## Climate Science Workshop Part 2

January 26th, 2024

#### **Reducing Our Impact**

Andrew Isaacs, UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business Brianna Beighle, Haas EWMBA '24, Patz & Hall

## CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations have increased drastically



#### 2023 was the warmest year ever recorded



#### Napa maximum temperatures have increased



Data: Napa State Hospital, CA, US. Daily Summaries Station Details. National Centers for Environmental Information. NOAA.

#### Napa minimum temperatures have increased



Data: Napa State Hospital, CA, US. Daily Summaries Station Details. National Centers for Environmental Information. NOAA.

## This wasn't caused by climate change, it was amplified

#### San Francisco Chronicle

10	103.000	20,000	1.500	114,000	100
deaths from at least 14 major fires burning in Northern California	acres barned across sight counties	people evacuated	home and commercial facilities destroyed	PGAE restoners in Napa and Sonoma coun- ties without power	Bre victims treated at bogsitals in Napa and Sonoma counties

#### **DEVASTATION IN WINE COUNTRY**











Graphics: Li, S., Banerjee, T. Spatial and temporal pattern of wildfires in California from 2000 to 2019. Sci Rep 11, 8779 (2021).

## We all own climate change, in our own ways





## International Wineries for Climate Action 2023

California Sustainable Wine Alliance 2013

## There are some easy changes, many will be hard



Note: The curve presents an estimate of the maximum potential of all technical GHG abatement measures below €60 per tCO<sub>2</sub>e if each lever was pursued aggressively. It is not a forecast of what role different abatement measures and technologies will play.

## Start with the "Easy Stuff"

Keep it green - Leave trees, no ecosystem degradation, no bare soils

Source renewable energy - MCE's Deep Green PG&E's Solar Choice, Renewable Choice

Avoid single-use plastics - AND biofuels, bioplastics

**Compost** - aerobic CO2 vs. anaerobic CH4

Focus on what's impactful - not off-sets, look at the math

## Master the easy, then tackle the culturally entrenched

Use less fossil - gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, natural gas

Electrify everything - HOW you work, how you GET to work, suppliers

Apply bare minimum nitrogen - organic AND conventional remember your cover crops

Keep it green - no bare soils

Think outside the "four corners" of your land

Focus on what's **impactful** - do the math

## Focus on what's impactful – SOIL MATH



Journal of Cleaner Production Volume 290, 25 March 2021, 125736

Review

Soil organic carbon sequestration rates in vineyard agroecosystems under different soil management practices: A meta-analysis

Florian Thomas Payen<sup>a b</sup> A addir Sykes<sup>a</sup>, Matt Aitkenhead<sup>c</sup>, Peter Alexander<sup>b d</sup>, Dominic Moran<sup>d</sup>, Michael MacLeod<sup>a</sup>



#### Enough waiting around for others to take the lead



#### When solving problems...

# **DIG AT THE ROOTS**



#### <u>Reduce your climate impact – THE EXTENSIVE LIST:</u>

- 1. Use less fossil energy: gasoline, diesel fuel, propane, natural gas
- 2. No tree removal or other ecosystem degradation
- 3. Let as much biomass grow on your land as you can no bare soil
- 4. Go 100% solar and wind for your electricity (MCE's Deep Green or PG&E's Solar Choice or Renewable Choice)
- 5. Electrify absolutely everything you can...
- 6. ...including how you and your crew do your work
- 7. ...including how you and your crew get to job sites...
- 8. ...same goes for pressuring your suppliers and service providers
- 9. Reduce nitrogen applications to the bare, bare minimum, including manure if not organic
- 10. If you grow nitrogen-fixing plants legumes, clover you are just adding to the N<sub>2</sub>O released from your land unless you also reduce synthetic fertilizer use
- 11. Avoid the use of biofuels and bioplastics they generally have a higher climate impact than conventional alternatives
- 12. Reduce the use of one-time-use plastics to the absolute minimum / re-use what you can
- 13. Nothing biodegradable should go to the landfill or be buried or piled up you want biomass to go to  $CO_2$ , not  $CH_4$
- 14. Discontinue things that are inconsequential for your climate impact like trying to offset your emissions
- 15. Think outside the "four corners" of your land: it is just as consequential to reduce climate impact outside work, too.
- 16. There are a lot of "home remedy" distractions out there ignore them unless you are shown the math
- 17. More...