Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program Acquisition Project Summary

FY 2018-19 Funding Approved SALC18_43_SLO

Applicant

City of San Luis Obispo

Project Location

San Luis Obispo

Recommended Ranking

B-Project feasible but requires resolution of specific issues

Land Use Conversion Threat

Residential zoning density

Estimated GHG's Avoided

2,070 potential development rights extinguished 1,391,817,937VMT 532,406 MT CO₂e

Acreage

1,000 acres

Funding Requested

\$3,000,000

Match Funding

City of San Luis Obispo / Funding Approved

Priority Populations Benefits

No

Project Description

This project would conserve a +1,000 -acre ranch located along the northern border of the City of San Luis Obispo Sphere of Influence and Highway 101. The property is rangeland consisting of rolling hills with a mix of grassland, chaparral, oak woodland and riparian corridors. The property is utilized as a cow/calf beef operation supported by several springs, fencing, and pond.

Strategic Value

<u>Proximity to Protected Land</u> – The property is adjacent to the 266-acre Miossi Open Space along the northern property boundary, within one mile of the 242-acre Bowden Ranch conservation easement held by San Luis Obispo Land Conservancy and the 456-acre Reservoir Canyon Open Space owned by the City of San Luis Obispo, and within five miles of 188,458 acres of Los Padres National Forest.

<u>Greenbelt</u> – The property and surrounding conservation easements and open space create a greenbelt along the western boundary of the City of San Luis Obispo.

<u>Sustainable Management</u> – The City Council's approved Financial Plan budget includes \$35,000 to prepare a carbon farm plan with the potential for the proposed property to act as the pilot project.

<u>Habitat</u> – The surrounding protected areas and proximity to Los Padres National Forest provide significant habitat & a wildlife corridor for multiple species.

Other – The property and surrounding grazing lands act as a potential wildfire buffer between the Los Padres National Forest and City of San Luis Obispo.

Notable Features

N/A

Site Photo and Map

