

Department of Conservation

Resource Conservation District Watershed Coordinator Grant Program



Arundo donax removal in Lower Topanga State Park

Fifth Quarter Report
November 15, 2003

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



Summary of Progress

The fifth quarter covered the period of July 1 to September 30, 2003. In October, quarterly status reports, summarizing watershed work plan progress, were submitted by 17 of the 18 grantees. East Stanislaus RCD submitted its quarterly report very late. The district's watershed coordinator left the position and the district had difficulty hiring a replacement. The Department of Conservation (DOC) staff is working closely with the grantee to keep the grant on target.

The information received from the grantees has been reviewed by the 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 major accomplishments of the 18 coordinators thus far are as follows:

- ◆ **Over \$6.6 million in additional watershed funding has been obtained thus far by the watershed coordinators.** This amount is \$470,000 more than the total that was reported last quarter. This additional funding is the result of grant writing and fund-raising activities conducted by the coordinators.
- ◆ **Established one new stewardship group and a Farm Conservation Plan Program to assist farmers.**
- ◆ **Established demonstration sites, and conducted watershed tours and education days.**
- ◆ **Implemented creek restoration programs, weed removal projects and helped to conduct Rangeland Water Quality Shortcourses.**
- ◆ **Helped to install conservation practices and developed watershed conservation plans for landowners/farmers.**
- ◆ **Established several water quality-monitoring programs.**

These results show how the coordinators are helping to build the watershed management infrastructure necessary for healthy watersheds statewide. The watershed coordinators are meeting and exceeding the objectives outlined in their work plans. There are three months remaining in the grant program.

Cachuma Resource Conservation District

Santa Maria River and Cuyama River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$68,500

Match Provided: \$45,179

Additional Funding Obtained: \$108,000

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.

- The draft watershed plan is almost finished. It will be presented to the Oso Flaco Watershed Group in December 2003.
- Completed the San Antonio Watershed Plan and delivered it to the funding agency.
- Continued gathering field data for the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Plan.
- Seven presentations were made to landowners and grape growers on irrigation evaluation methods, scheduling techniques, and maintenance procedures. Three of the presentations were done in Spanish.
- Finished measuring nitrate concentrations at eight locations over a twelve month period. Information compared to historical data. Data incorporated into the Oso Flaco Creek watershed plan.
- Ten farmers representing 48 different ranches and over 7,000 acres in the Oso Flaco Creek Watershed have completed the mapping portion of their farm plans.
- Additional 18 irrigation evaluations were conducted, including 14 turf-grass evaluations, 1 avocado orchard, and three drip-irrigated vineyards.
- A trial was conducted on a broccoli field using the soil nitrate quick test to determine when to apply nitrogen fertilizer. The initial side dress application of nitrogen fertilizer was omitted from two 150-foot sections of planted bed. Harvest data indicated that nitrogen was lacking in the crop portion that was being managed. Additional trials will be done.
- Completed the San Antonio Creek watershed restoration plan.
- Completed two EQIP plans and are now being implemented on cattle ranching operations in San Antonio Creek Watershed.



Trial on a broccoli field to determine when to apply nitrogen.

- Participated in the UCCE Water Quality Short-course. Visited two vineyards and two ranching operations as a result of the course.
- Surveyed tree stream reaches of the Carpinteria Creek.
- Removal plans, specifications, and a bridge design for the Lions Club crossing in Carpinteria are completed.



Arundo donax in Carpinteria Creek

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

- Oso Flaco Creek Watershed Plan is 75% complete.
- San Antonio Creek Watershed Plan is done.
- Carpinteria Creek Watershed Plan is currently

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

- The pre-sidedress soil nitrate quick test has been recommended to the farmers in the Oso Flaco Creek Watershed. It is expected that nitrates ending up in the Oso Flaco Creek will be reduced by 20%.

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

- The San Antonio Creek Plan contains recommendations that when implemented will achieve the 30% goal.

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

- There are five low-water crossings that have been identified for removal.

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

- Preliminary watershed plan has been prepared for the San Jose Creek watershed.
- Presented information on available services to flowers and greenhouse operators in the southern coastal portion of Santa Barbara County and Northern Ventura County.
- Assisted in providing 18 mobile irrigation lab evaluations.

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

- Both the San Antonio Creek and the Oso Flaco Creek plans contain numerous water quality improvements and methods to conserve water.

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

- The irrigation mobile lab has provided seven water conservation workshops in three new watersheds.

Funding Received:

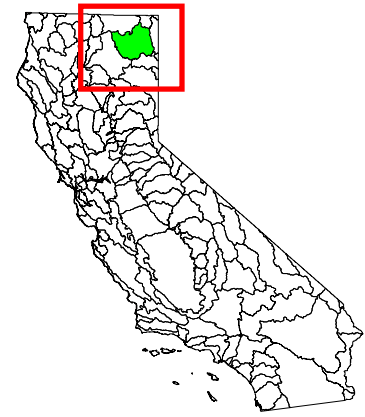
- A contract has been signed with the California State Parks to produce the Gaviota Watershed Plan Project (\$82,000).
- The California Coastal Conservancy awarded the district fund to conduct a hydrologic study of the lower reaches of the Santa Maria River (\$22,000).
- The Land Trust of Santa Barbara agreed to provide funding for the preparation of an erosion control plan for the Arroyo Hondo Creek Watershed (\$4,000).

Funding Pending:

- Submitted a Proposition 13 proposal to fund the implementation of the San Antonio Creek Watershed Plan (\$940,000).

Central Modoc Resource Conservation District

Upper Pit River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$66,400
Match Provided: \$18,100
Additional Funding Obtained: \$600,000
Watershed Coordinator: Cliff Harvey

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Goal 1: Contribute to watershed-wide assessment.

Objective 1: Support Pit River Watershed Alliance assessment project.

- The coordinator attended the two regularly scheduled PRWA meetings during this quarter.
- The coordinator provided input on watershed assessment drafts created by the contractor.

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

- Since the first quarter, the coordinator has attended 9 team meetings.



Modoc National Wildlife Refuge, Alturas

Objective 2: Contribute to watershed wide GIS database.

- Consolidated past and current CMRCD watershed data. The coordinator plans to post this data to the CMRCD website in the next couple of weeks.

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.

- Helped the Pit River Watershed Alliance Monitoring Committee develop monitoring plans.
- Obtained access permission from numerous private landowners.

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

Objective 2: Compile baseline vegetation data for project sites with emphasis on revegetation success and noxious weeds.

- Completed botanical surveys for 3 different re-vegetation projects. The coordinator is currently assisting with preparing survey reports.

Performance Measure: Revegetation data for two project sites.

Goal 3: Continued implementation of demonstration watershed restoration projects.

Objective 1: Initiate Proposition 13 Projects.

- Over a mile of riparian fencing was put in place over the summer. Re-vegetation work will begin in the spring.

Performance Measure: Completed signed Prop. 13 contract.

- This performance measure was met when the Prop. 13 contract was signed and work commenced on Feb. 1, 2003.

Objective 2: Initiate Cantara Foundation Projects.

- Obtained all necessary permits for the South Fork Pit River Talbott project. This project will result in a ¾-mile channel restoration. Most of the work on this project will be completed this fall.
- The Gleason Creek riparian fencing project was completed this quarter.
- Facilitated the installation of one mile of riparian fencing on the Pit River at the Heard and Valencia ranches. This fencing will limit livestock access to the Pit River.

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

- The Scope of Work and contract were finalized and signed on September 30, 2003.
- Permits applications have been submitted and approved for the Weber Ranch-Parker Creek Project.
- Project designs have been drafted and finalized for the Weber Ranch-Parker Creek fish habitat structure and the Nader-Witcher Creek Restoration Project.
- Permits have been obtained for the South Fork Pit River Tallbott Project. Permit applications were also submitted for the Bushey Ranch project on Turner Creek.

Objective 3: Develop New Project Proposals.

- A pre-proposal for several new projects was submitted during the last quarter. If selected the proposal would fund an engineering assessment of bank erosion on the North Fork Pit River, treatment of a channelized reach of the South Fork Pit River, treatment and rehabilitation of a channelized portion of the main steam of the Pit River, riparian and wetlands restoration, and a livestock management project.

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



A channelized reach of the Pit River would be restored through collaborative efforts of private landowners and Modoc National Wildlife Refuge under a project proposal developed and submitted to the 2003 Consolidated State Watershed Grants by the Watershed Coordinator.

Channelized reach to be blocked and developed for wetlands and flood plain

Old channel to be rehabilitated

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

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

- Held the Summer Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on 8/12/2003.
- Disseminated the Summer TAC newsletter to over 150 stakeholders. The newsletter provided information about projects taking place within the watershed.
- Assisted the Pit River Watershed Alliance Coordinator with grant writing, project permitting, and coordination of efforts.

Performance Measure: Minutes of three TAC meetings. Complete six TAC newsletters. Maintained TAC website link. Attend eight meetings of PRWA, MNWWG, documentation of cooperation with PRWA coordinator.

- The coordinator has conducted three TAC meetings, completed three TAC newsletters, attended seven Alliance meetings, and four Modoc County Noxious Weed Working Group meetings.

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.

- Conducted site visits to Pit River Land and Cattle Co., the Silvestri property, and the Hagedorn/Morris property.
- Staffed the Modoc County Fair watershed booth to provide Modoc County residents with information about the Pit River watershed.

- Contacted the Modoc High Natural Resources Academy advisor to develop watershed education activities for the new school year.

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.

- The coordinator has assisted with developing an educational program for high school students, conducted one watershed restoration workshop, assisted in three outreach events and conducted 27 site visits.

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

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

- During the last quarter, the coordinator submitted concept proposals to the Consolidated Watershed Grants RFP for a total of \$750,000. The coordinator was invited to prepare a full proposal for this grant.

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

- The coordinator has submitted a total of six grant applications, finalized a Prop. 13 scope of work, finalized a Cantara Foundation scope of work and started work on a Prop. 13 phase II scope of work.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

The coordinator submitted a proposal in response to the Consolidated Request for Proposals for \$750,000 to fund various watershed restoration activities. The coordinator will develop and submit a full proposal in October.

Central Modoc Resource Conservation District

Goose Lake, Upper & Lower Pit River Watersheds



Amount Funded: \$62,500
Match Provided: \$23,400
Additional Funding Obtained: \$260,000
Watershed Coordinator: James Rickert

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

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

Objective 1: Improve communication among partners and stakeholders.

- Facilitated two Pit River Watershed Alliance meetings during this quarter.
- Initiated a Pit River Internet discussion group to allow for increased communication among watershed stakeholders.
- The coordinator has distributed a total of 437 PRWA brochures since the start of this grant.
- Attended a watershed restoration site visit at Turner Creek. This restoration site is a key monitoring location for the Pit River Watershed Monitoring Program.
- Meet with representatives from federal and state agencies to plan an irrigation agriculture water quality short course.



*Pit River Water Quality Monitoring
Field Day*

Performance Measure: Obtain and secure a total of 35 signatories on the Memorandum of Understanding.

- Since the first quarter, the coordinator has obtained three new signatories including the High Mountain Hay Growers, the Modoc County Noxious Weed Working Group, and the Fall River Wild Rice Growers Cooperative. The MOU now includes a total of 27 signatories.

Objective 2: Seek funding for Pit River Watershed Alliance to implement priority projects.

- Submitted a full proposal to the CALFED consolidated program. If selected for funding, this grant would focus on developing a Pit RCD Management Program. The management program would focus on developing and implementing a strategic watershed plan.
- Worked with representatives from the North Cal-Neva RC&D and CMRCD to develop a funding strategy for the Pit River Watershed “River Center.”

Performance Measure: Assist writing five funding proposals for priority projects in cooperation with Pit River Watershed Alliance stakeholders.

- The coordinator has submitted ten proposals since the first quarter.

Objective 3: Coordinate Pit River Watershed Alliance projects.

- Helped initiate the Pit River Water Quality Monitoring Program. The program includes a total of 52 monitoring sites on the main stem of the Pit River and 18 tributaries. Due to the success of the program, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board asked PRWA to expand their monitoring program to include the Fall River, a neighboring watershed.
- 12 water-quality monitoring sites were established in the Fall River watershed. Monitoring began in September.
- Held two Watershed Monitoring Technical Advisory Committee meetings.
- Held two Watershed Assessment Subcommittee meetings to provide the consultant with direction in the completion of the watershed assessment. The consultant has since developed a draft watershed assessment, which is currently being reviewed by the technical review team.
- Coordinated the PRWA Watershed Monitoring Field Day. This field day provided stakeholders with an opportunity to tour current monitoring locations on the Pit River and Ash Creek. Stakeholders and agencies also had the chance to exchange monitoring information and ideas.
- The coordinator is currently working on a watershed inventory of all restoration projects within the watershed.



PRWA contractor testing water quality on Fall River, Shasta County

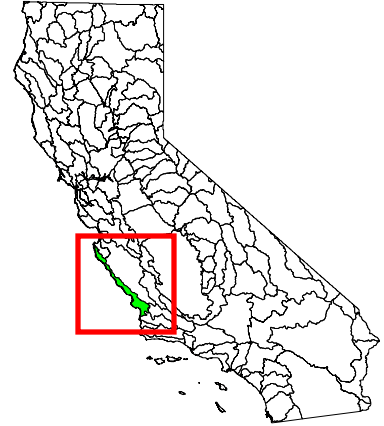
Performance Measure: Three projects are identified.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

This quarter the coordinator submitted a full proposal for \$305,000 in response to the CALFED Consolidated Request for Proposals. This proposal would fund the development and implementation of a strategic watershed plan.

Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

Central Coastal Watershed



Amount Funded: \$60,024
Match Provided: \$80,459
Additional Funding Obtained: \$268,990
Watershed Coordinator: Deborah Barker

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.

- Completed a clear and snag project along Los Osos Creek.
- Finished a stabilization project of a gully and culvert along a county road.
- Installed cross fencing and water troughs as part of a livestock management project.
- Completed an access road to correct erosion on a gully within the San Lusito Creek.



Los Osos Creek, before project, blocked by debris from flooding



Completed clear and snag project. WC was instrumental in coordinating the project.

- Partially finished removing sediment along a quarter mile stretch of Los Osos Creek to prevent flooding and to protect steelhead habitat.
- Assisted in pruning willows from the center of Warden Creek to prevent further bank erosion.

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).

- Contacted 17 landowners.

- Installed eight conservation practices to date.
- Obtained one permit so far.
- Completed coordinated permitting program for Morro Bay Partners in Restoration

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

- Met with two additional landowners within Los Osos Valley.
- Worked with the Farm Bureau to coordinate groups that are developing water quality monitoring programs.
- Facilitated CCC Crew training in conservation practices, sediment reduction techniques, red leg frog identification, and watershed groups.

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).

- Established three demonstration projects on construction sites in Pismo Beach, Arroyo Grande, and Grover Beach.
- Conducted three tours throughout the watershed.
- Provided NRCS with a regulatory referral in Nipomo.

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

- Met with County Supervisor and discussed a course of action for sediment control on Arroyo Grande Creek.
- Set up conference between Flood Control Committee, SLO County Public Works, and State Department of Water Resources regarding relinquishment issues for the Flood Control District.
- Attended numerous meetings including the Morro Bay Pike Minnow Task Force meeting, Morro Bay National Estuary Program Executive Committee and Implementation Committee meetings, and Arroyo Grande Watershed Forum Steering Committee meeting.

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).

- Conducted three education events.
- Working on six farm/ranch plans.
- RCD members have attended 12 watershed stewardship group and/or governmental agency meetings.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

Funding Received:

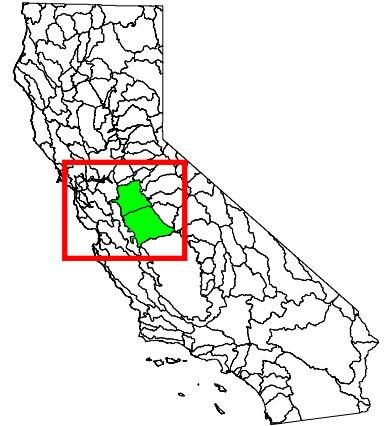
Received a grant from the SWRCB to fund a Watershed On-Farm Coastal Water Quality Implementation Project within the Arroyo Grande Creek (\$101,990).

Funding Pending:

Submitted a grant to the SWRCB for the Morro Bay On-Farm Implementation Project (\$500,000).

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

Additional Funding Obtained:

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 (MRS) Group from a single project focus to a watershed group.

- Prepared media briefing materials for and conducted tour of Lower Merced River watershed. More than a dozen interested citizens made stops along the river, including at the confluence of the San Joaquin and Merced Rivers, the Bettencourt Ranch, Henderson Park and the new Exchequer Dam.
- Attended Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interest and Merced Groundwater Basin Advisory Panel meetings.
- Attended CALFED Bay Delta Watershed Public Advisory Committee and California Watershed Council meetings in Sacramento.
- Conducted field visit to landowners on Dry Creek who are experiencing heavy sedimentation.
- Attended Adopt-A-Watershed Leadership Institute.
- Grant proposal submitted to SWRCB for the Consolidated RFP was selected for the full proposal phase of the selection process.



Touring the Lower 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.

- Arranged to have a NRCS technical specialist participate in the water quality monitoring program scheduled for after harvest.
- Prepared full proposal to submit to CALFED/SWRCB's Proposition 13 grant program.

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.

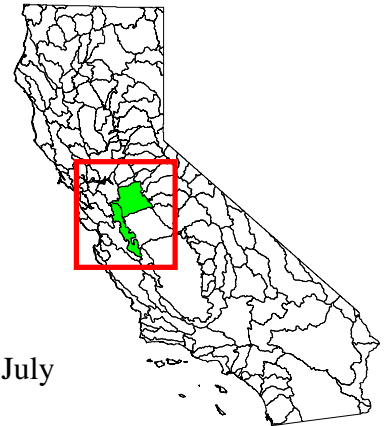
Objective 3: Administer watershed coordinator grant program.

- Attended DOC Watershed Coordinator Grant Workshop in Fresno.

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: \$475,000

Watershed Coordinator: Audrey Johnson (replaced Norman Crow in July 2003)

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.

- Facilitated cooperative agreement between East Stanislaus RCD and East San Joaquin Valley Water Coalition (ESJVWC) to educate local farmers about the Regional Water Quality Control Board's agricultural waiver guidelines. The watershed coordinator was selected to serve on the technical advisory committee for the ESJVWC.
- Provided assistance in the grant process for the development of a dairy waste management research project. The project is the result of a partnership between East Stanislaus RCD, UC Cooperative Extension and Marsha Campbell-Mathews.

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.

- The watershed coordinator continues to work with Power Hydrodynamics to implement the TIMS irrigation management system with West Stanislaus growers. Power Hydrodynamics will continue installing moisture probes and collecting moisture data at reduced rates for landowners on the west side.

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.

- West Stanislaus RCD has partnered with Diablo Grande to assist managers in the protection of conservation easements. The watershed coordinator is providing monitoring services for the easements and advice on conservation practices.

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.

- East Stanislaus RCD partnered with the Regional Water Quality Control Board to install flow and salinity monitoring stations within the local area. All of the monitoring sites have been selected and monitoring devices have been ordered.

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

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



Amount Funded: \$68,400
Match Provided: \$24,800
Additional Funding Obtained: \$242,987
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.

- Logo for the Upper Merced River Watershed was created and adopted.
- Rangeland Water Quality Short Course is being planned for early winter.
- All remaining tasks were completed in previous quarters.

Performance Measure: Provision of two educational workshops for local ranchers and grazing land managers, including one Rangeland Water Quality Short Course. (50% complete)



Volunteers receive water quality monitoring training in preparation for "Snapshot Day"

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

- Work to create a speaker's bureau on watershed issues is on going.
- All remaining tasks were completed in previous quarters.

Performance Measure: Hold one region-wide "Day in the Watershed" event. (Complete)

Objective 3: Promote historic and cultural education.

- Workshop on identification and protection of historic tribal sites within the Upper Merced watershed cannot be completed because the information is being kept confidential to protect the resources.
- All remaining tasks were completed in previous quarters.

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

Objective 4: Promote data coordination.

- Substantial progress has been made in gathering information on water quality between El Portal and Briceburg. Data has been published in two annual reports.
- Efforts to create a watershed data management system continue, but the system will not be completed within the grant timeframe. Data management issues are complex and agencies have yet to finalize decisions on digital formats.
- All remaining tasks were completed in previous quarters.

Performance Measurement: Collection and publication of current data on Upper Merced River Watershed.

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

- Completed “Snapshot Day” in July. This event involved 17 volunteers collecting water quality samples on 18 sites, both in the main stem of the Merced River and in selected tributaries. Data collected included pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, turbidity, nitrates, and riparian corridor conditions. Three tributaries were also assessed with macro invertebrate surveys.
- Efforts to adopt Highway 140 along the Merced River corridor for weed management are on-going.
- All remaining tasks were completed in previous quarters.

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, Hite Cove Trail Maintenance Day in November, and the six weed pulls done during this quarter).

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

The concept proposals submitted to CBDA and SWRCB for the Consolidated RFP were invited to participate in the final grant round.

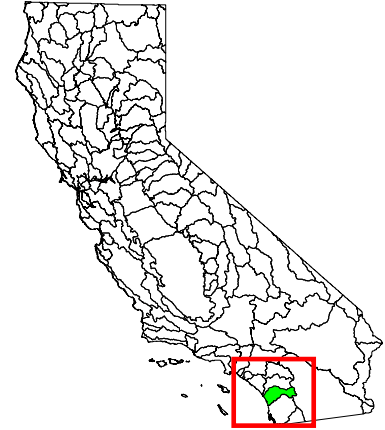
Mission Resource Conservation District San Luis Rey-Escondido Watershed

Amount Funded: \$69,982

Match Provided: \$27,518

Additional Funding Obtained: \$911,000

Watershed Coordinator: Cynthia Mallett



Watershed Coordinator 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.

- Confirmed five sites for the State of the Watershed Tour scheduled for October 2003. Invitations printed and mailed to stakeholders. Seventeen stakeholders have registered.
- Submitted two grant proposals. Research completed for water conservation supplement for the San Luis Rey Watershed Management Guideline. Began drafting outline and layout of supplement.
- Facilitated three Watershed Council meetings. Two speakers addressed the Watershed Council:
 - Pauma Band of Mission Indians: *Native American Traditional and Cultural Ties to the Land and Water*
 - San Diego Gas and Electric: *Energy Outlook for San Diego County*
- Assisting with the removal of *Arundo donax* along Ostrich Creek and Live Oak Creek.
- Supported two free community events sponsored by Mission RCD and the San Luis Rey Watershed Council on Native Plant Landscaping (50 attendees) and How to Identify and Kill Invasive Non-Native Plants (30 attendees).
- Attended the first California Watershed Council meeting. Member of the Integrated Planning workgroup.



Restoration at Bonsall Preserve

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.

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.

- Assisted in developing four fact sheets about California issues. The topics included: Non-point Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO), CA NEMO Partnership Resource List, Nonpoint Source Water Pollution, and Impacts of Development on Waterways. The target audiences are elected officials and local planning decision makers. Will be presenting the NEMO concept and distributing these fact sheets at the “Headwaters to Ocean” conference. A power point presentation was developed.



Tierra Miguel tractor

- Partnering with County of San Diego on SWRCB grant proposal to eliminate contamination of surface and groundwater sources in Rainbow Creek.
- Met with General Manager of Rainbow Municipal Water District (Water District) to develop a task list to install a water conservation garden at the Water District offices. Developed a potential partner list and drafted a letter which will be sent out seeking support for the garden installation.
- Received training from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on Geographic Information Systems. Training focused on using the GARMIN GPS unit, downloading points, and developing maps from the data collected.
- Completed a rough draft of the San Luis Rey Watershed Brochure.
- Worked with the North County Storm Water Program to produce an educational watershed poster. These posters will be provided to Watershed Council member agencies and distributed to local schools.

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

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 gray water systems in new development projects.

- Met with representatives from two local development companies to discuss installation of drought tolerant landscapes at their model homes. One company provided copies of their model home landscape plan and front yard landscaping plan. A local native plant nurseryman will review the plans and recommend alternative native plants.
- Research for the gray water system installation feasibility is completed.

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).

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

- Submitted a proposal to the California Integrated Waste Management Board Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant program to remove illegally dumped trash from agricultural fields and install barriers and signs to deter future dumping (\$97,932).
- Submitted a proposal to Patagonia Environmental Action Grant program to implement a Horse Management Education and Outreach Program (\$7,825).

Collaboration With Other Agencies:

Partnered with County of San Diego to submit a full proposal to the SWRCB to develop and implement a Nutrient Reduction Program for Rainbow Creek. The purpose of this grant is to eliminate contamination of surface water and ground water. Will assist with the public education and outreach component (RCD portion: \$68,000).

Napa County Resource Conservation District

San Pablo Bay Watershed



Amount Funded: \$46,298

Match Provided: \$15,535

Additional Funding Obtained: \$658,000

Watershed Coordinator: Leigh Sharp

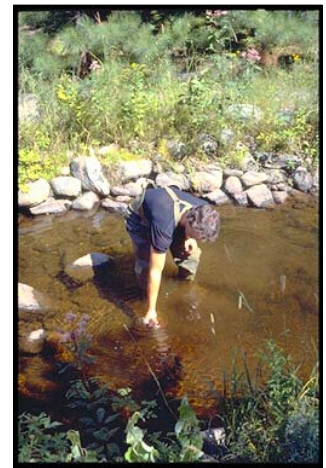
Watershed Goal: To improve the health of the watershed through the development of land stewardships.

Watershed Coordinator Objectives and Progress

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

- Completed final draft of the September Newsletter, which will be distributed in October. The educational focus of the newsletter informed landowners about non-native invasive species and their affect on riparian areas and agriculture.
- Met with and discussed stewardship progress and watershed issues with EPA staff from San Francisco and Washington DC.
- Arranged to have a presentation on the development of the Watershed Information Center Website to the Napa RCD Board of Directors. The website is currently being developed by a consultant in conjunction with the ACOE and Napa County. It will be the foundation of a centralized watershed wide database. At the conclusion of the meeting the RCD Board directed staff to provide relevant watershed data to the WIC for inclusion in the database.
- Co-organizing a workshop on Non-native Invasive Species with the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Originally anticipated to be held in November 2003, the workshop will likely be postponed until Spring 2004 due to the availability of speakers. Over the next several months we will be seeking support of a number of groups for this workshop. Potential sponsors would include: Stewardship Groups; Environmental Organizations; Agricultural Organizations; and Local Government.



Water quality sampling

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.

- Since July 1, 2002 there has been approximately 16 subwatershed stewardship meetings in the Carneros, Sulphur, Salvador, Selby, and Murphy Creek watersheds. Attendance at each meeting varies but the range is generally between 6 and 20.

- Multiple presentations have been made during the scope of this granting period. Evaluations from two educational workshops have been completed and compiled. The first workshop entitled “*Developing Watershed Partnerships for a Better Tomorrow*” received positive evaluation with an average score of 4.71 for relevance and 4.6 for overall content value. The second workshop entitled, “*Getting to Know Your Creek*” also received positive evaluation with an average score of 4.59 for relevance and overall content value. Scoring was done on a scale of 1 to 5; 5 being most favorable.
- Assistance in compiling a watershed wide database was completed through on-going coordination with the Watershed Information Center (WIC) and agreement by the RCD Board of Directors to provide relevant data to the WIC website.

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

- Carneros Creek Stewardship: The Carneros Creek Stewardship did not meet this quarter. They typically break during this time for harvest. However, communication has been on-going through e-mails and work on the Voluntary Watershed Management Plan continues.
- Sulphur Creek Stewardship: The Sulphur Creek Stewardship did not meet this quarter. Communication regarding development of their Watershed Management Plan has continued through the group’s main contact and relevant watershed events are still circulated to the stewardship via email.
- Salvador Creek Stewardship: Three meetings/events were held this quarter and assistance in organization, coordination and facilitation was provided as needed with funding provided as match by a grant from the City of Napa. The group continues to explore a variety of ideas for potential restoration and flood inundation projects and participated in the Coastal Clean-up Day by sponsoring clean-up along their creek.
- Selby Creek Stewardship: This group is largely run independent of the RCD and requests assistance as needed. The group met once during this quarter and agreed to privately fund an assessment of their creek channel. The assessment will occur in October and the consultant will meet with landowners in November. At the conclusion of the assessment the RCD will likely provide educational presentations on watershed function to the group with funding from a joint powers agreement with Napa County.

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 two watershed management plans.

- Participation at existing stewardship meetings is discussed under performance measure for Objective 1.
- New Stewardship groups have been developed on Salvador, Murphy, and Selby creeks and along a 4-mile reach of the Napa River (RDRT). The latter two require less direct

assistance from the Watershed Coordinator, with more responsibility being taken on by the landowners.

- Resource concerns have been discussed by the all of the stewardship groups. Lists have been composed for Salvador and Murphy. Selby and RDRT have discussed their interests and moved forward with assessments of the creek channel and development of plans based on these assessments.
- Volunteers gather and update water quality data. During the granting period water quality data has been collected and updated for 15 streams in as many tributaries.
- Evaluation of the workshop referenced is discussed under performance measure for Objective 1.
- Watershed Management Plans for Carneros and Sulphur Creek are currently being written but may not be complete by the end of the granting period.

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

- Submitted a proposal for Phase One of developing a Stewardship in the Milliken Creek Watershed to the County Board of Supervisors.
- Writing a full proposal to the SWRCB for 319(h) funds for further implementation of the Napa Green Certification Program.
- Coordinating with the County on a collaborative grant proposal to DOC for further funding of the Watershed Coordinator position in the Napa River watershed.
- Updated a spreadsheet for potential watershed funding sources. Distributed the spreadsheet to Selby Creek Stewardship, RDRT and the WIC.

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.

- Five funding requests have been submitted to various sources including: SWRCB, CALFED, County Board of Supervisors, DFG.
- Fundraiser was completed in August 2002.

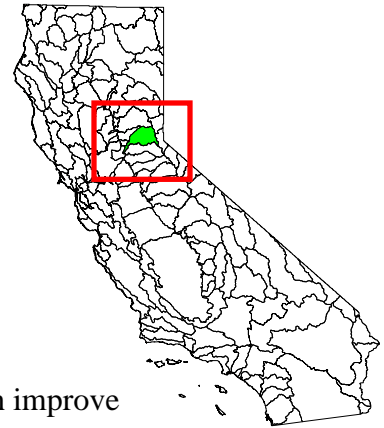
Summary of Fund Raising Efforts

A list of all grant proposals resulting from the watershed coordinators efforts to date:

Proposal	Project Amount	Purpose	Status
State Water Resources Control Board (Prop. 13)	\$500,000	Implementation of Napa Green Certification Program	Awarded \$500,000
California Department of Fish & Game (SB 271)	\$158,000	Heath Canyon Restoration Project	Awarded \$158,000
Watershed Protection, Watershed Management and Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants (319(h))	\$500,000	Implementation of Napa Green Certification Program	Writing full proposal – to be submitted October 15.
Watershed Protection, Watershed Management and Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants	\$2,395,000	Napa River Watershed Enhancement Program	Application denied
Watershed Protection, Watershed Management and Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Grants	\$1,214,000	Napa River Implementation	Application denied
County Board of Supervisors	\$30,000	Phase One: Milliken Creek Stewardship Development	Pending

Placer County Resource Conservation District

North Fork American River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$78,000

Match Provided: \$26,180

Additional Funding Obtained: \$554,400

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.

- Five “Core Team” meetings held.
- Assisting Bear River CRMP develop its Management Plan.
- Developed a process outline for the Master Watershed Project Matrix to initiate discussions between MOU signatories.

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.

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

- Introduced ARWG members to the new Foresthill High School Science Academy and coordinated a presentation at the ARWG meeting in August to solicit job-shadowing activities for students.

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.

- Work continues on the final product resulting from the Category III project grant previously awarded the Placer County RCD.
- Working with the American River Watershed Institute to house the GIS Center at Sacramento State University.
- Updated the American River Watershed Group web site.

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: \$1,374,543
Watershed Coordinator: Melina Watts

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 (MCWC) meetings.

- Coordinated the July 15th and September 16th Watershed Council meetings.
- Updated the Malibu Creek Watershed website on a regular basis. Changes the coordinator made included: new information about the Watershed Council Sub Committees, new water quality information, and the addition of an “upcoming events” calendar.
- Met with key stakeholders to explore creating a video outreach campaign about TMDLs and local property owners.



Melina Watts demonstrates the effects of nonpoint source pollution at the Malibu Creek Acorn Festival

Performance Measure: The implementation of Advisory Council goals, the completion of at least two stakeholder surveys, and an analysis of the results.

- The coordinator distributed and analyzed the results of a stakeholder survey during the second quarter. As a result of the survey, the coordinator restructured Watershed Council meetings to be more responsive to stakeholder concerns.

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

- Met with West Basin Water District (WBWD) Officials to discuss their toilet give away and rebate programs which encourage residents to buy low flow toilets, dual flush toilets, and other water conserving household equipment. The coordinator met with Malibu City officials to discuss how they might use similar programs.

Performance Measure: Malibu City Council approval of at least 2 significant residential water conservation measures.

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

- Worked with stakeholders to develop a proposal to fund a “Green Map” project. Unfortunately, the proposal was not selected for funding.
- Created and staffed a Malibu Creek Watershed booth at the Malibu Creek State Park Acorn Festival. The festival gave the coordinator an opportunity to provide stakeholders with information about water conservation.
- Worked with a horse-owner MCWC sub committee to rewrite the current Best Management Practices (BMP) manual. The revised manual includes information contributed by horse-owners, updated scientific data, and information specific to the region to account for TMDL regulations.
- Worked with Heal the Bay and horse-owners to identify a stable that will be used as a BMP demonstration site.
- Worked with the cities of Malibu, Las Virgenes, Westlake Village, Agoura, and Calabas to rewrite “Plan Blue”. Plan Blue is a document that will help guide cities in their efforts to improve water quality. The coordinator will co-edit the final version.



Malibu Creek, Los Angeles County

Performance Measure: Concept development and completion of 2 grants to solicit funding of pollution-prevention/reduction educational piece. Concept development and completion of 2 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 with cities within the watershed and Los Angeles County on the Urban Runoff Reduction Plan. This plan will address many of the watershed council’s goals for the watershed.

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.

**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.

- Provided local property owners and teachers with information on water conservation strategies.
- Held community meetings to provide stakeholders with information about using herbicides to eradicate *Arundo donax*.
- Coordinated an *Arundo donax* removal event. Fifty volunteers were able to remove 2.25 tons of *Arundo donax* from the Lower Topanga State Park.



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.

*Arundo donax removal
coordinated by Rosi and Tricia*

- 25% of the greywater and groundwater recharge workshop participants implemented greywater strategies on their properties. This performance measure has been met.
- 52% of the landowners who attended the Erosion Control and Slope Stabilization workshop implemented erosion control BMPs. This performance measure has been met.
- Twenty landowners have begun noxious weed eradication as a result of the watershed coordinators information efforts.

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

- Submitted a \$9,482 grant proposal to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission for a Santa Monica Bay Fish History project. The coordinator also worked on a grant

proposal for the DOC Watershed Coordinator Grant Program that will be submitted in November.

- Provided information to the local paper. The paper published articles on watershed restoration, watershed planning and various other watershed issues.

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.

- Two recommendations for the Watershed Management Plan have been submitted and are currently under consideration.
- Two workshops have been conducted to inform stakeholders of sustainable living practices. This performance measure has been reached.
- The Topanga *Living Lightly in the Watershed* guide was updated in the 1st quarter.
- The coordinator has responded to over 260 calls and 130 email from stakeholders requesting information on native plants, bark beetle control, noxious weeds, water conservation and water quality. This performance measure has been met.

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.

- Continued communication between the Technical and Landowners Advisory Committee, the contractors, and the community regarding progress on meeting restoration planning.
- The coordinator is currently reviewing the second draft of the Caltrans lagoon restoration plan and will provide input if necessary.

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.

- Coordinated a service learning internship crayfish removal project. Interns include 4 high school students and 6 sixth graders. Interns were able to remove over 100 crayfish from Topanga Creek.
- Worked with Topanga Creek Stream Team, Surfrider Foundation, Topanga Canyon Town Council, and California State Parks to organize the September 20th creek clean up. Thirty volunteers were able to remove 2.77 tons of trash from Topanga Creek.

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.

- 4 tons of trash was removed from Topanga Creek and Beach at the Earth Day Creek Clean Up.
- 2.77 tons of trash was removed from Topanga Creek at the Sept. 20, 2003 creek clean up.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

The Coordinator submitted a \$9,482 grant proposal to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission for a Santa Monica Bay Fish History project.

San Joaquin County Resource Conservation District

Lower Cosumnes & Lower Mokelumne River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$47,668

Match Provided: \$16,250

Additional Funding Obtained: \$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.

- Coordinator facilitated the quarterly meetings of the LMSP Steering Committee. The committee met in July and continues to implement the Watershed Stewardship Plan.
- The coordinator's efforts to form a voluntary monitoring program were disrupted by local opposition to the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Ag Waiver program.
- Coordinator met twice with the representatives of the City of Lodi to cooperate with and expand the city's Storm Drain Detectives Program.
- The \$4.6 million pre-proposal submitted under the consolidated RFP last quarter was accepted and advanced to the full proposal stage of the grant selection process.

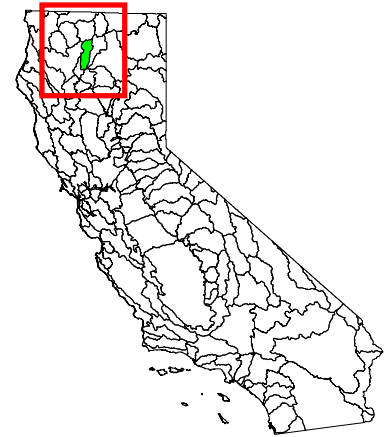
Performance Measure: Three hundred acres enrolled in Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP). Twelve individual citizens/landowners trained for monitoring. Twelve action plans developed and implemented in response to WQIP. Improvement of water quality (e.g., decreases in temperature, decreased dissolved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

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

A grant request totaling \$4.6 million dollars through the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) consolidated request for concept proposals was accepted. A full proposal is being prepared and will be submitted to DWR. The application will be prepared in cooperation with San Joaquin County RCD (SJCRCRCD), Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission (LWWC) and the City of Lodi.

Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District

Sacramento Headwaters (Sub-basin) Watershed



Amount Funded: \$64,894

Match Provided: \$21,631

Additional Funding Obtained: \$38,000

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.

- Held a regional watershed stakeholders meeting. Over 50 agency groups, property owners, government officials, and conservation organizations were represented. Also presented a conservation field trip and tour of conservation projects within Shasta Valley.
- Presented a Mossbrae Falls Action Plan to the County Board of Supervisors for approval of a collaboration regarding the proposed Mossbrae Falls trail. The request was approved and an agreement between Union Pacific Railroad, Upper Sacramento River Exchange, City of Dunsmuir, and Siskiyou County was formalized.
- Hosted two Railroad Safety meetings regarding the recent accidents in the Upper Sacramento River Canyon.
- Began the design work for the development of the Cantara River Center in Dunsmuir. Presented to the Dunsmuir City Council and received a development grant from the Cantara Trustee Council.



Railroad Safety Meeting - July 2003

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.

- Designed a curriculum dissemination plan. Will work with World Wildlife Fund and an intern to identify needs, disseminate information, coordinate teacher training, and evaluate program effectiveness.
- Coordinated 8 restoration field trips for 286 students. Field trip subjects included: animal adaptations, wildlife habitats, aquatic insects and river environments, stream assessments, and native plants and seeds.
- Conducted two presentations and tours. Presentations included: native birds and nesting habitats, animal skulls and adaptations, stewardship, and watershed awareness and education.
- Continued to update resource library and expand materials. New materials include: watershed curriculum, river ecology books and guides.

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.

- Conducted planning with the Department of Fish and Game and recruited high school students for upcoming monitoring on the Upper Sacramento River.
- Completed one community riparian planting and blackberry removal field trip.
- Finished all plantings. A total of 3,165 willows were planted in the riprap at 22 sites adjacent to the Upper Sacramento River.



Meeting with the County Office of Education

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 groups 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.

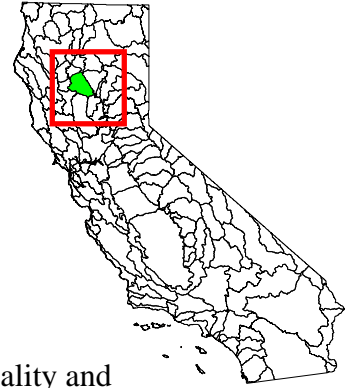
Objective 1: Increased public participation in improving the health of the watershed.

- Completed cleanup with over 130 volunteers. This event was sponsored by over 70 businesses.
- Finished one community restoration outing to Tauhindauli River Park. Volunteers removed fennel and Himaylan blackberry.
- Designed an erosion control component to the hatchery trail extension project at the Mount Shasta Hatchery.

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.

Tehama County Resource Conservation District

Sacramento-Lower Thomes Watershed



Amount Funded: \$57,110

Match Provided: \$14,361

Additional Funding Obtained to Date: \$35,777

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.

- Completed final report on the Citizen's Water Quality Monitoring Project.
- Attended 8 multi-agency and stakeholder meetings.
- Organized and facilitated stakeholder meetings for Reeds Creek and Red Bank Creek Watersheds (a total of 49 citizens attended the two meetings).
- Added 48 new landowners to the stakeholder mailing list.
- The Tehama West Watershed Management Program proposal was selected to go to the full proposal stage by CALFED.



Nani Teves assisting the Irrigation Mobile Lab with field measurements of water application rates

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.

- Mailed 300 post card questionnaires to stakeholders and workshop attendees requesting input on current resource activities and concerns. Also gathered input from local agencies and watershed groups.
- Compiled information on current and historic resident and agency resource activities.
- Updated RCD website with current activities and events.

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

Objective 3: Provide assistance for an irrigation mobile laboratory.

- Assisted the Irrigation Mobile Lab with nine irrigation evaluations. The tests include water pressure, flow rate, and wetted area throughout the entire irrigation system.

Performance Measure: Successful completion of 21 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.

- Obtained updated addresses for parcels long Reeds Creek and Red Bank Creek.
- Mailed the *Arundo donax* and Tamarisk Management Strategy and access agreement form to 90 landowners adjacent to Red Bank Creek. Received 70 signed agreements back.
- Written and verbal permission was given for all lands targeted for spraying this season.
- Assisted in organizing a field day at the two demonstration site locations to discuss the details and issues with *Arundo* removal, revegetation, and bank stabilization.



Field tour discussing Arundo and Tamarisk removal along Red Bank Creek

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

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

<u>Proposal</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Status</u>
Tehama West Watershed Management Program	\$460,775 requested from CALFED	Full proposal submitted on 10/15/03

Ulatis Resource Conservation District
(Name changed to Solano RCD)
Lower Sacramento River Watershed



Amount Funded: \$69,190
Match Provided: \$18,913
Additional Funding Obtained: \$389,872
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.

- Held Four Landowner Education Field Days to provide landowner stewardship education. Topics included *Photo monitoring on Your Land*, *Erosion Control*, *Weed Identification*, and a Short Course on *Water Quality for Ranchers*. Average event attendance was 30 stakeholders.
- Helped to establish the Laurel and LedgeWood Creek Watershed Group that formed out of a successful SWRCB Consolidated Pre-proposal to develop a watershed project on two urban creeks. This is a new watershed group, which provides an opportunity for the RCD to work more fully across the county. The coordinator have been working intensely on the full proposal the group is developing, which if successful will result in a Coordinated Resource Management Planning Group (CRMP) and Adopt a Watershed student group forming on LedgeWood and Laurel Creeks. This is very exciting for the RCD, as it increases the number of watershed-based programs in the county, provides an opportunity to share resources, and generally expands the concept of watershed-based resource management.
- Held a successful, well attended Quarterly County Watershed Partnership Group Meeting in August.
- The RCD, in close partnership with Dixon RCD, has taken a leadership role in assisting watershed landowners in dealing with the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Agricultural Wavier for Irrigated Lands.
- The RCD has taken over coordination responsibilities for the Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership from the Solano County Water Agency.



Coordinator examining erosion at a stream restoration demo site on lower Putah Creek

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.

- Twelve grant proposals submitted thus far 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.

- In May, submitted a proposal combining Welcome to the Watershed and the farmer-written Farm Conservation Program to the Consolidated Request for pre-proposals released by the State Water Control Board and CALFED Watershed programs.
- Continued to offer field days and short courses on watershed stewardship topics to cover *Welcome to the Watershed* material for the 20 to 40 people who attend each event. This approach has been quite successful, with each of the last three workshops filling up to maximum attendance, and each receiving excellent reviews from participants.
- Developing a series of Landowner Info Pages, single page fact sheets about pertinent rural stewardship topics. These will eventually fit into the Welcome to the Watershed program, and may also serve as components of stand alone watershed publications.



Stream restoration demo site on lower Putah Creek where Arundo has been removed

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.

- MOU signing is complete. Signatories include NRCS, Dixon RCD, Solano Irrigation District, Solano Water Agency, Suisun RCD, and Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District.
- Two grant proposals were submitted. Neither was 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.

- The first field day workshops are planned for February '04.
- A positive development is the inclusion of the Yolo County Online Agricultural Conservation (OAC) Planner into the project. OAC is an internet-based farm-planning tool developed by Yolo County RCD with CALFED Ecosystem Restoration funding. The Yolo County version of the tool is almost complete and SRCD is pursuing partners to help broaden or clone the program to provide either a Solano County or regional version. This tool will complement our Farm Conservation Planning program, and bring more farmers to the watershed stewardship table.

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.

- Four grant proposals written to support this component of the watershed program. The proposal to the Great Valley LEGACI Program was funded for \$32,120.

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

- Coordinating and assisting the SLEWS program of FARMS Leadership Inc. with the site selection and planning of five field days for a site adoption of 30 high school environmental science students. These students will learn and assist with the restoration of a six-acre historic ox bow on Putah Creek that was altered due to gravel mining.

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

- The Countywide Solano County Watershed Partnership Group met for its quarterly meeting in August; 18 agency stakeholders attended.
- In the process of calendaring all funding opportunities for the next several months.

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.

- The Solano County Watershed Partnership Group has meet five times so far.

Grant Funding Obtained/Pending:

This quarter, submitted four funding proposals, totaling \$1,652,150 to support watersheds throughout the County (Objectives A-1, A-2 and A-3), Awards of \$389,872 to support various aspects of the project’s work-plan, including stream bank clean-up in the Putah Creek watershed and the Weed Management Area.

Funding Proposals Generated to support Watershed Coordination Efforts

Proposal	Project Amount	Purpose	Status	Totals
Solano County Fish and Wildlife Propagation Fund Award Grant (submitted Qtr 5)	\$34,650	Establish habitat for wildlife in Solano County	Notification expected late '03	Requested Quarter 5: \$1,652,150
Consolidated Pre-Proposal (SWRCB, CALFED, DWR, US-EPA, CA-EPA) (submitted Qtr 4)	\$1.4 million	Building understanding and protection for two urban creeks	Forwarded to the final round, notification expected early '04	
Integrated Waste Management Board Farm and Ranch Clean-up Program (submitted Qtr5)	\$197,500	Clean up 7 sites in Putah Creek Watershed	Funded	
				Total Requested:

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Pulling Together Initiative (submitted Qtr 2)	\$90,486	Noxious Weed Mapping and Eradication	Funded	\$2,836,587 (since 7/02) Funded: \$389,872 to date
Natural Resource Conservation Service (submitted Qtr 5)	\$20,000	Farm Bill Outreach	Pending	
Solano County Water Agency (submitted Qtr 4)	\$3,000 <i>(potential annual funding)</i>	Signage for the Solano County Watershed Friendly Demonstration Garden	Funded	
Solano Irrigation District (submitted Qtr 4)	\$5,000 <i>(potential annual funding)</i>	Solano County Watershed Friendly Demonstration Garden Maintenance	Funded	
Natural Resources Conservation Service (submitted Qtr 4)	\$6,900	On-Farm Conservation Plan Program Outreach	Funded	
US Environmental Protection Agency (submitted Qtr 4)	\$43,500	Lake Berryessa Area Watershed Coordination	Funded	
Consolidated Pre-Proposal (SWRCB, CALFED, DWR, US-EPA, CA-EPA) (submitted Qtr 4)	\$477,121 (3 year project)	Fostering Watershed Stewardship Across Three Connected Watersheds	Not Funded	
Sustainable Communities Leadership Program (submitted Qtr 3)	\$11,366 (4 month project)	Summer Intern to Develop SRCD's response to the SWRCB's Conditional Ag Runoff Waiver	Funded	
US Environmental Protection Agency (submitted Qtr 3)	\$66,281	Welcome to the Watershed	Not funded	
US Environmental Protection Agency (submitted Qtr 3)	\$85,220	Welcome to the Watershed	Not funded	
5-Star Restoration Program (submitted Qtr 3)	\$6,542	Re-vegetate Lake Hermon, partnership with CA Native Plant Society	Not funded	
Great Valley Center LEGACI (submitted Qtr 3)	\$32,120	Partially funds a series of farmer created On-Farm Conservation Plan workshops in Solano & Yolo Counties	Funded	
Sacramento Regional Water Quality Control Board (submitted Qtr 1)	\$108,886 (2 year project)	Remove noxious invasives and revegetate w/ watershed appropriate plants on a stretch of Alamo Creek	Pending Preliminary approval subject to litigation	
Western Sustainable Agricultural Research and Education (submitted Qtr 2)	\$157,529 (3 year project)	Funds a series of farmer created On-Farm Conservation Plan workshops in Solano & Yolo Counties	Not Funded	

West Lake Resource Conservation District

Upper Cache Creek Watershed



Amount Funded: \$75,912

Match Provided: \$19,758

Additional Funding Obtained: \$489,810.80

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.

- Assisted the Scotts Creek Watershed Council with a fundraiser.
- Worked with several CRMP groups to set up a display booth at the annual Lake County Fair. Distributed resource materials, handouts, and other informational brochures. Almost thirty residents signed up for more information.
- Participating with the formation of the Cache Creek Watershed Forum. Held the first public meeting in May. More than 75 citizens attended.
- Presented information on RCD and CRMP activities to the North Coast RCD Regional meeting using PowerPoint.



CRMP Fair Booth Display 2003

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.

- Over 12 PowerPoint presentations have been given to a variety of groups.
- More than 400 students have been exposed to watershed management and natural resource protection issues.

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

- Completing final preparations for the 2nd annual "Road Cleanup Day" and the annual "Creek Cleanup Day".
- Numerous local businesses have committed resources to the upcoming cleanup 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 stream bank restoration project.

- Final report was submitted during the previous quarter for the project.

Performance Measure: Two thousand twenty feet of stream bank restoration implemented.

- All components for the Schindler Creek have been successfully completed.

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

- The Middle Creek Restoration Project has been successfully completed.

Performance Measure: Two stream bank projects implemented.

- This performance measurement has been met.

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

- Continued working with local groups to address weed management issues throughout the watershed.

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

- All surveying, mapping, and eradication efforts have exceeded the initial requirements. The survey conducted to date has identified 413 sites with 40 sites eradicated during this grant period.

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

- Funding has been approved. Once received, supplies and equipment will be purchased and monitoring will begin.

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

- Five sites have been identified; with additional sites to be established once funding is received in November 2003.

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

- In cooperation with BLM, presented information at the Scotts Creek Watershed Council meeting on Eight Mile Valley restoration progress.
- Contracted with a civil engineer to provide topographical details on the valley that will be used for the restoration project.

Performance Measure: Completed the watershed assessment and a portion of the post and cable project has been performed.

- The watershed assessment has been completed and a portion of the post and cable project has been performed. Currently, the design for the implementation project is being developed.

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

A Proposition 50 grant to assist watershed groups with Citizens' Water Quality Monitoring and training. Will work in cooperation with Lake County and the Lake County Farm Bureau (\$64,000).

Westside Resource Conservation District
Upper Los Gatos-Avenal
(Sub-watershed: Arroyo Pasajero)



Amount Funded: \$36,222
Match Provided: \$11,000
Additional Funding Obtained: \$215,000
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.

- Continuing to work with landowners on diverse issues including weed eradication.
- Met with management from the Fresno office of the California Conservation Corps to discuss projects within the watershed.

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.



Dr. DiTomasso of UC Davis discusses a potential tamarisk removal project at the Arroyo Pasajero Weed Monitoring Workshop

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

- Mapped rain gauge stations.
- Downloaded rain gauge data. Information will be used to develop projects.

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.

- Working on full proposal for Prop 13/CALFED Drinking Water Program.
- Continued to research grant sources and provide landowners with relevant information.

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.

- Planning several workshops with California Rangeland Trust, DWR, and West Hills College.

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

Additional Funding Obtained/Pending:

- Received \$60,000 from BLM for weed management.