

NCERA-101 Station Report

Resource Innovation Institute, Portland OR

Rob Eddy, M.S. (rob@resourceinnovation.org)

April 16, 2023 – March 23, 2024



3. Accomplishments:

Final deliverables for 3-Year USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant,
'Data-Driven Market Transformation for Controlled Environment Agriculture'

3.d. Milestones

- Published industry report: '*CEA Energy & Water Benchmarking Report: Establishing Preliminary Benchmarks for CEA Operations.*' Validated resource efficiency KPIs for 12 CEA operations in 11 states.
- Published industry report: '*Guide to Environmental Accounting & Reporting for Controlled Environment Agriculture Operations.*'
- Published industry report: '*Best Practices Guide: Water Circularity for Controlled Environment Agriculture Operations.*' Co-authored by Dr. Paul Fisher, University of FL, and Dr. Rosa Raudales, University of Connecticut
- Designed a *Workforce Development Strategy for the CEA Design & Construction Industry* with the assistance of an Advisory Council of academics, training experts, and industry professionals representing 10 states, including Dr. Josh Craver, of Colorado State University, and Ian Kansky of Harrisburg University.
- Conducted 9 nationally-marketed webinars and published 6 trade magazine articles on resource efficiency topics for CEA operations

4. Impact Statements

- In partnership with Berkeley Lab (LBNL, Berkeley, California), awarded \$2 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. Project Title: '*Leveraging Investments to Accelerate CEA Efficiency and Decarbonization at Scale.*' Project duration: 2 years.