

Climate Beneficial™ Fibers

*Create your next product launch.
Small batch to large volume, woven & knit.*



Climate Beneficial™
Restore. Heal. Repeat.

Photo from CO COLLECTIONS, Natural Worlds 2021



FIBERSHED

Brought to you by the California-based nonprofit



Natural fiber production rooted in climate change amelioration

Climate Beneficial™ is a verification process established by the non-profit Fibershed and Carbon Cycle Institute which ensures that Carbon Farm Plans are developed and implemented on the landscapes where natural fibers such as cotton and wool are grown and raised. Farmers and ranchers employ verified land stewardship practices that improve soil health, improve ecological function, and mitigate climate change by sequestering atmospheric carbon.

Join the movement

Produce 100% natural, enduring designs using Climate Beneficial Fibers. We can also help scaffold your end-to-end domestic distribution channel for the production of apparel, home & soft goods.



*Top: The Grange
(Photo by Paige Green)*

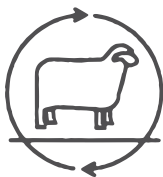
*Above, CO COLLECTIONS,
Natural Worlds 2021*

Right, Mara Hoffman



Climate Beneficial Fibers in California

Climate Beneficial Wool



California's inland, drier climates and high desert regions favor fine wool sheep breeds that offer soft yet strong fiber for beautiful knitwear and woven fabrics. This commercial grade yarn has a consistent twist, an exquisite hand feel, and is available in 2/24 worsted count—excellent for use in flatbed knitting, circular knitting, and a variety of wovens from twill to plain weave. In Northern California, foggy coastal regions are home to sheep with wool well suited for bedding, durable products, and home goods. Generating nearly 3 million pounds of wool per year, California wool production pairs well with time-honored landscape stewardship practices that have been scientifically modeled to measure carbon drawdown.

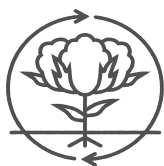
Sourcing Climate Beneficial Wool

- **Climate Beneficial Fiber Pool (climatebeneficialfiberpool.com/wool):** A sourcing platform for natural natural fibers, yarn, and textiles, where brands have the opportunity to source verified Climate Beneficial fine wool from California ranchers. This fiber pool is a partnership between Fibershed and Imperial Yarn and provides “Land to Hand” guidance for domestic manufacturing. Since its inception in 2020 we have developed over 200,000 lbs of wool, reigniting a domestic supply chain that delivers revenue to landscapes actively engaged in climate work.
- **Fibershed's Producer Directory (fibershed.org/producer-directory):** Designers can connect directly with regional producers for Climate Beneficial Verified and Transitional fiber, yarn, and fabric.



Above, wool sponges from Full Circle Wool; right, sheep at Bodega Pastures (Photos by Paige Green)

Climate Beneficial Cotton



Flowering cotton fields are part of an annual agricultural cycle of food and fiber production in California. Following Fibershed's Climate Beneficial Verification process, California



cotton growers and researchers are currently piloting the incorporation of carbon farming practices such as multispecies cover cropping, compost application, and reduced tillage in cotton farming systems, creating a measurable impact on ecosystem health and cultivating markets that return value for this work.

Sourcing Climate Beneficial Cotton

In 2020, Fibershed and its partners formed the California Cotton & Climate Coalition (C4), an innovative and modern partnership approach to manufacturing. As part of the C4 project, farmers interested in on-farm scientific research on practices that prioritize soil carbon, and brands interested in Climate Beneficial Cotton have worked together to create a domestically made cotton product at scale, sourced in our “backyard”—California’s Central Valley. A premium cotton price prioritizes soil health and helps fund and incentivize future acreage to transition to these soil building, climate-benefitting farm practices.

There are a range of offerings and pricing tiers suitable for manufacturers at all scales—from startups to brands global brands with established manufacturing partnerships. C4 offers pre-competitive yarn development, coordination, storytelling, educational services and farm tours. To learn more or to join the coalition, visit the coalition website: californiacottonandclimatecoalition.com.



Top, cotton grown at a C4 member ranch; above cotton fabric from Coyuchi (Photos by Paige Green)

Climate Beneficial Product Branding

Restore. Heal. Repeat.

This tagline is a call to action — a reminder that we can all take part in the movement to engage and support the restoration of our working landscapes.

The Climate Beneficial seal guarantees that the fibers are from animals and plants raised within Fibershed's Climate Beneficial producer community. This seal is a verification of authenticity and recognition of the improvements in soil health achieved through the raising of the fibers.



Climate Beneficial logos, hang tags, garment tags, and marketing materials for promotional use are available for participating brands. For more information about these resources, contact hello@fibershed.org. To review our guidelines for using the Climate Beneficial logo and trademark please visit fibershed.org/cb-guidelines.



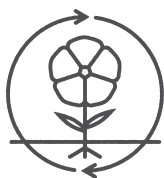
(Photo by Paige Green)

Emerging Fibers— Alpaca and Flax

Although not currently available at scale, Climate Beneficial alpaca and flax may increasingly become available as our domestic supply chain develops throughout the US. Below are emerging projects for alpaca and linen, although sourcing is limited and small-scale.



Soft and luxurious alpaca fiber is most frequently raised on small to mid-scale farms in California. Regional Climate Beneficial Alpaca Producers can be found on our producer directory page (fibershed.org/producer-directory) for direct contact and sourcing.

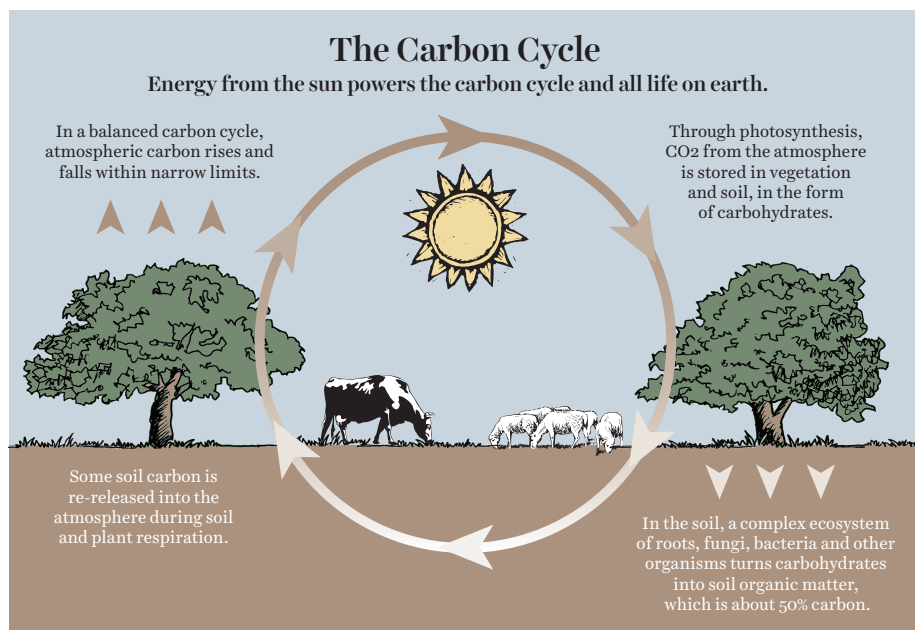


Linen (from flax plants) produces strong, breathable fabrics from sturdy plants. Chico Flax is an example of a project (chicoflax.com) within our Northern California region growing Climate Beneficial flax, working to develop and demonstrate local flax production and processing. Linen fabric is currently not available at scale for designers in our region.

Carbon Farming: Agriculture is a Climate Change Solution

In the face of global climate change, land stewardship plays a critical role in removing carbon from our atmosphere and sequestering it in the soil.

All living things contain carbon. Thanks to photosynthesis, plants and trees use solar energy to *draw down* carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and convert it to plant cells and eventually into soil organic matter (*soil carbon sequestration*). This process feeds soil microorganisms and is key for healthy soils. While all farming depends on carbon, **Carbon Farming is a whole farm approach that optimizes carbon capture on our working landscapes through farming practices known to accelerate atmospheric carbon drawdown.** Using carbon farming practices, farmers can build soil health, boost plant productivity, improve soil water holding capacity, and increase biodiversity, leading to climate resilience.



Examples of Carbon Farming practices:

- Applying compost to croplands and rangelands;
- Establishing hedgerows, windbreaks, silvopasture systems;
- Cover cropping, reducing/eliminating tillage, integrating livestock into cropland systems; and
- Restoring riparian areas such as riparian forest buffers.

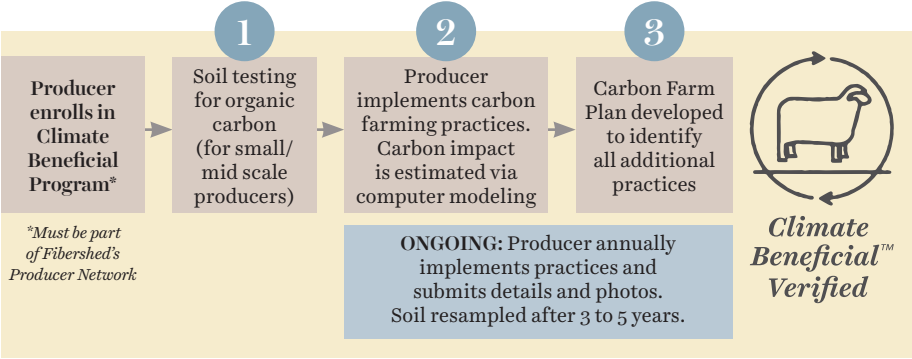
Carbon Farm Plan

A Carbon Farm Plan is a roadmap for land stewards that identifies all potential opportunities for carbon capture on their land through carbon farming practices, and measures the beneficial climate impact of these practices.

Climate Beneficial Verification Program

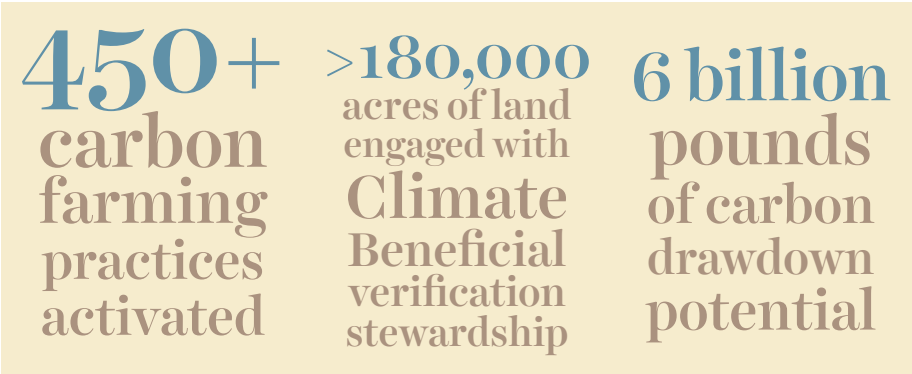
Developed in partnership with the Carbon Cycle Institute, Fibershed’s Climate Beneficial Verification program and label supports farmers and ranchers in landscape level stewardship—through carbon farming—that centers their work to build healthy soils. Choosing Climate Beneficial Verified fiber connects your garment or durable good directly to practices that regenerate soil carbon, improve ecosystem function, and so much more. The Climate Beneficial Program currently operates in northern California and the NY Hudson Valley, and in 2023 will be expanding to several other regions across the US (fibershed.org/scaling-climate-beneficial-agriculture/).

Climate Beneficial Verification Process



Measuring Impact

The Climate Beneficial Program monitors the impact that regional fiber systems, and the working lands they rely upon, have on our ability to reverse climate change, through a combination of direct soil organic carbon measurement, greenhouse gas modeling tools (COMET Planner), and localized peer reviewed data from our region’s land grant universities.

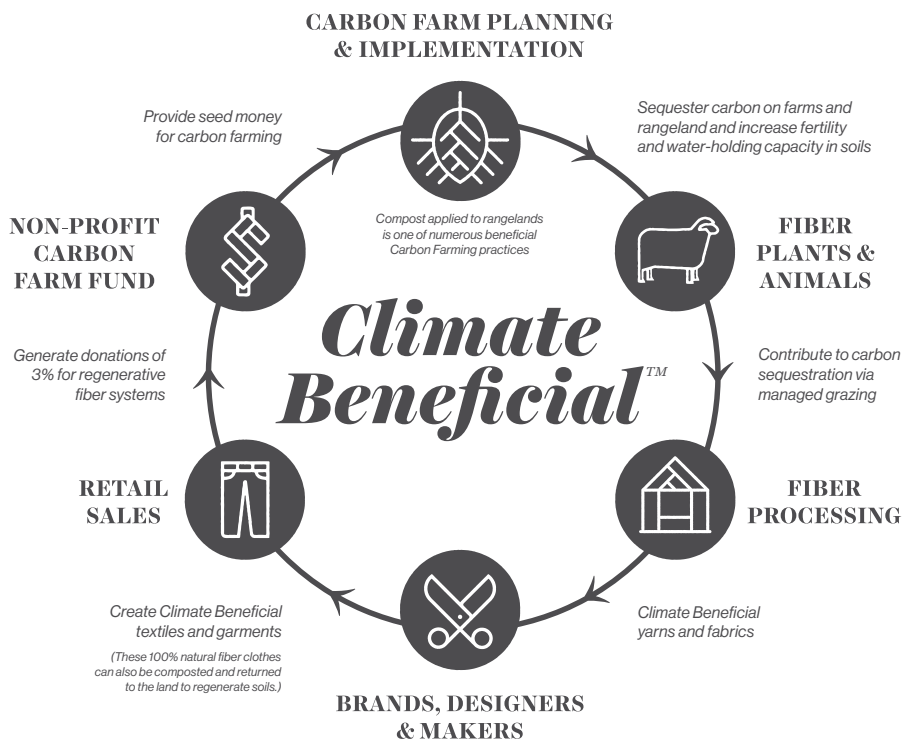


Carbon Farm Seed Fund

Thanks to philanthropic dollars, Fibershed directly funds carbon farming practices on California farms and ranches through our Carbon Farm Seed Fund.

Soil is Earth's second skin.

Fibers are our second skin.



FIBERSHED

Carbon Cycle Institute

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