

SWEEP pilot program for southern desert region: new incentive program for water savings focused irrigation projects



Ali Montazar

Irrigation and Water Management Advisor

UC Cooperative Extension



SWEEP Pilot Program is a financial incentive for California agricultural operations (the southern desert region) to invest in irrigation systems that save water without increasing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

“Compete within the region”

“Project Eligibility & High Score”

Southern Desert Region



The area outlined consists of both Imperial and Riverside Counties and is east of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains.

Water Savings projects

(1) Irrigation Scheduling Sensors

- Soil moisture or plant sensors
- Electronic data output and telemetry
- Weather station
- Evapotranspiration (ET) based irrigation scheduling
- California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS)



Tools for Irrigation Water Management

- Flowmeter
- Soil moisture sensing
- ET (evapotranspiration) information



Having each of these tools could result 5% water saving; totally about 15%.

Measurements actual water use by water supplier would work.

(2) Irrigation Method

Conversion to a more water efficient irrigation method or improvement of existing method to conserve water

“Adding/repairing a pipeline, lining water ways or outlets, and installing drip line or other forms of irrigation line”



(3) Irrigation Infrastructure

Land leveling, increasing flow rates, replacing on farm water delivery gates and installing a tail water recovery system.



Energy Use Reductions or Greenhouse Gas Emission Offsets

(1) Fuel Conversion and/or Renewable Energy

“Interconnection to the electricity grid is eligible for SWEEP funding”

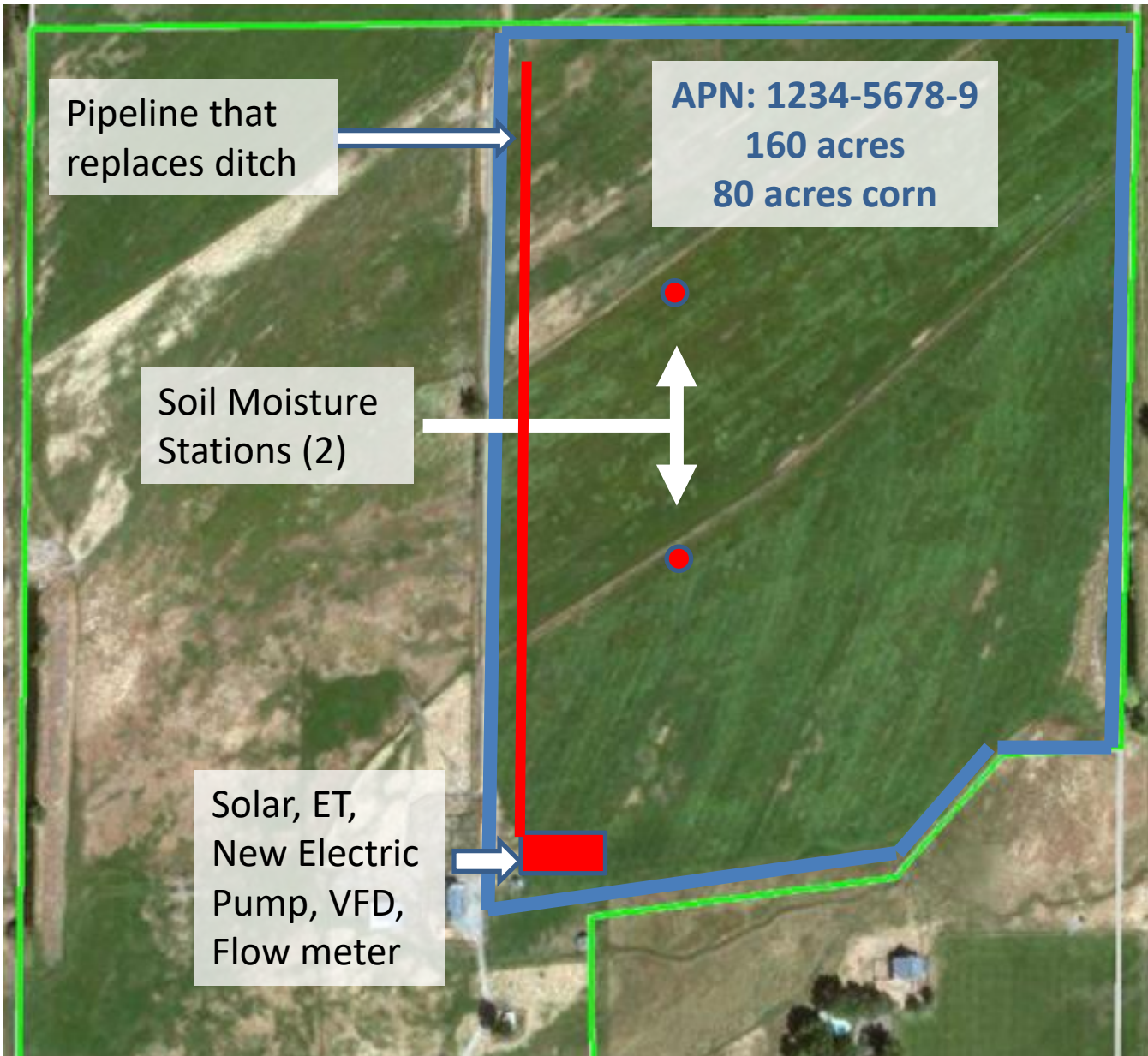
(2) Improved Energy Efficiency of Pumps and the Addition of Variable Frequency Drives (VFD)

- Retrofitting or replacing pumps
- Mobile diesel pumps are eligible for retrofit or replacement

(3) The Commitment to Use Utility-provided Renewable Energy to Offset an Increase in Pumping Energy Use.

(4) Low Pressure Systems: the conversion of a high-pressure sprinkler system to a low-pressure micro-irrigation system or lower pressure sprinkler system

(5) Reduced Pumping through Water Savings Strategies improved irrigation scheduling may lead to reduced pump operation times



Project Design

SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Assessment Tool



SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Assessment Tool

The "before" scenario tab represents the baseline situation on the field. Complete this tab to represent the "pre-project" conditions. An estimate of baseline water use will be calculated based upon the field location, soil type, and irrigation method.

Applicant: _____ **Application ID:** _____

Date: _____

Field or Ranch Name: _____

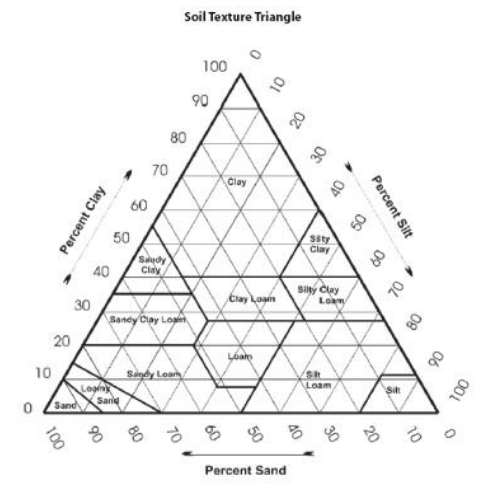
Impacted Acres: _____

Predominant Soil Sand Loamy Sand Sandy Loam Fine Sandy Loam Loam Silt Clay Loam Clay	Crop Alfalfa Almonds Apple Artichokes Asparagus Avocado Barley (planting 11/) Barley (planting 4/3)	Baseline, Township, Range Humboldt Mt. Diablo San Bernadino 15S 16S 17S 18S	20E 21E 22E 23E
Practice SURFACE IRRIGATION (Landleveling (previously leveled)) SURFACE IRRIGATION (Unleveled) SPRINKLER IRR. (Hand Move/Side Roll) SPRINKLER IRR. (Solid Set, Undertree) DRIP IRRIGATION			

Estimated "before" water use 75.7 Ac-in/Ac

Notes:
 The outputs of this tool are intended as estimates only for the purpose of understanding the potential for various irrigation practices and management techniques to save water.
 Before and after practice water use estimated as crop ET adjusted by appropriate system efficiencies. Water provided by effective rainfall and water required for other beneficial uses are not considered because the effect on water savings is negligible.
Data Sources:
 Crop ET from NRCS CA Consumptive Use database, representative planting and harvesting dates, UC crop coefficients and CIMIS normal ETo data.
 "Predominant Soil" menu: If the actual infiltration rate of a soil at a practice site is significantly different than would be expected for its texture, then select a soil texture that best represents the actual infiltration rate.
 For a more detailed explanation of how this tool works, see the "Background Info and Assumptions" tab.

ET Zone 18



"Before"

SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Assessment Tool



SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Assessment Tool

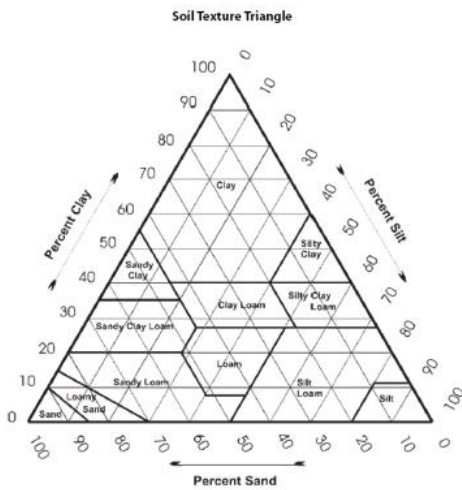
The "after" scenario tab represents the desired situation on the field. Complete this tab to represent the "post-project" conditions. An *estimate* of projected water use will be calculated based upon the field location, soil type, irrigation method, and change in the level of irrigation management. See the instruction tab for more information on the levels of water management.

Predominant Soil Sand Loamy Sand Sandy Loam Fine Sandy Loam Loam Silt Clay Loam Clay	Crop Alfalfa Almonds Apple Artichokes Asparagus Avocado Barley (planting 11/) Barley (planting 4/3)	Baseline, Township, Range Humboldt Mt. Diablo San Bernadino 15S 20E 16S 21E 17S 22E 18S 23E
Practice SPRINKLER IRR. (Solid Set, Undertree) (Replace surface irrigation) SPRINKLER IRR. (Solid Set, Undertree) (Replace hand move sprinkler) DRIP IRRIGATION (No change) DRIP IRRIGATION (Replace surface irrigation) DRIP IRRIGATION (Replace under tree, solid set sprinkler or drip)	Water Management No Change in IWM plan Increase IWM by 1 Level Increase IWM by 2 Levels Increase IWM by 3 Levels	

Estimated "after" water use **53.0 Ac-in/Ac**

Notes:
 The outputs of this tool are intended as estimates only for the purpose of understanding the potential for various irrigation practices and management techniques to save water.
 Before and after practice water use estimated as crop ET adjusted by appropriate system efficiencies. Water provided by effective rainfall and water required for other beneficial uses are not considered because the effect on water savings is negligible.
Data Sources:
 Crop ET from NRCS CA Consumptive Use database, representative planting and harvesting dates, UC crop coefficients and CIMIS normal ET_o data.
 "Predominant Soil" menu: If the actual infiltration rate of a soil at a practice site is significantly different than would be expected for its texture, then select a soil texture that best represents the actual infiltration rate.
 For a more detailed explanation of how this tool works, see the "Background Info and Assumptions" tab.

ET Zone 18



"After"

Instructions

Before

After

Water Savings Estimate

Background Info and Assumptions

"Applicants may attach supplementary information that will allow technical reviewers to refine water savings estimates."

I28

✕

✓

fx

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

1



SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Assessment Tool

2

3

Estimated "Before" Scenario Water Use

75.71 ac-in/ac

4

Estimated "After" Scenario Water Use

53.00 ac-in/ac

5

Annual Estimated Water Savings

22.71 ac-in/ac

6

Percent Water Savings**30.00 %**

7

8

Energy Use Documentation

Energy Supporting Document (for 12 months)

Utility bills, actual fuel receipts, and/or field operational logs
“justify why there is no energy use.”

Crop rotation: up to three years of supporting documents may be provided to substantiate a representative baseline of energy use from pumping.

Pump and motor specifications for proposed pumps.

Energy Supporting Document (for 12 months)

Summary

Nov-18	949.746 kWh
Dec-18	0 kWh
Jan-19	0 kWh
Feb-19	887.097 kWh
Mar-19	5.899 kWh
Apr-19	672.219 kWh
May-19	522.063 kWh
Jun-19	702.259 kWh
Jul-19	1209.373 kWh
Aug-19	1080.009 kWh
Sep-19	781.742 kWh
Oct-19	714.11702 kWh
Total	7524.52402 kWh

ENERGY STATEMENT		Statement Date:	11/27/2018
www.pge.com/MyEnergy		Due Date:	12/14/2018
Details of Electric Charges		Service Information	
10/25/2018 - 11/26/2018 (33 billing days)		Meter #	
Service For:		Total Usage	
Service Agree		Serial	
Rate Schedul		Rotating Outage Block	
10/25/2018 – 10/31/2018			
Customer Charge	7 days @ \$0.57400		\$4.02
Connected Load Charge ¹	15.0 hp @ \$8.36000		26.60
Energy Charges			
Off Peak	244.275000 kWh @ \$0.20172		49.28
Energy Commission Tax			0.07
11/01/2018 – 11/26/2018			
Customer Charge	26 days @ \$0.57400		\$14.92
Connected Load Charge ¹	15.0 hp @ \$1.25000		14.77
Energy Charges			
Part Peak	32.497000 kWh @ \$0.20892		6.79
Off Peak	672.974000 kWh @ \$0.16924		113.89
Energy Commission Tax			0.20
Total Electric Charges			\$230.54
¹ Connected load charges are prorated for the number of days in each rate period			
Average Daily Usage (kWh / day)			
Last Year	Last Period	Current Period	
41.59	29.00	28.78	

Budget Worksheet

- Itemize all allowable costs related to project in categories
 - Supplies
 - Equipment
 - Labor
 - Other
- Must be consistent with project design
- Use the USDA NRCS EQIP Payment schedules as a guide, to the extent feasible, to determine reasonable costs

Budget Worksheet



Organization Name:		Total Grant Request: \$0.00		Matching Funds: \$0.00				
Budget Category	Irrigation System Improvements	\$0.00		Irrigation Water Management	\$0.00			
	This project type can include costs such as the drip or micro sprinkler system or central pivot irrigation, etc.			This section can include costs such as flowmeter, soil moisture sensors, ET sensors, weather station, telemetry, etc.				
	Description	QTY	Subtotal	Description	QTY	Subtotal		
\$0.00	Total Supplies							
SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT: Itemize costs to purchase materials necessary for project implementation. Supplies are items costing <\$5,000 per unit and equipment are items costing => \$5,000 per unit.								
\$0.00	Total Other							
OTHER: Itemize cost of all other expenses not covered in other budget categories (e.g. equipment rentals, county permits, subscription software,								
\$0.00	Total Labor							
LABOR: Itemize costs for any work on the project that will be performed by individuals associated with a contractor. Do not include non-labor costs (i.e., project management) and fees associated with project oversight, including travel costs to/from the project site.	Description of Services	Cost/hour	Hours	Subtotal	Description of Services	Cost/hour	Hours	Subtotal
	#DIV/0!			\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
				\$0.00				\$0.00
MATCHING FUNDS: Funds that are coming from a source outside of the project grant and committed during the grant duration. Specify whether matching funds are in the form of	Description	Cash or In-Kind?	\$0.00	Description	Cash or In-Kind?	\$0.00		

Budget Worksheet

Quote for flowmeter & soil moisture

FGS Irrigation Department. We appreciate this opportunity to serve you and are pleased to present this estimate. FGS recommends that any chemical injection systems be installed with a reduced pressure backflow device(s) between the water source(s) and the injection point(s). Additional labor, material, and ditching charges may be made if unforeseen soil conditions are encountered. Responsibility for special order items are assumed by the customer at the time of sale.

Actual material and/or labor used will be billed.

Estimate Details					
Item	Material Description	Tax Code	Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
0001	101413 BOLT HEX HD 5/8" x 2-1/2" PLTD NC	22	8 EA		
0002	105842 FLANGE STEEL 4.00"	22	2 EA		
0003	106227 GASKET FLANGE FULL FACE 4.00"	22	2 EA		
0004	125167 METER FLOW 4.00" FLNG ACRE FT / GPM	22	1 EA		
0005	DO206 MISC HARDWARE	22	1 EA		
0006	127808 MONITOR WATERMARK W/SENSOR CELL SERVICE	21	1 EA		
0007	101449 NUT HEX HEAD NC PLTD 5/8"	22	8 EA		
				Material	2,835.49
				Labor	1,045.49
				Freight	0.00
				Total Tax	159.38
				Total Amount USD	4,040.36
<i>Thank you for your order</i>					

Email: :

Quote for Solar System

FOR:
Attention:

FROM:

GROUND MOUNT

RE: Service account number
Annual kWh usage 7,524
Average cost per kwh \$0.400
Inverter Efficiency 97.0%
Module Rating 410

To annually produce the kWh's that are used requires
11 modules, and would have a rated capacity of KW- **4.510**

Cost	\$23,587.30
You pay	\$23,587.30
Federal tax credit (26%)	-\$6,132.70
	\$17,454.60
Accelerated 5-year depreciation (39% tax rate)	-\$9,199.05
	\$8,255.56
\$2,996.40 is the value of electricity generated per year, times 3 years, to recover the total investment at todays rates	-\$8,989.20
AND BE MONEY AHEAD	\$733.65

FUTURE PAYBACK AFTER TOTAL INVESTMENT RECOVERY

7,491 kWh's produced annually, multiplied by \$0.80 equals the future savings per year, <i>after</i> recovery of the total investment.	\$5,992.80
--	------------

\$ 149,820.00 is required to be invested at 4% tax-free, to yield the same amount.	\$5,992.80
---	------------

#Panel?
#Convertor?
Installation costs?

Allowable Costs

- All components of irrigation systems
- Sensor hardware and telemetry
- Software associated with sensors and weather stations
- Flow meters
- Permits
- Installation of photovoltaic panels to power irrigation systems

Unallowable Costs

- Project design costs (e.g., engineering)
- Costs associated with technical assistance
- Post-project service charges and maintenance costs associated with the irrigation system
- Non-labor costs (e.g., management) and fees associated with project oversight
- Labor costs in excess of 25 percent of the total SWEEP grant request
- Any labor provided by the applicant or applicant's employees (such costs could be categorized as "in-kind")
- Supplies and equipment costs not related to irrigation or water distribution systems
- Tools and equipment with useful life of less than two years
- Costs associated with drilling of new or expanding groundwater wells
- Purchase of trees, crops, or seeds

Scoring Categories

Criteria	Maximum Points
Merit and Feasibility	16
Quantity of Water Savings & Calculations	12
Assurance of No GHG Emission Increase	12
Budget	10
Total	50

You need at least 25 points

Farmers who identified as belonging to a **socially disadvantaged group** will receive **priority for funding** if they meet a **minimum score of 25 points**.

Tips for Strong Projects

- Review SWEEP YouTube Videos
- FAQ <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep/>
- Review previously funded projects
- Multiple practices/improvements
- Reasonable costs for crop production system
- Reasonable water saving without GHG increase
- Simple explanation/clarifications for each part
- Minimum score is 25 out of 50 (easier than before/
compete within the region)

Timeline

Program Application Activity	Timeframe*
Release Request for Grant Application (RGA)	September 13, 2022
Grant application due	November 8, 2022
Administrative and technical review	November-December 2022
Announce and award funding	January 2023
Grant Execution	See Award Process
Award Project Implementation	May 1, 2023 – November 1, 2024

Online application



Figure 1. The area outlined consists of both Riverside and Imperial counties and is east of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains.

Application Materials:

- [2021 SWEEP Pilot Request for Grant Applications \(RGA\)](#)
- [2021 SWEEP Pilot Budget Worksheet](#)
- [SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Calculator](#)
- [2021 SWEEP Pilot Technical Assistance Providers](#)

CDFA Informational Webinar:

- [SWEEP Pilot Informational Webinar](#)

Frequently Asked Questions can be referenced below. Review the FAQ document before submitting questions to CDFA. SWEEP Pilot questions can be submitted to cdfa.sweeptech@cdfa.ca.gov before October 10, 2022 at 5pm PT. Questions will be standardized and answered in an updated FAQ document that will be released October 17, 2022.

- [2021 Pilot Frequently Asked Questions](#)

 [SWEEP Pilot Application 2021](#)

[SWEEP Irrigation Water Savings Calculator](#)

[SWEEP GHG Calculator](#)

[Application Portal](#)

Resources

[UC Community Education Specialist](#)

[Technical Assistance Providers](#)

[SWEEP flyer 2022](#)

[SWEEP Pilot Flyer](#)

[2021 SWEEP Public Comments](#)

[2021 SWEEP RGA Public Comment Summary](#)

[Past Solicitations](#)

[List of Agricultural Management Practices
Incentivized by SWEEP](#)

[Irrigation Technical Resources](#)

[SWEEP Sub-Advisory Group](#)

Related Grant Opportunities

[Healthy Soils Incentives Program](#)

[Conservation Agriculture Planning Grant Program](#)

Grant Opportunities for Producers

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep/>

Thank You (Q & A)

Contact information for technical assistance/application:

Technical Assistance Provider

Ali Montazar

amontazar@ucanr.edu

(442) 265-7707

Community Education Specialist

Ana Resendiz

aresendiz@ucanr.edu

(442)-265-7709