

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Subject **RE: August 4, 2017 Director Training**  
From Shelli Lamb <lamb@rcrcd.org>  
To Rose Corona <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>  
Date 2017-08-02 09:06



Thank you Rose, I have you and Carol down.

Shelli Lamb

-----Original Message-----

From: Rose Corona [mailto:[rose.corona@teamrcd.org](mailto:rose.corona@teamrcd.org)]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 02, 2017 9:06 AM  
To: Shelli Lamb <[lamb@rcrcd.org](mailto:lamb@rcrcd.org)>  
Subject: Re: August 4, 2017 Director Training

Thanks! And Carol Lee is coming in case you didn't get the e-mail.

Rose

On 2017-08-02 08:19, Shelli Lamb wrote:

All:

Just a friendly reminder that the Director Training scheduled for Friday, August 4, 2017 at the Riverside-Corona RCD Headquarters will start a 9:00 AM. The training will be held in Building F (next to our nursery).

I am happy to confirm that David Bunn, Director of the Department of Conservation and Glenda Humiston, vice president for the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources will be our luncheon speakers.

I think that you will also enjoy working with our facilitator, Ray Ledgerwood, who has trained conservation district directors across the nation and has a great understanding on conservation districts and the important role they play.

I look forward to seeing everyone on Friday!

Shelli Lamb

District Manager

Riverside-Corona RCD

4500 Glenwood Dr, #A

Riverside, CA 92501

951-683-7691, ext 202

951-683-3814 (fax)

[www.rcrcd.org](http://www.rcrcd.org)

Check us out on Facebook [1]

Healthy Soils, Healthy Life!

Links:

[1]

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Riverside-Corona-Resource-Conservation-District/242542239105261>

Subject **[Conservation News] Updates and Opportunities**  
From Kristen Murphy <Conservation\_News@carcd.memberclicks.net>  
Sender <Conservation\_News@carcd.memberclicks.net>  
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>  
Reply-To <kristen-murphy@carcd.org>  
Date 2017-08-01 10:22



- Joint Pilot Project RFP Draft Funding Recommendation-7.13.2017.pdf (~461 KB)

· Information

- Recovering from Wildfire – A Guide for California's Forest Landowners
- Restoration Permit Opportunity
- EDF Job Opportunity

· Funding

- Working Lands Funding Opportunity and Webinar
- DWR – Ag Water Use Efficiency Pilot Project Public Comment Period
- Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Grant Program
- Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Regional Host Institution
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy Funding Opportunities

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## **Information**

Hello Forestry colleagues,

I'm emailing to let you know that our UCANR peer reviewed publication *Recovering from Wildfire – A Guide for California's Forest Landowners*, has just been revised and republished. It can be downloaded for free at: <http://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/Details.aspx?itemNo=8386>.

A lot of research has been done on post fire mitigation effectiveness since the first version we wrote in 1999 and so I felt it was in need of revamping. I was able to work with a UC Berkeley fire science graduate student through the Graduate Student in Extension program to make that happen. We also included answers to questions we were asked at the post-fire workshops we have been holding in the Central Sierra.

I hope it is useful to you and your clients.

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## **Apply NOW for 2017 Restoration Work!**

Want to expedite your voluntary restoration project permitting? We highly recommend taking advantage of this faster, simpler approval process through the California Department of Fish & Wildlife for your small-scale voluntary habitat restoration projects, especially if your project may involve incidental take of listed species.

We are pleased to announce that since its 2015 enactment, the Habitat Restoration and Enhancement (HRE) Act has been well-received by restoration advocates around the state and a number of important projects have successfully used the process.

Check out these expedited-permitting resources:

- HRE Act [Fact Sheet](#) – determine your eligibility for this program
- HRE Act [Application Guidance Document](#) – prepare an application for speedy approval
- HRE Act [Application Materials](#) – complete the simplified HRE Act application appropriate for your project
- [Essential Guide for Expedited Restoration Permitting](#) – determine eligibility for other simplified permits and link to application materials

Please [contact us](#) to schedule a **free** expert consultation on using the HRE Act and many other simplified permits.

Thanks for all the work you do to support restoration!  
Sustainable Conservation

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Hello Everyone,

I wanted to let you all know that I have an opening on my team for a [Manager](#) position. This person will oversee EDF's projects to develop the infrastructure and policies to expand agricultural carbon markets, particularly with respect to fertilizer application. These projects involve leveraging cutting edge science and technology to create the tools to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture. If you know anyone who would be interesting in leading this work, please forward the job information to them.

For those of you who know Sara Kroopf, this is her previous job. She has recently taken on an exciting new role with the EDF+Biz team helping agricultural retailers create and expand sustainability programs. While I am sad to see her leave my team, I am happy to see her take on this new role within EDF.

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## **Funding**

Good afternoon,

I wanted to make you aware of a current funding opportunity for working lands conservation through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The funding program is called Conservation Partners and the RFP is now open for applications. There will be a webinar this Thursday at 11 am eastern for interested applicants. Those who are interested in the webinar but who will not be able to attend can view a recorded version of the webinar on the Conservation Partners Program website starting next week. Please consider applying to this opportunity and joining us for the webinar as well as

passing along to anyone who you think may have an interest in applying. Please visit the [Conservation Partners Program](#) website for information on the RFP and the webinar. Thank you.

Eric Forward

Program Director, Central Region Working Lands

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation



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**Proposition 1** Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Pilot Project  
– 2017 Request for Proposals

**Notice of Public Comment Period on  
Draft Funding Recommendation  
Comments Due by 5:00 PM on August 2, 2017**

By the application deadline of April 21, 2017, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) received four proposals in response to the January 17, 2017 Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Pilot Project Request for Proposals (RFP). This is a joint pilot project with the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). DWR has \$3 million available from Proposition 1 to fund the water supplier's conveyance component of this joint agricultural water use efficiency and enhancement program. CDFA has \$3 million from SWEEP to incentivize the installation of irrigation systems that save water and reduce greenhouse gases on farms in the area that will directly benefit from the conveyance system funded by DWR.

Approximately \$6,306,000 million in Proposition 1 grant funding was requested for proposed projects totaling over \$14,843,690 million. The grant proposals were reviewed by a six member technical review panel with members from DWR and CDFA. All four applications were scored and ranked in accordance to the scoring criteria published in the RFP. Due to the limited funding available for this pilot project, only the top scoring proposal can be considered for funding. Table 1 shows the proposal scores as well as the proposed funding requests and award. Based upon the requirements of the RFP (including requirements of Proposition 1 and SWEEP), the panel reached consensus that the application from **North San Joaquin Water Conservation District and their agricultural operators** were a best fit for the joint pilot program. The Panel agreed to recommend funding the requested \$3 million from Proposition 1. CDFA will fund the 19 agricultural operators separately through SWEEP. CDFA will announce the draft awards for the agricultural operators concurrently with DWR's announcement.

Grant applicants and the general public may submit comments on this draft funding recommendation in writing. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on August 2, 2017. Please e-mail comments to [AqWUE@water.ca.gov](mailto:AqWUE@water.ca.gov)

Or by mail to

Department of Water Resources  
Water Use and Efficiency Branch  
Attn: Marty Berbach  
901 P Street, Room 313A  
Sacramento, California 95814

This information is also posted on DWR's website at: <http://www.water.ca.gov/wuegrants/AqWUEPilot.cfm>

For more information, please contact Marty Berbach at [\(916\) 651-9216](tel:9166519216) or or by e-mail at [Martin.Berbach@water.ca.gov](mailto:Martin.Berbach@water.ca.gov)

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The Office of Advocacy and Outreach would like to share the following announcements:

1. Applications are being solicited through the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Grant Program (also known as the "[2501 Program](#)") from community-based and non-profit organizations, institutions of higher education,

and Tribal entities to provide outreach and technical assistance to socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers. The deadline for applications is August 7, 2017. Please view the full announcement (Opportunity Number: OAO-011) as posted onto [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) for additional information at:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=OAO-011>

Reminder: The Office of Advocacy and Outreach will host two teleconferences (Thursday, July 13 and July 27) at 2:00pm EST to address any clarifying questions from the public on this funding opportunity.

Please join the call with the following call-in instructions for sessions:

Telephone: [1-888-455-1685](tel:1-888-455-1685)

Passcode: 2570498#

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### **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Regional Host Institution**

The purpose of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program is to encourage research and outreach designed to increase knowledge concerning agricultural production systems that:

1. maintain and enhance the quality and productivity of the soil;
2. conserve soil, water, energy, natural resources, and fish and wildlife habitat;
3. maintain and enhance the quality of surface and ground water;
4. protect the health and safety of persons involved in the food and farm system;
5. promote the well-being of animals; and
6. increase employment opportunities in agriculture (7 U.S.C. 5801 and 5811).

Who is eligible to apply:

Other or Additional Information (See below)

More Information on Eligibility:

The SARE legislation requires USDA to carry out the program through agreements entered into with land-grant colleges or universities, other universities, state agricultural experiment stations, the state cooperative extension services, nonprofit organizations with demonstrable expertise, or federal or state governmental entities. Applications may only be submitted by these types of organizations. Failure to meet an eligibility criterion by the application deadline may result in the application being excluded from consideration or, even though an application may be reviewed, will preclude NIFA from making an award.

[Request for Applications](#)

[Apply for Grant](#)

Posted Date: Thursday, June 29, 2017

Closing Date: Thursday, September 28, 2017

Funding Opportunity Number: USDA-NIFA-OP-006363

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$5,500,000

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**Sierra Nevada Conservancy**  
**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES NEWSLETTER**



# August - September 2017

## Upcoming Grants that Might be of Interest:

- The [Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment: Northern California Environmental Grassroots Fund](#) (due August 1) provides modest general support grants to small grassroots organizations that address tough environmental problems such as sustainable agriculture, climate change, environmental degradation of rivers and wild places, and environmental health.
- The [Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program](#) (due August 1) seeks to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by making strategic investments that will protect agricultural lands from conversion to residential development.
- The Wildlife Conservation Board's [Streamflow Enhancement Program](#) (due August 31) funds projects that enhance the amount, timing and/or quality of water available for anadromous fish, and special status species; or provide resilience to climate change.
- [Schwemm Family Foundation Grants](#) (due August 31) seek to sustain and protect resilient, local ecosystems and related biodiversity by focusing on proactive conservation, comprehensive restoration, and related education efforts.
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy [Watershed Improvement Program](#) grants (pre-proposals due September 1) support forest health projects that result in multiple watershed benefits.
- The Wildlife Conservation Board's [Public Access Grant Program](#) (due September 15) provides funding for projects that improve access to hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-oriented recreational opportunities, such as fishing piers, trails, interpretive signage, parking and restrooms, etc.
- The CA State Parks [Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant Program](#) (due September 1) helps fund outdoor environmental education facilities, such as public outdoor structures and exhibits.
- The US Fish and Wildlife Service [Tribal Wildlife Grant Program](#) (due September 1) funds programs that benefit wildlife and their habitat, particularly species of tribal cultural or traditional importance.
- The Polaris Industries [T.R.A.I.L.S. Grant Program](#) (due September 1) assists national, state, and local organizations in the United States in ensuring the future of ATV riding.
- The National Endowment for the Arts "[Our Town Program: Arts Engagement, Cultural Planning, and Design Projects](#)" (due September 11) supports creative placemaking projects that contribute towards the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful, and resilient places with the arts at their core.
- [Strong Foundation Grants](#) (due September 15) support environmental and conservation efforts, eco-spirituality, grassroots action, environmental education, capacity building, citizen participation, collaborative efforts, planning and training.
- [Clif Bar Family Foundation Small Grants](#) (due October 1) support efforts to protect the Earth's beauty and bounty, create a robust and healthy food system, increase opportunities for outdoor activity, reduce environmental health hazards, and build stronger communities.
- The CA Department of Parks and Recreation [Habitat Conservation Fund](#) grants (due October 2) fund nature interpretation programs that bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas, projects that protect various plant and animal species, and acquisition and development of wildlife corridors and trails.
- The [CAL FIRE State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund \(SRAFPF\) and Tree Mortality \(TM\) grant program](#) (expected to become active in September or October) funds the removal hazardous trees that pose a threat to public health and safety.

**Your SNC Area Representative** can help you set up an individual consultation with the SNC Funding Team to get advice about specific funding opportunities or general fund development strategies. To take advantage of this resource, [contact your Area Representative](#).

**Congratulations** to the California recipients of this year's USFS Wood Innovation grants, including the Camptonville Community Partnership, the Plumas Unified School District, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, all of which received funding for bioenergy project planning and development.

**Grant Writing Workshops** are available to help build the capacity of organizations that serve the Sierra Nevada Region. If you are interested in organizing or attending a workshop, [contact your Area Representative](#).

**Grant Research Memos** on a variety of topics are available on the SNC website under [Other Funding Opportunities](#).

This e-List is for conservation news from the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, RCDs, and our partners. You can unsubscribe at any time by logging into the [RCD Member Portal](#) and adjusting your contact preferences. For assistance please contact [emily-sutherland@carcd.org](mailto:emily-sutherland@carcd.org).

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts • 801 K Street, MS 14-15, Sacramento, California 95814, United States • [\(916\) 457-7904](tel:(916)457-7904)

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES  
WATER USE AND EFFICIENCY BRANCH

**Proposition 1 Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Pilot Project  
– 2017 Request for Proposals**



**Notice of Public Comment Period on  
Draft Funding Recommendation  
Comments Due by 5:00 PM on August 2, 2017**

By the application deadline of April 21, 2017, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) received four proposals in response to the January 17, 2017 Agricultural Water Use Efficiency Pilot Project Request for Proposals (RFP). This is a joint pilot project with the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). DWR has \$3 million available from Proposition 1 to fund the water supplier's conveyance component of this joint agricultural water use efficiency and enhancement program. CDFA has \$3 million from SWEEP to incentivize the installation of irrigation systems that save water and reduce greenhouse gases on farms in the area that will directly benefit from the conveyance system funded by DWR.

Approximately \$6,306,000 million in Proposition 1 grant funding was requested for proposed projects totaling over \$14,843,690 million. The grant proposals were reviewed by a six member technical review panel with members from DWR and CDFA. All four applications were scored and ranked in accordance to the scoring criteria published in the RFP. Due to the limited funding available for this pilot project, only the top scoring proposal can be considered for funding. Table 1 shows the proposal scores as well as the proposed funding requests and award. Based upon the requirements of the RFP (including requirements of Proposition 1 and SWEEP), the panel reached consensus that the application from North San Joaquin Water Conservation District and their agricultural operators were a best fit for the joint pilot program. The Panel agreed to recommend funding the requested \$3 million from Proposition



1. CDFA will fund the 19 agricultural operators separately through SWEEP. CDFA will announce the draft awards for the agricultural operators concurrently with DWR's announcement. DWR is only able to fund one application since Proposition 1 funds are limited to \$3 million. Prospective grantee should be aware that receiving grant funds and execution of a grant agreement will be contingent upon compliance with applicable laws and regulations as listed in Attachment 13 of the RFP. An agricultural water supplier that supplies water to 25,000 or more irrigated acres is subject to the Agricultural Water Management Planning (AWMP) Act of 2009 (i.e., SBX 7-7) will need to comply with the AWMP requirements to include submittal of an Agricultural Water Management Plan, implementation of all locally cost-effective Efficient Water Management Practices (EWMPs), and implementation of the critical EWMPs consisting of measuring water deliveries to customers in accordance with the water measurement regulation and adopting a pricing structure for water customers based at least in part on quantity delivered. If not implementing all required EWMPs, an agricultural water supplier may meet the requirements by submitting a schedule, financing plan, and budget for implementation to be included in the grant agreement. In addition, Agricultural water suppliers that supply at water to at least 2,000 irrigated acres or supply 2,000 acre-feet are required to submit an annual Farm-gate Delivery Report by July 31 of each year.

Grant agreement execution is contingent upon grantee's compliance with all of the requirements as applicable no later than a year from the date of announcing the final grant awards. Failure to comply may result in the withdrawal of the grant award.

Grant applicants and the general public may submit comments on this draft funding recommendation in writing. Comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on August 2, 2017. Please e-mail comments to [AgWUE@water.ca.gov](mailto:AgWUE@water.ca.gov)

Or by mail to

Department of Water Resources  
Water Use and Efficiency Branch  
Attn: Marty Berbach  
901 P Street, Room 313A  
Sacramento, California 95814

This information is also posted on DWR's website at:  
<http://www.water.ca.gov/wuegrants/AgWUEPilot.cfm>

For more information, please contact Marty Berbach at (916) 651-9216 or by e-mail at [Martin.Berbach@water.ca.gov](mailto:Martin.Berbach@water.ca.gov)

**Table 1 – Applicant Review Scores and Requested Funding**

<b>Score</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>Requested Prop 1 Funding</b>	<b>Proposed Grant Award*</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
85.0	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District; partnered with 19 agricultural operators*	South System Improvement Project	\$11,722,599	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	Recommended for funding
81.7	Tulare Irrigation District & Okieville-Highland Acres Mutual Water Company; partnered with 8 agricultural operators	Groundwater Recharge, Aquifer Sustainability and On-Farm Efficiency Project	\$2,799,483,	\$2,111,383	\$0	Not selected for funding
71.8	Willow Creek Mutual Water Company & Ducks Unlimited; partnered with 1 agricultural operators	Willow Creek Ranch Water Use-Efficiency Enhancement Project	\$700,682	\$347,487	\$0	Not selected for funding
55.2	Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District & Semitropic Water Storage District; partnered with 3 agricultural operators	Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District & Semitropic Water Storage District Intertie Pipeline	\$2,420,409	\$847,143	\$0	Not selected for funding

\*CDFA will fund the agricultural operators separately through SWEEP

Subject

## Friday 8-4-2017 RCD Financial Assistance Program Webinar Information



From

<Jenny.E.DiStefano@conservation.ca.gov>

katherine.boxer@acrcd.org <katherine.boxer@acrcd.org>, debragillis@sbcglobal.net <debragillis@sbcglobal.net>, <bc-rcd@carcd.org>, Anna Olsen <aolsen@rcdsantabarbara.org>, <faustmlkmd@aol.com>, Jeannie Habben <cfwatershed@gmail.com>, anne melrose <ammelrose0@gmail.com>, <patti.turner@ca.nacdnet.net>, Ben Weise <bweise@ccrcd.org>, <john-currey@dixonrcd.org>, Jean Okuye <admin@eastmercedrcd.org>, jamie.meek@eaststanrcd.org <jamie.meek@eaststanrcd.org>, ekrcd@iwvisp.com <ekrcd@iwvisp.com>, <Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov>, fallriverrcd@citlink.net <fallriverrcd@citlink.net>, lundernils . <lunder.nils@gmail.com>, Sarah Jones <SJones@egwd.org>, <Kandi.Manhart@ca.nacdnet.net>, <Brittany@goldridgercd.org>, rortega@gwdwater.org <rortega@gwdwater.org>, Ian Sims <isims@honeylakevalleyrcd.us>, Jill Demers <jillhrcd@gmail.com>, Victoria Brandon <vbrandon@lakelive.info>, <mangell@maderapumps.com>, nancy@marinrcd.org <nancy@marinrcd.org>, <mariposacountyrcd@gmail.com>, <patricia.hickey@mrcrd.org>, <judy@missionrcd.org>, rwestman1@frontiernet.net <rwestman1@frontiernet.net>, <leigh@naparcd.org>, <elisa@placercountyrcd.org>, Pit RCD <pitrcd@frontiernet.net>, <sheryl.landrum@rcdsandiego.org>, <paul.robins@rcdmonterey.org>, <ccoburn@rcdsantacruz.org>, John Hendra <jhendra@rcdsmm.org>, <lamb@rcrcd.org>, camille <camille@rcdsanbenito.org>, <bmillis.SJBRCd@verizon.net>, <kellyx@sanmateorcd.org>, bcaporaso@svrcd.org <bcaporaso@svrcd.org>, <stevehaze007@gmail.com>, sisqrcd@sisqtel.net <sisqrcd@sisqtel.net>, <chris.rose@solanorcd.org>, Jeff Schreiber <JSchreiber@sonomarc.org>, Chappell, Steve <schappell@suisunrcd.org>, <kboyd@tahoercd.org>, Tehama County Resource Conservation District <vicky@tehamacountyrcd.org>, rose.corona@teamrcd.org <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>, ksheen@tcrd.net <ksheen@tcrd.net>, <teri@tularecountyrcd.com>, Lindsay Mattos <lindsay@tcrd.org>, Erin White <erin@us-ltrcd.org>, debragillis@sbcglobal.net <debragillis@sbcglobal.net>, weststanislausrcd@gmail.com <weststanislausrcd@gmail.com>, ali@westernshastarc.org <ali@westernshastarc.org>, <nichols@yolorcd.org>, bookkeeper@tcrd.net <bookkeeper@tcrd.net>, <mhurt@tahoercd.org>, <Gail.Chun@conservation.ca.gov>

Cc

<Gail.Chun@conservation.ca.gov>, <Jessica.Rader@conservation.ca.gov>, <Kathryn.Lyddan@conservation.ca.gov>

Date

2017-08-01 15:00

Hello Grantees,

We will be holding our next RCD Grant Administrative Webinar this Friday, August 4th from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. The purpose of the webinar is to go over the invoicing and reporting procedures for the grants and to answer grantee questions. Due to the webinar system, space is limited, so we ask you to please limit webinar connections to one per RCD.

Please RSVP by 5 p.m. this Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, so we know how many grantees to expect. To RSVP, please send reply to this email with your grant name and number in the subject line.

If you try to connect via computer and receive a message indicating that the webinar is full or at capacity, you can still listen in by calling our conference line at 1-866-423-5894; use passcode 5377007 to enter the conference call. If you call in on the conference line, please mute your phone during the presentation.

To connect to the webinar via computer or phone, please use the following information:

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To join the meeting via a computer or mobile phone, use this link: <https://bluejeans.com/119735994?src=calendarLink>

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Connecting directly from a Room System?

- 1) Dial: 199.48.152.152 or bjn.vc
- 2) Enter Meeting ID: 119735994

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Just want to dial in via your phone?

- 1) +1.408.740.7256 (United States)  
+1.888.240.2560 (US Toll Free)  
+1.408.317.9253 (Alternate number)  
(<http://bluejeans.com/numbers>)
- 2) Enter Meeting ID: 119735994
- 3) Press #

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Want to test your video connection?

<http://bluejeans.com/111>

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Webinar at capacity and cannot join meeting?

Please call in via our conference line: conference line at 1-866-423-5894; use passcode 5377007 to enter the conference call. You will be able to hear, but not see the presentation. If you call in on the conference line, please mute your phone during the presentation.

FYI, this is a repeat of the RCD Grant Administrative Webinar that was held last week on July 25<sup>th</sup>. If you attended the last webinar, please do not attend this one as space is limited. We will be recording and posting the entire webinar on our DLRP website next week. We will send out an email when it is posted and include a link to the posting. If you attended the last webinar and have questions, please email your DOC grant managers at any time.

Thank you,

RCD Assistance Program Staff



Subject **Cancel September 2017 RCD-DFW meeting**  
From <Jeff.Brandt@wildlife.ca.gov>  
<mparkes@iercd.org>, Eric Chan <echan@iercd.org>, Brett Mills  
To <Bmills.SJBRCd@verizon.net>, <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>,  
<manager@teamrcd.org>, Shelli Lamb <lamb@rcrcd.org>, 'Kerwin Russell'  
<russell@rcrcd.org>  
Date 2017-07-31 16:37  
Priority Highest



Folks—

I'm off on vacation during the September 2017 DFW-RCD meeting. The September meeting is cancelled—see you in August.

Thank you,

Jeff Brandt  
Habitat Conservation  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
3602 Inland Empire Blvd, Suite C-220  
Ontario, CA 91764  
Phone (909) 987-7161  
Fax (909) 481-2945  
Email [jeff.brandt@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:jeff.brandt@wildlife.ca.gov)

*Every Californian should conserve water. Find out how at:*



[SaveOurWater.com](http://SaveOurWater.com) · [Drought.CA.gov](http://Drought.CA.gov)



Subject **Fwd: [CSG Update] Legislative Report/Updates (July 2017)**  
From James Earsom <james.earsom@gmail.com>  
<cbeck100@yahoo.com>, Rich Campbell <rich@richcam.net>, Mandy  
Parkes <mparkes@iercd.org>, Paul Williams <pcwilliams@hotmail.com>,  
To Shelli Lamb <lamb@rcrcd.org>, <Bmills.SJBRCd@verizon.net>, Rose Corona  
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>, Carol Lee Brady  
<carol.lee.brady@teamrcd.org>, <judy@missionrcd.org>  
Date 2017-07-30 16:18



- carcdbilllist0724017.pdf (~454 KB)
- citizensinfoforrcds.pdf (~73 KB)

Greetings All,

Attached is the latest update on state legislative activity that could impact RCDs.  
Also don't forget to RSVP for director skills training this next Friday at Riverside.

Be Well,

Jim

Sent from my iPad  
909.771.8330

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Emily Sutherland <[CSG\\_Update@carcd.memberclicks.net](mailto:CSG_Update@carcd.memberclicks.net)>  
**Date:** July 27, 2017 at 9:32:26 AM PDT  
**To:** [james.earsom@gmail.com](mailto:james.earsom@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [CSG Update] Legislative Report/Updates (July 2017)  
**Reply-To:** [emily-sutherland@carcd.org](mailto:emily-sutherland@carcd.org)

Hi Everyone,

Here is a legislative update as the session ends from our legislative team at Conservation Strategy Group (CSG). Below is a summary and attached is a list of bills. Its been a busy and exciting year.

Also attached is a summary of one of the 4 bond initiatives being considered

- The Citizens Initiative, which at this point shows the most promise. Please note that in this bond (along with funding for many of our partner agencies) is:

- \$25 million for grants to RCDs pursuant to the RCD enabling statute (Sec. 9084 of PRC)
- \$10 million for the Watershed Coordinator Program
- \$5 million for restoration activities to control or eradicate invasive plants

Please get in touch with Karen if you have any questions.

Thanks to everyone for your generous support in making this happen!

## **RCD Legislative Update (July 2017)**

The Legislature is out for summer having adjourned late last week for its month-long recess after passing two significant and high-profile packages of legislation - an extension of California's Cap-and-Trade program and a Transportation Funding Package sourced from an increase on gasoline taxes and vehicle registration fees. Both of these packages were passed on a two-thirds vote by the Legislature under intense political pressure from the direct involvement of Governor Brown and

legislative leadership, in addition to fervent lobbying and media. The Legislature returns on August 21st for a final four weeks before session concludes on September 15th. Many priorities remain to be addressed, including potential housing and parks bonds. A key question will be: is there enough political will to pass any more legislation that requires a two-thirds vote?

Below is an overview of key environmental policy issues and legislative priorities that will be addressed during the remainder of the legislative session. **Also attached is a legislative report for CARCD.**

## **Cap and Trade**

With the extension of Cap-and-Trade confirmed and another auction scheduled for early August, one of the Legislature's top priorities after recess will be the consideration of the Governor's \$2.2 billion expenditure proposal. Although the extension of the program brings market certainty that will likely improve auction results in August, the Cap-and-Trade package's immediate repeal of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fee decreases the revenue available for programs previously funded. Upon the reconvening of the legislature, the conversation will be about how to allocate existing and future revenues.

## **Housing**

The Governor and leadership made a commitment to work on affordable housing as one of the negotiation pieces to secure progressive Democrat votes for Cap-and-Trade. The Governor, Senate Pro Tem de León and Speaker Rendon issued a joint statement that they are committed to finalizing a legislative package upon the Legislature's return from recess that will spur construction of new homes and improve access to affordable housing. The Senate has already proposed two measures to address housing: a \$3 billion affordable housing bond by Senator Beall (SB 3) and a measure creating an affordable housing trust fund supported by an increase on fees for real estate transactions by Senator Atkins (SB 2). Both of these bills would require a two-thirds vote.

## **Park Bonds**

The two park bond proposals, AB 18 (E. Garcia) and SB 5 (De León), will be in play over the final four weeks of the Legislative session. Discussions started during the Cap-and-Trade negotiations to move a parks bond as well as the aforementioned housing package, however, how to merge the two measures and whether or not the Governor is willing to take on even greater state debt are the two biggest questions for a parks bond to pass the Legislature this year.

While the park bond proposals are quite similar, one key difference is funding for water projects. SB 5 (\$3.832 billion) includes \$1.3 billion in funding for water and flood related projects, while AB 18 (\$3.105 billion) does not include any dedicated funding for water or flood projects at this time. If the Legislature is going to pass a park bond this session, they will have to reconcile the differences between the two proposals and develop a consensus measure that can be passed by both houses with the required two-thirds majority vote.

## **Preserve California**

The Preserve California Package, comprised of SB 49 (De León), SB 50 (Allen), and SB 51 (Jackson) was introduced earlier this year to protect the state against federal actions brought on by the Trump Administration that would undermine environmental policies and environmental protections. This package is making its way through the Legislature with all three bills in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations. They are slated to be negotiated after the summer recess.

## **Clean Energy**

In terms of energy related bills, all eyes will be on SB 100 (De León), another related piece of legislation that is expected to gain momentum once the Legislature returns from recess. SB 100

builds upon SB 350, which Mr. de León successfully authored in 2015, to continue moving the state towards greater use of renewable energy. SB 100 accelerates previously established renewable energy targets, now requiring that 60% of energy use to be renewable energy by 2030, as well as creating a new goal of 100% zero carbon energy by 2045. SB 100 is currently in the Assembly Appropriations Committee and will be considered after recess.

## **Water**

Of current water legislation, SB 623 (Monning) is an important bill that creates the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund to reduce and address contaminants in drinking water. SB 623 has made its way to Assembly Appropriations and awaits hearing after the recess.

The State Legislature has also began working on a Water Conservation Package, that consists of AB 1668 (Friedman), AB 1654 (Rubio), and SB 606 (Skinner). These three bills will be contingent upon on one another, and are generally intended to promote water conservation within the state, but the package is still in its early stages and will be further developed and negotiated over the recess.

--

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**2017 CARCD Bill List**  
**July 24, 2017**

***Bonds:***

**AB 18 (E. Garcia D) California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.**

**Status:** This bill has been referred to the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee, and the Senate Governance & Finance Committee. A hearing date has not yet been set.

**Summary:**

Would enact the California Clean Water, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of \$3,105,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a clean water, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. This bill contains other related provisions.

**SB 5 (De León D) California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018.**

**Status:** This bill has been amended, and referred to the Assembly Water, Parks, & Wildlife Committee. A hearing date has not yet been set.

**Summary:**

Would enact the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in an amount of \$3,832,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a drought, water, parks, climate, coastal protection, and outdoor access for all program. This bill contains other related provisions.

***Climate:***

**AB 378 (C. Garcia D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: regulations.**

**Status:** This bill has failed.

**Summary:**

The California Global Warming Solutions Act requires the State Air Resources Board, when adopting rules and regulations to achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions beyond the statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit and to protect the state's most impacted and disadvantaged communities, to follow specified requirements, consider the social costs of the emissions of greenhouse gases, and prioritize specified emission reduction rules and regulations. This bill would require the state board to consider and account for the social costs of the emissions of greenhouse gases when adopting those rules and regulations.



**AB 398 (E. Garcia D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: market-based compliance mechanisms: fire prevention fees: sales and use tax manufacturing exemption.**

**Status:** This bill has passed and is expected to be signed by the Governor on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Summary:**

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 establishes the State Air Resources Board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases. The act requires the state board to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020 and to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030. This bill would require the state board to update the scoping plan no later than January 1, 2018. It would also require all greenhouse gas rules and regulations adopted by the state board to be consistent with the scoping plan.

**AB 617 (C. Garcia D) Nonvehicular air pollution: criteria air pollutants and toxic contaminants.**

**Status:** This bill has passed and is expected to be signed by the Governor on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Summary:**

Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board to make available on its Internet Web site data concerning the emissions of greenhouse gases, criteria air pollutants, and toxic air contaminants, as specified. This bill would require the state board to develop a uniform statewide system of annual reporting of emissions of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants for use by certain categories of stationary sources, and require those stationary sources to report their annual emissions.

**AB 1433 (Wood D) Climate Adaptation and Resilience Based on Nature Act.**

**Status:** This bill has been amended and referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. A hearing date has not yet been set.

**Summary:**

Current law establishes various programs to provide financial assistance for natural or working lands. This bill would require the Strategic Growth Council, on or before April 1, 2018, to establish and convene an interagency task force consisting of representatives from various state agencies who are knowledgeable in programs for natural or working lands to develop a common application form and process for those programs. The bill would require the task force, on or before January 1, 2019, to develop and implement the common application form and process for those programs.

**SB 263 (Leyva D) Climate Assistance Centers.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Would require the Strategic Growth Council, among other things, to establish no less than 10 regional climate assistance centers, as specified, and award competitive grants to eligible entities through an application process, as specified. The bill would require the climate assistance centers to provide to target user groups technical assistance in applying for moneys, provide to target user groups assistance and training in project management and implementation, and work with local organizations to formulate policies and programming that accomplish specified goals.



**ACA 1 (Mayes R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund.**

**Status:** This bill has passed the Legislature but requires voter approval in November 2018.

**Summary:**

Would create the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund, and require all moneys in the fund to be available upon appropriation for specified purposes and would require a bill making those appropriations to be passed by a 2/3 vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature. The measure would require all new moneys collected as part of a market-based compliance mechanism after the effective date of that specified legislation to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

*Water:*

**AB 472 (Frazier D) Water transfers: idled agricultural land: wildlife, waterfowl, and nesting habitat.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Current law requires landowners to be encouraged, when agricultural lands are being idled in order to provide water for transfer and an amount of water is determined to be made available by that idling, to cultivate or retain nonirrigated cover crops or natural vegetation to provide waterfowl, upland game bird, and other wildlife habitat. This bill would require the department to allow nonirrigated cover crops or natural vegetation to remain on idled agricultural lands, without penalty to the landowner, unless it determines, based on peer-reviewed scientific studies or other credible scientific evidence, that an injury to another legal user of water would occur as a result of allowing those crops or vegetation to remain on those lands.

**SB 276 (Dodd D) State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

This bill would require the Department of Food and Agriculture, upon appropriation of moneys by the Legislature for this purpose, to administer the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program to provide financial assistance in the form of grants to implement irrigation management systems that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save water, and reduce energy use in agricultural operations in the state, offer technical assistance to program applicants, and perform outreach to groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins, as prescribed.

**SB 667 (Atkins D) Department of Water Resources: riverine and riparian stewardship improvements.**

**Status:** This bill has been placed on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

**Summary:**

Current law authorizes the Director of Water Resources to establish a program of flood control and urban creek restoration, known as the Urban Streams Restoration Program, consisting of the development of the capability by the Department of Water Resources to respond to requests from local agencies and organizations for planning and design assistance for efficient and effective urban creek protection, restoration, and enhancement. This bill, upon an appropriation of funds from the Legislature, would require the department to establish a program to implement watershed-based riverine and riparian

stewardship improvements by providing technical and financial assistance in support of projects with certain benefits.

**SB 780 (Wiener D) Water Conservation in Landscaping Act.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Would authorize the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to promote the application of compost in urban areas of the state to assist with projects that follow the watershed approach to landscaping and, in coordination with the Department of Water Resources, to develop and implement pilot projects that support the understanding and deployment of compost to meet specified goals. The bill would also require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in coordination with the State Air Resources Board, to develop a greenhouse gas emissions reduction factor for new climate appropriate landscapes, as provided.

*Forestry/Fire Protection:*

**AB 211 (Bigelow R) State responsibility area fire prevention fees: reporting requirement.**

**Status:** This bill has been amended and referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. A hearing date is yet to be set.

**Summary:**

Current law requires the fire prevention fee fund to cover startup costs of the fire prevention fee program over a period not to exceed 2 years. Current law, until January 31, 2017, requires the board to submit an annual written report to the Legislature on the status of the uses of the fee moneys. The bill would require the report to include an itemized accounting of all expenditures from the fund, including a specific itemized accounting relating to equipment expenditures, and a description of any positions that are associated with each expenditure, among other things.

**AB 523 (Bigelow R) Public utilities: fines and settlements: 2015 Butte Fire.**

**Status:** This bill has been referred to the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee. A hearing date is yet to be set.

**Summary:**

Would appropriate moneys resulting from 2 specified citations, issued by the Public Utilities Commission to the Pacific Gas and Electric Company for violations relating to the 2015 Butte Fire, to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to be expended for the department's program known as the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund and Tree Mortality Grant Program.

**AB 1530 (Gonzalez-Fletcher D) Urban forestry.**

**Status:** This bill is in the Senate Appropriations Committee. A hearing date has not yet been set.

**Summary:**

The California Urban Forestry Act of 1978 has as a stated purpose the promotion of the use of urban forest resources for purposes of increasing integrated projects with multiple benefits in urban communities. This bill would provide that the purpose of the act is also to promote policies and incentives that advance improved maintenance of urban forest canopy to optimize multiple benefits, among other purposes.



**SB 9 (Gaines R) State responsibility areas: fire prevention fees.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Current law establishes the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund and prohibits the collection of fire prevention fees if there are sufficient amounts of moneys in the fund to finance specified fire prevention activities for a fiscal year. Current law requires that the fire prevention fees collected, except as provided, be deposited into the fund and be made available to the board and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for certain fire prevention activities that benefit the owners of structures in state responsibility areas who are required to pay the fee. Current law further requires the board to submit an annual written report to the Legislature on specified topics. This bill would repeal the above provisions.

***Williamson Act:***

**AB 925 (Frazier D) Williamson Act: contracts.**

**Status:** This is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Would authorize a landowner or group of landowners to petition the board of supervisors to rescind a contract or contracts in order to simultaneously place the land subject to that contract or those contracts under a new contract designating the property as a farmland security and conservation zone for a period of at least 30, 40, or 50 years, as specified. This bill would require land subject to a farmland security and conservation zone contract to be valued between 61% and 65% of the value of the land based on the length of the contract, as specified.

**AB 1564 (Arambula D) Agricultural preserves: Williamson Act.**

**Status:** This bill has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. A hearing date has not yet been set.

**Summary:**

The California Land Conservation Act of 1965, otherwise known as the Williamson Act, authorizes a city or county to contract with a landowner to limit the use of agricultural land located in an agricultural preserve designated by the city or county. Current law, with certain exceptions, provides that any commercial, industrial, or residential building constructed on a parcel subject to an agricultural land conservation contract that is not permitted by the contract or by local uniform rules or ordinances, and is not related to an agricultural use or compatible use, is a material breach of contract. This bill would instead provide that the act name is the Williamson Act, and would make conforming changes.

**SB 435 (Dodd D) Williamson Act: payments to local governments.**

**Status:** This bill has been placed on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File.

**Summary:**

Would, under the Williamson act, reduce the amount per acre paid to a city, county, or city and county under these provisions to \$2.50 for prime agricultural land, \$0.50 for all other land devoted to open-space uses of statewide significance, and, for counties that have adopted farmland security zones, \$4 for land that is within, or within 3 miles of the sphere of influence of, each incorporated city.

### *Natural Resources:*

#### **AB 1608 (Kalra D) Vibrant landscapes for climate, people, and multiple benefits.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Would require the Department of Conservation to develop and implement the Vibrant Landscape Program to assist eligible applicants in the development of county and regional plans that integrate the conservation and management of natural and working lands with other sectors to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and to provide other environmental cobenefits and to provide funding for land management and conservation activities that reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases and achieve other environmental cobenefits.

#### **AB 1617 (Bloom D) Department of Fish and Wildlife: funding.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Current law declares the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Fish and Wildlife cooperate with the Legislature, recreational users, conservation organizations, the commercial fishing industry, and other interested parties to identify and propose new alternative sources of revenue to fund the department's necessary marine conservation, restoration, and resources management and protection responsibilities. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature that the department, in cooperation with those parties and the hunting community, identify and propose new and alternative sources of revenue to fund the department's necessary wildlife and land conservation, restoration, and resources management and protection responsibilities.

#### **SB 287 (Dodd D) Habitat restoration: invasive species: *Phytophthora* pathogens.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

Current law establishes the Department of Fish and Wildlife and sets forth the powers and duties of the department with regard to the implementation and administration of, among other things, projects and programs to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat in the state. This bill would require the department, on or before December 31, 2019, to adopt regulations to minimize the risk of *Phytophthora* pathogens in plant materials used for habitat restoration projects authorized, funded, or required by the state.

### *Other:*

#### **AB 1163 (Irwin D) Water supply planning: California Environmental Quality Act: photovoltaic or wind energy generation facility.**

**Status:** This is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Current law requires a city or county that determines that a project, as defined, is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act to identify any public water system that may supply water for the project and to request those public water systems to prepare a specified water supply assessment. If no public water system is identified, the city or county is required to prepare the water supply assessment. Current law defines "project" for purposes of these provisions. This bill would indefinitely exempt from the definition of "project" a proposed photovoltaic or wind energy generation facility that would demand no more than 75 acre-feet of water annually.

**AB 1348 (Aguiar-Curry D) Farmer Equity Act of 2017.**

**Status:** This bill has been placed on the Senate Appropriations Suspense File.

**Summary:**

Would enact the Farmer Equity Act of 2017 and would require the department to ensure the inclusion of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, as defined, in the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of food and agriculture laws, regulations, and policies and programs, as specified. The bill would require the secretary to create a position within the department's executive office to support the department's efforts to include socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in its policies and programs, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions.

**SB 424 (Allen D) The California Regional Environmental Education Community Network.**

**Status:** This bill is now a 2-year bill.

**Summary:**

Would establish the California Regional Environmental Education Community Network under the direction and control of a 5-member governing board appointed, as specified, for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of high quality environmental literacy in California public schools, as specified. The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction, with the approval of that governing board, to contract with a local educational agency or consortium of local educational agencies to serve as the fiscal agent for the California Regional Environmental Education Community Network who shall be charged with specified duties.





## **The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Natural Resources Protection and Park Improvement Act of 2018**

**Background:** The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Natural Resources Protection and Park Improvement Act of 2018 is a \$7.5 billion water and natural resources bond measure that has been developed by a broad coalition of groups from the environmental, environmental justice, and water communities. RCDs are listed as eligible applicants for all of the funding programs in the measure, and below we have highlighted several programs that are particularly well suited to the skills and expertise of RCDs.

**Department of Conservation:** The measure allocates sixty million dollars to the Department of Conservation for watershed restoration and conservation projects on agricultural lands, rangelands, and forested lands as follows:

- \$25 million for grants to RCDs pursuant to the RCD enabling statute (Sec. 9084 of PRC)
- \$10 million for the Watershed Coordinator Program
- \$5 million for restoration activities to control or eradicate invasive plants

**Wildlife Conservation Board:** The measure includes substantial funding for WCB, including the following specific allocations:

- \$140 million general acquisition and restoration funding
- \$10 million for Ecosystem Restoration on Ag Lands, with priority for projects that use RCDs
- \$50 million for voluntary fish and wildlife habitat activities on privately owned lands

**State Conservancies:** The measure allocates over one billion in funding for the ten state conservancies, including the following specific allocations:

- \$230 million for Coastal Conservancy
- \$50 million Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- \$40 million Tahoe Conservancy

**Forest Protection and Restoration:** The measure dedicates funding specifically for forest restoration and protection, including the following allocations:

- \$150 million to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- \$50 million to the Tahoe Conservancy
- \$100 million to Wildlife Conservation Board (for coastal forests)
- \$50 million to Coastal Conservancy

**Urban Forestry/Urban Greening:** The measure includes funding specifically targeted towards urban greening and forestry issues, including the following funding allocations:

- \$35 million to CalFire for Urban Forestry program (at least \$10 million of these funds are dedicated towards pest management/eradication projects)
- \$50 million to Strategic Growth Council for Urban Greening projects

Subject **[Conservation News] Updated NRCS policy regarding RCD board meetings**  
From Karen Buhr <Conservation\_News@carcd.memberclicks.net>  
Sender <Conservation\_News@carcd.memberclicks.net>  
To <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>  
Reply-To <karen-buhr@carcd.org>  
Date 2017-07-28 11:18



Hi Folks,

Hope you are all having a great Summer!

I wanted to update you on a new policy from NRCS headquarters. I had a great conversation with Carlos Suarez about it last week and he asked me to pass this information on to you. He also wanted me to express to you that this new policy in no way undermines the relationship that NRCS has with RCDs and they remain committed to the partnership. In fact, neither of us foresee much change in the way that they do business, but we wanted to make you aware of the change.

The national office wrote a new policy making it no longer mandatory for District Conservationists, Area Conservationists and ASTC-FO to attend RCD Board meetings that occur *after the regular duty hours*. They can still be required to attend meetings during regular business hours, but not outside. This was a necessary adjustment to meet legal requirements in their contracts with their employees.

ACs and DCs are still encouraged to attend board meetings outside business hours in order to build strong relationships with their key partner. The directive recognizes the importance of having NRCS leadership at these meetings and recognizes RCDs as the key partner for NRCS. In addition, all the normal accommodations are still available to NRCS employees if they voluntarily attend. They just can't be required to do so.

I know most of our DCs and ACs are strongly committed to our partnership. In fact, when I talk with them, their partnership with the RCD is usually the highlight of their job. I doubt this will greatly affect anything that happens in our state. However, it is important that you are aware of this shift.

If you do experience an issue with this new policy, please let me know, so we can brainstorm ways to work through it.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance in anyway!

As always, we appreciate and value our relationship with the NRCS and look forward to it continuing for many more years.

Thanks,  
Karen

--

Thanks,  
Karen Buhr  
Executive Director  
California Association of Resource Conservation Districts  
916-524-2100

RCDs, Your Partner in Local Conservation and Agriculture

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Subject **FW: NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT -  
AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PERMIT**

From Shelli Lamb <lamb@rcrcd.org>  
Brett <Bmills.SJBRCD@verizon.net>, <mparkes@iercd.org>,  
<rose.corona@teamrcd.org>, 'Judy Mitchell'  
To <judy@missionrcd.org>, <rich@richcam.net>, 'Antelope  
Valley RCD' <avrcd@carcd.org>  
Cc Hugh Wood <hwood@sawatershed.org>, <Karen-  
Buhr@carcd.org>  
Date 2017-06-22 16:29



- notice\_weed permit amendment.pdf (226 KB)

All:

For those of us doing invasive species removal, an aquatic weed control permit exemption and fee is required. Right now there is an opportunity to comment on the draft amendment to the Statewide NPDES Permit for residual aquatic pesticide discharges to Waters of the United States from Algae and Aquatic Weed Control Applications. Attached is more information.

I reviewed this with our legal counsel and he had the following information that I wanted to share with all of you:

"First, I would note for pesticides containing Acrolein and Copper, there is a specific exception for resource or pest management undertaken by a public agency. So, if there are RCD's that do aquatic weed control with pesticides that contain only acrolein or copper (and not any other priority pollutants), then that RCD can apply for an exception to the rule from the State Board rather than paying the \$2k and coming under the general order. However, I am not sure which pesticides contain only those priority pollutants and no others. So, the exception may have limited applicability.

Second, it appears both the RCD's and their contractors are required to obtain the permits. However, if the RCD controls the actual chemicals and directs the contractor about exactly how to do the work, the contractor could try to argue that it is working under the RCD's permit.

But, if the RCD is making the financial decision to do the spraying, the RCD is to obtain a permit even if its employees do not do the actual spraying. This is because the general permit states at Section II.B (page 4) that the discharger only needs to meet one of two criteria. If the RCD is spending the funds, they will always meet criteria #1.

"A Discharger under this General Permit includes any entity involved in the application of algaecides and aquatic herbicides that results in a discharge of algaecides and aquatic herbicides and their residues and degradation byproducts to waters of the United States, and meets either or both of the following two criteria:

[1] The entity has control over the financing for or the decision to perform algaecide and aquatic herbicide applications that result in discharges, including the ability to modify those decisions; or

[2] The entity has day-to-day control of algaecide and aquatic herbicide applications or performs activities that are necessary to ensure compliance with this General Permit. For example, the entity is authorized to direct workers to carry out activities required by this General Permit or perform such activities themselves."

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/water\\_quality/2013/wqo2013\\_0002dwq.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2013/wqo2013_0002dwq.pdf)



Bottom line is that either the RCD or the contractor must have a permit, and the safest route is for all RCD's doing this work to come under the umbrella of the general permit by submitting the notice of intent and paying the fee."

For those of you also working with a nonprofit to do your restoration work, I would suggest that you talk to them, document what pesticides are being use and make sure that both of you are covered under this General Permit.

Shelli Lamb  
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Healthy Soils, Healthy Life!



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**From:** [lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov) [mailto:[lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lyris@swrcb18.waterboards.ca.gov)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 21, 2017 11:56 PM  
**To:** Shelli Lamb  
**Subject:** NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT - AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PERMIT



**This is a message from the State Water Resources Control Board**

Attached is a Notice of Opportunity to Comment on the Draft Amendment to Statewide General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Residual Aquatic Pesticide Discharges to Waters of the United States from Algae and Aquatic Weed Control Applications.

Comment Deadline is July 24, 2017 by 12 noon.

*Thank you,  
Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
(916) 341-5600*

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NACD Blog: [Leopold Award honors conservationists on working lands](#)

With more than 75 percent of land in the United States privately owned, it's important to recognize and celebrate landowners' achievements. The Leopold Conservation Awards Program was designed to do exactly that.

[Roberts Signals Limit to Conservation, Forestry Funding](#) via DTN/The Progressive Farmer

Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., signaled last week that the best conservation and forestry advocates can expect out of the next farm bill is protection of programs at current funding levels.

[Editorial: To clean up our water, go 'nuts' like this Iowa farmer](#) via The Des Moines Register

(Opinion) Watkins has broken out of the two-crop cycle in which so many farmers are caught. He grows corn but also oats, alfalfa, and cover crops. He grazes his cattle on pastureland, and about 400 acres of his land have been restored to prairie or set aside for ponds and protection of wildlife and streams. And he's seen better financial returns as a result, he said, even if it comes at the cost of huge corn yields.

[Virus decimates wheat in southern Panhandle](#) via Lincoln Journal Star

The wheat virus is at epidemic levels in the southern Panhandle this year. The Nebraska Wheat Association earlier this month reported as many as 85 percent of fields in the region affected. The disease can entirely wipe out a season of work, dropping yields to zero.

[Field tests show how pesticides can wreak havoc on honeybees](#) via Los Angeles Times

Concentrations of neonicotinoids that bees actually encounter in fields are indeed dangerous for bees. The more neonicotinoids there were in the ecosystem, the smaller the size of the honeybee colonies and the lower the fertility rate of wild bees.



[Trout reintroduced to Iowa river headwaters](#) via The Gazette

Along with restoring a haven for the esteemed brookies, the project's reductions in bacteria and sediment put some of the affected streams on track for removal from the state's impaired waters list.

[What you need to know about the 21 wildland fires burning in Arizona](#) via AZ Central

Fire season is at its peak, with 21 wildland fires currently active across the state. Almost 190,000 acres of land has burned from these fires alone.

[Damage From Wayward Weedkiller Keeps Growing](#) via NPR

Dicamba is not a new weedkiller; it's been around for 50 years. The problem is, dicamba doesn't always stay where it's supposed to. In hot weather, dicamba turns into a gas that apparently can drift for miles. And soybeans that haven't been specifically engineered to tolerate dicamba are extremely sensitive to it.

[BLM requests input for future planning efforts and environmental reviews](#) via Northern Nevada Business Weekly

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced that it is requesting ideas and input on how the agency can make its land use planning procedures and environmental reviews timelier and less costly, as well as ensure its responsiveness to local needs.

[June Frost Hits South Dakota Corn; US Northern Plains Drought Intensifies](#) via DTN/The Progressive Farmer

Over the last weekend of June, some of the already drought-stricken areas in north-central South Dakota saw a damaging frost on their corn. Some authorities have declared that at least \$20 million of crops in South Dakota have already been destroyed by drought or the June 24 frost, with more losses expected.

[Massachusetts Probing What Killed Thousands of Honeybees](#) via The New York Times

The Massachusetts' Department of Agricultural Resources is investigating a massive honeybee kill that has almost entirely wiped out a hive of 80,000 bees.

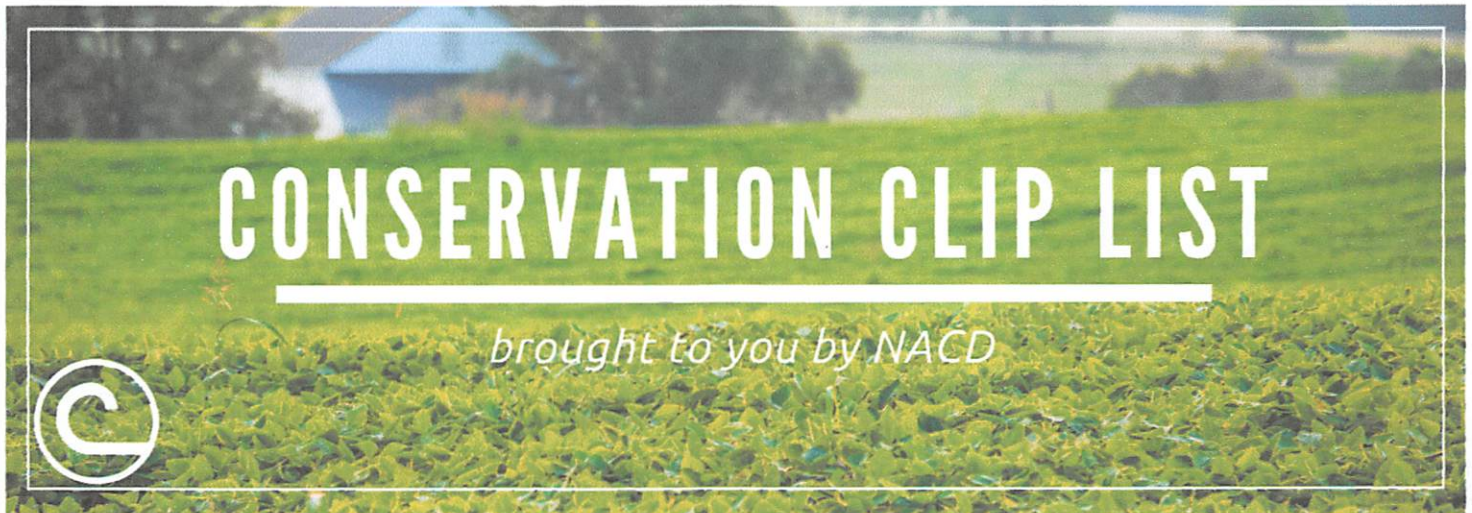
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***Conservation Clip List is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. If you have a relevant submission, please contact your [NACD Communications Team](#).***

NACD Blog: [What's in a soil science certification?](#)

One of the many ways the Soil Science Society of America is working with NACD to accelerate the adoption of improved agricultural production and natural resource stewardship practices has been through its certification programs for soil science professionals.

NACD Blog: [Indiana conservation district plays part in alleviating food insecurity](#)

The Container Garden Project was born out of a desire “to provide a way for food pantry guests to easily grow and harvest fresh vegetables right outside their door,” said Andrew Fritz, the urban agriculture conservationist for Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District in Indiana.

[Farmers return to cover crops to improve soil and water quality](#) via Quad City Times

Cover crops are now, slowly, making a comeback, and it has more to do with soil and water quality than it does with feeding livestock. In 2009, fewer than 10,000 acres of Iowa farmland was used for so-called cover crops — non-commodity crops such as rye, oats, and wheat — that are planted on bare fields to prevent topsoil erosion, improve the soil quality, and increase nutrients available to plants. In 2016, cover crops were planted on 600,000 acres in Iowa, the largest cover crop in the state's history.

[Western wildfires feed on grass brought on by winter rain](#) via KRQE News

Wildfires driving people from their homes in California and throughout the U.S. West have had help from an unlikely source: the rain. Major winter downpours that pulled the state out of years of drought also brought a layer of grass that early-summer fires are greedily feeding on.

[California water bill passes House, but Democrats vow to fight it in the Senate](#) via Los Angeles Times

Some of California's decisions about how to use its water would be relegated to the federal government under a bill passed by the House on Wednesday. Republicans say the bill will bring more water to the parched Central Valley. California's Democratic senators have promised to fight the bill in the Senate



because it weakens California's ability to manage its own resources.

[Extreme heat broils the Dakotas and Montana; flash drought takes toll on wheat crop](#) via The Washington Post

A massive and intense heat dome has spread over the northern Plains and mountain West, sucking moisture out of the soil, and may persist for weeks. The scorching heat and absence of rain have spurred a rapidly intensifying drought that is decimating the region's wheat crop.

[Ag Group Says Conservation Funding Should Be Top Farm Bill Priority](#) via WNAX

Minnesota Land Stewardship Project's Policy Program Organizer Ben Anderson says conservation should be the top priority and crop insurance needs refining. He says conservation programs need to be prioritized and properly funded. Anderson notes there's been increasing demand for conservation programs and more funding must be provided to meet farmers' needs.

[America's First Free-Roaming Genetically Engineered Insects Are Coming to New York](#) via Gizmodo

This week, the U.S. Department of Agriculture approved a potential solution: moths genetically engineered to contain a special gene that makes them gradually die off. A field trial slated to take place in a small area of upstate New York will become the first wild release of an insect modified using genetic engineering in the US.

[Drought fears mount for Iowa farmers with little rain last week](#) via The Des Moines Register

Over half of southeast Iowa's topsoil — and a third of its subsoil — rated very short of moisture. Parts of south-central, southeast and northwest Iowa are considered in a moderate drought, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. About half the state is considered abnormally dry, it shows.

[Perdue OK's emergency haying on drought-stricken CRP acreage](#) via Agri-Pulse

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue gave the go-ahead to conduct emergency haying on Conservation Reserve Program lands to help provide feed for livestock in drought-stricken areas of Montana and North and South Dakota.

[Cover crop research aims to expand the season](#) via Iowa Farmer Today

In recent cover crop research projects across Iowa, farmers have been focused on increasing the growing season for cover crops with earlier seeding and later termination.

[My View: Farming can be sustainable and profitable](#) via Mankato Free Press

(Opinion) Years of evidence from innovative producers is combining with academic research to prove that soil health, the seemingly obvious fact that healthy soil results in healthy crops, has benefits that can completely transform agriculture, helping both the farmer and the public.

[Interior/Environment spending bill cuts EPA budget, targets WOTUS](#) via Agri-Pulse

The bill maintains Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding at \$300 million. At \$397 million, the bill's overall funding level for geographic programs — including initiatives in the Chesapeake Bay and Puget Sound — is seven percent less than the current fiscal year.

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NACD Blog: [Oklahoma CDs partner to expand access, delivery of conservation services to Indian and non-Indian lands](#)

Neighboring districts have developed a cooperative agreement to expand the delivery of conservation services in Oklahoma by utilizing strong relationships and building on their mutual understanding of the roles tribal conservation districts can play in meeting local conservation needs.

NACD Blog: [Growing an urban farming community with microgreens](#)

Hydroponic producer Tami Purdue grows a long list of microgreen crops, but that's not all she grows. Purdue also helped cultivate an urban farm community in Wake County, North Carolina, with a CropBox system.

NACD Blog: [The latest on the FY18 appropriations cycle from NACD](#)

Because we've had several years now of atypical federal appropriations cycles, it's not clear exactly how the FY 2018 cycle will play out.

NACD Blog: [Did You Know? NACD has a new logo](#)

NACD may have a new look, but our identity remains rooted. We support and promote this nation's 3,000 conservation districts.

NACD Blog: [New peer-to-peer web conference series to help reinvigorate conservation planning](#)

The National Conservation Planning Partnership is excited to introduce a new peer-to-peer web conference series to support conservation planning staff and partners.

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[Urban agriculture focus of \\$50,000 grant to Sebastian County Conservation District via Times Record](#)



The \$50,000 grant will also help the conservation district with urban projects in other parts of Sebastian County by providing more staff support for technical assistance like those on high-hoop tunnel gardening and rain barrel workshops. At the Discovery Garden, the grant funding will allow for more workshops on food production and conservation.

#### Punishing drought takes toll on crops across Northern Plains via ABC News

A punishing drought that stretches across much of the U.S. Northern Plains could cause farmers to lose 64 million bushels of wheat production this year. That dire projection comes as northeast Montana experiences the worst drought in the country, with similar dry conditions in neighboring North Dakota and South Dakota. The federal government has declared numerous counties in the three-state region to be disaster areas and authorized haying and grazing on land meant for conservation to help alleviate the conditions.

#### WOTUS withdrawal: EPA, Corps publishing proposal via Agri-Pulse

The Trump administration's effort to write new "waters of the U.S." regulations takes a big step forward with publication of a proposed rule to withdraw the Obama administration's 2015 rule. Pruitt has said he wants to propose a revised rule by the end of this year, which could be a tall order with a comment period that extends into late October or later.

#### Crops hit with triple threat: heat, drought, weeds via The Des Moines Register

One of the few perks of this dry heat wave is little incidence of foliar, or leaf-related, disease. They're caused by fungi or bacteria that prefer moist, cool conditions. Weeds and insects are another matter. Spider mites and grasshoppers both do well when it's hot and dry. Water hemp "tends to thrive no matter what," and is becoming resistant to herbicides.

#### How Farming Inside Wildlife Refuges Is Transforming Klamath Basin Agriculture via KUOW

A new generation of farmers are making agriculture more compatible with wildlife. They're adopting irrigation methods that provide habitat for waterfowl, help keep chemicals out of the wildlife refuges, and give growers a premium price for their crops. And they're helping push the entire Klamath Basin toward a more sustainable agricultural system.

#### Pigweed prevalent in birdseed, pollinator mixes, says MU researcher via Hannibal Courier-Post

University of Missouri researchers are finding that pigweed seed is popping up in birdseed in alarming numbers. A pound bag alone had 8,000 seeds. Given most birdseed sells in 50-pound bags, that is a lot of pigweed.

#### After a wet and snowy winter, wildfires rage across the West via Los Angeles Times

The unusual amounts of snowfall and rain across the West this last winter helped facilitate tall grass and more vegetation — creating conducive conditions for large fires once the hot and humid months of summer rolled around. Lightning strikes have sparked many of the fires and some blazes have been burning for weeks. Wildfires remain active in Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Washington, and Wyoming.

#### Hot, Dry Pattern Locked In: Drought Easing Not Expected via DTN/The Progressive Farmer

NOAA's August forecast features above-normal temperatures for all but the southwestern U.S., and precipitation showing "equal chances" for above, normal, or below-normal amounts for all but, again, the southwestern U.S. In other words, very warm to hot and dry conditions appear to be locked in through the rest of the corn pollination and filling stages, along with soybean pod-setting and pod-filling stages.

#### Turning Tail: There's a war on feral hogs in Texas, and the hogs are winning. via Texas Observer

The fact of the matter is that Texas is not only stuck with its feral hogs, it can only make a dent in their numbers. Hunting and trapping certainly helps: An A&M study found the combination reduced annual

damage by as much as 66 percent. But such techniques have to be deployed widely and consistently. Clear the hogs from one patch of land and they'll flow in from another; stop hunting them and their numbers will rebound in a year. But consistency is difficult to accomplish in Texas.

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# e-News



July 11, 2017



## 2017 CSDA Award Nominations Due Next Week!

Each year, CSDA presents various awards during the CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase. There are several different categories to enter your district, chapter, and/or an individual. All nominations must be

submitted by July 21, 2017. [Read more...](#)

## Can Your District Take Advantage of Governor Brown's New Contractor Requirements?

Amid the finalization of the state budget, Governor Brown signed [revisions](#) to the Department of Industrial Relations' contractor registration program. The new law, which takes effect immediately, exempts public works projects under \$25,000 - and under \$15,000 for maintenance projects - from the requirements of the registration program.

For these small projects public agencies can use contractors that are not registered with the Department. [Read more...](#)

## The New Employee Orientation Law (AB 119) is Here – What Do Special Districts Need to Know?

On Tuesday, June 27, 2017, Governor Brown signed Assembly Bill 119 into law. The law applies to public agencies including special districts. AB 119 adds Section 3555 to 3559 to the California Government Code to amend the labor relations statute to the jurisdictions listed above. [Read more...](#)

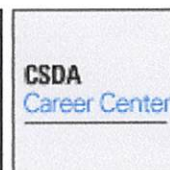
## Opportunities for Infrastructure Financing Support

Special districts are encouraged to attend one of three remaining state [Funding Fairs](#) to learn about state infrastructure financing options currently available and how local governments can secure funds. [Read more...](#)

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## Board Secretary / Clerk Conference - Register Now!

Registration is now open for CSDA's [Board Secretary / Clerk Conference](#), October 22 – 24 in Anaheim. We invite you to participate as a first time attendee to earn your



### EDUCATION CALENDAR

**July 18**  
[Best Practices in Managing Investments](#)  
Webinar

**July 20**  
[Records Retention & Management in the Electronic Age](#)  
Webinar

**July 27**  
[How to Communicate Effectively Using Online Tools](#)  
Webinar



certificate or attend again this year as a current certificate holder. Current certificate holders can choose from fourteen breakout session options – thirteen of them are NEW! Check out the [website](#) for more details and register today!



## MEMBER SERVICES

### One More Good Reason to Post Your Job with Us

The jobs your agency posts in CSDA's online [Career Center](#) are now automatically posted to CSDA's Facebook page as well. With over 1,000 Facebook followers, CSDA has expanded your outreach to potential candidates at no additional cost to you. Job posting packages start at \$105 for a 30-day posting that includes access to the resume database. Visit the [Career Center](#) for details.

## DISTRICT PRESS

### 2017 Civic Engagement Grant Program - Apply Today

Does your California community have a public engagement project on the back burner that could use a bit of extra consulting or facilitation support? Not sure where to find the funds? You may be the perfect candidate for a [Davenport Institute Public Engagement Grant](#)! **This year the Institute is specifically prioritizing low-income and diverse communities** and will be offering extra support throughout the process.



For the past decade, the Davenport Institute has supported communities seeking to constructively engage their citizens – from discovering their informed opinions to inviting their participation in actual solutions. The Institute has supported projects throughout the State of California, working with cities, counties, special districts, and civic organizations seeking to engage their residents on a variety of issues.

Grantees will receive Davenport Institute Training to help their organization prepare to engage, as well as some technical support around the criteria outlined in our How are WE Doing Platform? **The deadline for applications is Monday, September 11** and decisions will be announced October 1. For more information, visit the Davenport Institute Website [here](#).

### NEW Special District Administrator Certifications

Congratulations to Don Bartz with the [Phelan Pinon Hills Community Services District](#) and Tim Shackelford with the [Chino Valley Independent Fire District](#)



for passing the Special District Administrator Certification exam last month through the [Special District Leadership Foundation](#). Certification programs are a way for professionals within a field to affirm - to their customers, to their board of directors, and to themselves - that they are competent and experienced in their profession.

### Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member services by liking [California Special Districts Association on Facebook](#) and following [@specialdistrict on Twitter](#)!

### August 9

[HR Boot Camp for Special Districts](#)  
Vallejo

### August 10

[Financial Management for Special Districts](#)  
Vallejo

### August 15

[The Art of the Message](#)  
Sacramento

### August 16

[Understanding the Brown Act](#)  
Bakersfield

### August 16

[Governance Best Practices](#)  
Quincy

### August 17

[Fraud Environment - Tips for Detection and Controls](#)  
Webinar

## EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

*Listed below are the most recent positions posted to CSDA's [Career Center](#):*

[Bookkeeper/ Accountant/ Administrative Assistant / Graton Community Services District](#)

[Park Supervisor | Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District](#)

[General Manager | Henry Miller Reclamation District 2131](#)

[Assistant General Manager | Monterey One Water](#)

[Senior Field Services Worker | San Lorenzo Valley Water District](#)

*To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).*



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# e-News



## Districts No Longer in Danger of Dissolution without Due Process

[Senate Bill 448](#) (Wieckowski), which provides a streamlined process for the dissolution of inactive special districts, passed out of the Assembly Local Government Committee last week with CSDA-requested amendments. [Read more...](#)

### Amendments Coming to Public Records Legislation

On Wednesday, June 28, CSDA issued a call to action from its membership to oppose [Assembly Bill 1479](#). Thanks in part to almost 50 opposition letters submitted by special districts regarding the bill, Assemblymember Bonta has agreed to amend AB 1479 in the Senate Judiciary Committee to address CSDA's concerns. [Read more...](#)

### CSDA Shares Written Feedback on Little Hoover's Potential Recommendations

Last week, CSDA submitted a [letter](#) following up on the June 22 Little Hoover Commission Roundtable Discussion where CSDA and other state and local officials weighed in on the Commission's [draft recommendations](#). CSDA's letter provides written feedback to assist the Commission in identifying which potential recommendations are helpful, can be implemented, or might have unintended consequences. [Read more...](#)

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

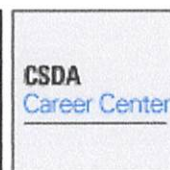
#### Pre-Conference Activities - Register Now!

Don't miss the boat...many of our pre-conference activities like the Elkhorn Slough Safari / Moss Landing Harbor District Tour have limited seating. The good news is you still have time to choose from a variety of pre-conference options including:

- Special District Leadership Academy Module #1: Governance Foundations
- Building Your District Strong - Principles for Sustained Success
- Special District Administrator Certification Exam
- NEW! SDLF Scramble for Scholarships Golf Tournament
- Monterey Regional Airport District Tour



July 18, 2017



### EDUCATION CALENDAR

**July 20**  
[Records Retention & Management in the Electronic Age](#)  
Webinar

**July 26**  
[SB96 Impact on Public Works Projects](#)  
Webinar

**July 27**  
[How to Communicate Effectively Using Online Tools](#)  
Webinar



All pre-conference activities require advanced registration and most require an additional fee. Visit the [conference website](#) to register and secure your spot today!

## New Webinars Added! Prevailing Wage and Customer Service

CSDA has added two new webinars to our sizzling summer line-up. The first, [SB96 Impact on Prevailing Wage](#), will highlight a new law signed June 27 which took effect immediately and will affect your contracting process. The second webinar, [Customer Service in the Public Sector](#), focuses on the most important thing in special districts - our customers! Great for employees that interact with the public every day.

## MEMBER SERVICES

### 2017 CSDA Award Nominations Due Friday!



Each year, CSDA presents various awards during the CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase. There are several different categories to enter your district, chapter, and/or an individual. **All nominations must be submitted by July 21, 2017.** [Read more...](#)

## DISTRICT PRESS

### Upcoming Public Engagement Workshop - August 29

Join the [Institute for Local Government](#) for a [public engagement workshop](#) on August 29 in Oroville, CA. In this one day workshop, local leaders from cities, counties and special districts will explore the new [TIERS Public Engagement Framework](#), a step-by-step guide to effectively engage residents. Attendees will gain new tools, tips and tricks to improve public engagement efforts; learn how to overcome barriers, challenging situations and political roadblocks and gain new facilitation skills with hands on exercises. [Register today!](#)

### City Partners with CSD to Promote Water Conservation

The city of Elk Grove, in partnership with the Cosumnes Community Services District (CSD), is doing its part to help the community learn efficient way of conserve water in efficient and unique ways via the Elk Grove Rain Garden Plaza. The rain garden was created in 2012 to promote watershed stewardship through passive learning and interactive educational components. CSD Parks and Recreation Chief of Planning, Design and Construction Paul Mewton recently took the Citizen on a tour of the beautifully designed rain garden to let us know how it educates and build community awareness to conserve water resources. [Read more...](#)



### NEW District of Distinction Reaccreditation

The [Chino Valley Independent Fire District](#) and [McKinleyville Community Services District](#) have been reaccredited as a District of Distinction through the [Special District Leadership Foundation](#) (SDLF). The District of Distinction accreditation is one of the most prestigious local government awards in



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### August 17

[Fraud Environment - Tips for Detection and Controls](#)  
Webinar

## EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

Listed below are the most recent positions posted to CSDA's [Career Center](#):

[Fall Internships | East Bay Regional Park District](#)

[District Manager | Tahoe Resource Conservation District](#)

[Design Technician I-II | Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District](#)

[Bookkeeper/ Accountant/ Administrative Assistant | Graton Community Services District](#)

[Park Supervisor | Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District](#)

To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).

the state of California. This award clearly validates the district's commitment to good governance and to ethical and sound operating practices.

Submit your application to become a District of Distinction by clicking [here](#) for the application. Or contact [Beth Hummel](#), program assistant, at (916) 231-2939.

[Facebook](#) and following [@specialdistrict](#) on Twitter!



**Open RFP's and RFQ's:**

RFP - Installation of a New San Lawrence Well Blending Line

RFP - Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA & ED) and Final Design Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS & E) Phase Services

RFP - Audit Services

**View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the [RFP Clearinghouse](#).**

For information on posting an RFP/RFQ or job opportunity, please call 877.924.2732.

**California Special Districts Association**

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Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889



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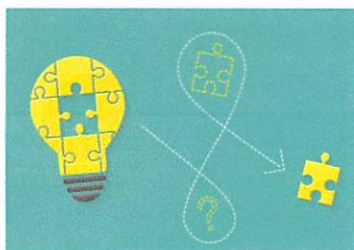
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## Hot off the Press: Special District Leaders Respond to Criticism in National Magazine

This month's edition of Public Management (PM) Magazine, a nationally distributed local government trade publication, includes an article written by California special district leaders on how special districts in our state are being open, accountable, and connected. The article, "[Why Special Districts Promote Good Governance](#)," outlines how a one-size-fits all approach does not provide viable solutions to our nation's vastly diverse communities and their unique challenges. [Read more...](#)

## Little Hoover Commission Releases Official Summary of June 22 Roundtable

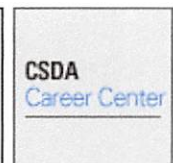
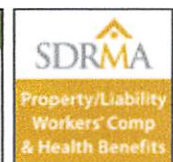
Last week, the Little Hoover Commission released an [official summary](#) of the June 22 Roundtable Discussion where CSDA and other state and local officials weighed in on the Commission's upcoming report on special districts. The final report is anticipated to be released later this summer and will not only include an in-depth analysis on special districts, but it will also feature recommendations for changes to the way special districts operate and are governed. [Read more...](#)

## CSDA Pushes for Common-Sense Changes to Potential New State Mandates Regulations

The [Commission on State Mandates](#) (Commission) is proposing [new regulations](#) which will create even more barriers for special districts and other local agencies seeking to obtain reimbursement for state mandated services. [Read more...](#)

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

August 1, 2017



### EDUCATION CALENDAR

August 9  
[HR Boot Camp for Special Districts](#)  
Vallejo

August 10  
[Financial Management for Special Districts](#)  
Vallejo

August 15  
[The Art of the Message](#)



## Not Too Late to Protect Your District from Fraud

Register now for the August 17 webinar: "Fraud Environment - Tips for Detection and Controls." Attendees will learn effective methods to detect and prevent fraud, as well as gain ideas on how to strengthen internal controls.

This webinar is free to SDRMA members, \$65 for CSDA members, and \$95 for non-members. [Click here](#) to download a registration form.



## No Bored Board Members at this Conference!

All directors and trustees are encouraged to check out the many beneficial breakout sessions featured at the [2017 CSDA Annual Conference](#). Gain experience and knowledge by attending sessions such as:

- Right this Way to a Better Board – Board Best Practices
- Better Boards Equal Better Districts
- Effectively Communicating Financials and Key Questions Board Members Should be Asking
- The Empty Chair – Handling Board Vacancies and Appointments
- Required trainings - Ethics AB1234 and Harassment Prevention AB 1661

[Register now](#) to secure your spot in these exclusive conference sessions.

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### MEMBER SERVICES

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## CalTRUST Completes Transition to New Service Providers



Earlier this year, CSDA's Endorsed Affiliate, [CalTRUST](#), issued RFPs for custody, investment management, and fund accounting services. Following an extensive review process, the CalTRUST Board of Trustees took action to select providers for each of the services that were put to bid. The Board selected U.S. Bank to provide custody services, BlackRock Financial Management to provide investment management services, and NorthStar

Financial Services Group, LLC/Gemini Fund Services to provide fund accounting and record keeping services. The transition to these new providers will be completed by August 1st. As part of the transition, a new website and logo will be launched as well.

CalTRUST continues to offer local agencies the same investment options, including Government Fund, Money Market Fund, and Short-Term and Medium-Term accounts. For information on available programs, call toll-free 833.CalTRUST (833.225.8787) or visit [CalTRUST.org](#).

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### DISTRICT PRESS

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## Water District Celebrates 100 Years

The [Palmdale Water District](#) is one year away from its 100th anniversary, and the celebration officially began last week with historical displays from 1918 placed at the district office and at the Palmdale City Library. It will be followed by an Open House for the community on August 5 from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the district office: 2029 E. Avenue Q, in Palmdale. There will be information booths, historical displays, equipment trucks, and refreshments. Other centennial celebration events include the

*Sacramento*

**August 16**  
[Understanding the Brown Act](#)  
*Bakersfield*

**August 16**  
[Governance Best Practices](#)  
*Quincy*

**August 17**  
[Fraud Environment - Tips for Detection and Controls Webinar](#)

**August 22**  
[Customer Service in the Public Sector Webinar](#)

**August 23**  
[Understanding the Brown Act Webinar](#)

**August 24**  
[Staying in Compliance: Understanding Special District Laws](#)  
*Port Hueneme*

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## EMPLOYMENT AND RFPS

*Listed below are the most recent positions posted to CSDA's [Career Center](#):*

[Accounting Clerk P/T I Malaga County Water District](#)

[Administrative Operations Manager - Special Services I Hesperia Recreation and Park District](#)

[Engineer I I Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District](#)

[Administrative Assistant I, II, or III I Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission](#)

[Transportation Engineer I Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission](#)

district's participation in the Antelope Valley Fair & Alfalfa Festival Parade on August 19 and starting in September, the district will also be giving monthly tours of Littlerock Dam and Reservoir ([tours@palmdalewater.org](mailto:tours@palmdalewater.org)). In July 2018, there will be a grand 100th anniversary celebration that will bring together all of the historical displays and documents showcased throughout the year.

## Participate in Bay Area District's Annual Fairs



The Livermore Area Recreation and Park District is underway planning the family-friendly annual events Children's Fair and Dogtoberfest – and there's still booth space left for those who want to get in on the fun. The ever-popular Children's Fair is set Saturday, September 9 at the Robert Livermore Community Center and features make-it-and-take-it craft booths, live performances, sports activities, bounce houses, and much more. Various vendor booth options are available. Returning for its third annual year is Dogtoberfest, slated for Sunday, October 15 at Robert Livermore Park. This event is for families and their furry friends to have a barking good time at this dog celebration festival. Attendees visit vendor booths, enjoy pet contests, and more. Vendor booth categories for Dogtoberfest are: dog rescue/adoption, dog nonprofit information, dog commercial vendor and dog commercial information booths. Potential vendors for Children's Fair or Dogtoberfest can find the booth reservation forms online at [www.larpd.org](http://www.larpd.org). For more information, contact Moe Kline at 925-373-5717 or [mkline@larpd.org](mailto:mkline@larpd.org).

*To view all job opportunities, please visit the [Career Center](#).*

### *Open RFPs and RFQs:*

RFP - Engineering and Planning Services

RFP - Installation of a New San Lawrence Well Blending Line

RFP - Project Approval and Environmental Document (PA & ED) and Final Design Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS & E) Phase Services

*View and download open RFPs and RFQs at the [RFP Clearinghouse](#).*

For information on posting an RFP/RFQ or job opportunity, please call 877.924.2732.

### Transparency Certificate of Excellence Approvals

Congratulations to the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District for their first time approval as a Transparency Certificate holder and to the Indian Wells Valley Water District



for successfully renewing their application for the Transparency Certificate of Excellence program through the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF). This program promotes transparency in the operations and governance of special districts and provides special districts with an opportunity to showcase their efforts in transparency. This is an SDLF sponsored program so it is free for districts to participate and receive recognition by completing the checklist of requirements.

If you have any questions on SDLF and its programs, please contact Beth Hummel, program assistant, at [bethh@sdlf.org](mailto:bethh@sdlf.org) or (916) 231-2939.

### Connect with CSDA on Facebook and Twitter!

Are you connecting on Facebook and Twitter? If so, connect with CSDA! Get important updates on legislative issues, professional development offerings, and member services by liking California Special Districts Association on Facebook and following @specialdistrict on Twitter!



## California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone - 877.924.2732 Fax - 916.442.7889



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# The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

## NACD READIES FOR SUMMER MEETING

NACD's 2017 Summer Conservation Forum and Tour kicks off this Saturday in Altoona, Iowa! This meeting – held in partnership with Iowa's Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioners' Annual Conference and Business Meeting – will offer networking events, engaging speakers, and interactive tours on water quality and soil health.



**Here are some details to help you plan ahead:**

- Before you arrive at the Des Moines International Airport, call the Prairie Meadows Hotel at 515-957-3000 to reserve your seat on the complimentary shuttle to Altoona.
- When you arrive at the meeting, make sure to pick up your name tag! The registration desk will be open starting on Saturday, July 15 at 4:00pm. You can register on-site and purchase tour tickets there, too.

**Welcome to the team,  
Carly!**



Carly Burton is the new part-time NCF-Envirothon program manager! A graduate of the University of Kentucky, Carly lives in a small farming community about 45 minutes outside of Lexington, Kentucky, where she raises beef cattle and hay. Prior to joining the NCF-Envirothon and NACD team, she worked as an environmental education coordinator and conservation technician for the Fayette County Conservation District for over 10 years and coached the Fayette County Envirothon team for the past 12 years.

Carly is looking forward to this new adventure with the NCF-



- The full and final meeting agenda is [available online!](#)

We'll see you in Altoona!

## NEW STATE-BY-STATE FORESTRY DIRECTORY TOOL RELEASED



The [Joint Forestry Team](#) (JFT) – made up of NACD, NRCS, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters – added a new tool to its website this summer. The site's [nationwide map](#) now offers a listing of relevant forestry leaders, PLUS links to existing state-level forestry memorandum of understanding (MOU), Forest Action Plans, and Wildlife Action Plans for every state.

The JFT's purpose is to make recommendations that result in coordinated interagency delivery of forestry and conservation assistance for working forests, farms, and ranches. To access JFT resources, including the team's archived webinars, [click here](#).

## NEW POSTS ARE ON NACD'S BLOG

*Does your district or state association have a story to tell? Have you considered telling it on NACD's blog? We publish posts by guest columnists regularly and would love to work with you! For more information, contact NACD Director of Communications [Whitney Forman-Cook](#).*

**[What's in a soil science certification?](#)** - One of the many ways the [Soil Science Society of America](#) is working with NACD to accelerate the adoption of improved agricultural production and natural resource stewardship practices has been through its [certification programs](#) for soil science professionals.

Envirothon and can't wait to get to know all the participants at the [National Envirothon competition](#) in just a couple of weeks! You can reach Carly by email at [carly-burton@nacdnet.org](mailto:carly-burton@nacdnet.org).

**Have an idea for a breakout session? Submit your proposal for NACD's 2018 Annual Meeting by September 1**

NACD is now accepting proposals for our 2018 Annual Meeting breakout sessions. Next year's meeting will be held in Nashville, Tennessee, January 27 – 31, 2018 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center.

January may seem like a long way off, but don't delay! NACD and our meeting attendees want to learn all about the innovative approaches and activities your district has to share. Breakout session proposals are due September 1. The application is [available here](#) and should be submitted to Eric Hansen at [eric-hansen@nacdnet.org](mailto:eric-hansen@nacdnet.org).

**Support NACD and our conservation district members by becoming a Friend**

NACD's newest Friend of NACD is Bart Lawrence, a regional forester with NRCS in Gresham, Oregon. Thanks, Bart! Friends of NACD are individuals committed to America's natural resource conservation. To become a Friend of NACD or honor someone with a memorial or honorarium membership, visit



**Leopold Award honors conservationists on working lands** - With more than 75 percent of land in the United States privately owned, it's important to recognize and celebrate the voluntary conservation achievements of working lands owners. The Leopold Conservation Awards Program was designed to do exactly that.

**Indiana conservation district plays part in alleviating food insecurity** - The Container Garden Project was born out of a desire "to provide a way for food pantry guests to easily grow and harvest fresh vegetables right outside their door," said Andrew Fritz, the urban agriculture conservationist for Hamilton County Soil and Water Conservation District in Indiana.



## LUCAS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, OHIO

Through a 2016 [NACD Urban Agriculture Conservation](#) (UAC) grant, the Lucas Soil and Water Conservation District (LSWCD) in Ohio launched the [Safer City Soils Project](#), a workshop series on lead contamination, soil sampling, soil health, and soil remediation in Toledo food deserts.



[NACD's website or click here.](#)

### Today is Amazon Prime Day!

Before you head to [Amazon.com](#) for some exclusive deals, make sure to link your Amazon account to NACD through [Amazon Smile](#).

Amazon Smile allows you to give back to NACD with every Amazon purchase you make at no cost to you! [Click here to make the connection.](#)

### While you're in the shopping mood...



Have you visited [NACD's Marketplace](#) lately? Through the marketplace, districts and state associations can order personalized plaques, service pins, name badges, educational materials, and wearables like polos, packs, and jackets. [Click here and stock up](#) - the customizable baseball hats (pictured) are a favorite in the field!

### Contact Us

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(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

Through its Safer City Soils workshops, the LSWCD teaches residents about local, state, and federal programs available to address food deserts and the many resources available to urban producers in the new USDA Urban Agricultural Toolkit. Five garden sites that were assessed for soil contamination early on the project are now used as case studies for the workshops, providing both hands-on training for the attendees and soils information to the landowner. In addition, field days have been held at participating community gardens to demonstrate soil sampling and conservation planning techniques.



The district is collaborating with Bowling Green State University to connect students to real-world work and research experiences through the Safer Soils Project. LSWCD is also partnering with Toledo GROWS and the Lucas County Extension to assist interested residents in developing baseline soils information for urban agricultural projects.

## NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- NACD Summer Conservation Forum and Tour - July 15 - 18, 2017
- NCF-Envirothon - July 23 - 29, 2017
- South Central Region Meeting - August 2 - 4, 2017
- Southeast Region Meeting - August 6 - 9, 2017
- Northeast Region Meeting - August 13 - 15, 2017
- Pacific-Southwest Region Meeting - September 11 - 14, 2017

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# The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

## NACD PUTS ON SUMMER CONSERVATION FORUM AND TOUR IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CDI



After three days of business meetings, keynote speakers (pictured above is Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds), expert presentations, and a great deal of networking, about 300 attendees of NACD's Summer Conservation Forum and Tour hit Iowa's streets (and highways) today to tour conservation systems at work.

## NACD went to Kentucky to talk wild horses last week

On July 7 and 8, NACD Government Affairs Associate Chris Heck gave two presentations on how wild horse and burro overpopulation in the West negatively affects rangeland health as part of the [Extreme Mustang Makeover in Lexington, Kentucky](#). As a result of the event, 51 wild horses and two burros were adopted.



The Extreme Mustang Makeover competition is hosted by the Mustang Heritage Foundation in six different states every year. At each event, horse trainers have 100 days to train a wild horse and later compete for cash and prizes. In Lexington, 38 trainers and horses competed (some of which are pictured below), and when the auction for adoption rights ended, the trainers and the Mustang Heritage Foundation split \$58,150 (the total auction value for the horses), minus a \$125 BLM adoption fee for each horse.

## BLM planning rule and





On the Soil Health Tour (pictured), attendees visited the Badger Creek Watershed project and learned how Madison Soil and Water Conservation District and its partners are controlling invasive species and sediment and nutrient loading into the Badger Creek Lake. They also toured urban conservation installations at a Polk Soil and Water Conservation District project in the Valley View Park, located in West Des Moines. At their final stop at Bruce Carney's family farm, NACD and CDI leaders were joined by Future Farmers of America's New Century Farmers conference attendees. Together, they heard from Practical Farmers of Iowa and Iowa NRCS about rotational grazing and cover crops in place at the Carney farm.



On the Water Quality Tour, Polk SWCD showed tourees how they are promoting urban water quality by using bioswales, native plantings, and rain gardens. At a farm owned and operated by the Iowa Chapter of the Land

## NEPA comment period opens

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is beginning to review its land use planning and NEPA process. In its initial review, the agency will set out to: (1) Reduce duplicative and disproportionate analyses; (2) Make land use planning more user-friendly; (3) Increase transparency in the NEPA process; (4) Build trust and promote greater integration between state and local governments, tribal partners, and other stakeholders; (5) Reduce litigation; and (6) More closely match the level of NEPA analysis to the scale of the action being analyzed.

Comments are due July 24 at this link: [goo.gl/CYxqM5](https://www.goo.gl/CYxqM5). As this is an informal comment process, the BLM will not be responding to comments in a similar way as to those submitted during an official public comment period.

## Submit your breakout sessions proposals for the 2018 annual meeting

Are you considering joining us in [Nashville](#)? Does your district or state association have a unique story or successful project it would like to share from a national platform? NACD is accepting breakout session proposals for the upcoming annual meeting until September 1. The application is [available here](#) and should be submitted to Eric Hansen at [eric-hansen@nacdnet.org](mailto:eric-hansen@nacdnet.org).

## Do you have a conservation hero?



Improvement Contractors of America, they heard how a deep water crep, saturated buffers, and bioreactors are being used to control nutrient runoff and protect the local watershed.



A big thank you goes out to the Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) for sharing their state and SWCD membership with NACD this week! This summer meeting could not have been as successful as it was without the generous support and partnership of CDI.

## INTERNATIONAL NCF- ENVIROTHON COMPETITION KICKS OFF NEXT WEEK!

Students from across the United States, Canada, and China will be coming together on Mount St. Mary University's campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland, for the international NCF-Envirothon competition starting Sunday, July 23.

The first day of the event will include opening ceremonies and the ever-popular trading session. In addition to the training day, and the actual competition, the whole NCF-Envirothon delegation will take a day trip to Washington, D.C., and enjoy an awards ceremony on Friday, July 28 when the 2017 NCF-Envirothon national champions will be crowned.

Throughout the week, stay up-to-date on that is happening in Maryland by following the NCF-Envirothon Facebook page (NAEnvirothon), Twitter account (@NCFEnvirothon), Instagram page (ncf\_envirothon), and Snapchat account (ncf\_envirothon). We look forward

NACD created the [Hall of Distinction](#) to recognize and honor our organization's current and past leaders. District officials - past and present - featured in NACD's Hall of Distinction have made major contributions to our nation's Conservation Movement.

To nominate your conservation hero for this honor, contact your state association or territory. In making their inductions, states and territories are asked to send some information ([requirements are available here](#)) to NACD via [this online form](#).

## Save the date: New Partners for Smart Growth conference

Each year, the New Partners for Smart Growth conference unites locally-elected officials from across the country who are committed to improving their communities. In 2018, the conference will be held in San Francisco, California, from February 1 – 3, where leaders from a variety of specialties will have the opportunity to network and engage in critical discussions. Be on the lookout for more information; registration opens in October.

## Nominate your leaders in conservation

It's awards season, and there are numerous opportunities for you to honor your mentors and peers. NACD's annual awards – the Friend of Conservation award and the Distinguished Service award – are still open for nomination, but



to seeing everyone in Emmitsburg, Maryland, soon!

## FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS UPDATE FROM NACD

Last week, the full House Appropriations Committee passed their USDA funding bill for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018, which can now be sent to the full House for consideration. The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and the Environment also passed their funding bill out of subcommittee last week, which provides \$170.9 million for EPA's Section 319 grant program. Earlier today, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture passed its FY 2018 spending bill for USDA.

Both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees appear to be moving in the right direction on the funding levels important to conservation districts. The House provided approximately \$859 million for Conservation Operations, \$760 million of which will go to Conservation Technical Assistance. Most importantly, the House bill does not reduce mandatory farm bill conservation programs as has happened in the past.

The Senate subcommittee's ag appropriations bill includes \$874 million for Conservation Operations account, almost \$10 million more than Congress passed for FY 2017 and \$108 million more than President Trump's request. Additionally, the Senate provided \$150 million for the Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations program, the same level provided in FY 2017. However, NACD is disappointed by the Senate subcommittee's decision to reduce mandatory funding for EQIP and encourages the full Senate Appropriations Committee to reverse this choice.

## THE MARKETPLACE NOW OFFERS CUSTOMIZATION WITH NACD'S NEW LOGO

[NACD's Marketplace](#) now gives customers the option of customizing their purchases – including wearables! – with NACD's new blue and white logo. Districts, state associations, and affiliated partners have a wide selection

the deadline is August 31. [Click here](#) for more information and for nomination forms.

NACD and the Pollinator Partnership are currently accepting nominations for the 2017 Farmer Rancher Pollinator Conservation Award, which recognizes farmers and ranchers who protect and support pollinators through their operations. [Click here](#) to access the nomination form; nominations are due August 11.

Field to Market is seeking nominations for the Farmer of the Year award and Collaboration of the Year award. You can read more about the awards and submit nominations through [Field to Market's Member Portal](#) – nominations are due August 31.

## Contact Us

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(202) 547 6223

[email us](#)

## NACD Events Calendar

For additional details regarding meetings listed below, [click here](#).

- NCF-Envirothon - July 23 - 29, 2017
- South Central Region Meeting - August 2 - 4, 2017
- Southeast Region Meeting - August 6 - 9, 2017
- Northeast Region Meeting - August 13 - 15, 2017
- Pacific-Southwest Region

of gifts, educational materials, signs, pins, and wearables to choose from in the Marketplace. Have you taken a look at our expanded selection lately?

Meeting - September 11 - 14,  
2017

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We also posted a new step-by-step printing guide on the blog for those of you who would like to download and print NACD's free stewardship and education booklets from the Marketplace. [Click here to access those instructions](#), which were graciously provided to NACD by the Dewey County Conservation District in Oklahoma.

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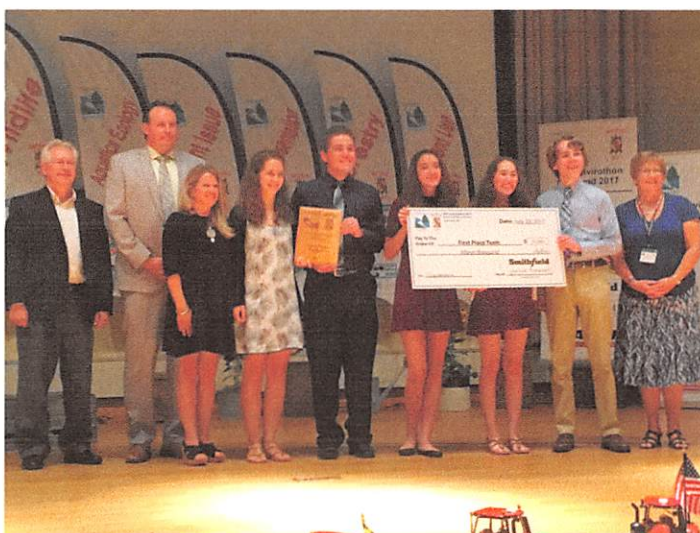
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## The NACD eResource

Weekly news briefs from the National Association of Conservation Districts

### PENNSYLVANIA'S ENVIROTHON TEAM EARNS TOP HONORS



54 student teams representing 45 states, seven Canadian provinces, and two Chinese provinces put their skills to the test last week at the NCF-Envirothon, the world's largest high school-level natural resources education competition. The 2017 winning team hails from Penncrest High School located in Media, Pennsylvania. The second-place team came from The Mount Academy in Esopus, New York, and the third-place team came from Hot Springs High School in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico.

For a list of the top ten teams, head to [NACD's Newsroom](#) for the [latest press release on NCF-Envirothon](#). For a [recap of the week-long event](#), click

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**Honor your conservation  
leaders today!**

Looking to recognize your conservation leaders for their service? Visit [NACD's Marketplace](#) to order custom, engravable plaques, ribbons, medallions, and trophies!



NACD's annual awards program nomination period is open through the end of the month. [Visit this webpage](#) to submit a name.

**New stories are on NACD's  
blog**



here to go to [NACD's blog](#). And if you'd like to browse photos of this year's international competition – hosted at the Mount Saint Mary's University campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland – check out [NACD's Flickr](#).

## **NACD, SOIL HEALTH CHAMPION DAN DIAZ LIVE FROM WISCONSIN**



[Soil Health Champion Dan Diaz](#) (pictured) from Lena, Illinois, gave a presentation yesterday at the Soil and Water Conservation Society's 72nd Annual Conference in Madison, Wisconsin, on how he has utilized the NRCS Resource Stewardship Evaluation Tool (RSET) on his farm to benchmark his progress in reaching his stewardship goals in the areas of water quality and quantity, soil management, nutrient management, and habitat health. Overall, he said, RSET gives landowners a point of reference to judge how well their management systems are working to benefit their operations and the land.

### **County-level conservation department, tribe in Wisconsin partner to expand access and delivery on Indian lands** –

The Oneida Tribe has recently established a cooperative agreement with the Outagamie County Land Conservation Department to launch a new adaptive-management pilot project to implement conservation practices on tribal lands within the Lower Fox River Watershed.

### **Revitalizing an Alabama neighborhood through urban agriculture** –

In the southwestern part of Birmingham, Alabama, lies a seasonal high tunnel overflowing with fresh vegetables. Located in the neighborhood of Hillman, the high tunnel sits almost like a landmark in this small, tight-knit community.

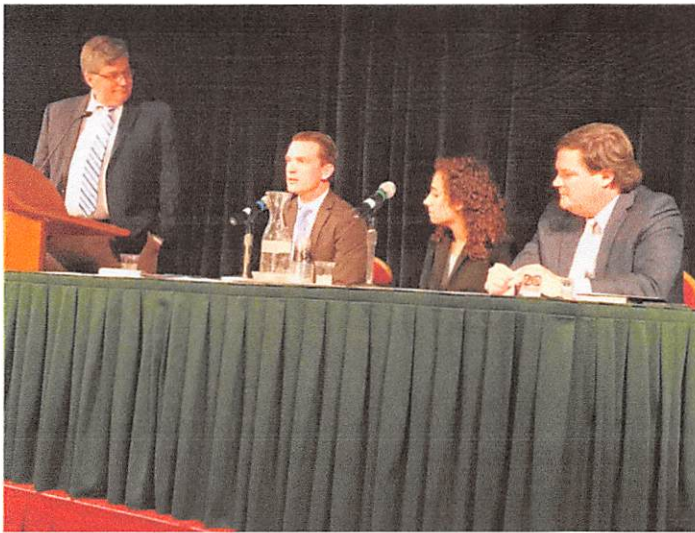
### **New peer-to-peer web conference series to help reinvigorate conservation planning** –

The National Conservation Planning Partnership is excited to introduce a new peer-to-peer web conference series to support conservation planning staff and partners.

### **Minority Landowner Magazine to hold national conference in September**

Minority Landowner Magazine will be holding a national conference September 21–23, 2017 in Greensboro, North Carolina, for resource professionals and landowners to network and learn. There is a





NACD CEO Jeremy Peters addressed the conference's general session attendees today on the upcoming farm bill. In his talk, Peters expressed a need for public and private sector support for the voluntary conservation delivery system in the United States, as well as strong funding for programs and districts that provide conservation technical assistance work to millions of Americans every year.

## UPCOMING NACD WEBINAR WILL EXPLORE DISTRICT-LED HOME GARDENING PROGRAMS

The next NACD Urban and Community Conservation webinar – sponsored by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and scheduled for noon–1:00pm Eastern on August 17 – will showcase the efforts of two conservation districts to promote home gardening with native species.

The Ocean County Soil Conservation District in New Jersey, through funding from the Barnegat Bay Partnership, has spearheaded numerous projects involving the installation of native plant gardens throughout the county using the Jersey-Friendly Yards website as a resource. With help from a collaborative effort led by the West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District in Oregon, landowners are planting native grasses and wildflowers well suited to the Willamette Valley as lawn alternatives.

To join the conversation, make sure to register (for free!) by emailing Deb Bogar at

discounted registration rate for farmers and landowners; [click here for details](#). A “sights and sounds” video on the magazine's last conference in Grapevine, Texas, is [available here on YouTube](#).

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### Farmer Rancher Pollinator Conservation Award nominations due by August

31

The Pollinator Partnership's agricultural pollinator conservation award recognizes the unique contributions that members of the agricultural community make to pollinators where they are needed most – supporting our food supply. To learn more about this award and to access nomination forms, [click here](#).



In 2016, the honor went to Sran Family Orchards in Kerman, California – the largest grower of organic almonds in the country and a leader in sustainability and bee friendly farming practices. Jason Hickman (pictured), grower relations at Sran Family Orchards, accepted the award on behalf of farm owner Lakhy Sran.

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### Breakout session deadline approaching

Are you considering joining



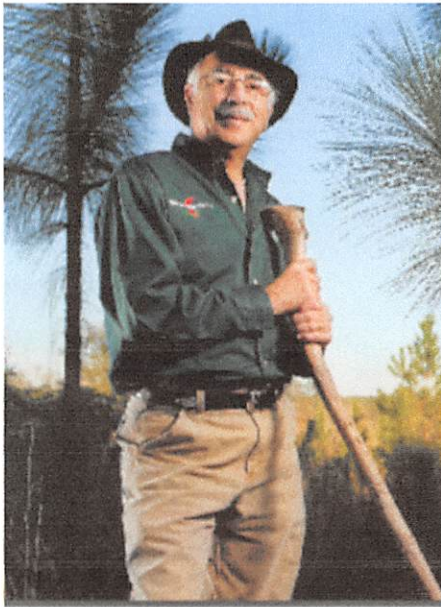
[deb-bogar@nacdn.net](mailto:deb-bogar@nacdn.net) with your name, title, district or business name, and state.



## CHAMPION OF THE MONTH

### DR. SALEM SALOOM OF CONECUH COUNTY, ALABAMA

Salem Saloom manages Saloom Properties, a family tree farm, with his wife Dianne and son Patrick in southern Alabama.



In the early 1980s, Dr. Saloom, a retired surgeon, began purchasing land in Conecuh County. Today, after nine land purchases, Saloom Properties has grown to 2,200 acres of forested land, including slash pine, loblolly,

and longleaf pine, which was almost completely wiped out over a century ago due to over harvesting. The farm's 1,000 acres of longleaf pine stands are currently managed for air, water, and soil quality with a focus on reducing soil erosion and enhancing wildlife habitat.

Field tours, workshops, and youth programs conducted by Dr. Saloom are part of his advocacy efforts, highlighting the many conservation practices implemented and the impact they have on the environment.

To read more about Dr. Saloom, be sure to visit his [Soil Health Champion profile](#) at the NACD website. If you or someone you know is interested in soil health and would like to become a member of this growing, progressive network, please contact NACD North Central Region Representative Beth

us in [Nashville](#)? Does your district or state association have a unique story or successful project it would like to share from a national platform? NACD is accepting breakout session proposals for the upcoming annual meeting until September 1. The application is [available here](#) and should be submitted to Eric Hansen at [eric-hansen@nacdn.net](mailto:eric-hansen@nacdn.net).

#### Welcome to our new Friends of NACD!

Dennis Testerman from Concord, North Carolina; Tim Riley from Dover, Delaware; and Earl Norton from Auburn, Alabama recently joined the ranks as Friends of NACD! Interested in becoming a member? [Click here](#) to find out more information. Thanks Tim, Dennis, and Earl!

#### Contact Us

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- Northeast Region Meeting - August 13 - 15, 2017



Mason at [beth-mason@nacdn.net](mailto:beth-mason@nacdn.net) or 317-946-4463 for more information.

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- Pacific-Southwest Region Meeting - September 11 - 14, 2017
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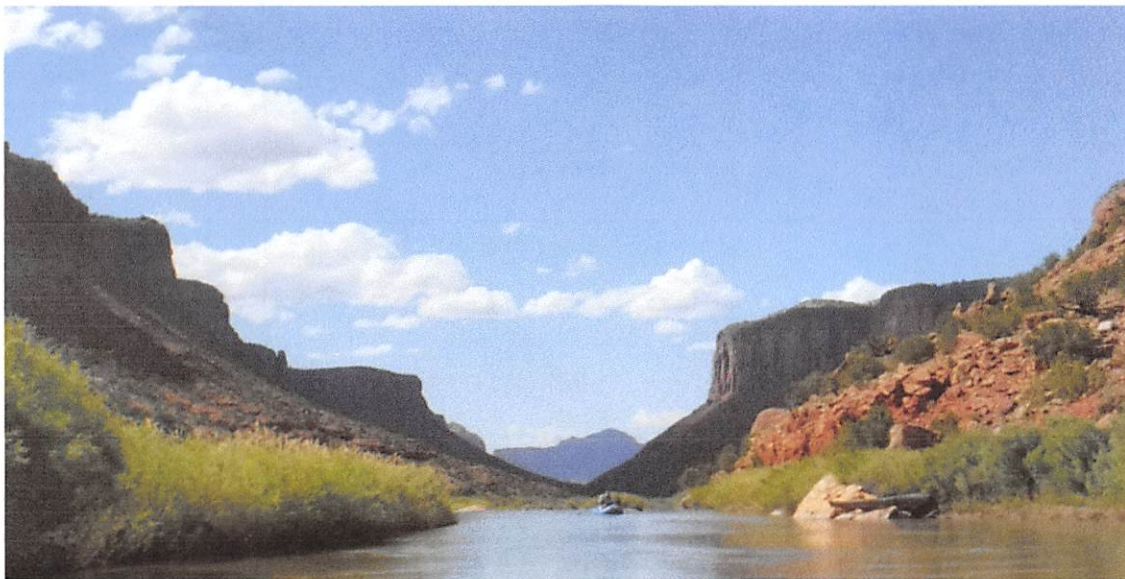


Monthly News from River Network – August 2017

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#### UPDATES ON OUR WORK



Taking advantage of rare boatable flows on the Dolores River in southwest Colorado in Spring 2017 © Nicole Seltzer

**New Project Supports Stream  
Management Planning in Colorado**

**LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES**



River Network, with support from the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the Gates Family Foundation and the Nature Conservancy, is leading a two-year project to expand the number of local coalitions in Colorado that are interested, ready and capable of undertaking Stream Management Plans under the state's water plan.

The Colorado Water Plan, adopted in 2016, sets forth a water management roadmap to address projected water supply shortfalls and balance the goals of achieving a productive economy, vibrant and sustainable cities, productive agriculture, a strong environment, and a robust recreation industry. Specific to protecting and enhancing stream flows, the plan calls for 80 percent of locally prioritized rivers to be covered by Stream Management Plans by 2030.

Precipitation in Colorado is expected to shrink due to climate change, while the state's population is projected to double by 2060.

Tourism, including rafting and fishing, is a major economic driver in large swaths of the state. But while many communities have an economic interest in maintaining healthy rivers few have developed strategies to comprehensively protect streamflows.

Bringing local stakeholders together to reach agreement on stream management plans will be challenging. But more communities are ready to take action. We are ready to help.

[Learn more >](#)

Aug. 17, 2017 (1-2:30pm EST) - Webinar with Resource Media: Using Communications to Put a Face on the Federal Budget Cuts. [Register here >](#)

Aug. 23, 2017 (3-4pm EST) - EPA Webinar: National Stormwater Calculator. [Register here >](#)

Sept. 13, 2017 (2-3:30pm EST) - Webinar: Net Blue. Can communities grow without consuming more water? Join us for a webinar to learn how the Net Blue approach works and how it could be applied in your community. [Learn more >](#)

Sept. 26, 2017 (1-2pm EST) - Webinar: Anti-Littering: Social Marketing for Behavior Change. [Register here >](#)

Did you miss our 2-part webinar series on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion? [Watch the recordings >](#)

River Rally 2018 Call for Workshop Proposals - Propose a 90-minute or 25-minute workshop. Submission Deadline: October 1, 2017. [Learn more >](#)

River Rally 2017 Plenary Videos! Watch (and share) the incredible plenaries from River Rally 2017 on YouTube.

- [Affordability, Equity, and Drinking Water](#)
- [Rethinking Our Relationship to Urban Rivers](#)
- [Lessons from Standing Rock and Beyond](#)



**August 21, 2017 - Share your #WatersInTheDarkness.** Will you be in the path of the upcoming solar eclipse? Share this once-in-a-lifetime experience with your fellow river and water champions. Take a photo of your favorite body of water during the eclipse, and post it on our [#WatersInTheDarkness story map >](#)

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Members of the Urban Flooding & Equity for Vulnerable Communities Collaborative met in Atlanta.

Earlier this year, River Network launched the Urban Flooding & Equity for Vulnerable Communities Collaborative



to help catalyze the level of civic engagement needed to address the type of localized urban flooding we expect will increase as a result of climate change. In June, representatives of seven organizations working in Atlanta, Albuquerque, Denver, Providence (RI) and Washington County (OR) met in Atlanta to discuss ways to deepen their community engagement efforts and establish stronger working relations with utilities and decision-makers in the water sector. This project is funded by The Kresge Foundation.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Sign the letter urging EPA to**

**#ProtectCleanWater** - The Clean Water For All national campaign has extended the deadline to [sign on to this letter](#) that will be sent to EPA Administrator Pruitt. The new deadline is **August 9**.

### **Comment on the Clean Water Rule**

**Repeal** - The comment period for "reviewing and rescinding or revising the Clean Water Rule" is finally open. The deadline is **August 28**. We encourage you to submit comments through [this online forum](#).

**THANKS to all who donated to River Network's match campaign**, we met our goal of \$20,000 to help river and water champions!

### **Finalists Announced for 2017 Thiess**

**International Riverprize** - The four finalists include the Nushagak and Kvichak Rivers (Alaska), and the San Antonio River (Texas). [Read more >](#)

### **Climate Change Caused 'River Piracy' -**

Scientists documented how a melting glacier in Canada's Yukon has caused a river to completely change course in one season. [Read more >](#)

### **Sustainability Goes Mainstream -**

Anheuser-Busch is among the corporations investing more in conservation, including water-focused work around World Environment Day.

[Read more >](#)

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## MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS

*River Network provides our Members with the tools, resources, and connections they need to be effective stewards of our rivers and water resources. Here's one of the ways you can benefit from becoming an organizational, professional or student member:*

### Discounts on Equipment and Outside Services

- 25% – 60% off outdoor equipment and apparel through [expertcity.com](http://expertcity.com)
- 20% off water quality monitoring products from Global Water Instrumentation, Inc
- 57% off subscription to Orion Magazine
- 25% off subscription to the Grassroots Fundraising Journal

For the full list of discounts and other member benefits, [click here](#).

Not a current River Network Member? Renew or join today! >>>

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### RIVER NETWORK MEMBER OF THE MONTH



CFWE's programs, like their Rain Barrel Workshop, connect Coloradans to their water so they can make informed water resource decisions. © CFWE

**Colorado Foundation for Water  
Education (CFWE)**

**WHY THEY'RE MEMBERS:**



For the past 15 years, the Colorado Foundation for Water Education has played a critical role in increasing awareness of our water supplies and their inherent challenges, while providing comprehensive education and professional development programs to help people understand water's complexities and trade-offs so they can make informed decisions. CFWE promotes better understanding of Colorado's water resources and issues by providing balanced and accurate information and education that incorporates diverse perspectives.

"CFWE's [membership] allowed us to host a workshop for Denver residents and their families to learn about Colorado water law and build their very own rain barrels. This partnership helped CFWE achieve our mission of connecting Coloradans to their water and increasing their understanding of water's complexities so they can make informed decisions."

- Jennie Guerts, Director of Operations



#### MORE FROM RIVER NETWORK

Upcoming [Community Events](#)

[River Voices](#)

Best practices and impact stories for [Clean Water](#), [Ample Water](#), and [Strong Champions](#)

[Our Blog](#)

[Career Opportunities](#)



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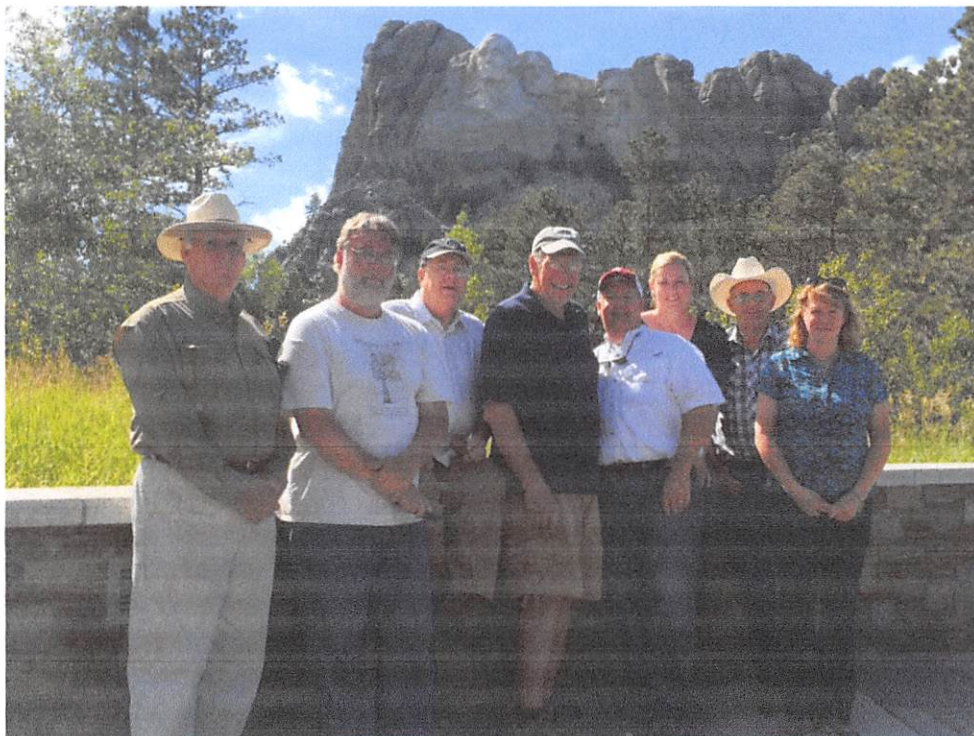
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From NACD Forestry Notes <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>  
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# FORESTRY NOTES



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**The NACD Forestry RPG explores Deadwood**

The NACD Forestry Resource Policy Group (RPG) met in Deadwood, South Dakota, in conjunction with the National

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## Forestry News

Safeguarding sustainability through forest certification mapping [\[link\]](#)

Researchers receive USDA grant to study new riparian buffer strategy [\[link\]](#)

China spent \$100 billion on reforestation. So why does it have 'green deserts'? [\[link\]](#)

You've probably never heard of the deadliest wildfire in US history [\[link\]](#)

## Calendar

August 6-9



## Association of State Foresters' (NASF) Forest Resources Management Committee.

The Forestry RPG heard from a variety of presenters during the three-day meeting, including:

- Assistant State Conservationist for Technology Kory Bossert discussed how South Dakota NRCS has coordinated outreach with private landowners to educate them about beetle outbreaks. Convincing landowners to cut their trees can be a challenge. "Forest management isn't so much about the forest itself," he said, "it's about convincing people what the forest should look like."
- Tami Moore and Tina DeHaii of the South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts gave a joint presentation on forestry outreach efforts in the state. The state association has helped plant more than 350,000 acres of trees since records first began in 1944, mostly windbreaks. The installations are more diverse today than ever before, protecting structures, wildlife habitat, and enhancing countryside aesthetics. Soil types help to determine each windbreak design. Districts in South Dakota also help install fabric around streambank plantings. It's an income generator and creates a moisture barrier for maximum growth. Moore and DeHaii showed a video of a brush management vehicle local conservation districts use to help landowners manage brush and invasives efficiently.
- Sarah Anderson, program manager for Wyoming's Crook County Natural Resource District, shared how districts in her state work with partners to combat mountain pine beetle and establish a more resilient forest. Wyoming and South Dakota work across state boundaries through the Mountain Pine Beetle Working Group in the Black Hills Region, where Ponderosa Pine has been a perfect host for the pests. According to Anderson, resource managers in the area have experienced better success 'baking' beetles than the more commonly accepted practice of relying on cold weather. "Bringing all of the partners together was not easy," she said, "and conservation districts helped to make those connections and break down the red tape."

Partners from the U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, National Agroforestry Center, American Forest Foundation, and National Wild Turkey Federation also provided organization updates during the meeting.

During the field tour, attendees visited a number of sites that showcased ways in which conservation districts in South Dakota and Wyoming are working with state forestry agencies to address forest resource concerns.

The Forestry RPG held its annual business meeting on the final day of the conference. The group reviewed progress from its strategic plan and its nationwide conservation district forestry network.

## NACD Southeast Region Meeting

Greenville, South Carolina

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August 13-15

## NACD Northeast Region Meeting

Burlington, Vermont

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September 11-14

## NACD Southwest and Pacific Region Meeting

Tucson, Arizona

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September 18-21

## NASF Annual Meeting

Charleston, West Virginia

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November 15-16

## Partners in Community Forestry Conference

Tulsa, Oklahoma

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November 15-19

## SAF Annual Convention

Albuquerque, New Mexico

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January 27-31

## 2018 NACD Annual Meeting

Nashville, Tennessee

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February 14-18

## National Wild Turkey Federation Convention and Sport Show

Nashville, Tennessee

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Send news items by the 15th day of the preceding month to: Managing Editor at [mike-beacom@nacdnet.org](mailto:mike-beacom@nacdnet.org)

NACD Address:  
509 Capitol Court, NE

"It's always great to see conservation district forestry in action in some part of the country," Forestry RPG Chairman Steve Hedstrom said. "And we appreciated the opportunity to meet jointly with our state forestry friends and shared partners. It brought many perspectives to this meeting."

Washington, D.C.  
20002  
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email us

#### NACD supports Farm Bill Coalition recommendations



The Forests in the Farm Bill Coalition (FIFB) released its 2018 Farm Bill recommendations in mid-July. The National Association of Conservation Districts has been an active participant in the creation of the recommendations, serving on two of the coalition's working groups to ensure that NACD's policies and principles were included.

"The public expects clean air and water, healthy soils, and abundant wildlife habitat and our nation's forest lands certainly provide opportunities to achieve these expectations," NACD President Brent Van Dyke said. "The farm bill is one of the most important pieces of legislation Congress works on to address our nation's forest lands and landowner needs. Locally-led, voluntary incentive-based conservation works."

The coalition welcomed input from a diverse group of forestry stakeholders in the consensus building process, and NACD is pleased with the recommendations brought forth through this collaborative process.

"These recommendations show the importance of and need for strong forestry programs. This consensus effort highlights the fact that despite differing and diverse perspectives, there are still numerous areas in which the forestry community can come together to provide Congress with a series of policy improvements," NACD CEO Jeremy Peters said.

As Congress continues to work on drafting the next farm bill, NACD will continue to work tirelessly to educate lawmakers on Capitol Hill about the critical importance of locally-led conservation.

[Click here](#) to view the full recommendations.

A joint project of NACD, U.S. Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters for the purpose of keeping America's conservation districts informed. Our services and programs are provided without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap or religious affiliation. This publication is funded in whole or in part through a grant awarded by the U.S. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry.

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#### Agroforestry conference attracts attendees from a dozen countries

More than 160 agroforestry researchers, technical assistance providers, students, and practitioners shared their research, experience, and insights in June at the 15th annual North American Agroforestry Conference, held in Blacksburg, Virginia.



The four-day conference was organized by the Association for Temperate Agroforestry.

The conference hosted more than 100 presentations and 40 poster presentations, and attracted attendees from the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and nine other countries. Attendees visited Virginia Tech agroforestry research and demonstration sites and nearby farms that practice agroforestry.

The conference keynote speakers were Eric Toensmeier, author of *The Carbon Farming Solution*, and Victor Harris, editor of *Minority Landowner Magazine*. In addition, the conference included a policy forum titled “Advancing Agroforestry Policy: Lessons from North America and Europe.” Panelists included National Agroforestry Center Director Susan Stein, Henry de Gooijer of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ana Isabel Moreno Calles of National Autonomous University of Mexico, and Maria Rosa Mosquera Losada of the European Agroforestry Federation.

Said Stein, “The North American Agroforestry Conference once again provided a unique forum for galvanizing partnerships, research, and technology transfer to advance agroforestry across a broad spectrum of disciplines, management goals, and geographies.”

More information about the conference can be found on the [\*Association of Temperate Agroforestry website\*](#).

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#### Forestry Briefs

### Iowa - CDI recognizes windbreaks at annual meeting

Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI) held its 2017 annual meeting in July in conjunction with NACD’s Conservation Forum and Tour. During its annual banquet, CDI recognized several landowners for their use of windbreaks. David and Kathi Goeman of Wright County use a variety of species in their nine-row windbreak to attract wildlife and protect against disease outbreaks. The Goemans rely on sawdust as mulch to maintain soil moisture as an alternative to heavy watering. James and Jean Eischeid also use a variety of tree species and have used tree protectors for their seven-row windbreak in Carroll County. The Drapers in Grundy County were recognized for the shelterbelt that surrounds three sides of the family’s farm. CDI has been recognizing windbreak award winners since 1977.

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### Montana - District explores proposal to manage federal lands

The Lake County Conservation District is collecting comments on its proposal to give local control for the management of federal lands. The proposal calls for allowing the conservation district to contract with the state to manage Flathead Forest lands adjacent to the 56,000-acre Swan State Forest. The revenues raised through logging those lands would be

reinvested in fuel reduction projects in the area on both private and public lands.

District Chairman Jim Simpson said he plans to make a decision in September or October on whether to move forward with the proposal after reviewing all of the comments. Many of the comments he has received thus far have come from outside the area, he said. [Click here](#) to read more.

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## Maine - Districts sponsor forest stewardship tours

The Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District and Maine Forest Service are co-sponsoring a series of short field tours to highlight forest stewardship and conservation practices of private landowners. The free tours are open to landowners, foresters, loggers, and others interested in the stewardship of small woodlands. Dates for the first three tours have been set for July, August, and September. Read the full article [here](#).

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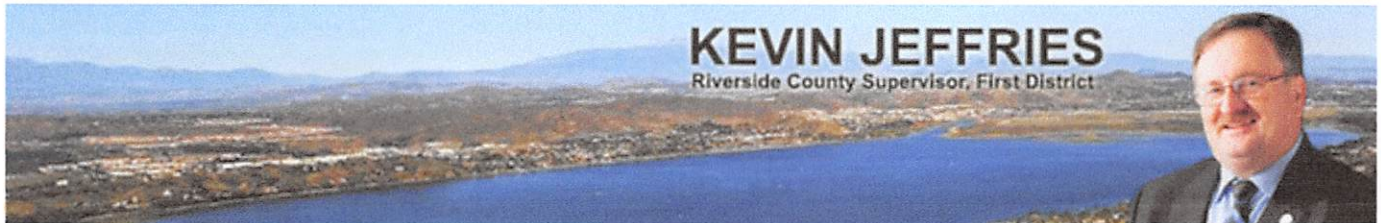
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August 2, 2017

We hope you enjoy the August Jeffries Journal E-Newsletter, featuring Kevin's Corner, Supervisor Success Stories, Board and Commissions Spotlight, our Non-Profit Spotlight and upcoming events in our District.

Pasted immediately below is this issues Kevin's Corner, but the whole newsletter is attached or available at this link:

[http://supervisorjeffries.com/opencms/galleries/PressNews/2017newsletters/Aug\\_2017\\_newsletter.pdf](http://supervisorjeffries.com/opencms/galleries/PressNews/2017newsletters/Aug_2017_newsletter.pdf)

### Kevin's Corner

The Budget Blues. Well the 2017/2018 County Budget is pretty much done. And the big winner is.... the multi-national consulting firm who will reap an additional \$20 million over the next two years! This extension comes on the heels of having already been paid \$20 million for previous work. When you have a total budget that is roughly \$5.5 billion, \$40 million may not seem like such a big amount, until you start to unravel the big financial challenges that our county faces.

If you are a city resident, you might ask, why do I care—aren't county problems the county's problem? For the roughly 2 million residents who live within city boundaries, you may not immediately feel the cuts, but rest assured you will be impacted. The county budget funds the District Attorney's office (criminal prosecutions), the Public Defender (defends the accused), Probation Department (monitors those convicted), Jails (including the new one we need money to open, to expand our ability to keep the bad guys off the streets), County Health (hospital & clinics) services, Child Protective Services, Adult protective Services, Veterans Services, Mental Health, Registrar of Voters, and a host of other services that both city and unincorporated residents rely upon.

For the 375,000 (+/-) unincorporated (non-city) residents, the situation is definitely worse, and the budget struggles can have a significant impact on your day-to-day services, such as Fire, Sheriff, Code Enforcement, Animal Services and Transportation (roads).

I will be the first to admit that bringing in an independent set of eyes to examine how the county (or any government agency) conducts its business can be a benefit to taxpayers who pay for the services, as well as those who rely on those services. When you have 20,000 employees, a \$5.5 Billion budget, and you are a government monopoly, it would not be a stretch to say that you could easily find many areas to improve efficiencies.

Given the nature of Government (and many large corporations) to become huge bureaucracies resistant to change, I think you could say that an occasional shake-up is not such a bad idea. However, I would argue that those independent eyes should come in, investigate, evaluate, and make their recommendations to the governing Board, and then step back. In this case, the (elected) Board of Supervisors should then decide (during public meetings) which recommendations should move forward, and then require the executive management team and department heads to carry out the reforms. If the executive management team and/or department heads refuse to make the changes, then the elected Board has to decide if they have the right management team members on the public payroll.

Cutting services to the taxpaying public so that you can continually employ consultants simply becomes an expensive crutch to lean on for leadership advice.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jeffries

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