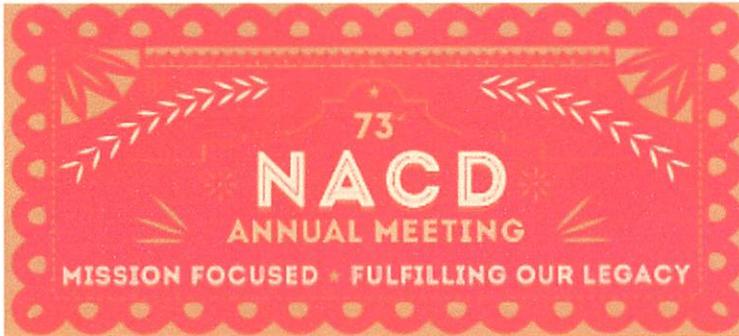
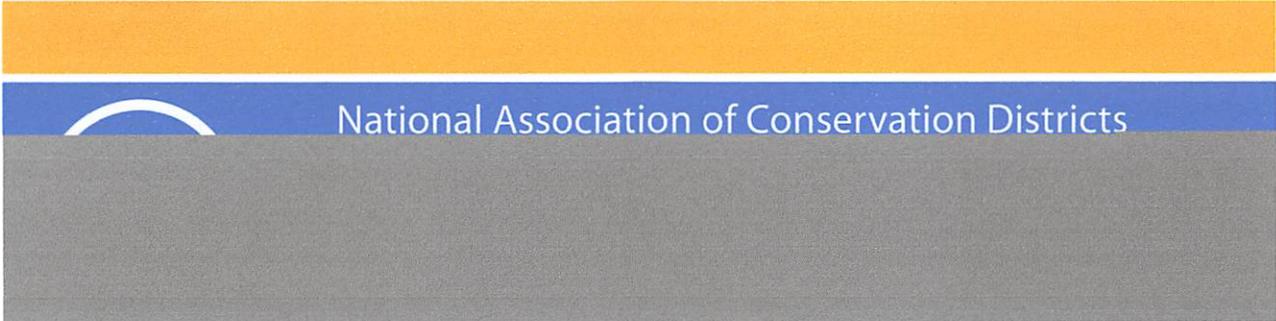


Subject **eResource – This Week's NACD News Briefs**  
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>  
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>  
Date Temecula–Elsinore– Anza–Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrcd.org>  
2019-01-08 14:15



## ANNUAL MEETING DEADLINES APPROACH

Friday, Jan. 11, is the [last day to register online](#) for NACD's 2019 Annual Meeting. Haven't registered yet? Take advantage of online discounts to [save an additional \\$15](#) before prices go up on Jan. 12.

In addition to a [speaker line-up packed with conservation leaders](#) from across the nation, NACD is pleased to announce **Jomo & The Possum Posse** will be performing after Tuesday's Appreciation Banquet. Best known for the wildly popular viral video series, [Guy On A Buffalo](#), Jomo & The Possum Posse have made a name for themselves with their unique blend of cynicism, dead-eyed soul and anti-machismo honky-tonk.

Jan. 8, 2019

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### NACD Welcomes Pacific Region Representative



On Monday, Jan. 7, Ariel Rivers joined NACD as the Pacific Region Representative. Prior to NACD, Rivers supported



Make sure to reserve your room at the Marriott Rivercenter, steps away from San Antonio's world-famous River Walk. All reservations must be completed by **this Friday, Jan. 11, 2019.**

*Hotel Overflow Information:* At the moment, the Marriott Rivercenter is sold out for the night of Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019. NACD is working on adding additional rooms but has also secured a room block at the [La Quinta Inn and Suites San Antonio Riverwalk](#) for 2019 Annual Meeting attendees. The La Quinta is a two-minute walk from the Marriott Rivercenter and features complimentary wifi and a daily hot breakfast. The room rate is \$199 per night plus tax. **To reserve a room, please call 210-222-9181 and say you're with the "NACD 2019 Attendee Block."** All reservations must be received on or before **Monday, Jan. 14, 2019.** Additional information is available on [NACD's 2019 Annual Meeting Lodging and Transportation webpage.](#)

## **NACD GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TEAM BREAKS DOWN THE 2018 FARM BILL**

Now that President Donald Trump has signed the 2018 Farm Bill into law, NACD's Government Affairs Team will be releasing a series of blog posts to break down the bill in more detail with the expected changes folks can expect on the ground as the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) works to implement the new law.

research and extension related to insect pest management in organic and subsistence farming systems and served as a soil conservationist with NRCS in Hanford, Calif.

Rivers grew up on a small cattle ranch in the San Francisco Bay Area and worked in Arizona, Mexico, Pennsylvania, Washington and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Rivers holds a bachelor's in soil and water science, a master's in environmental studies and a doctorate in entomology and international agriculture and development. Welcome Ariel to the team at [ariel-rivers@nacdnet.org](mailto:ariel-rivers@nacdnet.org).

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### **Federal Government Shutdown**

While the federal government continues to be partially shut down due to a lapse in funding, most Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) functions are continuing to operate due to prior appropriated funds. NACD is thankful NRCS is able to continue operating normally, which means many districts won't be affected.



However, NRCS expressed to NACD that the agency

The [first blog post in this series](#) focuses on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Future blog posts will focus on other programs and issue areas, including the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and forestry policy, and will be featured in future editions of eResource.

---

## SMITHFIELD FOODS, INC. SUPPORTS NCF-ENVIROTHON

Today, Smithfield Foods, Inc., presented the  North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts with a \$25,000 donation to support the 2019 National Conservation Foundation (NCF) Envirothon competition during the association's annual meeting in Durham, N.C. This donation serves as an additional contribution to Smithfield's annual support of the Envirothon program in communities where Smithfield employees live and work.

"We thank Smithfield for their ongoing support of Envirothon and their generous contribution to our organization for this year's special event," **NCF-Envirothon program manager Jennifer Brooks said.** "This donation will support our collective efforts to instill and reinforce environmental stewardship in young people and help preserve our natural resources for generations to come."

This year's [NCF-Envirothon competition](#) will take place July 28 – Aug. 2, 2019 at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C.

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## NACD CONTRIBUTES TO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES MARKET MEETING

will not be able to continue operating indefinitely. NACD expects NRCS to continue normal operations over the next month or so at which time NRCS may start shutting down their headquarters, followed by field offices, if funding has not been approved by that time. Stay tuned to future editions of eResource as NACD communicates the latest information we receive.

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### Congratulations to Jackson County Conservation District

Congratulations to Jackson County Conservation District (JCCD) in McKee, Ky. As the winner of the annual survey drawing, JCCD will receive one complimentary regular registration to NACD's 73rd Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

Thank you to all conservation districts who participated in the 2018 annual survey. This data helps NACD enhance member services and advocacy efforts, and district responses are invaluable.

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Last month, **NACD President-elect Tim Palmer** attended the Noble Research Institute's Environmental Services Market steering committee meeting in Raleigh, N.C. Held on a bimonthly basis since 2017, these in-person meetings have given conservation, industry and environmental leaders the opportunity to discuss the role agriculture management practices, including no-till and prescribed grazing, play in increasing soil health, mitigating greenhouse gasses, improving water quality and having a marked effect on runoff and water use.

NACD, as part of this steering committee, is working to develop a program to incentivize and compensate producers who are successfully implementing sustainable, environmentally friendly practices on their operations to improve natural resources and provide a safe and secure food supply. According to Palmer, it is important NACD is involved in these conversations because "conservation districts are the one constant across the American landscape with the ability to support the individuals adopting these practices and help them receive the maximum benefits of the program."



## Submit an Auction Item Today

NACD is still accepting donations for the **2019 Live Auction**, held Monday, Feb. 4 at the 73rd Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Not sure if your state or district has donated yet? **Review the current catalog** – consisting of hunting excursions, cover crop and pollinator seed, an array of Case IH tractors, a John Deere Gator, quilts, regional produce and goods, jewelry, home decorations and more – to make sure you'll be represented at the live auction next month.

To donate an item, **fill out this short, online form** with item photos and a description for the auction booklet. Questions? Contact NACD South Central Region Representative Keith Owen.

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### 2019 Conservation Planning Boot Camp Deadlines Approach

NACD, through partnership with NRCS, is offering spaces for conservation district employees to attend **Conservation Planning Boot Camp**. This premier, three-week course offers conservation district technicians and planners the opportunity to learn how to implement conservation plans, systems and practices. NACD will reimburse

## NEW CASTLE CONSERVATION DISTRICT, DELAWARE

In 2017, the New Castle Conservation District (NCCD) was awarded funding through the [2017 Urban Agriculture Conservation Grant Initiative](#). The funding, made possible through the partnership of NACD and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), enabled NCCD to provide support and training to urban farmers, community and home gardeners in northern Delaware.



The funding also enabled the district's urban agriculture coordinator to create and facilitate the *Grow It Yourself* gardening series in partnership with the Rose Hill Community Center. This gardening education program is focused on sustainable, low-cost container gardening for adults looking to grow their own food. *Grow It Yourself* encouraged people to try growing their own produce and brought people together to talk about gardening and

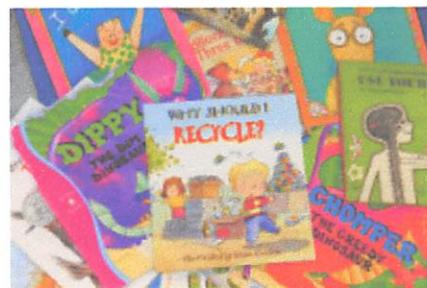
districts or individuals for the costs to participate.

**Tuesday, Feb. 5** is the last day for state or territory associations to submit boot camp participant information to NACD for consideration for the Mar. 26 – Apr. 11, 2019 session. There are six more boot camp sessions scheduled throughout 2019.

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### Don't Forget to Pack-A-Book

NACD's Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, will mark the 12th annual "Pack-A-Book" community outreach program. Since its inception, more than 1,300 natural resources books have been donated to elementary schools on behalf of NACD. The 2019 recipient of Pack-A-Book donations will be **Kuentz Elementary School** in Helotes, Texas.



Pack natural resource, environmental or conservation-related books for your trip to San Antonio and drop them off at the Stewardship and Education booth in the Conservation Expo Hall. Prefer to ship your titles? Contact [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org) for instructions. Looking

their food system. Through this program, NCCD was able to reach new audiences and build understanding of their mission in new communities.

With the help of the urban agriculture coordinator and NCCD cost share funds, NCCD gave over \$12,000 of mini-grant funding to community-led urban agriculture projects across the county, including community garden improvements, a youth education program and a farmers market.

During the 2017-2018 year, the urban agriculture coordinator served as the communications coordinator for the Delaware Urban Farm and Food Coalition (DEUFFC). In this role, the coordinator helped organize the 2018 Delaware Ag Week's only urban-focused event, the Urban Ag Session. The coordinator also created a bi-weekly newsletter to promote coalition member events, increasing the visibility and reach of the DEUFFC.

This initiative helped NCCD create a niche in the urban agriculture world and helped amplify the district's voice in a new way to conversations around food, agriculture and sustainability in Delaware.

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## UAC WEBINAR FOCUSES ON PASTURE MANAGEMENT

The next NACD Urban and Community (UAC) Conservation webinar, scheduled for 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Eastern on Jan. 17, 2019, will focus on pasture management and climate change on small acreage.

Livestock and overgrazed pastures are often looked at as the villains of environmental integrity. But what if that wasn't the case, and good pasture management by livestock owners could actually slow down or reverse climate change? **Alayne Blicke**, creator and director of Horses for Clean Water, will review basic techniques for good pasture management including how grasses grow, creating a winter paddock, spreading compost, rotational grazing, and managing

for conservation-related titles? View a suggested list on [NACD's 2019 Annual Meeting Pack-A-Book webpage](#).

---

### Save the Date: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

The 2019 Wildfire Community Preparedness Day will be observed on Saturday, May 4. Organized by the National Fire Protection Association, the day is meant to raise awareness and give homeowners ideas on how to protect their community from wildfire.

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### Send Us Your Photos!



Show us the faces of your district! Whether it's your district board, staff or friendly faces from the local community, upload photos [using this online form](#) to celebrate the people who make your district or state/territory association successful.

---

small grazing areas. Proper land and soil management can positively affect horse health and livestock well-being, land productivity, cost-effectiveness and climate change.

These popular webinars, held on the third Thursday of each month, are sponsored by The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company in partnership with the NACD Urban and Community Resource Policy Group. There is no cost to participate, but space is limited. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. To register, email Debra Bogar at [deb-bogar@nacdnet.org](mailto:deb-bogar@nacdnet.org) with your name, title, district or business name, state and email address. Information to access the webinar will be sent by email.

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### NACD Events Calendar

Check [NACD's website](#) for additional details regarding meetings listed below. Does your district or state association have an upcoming tree sale, state meeting or job vacancy?

#### **Let us know!**

- NACD North Central Region Meeting – Jan. 7 – 8
  - NACD 2019 Annual Meeting Online Registration Deadline – Jan. 11
  - NACD 2019 Annual Meeting – Feb. 2 – 6
- 

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Subject **What was CARCD up to in December?**  
From Karen Buhr <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>  
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>  
<manager@teamrkd.org>  
Reply-To <info@carcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-08 16:35



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF  
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Dear RCD Colleagues,

CARCD works hard every day to be a partner that you can rely on. We strive to operate transparently and to find opportunities where our efforts can result in increased funding, heightened visibility, and new partnerships for your districts and for the network as a whole. CARCD wouldn't have reason to exist if it weren't for the RCDs. We are committed and beholden to your success!

Our intention with this monthly e-mail is to keep you in the loop so that you know what we're up to and what's happening at the statewide level. This list isn't exhaustive, but we hope that it helps paint a picture of some of the exciting work that we're doing every day on behalf of your districts.

With Gratitude,  
The CARCD Team

---

## **RCPP: Tree Mortality in the Central Sierra**

CARCD hosted the first steering committee meeting for the RCPP Tree Mortality in the Central Sierra Grant. Representatives from NRCS, CAL FIRE, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, and PG&E attended and discussed strategic priorities, gaps in funding across agency projects, and the grant roll out process. The supporting grants from CAL FIRE, SNC, and PG&E make the RCPP roll out possible and provide an opportunity to bring key players from these agencies together to discuss concrete solutions to the tree mortality crisis and the importance of RCDs in meeting the demand for technical assistance and education to private landowners.

## Forest Management Task Force

CARCD continues to serve in the Tree Mortality Working Group and attend the monthly Forest Management Task Force meetings. As the Task Force shifts focus, CARCD is now also participating in both the Sierra & Eastside and the Northern regional prioritization working groups to help amplify the voices of RCDs in those groups and strategically align existing forest health grants with regional priorities.

## National Grazing Land Coalition Conference

CARCD is working to revitalize the Grazing Lands Coalition (GLC) in California. We attended the National GLC Conference in Reno and heard success stories from coalition members across the nation to help guide us in that effort. If your RCD or a partner rancher is interested in being a part of this, please contact [Kristen Murphy](#) who is coordinating this program.

## Healthy Soils Program Event

We assisted in coordinating "Lunch and Learn on the Farm," a Healthy Soils Program event in collaboration with Yolo County RCD, River Garden Farms, National Center for Appropriate Technology, Center for Land Based Learning, and Audubon California Working Lands Program.

## Rancher to Rancher Meeting

We attended a Rancher to Rancher meeting at Morris Ranch in San Juan Baptista to help grow and strengthen our partnership with the network as well position RCDs as allies for ranchers who want to implement conservation practices.

## Cannabis Conservation Program Guidebook

CARCD has been working through a grant from Resources Legacy Fund to bring much needed information on conservation planning to cannabis growers. We are in the process of completing a cannabis conservation program guidebook (coming to your RCD soon!) as part of this effort.

## Co-facilitated a Strategic Growth Retreat

As part of the Capacity Building Program funded by the S. D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation, CARCD has been engaged with Solid Ground Consulting in a "knowledge transfer" process with the goal of imparting CARCD staff with some of the practical tools and skills that will enable our organization to provide RCDs with tailored capacity building services, as appropriate. Early in December our Capacity Building Project Manager headed to Milwaukee, Wisconsin with Solid Ground Consulting to co-facilitate a strategic growth retreat for one of their clients. The half-day retreat was an exciting opportunity to learn skills and processes that we hope to translate into support for interested RCDs in the future.

## Visioning for the Capacity Building Program in 2019

CARCD and Solid Ground Consulting held a planning call to discuss the goals of the Capacity Building Program in 2019. The conversation focused on the durable collaborations happening throughout the state, the potential for developing a statewide leadership network, knowledge transfer planning, and other Big Picture topics.

## CDFW Service-Based Budgeting

CARCD has been engaged in the direction of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife since their strategic planning process which kicked off in 2012. The latest effort has been assisting CDFW with their efforts to help the Department increase its revenue stream and make it more effective. The department has made significant progress and put considerable effort at being transparent, inclusive and more effective at meeting their statutory requirements.

## Biodiversity Council Interagency Alignment Team

CARCD has a seat on California Biodiversity Council (CBC), which is headed by the Natural Resources Agency and Bureau of Land Management and consists of all the federal and state agencies working in our sphere. We also serve on the Interagency Alignment Team, which works to bring agencies closer together and strategizes about key actions to advance conservation across silos. We attended the meeting to represent the interest of RCDs.

## Legislative Agenda for 2019

CARCD has been hard at work with the Pacific Policy Group (PPG) to create the 2019 legislative agenda for CARCD. The highest priority is baseline funding. We will also be working on forest health and resiliency, agricultural technical assistance funding, adaptation programs, and other key objectives. Please let us know if there are legislative priorities that can assist your district.

## California Roundtable on Agriculture and the Environment

For the past ten years, the California Roundtable on Agriculture and the Environment (CRAE) has been bringing agricultural and environmental leaders together in a forum to find common ground and work together to find solutions that support industry and conservation goals. CARCD is active member and participant in these important discussions that have statewide implications for the future of conservation and agriculture. This month, we met to set 2019 working goals for topics including ag in resiliency and work on groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) and the resulting fallowed lands.

## Resources Legacy Fund Adaptation Workgroup

CARCD has been participating in a workgroup charged with creating a comprehensive adaptation policy to recommend to the legislature. The group met to discuss 2019 legislative priorities and how to best coordinate as diverse entities with separate goals but common objectives.

## Cooperative Ecological Study Unit Annual Meeting

Cooperative Ecological Study Unit (CESU) was designed to more closely align non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and federal entities to advance research and implementation of ecological projects. As a non-profit, CARCD represents CARCD in this network. Primarily, CARCD has been connecting the Air Force with local RCDs to perform work on three bases as well as a project with the National Park Service. Through CESU, federal entities can more easily enter into direct contracts with members of the group including RCDs. Please let us know if there are projects we can assist your RCD with.

## CalCAN Leadership Group

CARCD continues to participate in the CalCAN leadership group. This year the annual meeting was canceled due to

air quality. Instead, we are participating in several calls to help inform the goals on various topics for 2019.

## Redding Conference Site Visit

The 74th Annual CARCD Conference will be co-hosted by Tehama County and Western Shasta RCDs. We visited the jointly owned Sheraton Hotel in Redding and Turtle Bay Exploratorium to begin planning for November 2019.

## California Farm Demonstration Network

In 2017, CARCD, NRCS, CA Farm Bureau Federation, CDFA, UC Davis, and the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources signed an MOU to form the California Farm Demonstration Network (CFDN). CARCD's role within the MOU signing partners is to organize and house the administrative services of CFDN. This month, CARCD staff met to set the structure of working groups and prep for public facing meetings in January and February. Energy is building and we are excited to move forward in 2019.

## NRCS Leadership Meetings

CARCD continues to meet with NRCS leadership on a regular basis. This month included staffing levels, national initiatives, synergy between CDFA and NRCS, the RCPP, and forest health initiatives.

## Restoration Leaders Meeting

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife initiated a concerted effort to improve their fisheries restoration grant programs in January of 2019. CARCD has been participating in a work group which is looking at the grant process. The purpose of the December meeting was to inform Director Bonham of the findings of the committee.

## Pillar Point Air Force Project

Implementation of the Air Force grant through the Cooperative Ecological Study Unit with the San Mateo RCD kicked off this month. The RCD was contracted for ecological restoration.



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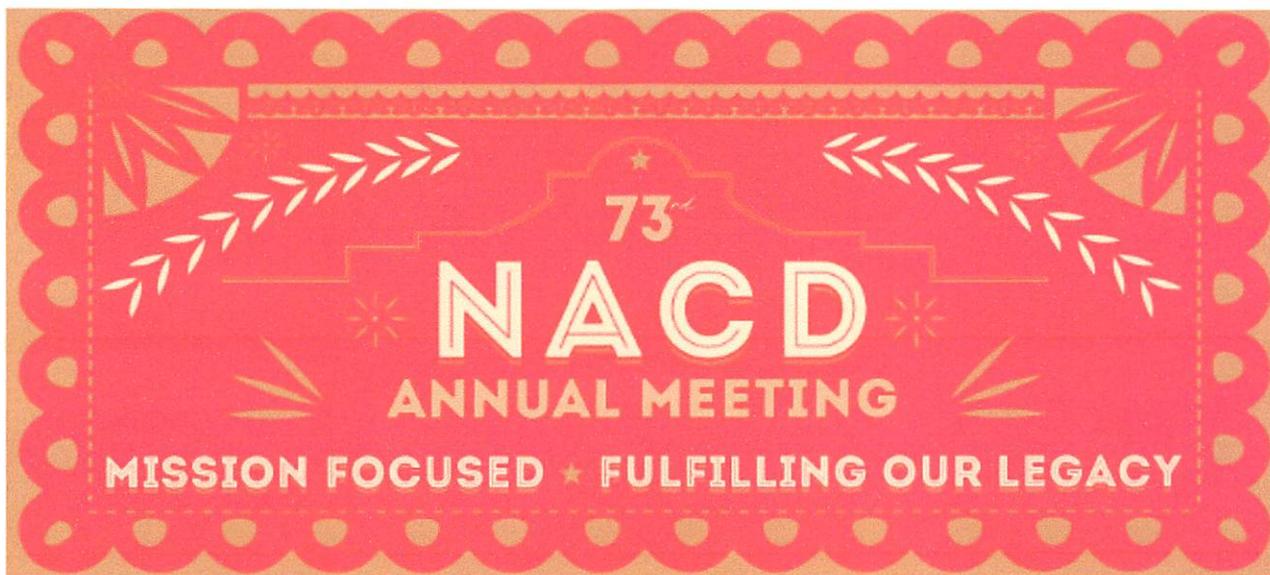
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Subject **NACD Annual Meeting Online Registration Ends Friday**  
From NACD <nacdnews@nacdnet.org>  
Sender NACD <nacdnews@nacdnet.org>  
Date Temecula-Elsinore- Anza-Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrkd.org>  
2019-01-09 12:13



## ONLY THREE DAYS LEFT TO REGISTER ONLINE

[NACD's 73rd Annual Meeting](#), held Feb. 2-6, 2019 in San Antonio, Texas, is fast approaching. Haven't registered yet? **Friday is the last day** to register under discounted rates – and don't forget to [register online to save an extra \\$15](#). Beginning Saturday, Jan. 12, all registration will be on-site at the Marriott Rivercenter only.

**Friday, Jan. 11**, is also the last day to complete hotel reservations for the Marriott Rivercenter. Visit [NACD's Lodging and Transportation webpage](#) for more information.

## ANNUAL MEETING FEATURES DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

NACD's 2019 Annual Meeting will highlight the wide range of conservation practices at work across America's diverse landscapes.

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**REGISTER NOW!**

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NACD is pleased to announce **Ducks Unlimited CEO Dale Hall** (pictured) will provide a keynote speech during Monday's general session. Hall previously served as director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from 2005 to 2009. Hall held numerous roles at the agency during his 31-year career, including positions in field offices, regional offices and the national level, and now heads America's leading wetlands and waterfowl conservation group.



NACD is also excited to announce Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) **Chief Matt Lohr** will deliver a keynote speech during Tuesday's general session. Lohr was appointed in December 2018 to oversee the 3,000 NRCS field offices and their employees across the nation.



Previously, he served in Virginia's House of Delegates and as Virginia's Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Lohr was raised on a century farm in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley and now operates Valley Pike Farm, Inc. which grows row crops and sweet corn and raises beef cattle and poultry.

Tuesday's general session will feature a panel discussion on soil health and a panel discussion on urban agriculture.

to save \$15.

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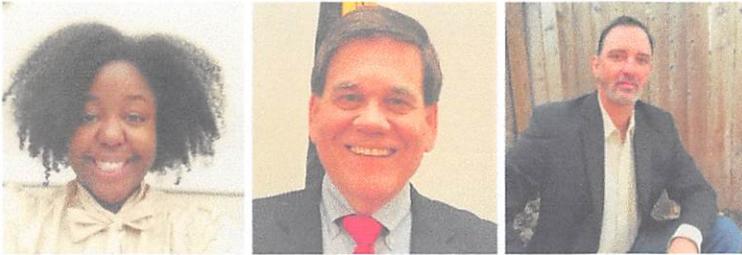


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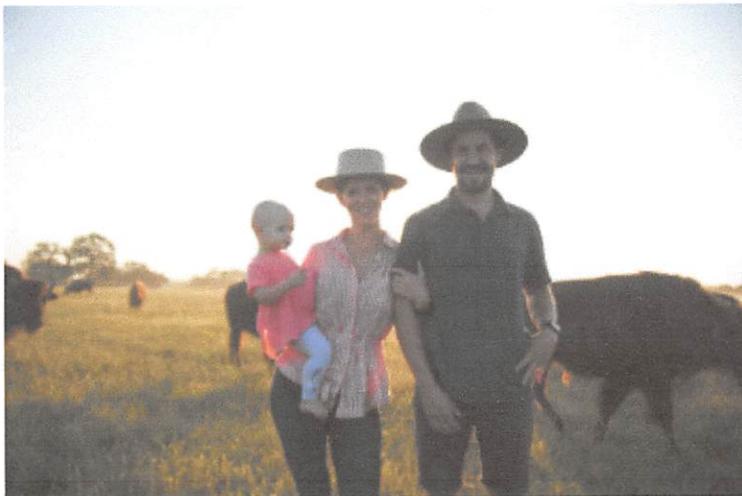




The soil health panel will feature **Soil Health Institute President and CEO Dr. Wayne Honeycutt**; **Soil Health Partnership Executive Director Dr. Shefali Mehta**; and **Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN Senior Director of Sustainability Jason Weller** (pictured above from left to right).



The urban agriculture panel will feature discussions with **Come Up Project Executive Director Abiodun Henderson**; **Prince George's Soil Conservation District's District Manager Steven Darcey**; and **Texas Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association President Andrew Smiley** (pictured above from left to right).

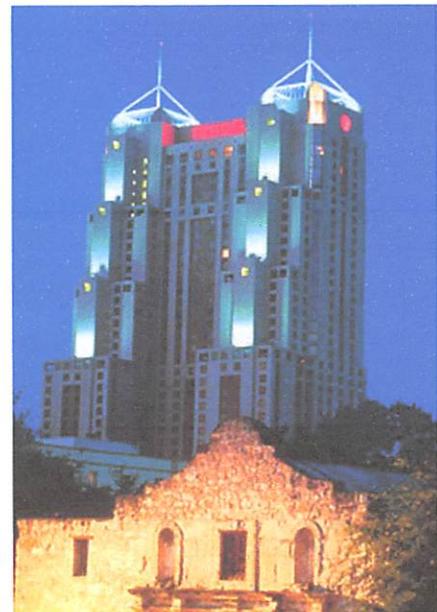


Monday's Leadership Luncheon will feature an inspirational keynote from **EPIC Provisions Co-Founders Taylor Collins and Katie Forrest**. Together, the couple launched EPIC in Austin, Texas, in 2013 as a mission-based brand making humanely-



Learn more about the 2019 Annual Meeting sponsors on the [sponsor webpage](#).

#### Reserve Hotel Rooms



NACD's 2019 Annual Meeting will be held at the Marriott Rivercenter in downtown San Antonio, steps away from the world-famous River Walk. The room rate is \$214 per

raised animal-based snacks that improve the welfare of those animals, promote the health of humans, and support regenerative agriculture practices to restore the land.



The 2019 Annual Meeting will be closed out with a performance following Tuesday's Appreciation Banquet by **Jomo & The Possum Posse**. Best known for the wildly popular viral video series, Guy on a Buffalo, Jomo & The Possum Posse have made a name for themselves with their unique blend of cynicism, dead-eyed soul and anti-machismo honky-tonk. Don't forget to pack your dancing shoes!

Visit [NACD's Annual Meeting speakers webpage](#) to learn more about the presenters.

---

## NACD BREAKOUT SESSIONS HIGHLIGHT DISTRICT SUCCESSSES, CHALLENGES

NACD's [2019 Breakout Sessions](#) will discuss how to improve conservation district capacity and operations. This year's sessions follow four main tracks: Communications; District Operations, Member Services and Partnerships; Natural Resources Policy and Protection; and Stewardship and Education.

The communications breakout sessions will discuss social marketing strategies, digital communications, spreading the conservation district message, and tailoring messages to producers.

night, plus tax.

**Make your reservations online** or by calling 1-800-648-4462 and saying you're with the NACD Annual Meeting.

Reservations must be made before **Friday, Jan. 11, 2019**.

### **Hotel Overflow**

**Information:** At the moment, the Marriott Rivercenter is sold out for the night of Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019. NACD is working on adding additional rooms but has also secured a room block at the **La Quinta Inn and Suites San Antonio Riverwalk** for 2019 Annual Meeting attendees.

The La Quinta is a two-minute walk from the Marriott Rivercenter and features complimentary wifi and a daily hot breakfast. The room rate is \$199 per night plus tax.

**To reserve a room, please call 210-222-9181 and say you're with the "NACD 2019 Attendee Block."** All reservations must be received on or before **Monday, Jan. 14, 2019**. Additional information is available on NACD's **Annual Meeting and Transportation webpage**.

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### **Download the NACD App**



District operations, member services and partnerships breakout sessions will evaluate the topics of district roles in Field to Market Fieldprint Projects, the USDA Climate Hub Toolkit, the power of positive partnerships and proactive planning, and building capacity through partnership.

The natural resources policy and protection breakout sessions will discuss improving water quality outcomes from agricultural practices, smart solar siting practices, pathways to water quality, and embracing conservation assistance opportunities like Conservation Innovation Grants and geospatial mapping.

NACD's stewardship and education breakout sessions will describe outreach strategies, including maximizing the benefits of NACD's Soil Health Champions Network, creating interactive story maps, increasing public engagement through demonstration farms and innovative education techniques, and approaches to partnering with tribal conservation districts and addressing their local natural resource concerns.

Read full descriptions of NACD's breakout sessions, as well as the presenter line-up for each session, on [NACD's breakout sessions webpage](#).

**Download NACD's app for free** through the Apple iTunes Store or through Google Play to stay up-to-date on all things NACD and the 2019 Annual Meeting.

The NACD app will provide you with annual meeting resources at your fingertips, including speaker bios, the up-to-date meeting agenda, breakout session descriptions, tour descriptions and more. You'll also receive push notifications during the meeting with reminders, event statuses and room changes.

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## Notes from the Field // January 2019

### In This Issue:

1. [Featured: Improving Watershed Health and Water Conservation in California](#)
2. [Get to Know Palo Verde RCD](#)
3. [Conservation Updates](#)
4. [Partner Spotlight: California Department of Water Resources](#)
5. [Upcoming RCD Events](#)

## Improving Watershed Health and Water Conservation in California

The health of our watersheds is integrally connected to the health of human communities, wildlife habitats, agricultural lands, and ecosystems throughout the state.

Many Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) have program areas that focus on improving watershed health, and their work can include stream flow restoration, habitat restoration for fish species and other organisms, water quality assessments, and working with producers to improve water conservation, among many others projects.

[Read more](#)

## [GET TO KNOW AN RCD](#)

Palo Verde Resource Conservation District (PVRCD) is a small RCD nestled in the Southern Baja region, with its eastern border meeting with Arizona's border. For years PVRCD has been working to restore the Lower Colorado River Watershed, and a recent infusion of funds of \$3.7 million from Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) has revitalized those efforts.

[Read more](#)

## Conservation Updates

### RCDs launch regional collaboration to improve watershed health

[LandSmart](#) is a regional collaborative program that helps land managers meet their natural resource management goals while supporting productive lands and thriving streams. LandSmart was developed by the [Sonoma RCD](#), [Napa County RCD](#), [Mendocino County RCD](#) and [Gold Ridge RCD](#) in collaboration with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, land managers, and environmental agencies.

[Read more](#)

### Thank you for your generous support

Thank you to those who invested financial resources in 2018 in support of CARCD and the RCD network. We raised nearly \$15,000 in our first end of year campaign— we couldn't have done it without you! We are excited to have your support as we work together solving California's conservation challenges in the year ahead.

### Renewed attention on forest management after a destructive 2018 fire season

With 26% (9 million acres) of all forest land in California in the hands of non-industrial private landowners, the governor's recent call to increase the

### What were RCDs up to in December?

California is home to 98 unique RCDs operating in ten regions throughout the state. RCDs are California's boots-on-ground, providing everything from technical assistance to design and installation of conservation

pace and scale of forest management across the state relies on the interest and investment of individual forest landowners. Large scale projects in a forest landscape cross property lines and ownership types, which makes outreach and assistance to engage individual landowners a key component of healthy forest management.

[Read more](#)

projects to community education — and more. Each month, we work to compile a small sampling of the incredible work that the districts are doing in and on behalf of their communities.

[Read more](#)

## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



In this month's Partner Spotlight we looked at the California Department of Water Resources and their long-standing relationship with RCDs.

[Read more](#)

## Upcoming RCD Events

### WILD Napa: Fish Monitoring

*January 9, 2019*

[WILD Napa monthly lecture series](#) explores topics related to Napa County's 'wild side'! RCD Senior Biologist

Jonathan Koehler joins us for this month's installment. The event will be hosted by Napa County Resource Conservation District and Napa County Library on January 9 from 7-8pm at the Napa County Library. Since 2009, Jonathan has annually monitored smolt abundance, adult returns, juvenile distribution, and genetic diversity in the Napa River Watershed. Just this year his team found tagged trout returning up the Napa River to spawn. The purpose of this monitoring and research is to provide science-based information to all stakeholders involved in steelhead and salmon management and recovery. WILD Napa events are held every 2nd Wednesday at 7pm.

## Yolo RCD Community Planting Day

*January 13, 2019*

A community planting day is set for 10am to noon on Sunday, January 13 at Capay Open Space Park. The park is at 15063 County Road 85, Esparto. Community members are invited to help the Cache Creek Conservancy and the RCD plant native plants at the park, and about 15 volunteers are needed. Tools will be provided, and volunteers should wear appropriate clothing, closed-toed shoes, and bring their own water bottle. The planting days will happen in light rain, but it will be cancelled if it is raining heavily. Contact Tanya Meyer at [meyer@yolorcd.org](mailto:meyer@yolorcd.org) with interest.

## RCD of Greater San Diego County HSP Incentives Program Workshops

*January 16 & 23, 2019*

The RCD of Greater San Diego County is hosting two workshops to assist producers in applying for the CDFA Healthy Soils Incentives Program. Join them at one of the workshops: January 16 at 1pm at the RCD Lakeside office or January 23 at 10am at the San Diego Farm Bureau. Please [register for the workshop](#) in advance.

## Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD SWEEP Workshop

*January 16, 2019*

In this workshop, attendees will learn about the benefits of the SWEEP program for their agricultural operation, eligibility for different project types, as well as application timelines and training for using the application system. Join them, January 16 from 10am - 12:30pm at J. Lohr Vineyards and Wine. Sign up for the workshop using [this Eventbrite link](#).

## Napa County RCD's Martin Luther King Oak Maintenance Day

*January 21, 2019*

On Monday, January 21 from 9am - 12 noon, Napa RCD will be hosting a much-needed oak maintenance day to tend to past oak plantings at Alston Park. Activities may include: mulching, weeding, re-staking, wrapping the base of mature trees, and collecting materials from unsuccessful plantings. This event is open to folks of all ages and all backgrounds. Snacks and light refreshments will be provided, but please bring your own water bottle and mug for coffee/tea/hot chocolate. Dress as you would for a day of gardening (sturdy shoes and thick pants) and make sure to bring layers! The event will be cancelled in the event of heavy rain. [See the Facebook event page](#) for youth waivers

and additional updates. The event will be held at Alston Park, 2037 Dry Creek Rd, Napa.

## LandSmart Vineyard Planning Workshops

*January 23, 2019*

Vineyard planning workshops will take place on January 23, March 6, April 4, and May 6 at the Napa Valley College, Community Room (Room 1731) in the morning and the vineyard in the afternoon. The same content will be presented at the different days. \$50 is due in advance, which can be paid with check, or credit card online [on their donation page](#). Lunch is included! RSVP is required and can be sent to [Frances@NapaRCD.org](mailto:Frances@NapaRCD.org).

## Napa RCD's WILD American Canyon - Feather, Fur and Scales Event

*January 23, 2019*

[Napa RCD's Feather, Fur and Scales event](#) is hosted by American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation and Napa County RCD. Attendees will meet WildCare's rescued non-releasable wild animals during this unforgettable presentation. By sharing their rescue stories, these animals act as ambassadors for their species and help raise awareness of their plight in the wild. WildCare's outreach and on-site educational programs have a history of providing quality nature education programming in the San Francisco Bay Area since the 1970's. Join them on Wednesday, January 23 from 6:30pm - 8pm at the American Canyon Library.

## Tehama County RCD SWEEP Workshop

*January 29, 2019*

Tehama County RCD will be hosting a workshop to give producers assistance with applying for CDFA's State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program. Attendees will receive an overview of the application process, be guided through required water savings and green house gas reduction calculations, and be shown how to submit their applications. The workshop will be held on January 29 from 8:30am - 12:30pm in Red Bluff, and 2pm - 4:30pm in Colusa. [See flyer for details](#).

## Sutter County RCD's SWEEP and HSP Application Workshop

*January 30, 2019*

Sutter County RCD will be hosting a [State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program \(SWEEP\) and Healthy Soils Program \(HSP\) Applications workshop](#), where farmers and ranchers will receive technical assistance on the application process for these two sources of funding. The workshop will be on January 30 from 9am - 12pm at the Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau. They will cover SWEEP from 9 - 10:30am and will cover HSP from 10:45 to noon.

## Coastal San Luis RCD HSP Workshop

*February 6, 2019*

Coastal San Luis RCD will be providing technical assistance to producers who are interested in applying for funds from CDFA's Healthy Soils Program. [The workshop will be held on February 6](#) from 9am - 11am at the SLO County Farm Bureau. Please RSVP by January 31 to Hallie Richard at [hrrichard@coastalrcd.org](mailto:hrrichard@coastalrcd.org) or (805) 772-4391.

## Glenn County RCD's Run Your Tail Off 5k/10k

**April 13, 2019**

This [5K/10K trail run at Black Butte Lake](#) west of Orland will provide a fun and challenging experience and offers timing services! In 2011, the RCD partnered with Black Butte Rangers and other partners in Glenn County to create this annual fundraiser that supports RCD Connects with Kids. There will be a post-race pancake breakfast.



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*Your partner in local conservation and  
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United States • [\(916\) 457-7904](tel:(916)457-7904)

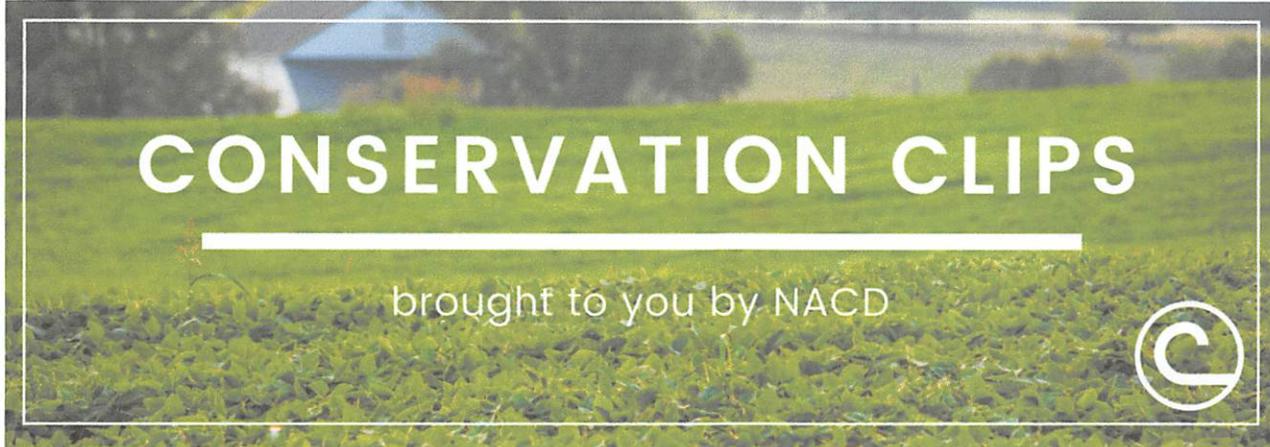
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*Conservation Clips is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. These articles are not indicative of NACD policy and are the opinions of their authors, unless otherwise noted. If you have a relevant submission or need assistance with accessing articles, please contact NACD Communications Manager Sara Kangas.*

**NACD Blog: 2018 Farm Bill Breakdown: EQIP**  
01/08/19

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is one of the bedrock conservation programs responsible for introducing many farmers, ranchers and forest-land owners to conservation. As such, it was a priority for NACD to ensure EQIP continues to receive a robust investment in the 2018 Farm Bill. This blog features an in-depth breakdown of what this funding means and what policy reforms were included in the 2018 Farm Bill.

**NACD Blog: 2018 Farm Bill Breakdown: RCPP**  
01/10/19

The 2018 Farm Bill made several changes to RCPP. Many of these reforms will help districts continue their impressive use of the program; leverage even more non-federal funding for conservation; and strengthen stewardship of our natural resources.

**The Hill: House passes bills to fund Transportation Dept., HUD, Agriculture**

By Juliegrace Brufke  
01/10/19

The chamber voted 243-183 to pass a measure to fund the Department of Agriculture and related agencies through Sept. 30, with 10 Republicans joining Democrats to vote for the measure.

**Agri-Pulse: Trump nominates Wheeler to head EPA**

By Spencer Chase  
01/09/19

President Donald Trump has nominated Andrew Wheeler to be the administrator of the EPA, offering him a chance to lose the acting title and lead the agency officially. Wheeler has been leading the agency on an acting basis since July.

**KTAR News: Officials hopeful 'fire funding fix' helps tame brutal wildfire seasons**

By Alexis Egeland  
01/06/19

After years of wrangling, Congress last year passed the "fire funding fix," which will take effect later this year. The fix, included as part of an omnibus budget bill approved in March, creates a \$2.25 billion emergency fund that federal officials can tap when the cost of fighting wildfires exceeds the budget, as it has done regularly for years now.

**No-Till Farmer: The New \$867 Billion Farm Bill Includes Benefits for No-Tilling, Strip-Tilling, Terminating Cover Crops, Improving Soil Health and Sequestering More Carbon**

By Frank Lessiter

While much has been written on the economic aspects of the 2018 Farm Bill, the legislation included a number of items of special interest to no-tillers. Probably the most important one is new language specifically defining the rules for cover crop termination. Passed in mid-December, the farm bill offers new opportunities for no-till, strip-till, soil health, carbon sequestration and their impact on climate change.

**Emergence: Cover Crops Now Do What Weeds Used To**

By Sally Krueger

Weeds can often grow faster than our desired crop plants by design. They contribute carbon to the soil at a rapid pace compared to many cash crops, and weeds have diversity in their structure above and below the soil surface.

**App.: Monarch butterfly numbers plummet 86 percent in California**

By Claudia Boyd-Barrett

01/07/18

The number of monarch butterflies turning up at California's overwintering sites has dropped by about 86 percent compared with only a year ago. Experts believe the decline is spurred by a confluence of unfortunate factors, including late rainy-season storms across California last March, the effects of the state's yearslong drought and the seemingly relentless onslaught of wildfires that have burned acres upon acres of habitat and at times choked the air with toxic smoke.

**NBC News: After the fire: Blazes pose hidden threat to the West's drinking water**

By Kaitlin Sullivan

01/05/19

As more people build homes in fire-prone areas, there is a growing risk to life and property throughout the West — and a lesser known risk to the region's already endangered water supply. At least 65 percent of the public water supply in the Western U.S. comes from fire-prone areas.

**U.S. Ag Net: Letting Nature Do Its Work**

01/08/19

The floating island concept--also called Floating Treatment Wetlands (FTWs)--revolves around a buoyant matrix structure made of recycled plastic and covered by various native wetland plants. They gather algae and microbes and "absorb a lot of phosphorus and nitrogen," thereby helping clean the water around them. The microbes hosted by the roots also provide a food source for aquatic wildlife.

**Pennsylvania Ag Connection: Beech Trees are Dying, and Nobody's Sure Why**

01/11/19

Researchers and naturalists from The Ohio State University and metroparks in northeastern Ohio report on the emerging "beech leaf disease" epidemic, calling for speedy work to find a culprit so that work can begin to stop its spread. It's characterized by dark-green "bands" that appear between the veins of the trees' leaves and provide the first hint that the tree is diseased. In later stages, leaves become uniformly darker, shrunken, crinkly and leathery. Affected limbs stop forming buds and, over time, the tree dies. Young trees seem to be particularly vulnerable.

Subject **CARCD Weekly Digest, January 7 - 11**  
From Sara Schremmer <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>  
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>  
<manager@teamrcd.org>  
Reply-To <sara-schremmer@carcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-11 11:41



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF  
**RESOURCE**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you and Happy Friday!

## In This Issue:

1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [Funding Opportunities](#)
3. [RCD News](#)
4. [Conservation Announcements](#)
5. [Job Announcements](#)

## CARCD Updates

## Call for Urban Agriculture Stories

Every month, CARCD's monthly e-newsletter highlights RCDs doing boots-on-the-ground work for a particular theme. This coming month's theme is urban agriculture. Please let us know if your RCD is involved in urban agriculture, urban forestry, or urban greening work so we can capture that story and share it with the public! Please email Kiko Barr at [kiko-barr@carcd.org](mailto:kiko-barr@carcd.org).

## 2018 CARCD Conference Presentations Available in PDF Format

Our [2018 conference online agenda](#) has been updated with links to pdf versions of presentations from many of our breakout speakers. If you were a presenter and would like to make your presentation made available, please email your presentation to Kiko Barr at [kiko-barr@carcd.org](mailto:kiko-barr@carcd.org).

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## Funding Opportunities

### Sierra Nevada Conservancy Publishes Monthly List of Grants

Please take a look at [Sierra Nevada Conservancy's extensive list of open grants](#) which covers fuel reduction, habitat preservation, environmental education, and other program areas which are relevant to RCDs. There are some grants which are only eligible to 501c3 non-profits/ As your non-profit partner, CARCD has the ability to provide fiscal sponsorship for projects or pass through funding to your district. Please contact us if your RCD is interested in applying for this funding so that we can explore the possibilities.

### CDFW Extends Deadline for Endangered Species Conservation and Recovery Grant Proposals

In recognition of the challenge the ongoing federal government shutdown presents to grant applicants, CDFW is extending the deadline for Endangered Species Conservation and Recovery Grant proposals to January 31. In the event that the federal government shutdown continues beyond the revised January 31 application deadline, additional grant application instructions will be posted to the Grant Proposals section of the CDFW [Endangered Species Conservation and Recovery Grant Program page](#).

### NRA Accepting Proposals for Urban Greening Program

The California Natural Resources Agency will be accepting concept proposals for the [Urban Greening Program](#) from January 8 through February 28. Approximately \$19.0 million in awards will be funded by this program. Applicants submitting the most competitive proposals will be invited to participate in the next level of the competitive process, anticipated for Spring 2019. Workshops will be held in Sacramento, Huntington Park, Sanger, Pomona, Oakland, and by webcast starting January 18.

### Southern California Wildfires Restoration Grant Program RFPs Now Open

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and their US Forest Service partners the Angeles National Forest and Los Padres National Forest are accepting proposals for the next round of grant funds through the [Southern California Forests and Watersheds – Wildfires Restoration Grant Program](#). Approximately \$8 million dollars will be available for award in this grant cycle to be directed toward fire restoration and recovery stemming from the following past fires:

on the ANF, the Copper, Powerhouse, Ranch and Sayre fires, and on the LPNF, the Jesusita, Piru and Zaca fires. Preliminary proposal submissions are February 11. NFWF will host three open house meetings to discuss the program and how to apply for grants Arcadia, Acton, and Santa Barbara. Find details on their open houses as well as a webinar on their RFP page.

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## RCD News

### Yolo County RCD "Know Your Natives" Guide

The Yolo County RCD has printed a limited number of copies of its slightly updated, long-standing publication, Know Your Natives, which covers 36 species of native grasses, sedges and rushes. They also now have a high-resolution digital version available. This publication is intended to be a practical identification tool for plants used in restoration and revegetation projects and that are commercially available as either seed or plant plugs. If you are interested in either buying or downloading a free digital copy, [please check here](#).

### RCD of Monterey County Featured in The Californian

RCDMC was recently featured in The Californian for their Salinas River Arundo Control Program work. "The program works to remove arundo, an invasive grass, from the banks of the river where it increases flood risk, chases away native animals and insects and kills off native plants that would otherwise abound." [Check it out!](#)

### RCD of Greater San Diego County HSP Incentives Program Workshops

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*If your RCD has job openings, community events, or announcements that you would like to share with the RCD network and beyond, please e-mail me at [sara-schremmer@carcd.org](mailto:sara-schremmer@carcd.org) with the details so that we can include them in an upcoming Weekly Digest and in a monthly blog post at the end of the month.*

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## Conservation Announcements

### Elkhorn Slough Introduction to GIS Course

Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve's Coastal Training Program [offers a series of GIS training courses](#) at the UC Santa Cruz's Center for Integrated Spatial Research. Their upcoming course, "Introduction to GIS," will be all day both February 22 & 23. "Data Acquisition in Geographic Information Systems" will be taught on March 22 & 23. Registration for each course will be \$500.

### CDFW Draft Fisheries Habitat Restoration Proposal Solicitation Notice

CDFW today released the [Draft Fisheries Habitat Restoration 2019 Proposal Solicitation Notice](#) for public review and input. CDFW will host a public meeting on January 23, to discuss the draft solicitation and gather input. [See Flyer for additional details](#). The deadline for public comments is February 1. Comments may be submitted via email to [FRGP@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:FRGP@wildlife.ca.gov).

## 12th Annual CNGA Field Day at Hedgerow Farms

The California Native Grasslands Association will have their [12th Annual Field Day](#) on Friday, April 26 from 8:45am to 4pm with morning refreshments starting at 8am. Join them for a day of field tours, expert talks, networking, and beautiful scenery at Hedgerow Farms Inc. in Winters, CA.

## CNGA Grazing Workshop at Paicines Ranch

The California Native Grasslands Association [is hosting a two day workshop](#) for ranchers and ranch managers on January 30 & 31 from 9am to 5pm both days. [Registration can be completed online](#) and is \$300 (\$275 for CNGA members) and also includes morning refreshments, lunch each day, and course materials. To register by phone or mail, contact Diana Jeffery at CNGA (530) 902-6009 or email at [admin@cnga.org](mailto:admin@cnga.org).

## Karen Ross Reappointed as CDFA Secretary

Governor Newsom reappointed Karen Ross as CDFA Secretary earlier this week. Read more on [CDFA's "On Planting Seeds" blog post](#).

## OFRF Free Guidebooks and Webinars on Managing Risk for Growers

Organic Farming Research Foundation in cooperation with USDA-Risk Management Agency, has developed two informative new guidebooks and webinars on how organic and transitioning growers can manage on-farm risk through crop insurance programs and sound soil health management.

- [Introduction to Crop Insurance for Organic and Transitioning Producers](#) covers how crop insurance works for organic and transitioning farmers, including coverage types and record-keeping and what to know when working with crop insurance agents.
- [Reducing Risks Through Best Soil Health Management Practices in Organic Crop Production](#) covers practical tools and research on best soil health practices to build soil health and resilience to extreme weather conditions, such as drought and flooding.
- [Hail Happens! Insurance Options for Organic Farmers Webinar](#) - January 16
- [Lower Financial Risk by Increasing Soil Health](#) - February 6
- Visit OFRF's [free guidebook library](#) for more resources

## Cover Cropping & Dry Farming Workshop at Paicines Ranch

Paicines Ranch will be hosting an interactive and informative two-day workshop on Friday, February 8 and Saturday, February 9. [Regenerative Ag in Practice: Cover Cropping & Dry Farming Workshop](#) will include presentations, as well as discussions out in the field focused on cover cropping, pasture cropping, no-till dry farming and integrating livestock into cropland.

## Snow Goose Festival

The [Snow Goose Festival](#) proudly offers local and visiting birders, nature enthusiasts and families a unique blend of

opportunities to learn about and experience Chico and the surrounding areas. The festival takes place January 23 through 27 in Chico.

## California Rangeland Conservation Coalition's 2019 Summit

The California Rangeland Conservation Coalition's 2019 Summit will be held on January 15. The theme for this year is "Preventing Catastrophic Wildfire in California – The Role for Livestock Grazing" and a list of speakers is available on the [summit's event page](#). It will be held at Robert Cabral Agricultural Center in Stockton. Registration is \$75 per person, or \$30 for students.

## NRA Natural and Working Lands Implementation Plan

The January 2019 Draft of the California 2030 Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan is now available, and can be accessed or through the [California Air Resources Board Natural and Working Lands webpage](#).

---

## Job Announcement

### Inland Empire RCD is Looking for Three Field Restoration Technicians

The IERCD is seeking [three Field Restoration Technicians](#) positions who will report to and serve under the direct supervision of the Natural Resources Manager and are responsible for assisting the Lead Field Ecologist with habitat conservation, enhancement and restoration tasks. Typical tasks include but are not limited to invasive plant removal through the use of hand tools or hand-pulling and herbicide application using backpack sprayers; native plant installation, and equipment maintenance and cleaning. The Field Restoration Technicians work as part of the Natural Resources Team. The application period will close on January 31.

### Glenn County is Hiring a Fuels Reduction & Fire Prevention Education Program Coordinator

The Glenn County RCD's [Fuels Reduction & Fire Prevention Education Program Coordinator](#) reports to the Executive Officer and is responsible for assisting in the RCD's business consistent with the strategic plan, goals and objectives, and policies and procedures of the RCD. The position requires an ability to work as part of a team but primarily will be working independently to complete duties. This position must have the ability to work flexibly within a set of wide-ranging and often changeable tasks. The application period will close on January 18.



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Subject **Society for Range Management**  
From Barry Irving <birving@ualberta.ca>  
To <manager@teamrcd.org>  
Reply-To <birving@ualberta.ca>  
Date 2019-01-14 21:29



- SRM 2019 Annual Meeting Technical Sessions.pdf (~114 KB)

National Association of Conservation Districts, District Office;

Let me apologize for the cold call right off the bat. The purpose of this communication is to inform you of some important professional development opportunities you may not be aware of. Each year during our annual fly-in we meet with NACD leadership, but we do not always connect with folks at the local level and, given we'll be in the Midwest, I wanted to extend a personal invite and provide an introduction and overview of SRM.

The Society for Range Management is a professional organization dedicated to the wise use of native and tame grasslands, shrublands, and all other types of rangeland for this and future generations.

Membership in the SRM is open to anyone with an interest in rangelands or their management. The SRM is also a forum for information exchange through its journals (*Rangeland Ecology and Management* and *Rangelands*), local Section meetings (we have Sections represented in all the western states, as well as regionally throughout the Midwest and Eastern US, Canada and Mexico), and our Annual Meeting, Technical Training, and Tradeshow. Membership in our Society includes digital subscriptions to our journals, automatic enrollment as members of our Sections, and reduced registration costs at our Annual and Section Meetings. The next Society for Range Management conference is in Minneapolis, Minnesota from February 10-14, 2019. I have taken the liberty of attaching a list of sessions and symposium that will be presented in Minneapolis that may be of interest to you. Most sessions are eligible for professional continuing education credits and there are always hidden gems that are not evident from the initial titles.

As you know SRM worked with NACD and other leading conservation groups to create a 'conservation planning assessment' within Title II of the Farm Bill. This involves NRCS, the Districts and SRM Certified Professionals in Range Management (CPRM) assessing grazing lands and recommending conservation activities to enhance the economic and ecological management of that land along with potentially incorporating it into a various Title II programs. By attending the SRM Annual Meeting you can network with fellow professionals working in this arena and learn more about rangeland science and research that is being applied.

You may find utility in our CPRM program that is supported by SRM. Individuals with formal education in range management (B.Sc. in Range Management or a related degree) and 5 years experience can apply to become a CPRM. SRM allows early career professionals to enter the CPRM stream immediately after graduation with an appropriate range/range related degree as an Associate Professional in Range Management (APRM) where they can build their work experience as the final stage of achieving CPRM status. Membership in SRM is the first step to attaining CPRM status.

Should you have questions about membership, our Conference and Tradeshow, or becoming a

CPRM you can get most of them answered by visiting our webpage at [www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org). If you have specific questions about membership you can contact Mary Jo Foley-Birrenkott ([srmoutreach@rangelands.org](mailto:srmoutreach@rangelands.org)), questions about our CPRM program can be directed to Jeff Goodwin ([djgoodwin@noble.org](mailto:djgoodwin@noble.org)), and questions about the SRM Annual Meeting can be directed  myself (reply to this email).

Thanks for your time, I look forward to meeting you in person, perhaps in Minneapolis.

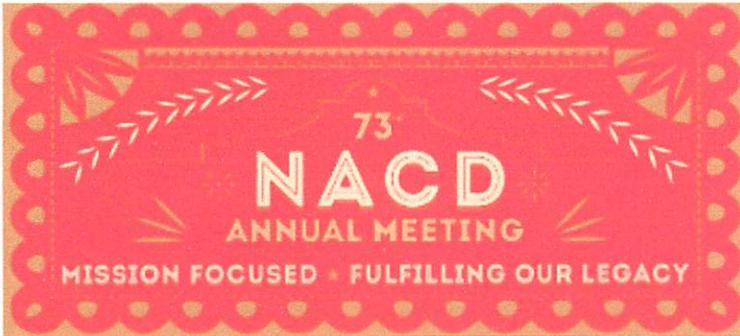
Barry Irving  
President  
Society for Range Management



Subject **eResource – This Week's NACD News Briefs**  
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdnet.org>  
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdnet.org>  
Temecula-Elsinore- Anza-Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-15 13:39



National Association of Conservation Districts  
**eResource**



### ANNUAL MEETING TWO WEEKS AWAY

NACD's [73rd Annual Meeting](#) is only weeks away! At this time, registration is on-site only. Begin making plans for your time in San Antonio, Texas, by [reviewing the meeting agenda](#), [speaker line-up](#) and scheduled [breakout sessions](#) and [conservation symposia](#).

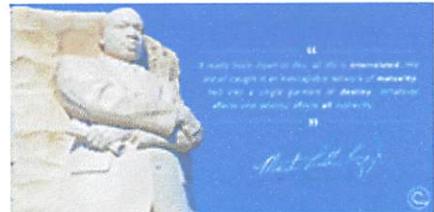
Jan. 15, 2019

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#### NACD Offices Closed Monday

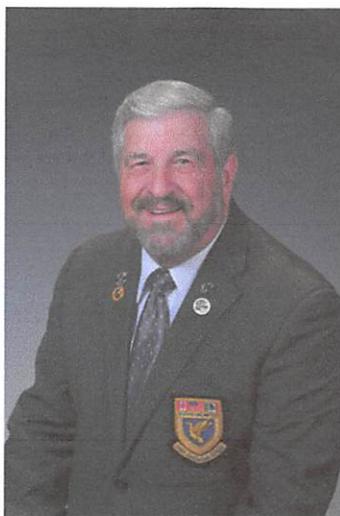
NACD's offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 21, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr., Day.



#### Federal Government Shutdown Continues

While the federal government continues to

NACD is pleased to announce Ducks Unlimited, Inc., CEO **Dale Hall** (pictured) will be providing a keynote speech during Monday morning's General Session. Hall has headed America's leading wetlands and waterfowl conservation group since May 2010, bringing with him a vast expanse of conservation knowledge and experience.



In addition to owning his own natural resources consulting company, Hall spent more than 30 years with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), with the last three as its director, appointed by President George W. Bush. He previously served in several capacities with the USFWS, such as regional director for the Southwest Region in Albuquerque, N.M., and deputy assistant director for fisheries in Washington, D.C. Hall has a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry from Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky., and a master's degree in fisheries science from Louisiana State University. He is the author of numerous published papers on wetlands, fisheries ecology and other topics.

NACD looks forward to what's sure to be an action-packed annual meeting. While making preparations for your week in the Lone Star State, don't forget to pack a book. The 2019 Annual Meeting will mark the 12th year running for NACD's community outreach program "[Pack-A-Book](#)." Through "Pack-A-Book" and the generosity of annual meeting attendees, NACD has donated more than 1,300 books to elementary schools located within our annual meetings' host cities.

This year's Pack-A-Book donations will be received by **Kuentz Elementary School** in Helotes, Texas. Kuentz's colors are black and silver and their mascot is the coyote. Kuentz Elementary is part of the Northside

be partially shut down due to a lapse in funding, most Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) functions are continuing to operate due to prior appropriated funds. NACD is thankful NRCS is able to continue operating normally, which means many districts won't be affected.



However, NRCS expressed to NACD that the agency will not be able to continue operating indefinitely. NACD expects NRCS to continue normal operations over the next month or so at which time NRCS may start shutting down their headquarters, followed by field offices, if funding has not been approved by that time. Stay tuned to future editions of eResource as NACD communicates the latest information we receive.

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### **NACD Government Affairs Team Breaks Down New Farm Bill**

Now that President Donald Trump has signed the 2018 Farm Bill into law, NACD's Government Affairs Team will be releasing a series of blog posts to break down the bill in more detail with the expected changes folks can expect

Independent School District, which is based in San Antonio.

Be a part of this project by packing one or more natural resource, environmental or conservation-related book(s) for your trip to San Antonio. Simply drop them off at the Stewardship and Education Exhibit in the Conservation Expo Hall sometime during the 2019 Annual Meeting or contact [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org) for shipping instructions. For a wide selection of books with conservation themes, [consult the Pack-A-Book webpage](#).

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## NORTH CAROLINA HOSTS 75TH ANNUAL MEETING

On Jan. 6–8, 2019, about 400 soil and water conservation district leaders met in Durham, N.C., for the 75th Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (NCASWCD). The program featured updates from state leadership and other partners, training for supervisors and staff, and recognition and awards for conservation districts, educators and farm families. Recovery from recent hurricanes was a common theme throughout the event.

**NACD Secretary-Treasurer Kim LaFleur** shared an update on the programs, projects and resources NACD offers to conservation districts. NACD Board Member and Southeast Region Chair **Franklin Williams** introduced **Candice Abinanti**, NACD's new Southeast Region Representative, to district leaders.

on the ground as USDA works to implement the new law.

Since last week's first blog post on the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program \(EQIP\)](#), the government affairs team has published blogs analyzing the [Regional Conservation Partnership Program \(RCPP\)](#) and the [Conservation Stewardship Program \(CSP\)](#). Future blog posts will focus on other programs and issue areas, including forestry policy, and will be featured in future editions of eResource.

---

### Order Awards Through NACD's Marketplace

Planning on acknowledging the hardworking employees in your office? [Visit NACD's Marketplace](#) for plaques, pins and other rewards – NACD offers a range of customizable products. Questions? Email [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org).



### Minnesota District Seeks Administrator

Fillmore County SWCD in Preston, Minn., is seeking qualified candidates for a district administrator position. Duties include



NACD Immediate Past President **Lee McDaniel**, Director of Development **Laura Demmel** and NCF-Envirothon Program Manager **Jennifer Brooks** participated in an award dinner benefiting the North Carolina Envirothon Program honoring conservation educators and students. Guests enjoyed music from the **Conservation Pickers**, a group of talented soil and water conservationists-by-day, musicians-by-night.

The meeting closed with remarks from incoming **NCASWCD President Myles Payne**, who shared the theme "Communication: Telling Your Story" for 2019. "Conservation is an issue that affects every living person on this planet," **Payne remarked**, encouraging districts to tell their stories.

## WISCONSIN HOSTS NORTH CENTRAL REGION MEETING

On Jan. 7-8, the NACD North Central Region Board of Directors held their annual board meeting in Racine, Wisc. Conservation partners throughout the region came together to discuss conservation policy, regional issues, and prepare for the upcoming NACD Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas.

The North Central Region welcomed guest speakers **Rebecca Power**, director of the

supervising operations; preparing annual plans, reports and budget; and managing financial records.

[View the position announcement on NACD's District Job Board](#), including salary details, requirements and duties and responsibilities. Interested applicants should apply by **Feb. 1, 2019**.

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### AFTA Accepting Agroforestry Presentation Proposals

The Association for Temperate Agroforestry (AFTA) is hosting their 2019 conference in June and is currently accepting abstract submissions through **Friday, Jan. 18**.



The planning committee is hoping to bring together a diverse group of researchers, farmers/landowners, practitioners, and educators (including extension), as in years past. Proposals should relate to agroforestry conference themes such as production science, specialty forest products, managing risk and more.

North Central Region Water Network at the University of Wisconsin and **John Dickert**, director of the Council of the Great Lakes Region and president and CEO of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative. Both shared valuable insight into available resources in the region, as well as conservation issues and on-going projects to address them.

A special tour of the Foxconn development preceded the meeting, showcasing the largest development in the country and their efforts to partner with the local conservation district in the mitigation of the wetlands and other conservation projects.

The NACD North Central Region Board of Directors would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous contributions: [The Real Racine](#) – the Racine County convention and visitors bureau, [S.C. Johnson](#), [O & H Danish Bakery](#) and [Malicki's Piggly Wiggly](#).

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## RHODE ISLAND DISTRICTS UTILIZE TA FUNDS TO EXPAND CAPACITY

Rhode Island's three conservation districts are expanding efforts to help farmers develop and implement farm conservation plans. A \$179,520 [NACD technical assistance grant](#) allowed the districts to hire two full time staff members, one at **Northern Rhode Island Conservation District (NRICD)**, and the other at **Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD)**.

NRICD conservation and farm planner **Marina Capraro** and SRICD agriculture technician Jacob Peterson work closely with farmers statewide to develop and implement farm conservation plans. The plans not only help farmers meet their natural resource conservation goals, they are also required of farm-designated properties that receive a reduced tax rate under Rhode Island's Farm, Forest and Open Space Act.

"The Farm, Forest and Open Space Act requirement has given us access to a

AFTA is accepting both oral and poster presentation submissions. [Visit AFTA's website to learn more.](#)

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### Send Us Your Photos!



Show us the faces of your district! Whether it's your district board, staff or friendly faces from the local community, upload photos [using this online form](#) to celebrate the people who make your district or state/territory association successful.



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### NACD Events Calendar

Check [NACD's website](#) for additional details regarding meetings listed below. Does your district or state association have an upcoming tree sale, state meeting or job vacancy? **[Let us know!](#)**

- NACD 2019 Annual Meeting – Feb. 2 – 6
- NACD 2019 Spring Fly-In – Mar. 13

database of landowners with agricultural operations who have never worked with NRCS," **Capraro said.** "It has proven to be a great form of outreach to landowners and has allowed me to sign on a lot of first-time customers."



- 2019 Stewardship Week – Apr. 28 – May 5
  - NACD 2019 Summer Meeting – Aug. 2 – 6
- 

The districts have completed 18 farm plans to date and are working to complete many more statewide over the coming months with the funds. Read more about their work [on NACD's blog](#) and learn more about NACD's technical assistance program on the [technical assistance webpage](#).



## DISTRICTS PARTNER TO IMPROVE TURKEY HABITAT

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) [signed in August 2018](#) shows the commitment both organizations have to collaborate on future programs and activities, including wild turkey and habitat conservation projects, education and outreach and habitat restoration.

"[The MOU] really solidifies a great relationship we've had with conservation districts at the national and local level," **NWTF District Biologist Matt DiBona said.** "The conservation districts have those great local relationships with landowners, and if you're involved in wildlife habitat or conservation management, you can't overlook that."

NACD and NWTF have worked together

through a number of national efforts, including the Forests in the Farm Bill coalition, and have collaborated with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and state forestry agencies to staff wildlife biologists and other positions to increase conservation delivery on private lands, including a planned position in New Hampshire and Vermont.

"Capacity is often a limiting factor in reaching landowners and getting projects on the ground," **DiBona said**. "So, we're really excited about that."

In the meantime, NWTF is building on the past 20 years of collaboration with the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts (NHACD) to build turkey habitat and create accessible hunting property.

"The conservation districts are committed to wildlife habitat and working with landowners on technical assistance and taking the right steps for turkeys," **Cheshire County Conservation District Manager Amanda J.C. Littleton said**. "Turkeys have come back with such a great success story, now they're hunted in our region, which is great. The partnership has really been a positive impact on the environment." [Read more on NACD's blog.](#)

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

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# NORTHWEST MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL DISTRICT

PUBLIC HEALTH GOVERNMENT AGENCY

## Notice of Intent to apply Public Health pesticides for Vector Control Purposes to Surface Waters and Waters of the U.S. Within Western Riverside County.

- The Northwest Mosquito & Vector Control District intends to make public health pesticide applications to, over and adjacent to constructed conveyances, surface waters and other waters of the U.S. owned and controlled by an entity other than the District for vector control purposes per the requirements of the General NPDES Permit for Biological and Residual Discharges for Vector Control Applications.
- The District's activities are conducted year-round within a 300 mile areas situated in the western portion of the County of Riverside. The areas that will actually or potentially impacted by District activities include the following: the incorporated cities of Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Lake Elsinore, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Norco and Riverside. The District also controls vectors in the northwest portion of Riverside County including the following areas of Coronita, El Cerrito, Glen Avon, Highgrove, Home Gardens, Woodcrest and other unincorporated areas within the boundaries of the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control District. Additionally, the District may be requested to provide vector control in the sphere of influence area (presently vector control is provided by the County). In addition to the above mentioned the District at times may implement vector control methods in areas adjacent to the District jurisdiction pursuant the California Health and Safety Code.
- The NPDES Permit requirements for listing of the Public Health Pesticides anticipated to be used were modified from the previous permit, to the new permit, issued in 2016. The newer requirements specify that any pesticide product can be used that contains approved active ingredients, provided all pesticide label restrictions and instructions are followed. In addition, the minimum risk pesticides have been exempted from the FIFRA requirements. The following tables list the active ingredients approved for the FIFRA regulated pesticides.

Active ingredients for larval mosquito control:

<i>Bacillus thuringiensis susp, israelensis (Bti)</i>
<i>Bacillus sphaericus (Bs)</i>
Methoprene
Monomolecular Films
Petroleum Distillates
Spinosad
Temephos

President  
Berwin Hanna  
City of Norco

Vice President  
Brian Tisdale  
City of Lake Elsinore

Secretary  
Karen Alexander  
City of Corona

Trustee  
Joe Tessari  
City of Eastvale

Trustee  
Micheal Goodland  
City of Jurupa Valley

Trustee  
George Read  
County of Riverside

Trustee  
Jordan Ehrenkranz  
City of Canyon Lake

Trustee  
Gary Bradley, Ph.D.  
City of Riverside

Major S. Dhillon, Ph.D.  
District Manager

Active Ingredients for adult mosquito control:

Deltamethrin
Etofenprox
Lambda-Cyhalothrin
Malathion
Naled
N-octyl bicycloheptene dicarboximide (MGK-264)
Piperonyl butoxide (PBO)
Permethrin
Prallethrin
Pyrethrin
Resmethrin
Sumithrin

- The purpose of the use of larvicide and adulticide pesticides containing these active ingredients is for the control of larval and adult mosquitoes to minimize the threat of mosquito-borne disease and biting annoyances.
- The general time period for the application of the pesticides is January through December, 2019. Locations of expected use will be constructed conveyance, surface waters and other waters of the U.S. located within western Riverside County.
- There are no known use restrictions or precautions during treatment.
- Interested persons may contact the District at 951-340-9792 for additional information.

Date: January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019



Angela Caranci, PhD  
Vector Ecologist

Subject **CARCD Weekly Digest, January 14 – 18**  
From Sara Schremmer <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>  
Sender <carcd@memberclicks-mail.net>  
<manager@teamrcd.org>  
Reply-To <sara-schremmer@carcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-18 11:56



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF  
**RESOURCE**  
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Dear Colleagues,

In service to all RCDs throughout the state, the CARCD team is always on the lookout for events, news, funding opportunities, and any other resources that could be relevant to the important work that you do in your communities. Please see below for this week's digest of announcements.

If you have questions about any of the content listed below, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Thank you and Happy Friday!

## In This Issue:

1. [CARCD Updates](#)
2. [Funding Opportunities](#)
3. [RCD News](#)
4. [Conservation Announcements](#)
5. [Job Announcements](#)

## CARCD Updates

## Registration Reopened for Communications Academy

Due to popular demand, [registration has been reopened](#) for the RCD Communications Academy with the new deadline of January 23. The no-cost [RCD Communications Academy](#) is designed exclusively for RCD staff and directors and includes simple tools and straight-forward activities in combination with six engaging webinar sessions, to best engage the people who will help you meet your RCD's goals. The first webinar was held on January 16 and will be available online soon.

## 2018 CARCD Conference Presentations Online

Our [2018 conference online agenda](#) has been updated with links to pdf versions of presentations from many of our breakout speakers. If you were a presenter and would like to make your presentation posted, you can email your presentation to Kiko at [kiko-barr@carcd.org](mailto:kiko-barr@carcd.org).

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## Funding Opportunities

### SARE Agricultural Professionals Mini Grants

Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program (SARE) invites proposals for its [Education Implementation Mini-Grants](#) (\$5,000-\$10,000 each) to assist agricultural professionals (UC ANR, NRCS, RCDs and others) in providing opportunities for educational and professional development to other California-based agricultural professionals. The program will award 2 or 3 small grants geared to professional development activities targeted primarily to agricultural professionals such as extension staff, non-profit, state and federal agency staff, PCAs/CCAs, etc. Farmers and ranchers may be included but should NOT be the primary audience. The goal is to increase the capacity of agriculture professionals to apply the principles of sustainable agriculture while working with their clientele (farmers, ranchers, consumers, youth, businesses, government, or communities).

### CEC's Renewable Energy for Agriculture Program

The California Energy Commission has released a grant funding opportunity for eligible renewable energy projects installed on agricultural operations called [Renewable Energy for Agriculture Program \(REAP\)](#). Awarded grants can range from \$25,000 to \$350,000. Applications will be accepted until March 5. Workshops will be held in Sacramento, Fresno, and Imperial beginning January 24.

### SGC's Transformative Community Grants Now Open to RCDs

California Strategic Growth Council's [Transformative Community Grants](#) are now open to RCDs. Projects must reduce greenhouse gas emissions significantly over time, leverage additional funding sources, and provide additional health, environmental and economic benefits. Two categories of projects relevant to RCDs include water-energy efficiency installations and urban greening projects. [This fact sheet](#) provides a useful overview of the program.

### USFS Wood Innovations Grants Deadline Extended

The US Forest Service announced an extension on the deadline for their Wood Innovations Grants. Originally scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, it will be extended due to the lapse in government funding. Once funding has

been restored, the updated deadline will be announced on the [Wood Innovations homepage](#).

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## RCD News

### Napa RCD Hosting Free RCD Storytelling Training

Thanks to the capacity building funding administered through the DOC, Napa RCD will be hosting a free Storytelling Training for RCDs. The training will be conducted by Solid Ground and will be closely coordinated with other CARCD-led communications efforts. The workshop will be on January 29, 9am - 4pm in at Napa Valley College. RSVP to Frances at [frances@naparcd.org](mailto:frances@naparcd.org).

- Learn the distinguishing elements of effective stories
- Learn how stories differ from other communications
- Learn how RCDs and conservation groups are employing storytelling
- Learn how and where to use stories in your RCD
- Receive post-training coaching specific to your needs and questions

The trainer, Rich Bruer, is a consultant with Solid Ground Consulting (Portland) and a regular presenter on storytelling, branding, and messaging. He brings a diversity of experience and perspective to storytelling. He began his career as a newspaper journalist after earning a master's a degree in journalism from the University of Oregon, then worked as a corporate communications executive, before co-founding and leading a marketing and communications agency in Portland. Today, Rich advises conservation groups and other nonprofit organizations in strategic planning, branding, and communications.

### Sonoma RCD Vineyard Soil Health Symposium

SRCD's [Second Annual Vineyard Soil Health Symposium](#) will be on March 8, from 9am to noon at Sonoma County Winegrowers new office in Santa Rosa. Growers will gather for a morning of presentations and discussions on improving vineyard soil health. The program will begin with academic researchers and professionals sharing information on tillage management alternatives, cover crops, compost application, and best practices for vineyard floor management. This will be followed by a grower panel discussing their experiences with implementing these practices, and the benefits, drawbacks and complexities of integrating them into their operations.

### Yolo County RCD "Know Your Natives" Guide

The Yolo County RCD has printed a limited number of copies of its slightly updated, long-standing publication, Know Your Natives, which covers 36 species of native grasses, sedges and rushes. They also now have a high-resolution digital version available. This publication is intended to be a practical identification tool for plants used in restoration and revegetation projects and that are commercially available as either seed or plant plugs. If you are interested in either buying or downloading a free digital copy, [please check here](#).

### Riverside-Corona RCD Ditch Your Lawn Event

Join RCRC on Saturday, February 16 from 9am to noon at Sycamore Creek Interpretive Center to [learn how to convert a lawn into a water-wise landscape](#). Attendees will learn about lawn removal, irrigation, hydro-zoning, design, and plant selection. RSVP by [emailing RCRC](#).

## Contra Costa RCD Plant Life Hike

Join CCRC for their [Plant Life Hike](#) at Fernandez Ranch (1081 Christie Road, Martinez, CA) on Saturday, February 23 from 10am to 1pm. State Botanist Dr. Dean Kelch and Open Space Ranger Glen Lewis will talk about local flora and land conservation. The free hike will be guided up old ranch trails through the beautiful oak spotted rolling hills of Fernandez Ranch.

## Yolo County RCD Oak Planting Volunteer Event

YCRC will be hosting the last of their winter [community oak planting days](#). The last two will be held at Capay Open Space Park on Monday, January 21 from 10am to noon and Saturday, January 26 from 10am to noon.

## Mendocino County SWEEP HSP Event

In this workshop, producers will [learn about federal and state grants to improve soil health and water use efficiency](#). Join RCD of Mendocino County on Tuesday, January 29 from 2pm to 4pm at the Rose Room on the Anderson Valley Museum grounds (12340 Highway 128, Boonville).

## Eastern Kern County RCD Xeriscape Presentation

On Saturday, January 26, Eastern Kern County RCD and the Department of Conservation will host two xeriscape presentations by noted landscape architect and radio host Norm Schilling. The first presentation will take place from 11am to 1pm, and the second will be from 2pm to 4pm. Both will take place in the in the Coso Room of the Maturango Museum (100 E. Las Flores Ave., Ridgecrest). Find more information on [EKRC's facebook page](#).

*If your RCD has job openings, community events, or announcements that you would like to share with the RCD network and beyond, please e-mail me at [sara-schremmer@carcd.org](mailto:sara-schremmer@carcd.org) with the details so that we can include them in an upcoming Weekly Digest and in a monthly blog post at the end of the month.*

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## Conservation Announcements

### Planting at the Ponds Event in Monterey County

At [Planting at the Ponds](#), volunteers will restore sensitive habitat for California red-legged frogs, Santa Cruz long-toed salamanders, and California tiger salamanders, through planting native trees, grasses, shrubs, as well as removing invasive plants. The event will be on February 2, from 10am to 2pm at North Monterey County High School.

### Solano Land Trust Communing with Cattle Event

Participants at Solano Land Trust's [Communing with Cattle](#) event will learn how to read and interpret cattle body

language and recognize how human actions can affect cattle behavior. The goal is for citizen scientists, docents, and SLT staff and volunteers, to lead the way towards minimizing stress for livestock and recreationists alike. They will begin with a presentation and discussion, and then take to the pastures to try to interpret the behaviors of cattle in the field. The event will be on January 25 from 9:30am to 1pm at the Rush Ranch Nature Center (3521 Grizzly Island Rd., Suisun City).

## Earlybird Prices End Soon for CalCAN Summit

Earlybird rates for the [6th California Climate & Agriculture Summit](#) end this Monday, January 21 (\$30 savings). The summit will be on March 4 & 5. Farm tours are booked, but there is a waitlist which can be joined by emailing [summit@calclimateag.org](mailto:summit@calclimateag.org).

## CDFW Draft Fisheries Habitat Restoration 2019 Proposal Solicitation Notice Released

CDFW just released a draft of its [Fisheries Habitat Restoration Proposal Solicitation Notice](#) for public review and input. CDFW will host a public meeting on January 23, to discuss the draft solicitation and gather input. The deadline for public comments is February 1. Comments may be submitted via email to [FRGP@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:FRGP@wildlife.ca.gov).

## California Weed-Free Forage and Straw Producer List

Please find the [updated California weed free forage and straw producer list](#), which replaces the list that was sent in July 2018. Contact [Nate Reade](#), Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights & Measures with any questions.

## IPC Free Invasive Plant Management Training

California Invasive Plant Council will be hosting a free [Invasive Plant Management Training](#) on Sunday February 10 from 9am to 2:30pm at Skyline Wilderness Park. This training is appropriate for expert volunteers and workers as well as those who are new to invasive plant management. Topics include: invasive plant biology, control methods, restoration strategies, tools of the trade, mapping using Calflora, and more. Attendees will also hear about current invasive-removal volunteer efforts taking place in the region and will learn how they can get more involved.

## Forestry Assistant II Exam for CAL FIRE

There is a [Forestry Assistant II](#) exam out with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The final filing date for this exam is January 22. Incumbents assist Foresters in performing the most complex technical assignments in resource management and assume lead responsibility over lower level technicians. They may also perform as specialists responsible for a specific segment of a program area, including but not limited to law enforcement. As part of the Department's emergency response team, during fire season incumbents will perform fire control or other emergency duties for which they have been trained at a level of responsibility comparable to the classification of Fire Captain and may occasionally perform such assignments at other times.

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## Job Announcement

## Sloughhouse RCD Opening for Part-Time Natural Resources Specialist

Sloughhouse RCD has an opening for a [part-time Natural Resources Specialist](#). The position is remote, with meetings in Sloughhouse and Sacramento County. The position will support SRCD's new role as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency, as well as responsibilities including administrative tasks and serving as liaison to NRCS staff, among others.

## Tahoe RCD Employment Opportunities

Tahoe RCD has openings for several seasonal positions (May/April 2019 - October 2019):

- Fire Adapted Communities Outreach Specialist
- Restoration/Land Management Crew Member
- Restoration/Land Management Crew Leader and Assistant Crew Leader

Find descriptions for all three positions on [their employment page](#).

## Inland Empire RCD is Looking for Three Field Restoration Technicians

The IERCD is seeking [three Field Restoration Technicians](#) positions who will report to and serve under the direct supervision of the Natural Resources Manager and are responsible for assisting the Lead Field Ecologist with habitat conservation, enhancement and restoration tasks. Typical tasks include but are not limited to invasive plant removal through the use of hand tools or hand-pulling and herbicide application using backpack sprayers; native plant installation, and equipment maintenance and cleaning. The Field Restoration Technicians work as part of the Natural Resources Team. The application period will close on January 31.

## NRCS Soil Conservationist Positions

USDA NRCS has openings for [three Soil Conservationist positions](#) in Bakersfield (2 openings) and Fresno (1 opening). The positions will close on January 24.

## CAFF Hiring Part-Time Farmer Organizer

The Community Alliance with Family Farmer's [Farmer Organizer position](#) leads the farmer-to-farmer program on the Central Coast, organizing the local farm community while providing boots-on-the-ground for our organization's many services, outreach and advocacy efforts. This program will (primarily, though not exclusively) focus on the Latino/a farm community along the Central Coast of California.

## CAFF Hiring Part-Time Climate Smart Farming Coordinator

Through policy advocacy and on-the-ground projects, the Community Alliance with Family Farmer's [Climate Smart Farming program coordinator](#) works to promote farming practices and systems that can mitigate and adapt to climate change through 1) reducing GHG emissions through more efficient fertilizer and water use and 2) building soil health and carbon sequestration and 3) conserving natural resources such as water and topsoil.



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This email was sent to [manager@teamrcd.org](mailto:manager@teamrcd.org) by [sara-schremmer@carcd.org](mailto:sara-schremmer@carcd.org)

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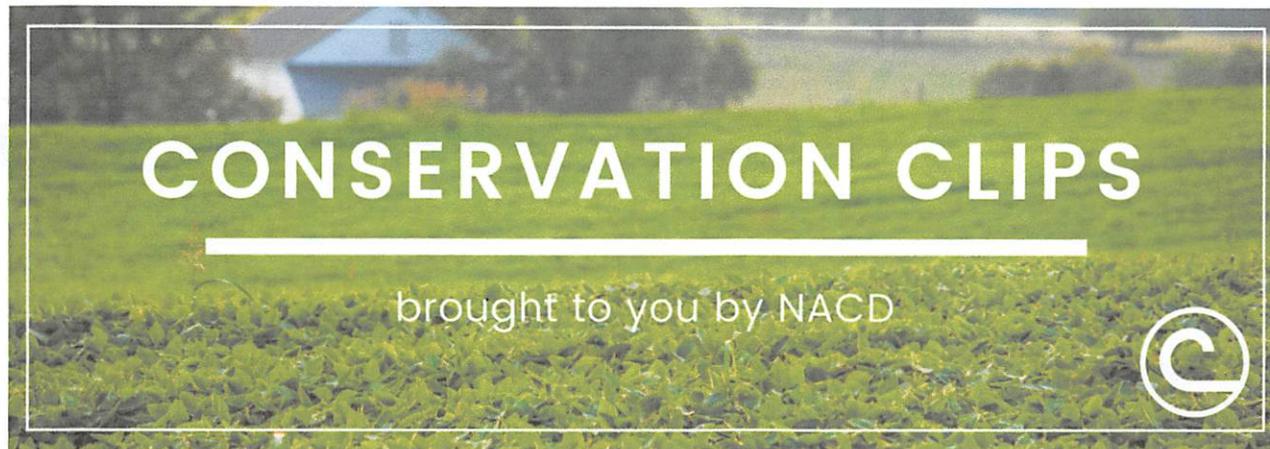
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Subject **Conservation Clips – Brought to you by NACD**  
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdnet.org>  
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdnet.org>  
Temecula–Elsinore– Anza–Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-18 06:59



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*Conservation Clips is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD that provides our members and partners with the latest news in what's driving conservation. These articles are not indicative of NACD policy and are the opinions of their authors, unless otherwise noted. If you have a relevant submission or need assistance with accessing articles, please contact [NACD Communications Manager Sara Kangas](#).*

### **NACD Blog: Rhode Island conservation districts expand conservation planning for farmers**

01/14/19

Rhode Island's three conservation districts are expanding efforts to help farmers develop and implement farm conservation plans. A \$179,520 NACD technical assistance grant allowed the districts to hire two full time staff members, one at Northern Rhode Island Conservation District (NRICD), and the other at Southern Rhode Island Conservation District (SRICD).

### **NACD Blog: 2018 Farm Bill Breakdown: Conservation Stewardship Program**

01/15/19

The House of Representatives proposed merging CSP into the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). NACD supported keeping the programs functionally separate, and we are grateful to see CSP continue as a standalone program. However, the 2018 Farm Bill still made changes to CSP, including moving from an acreage-based program

to a monetary one, cutting the program's 10-year baseline, and eliminating the \$18 per acre payment requirement.

**NACD Blog: Partnership puts turkeys back on the ground in New Hampshire**

01/15/19

NWTF is building on the past 20 years of collaboration with the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Districts (NHACD) to build turkey habitat and create accessible hunting property.

**NACD Blog: 2018 Farm Bill Breakdown: Forestry**

01/17/19

On December 20, 2018, President Donald Trump signed the 2018 Farm Bill into law. Historically, the Forestry Title has been one of the more non-controversial titles debated between the chambers. However, it was one of the last items finalized due to the recent catastrophic wildfires in California.

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**Agri-Pulse: Pelosi announces new appointments to House Agriculture Committee**

By Hannah Pagel

01/17/19

New Democrats on the House Agriculture have been announced, giving the committee a handful of new members with both urban and rural backgrounds.

**Agri-Pulse: USDA to open FSA offices temporarily**

By Ben Nuelle

01/16/19

About half the Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency offices will reopen temporarily during the government shutdown. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced Wednesday the agency will open Thursday Jan. 17, Friday Jan. 18, and Tuesday Jan. 22, to perform certain limited services for farmers and ranchers.

**U.S. News and World Report: Government Shutdown Taking Toll on Wildfire Preparations**

By Gillian Flaccus

01/17/19

The government shutdown is taking a toll on a wildfire fight that hasn't even started yet. Wildfire training courses are being canceled, piles of dead trees are left untended in federal forests and controlled burns to thin fire-prone forests aren't happening.

**The New York Times: Female Ranchers Are Reclaiming the American West**

By Amy Chozick

01/11/19

Against the vast blue skies and craggy prairies, female ranchers have found the same independence and adventure that first lured their male antecedents, but they are also forging a new path. Women are leading the trend of sustainable ranching and raising grass-fed breeds of cattle in humane, ecological ways.

**The Enquirer: Cincinnati's local zoo is paving the way in green and sustainable efforts**

By Ladan Nikravan-Hayes

01/15/19

By 2025 the Zoo will produce more power on its properties than it consumes. It will use no potable water for non-drinking water needs and will be sending zero waste to the landfill. The Cincinnati Zoo would be the first zoo in the world to achieve this.

**NACD Editor's Note:** Hamilton County SWCD helped install rain gardens and a vegetated roof at the zoo through grants. These features have signage enabling the district to educate the millions of visitors that go to the zoo each year. "It's a great partnership," says district director Holly Utrata-Halcomb.

**Agri-Pulse: Farm bill spares but 'downplays' major conservation program**

By Philip Brasher

01/16/19

Although the final bill preserved CSP as a standalone program, the bill cut its annual funding level from \$1.8 billion to \$1 billion and diverted an estimated \$50 million to make payments to farmers who will no longer be eligible for commodity subsidies on acreage that isn't planted to program crops.

**Bay Journal: Farm Bill could increase funding to control ag runoff to Chesapeake**

By Timothy B. Wheeler

01/15/19

Specifically, (the 2018 Farm Bill) triples to \$300 million the funding for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, which provides financial and technical assistance for multi-state or watershed-scale projects. It also increases from 35 percent to 50 percent the share of that funding that's available to one of eight designated "critical conservation areas," including

the Chesapeake.

**Independent Record: Stream project aims to restore a mile of Prickly Pear Creek**

 Tom Kuglin  
01/06/19

McNeal was hired to design a new flood plain and reshape about a mile of the creek to a more natural flow. Jeff Ryan with (Lewis and Clark) Conservation District joined McNeal on-site and noted that the 319 funding has been a critical source for restoration projects on Prickly Pear and other area streams. The conservation district is working with state and federal agencies on proposals to reduce some of those engineering costs.

**AP News: Apps let everyone help track health of insect populations**

By Katherine Roth  
01/15/19

A number of recent studies have shown precipitous declines in some invertebrate populations. As alarm over the situation grows, so does the importance and popularity of citizen-scientist projects involving insects.

**The Bulletin: U.S. Forest Service may allow sale of horses for slaughter**

 By Scott Sonner  
/15/19

The U.S. Forest Service has built a new corral for wild horses in Northern California, which could allow it to bypass federal restrictions and sell the animals for slaughter. (The agency) says it may have no choice because of the high cost of housing the animals and continued ecological impacts it says overpopulated herds are having on federal rangeland.

**Los Angeles Times: 'Goat Fund Me' campaign aims to use farm animals to fight wildfires**

By Anh Do  
01/11/19

The cost of using goats to eat away overgrown brush is affordable, supporters say. Booking a herd costs between \$500 to \$1,500 an acre, according to City Manager Catrina Olson. Some 200 animals can plow through an acre of land daily, officials said.

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## **Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District (TEAM RCD)**

**Rose Corona-President**

**What does your Council do?**

The Temecula-Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District (formerly the Elsinore-Anza-Murrieta Resource Conservation District) was formed in 1949 and at the time of creation did not include the 89,000 acre cattle ranch area owned by the Vail Family which most people know as Temecula. In 2015, with the increase in population and the expansion of the Wine Country region in the Temecula Valley, the Board voted to include the name of Temecula in its name and officially had it changed to reflect the diversity of the District and its constituency using the inclusive acronym of "TEAM RCD."

Resource Conservation Districts were initially formed as a result of the "Dust Bowl" disaster during the Depression years in an effort to teach better water and soil conservation methods to farmers. RCD's eventually expanded to all states to address the needs of their communities and reflected the needs within each State.

Since its' inception, farming within the District's boundaries was the focus of most of TEAM RCD work. However, in the early 1970's the responsibilities of the RCD expanded to include environmental and wildlife concerns and management in coordination with local governmental agencies that include Fish and Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards in helping keep our watersheds, our water and wildlife protected for future generations.

We currently are working in collaboration with the Rancho California Water District in helping to administrate Water Audits for farmers which help assess their current water usage with their crops and how to improve their water consumption through updating their irrigation processes and equipment. In addition, we also work with RCWD on their Crop Swap program which provides the opportunity for farmers and growers to swap an existing high water use crop to a lesser water use crop. This program allows farmers and growers to continue to keep their land in agriculture rather than letting an entire crop diminish due to the high cost of water.

TEAM RCD has also obtained an agreement with Riverside County Flood Control to collaborate with them in maintaining, restoring and creating habitat within our watersheds and flood control areas which will benefit all the communities within our district.

**What interested you in serving on the Board?**

Our family has been farming in Southern California for almost 100 years and we have been in the Temecula Valley since 1973 when my father began purchasing property in Temecula. We moved from Cucamonga (before it was renamed Rancho Cucamonga) because we were getting pushed out by development and my father chose Temecula saying "Let's move to Temecula. Nobody will move there." Well we all know how that has turned out. When we moved here, the sign on U.S. 395 that said "Temecula-Population-200".

I was appointed to TEAM RCD in 2015 and was interested in participating in the District to be involved in keeping farming interests alive in our community while still working with those that wished to come



to this area and see their vision for their futures realized. That included balancing the need for development and expansion without eliminating the agricultural and farming aspects that created this area to begin with. Being members of the Riverside County Farm Bureau, our family has continued to serve our community and I wished to be able to contribute to the sustainability of our area to make it an inviting place to visit and a wonderful community to live in.

Our TEAM RCD Board members are myself, Dave Kuhlman, Stacy Kuhns, Randy Feeney, and Jack Fleming with Associate Directors Rick Neugebauer, Judy Gugliemana and Newton Parkes who all continue to work to move our District forward in helping to preserve our way of life for everyone.



Subject **Fwd: CSDA eNews 1/22/2019: New Laws of 2019 Publication Now Available**  
From Rose Corona <rose.corona@teamrcd.org>  
To Manager <manager@teamrcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-23 07:52



----- Original Message -----  
Subject: CSDA eNews 1/22/2019: New Laws of 2019 Publication Now Available  
Date: 2019-01-22 11:01  
From: "Neil McCormick" <neilm@csda.net>  
To: [rose.corona@teamrcd.org](mailto:rose.corona@teamrcd.org)  
Reply-To: [neilm@csda.net](mailto:neilm@csda.net)

- [1]
- [2]
- [3]
- [4]

WEBINAR: ANNUAL EMPLOYMENT LAW UPDATE: RECENT CASES & TRENDS

Tuesday, February 5, 2019

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Free SDRMA Member - \$65 CSDA Member - \$95 Non-member

- [5]

CSDA WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

January 22, 2019

NEW LAWS OF 2019 PUBLICATION NOW AVAILABLE

AS LEGISLATORS WORK TIRELESSLY ON NEW BILLS FOR THE 2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION, CSDA HAS DEVELOPED A PUBLICATION TO HELP YOU AND YOUR DISTRICT UNDERSTAND ALL THE LAWS THAT TOOK EFFECT WITH THE NEW YEAR. THE NEW LAWS OF 2019 PUBLICATION [6] WAS RECENTLY RELEASED AS A REFERENCE AVAILABLE ON THE KNOWLEDGE BASE AT CSDA.NET [7]. READ MORE [8]

TAKE ACTION

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO PROTECT YOUR DISTRICT FROM THE GROWING THREAT OF WILDFIRES?

Facing another year of devastating wildfires throughout the state, CSDA, in partnership with other partner organizations, is soliciting ideas from our collective memberships for possible approaches to prevent or mitigate wildfires.

- READ MORE [9]

PG&E RESTRUCTURING, UNDERGROUNDING, AND WILDFIRE MITIGATION

The following article was written by Ryan Baron of Counsel and Howard Golub of Counsel with Best, Best and Krieger as part of the BB&K Legal Alert published on January 14, 2019.

- READ MORE [10]

MEMBER SERVICES

CSDA FINANCE CORPORATION - JOIN FREE WEBINAR!

In 2018, the CSDA FINANCE CORPORATION [11] facilitated the financing of more than \$53 million for special district infrastructure projects. From well drilling projects to fire engine purchases to golf course improvements – the CSDA FINANCE CORPORATION [12] provided members with competitive rates, flexible terms, and prompt service.

Have questions about financing options for your agency's own projects? Join the CSDA Finance Corporation consultants on February 12, 2019 for a free webinar "Ask the Experts: Financing for Capital Improvements."

- REGISTER HERE [13]

LEARN

SDRMA AND CSDA MEMBERS INVITED TO ATTEND 2019 SDRMA SPRING EDUCATION DAY!

Come join us at SDRMA's Spring Education Day on March 26th at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West. This Education Day is free to all SDRMA and CSDA members and provides training and information regarding coverages, online training programs, and technology updates.

In addition, SDRMA members in attendance are eligible to earn credit incentive points (CIPs). Find out more information or register today by clicking below!

- REGISTER HERE [14]

RFP CLEARINGHOUSE

VIEW AND DOWNLOAD OPEN RFPs AND RFQS FROM CSDA#39;S RFP CLEARINGHOUSE:

Request for Bids – Surge Tower Demolition

RFP – Rate Study

RFP – Audit Services

RFP – Park Asphalt Project

To post an RFP or receive notifications, join the RFP CLEARINGHOUSE  
UNITY [15]!

LEARN MORE [16]

SDLF

DO YOU LIKE US ON FACEBOOK?

Be sure to "like" and follow the Special District Leadership Foundation  
on FACEBOOK [17] for updates on scholarships, programs, recognitions,  
award presentations and more!

For questions about the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF)  
programs, contact BETH HUMMEL.

LEARN MORE [18]

CAREER CENTER

LISTED BELOW ARE THE MOST RECENT POSITIONS POSTED TO CSDA#39;S CAREER  
CENTER [19]:

GENERAL MANAGER [20] – Mosquito and Vector Management District of  
Santa Barbara County

GENERAL MANAGER [21] – North County Recreation and Park District

For assistance when posting a job opportunity or RFP/RFQ, please call  
877.924.2732.

READ MORE [19]

[22]

[23]

[24]

[25]

California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200

Santa Barbara, CA, 95814

Phone - 877.924.2732

[WWW.CSDA.NET](http://www.csgda.net) [1] | [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) [26]

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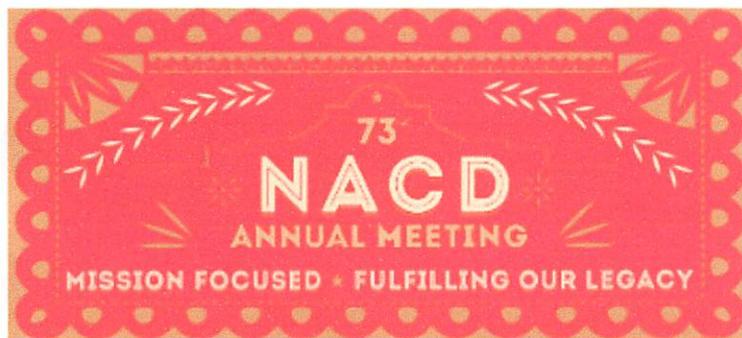
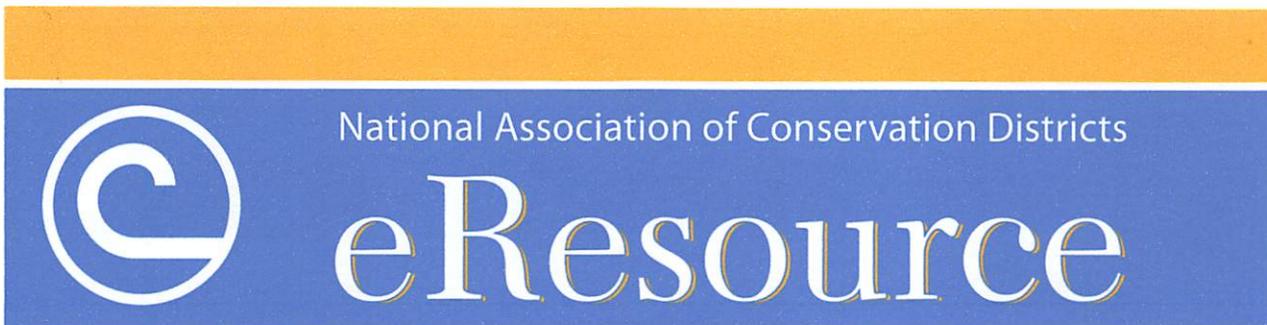
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- [1] <http://csgda.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT03MjU3MjEyJnA9MSZlPTg4NTE0NTk5MCZsaT01NTI2Njg0Mg/index.html>
- [2] <http://csgda.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT03MjU3MjEyJnA9MSZlPTg4NTE0NTk5MCZsaT01NTI2Njg0Mw/index.html>
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- [6] <http://csgda.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT03MjU3MjEyJnA9MSZlPTg4NTE0NTk5MCZsaT01NTI2Njg0Nw/index.html>
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Subject **eResource – This Week's NACD News Briefs**  
From NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>  
Sender NACD News <nacdnews@nacdn.net.org>  
Temecula–Elsinore– Anza–Murrieta RCD <manager@teamrcd.org>  
Date 2019-01-22 14:03



## ANNUAL MEETING BEGINS NEXT WEEK

NACD's [73rd Annual Meeting](#) begins next week in San Antonio, Texas. As you prepare, [review the meeting agenda](#), [speaker line-up](#) and scheduled [breakout sessions](#) and [conservation symposia](#).



NACD is pleased to announce NACD Soil

Jan. 22, 2019

Follow us!

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### NACD Government Affairs Team Breaks Down New Farm Bill



NACD's Government Affairs Team has released a series of blog posts to break down the 2018 Farm Bill in more detail with the changes folks can expect on the ground as USDA works to implement the new law. Over the past week, the government affairs team

Health Champion **Jimmy Emmons** of Dewey County, Okla., will join Tuesday morning's soil health panel. Emmons owns and operates 2,000 acres in Leedey, Okla., with his wife, Ginger. The third-generation operation includes a rotation of wheat, canola, rye, sunflowers, peas, soybeans, milo, sesame and alfalfa, as well as a cow-calf operation. Emmons serves on the board of the Dewey County Conservation District and is the current president of the Oklahoma Association of Conservation Districts. Emmons will bring a producer's perspective to the panel, which also features Soil Health Institute President and CEO **Dr. Wayne Honeycutt**, Soil Health Partnership Executive Director **Dr. Shefali Mehta** and Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN Senior Director of Sustainability **Jason Weller**.



NACD is pleased to announce **Eduardo Lopez de Casas** will sing the national anthem during Monday morning's general session. Lopez de Casas became the soloist for the "Singing Boys of Galveston" at just 10 years of age. Possessing a range of over four octaves, Lopez de Casas has performed in some of the world's major musical venues and has appeared in orchestras and musical companies throughout North America and Europe.

NACD looks forward to another action-packed annual meeting. While making preparations for your week in the Lone Star State, remember to pack a book. The 2019 Annual Meeting will mark the 12th year running for NACD's community outreach program "[Pack-A-Book](#)." Through "Pack-A-

has released a blog post analyzing the [2018 Farm Bill's forestry title](#) and [conservation reserve program](#) (CRP).

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### **Ohio Association Seeks Chief Executive Officer**

The Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (OFSWCD) is a 501(c)(3) organization representing the 88 conservation districts across Ohio and is dedicated to the conservation of Ohio's abundant resources. OFSWCD is seeking a full-time **chief executive officer**, based in Reynoldsburg, Ohio, to enhance the public relations of conservation districts and implement OFSWCD policy at state and federal levels. The position will be responsible for conservation district advocacy, office administration and management, grant acquisition and management, budgeting and fundraising. Learn more about the position on [NACD's District Job Board](#) - applications are due **Friday, Feb. 1**.

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### **Soil Health Academy Scholarships Available**

The Soil Health Academy announced its line-up of school locations, dates and

Book" and the generosity of annual meeting attendees, NACD has donated more than 1,300 books to elementary schools located within our annual meetings' host cities.

Be a part of this project by packing one or more natural resource, environmental or conservation-related book(s) for your trip to San Antonio. Simply drop them off at the Stewardship and Education Exhibit in the Conservation Expo Hall sometime during the 2019 Annual Meeting or contact [stewardship@nacdnet.org](mailto:stewardship@nacdnet.org) for shipping instructions. For a wide selection of books with conservation themes, [consult the Pack-A-Book webpage](#).

**Don't forget to download NACD's free app!** The app gives meeting-goers access to the annual meeting program, breakout session descriptions, speaker bios and more at a glance, last minute room changes and meeting updates.

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## NACD REPRESENTED AT SOIL HEALTH SUMMIT

On Jan. 15–16, the Soil Health Partnership (SHP) held the 2019 Soil Health Summit in St. Louis, Mo. The summit, which was titled "Rooted in Data, Growing Success" brought together representatives from farm groups, companies, government and non-government organizations for two days of discussions on soil health research, data, economics and practice adoption. NACD was represented at the meeting by NACD Soil Health Champion **Dorn Cox** from New Hampshire and **CEO Jeremy Peters**.

SHP Executive Director **Dr. Shefali Mehta** will participate in a soil health panel discussion at NACD's Annual Meeting in San Antonio on Tuesday, Feb. 5 along with Soil Health Institute President and CEO **Dr. Wayne Honeycutt**, Land O'Lakes SUSTAIN Senior Director of Sustainability **Jason Weller** and NACD Soil Health Champion **Jimmy Emmons** from Oklahoma.

---

topics and scholarship availability for its 2019 schools. The Academy, now in its second year, offers advanced, hands-on, intensive regenerative agricultural training throughout North America, featuring instruction by Ray Archuleta, Dave Brandt, Gabe Brown, Allen Williams, Ph.D., and other technical consultants.

Each school features production-specific topics designed to help producers practically and successfully apply soil health-focused, regenerative agriculture systems in their farming or ranching operations.

The 2019 school locations, dates and topics are:

- **Regenerative Cropping & Adaptive Grazing**, Feb. 19–21, Chihuahua, Mexico
- **Nutrient Management Training**, Apr. 9–11, Watertown, Wisc.
- **Advanced Adaptive Grazing & Marketing**, May 21–23, Uniontown, Ala.
- **Regenerative Farming and Ranching**, June 4–6, Carroll, Ohio
- **Regenerative Farming and Ranching**, July 16–18, Brandon, Manitoba
- **Regenerative Farming and Ranching**, Aug. 20–22, Holton, Kan.
- **Adaptive Grazing for Beginners**, Oct. 15–17, Seymour, Mo.

## TA GRANT HELPS GET THINGS MOVING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

South Carolina's **Barnwell Soil and Water Conservation District** (BSWCD) has been able to dig in to a backlog of Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) applications with the help of an NACD technical assistance grant.

In 2018, when the district was awarded the grant, Bamberg and Barnwell counties had a backlog of more than 400 highly erodible land (HEL) determinations. Without the soil mapping and erodibility assessments, producers' eligibility for EQIP was hampered.

"Almost 100 of the determinations in Bamberg County needed field visits to measure slope and slope length, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff was struggling to keep up," BSWCD Administrative Assistant **Tracey Morehead** said. "We used the grant funds to hire Conservation Technician **Sonja Hiers** (pictured) in June and quickly put her to work assisting with the HEL determinations."

- **Regenerative Farming and Ranching**, Dec. 3–5, Chico, Calif.

This year, the Soil Health Academy is offering a limited number of scholarships for qualified new and beginning farmers, historically underserved, women and military veteran farmers, as well as agricultural educators, farmer leaders and agriculture conservation professionals. Complete the on-line application by visiting [www.soilhealthacademy.org](http://www.soilhealthacademy.org).

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### **National Cooperative Soil Survey Conference Call for Presentations**

The National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) is hosting a national conference in Narragansett, R.I., on June 10–13, 2019, celebrating the theme "Charting the Future of Soil and Ecological Sciences." NCSS is accepting abstracts for soil or ecology presentations for Tuesday, June 11, which may either consist of an oral presentation, poster presentation or poster with lightning talk. The deadline for submitting abstracts is Friday, Mar. 1. [Visit the conference website](#) for more information.





## NACD Events Calendar

Check [NACD's website](#) for additional details regarding meetings listed below. Does your district or state association have an upcoming tree sale, state meeting or job vacancy? **Let us know!**

- NACD 2019 Annual Meeting – Feb. 2 – 6
  - NACD 2019 Spring Fly-In – Mar. 13
  - 2019 Stewardship Week – Apr. 28 – May 5
  - NACD 2019 Summer Meeting – Aug. 2 – 6
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Hiers teamed up with NRCS intern **Jabril Wright** to complete field visits and HEL determinations. Just before Wright's internship ended in July, the area was struck with a period of continuous rainfall, making field assessments challenging.

"They still had a handful of determinations that needed field visits, though, so as soon as it looked like the rain was letting up, they headed back out into the field," **Morehead said.** "They were able to complete most of the field visits they had scheduled for that day, but as they pulled into the second-to-last field, their efforts literally became a 'stick in the mud.'"

The two drove to the top of a small rise to access a farmer's field when at the top of the hill, the soft ground bogged them down. Eventually, the pair called upon local farmers to help.

"After some laughs and getting one of the farmers' trucks stuck in the mud next to the

NRCS truck, they were eventually able to get a tractor to come pull both trucks out," **Morehead said.** "Their dedication and hard work led them to complete an enormous amount of work that has helped many producers maintain their EQIP eligibility."

[Read more on NACD's Blog.](#)

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