



Welcome.



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ORGANIC CERTIFICATION



®

Certified Organic by Oregon Tilth
OTCO
Packed in
 Passed

The Organic Guarantee

Unique among all eco-labels, USDA organic is backed by third party inspection, federally enforced, and provides traceability from the farm to the consumer.

✓ ORGANIC PRODUCERS ARE REQUIRED TO . . .

Protect natural resources and support biodiversity.



Build soil health through regenerative practices like cover cropping and crop rotation.

Support the health and accommodate the natural behavior of all their animals, year-round.



⊘ ORGANIC PROHIBITS . . .

Synthetic nitrogen fertilizers, soil fumigants, and sewage sludge.



Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs).

Toxic pesticides and chemicals.



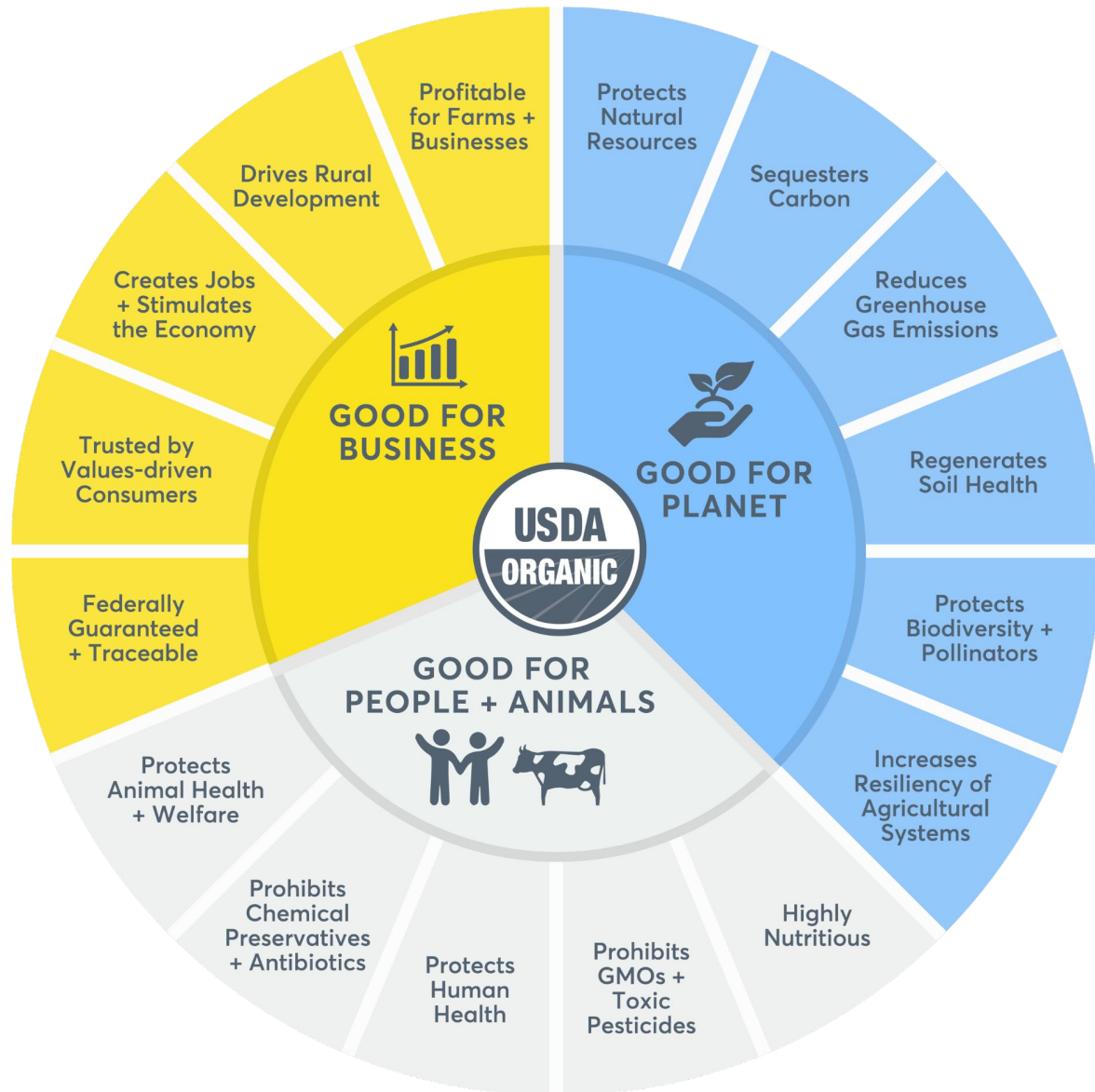
THE USDA ORGANIC SEAL ENSURES THAT . . .

Organic is a federally defined term with a clear meaning that strictly regulates how agricultural products are grown, raised and processed.

Every processor and part of the organic processing chain is **certified** and traced from farm to finished product.

Fraud is a serious crime and cheating in organic can result in loss of certification and severe financial penalties.





**GOOD FOR THE
PLANET,**

**GOOD FOR
PEOPLE,**

**GOOD FOR
BUSINESS.**

GOOD FOR THE PLANET

By relying on ecosystem services to produce food and fiber, organic farms have a regenerative—rather than extractive—effect on the environment. Organic standards require that farmers protect the natural resources on their lands, which makes organic farms key players in the fight against the climate crisis.



ORGANIC WHEEL OF SUSTAINABILITY

Sequesters Carbon and Reduces GHG Emissions



ORGANIC FARMS ...



Emit **18% less global warming-causing gases** and use **~50% less new reactive** nitrogen (an extremely potent greenhouse gas).*



Produce healthier soils that contain **13% higher total organic matter** and capture **44% more stable sequestered carbon**.*

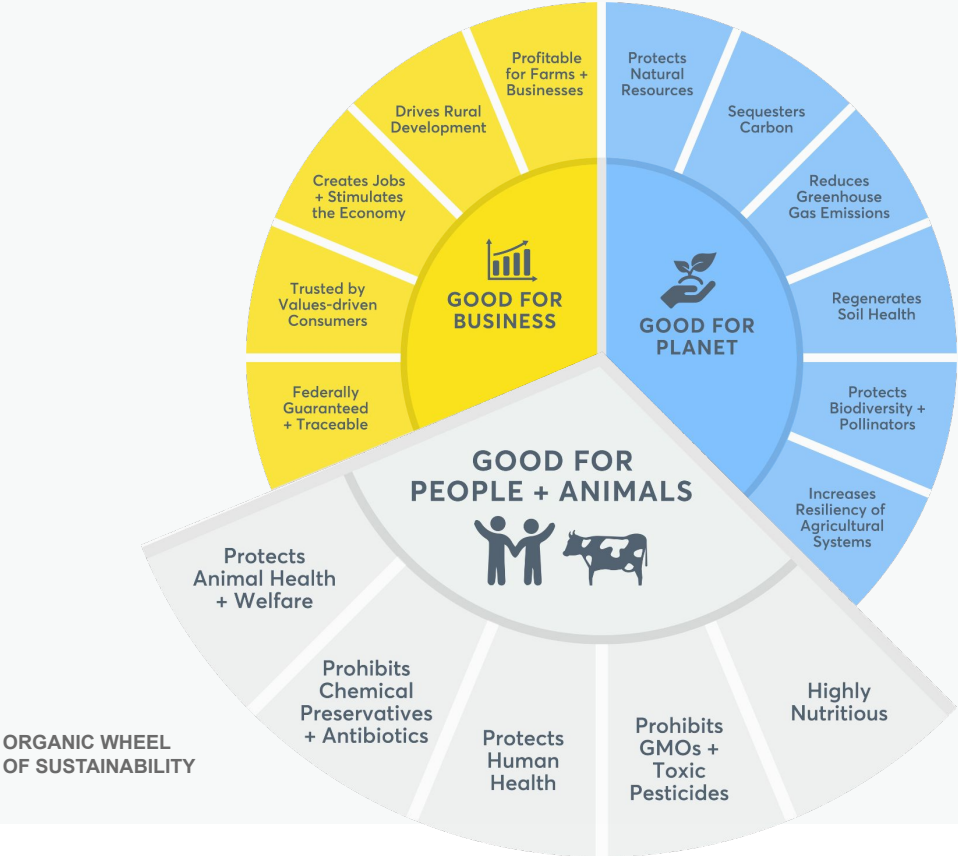


Releases **40% fewer carbon emissions**.*

*As compared to conventional

GOOD FOR PEOPLE AND ANIMALS

Organic is the only label claim federally certified to always be non-GMO and produced without the toxic pesticides, chemical preservatives, or antibiotics that can be harmful to consumers, farmworkers, and animals.



Protecting Families, Protecting Farmworkers

Organic agriculture drastically reduces environmental and dietary exposure to toxic pesticides, protecting families and farmworkers alike



Pesticide residues in organic produce are 55x lower in vegetables and 115x lower in fruits versus conventional produce.



Organic protects frontline farmworkers, who experience the most danger of acute exposure and health consequences.



Protecting Animal Health and Welfare

Organic farmers and ranchers must **support the health** and **accommodate the natural behavior** of their animals year-round.

Animals must have **access to pasture and the outdoors**.

Animals must be **raised on certified organic land**, **fed 100% certified organic feed**, and **managed without antibiotics, growth hormones or slaughter byproducts**.

The result? *Healthy, happy animals that exhibit the behaviors nature intended and consumers expect.*

WHAT ABOUT ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE?

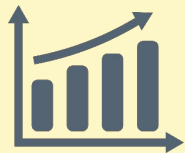
Organic farmers are required to raise animals without the use of antibiotics or synthetic growth hormones. Animals must have 100% organic feed and safe, comfortable living conditions that accommodate health and natural behaviors.

Organic farmers must provide their animals with access to the outdoors and pasture so that they can freely roam about. In fact, organic standards require that cows graze on grass for a minimum of one third of their lives.



GOOD FOR BUSINESS

Customers want to know that brands and retailers have carefully considered their values and integrated purpose and societal impact into the products they sell. Most surveyed consumers reported that organic was the label that best embodies their values.



ORGANIC WHEEL OF SUSTAINABILITY

U.S. Organic Sales Reached a Record High of Over \$63 Billion in 2021



Profitable for Farms and Businesses



Federally Guaranteed and Traceable



FEDERALLY GUARANTEED

Unlike other eco-labels like “natural” or “regenerative”, the USDA Organic label is backed by third party inspection, federally enforced, and provides traceability from the farm to the consumer.

Certified organic operations are inspected at least once a year and must submit organic system plans annually to their certifier for review and approval.

Organic fraud is a crime. Cheating in organic can mean losing certification and facing significant potential financial penalties.

All field operations are inspected at least once every year.



CERTIFICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW.



tilth.org

Certification Process

A STEP-BY-STEP OVERVIEW OF THE BASICS:

START

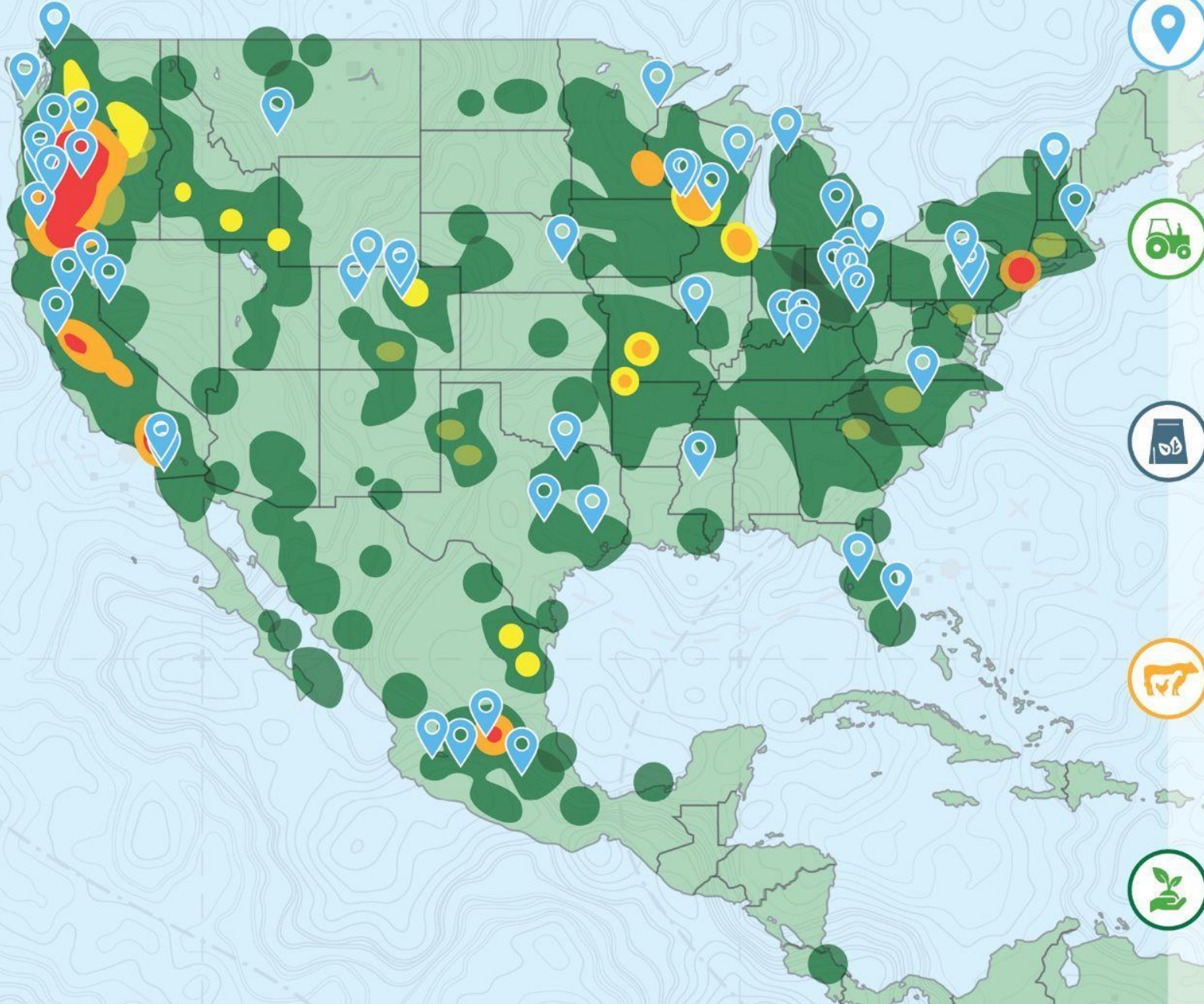


FINISH





OREGON TILTH TRENDS.



OREGON TILTH CERTIFIED ORGANIC (OTCO) CLIENT DENSITY

Low  High

 Oregon Tilth Team Members

100

OREGON TILTH
ENGAGED TEAM
MEMBERS



1200

FARM OPERATIONS



1200

PROCESSORS AND
HANDLERS



300

LIVESTOCK
OPERATIONS



300

TRANSITIONING
OPERATIONS



More Info



- www.tilth.org
- www.ota.com
- <https://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/programs-offices/national-organic-program>





BEE BETTER CERTIFIED

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation



1 in 3 bites



of food you eat is the result of
insect pollination

There are roughly

3,600

species of bees native to
North America

28%

of North American
bumble bee species in decline



OBJECTIVES.

Protect pollinators by providing abundant sources of native plants, pollen, and nectar throughout the growing season.

Protect pollinators from pesticides

Ensure plant diversity, functional ecosystems, and agricultural productivity

General Farm Requirements. (non-exhaustive)



At least 5% of the total crop production acreage that is requested for Bee Better certification must be in pollinator habitat

At least 4% must be in permanent pollinator habitat; remaining 1% can be temporary habitat

General Farm Requirements.

(non-exhaustive)

Must have at least 3 flowering plant species within permanent habitat areas across all growing seasons

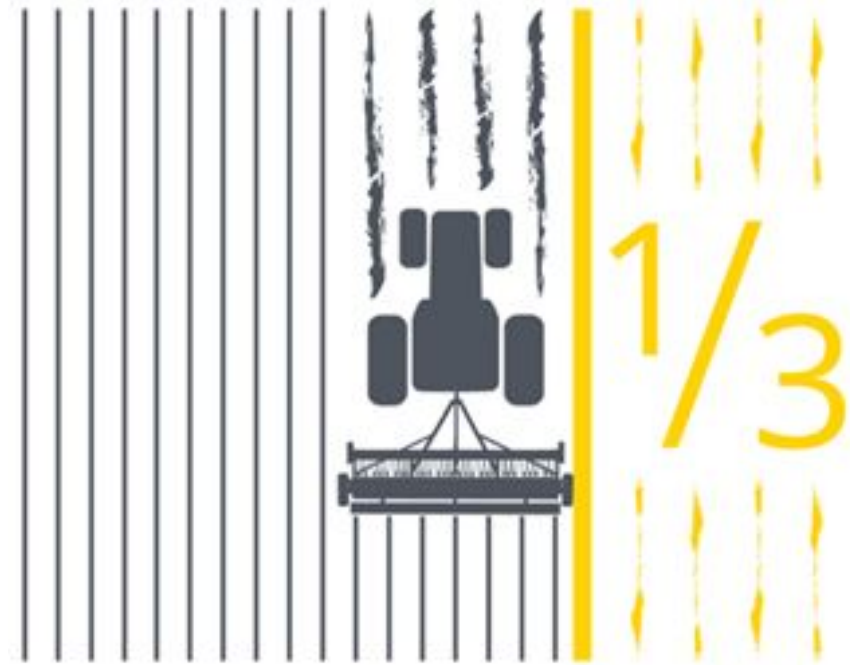
Must establish a pesticide-free buffer around all permanent habitat areas



Permanent pollinator habitat must contain a significant proportion of native plants

New permanent pollinator habitat plantings have requirements around plant characteristics: pithy stems, nesting materials

General Farm Requirements. (non-exhaustive)



Credit: Xerces Society

Must not use
nitroguanidine
neonicotinoids within
permanent habitat
areas

At least 1/3 of acreage
subject to tillage needs
to be tilled in a way
that reduces the
impact on ground
nesting bees



General Farm Requirements. (non-exhaustive)

If any pesticides are used:

Pest/disease scouting and monitoring protocols must be developed, implemented, and recorded

Records must be maintained that verify all instances of pesticide use are justified

Conventional soil fumigants, avicides, or GMO crops that express pesticides or are resistant to herbicides must not be used

Practices must be in place to minimize off-site movement of pesticides



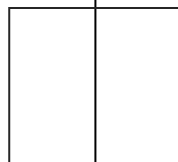
Oregon Tilth's Role

Oregon Tilth offers Bee Better certification to farmers and processors.

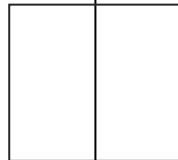
Tilth reviews applications for Bee Better certification, conducts the inspection, reviews the inspection report, and issues a certification decision.



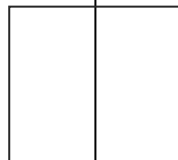
Steps to Certification.



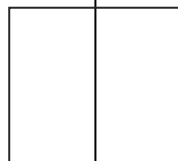
Review the Bee Better website and all requirements



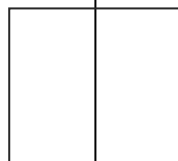
Submit application, including plant list, maps, and pesticide use records



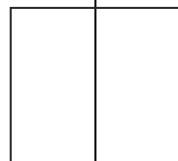
Submit payment



Undergo initial review and respond to any requests for additional information



Inspection



Annual certification renewal, inspection every 3 years

A close-up photograph of a bee on a vibrant pink flower. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. At the bottom center, there is a red geometric graphic consisting of a downward-pointing triangle above a series of nested, upward-pointing triangles. In the bottom right corner, there is a small red horizontal line.

**More info at
beebettercertified.org**



**SALMON
SAFE**



SALMON



SAFE



Alaska

British Columbia

Puget Sound

**Interior Columbia
River Basin**

**Western Oregon
Watersheds**

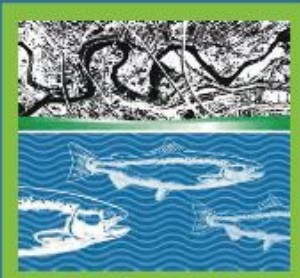
Northern California



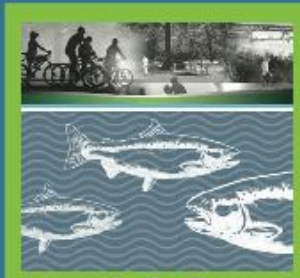
GROW. SAVE.

Get Salmon-Safe certified by Oregon Tilth | salmonsafe.org

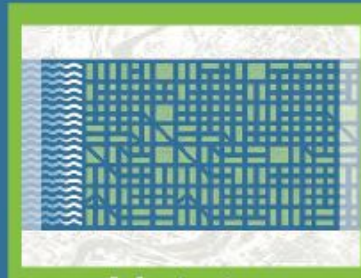




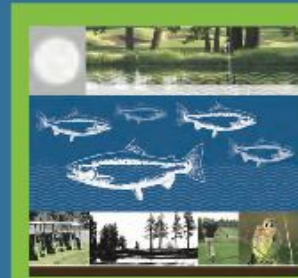
Development &
Urban Campuses



Parks &
Natural Areas



Infrastructure
Development



Golf Courses



Farms & Vineyards

CERTIFICATION STANDARDS



WATER QUALITY AND WATERSHED IMPACT

- **Instream habitat**
- **Riparian & wetland areas**
- **Erosion management**
- **Water use & irrigation**
- **Integrated pest management**
- **Biodiversity conservation**
- **Climate resiliency**



Salmon-Safe Farming is Climate-Ready Farming

Salmon-Safe practices deliver water quality and habitat benefits and reduce climate-related risks



Reduced Tillage & Soil Building

Building soil health and water retention through reduced tillage or no-till planting as well as increasing organic matter through cover crops, manures, compost



Irrigation Efficiency

Upgrading irrigation systems, tracking water usage, and selecting drought tolerant crops for changing climate conditions, seeking alternative water sources that do not limit fish habitat quality, leasing excess water rights for conservation



Pesticide Reduction through IPM

Implementing cultural and biological controls for pests, applying rigorous integrated pest management approaches, phasing out chemistries harmful to fish and wildlife



Stream Restoration

Restoring riparian habitat provides ecological benefits including shade, bank stabilization, and support for migrating salmon and their food chain



Integration of Native Biodiversity

Building resilience against climate shifts through crop rotation to support beneficial insects and stimulate soil organism diversity. Maintaining habitat for insects and wildlife within fields and field margins



Enhanced Soil Health



Drought Mitigation



Water Quality Protection



Temperature Mitigation



Climate Adaptive Farm Ecosystem

Add a meal
to your grocery receipt

\$1.60 gives a hot meal to a hungry person in need.



Portland
Rescue Mission

STATE ST

SALMON
SAFE

This wine has been created using healthy agricultural practices that help keep our rivers clean enough for salmon to thrive.

www.salmonsafe.org

STATE

Sto

ORGANIC

Wilcox Organic

BROOKLYN

12 Jumbo

ORGANIC

terre jaunes blanches





LADYBUG BRAND

www.organicgrown.com

Look for Northwest grown, organic, & Salmon-Safe produce



No smoking
within 10 feet



BENEFITS OF CERTIFICATION

- **Market access,
share, certainty**
- **Operational
efficiencies**
- **Risk mitigation**
- **Regulatory
acknowledgement**



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Thank You!

Questions?