

Cache/Bear Creek Watershed - Upper

Planning for success and working towards the restoration of Bear Creek

Colusa, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma and Yolo Counties; State Senate District 4, State Assembly District 2

COLUSA COUNTY RCD



The Colusa County Resource Conservation District (RCD) Upper Cache Watershed Coordinator helped to complete a comprehensive watershed assessment for one of the largest watersheds in the state. Working with local partners, the Watershed Coordinator developed stakeholder goals, identified stewardship issues, and prioritized restoration plans for the Colusa Basin Watershed. The Watershed Coordinator co-authored a five-year Watershed Stewardship Plan, and nine stewardship profiles to help further guide land stewardship in the watershed.

These planning efforts facilitated on-the-ground ecosystem restoration projects and will help guide future projects as well. In collaboration with UC Davis and 50 volunteers, the Watershed Coordinator coordinated a three-year program of botanical inventories in the watershed. This group documented 491 plant species, 80% of which were native. Eighteen Special Status native plants were recorded. As part of the many land stewardship projects, 25+ low-profile rock structures were constructed to improve stream function of four degraded waterways. Also, thousands of native trees, understory vegetation, and wetland plants were installed on restoration sites to help achieve resource management goals.

For more information visit the Colusa County RCD website at <http://www.colusarcd.org>



- Completed the Bear Creek Watershed Assessment
- Helped develop a grazing management plan for 12,000 acres of public land
- Initiated a prescribed burn on Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Bear Creek Ranch to help control three noxious weeds: medusahead, yellow starthistle, and barbed goatgrass
- Completed the "Stewardship Priorities for the Bear Creek Watershed" Watershed Stewardship Plan
- Conducted numerous tours, education events, project development visits, and land stewardship meetings
- Obtained additional funding to continue watershed coordination beyond the life of the grant

"The Watershed Coordinator worked with partners to develop stakeholder goals and identify stewardship issues."

***- Patti Turner, Executive Director,
Colusa County RCD***

PARTNERS INCLUDED: BLM • CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife • CA Dept. of Water Resources • CAL FIRE • Caltrans • Dr. Ellen Dean, Center for Plant Diversity, UC Davis • Dr. Vic Claassen, Dept. of Land, Air, and Water Resources • Jack Alderson, Natural Resources Conservation Service • Jason Horn, Stetson Engineering • Regional Water Quality Board • Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation • UC Davis: Dept. of Plant Sciences • Tuleyome • Volunteers • Wilbur Hot Springs • Wildlife Conservation Board