

Farmers offered \$9.5M in funds

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California farmers will receive \$9.5 million in additional funding to help them purchase cleaner-burning diesel engines, improve irrigation systems and manage dairy wastes, federal officials announced Friday.

Included are \$5 million for air-quality improvements and \$4.5 million toward water-quality projects on dairy farms and in water conservation.

Valley producers can apply to the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service for the funding through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Contact the USDA Stockton Service Center, 3422 W. Hammer Lane, Suite A, or call the office at (209) 472-7127.