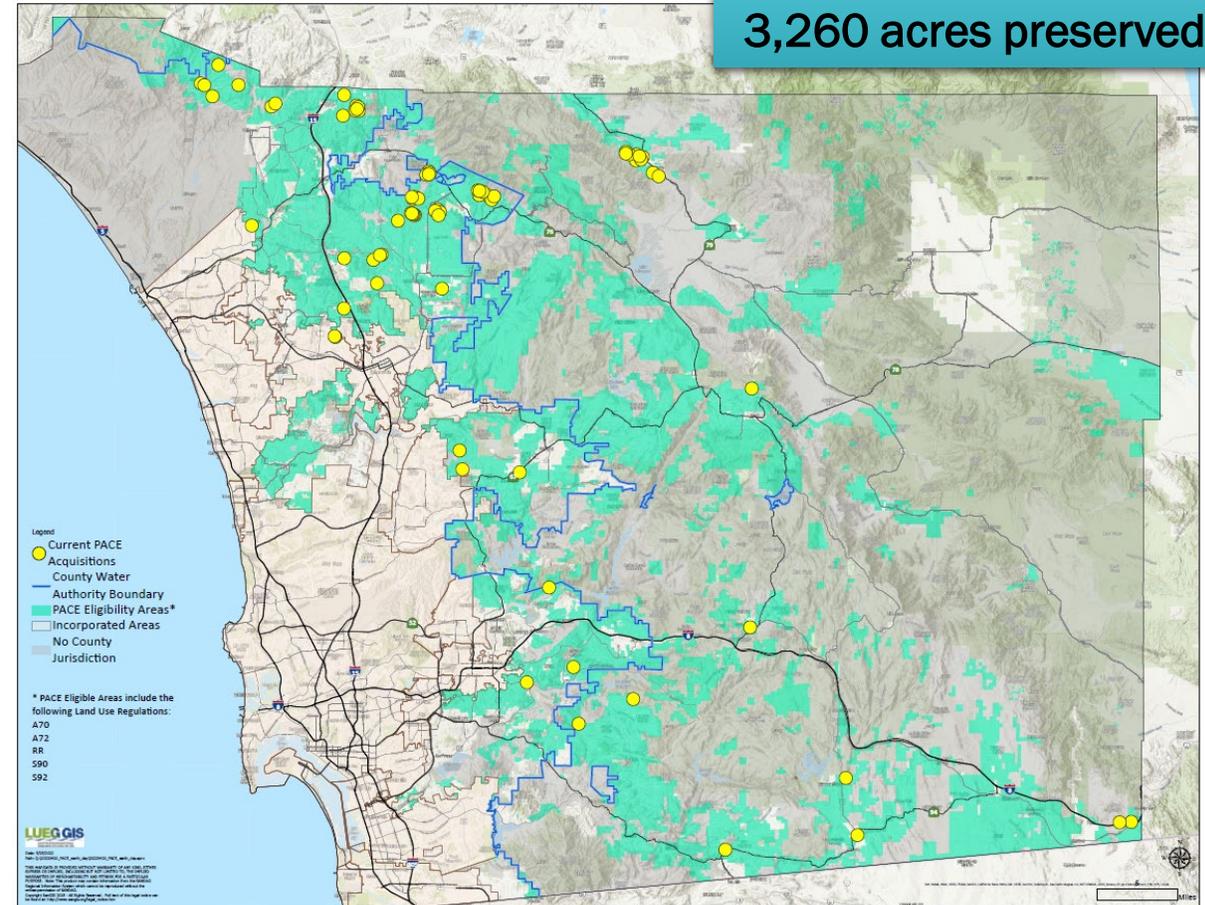


CAP example:

Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easement (PACE) Program

- Willing agricultural property owners are compensated for placing a perpetual easement on their property that limits future uses to agriculture, retires future development potential
- GHG emissions reductions are realized from a reduction in transportation, energy use, waste, and water consumption
- Supports continued agriculture through preservation of natural resources

45 easements
3,260 acres preserved





CAP example: OMO

- Organic Materials Ordinance (OMO) Update
- Results:
 - Added more composting allowances on agricultural land;
 - Allowed community composting in residential settings
 - Created small- and medium-sized commercial composting categories;
 - Provided more permit options that reduce the cost and time to process composting applications; and,
 - Ensured the protection of public health and safety





RDF & CAP example: Carbon Farming

- Management practices known to sequester carbon and/or reduce GHG emissions.
- 35+ practices are identified by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) as conservation practices that improve soil health and sequester carbon.
- Co-benefits include increased soil water holding capacity, hydrological function, biodiversity, and resilience.





Program Goals

- To avoid and/or sequester GHG emissions through carbon farming efforts on natural and working agricultural lands in the unincorporated area.
- Determine how carbon farming can be incorporated into the CEQA-qualified and/or net-zero CAP Update to contribute to GHG reduction targets and goals.



In Closing...

- Co-Benefits: additional, beneficial effects that will result from implementation of CAP strategies and measures.

Project Timeline



How to Get Involved

- ▶ Sign up for project updates
- ▶ Attend a virtual or in-person meeting – details will be shared via project updates
- ▶ Check out our webpage:
bit.ly/CAP_Update
- ▶ Email us: CAP@sdcounty.ca.gov
- ▶ Follow on social media:



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Questions?

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