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## Almond Alliance of California Highlights Pollinator Funding in Governor Newsom's Budget

SACRAMENTO, CA May 14, 2021 – The Almond Alliance of California (AAC) is grateful for the pollinator habitat funding of \$30 million announced today in Governor Newsom's May Revision Budget Proposal. The Almond Alliance, in partnership with a coalition, sponsored AB 391, a bill authored by Assemblymember Villapudua to protect pollinators which are critical to the California almond industry.

Pollinators sustain our ecosystems and enhance our natural resources by helping plants reproduce. Working lands offer an opportunity to expand habitat and forage for pollinators, which will help sequester carbon and contribute to climate risk reduction. The investment made today will further engage growers in delivering solutions that benefit pollinators. State investment is critical to accelerate the adoption of conservation practices that integrate pollinator habitat and forage on working lands.

Today's announcement of \$30 million dollars in the Governor's May Revision will provide funding to deliver technical assistance, outreach, and grants to incentivize participation in state and federal conservation programs where pollinator habitat and forage is established. "We thank Assemblymember Villapudua for his leadership on AB 391 and the Governor for agreeing to fund important activities that accelerate the adoption of conservation practices designed to integrate pollinator habitat and forage on working lands," said Almond Alliance President Elaine Trevino.

### **About the Almond Alliance**

*The Almond Alliance of California (AAC) is a trusted non-profit organization dedicated to advocating on behalf of the California almond community. California almonds generate more than \$21 billion in economic revenue and directly contribute more than \$11 billion to the state's total economy. California's top agricultural export, almonds create approximately 104,000 jobs statewide, over 97,000 in the Central Valley, which suffers from chronic unemployment. The AAC is dedicated to educating state legislators, policy makers and regulatory officials about the California almond community. As a membership-based organization, our members include almond processors, hullers/shellers, growers and allied businesses. Through workshops, newsletters, conferences, social media and personal meetings, AAC works to raise*



*awareness, knowledge and provide a better understanding about the scope, size, value and sustainability of the California almond community.*

*For more information on the Almond Alliance, visit <https://almondalliance.org/> or check out the Almond Alliance on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.*