

Western Region SARE

Sub-regional Recommendations and 2nd Day Data



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Western SARE Subregional Conference Staff Recommendations Report

Western SARE Sub-Regional Conferences - 2nd Day Votes

Location	Question 1	%	Question 2	%	Question 3	%	Question 4	%	Question 5	%	Question 6	%
Alaska	352	23.3	335	23.3	364	23.9	359	23.5	364	24.0	325	24.5
New Mexico	152	10.0	148	10.3	153	10.0	152	10.0	150	9.9	153	11.5
California	156	10.3	148	10.3	160	10.5	155	10.2	154	10.1	150	11.3
Wyoming	203	13.4	183	12.7	182	12.0	182	11.9	178	11.7	183	13.8
Hawaii	308	20.4	306	21.3	328	21.5	334	21.9	306	20.2	311	23.4
Washington	192	12.7	172	12.0	196	12.9	188	12.3	211	13.9	207	15.6
Guam	150	9.9	145	10.1	140	9.2	155	10.2	155	10.2	0	0.0
Totals	1513	100.0	1437	100.0	1523	100.0	1525	100.0	1518	100.0	1329	100.0

Education	41%	Local/CSA's/etc.	33%	Presentations	25%	Research	80%	Education	35%	Outreach	48%
Infrastructure	33%	Producers	18%	Grant Process	25%	Systems	35%	Systems	17%	Grant Process	36%
Regulation/Policy	19%	Infrastructure	18%	Other	23%	Soils	12%	Energy	12%	Education	9%
Systems	7%	Consumers	13%	Electronic	12%	Energy	7%	Soils	7%	Other	7%
	100%	Organic	9%	Written	10%	Economics	7%	Marketing	7%		100%
		Marketing	9%	PDP	5%	Crops	3%	Water	3%		
			100%		100%	Water	3%	PDP	3%		
						Entomology	3%	Animal Science	3%		
						Sociology	3%	Entomolgy	3%		
						Education	3%	Season Extension	3%		
						Food Safety	2%	Outreach	2%		
						Marketing	2%	FRG	2%		
						Sus. Pest Mgt.	1%	Other	1%		
						Animal Science	1%	Aquaculture	1%		
						Education	12%	Food Safety	1%		
						Development	8%		100%		
							100%				

Question 1: What will be needed to create stronger local and regional food systems that are less reliant on imports from elsewhere?

Question 2: What are the local and regional consumption and production trends in your local area?

Question 3: The SARE program was commissioned, by Congress, to get its research results to the farmer and rancher. How can this process be improved?

Question 4: What type of research, education and development projects will be necessary over the next 10 years to help economically sustain farming and the environment?

Question 5: If Western SARE received (from Congress) an additional \$1 million (or more) per region, what types of projects should be targeted or emphasized?

Question 6: How can we (Western SARE) overcome barriers that may prevent underserved groups, including socially disadvantaged groups, from applying for and receiving SARE funding?

Western SARE Subregional Conference

Urgent Recommendation to Western SARE AC on the 6 Questions	
Question 1: What will be needed to create stronger local and regional food systems that are less reliant on imports from elsewhere?	
(Education, 41%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Educate consumers and producers about local full-production systems in which all can participate (from gardens to production farms). Word future CFPs on allowing the full scale of agricultural production (subsistence gardens to ag in the middle to large production operations).	
Question 2: What are the local and regional consumption and production trends in your local area?	
(Local/Seasonal/Farmers Markets/CSAs, 33%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
The trend is for more local/seasonal/farmers markets and CSAs and all that that represents. Future CFPs will include wording that encourages the local and regional scope of the targeted or affected areas of Western SARE-funded grants.	
Question 3: The SARE program was commissioned, by Congress, to get its research results to the farmer and rancher. How can this process be improved?	
(Presentations, 25%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Strengthen the process/wording of having farmer-to-farmer interactions in connection with all Western SARE funded projects (workshops/classes).	
(Grant Process, 25%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Strengthen the process/wording of having farmer-to-farmer interactions in connection with all Western SARE funded projects (field days or on-the-farm) educational events.	
Question 4: What type of research, education and development projects will be necessary over the next 10 years to help economically sustain farming and the environment?	
(Research, 80%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
(Sustainable Farm Systems, 35%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Develop a process for funding grants with longer terms (5-10 year) within current guidelines and policies on Western SARE grants.	
Question 5: If Western SARE received (from Congress) an additional \$1 million (or more) per region, what types of projects should be targeted or emphasized?	
(Education, 35%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Change CFP language to encourage adoption and 'on-the-farm' outreach (required) to producers (Extension, NRCS, producer-to-producer networking, etc.) with all Western SARE-funded grants.	
(Sustainable Farm Systems, 17%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Develop a process for funding grants with longer terms (5-10 year) within current guidelines and policies.	
Question 6: How can we (Western SARE) overcome barriers that may prevent underserved groups, including socially disadvantaged groups, from applying for and receiving SARE funding?	
(Outreach, 48%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Increase the amount of news releases and related Western SARE targeted outreach to FSA, Conservation Districts, Extension and other agencies/partners that assist these groups.	
(Grant Process, 36%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
Provide sample grant applications.	
(Education, 9%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC	
More fully incorporate/require education and demonstration projects in all future Western SARE CFPs.	

Recommendation to Western SARE AC – Question #1

Question 1: What will be needed to create stronger local and regional food systems that are less reliant on imports from elsewhere?

Question 1 (Education, 41%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Education of consumers and producers about local full production systems in which all can participate (from gardens to production farms). This should be included in any discussion of systems research that Western SARE undertakes to fund.

The whole concept of education at all levels about sustainable agriculture is important and needs to be constantly revisited as to how Western SARE addresses this in our CFPs.

Education for all on what to buy, grow, cook and eat relative to local/seasonal food. State Coordinators can be involved in assisting getting Extension information for outreach.

Question 1 (Infrastructure, 33%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Items such as season extension, community gardens, local marketing and CSAs can continue to be encouraged to be addressed in Western SARE CFPs.

Partnering with agencies and those responsible for the structural infrastructure work would seem one way to assist with this need.

Question 1 (Regulation/Policy, 19%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Partner with federal, state and local groups in creating networking with consumers and producers to assist them in the policy making procedures.

Question 1 (Systems, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Continue to encourage the use of full systems when funding Western SARE grants. This important topic is discussed throughout the recommendations from the subregions. Efforts to see how Western SARE wants to address this should be discussed by the AC.

Total Day 2	Question 1: What will be needed to create stronger local and regional food systems that are less reliant on imports from elsewhere?	Location
82	Educate/ mentor K-12 on benefits of growing own food, agriculture	Hawaii
70	Develop local/regional infrastructure for financing, processing (small and medium scale)/mobile, cleaning, distribution, consulting	Washington
61	Educate the consumer and market the advantages of locally grown food	Alaska
59	Ag infrastructure (land and water)	Hawaii
55	Regional livestock processing plants and infrastructure or mobile facilities	Wyoming
55	Farmer and consumer friendly regulations (relief from burdensome regulations)	Wyoming
50	Availability of affordable ag land (land and water rights, labor and ownership issues)	Hawaii
48	Educational programs for consumers/producers/facility owners/investors/schools/chefs/food services (nutritional values, freshness, local economy, environment, reduced transportation, growing livestock and produce)	Wyoming
45	Statewide training/outreach for beginning farmers and gardeners	Alaska
43	Infrastructure - e.g. processing, canneries, etc.	Alaska
43	Feasibility studies and/or research of: alternative/local distribution channels; financial/economic aspects; food and land trusts barriers; facilities/storage issues; meat processing opportunities	California
40	Cost-effective storage facilities	Alaska
40	More technical assistance	Guam
36	Teach people to grow food including farmer to farmer, including young farmers, training/apprenticeships/incubation	Washington
35	Educate all affected agricultural groups by funding marketing/outreach and holistic approaches to the value of local/community food systems	California
34	Season-extension technology research and demonstration	Alaska
33	Research into new crops/cultivars that are adapted to Alaska's climate and their best management practices	Alaska
33	Facilities/distribution systems for producers -- (mobile meat processing units that have vehicle washing, storage, auction yards, etc.)	California
33	Consumer education of whole food systems	Hawaii
32	Education program; how local food purchases (weekly) benefit local economy	Hawaii
31	Water: quality and quantity (better coordination among federal agencies)	New Mexico
30	Targeted training	Guam
29	Consumer education (ex. in price/cost demands, etc), including schools	Washington
26	Availability of <i>animal</i> processing facilities	New Mexico
26	Change incentives/remove barriers to increase support for local systems by policy research as a catalyst for change showing economics and social benefits of buying local/regional products	California
24	More land to be farmed -- decrease the loss of prime farm land in Alaska	Alaska
24	New state and local leadership political will	Hawaii
23	Diversify crops	Wyoming
23	Train farmers to navigate health codes, policies, regulations	Washington
22	Make public policy accommodating/encourage local food systems	New Mexico
21	Educate how to buy, grow, cook, eat local/seasonal food	New Mexico
20	A change in local, regional and national policy to encourage small-scale agriculture and local processing -- e.g. property tax, zoning, regulations, remove large subsidies that make local foods uncompetitive, etc.	Alaska
20	K-12 education	Alaska

20	Fruit fly eradication	Guam
20	More farmers (youth, women)	Guam
19	Research project on: infrastructure, distribution, comprehensive statewide need assessment and optimal mix of scales to ensure viability of local food systems	California
18	Commitment to ag by state through law (HRS 25)	Hawaii
17	Increase the number of producers (small and mid-sized)	Alaska
15	More community gardens	Alaska
14	Integration of regional production systems	New Mexico
13	Transportation/distribution network	Wyoming
13	Effective marketing and processing capabilities	Washington
12	Improve local marketing and distribution systems	New Mexico
11	Over-regulations for certified kitchens -- local livestock processing	New Mexico
10	Push to keep ag lands in ag	Hawaii
10	Support policies and techniques that assist younger-generation farmers	Washington
10	Focus on invasive species	Guam
10	Develop organic agriculture	Guam
9	Community involvement -- education, tax, school involvement; promotion, carbon footprint, specialty crops	New Mexico
9	Commercial kitchens	Wyoming
7	Networks to connect and identify local products	Washington
6	Publicize Western SARE to producers	New Mexico
5	Focus on local and traditional foods	Guam
5	Increased local and off-island markets	Guam
5	Inventory of local versus imported foods	Guam
5	Farmers markets and/or cooperatives	Guam
4	Support in-state processing, infrastructure (regarding regional biofuel plants)	Washington
1513	Total Votes	

Education (41%)		
82	Educate/ mentor K-12 on benefits of growing own food, agriculture	Hawaii
61	Educate the consumer and market the advantages of locally grown food	Alaska
48	Educational programs for consumers/producers/facility owners/investors/schools/chefs/food services (nutritional values, freshness, local economy, environment, reduced transportation, growing livestock and produce)	Wyoming
45	Statewide training/outreach for beginning farmers and gardeners	Alaska
40	Cost-effective storage facilities	Alaska
40	More technical assistance	Guam
36	Teach people to grow food including farmer to farmer, young farmers, training/apprenticeships/incubation	Washington
35	Educate all affected agricultural groups by funding marketing/outreach and holistic approaches to the value of local/community food systems	California
33	Consumer education of whole food systems	Hawaii
32	Education program; how local food purchases (weekly) benefit local economy	Hawaii
30	Targeted training	Guam
29	Consumer education (ex. in price/cost demands, etc.), including schools	Washington
23	Train farmers to navigate health codes, policies, regulations	Washington
21	Educate how to buy, grow, cook, eat local/seasonal food	New Mexico

20	K-12 education	Alaska
9	Community involvement -- education, tax, school involvement; promotion, carbon footprint, specialty crops	New Mexico
7	Networks to connect and identify local products	Washington
6	Publicize Western SARE to producers	New Mexico

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Infrastructure (33%)

70	Develop local/regional infrastructure for financing, processing (small and medium scale)/mobile, cleaning, distribution, consulting	Washington
59	Ag infrastructure (land and water)	Hawaii
55	Regional livestock processing plants and infrastructure or mobile facilities	Wyoming
43	Infrastructure -- e.g. processing, canneries, etc.	Alaska
43	Feasibility studies and/or research of: alternative/local distribution channels; financial/economic aspects; food and land trusts barriers; facilities/storage issues; meat processing opportunities	California
34	Season-extension technology research and demonstration	Alaska
33	Facilities/distribution systems for producers - (mobile meat processing units that have vehicle washing, storage, auction yards, etc.)	California
31	Water: quality and quantity (better coordination among federal agencies)	New Mexico
26	Availability of <i>animal</i> processing facilities	New Mexico
24	More land to be farmed -- decrease the loss of prime farm land in Alaska	Alaska
20	More farmers (youth, women)	Guam
19	Research project on infrastructure, distribution, comprehensive statewide need assessment and optimal mix of scales to ensure viability of local food systems	California
15	More community gardens	Alaska
12	Improve local marketing and distribution systems	New Mexico
9	Commercial kitchens	Wyoming
5	Farmers markets and/or cooperatives	Guam
4	Support in-state processing, infrastructure (regarding regional biofuel plants)	Washington

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Regulation/policy (19%)

55	Farmer- and consumer-friendly regulations (relief from burdensome regulations)	Wyoming
22	Make public policy accommodating / encourage local food systems	New Mexico
18	Commitment to ag by state through law (HRS 25)	Hawaii
24	New state and local leadership political will	Hawaii
20	A change in local, regional and national policy to encourage small-scale agriculture and local processing -- e.g. property tax, zoning, regulations, remove large subsidies that make local foods uncompetitive, etc	Alaska
50	Availability of affordable ag land (land and water rights, labor and ownership issues)	Hawaii
17	Increase the number of producers (small and mid size)	Alaska
13	Transportation / distribution network	Wyoming
13	Effective marketing and processing capabilities	Washington
11	Over-regulations for certified kitchens -- local livestock processing	New Mexico
10	Push to keep ag lands in ag	Hawaii
10	Support policies and techniques that assist younger-generation farmers	Washington
10	Focus on invasive species	Guam
5	Focus on local and traditional foods	Guam
5	Increased local and off-island markets	Guam
5	Inventory of local versus imported foods	Guam

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Systems (7%)

33	Research into new crops/cultivars that are adapted to Alaska's climate and their best management practices	Alaska
26	Change incentives/remove barriers to increase support for local systems by policy research as a catalyst for change showing economics and social benefits of buying local/regional products	California
23	Diversify crops	Wyoming
14	Integrate regional production systems	New Mexico
10	Develop organic agriculture	Guam

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Recommendation to Western SARE AC – Question #2

Question 2: What are the local and regional consumption and production trends in your local area?

Question 2 (Local/Seasonal/Farmers Markets/CSAs, 33%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

The trend is for more local/seasonal/farmers markets and CSAs and all that these represent. Reflecting on how our grant opportunities capture that is important. Discussion is encouraged on incorporating these trends into future CFPs.

Local was more of a trend than organic.

Question 2 (Producers, 18%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Fewer producers, smaller operations (crops and animals) are the trend.

Water, land, crop rotation, soil quality, full systems (crops and livestock) are important trends.

Question 2 (Infrastructure, 18%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Season Extension is an item that can be addressed in future CFPs.

A lot of infrastructure trends mentioned cannot be directly addressed by Western SARE (grants) but partnering with or informing other that can assist would be useful.

Question 2 (Consumers, 13%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Adequate and proper nutrition is important -- this is also a NIFA goal. Future CFPs should address this.

Food safety and security is also important - NIFA goal. Future CFP to address this.

Question 2 (Organic, 9%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Continuing trend to include organic research and extension possibilities in Western SARE grant opportunities.

Question 2 (Marketing, 9%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Direct marketing and value added are important marketing trends. Discussion on how to incorporate into future Western SARE grants is encouraged.

Total Day 2	Question 2: What are the local and regional consumption and production trends in your local area?	Location
84	Demands for local and organic produce is increasing	Hawaii
63	There is an increasing demand for local food	Alaska
63	Supply of local food is not adequate to meet demand -- most food is imported	Alaska
59	Farmers reestablishing community linkages are capturing local demand for products	Hawaii
55	New market opportunities are growing, but lack of supporting infrastructure (storage, mills)	Washington
52	Fewer farmers statewide	Hawaii
49	There is a lack of warehousing, storage and processing capability	Alaska
42	Increased preference by consumers for locally grown, organic, farmers markets and CSAs	Wyoming
41	More small- and large-scale gardens -- small animal production	Alaska
40	Not enough local protein sources	Guam
39	Local farmers markets trend is attracting more residents	Hawaii
38	Higher demand for local and seasonal foods	California
38	Reduction in prime farmland acres	Wyoming
38	Grass-fed beef/finished	Hawaii
36	Season extension methods -- e.g. greenhouses, hoop houses, high tunnels, etc.	Alaska
35	Increased consumption of low-nutrition or processed foods	Alaska
35	Increased water conservation consciousness affecting crop selection	Wyoming
34	Land leaving food production or transitioning to high-value crops	California
34	More interest in sustainable ag by producers and consumers	Hawaii
30	Farmers can produce enough	Guam
29	Local processing facilities/infrastructure	New Mexico
29	Increased buy fresh, buy local campaign /CFA/CSA, food delivery/small farm vegetable production/farmers markets/restaurants/schools	Washington
28	Higher demand for sustainable and organic food	California
27	Subsistence gathering, hunting and fishing	Alaska
27	Increased consumption of fruit, veggies, healthy food.	California
23	Increased demand for mechanization on small/medium farms, coupled with limited access to equipment	Washington
21	Demand for more CSAs	Alaska
20	Efficiency, water use, variety development according to eco-site and bio-regional soil fertility	New Mexico
20	Need increased chicken and swine production	Guam
20	Promote local produce and producers	Guam
19	Legal protection (water rights) + efficient use of water	New Mexico
19	No common denominators because of scale, economic status, population	Wyoming
16	Cooperative production and marketing	New Mexico
16	Increase in direct marketing of small vegetable/fruit producers	Wyoming
15	Demand for fast food (not slow)	Wyoming
15	Valued-added processing	Wyoming
15	A working model of food sheds for this region	Washington
14	People looking for food safety and security	Washington
13	Growing trend for local over organic	Washington
12	Full product cycle	New Mexico
12	Increasing trend in local processing	California

12	More interest in home food production, gardening, canning, cooking, etc.	Washington
11	Crop diversification	New Mexico
10	Soil quality issues/crop rotations	New Mexico
10	Promote farming as a noble profession	Guam
10	Integrate crops and livestock	Guam
9	Water quality/quantity	New Mexico
9	Consumers and growers do NOT value local	California
9	More small farms, more farmers markets, more direct marketing and CSA	Washington
8	Season extension	New Mexico
7	Access to ALL resources (land, knowledge, water, \$, etc.)	New Mexico
7	Storage facilities	New Mexico
5	Improve livestock genetics	Guam
5	Enrich soils	Guam
5	Educate chefs and consumers	Guam
3	Increase restaurants serving smaller portions, healthier foods (i.e. grass-fed beef)	Wyoming
2	Increase imports/exports of organic	Washington
1437	Total Votes	

Local/Seasonal/Farmers Markets/CSAs (33%)		
84	Demands for local and organic produce is increasing	Hawaii
63	There is an increasing demand for local food	Alaska
63	Supply of local food is not adequate to meet demand -- most food is imported	Alaska
59	Farmers reestablishing community linkages are capturing local demand for products	Hawaii
42	Increase preference by consumers for locally grown, organic, farmer's markets, and CSAs	Wyoming
39	Local farmers markets trend is attracting more residents	Hawaii
38	Higher demand for local and seasonal foods	California
30	Farmers can produce enough	Guam
29	Increased buy fresh, buy local campaign /CFA/CSA, food delivery/small farm vegetable production/farmers markets/restaurants/schools	Washington
28	Higher demand for sustainable and organic food	California
21	Demand for more CSAs	Alaska
20	Promote local produce and producers	Guam
13	Growing trend for local over organic	Washington
9	Consumers and growers do NOT value local	California
9	More small farms, more farmers markets, more direct marketing and CSA	Washington
547		
Producers (18%)		
52	Fewer farmers statewide	Hawaii
41	More small- and large-scale gardens – small-animal production	Alaska
38	Grass-fed beef/finished	Hawaii
34	More interest in sustainable ag by producers and consumers	Hawaii
23	Increased demand for mechanization on small/medium farms, coupled with limited access to equipment	Washington
20	Efficiency, water use, variety development according to eco-site and bio-regional soil fertility	New Mexico
20	Need increased chicken and swine production	Guam

12	Full product cycle	New Mexico
11	Crop diversification	New Mexico
10	Soil quality issues/crop rotations	New Mexico
10	Promote farming as a noble profession	Guam
10	Integrate crops and livestock	Guam
9	Consumers and growers do NOT value local	California
5	Improve livestock genetics	Guam
5	Enrich soils	Guam

300

Infrastructure (18%)

49	There is a lack of warehousing, storage and processing capability	Alaska
38	Reduction in prime farmland acres	Wyoming
36	Season extension methods -- e.g. greenhouses, hoop houses, high tunnels, etc.	Alaska
35	Increased water conservation consciousness affecting crop selection	Wyoming
34	Land leaving food production or transitioning to high-value crops	California
29	Local processing facilities/infrastructure	New Mexico
19	Legal Protection (water rights) + efficient use of water	New Mexico
15	A working model of food sheds for this region	Washington
12	Increasing trend in local processing	California
9	Water quality/quantity	New Mexico
8	Season extension	New Mexico
7	Access to ALL resources (land, knowledge, water, \$, etc.)	New Mexico
7	Storage facilities	New Mexico

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Consumers (13%)

40	Not enough local protein sources	Guam
35	Increased consumption of low-nutrition or processed foods	Alaska
34	More interest in sustainable ag by producers and consumers	Hawaii
27	Subsistence gathering, hunting and fishing	Alaska
27	Increased consumption of fruit, veggies, healthy food	California
19	No common denominators because of scale, economic status, population	Wyoming
14	People looking for food safety and security	Washington
12	More interest in home food production, gardening, canning, cooking, etc.	Washington
9	Consumers and growers do NOT value local	California
5	Educate chefs and consumers	Guam

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Organic (9%)

84	Demand for local and organic produce is increasing	Hawaii
42	Increased preference by consumers for locally grown, organic, farmers markets and CSAs	Wyoming
28	Higher demand for sustainable and organic food	California
2	Increase imports/exports of organic	Washington

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Marketing (9%)

55	New market opportunities are growing, but lack of supporting infrastructure (storage, mills)	Washington
16	Cooperative production and marketing	New Mexico
16	Increase in direct marketing of small vegetable/fruit producers	Wyoming

15	Demand for fast food (not slow)	Wyoming
15	Valued-added processing	Wyoming
5	Educate chefs and consumers	Guam
3	Increase restaurants serving smaller portions, healthier foods (i.e. grass-fed beef)	Wyoming
125		

Recommendation to Western SARE AC – Question #3

Question 3: The SARE program was commissioned, by Congress, to get its research results to the farmer and rancher. How can this process be improved?

Question 3 (Presentations, 25%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Strengthen the process of having farmer-to-farmer interactions in connection with all R&E-funded projects (workshops/classes).

Provide avenues with all Western SARE funded grants for the opportunity (requirement?) for field days or other 'hands-on' producer training.

Better communication of funded projects and their producer outreach components.

Incorporate youth-based sustainable agricultural education programs into Western SARE (K-12 and higher ed.) grants.

Question 3 (Grant Process, 25%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Continue the evolution process between producers and researchers' interests/needs on what Western SARE funds.

Strengthen the accountability of grant recipients to really do valuable/needed producer outreach from their projects.

Strengthen the process of having farmer-to-farmer interactions in connection with all R&E-funded projects (workshops/classes and field days).

Question 3 (Other, 23%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Greater communication efforts regarding all aspects of Western SARE and project outreach.

Evaluate and monitor what 'hits the ground' after Western SARE Projects -- this may involve different approached to the CFPs.

Possible funding of experiment station plots demonstrating some of the useful Western SARE innovations.

Question 3 (Electronic/Internet/Social Media, 12%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Utilize all possible avenues of electronic media presentation (blogs, email, social networks, online courses, video, web page, YouTube, online courses, modules, lectures, media kit examples).

More local news releases on current funded projects and their status.

Continue to upgrade and keep 'fresh' the Western SARE web presence.

Question 3 (Written Materials, 10%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Have a process to have relevant materials from all Western SARE grants available to all Extension/NRCS/other ag professionals -- perhaps consider a CFP for sustainable agriculture for Extension and working with National NRCS to have this information integrated into their e-FOTG.

More popular press, TV, radio, newspaper, etc. on what Western SARE does and is doing.

Question 3 (Professional Development Program, 5%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Have a process to have relevant materials from all Western SARE grants available to all Extension/NRCS/other ag professionals -- perhaps consider a CFP for sustainable agriculture for Extension and working with National NRCS to have this information integrated into their e-FOTG.

Find ways to assist State Coordinators that have restrictions on travel with funds to do their Western SARE assignments.

Total Day 2	Question 3: The SARE program was commissioned, by Congress, to get its research results to the farmer and rancher. How can this process be improved?	Location
101	More local educational presentations (workshops, classes, field days, etc.) to producers and public on local topics of interest	Alaska
79	Disseminate more region-specific information (research results, locally adapted cultivars or livestock, big ideas for small places, etc.)	Alaska
55	Provide more money (stipends to attend conferences, research projects, organization matches, etc.)	Alaska
55	Farmer-to-farmer education and co-learning opportunities (field days, information exchange meetings, etc.)	California
48	Provide info and help CES do their job better	Alaska
43	Disseminate more information on Internet-based venues (blogs, email, social networks, online courses, etc.)	Alaska
43	Lack of awareness of SARE projects	Hawaii
40	Not enough communications	Guam
39	On-farm trials, publications, tours, demonstrations, farmer-to-farmer events	Washington
38	Engage K-12 education; provide training to kids (ag in the classroom, etc.)	Alaska
37	Better outreach to extension agents, producers and ag professionals (research results, hands-on workshops)	Wyoming
37	There needs to be a better connection between research done and farmer needs	Hawaii
36	Put together a package of best practices/helps (searchable, video, web page, YouTube, online courses, modules, lectures, press kit examples, workshops, etc)	Washington
31	Require popular media (trade journal/TV/billboards) or extension publications of results	Wyoming
31	Some grants go directly to farmers and ranchers, which are most innovative	Hawaii
30	Add youth education component to grants	New Mexico
30	Have presence at local meetings, professional meetings, county fairs, other grower/commodity meetings	Wyoming
30	Good source of resources for alternative ag projects	Hawaii
30	SARE needs to evaluate which of their grants have made it into mainstream and are well known	Hawaii
30	SARE applications not user friendly	Guam
28	Use existing infrastructure and farmer interfacing groups (Farm Bureau, commodity boards, farmer markets) for communicating SARE info and opportunities	California
28	Better network between farmers and extension and research	Hawaii
27	SARE research results getting into farm media and popular media, FSA, Conservation districts, NRCS	Washington
27	SARE should partner with other groups (ex. presence at tilth or regional conferences)	Washington
25	Grant projects truly integrate farmers and ranchers into entire grant project	Washington
24	Resources targeted to education and community outreach, not farm business success	Hawaii
24	SARE needs to change reimbursement system to 1/3, 1/3, 1/3	Hawaii
23	Use more contemporary forms of outreach using electronic media (Face Book, Twitter, video, audio, YouTube, blogs and improved web sites)	California
23	Improve relevance of research to large-scale/mainstream agriculture	Wyoming
23	Onsite demonstrations by producers	Wyoming
23	National/regional websites restructuring to compile/organize projects database; increase searchability	Washington
22	Improve websites (better project search, keywords, search optimization, more user friendly, subscribe to research updates, Google links etc.)	California

22	Better accountability by university, need better outreach and media coverage	Hawaii
20	Lack of information sharing	Guam
20	SARE succeeds but successes are not widely known	Guam
19	SARE should fund centers like Alcalde (New Mexico) and producers to apply results on the ground	New Mexico
18	Technical/clerical support to farmers who lack skills to submit proposals	New Mexico
17	Researchers should play a larger and more significant outreach role (make accountable!)	New Mexico
17	Not aware of how and where to access SARE information	New Mexico
17	Greater funding for SARE	California
15	Encourage broader-based research focus (too much production oriented) -- need more emphasis on demand side (marketing, financial management)	California
15	Farmer/rancher grant funds need to be increased for implementation	Hawaii
14	UH sustainable organic website and publications was erected with SARE funds	Hawaii
13	More local media releases to radio, newsletters and newspapers...	New Mexico
11	Use on-site visits to share info about SARE projects	New Mexico
11	Web-based forum by project (wiki) or other electronic means (eXtension)	Wyoming
11	Lack of information regarding program to producers	Hawaii
11	Overwhelmed extension agent (number of clients vs. number of agents)	Hawaii
10	Ensure SARE offerings are relevant to farmer and rancher interests	New Mexico
10	Follow up project with evaluation for adoption of practices	Wyoming
10	Release info through local media, faith groups, community land trust, schools, SCDs, Extension, etc.	Washington
10	State coordinator is 1,000 miles away	Guam
10	Grossly underserved; only 3 grants	Guam
9	Diversified outreach media to producers/extension	Wyoming
9	More news releases for SARE research/education projects featuring local farmers	Washington
8	Cross-pollination of federal agencies to avoid duplication	Wyoming
7	Use new technologies such as podcasts, talk casts, DVD, website, texting, etc.	New Mexico
7	Target additional \$\$\$ for post-project promotions	New Mexico
5	Lack of confidence among producers	Guam
5	Little information dissemination or awareness of grants or programs	Guam
4	High profile SARE recipients	Hawaii
3	Principal investigator needs extra assistance or \$\$ to do outreach	New Mexico
3	Good funding opportunities for applied research and extension	Hawaii
1	Research may not be really applicable, too complex, not grounded in production	New Mexico
1	SARE posters are beneficial	Hawaii
0	Match, in kind a problem in disadvantaged communities (NRCS?)	New Mexico
1523	Total Votes	

Presentations (25%)		
100	More local educational presentations (workshops, classes, field days, etc.) to producers and public on local topics of interest	Alaska
55	Farmer-to-farmer education and co-learning opportunities (field days, information exchange meetings, etc.)	California
55	Provide more money (stipends to attend conferences, research projects, organization matches, etc.)	Alaska

39	On-farm trials, publications, tours, demonstrations, farmer-to-farmer events	Washington
38	Engage K-12 education, provide training to kids (ag in the classroom, etc.)	Alaska
30	Have presence at local meetings, professional meetings, county fairs, other grower/commodity meetings	Wyoming
27	SARE should partner with other groups (ex. presence at tilth or regional conferences)	Washington
23	Onsite demonstrations by producers	Wyoming
10	Release info through local media, faith groups, community land trust, schools, SCDs, Extension, etc.	Washington

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Grant Process (25%)

37	There needs to be a better connection between research done and farmer/rancher needs	Hawaii
31	Some grants go directly to farmers and ranchers, which are most innovative	Hawaii
30	Add youth education component to grants	New Mexico
30	Good source of resources for alternative ag projects	Hawaii
30	SARE applications not user friendly	Guam
28	Better network between farmers and extension and research	Hawaii
25	Grant projects truly integrate farmers and ranchers into entire grant project	Washington
24	SARE needs to change reimbursement system to 1/3, 1/3, 1/3	Hawaii
23	Improve relevance of research to large-scale/mainstream agriculture	Wyoming
23	Onsite demonstrations by producers	Wyoming
17	Researchers should play a larger and more significant outreach role (make accountable!)	New Mexico
15	Encourage broader-based research focus (too much production oriented) -- need more emphasis on demand side (marketing, financial management)	California
15	Farmer/rancher grant funds need to be increased for implementation	Hawaii
10	Ensure SARE offerings are relevant to farmer and rancher interests	New Mexico
10	Follow up project with evaluation for adoption of practices	Wyoming
10	Grossly underserved; only 3 grants	Guam
9	Diversified outreach media to producers/extension	Wyoming
3	Principal investigator needs extra assistance or \$\$ to do outreach	New Mexico
3	Good funding opportunities for applied research and extension	Hawaii
1	Research may not be really applicable, too complex, not grounded in production	New Mexico
0	Match, in kind a problem in disadvantaged communities (NRCS?)	New Mexico

374

Other (23%)

43	Lack of awareness of SARE projects	Hawaii
40	Not enough communications	Guam
30	SARE needs to evaluate which of their grants have made it into mainstream and are well known	Hawaii
28	Use existing infrastructure and farmer interfacing groups (Farm Bureau, commodity boards, farmer markets) for communicating SARE info and opportunities	California
24	Resources targeted to education and community outreach, not farm business success	Hawaii
22	Better accountability by university, need better outreach and media coverage	Hawaii
20	Lack of information sharing	Guam
20	SARE succeeds but successes are not widely known	Guam
19	SARE should fund centers like Alcalde (New Mexico) and producers to apply results on the ground	New Mexico

18	Technical/clerical support to farmers who lack skills to submit proposals	New Mexico
17	Not aware of how and where to access SARE information	New Mexico
17	Greater funding for SARE	California
11	Lack of information regarding program to producers	Hawaii
11	Overwhelmed extension agent (number of clients vs number of agents)	Hawaii
8	Cross-pollination of federal agencies to avoid duplication	Wyoming
7	Target additional \$\$\$ for post-project promotions	New Mexico
5	Lack of confidence among producers	Guam
5	Little information dissemination or awareness of grants or programs	Guam
4	High-profile SARE recipients	Hawaii

349

Electronic/Internet/Social Media (12%)

43	Disseminate more information in Internet-based venues (blogs, email, social networks, online courses, etc.)	Alaska
36	Put together a package of best practices/helps (searchable, video, web page, YouTube, online courses, modules, lectures, media kit examples, workshops, etc.)	Washington
23	Use more contemporary forms of outreach using electronic media (FaceBook, Twitter, video, audio, YouTube, blogs and improved websites)	California
23	National/regional websites restructuring to compile/organize projects database; increase searchability	Washington
22	Improve websites (better project search, keywords, search optimization, more user friendly, subscribe to research updates, Google links etc.)	California
14	UH sustainable organic website and publications was erected with SARE funds	Hawaii
13	More local news releases to radio, newsletters and newspapers...	New Mexico
11	Use on-site visits to share info about SARE projects	New Mexico
11	Web-based forum by project (wiki) or other electronic means (e-Xtension)	Wyoming
7	Use new technologies such as podcasts, talk casts, DVD, website, texting, etc.	New Mexico

203

Written Materials (10%)

79	Disseminate more region-specific information (research results, locally adapted cultivars or livestock, big ideas for small places, etc.)	Alaska
31	Require popular media (trade journal/tv/billboards) or extension publications of results	Wyoming
27	SARE research results getting into farm media and popular media, FSA, Conservation Districts, NRCS	Washington
13	More local news releases to radio, newsletters, and newspapers...	New Mexico
9	More news releases for SARE research/education projects featuring local farmers	Washington
1	SARE posters are beneficial	Hawaii

160

PDP (5%)

48	Provide info and help CES do their job better	Alaska
37	Better outreach to extension agents, producers and ag professionals (research results, hands-on workshops)	Wyoming
10	State coordinator is 1,000 miles away	Guam

95

Recommendation to Western SARE AC – Question #4

Question 4: What type of research, education and development projects will be necessary over the next 10 years to help economically sustain farming and the environment?

Question 4 (Research, 80%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Question 4 (Sustainable Farm Systems, 35%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Develop a process for funding grants for longer terms (5-10 years) within current guidelines and policies on R&E grants.

Develop true sustainable farm systems research and education grant process that include as many aspects of the components of whole systems as possible. These may include: whole island systems, native systems, local food sources, new varieties, non-traditional farming, season extension technologies, storage systems, water conservation, nutrients + soil conservation, energy conservation, integrated natural resource management, local crops & livestock, small-scale food production systems and control of invasive species.

Question 4 (Soils, 16%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage research/education into soil improvement and sustainability at all grant levels.

Encourage research/education into utilization/development of local fertilizers sources.

Question 4 (Energy, 11%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage research/education into alternative/renewable and sustainable energy sources (wind, solar, biofuels).

Encourage where appropriate energy sustainability as part of Sustainable Farm Systems grants proposals.

Question 4 (Economics, 8%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage research/education into identifying, evaluating, reducing, managing the real costs of agriculture.

Encourage research/education into increasing the value of production and decreasing the cost of production.

Question 4 (Crops, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage research/education on plant propagation, seed development and plant breeding for sustainable production.

Question 4 (Water, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage where appropriate water conservation/quality/quantity/storage and efficiencies as part of sustainable farm systems grants proposals.

Encourage research/education into crops with low water use and their nutrient efficiencies.

Continue to find way to encourage and fund additional programs with State Coordinators.

Question 4 (Entomology, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage varroa mite research/education as part of the whole system approach in sustainable farm system grant proposals.

Question 4 (Sociology, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Encourage social aspects within the sustainable farm systems grant proposals.
Question 4 (Education, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Develop a process, or a targeted grant, to address the needs for sustainable farm and garden demonstrations that involve tried and tested sustainable agricultural best management practices.
Incorporate youth-based sustainable agricultural education programs into Western SARE (K-12 and Higher Ed.) grants
Question 4 (Food Safety, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Encourage research/education on safety regulations on different types of farms.
Encourage research/education on environmental and nutritional characteristics of local, fresh food on children and adults.
Question 4 (Marketing, 2%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Encourage research/education on marketing (improving marketing, value added processes and ag diversification.
Question 4 (Sustainable Pest Management, 1%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Encourage sustainable pest management as part of the whole system approach in sustainable farm systems grants.
Question 4 (Animal Science, 1%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Encourage the linkage of crops and livestock within the whole systems approach in sustainable farm systems grants.
Question 4 (Education, 12%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Encourage education efforts in all grant programs on sustainable agricultural practices, food safety, bio-security, entrepreneurship, traditional food systems/diets, use of local foods and marketing of ag products.
Incorporate youth-based sustainable agricultural education programs into Western SARE (K-12 and Higher Ed.) grants.
Incorporate more public-based sustainable agricultural education programs into Western SARE.
Question 4 (Development, 8%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC
Assist in the process of creating a discussion with qualified partners and organizations in how to assist in developing or upgrading local infrastructure (processing, storage, mobile and local meat processing, local feed and feed mill development facilities).

Total Day 2	Question 4: What type of research, education and development projects will be necessary over the next 10 years to help economically sustain farming and the environment?	Location
76	Soil improvement and sustainability (including composting)	Alaska
92	How to reduce farm inputs, reduce fuel cost, efficiency modeling, on-farm fertilizer production	Hawaii
61	More collaborative projects to develop whole farm systems for Hawaii	Hawaii
54	Developing local infrastructure (processing, storage, suppliers, etc.)	Alaska
52	Energy-efficient, low-impact farming	Alaska
51	Explore alternative food systems (including native systems, food sources, new varieties, unconventional farming)	Alaska
51	Mobile and local processing	Washington
48	Ag economics (identifying, evaluating, reducing, managing the real costs of agriculture, etc.)	Alaska
47	Support projects that develop regional food sheds	Washington
45	Varroa mite research (for bees)	Hawaii
42	Season extension (greenhouses, hoop houses, storage, freezing, drying, etc.)	Alaska
42	Education of marketing	Hawaii
40	Systems research -- urban areas needed	Washington
40	Plant propagation	Guam
37	Systems approach to water conservation, nutrients + soil conservation, energy conservation, integrated natural resource management	California
36	Basic ag education for public (workshops, classes, news tips, how-to presentations, for gardeners, new farmers, etc.)	Alaska
36	Water conservation/Quality/Quantity /Storage/efficiency	New Mexico
32	Seed development -- variety development, local seed production	Hawaii
30	Longer term grants and systems research	Wyoming
30	Develop local resources for fertilizer	Hawaii
30	Alternative energy	Washington
30	Control invaders	Guam
28	Better integration of local crop and livestock systems	Wyoming
25	On-farm energy and availability	New Mexico
24	Increase local small-scale food production systems	New Mexico
23	Water: availability, policy, conservation, efficiency, crop specific, low water use crops	California
23	Research increasing value of production, decreased cost of production	Wyoming
23	Research gap between producers and consumers (transportation, marketing, processing)	Wyoming
22	Increase research on quantitative systems analysis (net energy positive/water efficient)	Wyoming
22	Consumer education for traditional food production systems and diets --teach consumers how to use these crops to their benefit	Hawaii
20	Environmental education	Guam
20	Feed and feedmill development	Guam
19	Entrepreneurship skills, education, youth involvement/mentorship, how farmers can access capital at reasonable rates	California
19	Food safety Issues: effects of safety regulations on different types of farms, effects on habitat plantings, etc.)	California
18	Social projects: farm succession, beginning farmer/rancher & sweat equity	California

17	K-12 ag-education programs	Washington
16	Research and education on water quality and quantity	Wyoming
15	Research on environment and nutritional characteristics of local, fresh food (children and adults)	Wyoming
14	Marketing research -- future needs	Washington
13	K-12 on farm	New Mexico
13	Research with on-farm renewable energy opportunities, alternative fuels and carbon sequestration	California
13	Plant breeding for sustainable production (ex. non-fumigated soils)	California
13	Sustainable pest management systems and transitions between approaches (e.g. farming with fumigants)	California
13	Target grants to priorities identified in question #1	Wyoming
12	Research on renewable energy (wind, solar, biofuel)	Wyoming
10	Increase R&E on whole farm systems	New Mexico
10	What was the Hawaiian food production system that fed so many? Use as base for current research	Hawaii
10	More advanced degrees in ag	Guam
10	Target women and youth	Guam
9	How to effect change and live with public policy	New Mexico
9	Educate population on sustainable practices	New Mexico
7	College curriculum on land ethics	New Mexico
7	Question sustainability of biofuels	New Mexico
6	Increase food safety and bio-security training	New Mexico
6	Increase water efficiency and nutrient potential	New Mexico
5	Develop linkages and networks	Guam
5	Improve marketing/value-added	Guam
5	Ag diversification	Guam
5	Demonstration farms	Guam
5	Livestock and crop breeding	Guam
0	Black and/or woman president -- preferably republican	New Mexico
1536	Total Votes	

Research (80%)		
Sustainable Farm Systems (35%)		
61	More collaborative projects to develop whole farm systems for Hawaii	Hawaii
51	Explore alternative food systems (including native systems, food sources, new varieties, unconventional farming)	Alaska
47	Support projects that develop regional food sheds	Washington
42	Season extension (greenhouses, hoop houses, storage, freezing, drying, etc.)	Alaska
40	Systems research -- urban areas needed	Washington
37	Systems approach to water conservation, nutrients + soil conservation, energy conservation, integrated natural resource management	California
30	Longer term grants and systems research	Wyoming
30	Control invaders	Guam
28	Better integration of local crop and livestock systems	Wyoming
24	Increase local small-scale food production systems	New Mexico
22	Increase research on quantitative systems analysis (net energy positive/water efficient)	Wyoming
10	Increase R&E on whole farm systems	New Mexico

Soils (16%)

76	Soil improvement and sustainability (including composting)	Alaska
92	How to reduce farm inputs, reduce fuel cost, efficiency modeling, on-farm fertilizer production	Hawaii
30	Develop local resources for fertilizer	Hawaii

198

Energy (11%)

52	Energy-efficient, low-impact farming	Alaska
30	Alternative energy	Washington
25	On-farm energy and availability	New Mexico
13	Research with on-farm renewable energy opportunities, alternative fuels and carbon sequestration	California
12	Research on renewable energy (wind, solar, biofuel)	Wyoming
7	Question sustainability of biofuels	New Mexico

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Economics (8%)

48	Ag economics (identifying, evaluating, reducing, managing the real costs of agriculture, etc.)	Alaska
23	Researching increasing value of production, decreased cost of production	Wyoming
23	Research gap between producers and consumers (transportation, marketing, processing)	Wyoming

94

Crops (7%)

40	Plant propagation	Guam
32	Seed development -- variety development, local seed production	Hawaii
13	Plant breeding for sustainable production (ex. non-fumigated soils)	California

85

Water (7%)

36	Water conservation/quality /quantity /storage/efficiency	New Mexico
23	Water: availability, policy, conservation, efficiency, crop specific, low water use crops	California
16	Research and education on water quality and quantity	Wyoming
6	Increase water efficiency and nutrient potential	New Mexico

81

Entomology (4%)

45	Varroa mite research (for bees)	Hawaii
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45

Sociology (3%)

18	Social projects: farm succession, beginning farmer/rancher and sweat equity	California
10	What was the Hawaiian food production system that fed so many? Use as base for current research	Hawaii
9	How to effect change and live with public policy	New Mexico
5	Develop linkages and networks	Guam

42

Education (3%)

13	K-12 on farm	New Mexico
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13	Targeted grants to priorities identified in question #1 (education)	Wyoming
7	college curriculum on land ethics	New Mexico
5	Demonstration farms	Guam
38		

Food Safety (3%)

19	Food safety Issues: effects of safety regulations on different types of farms, effects on habitat plantings, etc.)	California
15	Research on environmental and nutritional characteristics of local, fresh food (children and adults)	Wyoming
34		

Marketing (2%)

14	Marketing research -- future needs	Washington
5	Improve marketing/value-added	Guam
5	Ag diversification	Guam
24		

Sustainable Pest Management (1%)

13	Sustainable pest management systems and transitions between approaches (e.g. farming with fumigants)	California
13		

Animal Science (1%)

5	Livestock and crop breeding	Guam
5		

1220 Total for Research

Education (12%)

42	Education of marketing	Hawaii
36	Basic ag education for public (workshops, classes, news tips, how-to presentations, for gardeners, new farmers, etc.)	Alaska
22	Consumer education for traditional food production systems and diets/ teach consumers how to use these crops to their benefit	Hawaii
20	Environmental education	Guam
19	Entrepreneurship skills, education, youth involvement/mentorship, how farmers can access capital at reasonable rates	California
17	K-12 ag education programs	Washington
10	More advanced degrees in ag	Guam
10	Target women and youth	Guam
9	Educate population on sustainable practices	New Mexico
6	Increase food safety and bio-security training	New Mexico
191		

Development (8%)

54	Develop local infrastructure (processing, storage, suppliers, etc.)	Alaska
51	Mobile and local processing	Washington
20	Feed and feedmill development	Guam
125		

Recommendation to Western SARE AC – Question #5

Question 5: If Western SARE received (from Congress) an additional \$1 million (or more) per region, what types of projects should be targeted or emphasized?

Question 5 (Education, 35%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Develop a process, or a targeted grant, to address the needs for sustainable farm and garden demonstrations that involve tried and tested sustainable agricultural best management practices.

Incorporate youth-based sustainable agricultural education programs into Western SARE (K-12 and higher ed.) grants.

Incorporate more producer-based sustainable agricultural education programs into Western SARE.

Find new ways to encourage adoption and 'on-the-farm' outreach to producers (Extension, NRCS, producer-to-producer networking, etc.).

Question 5 (Sustainable Farm Systems, 17%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Develop a process for funding grants for longer terms (5-10 year) within current guidelines and policies.

Develop true sustainable Farm Systems research and education grant process that include as many aspects of the components of whole systems as possible. These may include: nutrition and nutritive value of food, anthropological and sociological aspects, impact of sustainable systems on global climate change, resilient food system, regional food security, victory gardens, rural systems, whole systems, life cycles, and economics, locally produced, permaculture, etc.).

Question 5 (Energy, 12%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage research/education into alternative sustainable energy sources at the 'farm/ranch' level.

Encourage where appropriate energy sustainability as part of sustainable farm systems grants proposals.

Question 5 (Marketing, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Continue to encourage marketing research within Western SARE grant proposals.

Question 5 (Soils, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage where appropriate soil (quality/quantity) as part of sustainable farm systems grants proposals.

Question 5 (Water, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage where appropriate water (quality/quantity) as part of sustainable farm systems grants proposals.

Question 5 (Professional Development Program, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Continue to find way to encourage and fund additional programs with State Coordinators.

Question 5 (Animal Science, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage animal science research as part of the whole system approach in sustainable farm system grant proposals.

Question 5 (Entomology, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Continue to encourage bee research within IPM and sustainable farm systems grant proposals.

Question 5 (Season Extension, 3%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage season extension technologies with sustainable farm systems research proposals.

Question 5 (Outreach, 2%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Partner if possible with local underserved organizations and associations.

Question 5 (Farmer/Rancher Grants, 2%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Increase funding amount for Farmer/Rancher Grants, \$300,000, and Professional + Producer Grants, \$300,000.

Question 5 (Other, 1%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Collaborate more closely with NGOs in addressing their needs.

Question 5 (Aquaculture 1%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Include aquaculture as a subject matter area for future grant proposals.

Question 5 (Food Safety 1%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Include food safety as a subject matter area for future grant proposals.

Total Day 2	Question 5: If Western SARE received (from Congress) an additional \$1 million (or more) per region, what types of projects should be targeted or emphasized?	Location
76	Using local sources of soil nutrients (compost, fish vegetation etc.) to their best abilities	Alaska
72	Energy efficiency and alternative energy for sustainable production methods for producers (sustainable energy technology: solar heating/electrical power for producers, DIY wind, solar, electric, hot water systems and biofuels, hydroponic)	Alaska
69	Invest in school gardens, elementary education and consuming food in cafeteria	Hawaii
64	Education/involvement of youth on SA practices, agriculture in general (includes K-12), internships on farms and in colleges	Alaska
59	Whole farm energy and nutrient systems	Washington
58	Garden demonstration projects (local, community, apartments, school, tribal and village) locally produced food, how to grow your own food, how to add value to products	Alaska
56	Agricultural research (includes economic evaluations) of all aspects of sustainable farming systems, including permaculture	Alaska
53	Set up tropical demonstration farm project (community-based sustainability project)	Hawaii
41	Save the bees, research to save the bees	Hawaii
40	New farmer and on-farm education	Washington
40	Put livestock at top of list	Guam
39	Model farms demonstrating sustainable practices	Wyoming
38	High tunnels and season extension efforts (including cold frames) , greenhouses (including heating questions and commercial producers)	Alaska
38	Extend local marketing	Hawaii
38	Support regional food and farm enterprise innovation and incubation centers	Washington
34	Youth-based programs and education of kids and youth	New Mexico
34	Educate legislators about sustainable agriculture	Hawaii
34	Develop and support western Rodale-like sustainable ag institutes (in every state)	Washington
33	Energy balance projects that look at conventional vs. integrated energy designed on-farm production systems	Wyoming
30	Focus on local production and use	Guam
29	Longer-term and larger grants for interdisciplinary systems research (whole systems, life cycle analysis etc.)	California
27	Enhance education for beginning farmers (including peer-to-peer and hard-core incubator programs)	California
27	Research on farming with shrinking water supplies, irrigation management, water quality	California
26	Create informational database for new farmers	Hawaii
25	Energy research, alternative energy, energy efficiency, local/renewable energy	New Mexico
25	Fund grants for longer periods (such as long-term cropping and crop/animal systems)	New Mexico
23	Aquaculture on-shore and off-shore integrated with crop production	Hawaii
22	Strengthen state PDP programs (mini-grants) administered by State Coordinators	Wyoming
22	Spend all on FRGs	Wyoming
22	Sub-grants to teachers to add sustainable agriculture to classrooms K-12	Hawaii
20	Longer-term projects /systems	Wyoming
20	Ag practices and food safety -- including performance/quality-based assessments	Washington
20	Sustainable farm leadership institute	Washington
20	Education for students and staff	Guam
20	Assistant coordinators on remote islands	Guam
18	Research on a resilient food system, regional food security, victory gardens and rural systems	California

17	Fund outreach to socially disadvantaged and underserved populations	New Mexico
17	Energy research, co-ops using solar panels to create carbon credit banks, alternative fuels, etc.	California
17	Document impact of sustainable systems on global climate change	Wyoming
15	Water use, quality and quantity	New Mexico
13	Research and education on value-added products, agri-tourism, carbon credits, new markets/products	California
13	Anthropological and sociological studies of agricultural systems	California
12	Fund consumer grants	Wyoming
11	Nutrition and nutritive value of sustainably grown products	New Mexico
11	Fund bigger and larger FRG projects because a frustration for \$15,000	New Mexico
10	Increase SARE capacity for more significant national presence and more OUTREACH	California
10	Emphasize projects in line with human resources	Guam
10	Empower groups like NGOs	Guam
9	Fund top priorities (water, marketing, education and energy)	New Mexico
7	High-quality outreach without going through a grant	Wyoming
6	Dedicated SARE directed research facility	Wyoming
5	Use individuals as role models	Guam
5	Increase professional development	Guam
5	Regional programs on livestock genetics, feed production and outreach	Guam
5	Coordinate and enhance marketing	Guam
5	Farm demonstrations sites	Guam
3	Funding for marketing the SARE program (such mass media, etc.)	New Mexico
1518	Total Votes	

Education (35%)		
69	Invest in school gardens, elementary education and consuming food in cafeteria	Hawaii
64	Education/Involvement of youth on sustainable agriculture practices, agriculture in general (includes K-12), internships on farms and in colleges	Alaska
58	Garden demonstration projects (local, community, apartments, school, tribal, and village) locally produced food, how to grow your own food, how to add value to products	Alaska
53	Set up tropical demonstration farm project (community-based sustainability project)	Hawaii
40	New farmer and on-farm education	Washington
39	Model farms demonstrating sustainable practices	Wyoming
34	Youth-based programs and education of kids and youth	New Mexico
34	Educate legislators about sustainable agriculture	Hawaii
27	Enhance education for beginning farmers (including peer-to-peer and hard-core incubator programs)	California
26	Create informational database for new farmers	Hawaii
22	Sub-grants to teachers to add sustainable agriculture to classrooms K-12	Hawaii
20	Sustainable farm leadership institute	Washington
20	Education for students and staff	Guam
12	Fund consumer grants	Wyoming
9	Fund top priorities (water, marketing, education and energy)	New Mexico
5	Use individuals as role models	Guam
5	Farm demonstrations sites	Guam
537		

Sustainable Farm Systems (17%)

56	Agricultural research (includes economic evaluations) of all aspects of sustainable farming systems, including permaculture	Alaska
34	Develop and support western Rodale-like sustainable agriculture institutes (in every state)	Washington
30	Focus on local production and use	Guam
29	Longer-term and larger grants for interdisciplinary systems research (whole systems, life cycle analysis, etc)	California
25	Fund grants for longer periods (such as long-term cropping and crop/animal systems)	New Mexico
20	Longer-term projects/systems	Wyoming
18	Research on resilient food systems, regional food security, victory gardens and rural systems	California
17	Document impact of sustainable systems on global climate change	Wyoming
13	Anthropological and sociological studies of agricultural systems	California
11	Nutrition and nutritive value of sustainably grown products	New Mexico

253

Energy Sustainability (12%)

72	Energy efficiency and alternative energy for sustainable production methods for producers (sustainable energy technology: solar heating/electrical power for producers, DIY wind, solar, electric, hot water systems and biofuels, hydroponic)	Alaska
30	Whole farm energy systems	Washington
33	Energy balance projects that look at conventional vs. integrated energy designed on-farm production systems	Wyoming
25	Energy research, alternative energy, energy efficiency, local/renewable energy	New Mexico
17	Energy research, co-ops using solar panels to create carbon credit banks, alternative fuels, etc.	California
9	Fund top priorities (water, marketing, education and energy)	New Mexico

186

Marketing (7%)

38	Extend local marketing	Hawaii
38	Support regional food and farm enterprise innovation and incubation centers	Washington
13	Research and education on value-added products, agri-tourism, carbon credits, new markets/products	California
9	Fund top priorities (water, marketing, education and energy)	New Mexico
5	Coordinate and enhance marketing	Guam
3	Funding for marketing the SARE program (such as mass media, etc.)	New Mexico

106

Soils (7%)

76	Using local sources of soil nutrients (compost, fish, vegetation etc.) to their best abilities	Alaska
29	Whole farm nutrient systems	Washington

105

Water (3%)

27	Research of farming with shrinking water supplies, irrigation management, water quality	California
15	Water use, quality and quantity	New Mexico
9	Fund top priorities (water, marketing, education and energy)	New Mexico

51

Professional Development Program (3%)

22	Strengthen state PDP programs (mini-grants) administered by State Coordinators	Wyoming
20	Assistant coordinators on remote islands	Guam
5	Increase professional development	Guam
47		

Animal Science (3%)

40	Put livestock at top of list	Guam
5	Regional programs on livestock genetics, feed production and outreach	Guam
45		

Entomology (3%)

41	Save the bees, research to save the bees	Hawaii
41		

Season Extension Technology (3%)

38	High tunnels and season extension efforts (including cold frames) , greenhouses (including heating questions and commercial producers)	Alaska
38		

Outreach (2%)

17	Fund outreach to socially disadvantaged and underserved populations	New Mexico
10	Increase SARE capacity for more significant national presence and more OUTREACH	California
7	High-quality outreach without going through a grant	Wyoming
34		

Farmer/Rancher Grants (2%)

22	Spend all on FRGs	Wyoming
11	Fund bigger and larger FRG projects because a frustration for \$15,000	New Mexico
33		

Other (1%)

10	Emphasize projects in line with human resources	Guam
10	Empower groups like NGOs	Guam
6	Dedicated SARE-directed research facility	Wyoming
26		

Aquaculture (1%)

23	Aquaculture on-shore and off-shore integrated with crop production	Hawaii
23		

Food Safety (1%)

20	Ag practices and Food Safety - Including performance/quality-based assessments	Washington
20		

Recommendation to Western SARE AC – Question #6

Question 6: How can we (Western SARE) overcome barriers that may prevent underserved groups, including socially disadvantaged groups, from applying for and receiving SARE funding?

Question 6 (Outreach, 48%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

When doing SARE outreach (National and Western Region) programs strive to have incorporated ways to assist and reach underserved groups, including socially disadvantaged groups.

Partner if possible with local underserved organizations and associations. Direct outreach to targeted community groups and leaders, United Farm Workers, churches, tribes, etc.

Increase the amount of press releases to FSA, Conservation Districts, Extension and other agencies/partners that assist these groups.

Question 6 (Grant Process, 36%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Targeted CFPs that utilize/educate/work with Western SARE-identified underserved groups.

Provide sample grant applications.

Question 6 (Education, 9%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

More fully incorporate education and demonstration projects into all existing grant programs.

Question 6 (Other, 7%): Recommendations to Western SARE AC

Encourage agricultural professionals and educators to utilize the national training program on sustainable agriculture.

Total Day 2	Question 6: How can we (Western SARE) overcome barriers that may prevent underserved groups, including socially disadvantaged groups, from applying for and receiving SARE funding?	Location
87	More outreach to these groups with a funded position -- travel to the areas	Alaska
82	Provide extra points to grant writers who target minority groups in their grants	Hawaii
67	Provide funding support for mentors to build community relationships and to collaboratively apply for grants	Washington
63	Education and demonstration projects	Alaska
62	Western SARE is largest and most diverse; they should get more dollars for funding	Hawaii
59	Promote farming as a viable vocation and science	Alaska
58	Employ a liaison to work with farmers and others on grant applications and help get things going	Alaska
58	Partner with regional groups, tribes, communities, extension, FSA, etc.	Alaska
49	Western SARE pubs in non-English languages (Laos, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Spanish)	Hawaii
48	Increase number of educators with sustainable ag background and knowledge	Hawaii
43	Post-grant management workshops	Hawaii
37	Develop partnerships with organizations serving these communities	New Mexico
35	Provide funding to local entities to target locally identified, underserved audiences	Wyoming
35	Consider "agriculture in the middle" as a disadvantage groups	Wyoming
33	SARE grant writing workshops for underserved and have mentors available, real proposals, help research project material	California
32	Targeted grant writing assistance and SARE introduction to underserved audiences	Wyoming
32	Hire or contract skilled individuals who can build interest and capacity with underserved groups	Wyoming
28	Identify underserved groups and their specific needs, and then prioritize SARE projects by use focus groups	California
28	Identify who the groups are and their barriers and needs	Washington
27	Develop capacity in communities to assume project leadership	New Mexico
27	Partner with local underserved organizations and associations; direct outreach to targeted community groups and leaders, United Farm Workers, churches	California
27	Allocate more money to Western SARE	Hawaii
25	Calls for proposals should be released that fund projects specifically targeted to underserved groups, such as migrant labor	California
24	Advisors to assist farmers, community groups, food kitchens and faith groups with good ideas to write and submit grants	Washington
21	Team with migrant councils, refugee and tribal centers for linkages and education efforts	Washington
20	Focus on spreading the word about the SARE program through local networks, web portals, libraries and community leaders, etc.	Washington
19	Diversity within SARE, diversity represented on governing bodies, reconfigure SARE, examine central mission, staff diversity	California
19	Grant writing workshops and other helps to underserved audiences in a culturally relevant manner	Washington
18	Have a sample grant available	New Mexico
18	Hire/engage/partner local leaders	California
18	Outreach to Native American food production groups	Wyoming
17	Education, communication, and outreach (extension professionals) in native languages	Wyoming
16	More public relations and mentoring about SARE, writing grants for underserved audiences	New Mexico

16	Target funds for groups that work with underserved audiences	Washington
14	Print RFA's and publications in Spanish and other languages (put on website)	Wyoming
13	Make more press releases to FSA, Conservation Districts, and other agencies/partners	New Mexico
12	Re-education of existing traditional farmers	Washington
11	Simplify the process	New Mexico
10	Increase Extension networking	New Mexico
10	More feedback, support, one-on-one contact and clarification; hold with writing and ideas	New Mexico
7	More and different forms of GRANT WRITING instructions	New Mexico
4	Win2K compatible/make it compatible with my system	New Mexico
0	Staff-assisted grant applications	New Mexico
0	Provide information in various appropriate languages	Hawaii
1329	Total Votes	

Outreach (48%)		
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59	Promote farming as a viable vocation and science	Alaska
58	Partner with regional groups, tribes, communities, extension, FSA, etc.	Alaska
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636		
Grant Process (36 %)		
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486

Education (9%)

63	Education and demonstration projects	Alaska
21	Team with migrant councils, refugee and tribal centers for linkages and education efforts	Washington
17	Education, communication and outreach (extension professionals) in native languages	Wyoming
12	Re-education of existing traditional farmers	Washington

113

Other (7%)

48	Increase number of educators with sustainable ag background and knowledge	Hawaii
27	Allocate more money to Western SARE	Hawaii
19	Diversity within SARE, diversity represented on governing bodies, reconfigure SARE, examine central mission, staff diversity	California

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