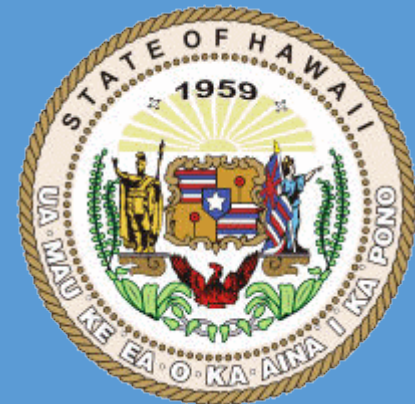


# Carbon Farming Task Force

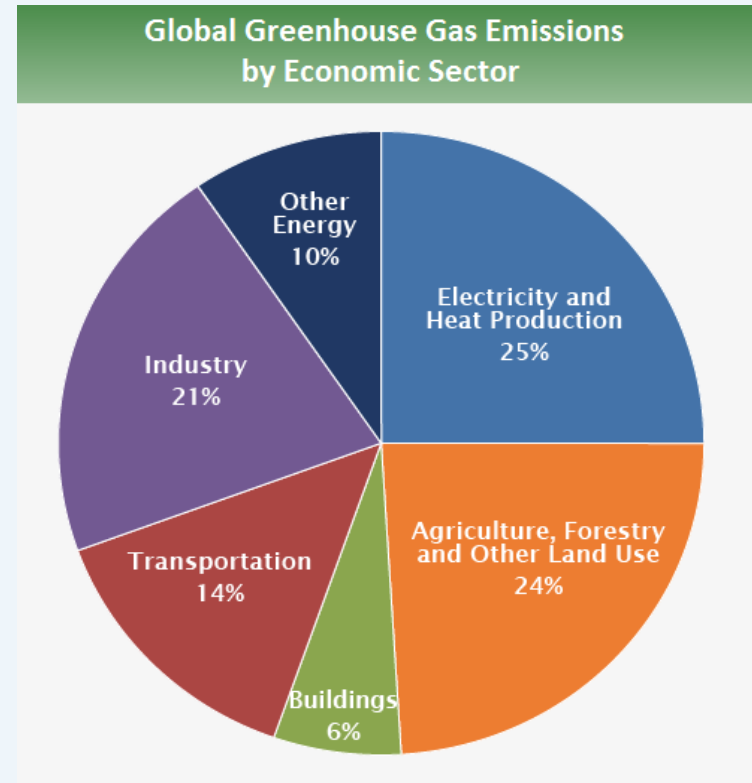
## Act 033, SLH 2017



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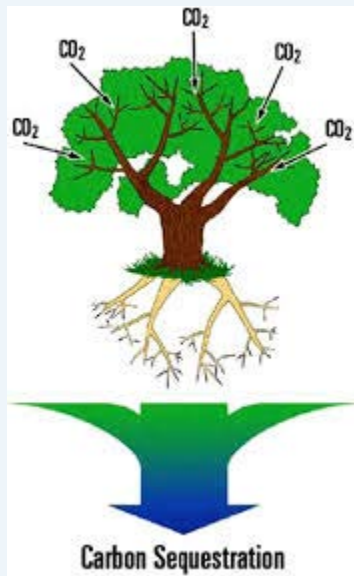
# Carbon Farming Task Force

- Worldwide, slightly less than 25% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions are the result of deforestation and agricultural emissions from livestock, soil and nutrient management.
- Specifically, world agricultural practices constitute 10% to 12% of global anthropogenic GHG emissions.
- Forestry and other land use practices around the world account for 12% of anthropogenic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 2000 to 2009.



# Carbon Farming Task Force

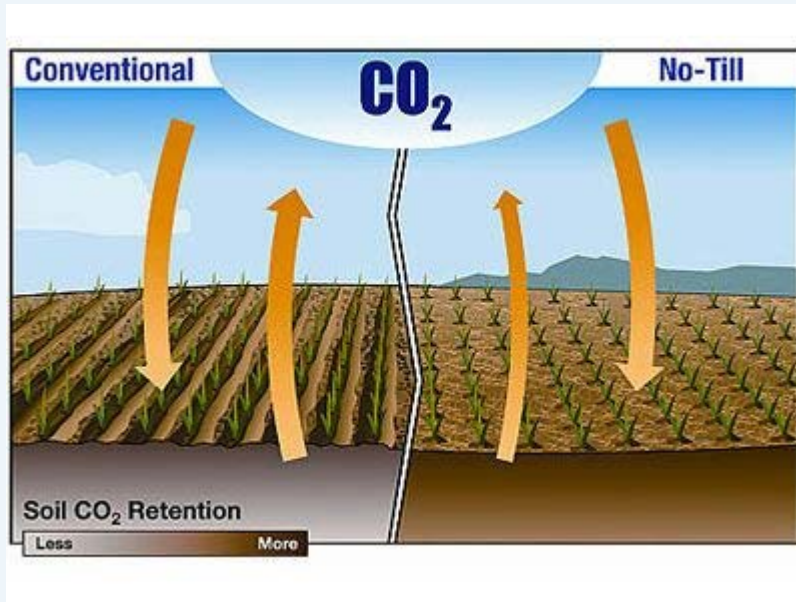
In Hawaii in 2007, 3.42% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions may be attributed to agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU). This is roughly 0.83 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent.



In Hawaii in 2007, AFOLU sinks, which are reservoirs that take up carbon dioxide from another part of the cycle, absorbed roughly 2.75 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. This is more than what Hawaii AFOLU practices produced.



# Carbon Farming Task Force

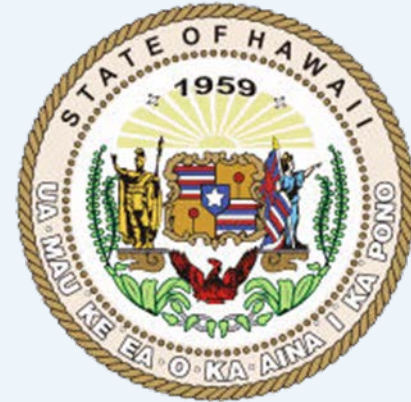


- Some recommended agricultural and forestry mitigation activities include:
  - Management changes within the same land-use type to reduce carbon losses from biota and soils (*e.g.*, switching from tillage to no-till cropping); and
  - Enhancing carbon sequestration in soils and promoting long-lived products such as forests by afforestation and reforestation.
- It has been estimated that the costs of reducing GHG emissions will be less than the costs of climate change effects and impacts.



# Carbon Farming Task Force

The Hawaii State Legislature in the 29<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, 2017, recognized that climate change is real and poses a serious threat to the State's economy, sustainability, and natural resources.



It is undisputed that current agriculture, forestry and land use practices contribute to anthropogenic GHG emissions.

The Legislature passed HB 1578, relating to climate change, which was signed into law as Act 033, SLH 2017.



# Carbon Farming Task Force

Act 033 establishes the Carbon Farming Task Force.



Act 033 recognizes:

- Agricultural land management practices can sequester carbon and provide GHG benefits and decrease marine sedimentation;
- It is in the public interest to create a basic certification for carbon-negative agricultural practices;
- Local farmers could benefit from carbon credit subsidies; and
- Hawaii businesses and industries could invest locally to offset their emissions if a carbon credit market was implemented.



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# Carbon Farming Task Force

Pursuant to Act 033, the Task Force is charged with identifying:

- Agricultural practices;
- Aquacultural practices;
- Agroforestry practices;
- Public land use, land use, agriculture use, and marine use policies;
- On-farm management practices; and
- Mitigation options;

That would increase climate resilience, improve carbon sequestration in Hawaii, build healthy soils, and provide GHG benefits.



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# Carbon Farming Task Force

Pursuant to Act 033, the Task Force is charged with identifying:

- Short- and long-term benchmarks for increasing carbon sequestration in Hawaii's agricultural and natural environment to reach carbon neutrality;
- Criteria that may be used in a certification program to measure:
  - Baseline levels and increases in carbon sequestration;
  - Improvements in soil health; and
  - Other key indicators of GHG benefits from beneficial agricultural and aquacultural practices that may be used to create a certification program to promote agricultural and aquacultural practices that generate GHG benefits; and
- Ways to increase the generation and use of compost.





# Carbon Farming Task Force

Pursuant to Act 033, the Task Force is charged with promoting agricultural and aquaculture practices to produce GHG benefits through:

- Incentives;
- Grants;
- Research; and
- Assistance



# Carbon Farming Task Force



The Task Force is to submit a Preliminary Report of its findings and recommendations with any proposed legislation 20 days prior the convening of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session.

The Task Force is to submit a Final Report of its findings and recommendations with any proposed legislation 20 days prior the convening of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session.



The Task Force will sunset on June 30, 2025.

# Office of Planning

Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism

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