



OVERVIEW

We believe: Sustainable farming mitigates the harmful effects of climate change on our planet while improving the health and wellness of our people through environmental protection, and the production of organic food.

Our strategy: Vital Farmland, LP buys conventionally farmed land and introduces sustainable farmland management practices to generate competitive financial returns and achieve positive environmental and social impacts.

OUTPUTS

Vital Farmland, LP owns 6,750 acres of farmland in Northern California and Oregon's Willamette Valley. The portfolio delivers positive outputs in 3 primary areas:

Sustainable Management

Biodiversity & Habitat

Organic Food Production

The impact of our work in these 3 areas may be measured using the following [IRIS metrics](#), some of which can be quantified (for example, Certified Organic acres, and some of which are described more generally (Conservation)).

6,750 owned acres (IRIS #OI5408)

305 protected acres managed to preserve or restore habitats and biodiversity (PI4716)

5,551 farmable acres (IRIS #OI1674)

3,923 sustainably managed acres
(IRIS #OI6912)

1,472 acres Certified Organic by Oregon Tilth (IRIS #PD2756)

11 crops harvested including beans, cereals, maize, oats, pulses, tomatoes, vegetables (IRIS #PD1620)

ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

(Outcomes of our management practices, but not calculated or represented in a numerical value)

Provisioning Services: food, biological raw materials, freshwater, genetic resources

Regulating Services: maintenance of air quality, regulation of climate, regulation of water timing and flows, erosion control, water purification and waste treatment, disease mitigation, maintenance of soil quality, pest mitigation, pollination, natural hazard mitigation

Supporting Services: habitat, nutrient cycling, primary production, water cycling

Cultural Services: ethical / spiritual values, educational / inspirational values (Iris #PD8494)

BIODIVERSITY Our farm boundaries often encompass areas not suitable for farming, such as river channels, wetlands and forests. These areas provide habitats that support biodiversity. We have mapped and characterized these habitats, some of which are now rare examples of once widespread vegetation types, or ecological systems, such as North Pacific Lowland Mixed Hardwood-Conifer Forest and Woodland, Willamette Valley Wet Meadow, North Pacific Oak Woodland and Central Valley Riparian Woodland. Wild animals in these habitats often interact with organisms on our fields. In some cases, the farms directly benefit from species interactions, such as bumblebees pollinating our crops. (IRIS #OI5929)

CONSERVATION The Willamette Valley and Central California Valley are two of 105 [EPA-designated Level III Ecoregions](#) in the United States. The Willamette is one of the smallest and most extensively modified of all Level III areas. For this reason, remnants of native habitat are significant for biodiversity preservation as well as the multitude of ecosystem services reasons offered above. In the Central California Valley, groundwater contamination from the use of agricultural chemicals underlines the importance of organic practices. Following are the areas in which we focus our protection and restoration efforts:

Ecology & Habitat: biodiversity, habitat for endangered/vulnerable species, wildlife habitat.

Public/Human Use: open space, working lands, scientific value.

Ecosystem Services: land that provides basic ecosystem services in critical situations (e.g., watershed function, flood control), land providing other ecosystem services (regulating, supporting, provisioning and/or cultural values/services). Note: Winter rains in the Willamette Valley can cause local creeks to flood. Well managed farmland and natural areas allow water to infiltrate rather than runoff rapidly. Other key ecosystem functions are improved when land is managed without synthetic fertilizers and when covered in perennial crops, such as pasture, that reduce erosion risk. (IRIS #PD9009)

OUTCOMES

Sustainable management of our farmland mitigates the harmful effects of climate change and generates positive environmental outcomes (projected 2013-2023):

207,388 lbs pesticides avoided

6,834,376 lbs synthetic nitrogen avoided

16,934 tons avoided emissions & CO2 sequestration

1,526,799 lbs carbon (C) stored in soil (above baseline)

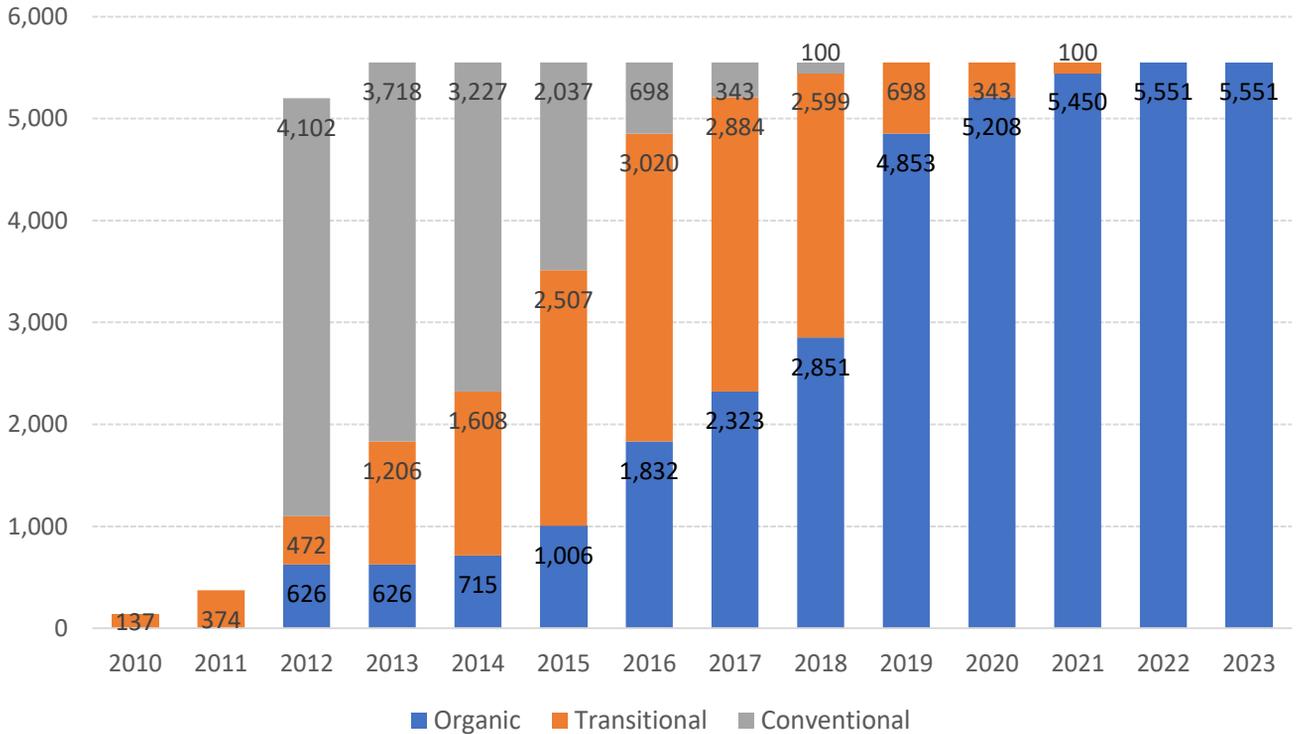
152,680 lbs nitrogen (N) stored in soil (above baseline)

Note: Formulas for calculating metrics are available upon request from the Manager.



Bumble bee on pasture clover, Oregon

ORGANIC CONVERSION SCHEDULE



IMPACT UPDATE

One third of Vital Farmland LP's 5,550 farmable acres have been certified organic, with an additional 55% in transition. The entirety of the portfolio is expected to be certified organic by 2022. At Brentwood Creek Farm, we completed the establishment of 2,700 linear feet of native pollinator habitats adjacent to certified organic fields, supporting and advancing the diverse ecosystem and biodiversity we seek to create across our properties.



Native pollinator hedgerows, Brentwood Creek Farm, California