

2022 FARM Fund

“Regenerate San Juan Islands.”

SAN JUAN ISLANDS
AGRICULTURAL GUILD



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
SAN JUAN COUNTY EXTENSION



Supported by Ag Guild, Orcas Food Co-op, WSU Extension, SJC Health Dept

Grant Application:

Call For Applications: March 1, 2022

Application Deadline: April 15, 2022

Awards announced, grants distributed: May 15, 2022

Total Funding Available: \$50,000

Request Amount Per Applicant: \$500 to \$7,500

Submit Proposals to: farmfund@sjiaguild.com

FARM Fund Purpose

The FARM Fund supports innovative projects that strengthen and develop regenerative agriculture in San Juan County while increasing the availability of healthy and nutritious, local food.



Eligibility

1. Projects must be based in San Juan County, WA.
2. Applicant must be an active working farm business or have two years of on-farm experience and have a business license.
3. Grant requests must be for an amount between \$500 and \$7,500.
4. Projects must be ready to begin (“shovel-ready”) at the time of the grant award.
5. Projects must result in an increase in Regenerative Agriculture practices.
6. Projects must result in an increase in food production.
7. Funds must be used and projects must be completed within one year of the grant award.

Selection Process

The FARM Fund Grant Review Committee will review applications and winning applications will be awarded fully or partially.

Scoring Rubric

Applications will be scored in the following areas:

Criteria	40 points (20 points for “increase in Regenerative Agriculture practices” and 20 points for “increase in food production”)
Achievability	25 points
Critical Community Need	10 points
Budget	25 points

FARM Fund Grant Review Committee Composition

1. Learner Limbach (Orcas Food Co-op GM)
2. Kristen Rezabek (SJC Health and Nutrition Program Coordinator)
3. Ande Finley (Ag Guild Board Member, Lopez Locavores)
4. Kate Mikulak (WSU Extension Ag Program Coordinator)
5. John Roulac (Agroforestry Regeneration Communities)
6. Angie Shephard (Stillwater Ranch Manager)
7. Meike Meissner (Stonecrest Farm)

Criteria

What is Regenerative Agriculture?

“Regenerative Agriculture” describes farming and grazing practices that, among other benefits, reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity – resulting in both carbon drawdown and an improved water cycle.

Specifically, Regenerative Agriculture is a holistic land management practice that leverages the power of photosynthesis in plants to close the carbon cycle, and build soil health, crop resilience and nutrient density. Regenerative agriculture improves soil health, primarily through the practices that increase soil organic matter. This not only aids in increasing soil biota diversity and health, but increases biodiversity both above and below the soil surface, while increasing both water holding capacity and sequestering carbon at greater depths, thus drawing down climate-damaging levels of atmospheric CO₂, and improving soil structure to reverse civilization-threatening human-caused soil loss.

Practices include:

1. No-till/minimum tillage.
2. Soil fertility is increased in regenerative systems biologically through application of cover crops, crop rotations, compost, and animal manures.
3. Building biological ecosystem diversity begins with inoculation of soils with composts or compost extracts through full-time planting of multiple crop inter- crop plantings, multispecies cover crops, and borders planted for bee habitat and other beneficial insects.
4. Well-managed grazing practices stimulate improved plant growth, increased soil carbon deposits, and overall pasture and grazing land productivity while greatly increasing soil fertility, insect and plant biodiversity, and soil carbon sequestration.

Final Reporting Requirements

Unless other arrangements have been made, grant recipients are required to provide a project final report by February 28, 2023. In general, preparation of the report will include the following:

- 1) At least three photos of the project, showing different stages if possible;
- 2) Details on how funds were spent, including receipts, as well as actual cost of the project vs. original budget;
- 3) Project challenges and successes from the recipient’s perspective;
- 4) Narrative about how the grant project will affect your operation into the future.

Grant Narrative. Please limit to 2 pages.

(please type your answers into the document below)

Name of Farm/Organization	
Contact Person	
Mailing Address	
Phone & Email Address	
Website or Brief Farm Description	

1. Project Overview (Please provide a brief description of the project, and include start/end dates and major project benchmarks).	
2. Criteria (40 points) Please describe how your project will meet the grant criteria of “an increase in regenerative practices” and “an increase in food production”. What results you expect to achieve, and how results will be measured.	
3. Achievability (25 points) Why is now a good time for you to take on this project? Please describe how the project will be achieved. Who will be overseeing the project and doing the work? What key resources will be utilized, etc.?	
4. Critical Need (10 points) Describe if you are	

<p>meeting a critical need in the community beyond the grant criteria.</p>	
<p>5. Customers By being awarded this funding, who are your customers and how will they benefit?</p>	
<p>6. Funding If awarded partial funds, would you still be able to implement your project? If so, what is the minimum amount that would be impactful? Please provide any details that you think would be helpful to the committee in making a decision.</p>	

Grant Budget (25 points). Please limit to 1 page.

Please provide a project budget using the tables below (*required*). You may include supplemental budget detail in a separate attachment as needed, which will not count toward your page limit. Please note that you will be asked to provide receipts for expenses during the grant reporting. Be specific with your request.

Grant requests can be for between \$500 and \$7,500. Grant funding can be used to cover hired farm labor costs, but not for applicant labor. While there is no requirement of matching funds for this grant, matching contributions from the applicant (labor, materials, etc.) or from third-party sources will strengthen the proposal.

Table 1: Use this for your detailed description of project expenses you are requesting funding for, with as exact as possible costs listed for each item within categories.

Expense Category	Instructions w/examples (how request total is calculated)	Grant Request Details (enter your info here)
Farm Labor	hours x rate (i.e. two field crew employees: 40h/wk x \$15/hr)	
Equipment, Tools, Infrastructure	Items and cost detail, as available. (i.e. fencing, irrigation, cool/cold/dry storage, hoop houses, harvest equipment)	
Materials/Supplies	Items and cost detail, as available. (i.e. seeds, stock, inputs, packaging)	
Other	Items and cost detail, as available.	

Table 2: Use this to enter the total budget for each category.

Expense Category	Grant Request Totals (enter total amount per category from table above)	Applicant and 3rd Parties Match Value (enter your info here, not required)
Farm Labor		
Equipment, Tools, Infrastructure		
Materials/Supplies		
Other		
Total Budget		

