



**Meeting of the Agricultural Production Subcommittee
August 6, 2009
Location: RCD Office
2:00 pm- 3:30 pm**

1. Call to Order
2. Introduction of Guests, Committee, and Staff
3. Public Comment- The Committee will hear comments on items that are not on the agenda where the Committee has jurisdiction. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.
4. Discussion Items 4.1. Discuss updates and changes due to funding from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for project entitled “Improving Water Quality in Coastal San Mateo County Watersheds.”
5. Action Items 5.1. Update selection criteria. Committee members will revise selection criteria as necessary to reflect changes in project scope, new requirements due to use of ARRA funds, or otherwise. Committee members will then approve changes to selection criteria. 5.2. Select grant recipients. Selection Committee members will review available grant funds and potential projects and apply selection criteria to determine grant recipients.
6. Public Comment- The Committee will hear comments on items that were discussed. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.
7. Adjourn



SAN MATEO COUNTY RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
VOLUNTARY SIGN IN SHEET

DATE OF MEETING: August 6, 2009

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
1. <u>Kellyx Nelson</u>	
2. <u>Jim REYNOLDS</u>	
3. <u>CAROLANN TOWE</u>	
4. <u>R St</u>	
5. <u>Louie Eglise</u>	
6. <u>Jim Howard</u>	
7. _____	
8. _____	
9. _____	
10. _____	
11. _____	
12. _____	
13. _____	
14. _____	
15. _____	

Signing, registering, or completion of this document is voluntary, and all persons may attend the meeting regardless of whether a person signs, registers, or completes this document.

**Meeting of the Agricultural Production Subcommittee
Minutes
August 6, 2009
Location: RCD Office
2:00 pm- 3:30 pm**

Attending Committee Members and Staff:

Louie Figone, Jim Reynolds (Committee); Kellyx Nelson, Carolann Towe (RCD); Jim Howard (NRCS)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m. There was no public comment at this time.

Discussion Items:

Kellyx Nelson provided updates to the committee regarding the project entitled “Improving Water Quality in Coastal San Mateo County Watersheds,” gave an overview of new requirements or changes to the project due to new funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), and responded to questions from committee members, staff, and members of the public.

Action Items:

Committee members discussed and approved the enclosed revisions to the selection criteria that had been adopted in April 2008 (see below).

Committee members reviewed and discussed the proposed projects in terms of their eligibility for the ARRA funds, reviewed their compliance with the selection criteria, and considered distribution of available funds across eligible projects. Committee members selected projects and awarded funds as follows.

#	Practice	Project Cost	Staff Rec.	Adjacent to Creek	Anadromous fish 303(d)	Cost effective	Start by October	Previous recipient	Conservation Plan
1	watering facilities	\$7,242	\$724						
	irrigation mainline	\$7,360	\$736						
	pumps	\$22,500	\$2,250						
	microirrigation	\$6,000	\$600						
	structures for water	\$3,531	\$353						

	control	\$46,633	\$4,663	x	x			x	new	x
2	run-off storage pond repair leaking tank	\$44,500 \$15,986 \$60,486	\$11,125 \$3,997 \$15,122					x	new	x
3	watering facility pump pipeline prescribed grazing	\$8,000 \$8,000 \$25,000 \$0 \$41,000	\$2,000 \$2,000 \$6,250 \$0 \$10,250	x	x	x		x	new	x
4	hedgerows hedgerows hedgerows pest management	\$6,500 \$16,000 \$10,000 \$0 \$32,500	\$1,625 \$4,000 \$2,500 \$0 \$8,125	x				x	x	x
5	well pump pipeline sprinkler system	\$22,500 \$25,840 \$52,500 \$31,500 \$132,340	\$5,625 \$6,460 \$13,125 \$7,875 \$33,085	x	x	x		x	x	x
6	tailwater recovery system pipeline nutrient management irrigation water management	\$0 \$34,000 \$0 \$0 \$34,000	\$0 \$8,500 \$0 \$0 \$8,500	x	x			x	3x	x
7	cover crops	\$36,500 \$36,500	\$23,000 \$23,000			vary			2x	x

TOTAL \$383,459 \$102,745

Public comment:

There was no public comment at this time.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

**Criteria for Selection of Participants
for
Agricultural Water Quality Grant**

Adopted August 6, 2009

The San Mateo County Resource Conservation District (RCD) has entered into Agreement Number 09-302-550 with the California State Water Resources Control Board to implement funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for the project entitled “Improving Water Quality in Coastal San Mateo County Watersheds.” This document outlines the criteria that will be used by a selection committee to recommend water quality conservation projects to receive technical assistance and cost-share for their implementation.

Established to be in compliance with the program guidelines for the grant program, these criteria were created by the selection committee, comprised of the Agricultural Production Subcommittee of the RCD, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), and RCD staff. The criteria can be modified at any time during the grant period.

Projects may include multiple practices which act as a system to address runoff, projects with single practices which address runoff, or projects with single practices which are implemented on several properties. In each case in which a number of practices are interdependent components of a conservation system, the system will be evaluated as a single practice.

Projects may be considered for inclusion in the grant at different times as a result of outreach activities that are part of the grant agreement.

The percentage listed by each of the following categories indicates the value, or weight, the selection committee will place on that criterion. For criteria that valued as yes/no, a “no” answer in any category will exclude a project from selection.

I. Water Quality Benefit (60%)

The project improves or protects chemical, physical, or biological aspects of water quality, including excessive nutrients, organics, or sediment in surface water, and water use efficiency. Considerations will include but not be limited to proximity to water bodies, reduction or control of the pollutant of concern in adjacent listed water bodies (e.g. 303d listing), and presence of anadromous fish in watershed.

II. Cost Effectiveness (30%)

The project improves or protects water quality and/or water use efficiency cost-effectively as recognized by NRCS standards. Costs for water quality monitoring and reporting will be considered as well.

III. Equitable Distribution (10%)

Inclusion of the project does not compromise the distribution of grant resources across a number of producers and practices.

IV. Irrigated Agriculture (yes/no)

Eligible projects will address water use, discharge, and runoff on irrigated agricultural lands. Irrigated agricultural lands are lands where water is applied to produce, but not limited to, crops in rows and fields, tree crops, commercial nurseries, nursery stock production, managed wetlands, and rice production. For the purpose of this program, irrigated pasture is also considered irrigated agriculture.

V. Landowner Participation (yes/no)

The landowner signs a participating agreement that includes willingness to comply with water quality monitoring, reporting, federal stimulus fund requirements, and associated disclosures. The agreement will allow the landowner to withdraw from the grant program at any point in time. However, cost-share for construction of conservation projects will be awarded only upon successful completion of a project.

VI. Project Feasibility (yes/no)

The project is likely to be implemented consistent with the timeline contained in Agreement Number 09-302-550. Ways to determine the feasibility of completion include but are not limited to: demonstration of due diligence in completing necessary pre planning activities, level of project pre preparation commensurate with project complexity, relative certainty of obtaining necessary permits and approvals, and demonstrated history of completing project tasks within reasonable timelines.

Management practices that are eligible for funding are listed as follows:

Erosion and Sediment Control

- Conservation Cover
- Conservation Cropping Sequence
- Conservation Tillage
- Contour Farming
- Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Area
- Cover and Green manure Crop
- Critical Area Planting
- Crop Residue Use
- Delayed Seed bed Preparation
- Diversion
- Field Border
- Filter Strip

- Grade Stabilization Structure
- Grassed Waterway
- Grasses and Legumes in Rotation
- Sediment Basins
- Contour Strip-cropping
- Field strip-cropping
- Terrace
- Water and Sediment Control Basin
- Exclusionary Fencing
- Hedgerow Planting
- Mulching
- Range Planting
- Residue Mgmt
- Road/Landing Removal
- Roof Runoff Structure
- Row Arrangement
- Runoff Mgmt System
- Stream Crossing
- Spring Development
- Structure for Water Control
- Tree and Shrub Establishment
- Underground Outlet
- Watering Facility

Nutrient Management

- Use of small grain crop cover
- Buffer areas
- Control phosphorus losses using erosion/sediment control MPs
- Manure Transfer
- Waste Utilization
- Waster Storage Facility

Pesticide Management

- Inventory pest problems
- Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies
- Use of less toxic alternatives
- Integrated crop management
- Re-calibration of spray equipment, use of anti backflow devices

Irrigation Management

- Water measuring device
- Irrigation system, drip or trickle
- Irrigation system, sprinkler
- Irrigation system, surface and subsurface
- Irrigation field ditch
- Irrigation land leveling

- Irrigation system, tailwater recovery
- Filter strip
- Surface drainage field ditch
- Subsurface drainage
- Water table control
- Controlled drainage
- Use of safety devices to prevent backflow when injecting liquid chemicals into irrigation systems (American Society of Agricultural Engineers recommendation in standard EP409 [ASAE, 1989])
- Pond Sealing or Lining
- Pipeline (companion)
- Well (companion)
- Pumping Plant (companion)
- Roof Runoff Structure
- Water Harvesting Catchment
- Windrow/Shelterbelt Establishment

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