

GLENN COUNTY



Long Range Plan 2011-2016

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GLENN COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Long Range Plan 2011-2016

Adopted September 19, 2011

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Landini, President
Mike Yalow, Vice President
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The RCD Board, comprised of local landowner and land manager volunteers, dedicates their personal time to represent Glenn County's local voice on resource concerns and opportunities. *It is estimated that the volunteers work over 1,000 hours per year on meeting the goals and objectives of the RCD.* We thank them and their hard work in making Glenn County a great place to live!

RCD STAFF

Kandi Manhart, Executive Officer
Claudia Street, Projects Manager
Liz Brackmann, Watershed Coordinator

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INTRODUCTION

Established in 1989, the Glenn County Resource Conservation District (“RCD”) was organized to provide leadership to help people conserve, improve, and sustain the natural resources, environment, and economic viability.

Our mission is...

“To promote a sustainable, economically healthy county, through the management of natural resources, maintain a desirable environment, and address local resource issues in a timely manner.”

Our function is...

“To make available technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land manager with conservation of soil, water and related natural resources.”

This document sets forth an adaptable 5-year Long Range Plan that will assist in guiding RCD operations. It defines the RCD’s priorities, goals and actions to address those priorities, and how the RCD can best achieve its mission.

The Board of Directors, with many partners, developed the original Long Range Plan February 23, 2006, with facilitation by Mr. Ray Ledgerwood. Mr. Ledgerwood was brought to the RCD by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). We thank NRCS for their contribution and support of this document! Through a public planning session and resource conservation survey distributed to the community and partners, the Long Range Plan was updated and approved on August 15, 2011.

As a “Special District”, organized under the California Public Resources Code, Division 9, we have many powers to carry out our goals and objectives. Priorities include:

-  Air Quality
-  Alternative Energy
-  Education
-  Entrepreneurship
-  Fire & Fuel Loads
-  Habitat
-  Invasive Species
-  Protect Agricultural Lands
-  Soil & Water Resources
-  RCD Operations

The following Long Range Plan is designed to assist stakeholders of Glenn County to help conserve, improve, and sustain the natural resources, environment, and economic viability. It is imperative to acknowledge the support and participation we have is maintained as voluntary and to protect landowners' interests and rights.

OBSERVATIONS

The RCD Board of Directors envisions the following accomplishments by 2016...

- 🌱 RCD will address critical fire threatened areas
- 🌱 RCD will address water resource issues
- 🌱 RCD will advocate nutritional programs for all generations
- 🌱 RCD will be active with alternative energy
- 🌱 RCD will be involved with economic development
- 🌱 RCD will collaborate to develop community gardens
- 🌱 RCD will create an on-going riparian restoration program
- 🌱 RCD will foster awareness of watershed health through outreach and education
- 🌱 RCD will have an expedited permit process to assist landowners with resource projects
- 🌱 RCD will have stable funding
- 🌱 RCD will maintain and create new positive working relationships with landowners, land managers, communities, and partners
- 🌱 RCD will promote natural resource benefits that improve the economic viability of Glenn County
- 🌱 RCD will provide education to beginning and established farmers and ranchers on financial planning
- 🌱 RCD will provide resource conservation and technical assistance

Noticeable trends and culture changes in Glenn County and California...

- 🌱 Aging demographics in farming and ranching
- 🌱 Changing demographics (population age increasing)
- 🌱 Fluctuating economic environment
- 🌱 Increase in agriculture industry awareness
- 🌱 Increase in agriculture production value
- 🌱 Increase in agriculture tourism
- 🌱 Increase in agricultural land values due to non-agricultural interests
- 🌱 Increase in conversion of agriculture land use
- 🌱 Increase in demand for outdoor type recreation
- 🌱 Increase in direct consumption of local foods
- 🌱 Increase in focus on integrated water resource management and demand
- 🌱 Increase in new citizens coming to Glenn County and having an impact
- 🌱 Increase in regulation (including permitting and environmental regulatory compliance)
- 🌱 Increase in resource awareness
- 🌱 Increase in technology and social networking

Adopted September 19, 2011

- 🌱 Increase in urban development pressure
- 🌱 Increase in water awareness
- 🌱 Interest in conservation easements
- 🌱 Reduction in funding
- 🌱 Shift to more permanent crops/orchards

PRIORITY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

- 🌱 Glenn County
- 🌱 Sacramento Valley Region

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Air Quality

GOAL 1 Identify the producers and communities need and the RCD's role.

ACTIONS:

- 🌱 Research local air quality policy, concerns and conditions.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Alternative Energy

GOAL 1 Identify alternative energy opportunities and the RCD's role.

ACTIONS:

-  Research local alternative energy projects.
-  Develop a procedure to respond to specific alternative energy projects.
-  Assist and participate in Glenn County's Green Team and other partnerships.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Education (all priorities)

- GOAL 1** Inform landowners, land managers, partners and communities of the RCD's mission, function and Long Range Plan.
- GOAL 2** Promote *RCD Connects with Kids* program.
- GOAL 3** Promote *RCD Come to the WaterSHED* (Students Helping Educate & Discover).
- GOAL 4** Promote and facilitate *Project WET* (Water Education Training) program.
- GOAL 5** Promote Watershed Education Department at the Glenn County Fair.
- GOAL 6** Facilitate watershed-based community service projects with K-12 students and youth organizations.
- GOAL 7** Encourage K-12 teachers to include an educational field trip on local resources.
- GOAL 8** Promote educational opportunities to historically underserved farmers and ranchers (beginning farmer, limited resource producer, and socially disadvantaged).
- GOAL 9** Develop a career planning program encompassing jobs in resources.
- GOAL 10** Promote local foods and healthy habits.

ACTIONS:

-  Create and distribute marketing materials.
-  Update and expand social media tools.
-  Inform superintendants, principles, teachers, youth leaders and community about RCD educational programs.
-  Identify two teachers at each school to actively participate in promotion of *RCD Connects with Kids* program.
-  Develop and distribute educational materials.
-  Facilitate educational activities.
-  Utilize the RCD volunteer and NRCS "Earth Team" programs.
-  Create a list of resource based jobs and develop partnerships with interested organizations.

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BY 2016

PRIORITY: Entrepreneurship

GOAL 1 Identify entrepreneurial activities.

ACTIONS:

 Research opportunities to benefit producers and communities.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Fire & Fuel Loads

GOAL 1 Provide outreach and education on fire and fuel loads.

GOAL 2 Work with fire agencies to encourage landowners, land managers and communities to adopt practices that reduce fire and fuel loads.

ACTIONS:

-  Implement Glenn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Habitat

GOAL 1 Provide outreach and education on beneficial habitat.

GOAL 2 Encourage producers and communities to adopt practices that benefit plant and wildlife habitat.

GOAL 3 Encourage restoration or maintenance of healthy riparian corridors.

ACTIONS:

- ☛ Promote beneficial bird habitat.
- ☛ Increase native plant and wildlife populations.
- ☛ Work with producers and community members to create a personalized conservation plan that includes habitat development practices.
- ☛ Recognize the existing beneficial habitats and advocate conservation of those habitats.
- ☛ Create an expedited permit process to assist landowners with implementation of projects.
- ☛ Expand the habitat element in *RCD Connects with Kids* program.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Invasive Species

GOAL 1 Provide outreach and education on invasive species.

GOAL 2 Encourage producers and communities to adopt practices that remove and/or control invasive species.

GOAL 3 Collaborate to identify and implement invasive species projects.

ACTIONS:

- ☛ Identify and prioritize target areas for weed control.
- ☛ Obtain and utilize invasive species eradication tools.
- ☛ Implement management plans (i.e. Lower Stony Creek Watershed Restoration Plan, Glenn County Community Wildfire Protection Plan).
- ☛ Utilize and update Permit Coordination Program to assist landowners with implementation of projects.
- ☛ Assist and participate in Weed Management Area.
- ☛ Expand the invasive species element in *RCD Connects with Kids* program.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Protect Agricultural Lands

GOAL 1 Protect prime agricultural lands and habitats.

GOAL 2 Encourage responsible urban development.

GOAL 3 Promote conservation planning.

ACTIONS:

-  Insure the Glenn County General Plan contains an element to protect prime and unique agricultural lands.
-  Promote the use of urban limit line (green line) concept for development.
-  Develop a procedure to respond to specific planning actions being considered by Glenn County and Cities.
-  Work with producers and community members to create personalized conservation plans.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: Soil & Water Resources (water quality, quantity, surface, sub-surface)

GOAL 1 Provide outreach and education on watersheds.

GOAL 2 Encourage producers and communities to adopt practices that benefit soil and water resources.

ACTIONS:

- ☛ Maintain Memorandum of Understanding with Colusa Glenn Subwatershed Program to provide outreach and education on the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.
- ☛ Work in partnership to seek funding that will assist producers and communities to implement practices that benefit soil and water resources.
- ☛ Participate in integrated regional water management planning.
- ☛ Expand the soil and water resources element in *RCD Connects with Kids* program.

BY 2016

PRIORITY: RCD Operations

- GOAL 1** Led by a locally appointed seven member Board of Directors and 20 Associate Directors.
- GOAL 2** Fiscally sound and have a discretionary fund.
- GOAL 3** Obtain fee for services, contracts and grant agreements.
- GOAL 4** Promote sponsorship programs.
- GOAL 5** Follow policies, procedures and documents.
- GOAL 6** Have adequate office space.
- GOAL 7** Strengthen visibility.

ACTIONS:

-  Encourage active Director and Associate Director participation.
-  Create annual budget.
-  Identify revenue generating methods including fee for services and contracts in addition to grant agreements.
-  Utilize sponsorship program.
-  Review and update policies, procedures and documents as required.
-  Review office space needs with NRCS District Conservationist.
-  Promote RCD and participate in local, regional, state and national forums.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The RCD is funded entirely by grants, sponsors and donations, and contracts. We truly appreciate and thank all partners, sponsors and donors for contributions to conserve our resources in Glenn County.

The RCD Board and Staff look forward to accomplishing our goals and objectives with your input along this 5-year journey.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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