

# Bear River Watershed

Protecting the Upper and Lower Bear River Watershed from the threat of fire and invasives

Nevada County; State Senate Districts 1 and 4, State Assembly District 3



## NEVADA COUNTY RCD

The Nevada County Resource Conservation District (RCD) Watershed Coordinator was funded to continue the watershed improvement efforts of the Bear River Watershed Group in the Upper and Lower Bear River Watersheds in Nevada County.

The Watershed Coordinator worked with 300 individuals to develop a grazing education program to reach out to rangeland managers and the public. A video entitled, "The Environmental Benefits of Grazing," was produced and shown in a series of watershed seminars at the Nevada County Fair over several years. The RCD also conducted 15 more seminars on a variety of watershed issues. Over 5,500 people attended workshops and received information and technical assistance.

The Coordinator also led several invasive plant removal projects. Annual "Scotch Broom Challenges" were planned where volunteer groups and community partners worked in the field to reduce the spread of this extremely invasive weed.

The Coordinator also worked closely with 35 public and private landowners to create firebreaks on 250 acres in a wildfire prone area. The firebreaks will protect the local communities from catastrophic wildfire and also protect drinking water sources.

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

***"The Coordinator worked with local groups to increase water quality monitoring efforts and coordinated events to improve watershed health."***  
***-Lynn Lorenson, Board President***

- Developed a project entitled "Sierra-wide Solutions for Private Meadow Restoration"
- Provided technical assistance to landowners covering 30,000 acres, with information on soil conservation, efficient irrigation practices, and critical habitat enhancements
- Coordinated the removal of 2,250 non-native invasive purple loosestrife plants on a total of 13.5 acres
- Coordinated river clean-ups throughout the Sierras
- Partnered with Nevada Irrigation District on the Lake Combie mercury removal project.
- Hosted an "Aquatic Plant ID" day where 27 residents came for information on pond weeds

**PARTNERS INCLUDED:** USDA NRCS • Placer County RCD • Sutter County RCD • Yuba County RCD • Fire Safe Council of Nevada County • Placer County Fire Safe Alliance • USFS • Bear River Watershed Group • Yuba-Bear Watershed Council • Wolf Creek Community Alliance • CARCD • BLM • USFWS • CDFW • CAL FIRE • PG&E • SNC • South Yuba River Citizens League • Friends of Deer Creek • El Dorado and Nevada Irrigation Districts • Sierra Pacific Industries • High Sierra RC&D • Nevada County Ag Commissioner • City of Grass Valley • Nevada County • Nevada County Farm Bureau • Placer County Water Agency • Cosumnes/American/Bear/Yuba-IRWMP Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant • Nevada County Land Trust • Idaho-Maryland Mining Corporation • Sierra Foothills Audubon Society • UCCE • Sierra College • American Rivers • landowners • Placer/Nevada/South Sutter/North Sacramento Water Quality Coalition