

Department of Conservation

Resource Conservation District Watershed Coordinator Grant Program



Mokelumne River riparian restoration site

Second Quarter Report
February 14, 2003

Department of Water Resources / CALFED Bay-Delta Program
Interagency Agreement #4600002373



Summary of Progress

The second quarter covered the period of October 1 to December 31, 2002. In January, quarterly status reports, summarizing watershed work plan progress, were submitted by all 18 grantees. The information received has been reviewed by the Department of Conservation (DOC) staff, and is presented in this report. The grantee reports are listed alphabetically and each is formatted as an individual fact sheet. For each grant, progress on objectives and performance measures are reported. Please refer to the individual grantee fact sheets for details.

We are pleased to report that the total amount of additional funding obtained to date by 11 of the 18 grantees exceeds \$5.2 million dollars. This amount is \$2 million more than the total amount of \$3.2 million reported in the first quarter alone. These funds resulted from the efforts of the watershed coordinators, through grant proposals and fund raising activities. A few of the proposals selected for funding were submitted by the watershed coordinators during the first round of the Watershed Coordinator Grants, but the awards were only recently announced. The other grant proposals were submitted during the first quarter of this grant cycle.

Two of the watershed coordinators stepped down and were replaced with new hires. One worked for Central Modoc RCD, and the other worked for Tehama County RCD. We were assured that even with these transitions, the work plans would remain on schedule. The DOC staff will provide assistance as needed.

The DOC staff visited 17 of the 18 grantees during the last two quarters. Thirteen of the site visits were conducted this quarter. The last visit was postponed due to coordinator illness and has been rescheduled for mid-February. These field visits allow the DOC staff to observe first hand the on-the-ground work that is taking place on the watersheds, and to meet with the watershed coordinators to see how work is progressing. During the field visits, DOC staff took photos, some of which are included on the fact sheets, and provided assistance if necessary. The grant administrator maintains regular contact with all of the coordinators via e-mail and telephone.

During the field visits, the DOC staff interviewed the coordinators and received much positive feedback on the success of the Watershed Coordinator Program in getting on-the-ground projects started, and on how the program has benefited the watersheds and influenced the surrounding communities. The staff was informed many times over that without the CALFED funding, much of this good work would not have been possible.

Cachuma Resource Conservation District

Santa Maria River and Cuyama River Watershed

Amount Funded: \$68,500

Match Provided: \$45,179

Watershed Coordinator: Thomas Lockhart

Watershed Goal: To reduce off-site transport of water, sediment, and nutrients from farms and ranches.



Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Assist three existing watershed working groups in implementing their watershed plans.

- Three watershed groups are actively producing plans. A total of six outreach meetings were conducted with these groups and presentations about the plans were made at four other meetings.
- A new watershed group in San Jose Creek is starting and has the potential of producing an agricultural workplan.
- The draft of the San Antonio Creek Watershed Plan is 75% complete. Erosion estimates are being made for all of the sub-watersheds.
- Farm plans are currently being prepared for two of the farmers that represent 17 of the farming operations in the Oso Flaco Creek Watershed. All 10 of the farmers have agreed to prepare farm plans. These individual plans will be used to prepare an aggregate plan for the whole watershed.
- A total of 13 irrigation evaluations were conducted during the 2nd quarter in the Santa Maria River Watershed, which includes Oso Flaco Creek.
- A watershed restoration plan for San Antonio Creek is underway and will be completed during the next 8 months.
- In the San Antonio Creek Watershed, a survey for a small berm to divert water from an erosive gully back into the natural drainage course was completed this quarter. This practice will be staked for construction in January.
- In the Carpinteria Creek Watershed, 3 sites that have significant bank failures were visited this quarter. A contact was made with the author of a steelhead study performed on Carpinteria Creek. An engineering survey took place this quarter at a site where a “low water crossing” will be removed.



Cover cropping in the Oso Flaco Watershed

Performance Measure 1.1: Produce three watershed plans which include conservation of water quality and water quantity.

- The Oso Flaco Creek Watershed Plan has begun. The San Antonio Creek plan is about 75% complete and the Carpinteria Creek plan is just getting started.

Performance Measure 1.2: Decrease nitrate concentration by 20% in Oso Flaco Creek.

- All ten of the farmers in this watershed have shown interest in preparing farm plans. Each of these plans will include management practices, such as the soil nitrate quick-test, which will decrease the amount of nitrate being lost into Oso Flaco Creek.

Performance Measure 1.3: Reduce sediment delivery into San Antonio Creek by 30%.

- Sediment delivery is being estimated for each of the subwatersheds contributing to San Antonio Creek. Measures will be recommended that, if implemented, will reduce the soil movement from farms and ranches.

Performance Measure 1.4: Improve steelhead passage in Carpinteria Creek by 50%.

- A bike path is preventing steelhead from migrating more than one-half mile upstream, and a low water crossing is about two miles upstream from the bike path. Plans are underway to first remove the low-water crossing. An engineering survey was performed this quarter and a topographic map will be produced next month.

Objective 2: Oversee the start-up of two additional watershed working groups.

- The San Jose Creek Stakeholder group met two times this quarter and their watershed plan is in draft form.
- A group in the Bradley Ranch sub-watershed of the Santa Maria River may start soon.
- Information on CRCRD's Irrigation Mobile Lab, NRCS' EQIP, and UCCE Farm Water Quality Shortcourse was presented to the Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau and the Santa Barbara County Grape Growers Association.
- Thirteen mobile irrigation lab evaluations were made for farmers in the Santa Maria River Watershed this quarter.
- A proposal for an erosion control plan was delivered to farmers in the Bradley Ranch sub-watershed of the Santa Maria River.

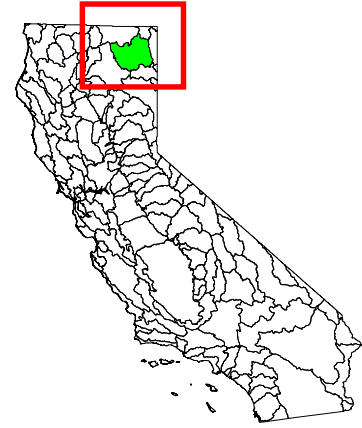
Performance Measure 2.1: Draft two watershed plans, which include conservation of water quality and water quantity.

- The San Jose Creek Stakeholder group's watershed plan is in draft form.

Performance Measure 2.2: Improve conservation of water quantity and quality in two new watersheds by 20%.

Central Modoc Resource Conservation District

Upper Pit River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$66,400
Match Provided: \$18,100
Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$585,000
Watershed Coordinator: Cliff Harvey

Watershed Goals, Objectives, and Progress

Goal 1: Contribute to watershed-wide assessment.

Objective 1: Support Pit River Watershed Alliance assessment project.

- Held public scoping meetings to give watershed communities a chance to voice their opinions about the watershed assessment.

Performance Measure: Documentation of district input to assessment drafts, participation in 9 team meetings.

Objective 2: Contribute to watershed wide GIS database

- Conducted updates to database.

Performance Measure: Annual GIS Update, documentation of updates to SARE and ICE

Goal 2: Continue implementation of the CMRCD Monitoring Plan.

Objective 1: Collect, document and disseminate complete monitoring site data set for target parameters and locations.

- There was no activity on this objective this quarter due to the onset of winter.

Performance Measure: Establish 10 monitoring sites, 50 independent photo points, and collect macroinvertebrate data for 10 tributaries.



Pit River, Modoc County

Goal 3: Continued implementation of demonstration watershed restoration projects.

Objective 1: Initiate Proposition 13 Projects.

- The Prop. 13 contract is continuing to move through the contracting process. February 1, 2003 has been set as the project start date.

Performance Measure: Completed signed Prop. 13 contract.

Objective 2: Initiate Cantara Foundation Projects

- Plans for the Witcher Creek and Talbott Property revegetation projects are in progress. Site assessments and maps are nearly complete. Preliminary design alternatives for the Witcher Creek project are under consideration.

Performance Measure: Approved and signed contract; Submitted permit applications and initial CEQA/NEPA documentation; Draft project design.

Objective 3: Develop New Project Proposals

- A new project was developed as a result of a watershed restoration workshop. The RCD worked with Modoc National Wildlife Refuge to restore a 350 ft. reach of the Pit River using many biotechnical techniques that are new to the Pit River. If these techniques prove to be successful, they may be applicable to numerous similar sites near by.
- Conducted outreach to Pit River Tribal members regarding potential projects and funding opportunities.

Performance Measure: Production of approved project design alternatives for all projects.

Goal 4: Ensure coordination of District programs with other watershed stakeholders.

Objective 1: Continue and improve coordination of UPRWEPP Technical Advisory Committee.

- Continued to update Pit River information on the Central Modoc RCD website. The coordinator is developing a map-based database of all past, current and proposed Pit River projects.
- Continued to provide assistance to the Modoc County Noxious Weed Working Group. The coordinator provided assistance with public outreach, coordination of weed group GIS efforts, and grant searches.

Performance Measure: Minutes of 3 TAC meetings. Complete 6 TAC newsletters. Maintained TAC website link. Attend 8 meetings of PRWA, MNWWG, documentation of cooperation with PRWA coordinator.

Goal 5: Ensure that all stakeholders are aware of and informed about watershed concepts and issues.

Objective 1: Link all CMRCD/UPRWEPP monitoring, assessment, and restoration projects to the CMRCD River Center education & outreach programs.

- Held Watershed Restoration and Road Maintenance workshops. The Restoration workshop focused on stream ecology and demonstrated a wide range of stream restoration techniques focusing on biotechnical applications. The Road Maintenance workshop was designed to teach participants about the relationship between road construction and watershed health.
- Conducted three site visits to various local ranchers.

Performance Measure: Facilitate preparation of 6 CRWQMPs; Assist in three K-12 watershed programs; Assist in 6 outreach events; Coordinate stream restoration workshop; 54 site visits.

Goal 6: Ensure continuing implementation of CMRCD/UPRWEPP vision and goals.

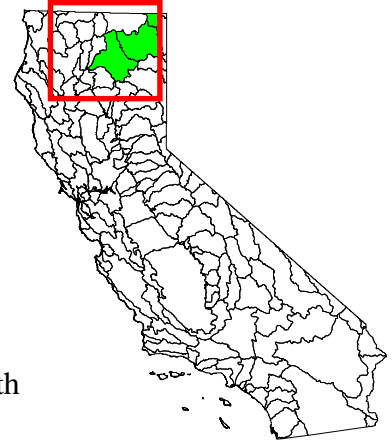
Objective 1: Obtain funding for new and continuing projects and programs.

- Conducted research into potential funding sources. The coordinator submitted a watershed restoration proposal for surplus Prop. 204 that may become available.

Performance Measure: Preparation and submission of competitive grant proposals, and development of viable Scope of Work/contract documents for awarded grants.

Central Modoc Resource Conservation District

Goose Lake, Upper & Lower Pit River Watersheds



Amount Funded: \$62,500

Match Provided: \$23,400

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$18,000

Watershed Coordinator: Todd Sloat (James Rickert as of 12/31/02)

Watershed Goal: Achieve long-term economic and environmental health through active community participation.

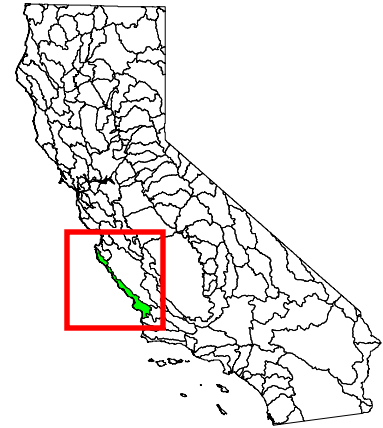
Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

During the last quarter, Todd Sloat resigned as watershed coordinator. As a result, little new progress was made this quarter towards completing the work plan objectives. Todd continued on a limited basis to help with the hiring process and complete essential tasks such as managing Watershed Alliance communications and putting the finishing touches on the new Pit River Alliance website.

James Rickert, was hired in December and began working full time on December 31, 2002. Todd stayed on part time during December to assist with the job transition.

Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

Central Coastal Watershed



Amount Funded: \$60,024

Match Provided: \$80,459

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$920,000

Watershed Coordinator: Malcolm McEwen

Watershed Goal: Improve water use efficiency, ecosystem quality, and water quality in watersheds in the district.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Provide assistance for implementation of conservation practices that improve water use efficiency, ecosystem quality, and water quality.

- Met with several landowners as a result of contacts obtained from the Farm Bureau, the Zone 1/1A Flood Control District Advisory Committee, the Arroyo Grande Watershed Forum, and the Morro Bay National Estuary Program.
- Assisted with design, permitting, and implementation scheduling for a sediment removal/fish passage project on lower Los Osos Creek.
- Completed preliminary design of a bank stabilization project on San Luisito Creek.
- Coordinated permitting and funding for an emergency snag removal project on Lower Los Osos Creek.
- In order to prepare for Proposition 50 funding opportunities, the coordinator developed a county-wide list of watershed projects ready to be implemented.
- Coordinated funding and technical assistance for cross-fencing and water development projects. These projects supported improved range management on two ranches totaling over 1300 acres in the Morro Bay watershed.



Oso Flaco Lakes, San Luis Obispo County

Performance Measure: Number of landowners that participate in Cooperative Extension short courses (# over two courses). Number and extent of conservation practices installed (10). Number of growers who receive irrigation system evaluations. Amount of funding obtained for funding conservation practices (funding for 10 practices).

- Coordinator has helped install 6 conservation practices.
- \$500,000 has been obtained for the installation of conservation practices.

Objective 2: Support education and outreach to landowners and agency staff.

- Convened a meeting with California State Parks staff and other interested parties to discuss the details of the recently funded Oso Flaco Lakes Nonpoint Source Pollutant Assessment Project.

- Assisted with organizing a ranch/farm water quality planning workshop as part of the Salmonid Restoration Federation/Urban Creeks Council conference in March 2003.
- Provided the Arroyo Grande City Engineer with comments on a proposed amendment to the City's grading ordinance.

Performance Measure: Number of demonstration sites developed (2). Number of landowners who document or otherwise share the benefits of conservation practices (6). Number of people who participate in farm tours or field days (# over 3 tours). Number of regulatory referrals to the NRCS or the district (12).



Oso Flaco Lakes project meeting

Objective 3: Facilitate and improve coordination, collaboration, and assistance among governmental agencies, other organizations, and local watershed groups.

- Met with the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County and DWR staff to discuss the details of a 2.5 acre restoration project on the banks of Nipomo Creek.
- Produced a second draft of the Pismo Lake Watershed Management Plan.
- Coordinating development of a streamlined

permit process. This involves coordinating efforts of the subcontractor (Sustainable Conservation), the NRCS, the MBNEP, the USEPA, and all the permitting agencies.

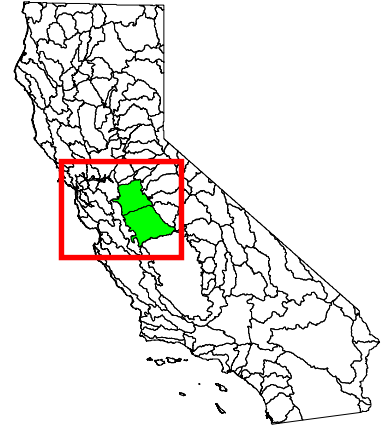
Performance Measure: Number of watershed stewardship groups that form through assistance from the watershed coordinator (3). Number of RCD board members who participate in watershed stewardship groups (3). Number of landowners who participate in watershed stewardship groups (6). Amount of funding obtained by watershed stewardship groups through assistance from the watershed coordinator (3 proposals submitted).

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Status</u>
1. Project Clearwater will provide assistance and cost-share funding for landowners to install BMPs	\$500,000	Approved by Morro Bay National Estuary Program
2. Oso Flaco Lakes Nonpoint Source Pollutant Assessment Project	\$120,000	Approved by State Water Resources Control Board 205(j) program
3. Los Berros Creek Floodplain Restoration Project	\$300,000	Approved by ad-hoc SLO County coalition of public & nonprofit agencies. (requires sale of Prop. 50 bonds)

East Merced Resource Conservation District

Middle San Joaquin-Lower Merced-Lower Stanislaus (Lower Merced portion) & Middle San Joaquin-Lower Chowchilla Watersheds



Amount Funded: \$59,600

Match Provided: \$14,900

Watershed Coordinator: Teri Murrison

Watershed Goal: Preserve or enhance the Merced River and floodplain environment.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Metamorphosis of Merced River Stakeholders Group from a single project focus to a watershed group.

- Attended Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interest (MAGPI) and Merced Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel meetings.
- Co-sponsored water quality (TMDL) workshop with Community Alliance for Family Farmers (CAFF).
- Coordinated with USGS to secure Mustang Creek water monitoring well sites.
- Attended San Joaquin River Management Program meeting.
- Planned and facilitated October and November MRS meetings.
- Updated content on MRS website.
- Met with CAFF management team to discuss future watershed workshops and display for next year's fair.
- Updated MRS mailing list.



Coordinator Teri Murrison collecting water samples from the Merced River

Performance Measures: 1) MRS remains viable watershed group with average active participation of 35 stakeholders; 2) Provide staffing for 12 monthly meetings; 3) Adopt mission, goals and objectives by June 2003; 4) Participation of at least 15 MRS members at each of two field days with implementation of prescribed practices by five stakeholders after each event; 5) Submit at least three grant applications for continued funding of stakeholder group.

Objective 2: Implement voluntary individual water quality monitoring program on Lower Merced watershed.

- Contacted U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service about sponsoring cost of water quality test kits.

Performance Measures: 1) Provide 30 stakeholders with water monitoring training and monitoring kits by August 2003 then complete a survey of same 30 stakeholders by October 2003 to verify that at least 10 have adopted BMPs for water quality by comparing monitoring results; 2) Submit at least one grant application to fund a school-based water quality monitoring project by May 2003.

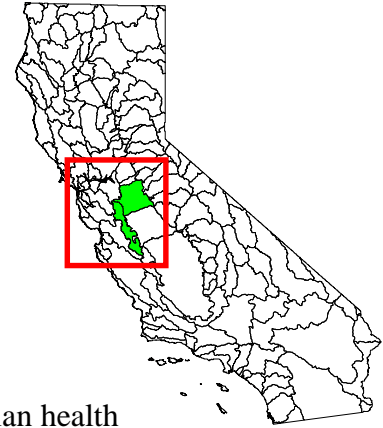
Objective 3: Administer watershed coordinator grant program.

- Attended EMRCD board meetings to give watershed coordinator updates.
- Attended CONCUR, Inc. workshop on Negotiating and Mediating Effective Environmental Agreements.

Performance Measures: 1) Prepare and submit quarterly reports to DOC; 2) Attend CARCD annual meeting; 3) Submit at least one grant application for continued funding of watershed coordinator position.

East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District

Middle San Joaquin-Lower Merced-Lower Stanislaus & Panoche-San Luis Reservoir Watershed



Amount Funded: \$44,986

Match Provided: \$28,425

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$475,000

Watershed Coordinator: Norman Crow

Watershed Goal: To improve water use efficiency, water quality, riparian health and ecosystem quality in the watersheds in the district.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Assisting the East Stanislaus RCD and West Stanislaus RCD in achieving their long-term goals for watershed benefit through information exchange, education and outreach.

- Gave irrigation presentation to growers at a luncheon sponsored by Golden State Irrigation in Newman on December 3rd.
- Promoted water quality and NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) funding to producers. Referred 15 growers to the NRCS office for EQIP sign-ups for 2003.
- Attended 16 meetings with local watershed groups and government agencies to share and exchange information.



Orestimba Creek

Performance Measure: Number of new stakeholders attending annual and workshop meetings (22). Number of referrals seeking information or assistance from NRCS or the RCDs.

Objective 2: Provide assistance for implementation of conservation practices that improve water use efficiency, ecosystem quality, and water quality.

- Contacted 20 landowners for irrigation scheduling.
- Received training from Steve Ewert from DWR on how to conduct monthly maintenance and upkeep of the CIMIS station.
- Assisted six growers obtain over \$250,000 of EQIP funding.

Performance Measure: Number of landowners that participate in irrigation scheduling short course (1 workshop). Number and extent of conservation practices installed (10 practices). Number of growers who participate in irrigation evaluations (18). Amount of funding obtained for funding conservation practices and future funding of Total Irrigation Management (1 proposal submitted).

Objective 3: Assisting West Stanislaus RCD in achieving their long-term goals for watershed benefit through information exchange, education and outreach.

- Six landowners contacted about participating in an outreach monitoring program.
- Awarded CALFED Drinking Water Grant in the amount of \$275,000 for water quality pilot project on Orestimba Creek.
- Attended two Orestimba Creek Watershed Group meetings.
- Coordinated with Tacy Currey, Solano County RCD Manager, regarding methods of *Arundo* control.
- Assisting in efforts to gain a permit extension for Orestimba Creek channel clearing. Working with Army Corps of Engineers and California Department of Fish and Game.

Performance Measure: Number of landowners who form into a watershed stewardship group (8 land-owners). Amount of funding obtained by watershed stewardship group (1 proposal submitted).

Objective 4: Assisting the East Stanislaus RCD and West Stanislaus RCD in achieving their long-term goals for watershed benefit through information exchange, education and outreach.

- Assisted East Stanislaus RCD secure \$200,000 contract with State Water Quality Control Board for monitoring flow and salinity of agricultural tail water runoff into the San Joaquin River.

Performance Measure: Number of monitoring sites developed (15). Establish database for flow and salinity of drains into the San Joaquin River.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

<u>Proposal Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>
Agricultural water quality pilot project to implement restoration activities in the Orestimba Creek Watershed	\$275,000 requested from CALFED Drinking Water grant program	Grant awarded to West Stanislaus RCD/ Coalition for Urban and Rural Environmental Stewardship
Installation and upgrading of flow monitoring devices and development of information on discharges (salinity) from agricultural tail water runoff	\$200,000 requested from Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Contract awarded to East Stanislaus RCD

**Mariposa County
Resource Conservation District
Upper Merced River Watershed**



Amount Funded: \$68,400

Match Provided: \$24,800

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$222,125

Watershed Coordinators: Nancy McConnell & Holly Warner

Watershed Goal: Improve and protect watershed resources and values through cooperative, comprehensive, and watershed-wide resources management by all public and private sector stakeholders.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Promote community and landowner involvement in the planning process for the Upper Merced River Watershed.

- Solicited input from Land Use/Restoration Committee to develop grant application for starthistle removal along the Wild & Scenic roadless section of the Merced River. Application resulted in an award of \$16,200 (including match).
- Wrote, submitted, and were awarded two intern grants in cooperation with UC Extension. The grants total \$10,000 and will be used in the spring and summer of 2003 to hire two graduate students to train citizen volunteers to monitor water quality and quantity, and to assist inventorying natural and historic cultural resources along the South Fork trail.

Performance Measure: Provision of two Rangeland Water Quality Short Course workshops for local ranchers and grazing land managers.



Linda McPhail, with the USFS, discusses adoption of the South Fork Trail at an Upper Merced River Watershed Stakeholder meeting

Objective 2: Promote watershed education through outreach to private landowners and other stakeholders.

- Incorporated speaker program into monthly Steering Committee meetings, beginning in November.
- Participated in Clean Water Day by testing water quality on Merced River with students from Mariposa Unified School District and the science van.
- Updated web site as a community resource

Performance Measure: Conduct two workshops on reducing fire risk in the watershed.

Objective 3: Promote historic and cultural education.

- Final meeting with USFS set for January for signing the MOU for the Adoption of the South Fork Trail from Savage's Trading Post to Wawona, approximately 17 miles.

Performance Measure: Adoption of South Fork Trail system and signing of MOU with U.S. Forest Service.

Objective 4: Promote data coordination.

- Working with UC Merced to help establish the Sierra Nevada Research Institute. The Institute will provide guidance in data coordination between BLM, USFS and NPS. A director has been appointed and a building at Wawona in Yosemite National Park is being renovated as space for the Institute.
- Shared data from summer 2002 water testing project with Central Sierra Watershed Committee.
- Arranged presentation of snow and watershed monitoring projects in Yosemite National Park for Watershed Council.

Performance Measurement: Collection and publication of current data on Upper Merced River Watershed. (**Note:** Grantee has met this performance measure with publication of water test data collected in July).

Objective 5: Protect and restore the ecology of the Upper Merced River Watershed.

- Awarded grant to begin controlling and reducing yellow star thistle on the Wild and Scenic portion of the Merced River. Partnering with BLM on this project.
- Held Trail Work Day for Hite’s Cove section of South Fork Trail.
- Contacted Caltrans to initiate adoption of Highway 140 from Briceburg to El Portal for weed management.

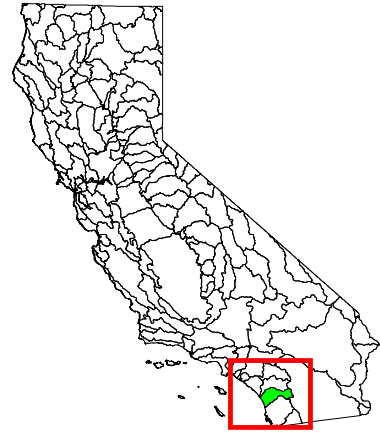
Performance Measure: Successful completion of two service projects in the Upper Merced River Watershed Water Monitoring Program in place. (**Note:** Grantee has met this performance measure by hosting Bear Creek Trash Clean-up Day in July and Hite Cove Trail Maintenance Day in November).

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending: Three grants totaling \$22,300 were submitted and awarded.

<u>Proposal Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>
Removal of starthistle along the Wild & Scenic roadless section of the Merced River	\$12,300 awarded from DOC’s RCD Assistance Grant Program w/\$4,300 of match provided by RCD and BLM	Contract signed
Graduate student intern to be hired summer 2003 to train citizen volunteers to monitor water quality and quantity	\$6,000 awarded from UC Cooperative Extension	Student intern to be hired at end of winter session
Graduate student intern to be hired spring 2003 to assist in community outreach activities and in inventorying natural and historic/cultural resources along the South Fork trail	\$4,000 awarded from UC Cooperative Extension	Coordinating with Cooperative Extension to hire student intern

Mission Resource Conservation District

San Luis Rey-Escondido Watershed



Amount Funded: \$69,982

Match Provided: \$27,518

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$911,000

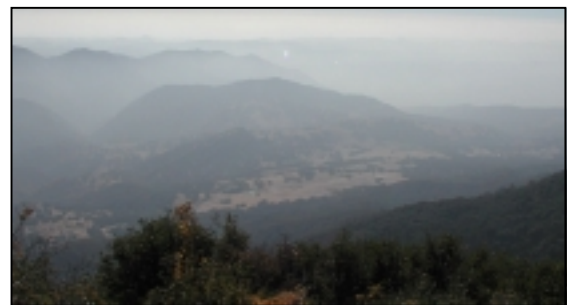
Watershed Coordinator: Cynthia Mallet

Watershed Goals, Objectives, and Progress

Goal 1: Sustain the progress of the San Luis Rey Watershed Council by providing continuing coordination through a Watershed Coordinator and by seeking funding to implement projects to address priority issues identified in the San Luis Rey River Watershed Guidelines developed by the council.

Objective 1: Conduct presentations, coordinate a watershed field event, submit grant applications and provide administrative support to the Watershed Council.

- Conducted a presentation on Watershed Council activities and concerns at the Santa Margarita/San Luis Rey Watershed Planning agency meeting.
- Worked with NRCS staff to begin planning a watershed field event.
- Held two watershed council meetings. The coordinator recruited a representative from the Vista Irrigation District to speak to the council about irrigation district activities.
- Submitted two grant applications this quarter for a San Luis Rey Watershed horse management program.



Overlooking the San Luis Rey Watershed

Performance Measure: Six watershed presentations to stakeholders, 25 stakeholders attend watershed field event, 100 copies of the Guideline supplement distributed to stakeholders, 12 guest speakers make presentations at watershed council meetings.

- The watershed coordinator has given two presentations to stakeholders.
- Four guest speakers have made presentations at watershed council meetings.

Goal 2: Develop working relationships with other agencies.

Objective 1: Submit grant applications in conjunction with local, state and national organizations to implement watershed related projects.

- Worked with the County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Development to explore funding opportunities for a wetlands restoration project in a county park located within the San Luis Rey watershed.

- Held a project NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials) scoping workshop. Representatives from thirteen federal, state, and local agencies participated. Workshop participants decided to form and participate in a program development group for this project.

Performance Measure: Three grant applications submitted for watershed improvement projects, 100 brochures distributed to stakeholders, project NEMO scoping workshop presented to ten municipal officials.

- This quarter the coordinator submitted two grant applications.

Goal 3: Development of water conservation and efficiency resource information.

Objective 1: Work with local municipalities, planning groups, building industry groups and developers to research feasibility of implementing drought tolerant landscapes and grey water systems in new development projects.

- Developed a partnership with the Rainbow Water District to explore opportunities to create a drought tolerant demonstration garden at the water district office. The watershed coordinator will assist the water district with grant applications to fund the demonstration garden.

Performance Measure: Installation of drought tolerant landscape, develop new conditions of approval with a local planning group or municipality and develop two Memorandum of Understanding documents with two development related groups (water district, building industry group, developer and/or planning group).

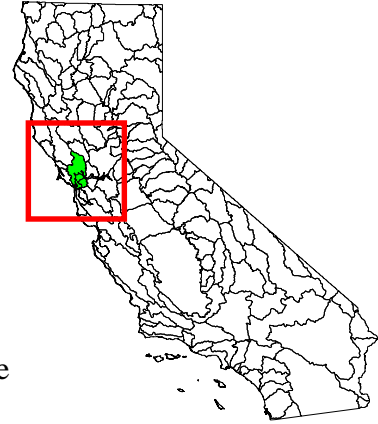
Grant Funding Received/ Pending:

The Coordinator submitted two grant applications this quarter, including a request for \$11,300 to the Department of Conservation for a horse management program and a request for \$38,260 to the EPA Water Quality Cooperative Agreements program, also for a horse management program.

Napa County Resource Conservation District

San Pablo Bay Watershed

Amount Funded: \$46,298
Match Provided: \$15,535
Additional Funding Obtained: \$505,000
Watershed Coordinator: Leigh Sharp



Watershed Goal: To improve the health of the watershed through the development of land stewardships.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Conduct Outreach and Education on Stewardship and Watershed Issues

- Mailing lists for Carneros, Sulphur, Dry, Salvador and Murphy Creek Stewardships, Watershed Newsletter and Napa Green Program are maintained and updated on a regular basis.
- Mailing lists for additional stewardships, where interest has been expressed, are also developed. Mailing lists have been developed for Milliken, Chase and Simmons Creek watersheds.
- The October newsletter and educational insert was distributed in late October.
- Selected to represent the RCD in a panel of agencies interested in developing a Napa River Watershed Assessment and Watershed Management Plan (Lead Agency is Army Corps of Engineers).
- Created a stewardship display board for use at trainings and other events.
- Discussed Stewardship successes at a tour hosted by the State Coastal Conservancy for the Coastal Conservancy Board.



*Restored fish ladder
on Sulphur Creek*

Performance Measure: Increased interest in watershed activities through increased attendance at a minimum of 6 stewardship meetings. Increased awareness of watershed issues through evaluation and tabulation of returned surveys from a minimum of two presentations made at local, regional or state workshops. Begin compilation of centralized watershed-wide database.

Objective 2: Facilitate Stewardship Development and Coordination on Tributaries to the Napa River

- Coordinated a steering committee meeting for the Carneros Creek Stewardship (November 4, 2002).
- Coordinated a meeting of the Carneros Creek Stewardship on November 12, 2002.
- Worked with Michael Champion, RCD Education Coordinator, to coordinate and facilitate the initial meeting of the Salvador Channel Stewardship (November 18).

- Attended a meeting of the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) to offer assistance in public outreach and watershed assessment coordination (October 29, 2002)
- Attended a meeting of the Murphy Creek Stewardship to offer assistance: December 12, 2002.
- Responding to landowner requests to assist in Stewardship development in the following watersheds: Milliken, Chase, Simmons and Redwood. Assistance has included development of base maps, creation of mailing lists and distribution of stewardship handouts. The RCD GIS/Biologist, Jonathan Koehler, has been developing the GIS base maps and associated mailing lists.
- Coordinating a stewardship development workshop in conjunction with Napa County, who has recently expressed interest in having stewardship groups developed to resolve local resource issues.
- Assisted in the coordination of the Carneros Creek Restoration Project which was a cooperative effort of the Carneros Creek Stewardship, Napa County Farm Bureau, RCD, Acorn Soupe, and two elementary schools. Over 250 native plants were planted along a stretch of Carneros Creek.



Carneros Creek
Restoration Project

Performance Measure: Increased participation at existing stewardship meetings, development of at least 2 new stewardships with less direct assistance from the Watershed Coordinator, prioritized lists for at least 2 tributary resource management plans, gather and tabulate data from monitoring efforts from at least 5 tributaries in the watershed, evaluations from “Stewardship Development” workshop participants that show increased understanding and interest in stewardship development. Preparation of at least 2 watershed management plans.

- Assisting in the development of 4 new stewardship groups.

Objective 3: Obtain funding to implement on-the-ground watershed studies, projects, programs and/or monitoring

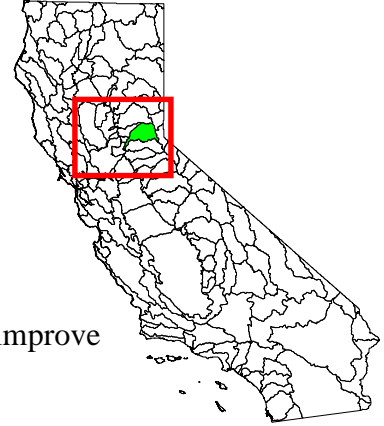
- Received full funding for implementation of the Napa Green Program from the State Water Resources Control Board Prop. 13 funds (\$500,000).

Performance Measure: Submission of at least 2 applications for funding of watershed projects that are consistent with the needs of the Napa River and San Pablo Bay watersheds, completion of at least one fundraiser.

- One application for the State Water Resources Control Board Prop. 13 grant was submitted and approved for funding. The funds (\$500,000) were received in full this quarter.
- A fundraiser to benefit the Carneros Creek Watershed was held last quarter. Many donations and \$5000 were received to support stewardship activities.

Placer County Resource Conservation District

North Fork American River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$78,000

Match Provided: \$26,180

Watershed Coordinator: Bonnie Bagwell

Watershed Goal: To develop and implement watershed projects which improve environmental health within the American River Watershed.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: To provide efficient communication between watershed stakeholders that results in coordinated implementation of on-the-ground projects within the American River Watershed.

- Held three watershed group meetings.
- Attended seven meetings with neighboring watershed groups.
- Developing master watershed project matrix and working to identify needed on-the-ground projects.

Performance Measures: Development of a Master Watershed Project Matrix; coordinate with neighboring watershed groups, and coordinate the completion of a minimum of 3 on-the-ground projects.



Creation of a shaded fuel break in the American River Watershed

Objective 2: Make residents, citizens, landowners/operators aware of the issues that can affect the environmental and economic health of the American River Watershed.

- Working with the High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development District to coordinate a joint “Day in the District”
- Finalizing a funding proposal, that will be submitted in January, for a watershed education program for Placer County school children.
- Working with the High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development District to develop a GIS workshop.
- Working with the American River Watershed Group to develop a brochure that can be sent to households within the watershed. It will be modeled after the RCD of Santa Monica Mts. brochure “Living healthy in the watershed.”

Performance Measure: 50% of classroom attendees will have a positive response in post-educational survey(s); 20% of landowners/property managers attending a watershed educational workshop(s) will implement a practice(s) described in the workshop.

Objective 3: Implement and/or initiate on-the-ground watershed projects.

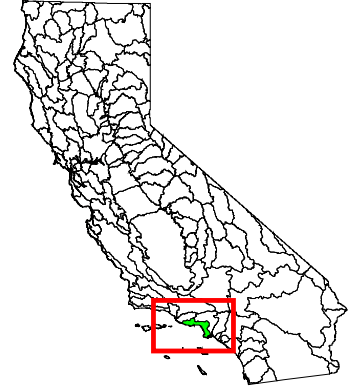
- Submitted a Chicken Hawk Road Demonstration and Rural Residential Landowner Roads Workshop Project proposal to Department of Conservation Resource Conservation District Grant Program. The proposal would also fund the creation of a GIS workshop for watershed

groups. This proposal was not selected for funding. However, the GIS workshop will be conducted with or without DOC funding.

- Drafting a proposal for the Forest Service Community Protection Program and the Wild Land Urban Interface. Both are grant programs for fire protection.
- Writing a grant proposal to support the CDF Chipper Program throughout Placer County.

Performance Measure: Submit two grants and work with project managers to implement two on-the-ground watershed projects/measures/plans.

**Resource Conservation District of
the Santa Monica Mountains
Malibu Creek Watershed**



Amount Funded: \$57,500
Match Provided: \$15,000
Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$1,374,543
Watershed Coordinator: Melissa Cole Johnson

Watershed Goal: Implement the Malibu Creek Watershed Advisory Council's long-range restoration plan

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Coordinate Malibu Creek Watershed Council meetings.

- Coordinated the October 8th and December 3rd, 2002 Watershed Council Meetings.
- Conducted three Malibu Creek Watershed website updates.
- Held two education subcommittee meetings.

Performance Measure: Development of at least 3 on-the-ground restoration projects that will have direct benefit to the watershed as a result of well organized, productive meetings.



*Malibu Creek Watershed Coordinator
Melissa Cole Johnson*

Objective 2: Create aggressive water conservation programs for residents of the City of Malibu and unincorporated Los Angeles county.

- Worked with the city of Malibu and Los Angeles County on outdoor water conservation strategies.
- Obtained commitment from the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District to provide information on water conservation programs to the City of Malibu and the unincorporated portions of Los Angeles county.

Performance Measure: Malibu City Council approval of at least two significant residential water conservation measures.

Objective 3: Reduce non-point sources of pollution through outreach and education.

- Worked with cities within the watershed to develop an education/outreach strategy to reduce urban runoff pollution.
- Met with local environmental organizations to determine what urban runoff education programs are already underway in attempt to reduce duplication of efforts and ensure the best use of limited funding.

- Worked with partners to develop a strategy for the horse BMP program. As part of the strategy the coordinator developed a “horse regulation matrix” which will be used to increase horse owner awareness of horse regulations and agencies.

Performance Measure: Concept development and completion of two grants to solicit funding of pollution prevention/reduction educational piece. Concept development and completion of two grants to solicit funding of horse BMP outreach program.

- Concept development for a watershed wide educational program has been completed as part of the Los Angeles County Urban Runoff Reduction Plan.
- Concept development for the horse BMP program has been completed.
- The coordinator has secured a \$40,000 in-kind contribution for horse BMP outreach from the Los Angeles County Environmental Education division.

Objective 4: Incorporate Malibu Creek Watershed protection and restoration priorities into local, regional, state and federal plans.

- Continued to work closely with watershed cities and Los Angeles County on the Urban Runoff Reduction Plan. The Plan will address several watershed priorities, including, implementing the watershed-wide monitoring plan (developed by the Watershed Council), helping and encouraging watershed cities to develop uniform development plans and ordinances, and addressing existing problem properties that contribute polluted runoff.



Malibu Creek, Los Angeles County

- Worked with Regional Water Board to consolidate restoration recommendations from numerous watershed plans into “master list”. This master list will be incorporated into the Board’s Watershed Management Initiative document, and will help the Board ensure that funded projects are consistent with watershed goals.

Performance Measure: Inclusion of at least three Malibu Creek watershed protection and restoration priorities into local, state, or federal plans.

- This performance measure has been met. The Los Angeles County Urban Runoff Reduction Plan will address at least three Malibu Creek Watershed Council protection and restoration priorities. As the plan is finalized, other Watershed Council priorities may be included as well.

Funding or Funding Proposals Resulting from Coordinator’s Efforts

The Coordinator received a \$40,000 commitment from the Los Angeles County Environmental Programs Division for horse outreach projects. The Coordinator submitted requests to cities within the watershed for an additional \$40,000 to support the horse outreach program.

Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains

Topanga Creek Watershed



Amount Funded: \$66,815

Match Provided: \$35,650

Watershed Coordinators: Rosi Dagit and Tricia Watts

Watershed Goal: Develop long-term integrated and sustainable watershed function.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Continue to expand the Topanga Creek Watershed Education Program to give local residents and stakeholders the knowledge and skills to implement voluntary and pro-active restoration projects that will reduce surface water consumption, improve water recycling and groundwater recharge, as well as improve water quality in Topanga Creek.



*Rosi Dagit works with
volunteer to collect GPS data*

- Held a greywater harvesting and groundwater recharge workshop on November 2. The workshop was attended by 20 local residents. Follow up surveys determined that 25% of attendees have implemented greywater strategies on their property and another 50% are considering implementing greywater strategies.
- Provided information about water conservation strategies to property owners, local teachers, local businesses, and the Topanga Board of Realtors. The watershed coordinator continued to work with the Topanga Business Journal to provide the community with water conservation tips.
- Recruited 10 volunteers to map various noxious weed infestations within the watershed. Five locations were targeted for removal. The watershed coordinator will coordinate a removal day during the next quarter.

Performance Measure: a) Confirm that 10% of workshop participants implemented some Best Management Practices strategies. b) Twenty-five landowners will remove invasive species on their property.

- 25% of the greywater and groundwater recharge workshop participants implemented greywater strategies on their properties.

Objective 2: Continue to support and coordinate stakeholders through the Topanga Creek Watershed Committee.

- Organized and facilitated 3 general Watershed Committee meetings, 2 invasive species sub-committee meetings, and a greywater workshop
- The local paper published several articles regarding watershed committee activities, including articles about removal of *Arundo donax*, crayfish eradication, turtle monitoring, composting and the creek clean up.

- Submitted 3 grant proposals. One proposal was to fund dumpster fees for the April 2003 creek clean up. Another was submitted to the EPA watershed initiative but was not accepted. Finally, a \$2,500 proposal was submitted to the National Garden program to fund a native/non-native demonstration garden at the Topanga Community Club.

Performance Measure: a) Committee will add at least five recommendations to the Watershed Management Plan. b) Committee will develop two programs to inform stakeholders of sustainable living practices. c) Committee will revise and update the Topanga *Living Lightly in the Watershed* information. d) Provide information to 100 stakeholders to assist them in installing native plants for erosion control, humanely deal with nuisance wildlife, implement good tree care practices, and increase implementation of water conservation and water quality measures in their homes.

Objective 3: Provide technical assistance and community input to the revision of the Los Angeles County Local Coastal Plan (LACLCP) and other regional planning efforts.

- Submitted written comments to the Ventura County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors concerning the impacts of the Ahmanson Ranch project.
- Attended a planning workshop intended to develop a strategy for incorporating planning into mitigation efforts for flood and fire hazard reduction with the LA County Regional Planning Commission.



Topanga Creek, Topanga CA

Performance Measure: Local and Regional Plans will include priority recommendations from the Topanga Creek Watershed Management Plan.

Objective 4: Continue education and outreach efforts to local schools and the general public to encourage greater stakeholder education and participation in sustainable watershed practices.

- Provided hands-on watershed classes to 70 fourth and fifth graders at the Topanga Elementary School.
- Prepared and presented slide show at the State of the Watershed meeting in October.

Performance Measure: a) 100 volunteers will remove eight tons of trash (including a car frame) from Topanga Creek. b) Train at least 30 volunteers to participate in water quality and other monitoring.

Additional Funding applied for:

This quarter the Watershed Coordinator submitted three grant applications. A \$1,975 application was submitted to the State Parks Foundation to obtain funding to pay for dumpster fees associated with the April 2003 Creek Clean Up. This grant is still pending. A 984,562 grant was submitted for the EPA Watershed Initiative program but was not selected to represent the state. Finally, a \$2,500 grant was submitted to the National Garden program to fund a native/non-native demonstration garden at the Topanga Community Club. The RCD is still awaiting notification for this grant.

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Lower Cosumnes & Lower Mokelumne River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$47,668

Match Provided: \$16,250

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$25,000

Watershed Coordinator: John Brodie

Watershed Goal: To improve water quality and biodiversity in the Lower Mokelumne River Watershed.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective: Reduce non-point source pollution through an integrated voluntary, stewardship approach using the Lower Mokelumne River Watershed Stewardship Plan (LMSP) Citizen's Water Quality Improvement Program, Self-Assessment-Action Plan Program, and Riparian Restoration Program.

- Continued to coordinate the quarterly meetings of the LMSP Steering Committee.
- Met with landowners and stakeholders in the watershed to generate interest in riparian restoration projects along the Lower Mokelumne River. These meetings have been and will continue to be conducted in conjunction with partners from the Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission (LWWC) and the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD).
- Working with three landowners to pursue riparian restoration projects while four additional landowners are considering riparian restoration projects on their property.
- Meet with other stakeholders and watershed organizations including the Mokelumne-Cosumnes Watershed Alliance.
- Coordinated a Watershed Stewardship Field Day sponsored by the San Joaquin County RCD. Focused primarily on agricultural issues in the watershed as they relate to water quality, an estimated 75 people attended.
- Continued to work with teachers in the Lodi Unified School District (the largest school district in the watershed) in partnership with the Adopt-A-Watershed Program. Participated in two separate workshops for teachers with a total of 40 teachers.
- Continued to work with students at Bear Creek High School and Elkhorn School. A total of 16 students received water quality monitoring training and participated in basic water quality monitoring as part of National Water Quality Monitoring Day, October 18, 2002.
- In early December, received water quality monitoring training from the State Water Resources Control Board. This training will enable the watershed coordinator to train and



Coordinator John Brodie at a Mokelumne River restoration site

conduct macro-invertebrate water quality monitoring with citizen monitors (including school groups) in the Lower Mokelumne River Watershed.

- Serves on the CALFED Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee Watershed Subcommittee.
- In partnership with the LWWC, submitted a grant proposal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Watershed Initiative RFP. The request was for \$184,408 from USEPA for a total project cost of \$268,233. Unfortunately, the request was not nominated for funding. However, both the watershed coordinator and the LWWC will continue to seek funding for this proposal.
- A riparian restoration request, made under the previous watershed coordinator grant to the San Joaquin County RCD, was partially funded by the Lower Mokelumne River Partnership. The original request was for \$145,240.00 as part of an overall \$294,130 request for restoration and monitoring over three years. The partnership group agreed to provide \$25,000 in funding for one year of restoration work. Other funding sources have been identified, and additional proposals to fund this project are in the works.

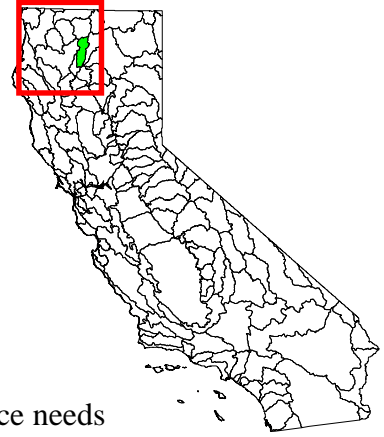
Performance Measure: Three hundred acres enrolled in Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP). Twelve individual citizens/landowners trained for monitoring. Twelve action plans developed and implemented in response to WQIP. Improvement of water quality (e.g., decreases in temperature, decreased dissolved solids, decreased concentrations of toxic chemicals, increased species diversity, etc.).



*Mokelumne River gravel
enhancement site for salmon
restoration*

Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District

Sacramento Headwaters (Sub-basin) Watershed



Amount Funded: \$64,894

Match Provided: \$21,631

Watershed Coordinator: Vince Cloward

Watershed Coordinator Goals, Objectives and Progress

Watershed Goal 1.2: Provide local leadership for identification of resource needs and implementation of chosen solutions.

Objective: Increased public participation and ownership of watershed needs and solutions.

- Completed meeting design, outreach and agenda for a regional watershed stakeholders meeting and information exchange scheduled to occur on March 28, 2003.
- Attended planning meetings with the Shasta Valley RCD, the Cantara Trustee Council, City of Dunsmuir, Union Pacific, Castle Crags State Park, U.S. Forest Service, Dunsmuir Garden Club, the Discovery Center Planning Team, and the Northern California Resource Center.
- Produced 15 press releases for the following events: community restoration outings at Tauhindauli Park, railroad safety meeting, avalanche workshop, River Christmas, and River Exchange program promotions.
- Scheduled a CALFED Watershed Program information meeting for February.

Performance Measure: Meeting minutes; number of participants; meeting evaluation documentation by participants; article reprints; media coverage report; track number of sign-ups to CRMP; track number of sign-ups/attendees at RCD or CALFED sponsored meetings or hearings; identify needs and record solutions to those watershed needs, record groups participating, provide attendance lists to participants and compile a resource database for the public; survey participants to assess program effectiveness.

Watershed Goal 2.1: Support and encourage (facilitate) educational activities in the district at all levels of education.

Objective 1: Design and facilitate conservation, restoration and stewardship activities in partnership with the RCD, Forest Service and other agencies, and Siskiyou County Office of Education.

- Coordinated and produced watershed curriculum with the Siskiyou County Office of Education. The curriculum highlights the county's unique features and provides stewardship linkages for teachers and students.
- Scheduled a bio-diversity workshop for educators to be held in February.
- Hosted educational planning meetings with the Siskiyou County Office of Education, the



Coordinator Vince Cloward introducing speakers at a railroad safety community meeting held in Dunsmuir

Science and Watershed Education Collaboration, the U.S. Forest Service, the Natural Resource Education Program, World Wildlife Fund and the National Audubon Society.

- Coordinated ten restoration field trips for area schools. Topics included aquatic insect survey, riparian assessment and planting, and water conservation. (220 students served)
- Conducted eight classroom presentations and tours. (165 students served)
- Expanded River Center's public bulletin board to include CALFED materials and notices. Recruited and displayed RCD conservation materials and resources.

Performance Measure: Provide an educational partners group and implement watershed educational programs involving a minimum of 3,000 students and teachers; survey students as to what they learned, or will take time to share; survey teachers as to their evaluation and effectiveness of classroom presentations and fieldtrips. Evaluate the program annually with all educational and resource groups.

Watershed Goal 3.4: Promote and facilitate improved water quality (awareness).

Objective 1: Increased public awareness of water quality standards, impacts, and monitoring in the sub-basin.

- Coordinated macro-invertebrate monitoring at three sites on the Upper Sacramento River. Monitoring completed on October 12, 2002. Data provided to the Department of Fish and Game. A report of the findings will be housed in the River Center's library upon completion.
- Conducted two community restoration field trips and four trips for students focusing on human impacts and the effects on water quality. (100 + participants)
- Conducted survey work for riparian rip rap project on Union Pacific right-of-way.

Performance Measure: Numbers of participants, documentation of training agendas and evaluations, article reprints and media coverage report. Report and publish water quality monitoring data to partners, agencies, organizations and the public during forums, meetings, planning reoups and provide information at the River Center for visitors.

Watershed Goal 3.5: Promote and facilitate the restoration, enhancement, and conservation of plant, fish and wildlife resources.

Objective 1: Increased public participation in improving the health of the watershed.

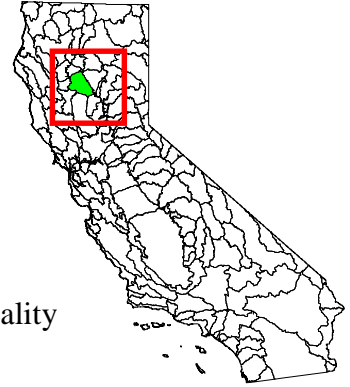
- Coordinated two community restoration outings at Tauhindauli Park and Panther Meadows.
- Coordinated and hosted a railroad safety community meeting. (32 attendees)

Performance Measure: Documented participation; record of meeting agendas; workshop evaluations; create photographic display for public viewing at the River Exchange Center of successes of objective; track how participation and number of volunteers has increased since previous year. Monitor all restoration projects and provide quantitative results.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending: One grant for \$12,000 was submitted during the first quarter and is still pending the selection process.

Tehama County Resource Conservation District

Sacramento-Lower Thomes Watershed



Amount Funded: \$57,110

Match Provided: \$14,361

Watershed Coordinator: Nani Teves

Watershed Goal: To improve upper watershed and riparian health, water quality and water quantity within the Tehama County RCD.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Assisting the Tehama County RCD in achieving their long-term goals for watershed health through information exchange and enhanced education and outreach activities.

- Met with principal of Reeds Creek School to discuss classroom visits and greenhouse planting beginning mid January. A curriculum outline has been developed for 8th and 9th grades.
- Scheduled a spring macro invertebrate sampling for Reeds Creek and Red Bank Creek.
- Attended one TCRCO fire meeting with the Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group to identify community values at risk, discuss current projects, and prioritize future projects.
- Attended an Irrigation Mobile Lab meeting with TCRCO, DWR, and BOR discussing project goals and future funding.



Nani Teves, Watershed Coordinator

Performance Measure: Mailing list for stakeholder meetings increased by 50 landowners and completion of project design for one greenhouse project.

Objective 2: Improve strategies for long-term planning and management of resources within the watershed.

- Activity on this objective will begin next quarter.

Performance Measure: Active website and documented summary of past and present Westside watershed resources and conditions.

Objective 3: Provide project oversight for an Irrigation Mobile Laboratory.

- Met with local pump test operators to discuss possibility of a mutually beneficial case study for use during workshop presentations.

Performance Measure: Successful completion of 30 irrigation evaluations and seasonal reports to agencies and landowners stating results of Mobile Lab activities including benefits to the watershed.

Objective 4: Work directly with CSU Chico to implement removal of *Arundo donax* and *Tamarix* as well as replace native vegetation in some riparian areas on Reeds and Red Bank Creeks.

- Met with CSU partner to discuss the upcoming season to gain permission and eradicate *Arundo donax* and Tamarisk.
- Ground-truthed Chico State's GIS layer for land ownership and *Arundo* sites.

Performance Measure: Landowner agreements in place for removal of approximately 35 acres of invasive plant species and monitoring forms completed for eradication sites.

Workplan Update

During the second quarter Tehama County RCD successfully hired a full-time Mobile Irrigation Lab Technician. The new employee is responsible for organizing workshops, enlisting landowners, and managing the Mobile Irrigation Lab budget. As a result, the RCD is requesting an amendment to its workplan. The RCD would like to replace Objective 3, which was to provide oversight of the Mobile Irrigation Lab program, with an alternative objective to be developed with input from the DOC.

Ulatis Resource Conservation District

(Name changed to Solano RCD)

Lower Sacramento River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$69,190

Match Provided: \$18,913

Watershed Coordinator: Kathleen Robins

Watershed Goal A: Promote Community-based Watershed Stewardship in Solano County

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective A-1: Foster development, coordination and funding of local stewardship groups for Solano County creeks

- Submission of four funding proposals, totaling \$368,151 to support watersheds throughout the County.
- Continuing to work with three stakeholder groups on three different Solano County Creeks. (Pleasant Creek, Sweeney Creek and Alamo Creek).
- Coordinated 3 field days geared to the needs of the 3 watershed groups. All were well attended (82 participants total) and well received.
- Working with various county agencies to develop a plan to facilitate watershed groups throughout the county.
- Held quarterly County Watershed Partnership Group meeting in Dec.



Tailwater pond installation field day

Performance Measure: Three functioning local stewardship groups (each with at least 20 stakeholders); written work priority list of four projects for each group; monitoring protocol in hands of stakeholders; three grant proposals written to support work of each group.

- Four grant proposals submitted to support watershed work.

Objective A-2: Seek agency partnerships and funding to develop a “Welcome to the Watershed” stewardship orientation and training program for rural landowners

- MOU signing nearly complete.
- Working closely with target agencies to seek funding for the “Welcome to the Watershed” program with a potential partnership with the Solano Irrigation District.
- A proposal was submitted to the DOC RCD Assistance program in early November. This was not selected for funding.
- Last quarter, a proposal was submitted to the Great Valley Center in early September. This was not selected for funding.
- Will begin implementation of “Welcome to the Watershed” program using in-kind support until grant funding is realized.

Performance Measure: Eleven signed MOUs with stakeholder agencies and organizations in Solano County to support project; project description and workplan in hands of stakeholders; two grant proposals written to support and extend project.

- Six MOUs or interagency agreements signed.
- Two grant proposals submitted. Both not selected for funding.

Objective A-3: Develop a farmer-written Farm Conservation Plan Program to help farmers develop watershed appropriate conservation plans and comply with USDA funding requirements.



Tailwater pond installation and revegetation project

- On November 1, submitted a full proposal to the Western SARE's Research and Education Program which would fully fund the project. Funding decision expected to be made in March.
- On January 16, submitted a proposal to the Great Valley LEGACI Program to support the Farm Conservation Plan Program.
- Continuing to work with NRCS and CARCD to find funding to start implementation work sooner.
- Planning for the program is underway with Yolo County and Dixon RCDs. Several workshops will be planned.

Performance Measure: Twenty field days yielding 20 completed farmer-written farm conservation plans; evaluations of process and product by the 20 participants and the 3 RCDs; documentation of 6 month follow-up with participants regarding actual usefulness of FCP with program improvement recommendations; write 3 grant proposals to support continuation and expansion of project.

- Two grant proposals submitted. Both awaiting notification.

Watershed Goal B: Promote Cooperation and Information Sharing between Solano County Stakeholder Groups, Local Agency Personnel, Environmental Groups and Other Watershed Interests.

Objective B-1: Foster continued development of Countywide Watershed Partnership Group

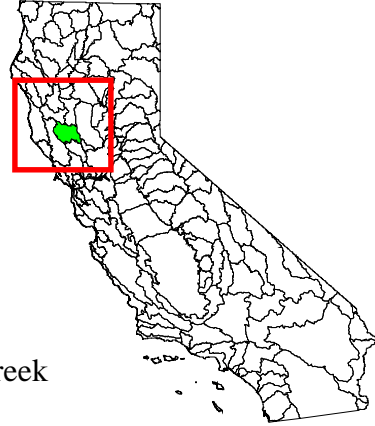
- Working with Solano Irrigation District, Yolo Co. RCD, and Dixon RCD to develop a Water Quality and Conservation Mobile Lab to serve stakeholders in both Solano and Yolo Counties.
- Completing final edits for the *Solano County Watershed Groups and Projects Compendium*. Will be published on RCD website by the end of January.
- The Countywide Solano County Watershed Partnership Group met for its second quarterly meeting in December. It was attended by 30 agency stakeholders.
- Continued to distribute bimonthly e-mail updates on the grant and its activities to all Watershed Partnership Group members.
- Continued to work with the Regional Environmental Education Group.

- Collaboration with the Community Alliance with Family Farmers continues, completing the revegetation phase of the Pleasants Creek Watershed's first *Arundo donax* removal project. The groups have also completed earthmoving and sculpting for a wildlife pond installation at one demonstration site and installing two insectary hedgerows at a second demonstration site.
- Working on new funding proposals for DWR's PRISM Grant Program and the Central Valley Improvement Project.

Performance Measure: Six quarterly meeting of the Solano County Watershed Partnership Group; biannual updates of existing *Solano County Watershed Groups and Projects Compendium*; priority list of projects for the group to address; 4 grant proposals written to support those projects.

West Lake Resource Conservation District

Upper Cache Creek Watershed



Amount Funded: \$75,912

Match Provided: \$19,758

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$23,740

Watershed Coordinator: Greg Dills

Watershed Goal: Improve watershed conditions on Upper Cache Creek tributaries.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Increase community involvement in watershed activities.

- The Lower Lake Watershed Council (LLWC) signed the MOU that the group drafted and are meeting regularly on the first Wednesday of each month. Their first project was the Cache Creek and Herndon Creek cleanup, which proved to be a great success.
- The Watershed Coordinator (WC) assisted the Scotts Creek CRMP in obtaining funding for a fuel load reduction project in the Scotts Creek watershed. The CRMP group hosted a watershed tour of the project area and enlisted support from the County of Lake Board of Supervisors, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), West Lake RCD (WLRCD) and willing landowners for the project. The resulting interest and support led to the funding of the project by the Department of Conservation's (DOC's) \$120K grant program.
- Assisted local Tribes in writing two other grant proposals. The Robinson Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians and the Middle Creek CRMP cooperatively submitted a grant application to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Watershed Restoration Program. The Elem Indian Colony, Big Valley CRMP, Lower Lake Watershed Council, Middle Creek CRMP, Schindler Creek/High Valley CRMP, and the Scotts Creek CRMP all contributed to submitting a proposal to the EPA's Watershed Initiative Grant Program.
- Public education and outreach utilizing local media and the Internet is ongoing.

Performance Measure: Six or more fund raising events/activities held, 6 or more grant applications submitted, one new CRMP formed, twelve Power Point presentations and three hundred students involved in watershed education events.

- Three grant applications were developed this quarter, one of which was funded. The other two are still in review.
- Created and presented three more Power Point presentations about watershed protection and activities, for a total of seven presentations created.
- One new CRMP group has been formed.
- To date, one fund raising event has taken place and one is in the planning stage.

Objective 2: Improve stream channel conditions by reducing solid waste in the Upper Cache Creek tributaries.

- On October 19 and 26, CRMP members and community volunteers participated in a creek cleanup on Cache Creek, Herndon Creek, Kelsey Creek, Middle Creek, Scotts Creek and the South Fork of Scotts Creek. The WC assisted the Big Valley CRMP, Lower Lake Watershed Council, Middle Creek CRMP and Scotts Creek CRMP with coordinating all necessary support for these events.

Performance Measure: Minimum 60 cubic yards of rubbish and recyclables removed each year.

- The minimum yardage has been satisfied in this performance measurement. Additional trash that is collected further benefits the watershed.

Objective 3: Coordinate implementation of the Schindler Creek/High Valley CRMP streambank restoration project.

- Successfully obtained all the necessary “Right of Entry” forms from landowners in the Schindler Creek project area, allowing for the start of the restoration project. Coordinated with the contractor, landowners and project coordinator to implement the plan design of the project. The construction was successfully completed before winter storm season and the project has withstood this winter’s rainfall and stream flow.
- Coordinated with Middle Creek CRMP members and the Robinson Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians in the harvesting of willow cuttings and placing them in a makeshift nursery for the revegetation component of the restoration project.

Performance Measure: Two thousand twenty feet of streambank restoration implemented.

- The streambank structures have been successfully completed with the revegetation component of the project to be implemented between fall and summer of 2003.

Objective 4: Coordinate implementation of the Middle Creek Restoration Project.

- The final 2 streambank repairs were completed ending the two-year restoration project.

Performance Measure: Two streambank projects implemented.

- This performance measurement has been met.

Objective 5: Survey, map and begin eradication of *Arundo donax* in Lake County.

- Participated in the lake survey of *A. donax*, identifying 81 locations of infestation to date; weather has postponed the lake survey until it can be safely completed.
- Assisted with training of the crew leader for the eradication of *A. donax*.
- Provided survey data entry and mapping of the lake infestations using ARCGIS software.



Coordinator Greg Dills surveying an *Arundo donax* infestation site

Performance Measure: Survey and map a minimum of 12 colonies of *A. donax* and perform eradication.

- Survey of Clear Lake has revealed 81 infestation sites at this stage of the survey.
- The total number of sites eradicated to date: Middle Creek, 8 sites; Alley Creek, 8 sites; Clover Creek, 9 sites; Morrison Creek, 1 site.

Objective 6: Establish Biological and Habitat Assessment Citizen Monitoring Team.

- Coordinating efforts between the Sustainable Land Stewardship Institute, Lake County Tribes and CRMPs to host the Citizen's Water Quality Monitoring Workshops.

Performance Measure: Establish 6 monitoring sites for annual sampling of water quality in the Clear Lake Basin.

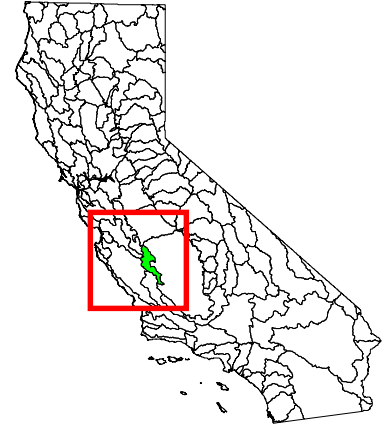
Objective 7: Coordinate natural resource management efforts with BLM on the Cow Mt. Recreation Area, specifically in Eight Mile Valley.

- Working closely with BLM to survey, map and develop a watershed assessment for the Eight Mile Valley (Willow Creek Meadow) restoration project.
- Seeds collected last summer have been successfully germinated. These plants will be returned to the project site and be planted this winter.
- This winter, monitoring activities were conducted to measure the success of two restoration projects, one from July and one from June 2002. Streambank erosion, causing a head cut that is encroaching upon the South entrance to the project area, is being closely monitored, as are culverts on this road.
- A watershed tour of South Cow Mt. took place on Oct. 12th. Members of the Scotts Creek CRMP, BLM, County of Lake Dept. of Public Works and one Lake County Supervisor toured the firebreak project area to the West of Scotts Valley and Lakeport. A firebreak-clearing project, conducted by BLM, has a two-mile interruption across private property. The purpose of this tour was to educate those in attendance and build support for the completion of the firebreak across the private lands. From this tour, a grant application was developed and recently funded by the DOC's \$120K grant program.

Performance Measure: For Eight Mile Valley, produce a watershed assessment, install a minimum of a one-mile post and cable barrier to protect sensitive species on the floor of the Valley, and design an implementation project.

Westside Resource Conservation District

Upper Los Gatos-Avenal
(Sub-watershed: Arroyo Pasajero)



Amount Funded: \$36,222

Match Provided: \$11,000

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$155,000

Watershed Coordinator: Linda Ballentine

Watershed Goal: To improve the water quality of the Arroyo Pasajero/ Domengine Watershed and protect the California Aqueduct by reducing erosion, sedimentation and flooding.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: To increase the visibility of the Arroyo Pasajero CRMP among landowners, agencies and other organizations.

- Maintained contact with Cave Durham of NRCS Fresno Field Office and Pam Buford of RWQCB and updated them on watershed activities.
- Submitted landowners' practice implementation projects for the CALFED grant which was activated in late September.
- Coordinated with Liz Partridge of the Bureau of Reclamation on flyover mapping project.
- Coordinated with landowners who have ongoing projects under the 319(h) program. All work is scheduled to be completed by August.
- Coordinated with DWR to install a monitoring station on Warthan Creek with 319(h) funds.



Coordinator Linda Ballentine collecting rain gauge data on Birdwell Ranch

Performance Measure: Increased attendance and involvement in CRMP; new names added to mailing list; development of three additional ranch plans which identify conservation practices that relieve erosion and flooding.

Objective 2: Improve watershed conditions in the Arroyo Pasajero by reducing erosion and flooding.

- Activated a rain gauge in Warthan Creek that had been returned with a defect.
- Working with Amanda Peisch of DWR to develop and conduct a monitoring workshop and a computer application workshop.
- Replaced defective rain gauge units on Green Ranch and downloaded data.

Performance Measure: Implementation and support of monitoring practices that result in the collection of data that indicates reduction in sediment erosion and flooding in the Arroyo Pasajero.

Objective 3: Procure funding for CRMP landowner watershed improvement project implementation.

- Submitted grant application for \$100,000 to National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative for invasive/noxious weed removal in the Arroyo Pasajero and Domengine watersheds.

Performance Measure: Obtain funding to support the implementation of ranch plans and monitoring plans through 2004.

Objective 4: Plan and hold education and outreach events.

- Working with Amanda Peisch of DWR to develop and conduct a workshop on how to perform monitoring activities using equipment that the CRMP obtained with 319(h) funds.
- Coordinated with chairman of the West Hills College Agriculture Department on a weed mapping project. Proposing to utilize students to assist with mapping.

Performance Measure: Increased awareness of the Stewards of the Arroyo Pasajero CRMP activities, greater attendance at meetings, workshops and tours.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

<u>Proposal Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>
Riparian restoration on Kester Ranch along Warthan Creek	\$100,000 requested from the Packard Foundation	Grant awarded
Planning efforts on the Domengine watershed to develop ranch plans and watershed management plan	\$55,000 requested from CALFED Prop 13 Watershed Protection program (submitted in May 2002)	Grant awarded
Riparian restoration on Kester Ranch along Warthan Creek	\$100,000 requested from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative	Pending selection process