



Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network (OrCAN) Statewide Soil Health Network Plan Summary

VISION and STRATEGIES

OrCAN envisions a future where healthy soils are the foundation of thriving food systems in Oregon—reconnecting healthy ecosystems, economies, and communities. We believe that the path to soil health begins on our farms and ranches, with land management practices that maximize the presence of living roots, maximize soil cover, maximize biodiversity, and minimize disturbance (adapted from NRCS principles).

Our producer-centered network has identified several key elements in healthy soil practice implementation: adequate technical assistance, financial resources, a network of supportive peers, and land tenure. We are creating an inclusive, collaborative statewide Soil Health Network to support Oregon producers' access to these elements through a *Regional Hub structure* that will provide, or connect producers to, place-based, bioregion-specific resources, including:

- **Technical Assistance** via 1:1 consultation and on-farm education events
- **Information and tools** including access to statewide resources, equipment & soil testing
- **Financial Incentives and Resources** such as implementation grants and grant writing
- **Peer Community** for producers to share successes/challenges, support and inspiration
- **Culturally Specific Support** for historically under-served producers

WHO IS IN THE NETWORK?

Producers interested in maintaining or improving their soil health. The Soil Health Network welcomes producers with a variety of crop types and farm sizes, racial/ethnic identities, and geographic regions within the state of Oregon.

Farm service providers and researchers focused on soil health who are knowledgeable about specific practices, different crop types and farm size/scale and/or who provide soil testing, funding or other resources such as Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and OSU Extension (researchers, faculty and staff).

Culturally-specific support organizations such as non-profits, business/economic development organizations, Tribal services, and certifiers who can provide support for marginalized, underserved, and/or under-resourced producers to access soil health resources and funding.

Thanks to all who contributed to the [full Network Plan](#) summarized here. Special thanks to our two Advisory Councils, representing Producers and Farm Service Providers, who provided multiple rounds of input, and to key partners including BIPOC producers, OSU Extension, NRCS, and OACD, who shared valuable perspectives.

