

Climate Change Adaptation Solutions

LUNRI

The Land Use and Natural Resource Integration (LUNRI) program is designed to provide county planners and decision-makers with guidelines to make sustainable, long-term land use choices that strike a balance between growth and protecting the natural resources upon which we all depend. The focus is on natural resource conservation and restoration in the non-urban areas of the Tulare Basin in Fresno, Tulare, Kings, and Kern Counties.

Land Retirement

From [Aquapedia](#): Land retirement is a practice that takes agricultural lands out of production due to poor drainage and soils containing high levels of salt and selenium (a mineral found in soil). Landowners are paid to retire land. The purchaser then places a deed restriction on the land to prevent growing crops with irrigation water (a source of salt). Restored native plant communities on retired land may also provide important habitat for the recovery of special-status species.

Small Scale Organic Farming

From Peter M. Rosset's "[Benefits of Small Farm Agriculture](#)":

The benefits of small farms extend beyond the economic sphere. Whereas large, industrial-style farms impose a scorched-earth mentality on resource management — no trees, no wildlife, endless monocultures — small farmers can be very effective stewards of natural resources and the soil. Small farmers utilize a broad array of resources and have a vested interest in their sustainability and their farming systems are diverse, incorporating and preserving significant functional biodiversity within the farm. By preserving biodiversity, open space and trees, and by reducing land degradation, small farms provide valuable ecosystem services to the larger society.

[Native Plant Landscaping](#)

From the California Native Plant Society: Native vegetation evolved to live with the local climate, soil types, and animals. This long process brings us several gardening advantages.

- Save Water
- Low Maintenance
- Pesticide Freedom
- Wildlife Viewing

- Support Local Ecology

While creating native landscapes can never replace natural habitats lost to development, planting gardens, parks, and roadsides with California native plants can help provide an important bridge to nearby remaining wild areas.