

#### Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors February 20, 2020 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Location: RCD Office

<u>Directors present</u>: Barbara Kossy, Jim Reynolds, Neal Kramer, Adrienne Etherton <u>RCD staff present</u>: Kellyx Nelson (remotely), Lau Hodges, Noah Katz, Bryanna Whitney, Joe Issel <u>Guests Present</u>: Ron Sturgeon, Chuck Clark, Shannon Webb, Dave Olsen, Erica Sagrafina, Maria McCulloch and Michael McCulloch

#### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

Kramer moved to approve the agenda, Etherton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Introductions of Guests and Staff

All in attendance introduced themselves.

#### 4. Public Comment

Webb noted that art was not on the agenda but was excited about the possibility. Kossy agreed that she was excited to see it move forward. Clark liked the idea of celebrating the completion of an RCD project with an art show. Nelson noted the RCD was partnering with John Muir Laws' Field Journaling Group.

#### 5. Consent Agenda

- Kossy pulled item 5.3 Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and midyear budget review from consent.
- Etherton moved to approve the agenda as amended, Kramer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 6. Regular Agenda

#### **6.1 Director's Report**

- Kramer reported:
  - His interest in First Flush results. Kossy asked Kramer if spring had arrived early;
     Kramer explained that on the Coastside summer can arrive anytime and noted that his job as a botanist was starting to ramp up for the year.
- Etherton reported:

o The City of Brisbane's Bay Lands Development Plan's Notice of Preparation had just been released kicking off a 30 day public comment period. She participated in a Climate & Housing Task Force focusing on best practices of where and how more housing can be built.

#### • Reynolds reported:

- He showed a plant specimen and Kramer confirmed it was an acacia. Reynolds stated it was upstream from his property; Nelson suggested he get rid of it before it spreads.
- O He believed Maryna Sedoryk from the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission had been measuring and counting steelhead in Butano Creek; Nelson said she believed the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Department had been leading the count. Nelson also noted that PIT tag studies had confirmed the presence of coho salmon.

#### • Kossy reported:

- She stated that she was looking forward to being the RCD's Board President and welcomed any ideas.
- She thanked Whitney for all of her work on the RCD's communications noting that Whitney brought great energy, tone and accuracy to the RCD's website, social media and e-newsletters. Nelson noted the RCD had begun working with Light Box Communications consultants.

### 6.2 Presentation of 2019 First Flush water quality monitoring results by Noah Katz, Water Quality Program Manager (see attached)

- There was discussion about the First Flush program and results, other aspects of the RCD's water quality program, secondary sources of bacteria when high counts of might not be a large initial source of bacteria but instead really good conditions for bacteria to thrive and grow.
- The culvert through which Saint Augustine Creek flows was clogged with so much fats oils and grease, a substance that bacteria grows in, that it was impossible to scope the entire pipe. RCD and partners have been working to mitigate by installing a manhole cover to clean it out.
- Kramer asked how the public could access the Google Earth portion of the presentation; Whitney confirmed it would be available on the RCD's website.
- There was discussion about efforts to incorporate youth in water quality monitoring, including previous and current efforts and challenges e.g. First Flush often happens in the middle of the night on a school day and cannot be planned for a specific date.
- There was discussion about 'Slow it. Spread it. Sink it." techniques to improve water quality.
- There was discussion about why, given the amount of money spent on the Capistrano Outflow, results were not yet more positive, how bacteria is regulated, what had been ruled out as likely pollutants, and what are reasonable goals.

### 6.3 Board will consider approval of a Grading Permit Exemption to Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) for Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project.

- There was discussion about the Grading Permit Exemption program and the Board's role; the Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project goals, scope and designs; the use of the material to be excavated; and other regulatory compliance.
- Kramer moved to approve a grading permit exemption to MROSD for the Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project; Reynolds seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6.4 Board will consider approving "Memorandum of Agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and San Mateo Resource Conservation District, State of California and the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts."
  - Nelson explained the three different levels of agreements with the NRCS at the local, state, and federal levels; how the RCD- NRCS partnership and staffing model has evolved; and the value of an updated MOA.
  - There was discussion about the value of the partnership in San Mateo County, how the staffs work together, how the two agencies leverage each other's strengths and resources, and NRCS participation in RCD Board meetings.
  - Kramer moved to approve "Memorandum of Agreement between the United States
    Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and San Mateo
    Resource Conservation District, State of California and the California Association of
    Resource Conservation Districts;" Etherton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

### 5.3 Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and mid-year budget review

- Nelson explained that the RCD was in a strong financial position and she looked forward to spending money on a strategic plan, a communications audit, increased 401K contributions, salary adjustments, allocations to the operational reserve, and potentially installing a kitchenette.
- Etherton noted the individual contributions were higher than budgeted for Fiscal Year 2019; Nelson explained \$75K of it was a donation from the Golden Gate Parks Conservancy, fiscal agent for the California Landscape Stewardship Network, in lieu of a contract or grant allowing her to work on the Cutting Green Tape Initiative.
- Reynolds moved to approve the Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and midyear budget review; Kramer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 7 Adjourn Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.



#### Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors February 20, 2020 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Location: 80 Stone Pine Road, Suite 100, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Approval of Agenda
- 3. Introduction of Guests and Staff
- **4. Public Comment-** The Board will hear comments on items that are not on the agenda. The Board cannot act on an item unless it is an emergency as defined under Government Code Sec. 54954.2.

#### 5. Consent Agenda

The Board of Directors approves:

- 5.1. December 19, 2019 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes
- 5.2. January 16, 2020 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes
- 5.3. Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and mid-year budget review

The Board of Directors receives into record:

- **5.4.** February 5, 2020 press release: "Barbara Kossy named President of Resource Conservation District"
- **5.5.** February 7, 2020 press release: "\$5.3 M Award for Forest Health and Fire Resilience Across San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties."
- **5.6.** February 12, 2020 article in Half Moon Bay Review: CalFire awards grant to conservation districts."

#### 6. Regular Agenda

- **6.1.** Directors' reports
- **6.2.** Presentation of 2019 First Flush water quality monitoring results by Noah Katz, Water Quality Program Manager.
- **6.3.** Board will consider approval of a Grading Permit Exemption to Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District for the Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project.
- **6.4.** Board will consider approving "Memorandum of Agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and San Mateo Resource Conservation District, State of California and the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts."

#### 7. Adjourn Meeting

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be March 19, 2020.

Public records that relate to any item on the open session agenda for a regular board meeting are available for public inspection. Those records that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting are available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to all members, or a majority of the members of the Board. The Board has designated the San Mateo RCD office, located at the address above, for the purpose of making those public records available for inspection.





#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kellyx Nelson
Executive Director (San Mateo)
Tel. (50.712.7765-1124)

Tel: 650.712.7765 x124

Email: <u>kellyx@sanmateoRCD.org</u>

Lisa Lurie Executive Director (Santa Cruz)

Tel: 831.464.2950 x27 Email: llurie@rcdsantacruz.org

### \$5.3 M AWARD FOR FOREST HEALTH AND FIRE RESILIENCY ACROSS SAN MATEO AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES

(Half Moon Bay and Capitola, CA- February 7, 2020) The Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) of San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties have been awarded two grants totaling nearly \$5.3 million for a collaborative regional effort to improve the health of local forests, reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, and mitigate climate change.

The funds will be used to reduce potential wildfire fuel loads over 968 acres of forest, and to reforest 80 acres of private and public lands across the Santa Cruz Mountains. Partners involved in the project include Amah Mutsun Land Trust, Big Creek Lumber, California State Parks, Girl Scouts of Northern California, Peninsula Open Space Trust, San Mateo County Parks, Sempervirens Fund, Save the Redwoods League, and private landowners.

"Forests cross property lines, so collaborative efforts such as these are essential for restoring forest health," states Lisa Lurie, Executive Director of the RCD of Santa Cruz County. "Through partnership, diverse interests are coming together to work towards common goals of reducing the risks of catastrophic wildfire while helping our forests to thrive."

Activities will include reducing fuel loads in degraded forests, and removing unhealthy or dying trees, such as those affected by forest disease like Sudden Oak Death or drought. A focus will be to remove hazardous fuel loads to change extreme fire behavior across the landscape. Long-term maintenance and monitoring efforts will also be included in management plans to ensure sustainable benefits for the region.

The two projects, designed to enhance each other, are among 17 awarded statewide by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) for landscape-scale land management intended to restore and maintain healthy forests, conserve working forests, and enhance carbon storage. Funding for the grants comes from California's Cap-and-Trade Program, a component of the state's plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Support for preparing the grant application was

provided by San Mateo County Measure K funds, Peninsula Open Space Trust, and the California Department of Conservation forest health watershed coordinator grant program.

"This multi-million-dollar grant leverages our San Mateo County Measure K funds, promotes forest health at the landscape level, and addresses fire risk reduction for our communities," states San Mateo County Supervisor Don Horsley. "I see the benefit of working with the Resource Conservation District on resiliency in terms of carbon benefits and greenhouse gas reduction and appreciate the partnership with CAL FIRE, private property owners, and public land managers like state and county parks."

About Resource Conservation Districts: Resource Conservation Districts are public special districts that provide comprehensive, non-regulatory services to protect, conserve, and restore natural resources. Serving as local hubs for conservation efforts, RCDs across California work in partnership with landowners and managers, technical advisors, area jurisdictions, government agencies, and others. For more information visit <a href="https://www.sanmateorcd.org">www.rcdsantacruz.org</a>.

# # #

#### PROJECT PARTNERS





















Contact: Kellyx Nelson FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Executive Director Tel: 650.712.7765 x102

Email: kellyx@sanmateorcd.org

#### BARBARA KOSSY NAMED PRESIDENT OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

(Half Moon Bay, CA- February 5, 2020) Barbara Kossy of Moss Beach, California, will chair her first meeting as President of the San Mateo RCD on February 20. Kossy has served on the board of the RCD for more than 11 years and is the first woman to chair the district in its 80+ year history.

"I'm committed to supporting environmental restoration and preservation that improves the quality of life. The RCD works with the community, agriculture and both private and public landowners. I'm proud to say we get stuff done. I'm looking forward to the next decade where we can take our expertise and apply it to water quality, healthy forests and fire prevention, and whatever comes our way to protect our area's amazing people and resources."

Ms. Kossy is a devoted conservationist. With a career in visual art and technical writing, Kossy has served on a variety of boards and is currently a board member of Sequoia Audubon Society. She served more than 15 years on the San Mateo County Weed Management Area, including five recent years as Chair, working to protect habitats by preventing the spread of noxious weeds. She also created the California Invasive Plant page on Facebook that includes 3,500 members. Previously, she volunteered and served with organizations such as Friends of the River, the Northern California Recyclers Association, the committee to oversee the cleanup of Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot in Richmand, the city's Citizen's Advisory Committee on Recycling. Ms. Kossy is also an avid sea kayaker and regularly leads international kayaking tours.

<u>About the RCD</u>: The San Mateo Resource Conservation District is a public special district that provides comprehensive, non-regulatory services to protect, conserve, and restore natural esources. Serving as a local hub for conservation efforts, Resource Conservation Districts across California work in partnership with land owners and managers, technical advisors, area jurisdictions, government agencies, and others. For more information visit <u>www.sanmateorcd.org</u>.

# First Flush 2019 Water Quality Results



Presentation to: San Mateo RCD Board February 20, 2020

## Resource Conservation District

### Non-Regulatory Technical Assistance



Water



Climate



Wildlife



Agriculture



## What is First Flush?

- First big rain of the season
- Freshwater runoff enters creeks, storm drains, and the ocean
- High pollution





# Why is First Flush So Polluted?

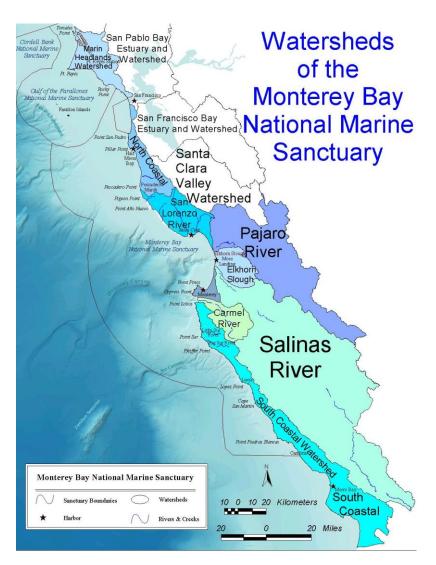


## Why Do We Care? Why Do We Do This?

- Helps identify what pollutants are of greatest concern and where
- Establishes a continuous and consistent water quality dataset
- Provides information to support water quality improvements
- Allows informed management
- Good stewardship!



## First Flush Partners













## **Volunteers!**

Rely completely on volunteer involvement. Thank you to all our volunteers!

Citizen science

Conduct training to teach protocol

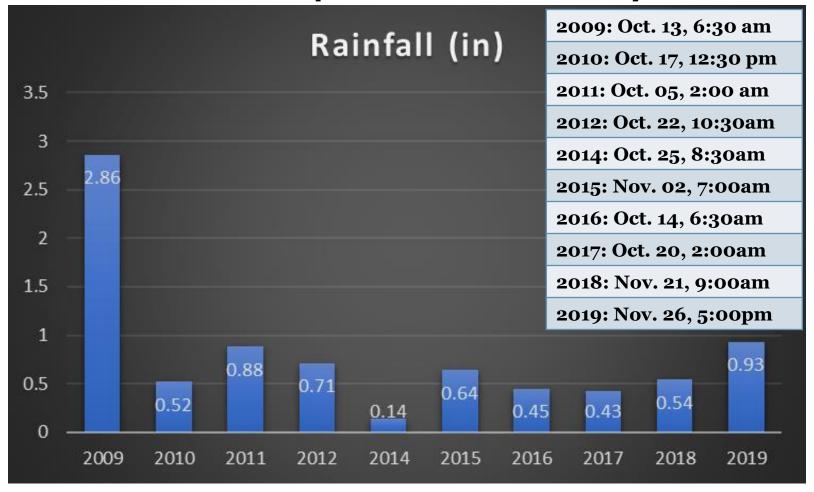








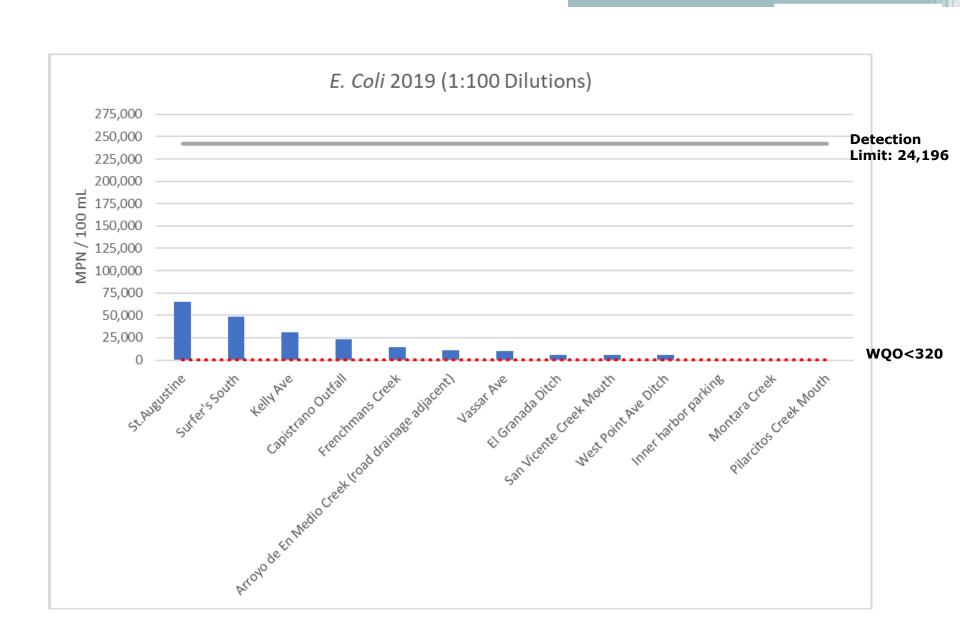
## First Flush Precipitation History



Rain Decides!
This year was November 26

## What did we test for?

Pollutant	Potential Sources	Effects
Fecal <u>Indicator</u> Bacteria (E.Coli, Enterococcus)	Feces of warm blooded animals (Humans, dogs, horses, etc.)	Indicator for pathogens that can harm human health
Nutrients(Nitrate, Orthophosphate)	Fertilizers, pesticides, detergents	Ecosystem and recreation impacts
Metals (Copper, Zinc, Lead)	Gutters/roofs, brake pads, tires, industrial waste, paint, fires	Human health impacts, reduced reproduction and mortality of marine organisms
<b>Total Suspended Solids</b>	Construction, erosion, agricultural runoff, fires	Marine organism impacts (ex: respiratory effects in aquatic organisms)
Physical Measurements: Electrical conductivity, Water temperature, observations	Rain influenced, minerals (salts),	Conductivity tells us if we captured the rain. High temperatures have ecological impacts, observations give context to data



## Site tour

Now we know what we look for.

Lets see where we collected data and what we found:

First Flush 2019 Site and Results Tour

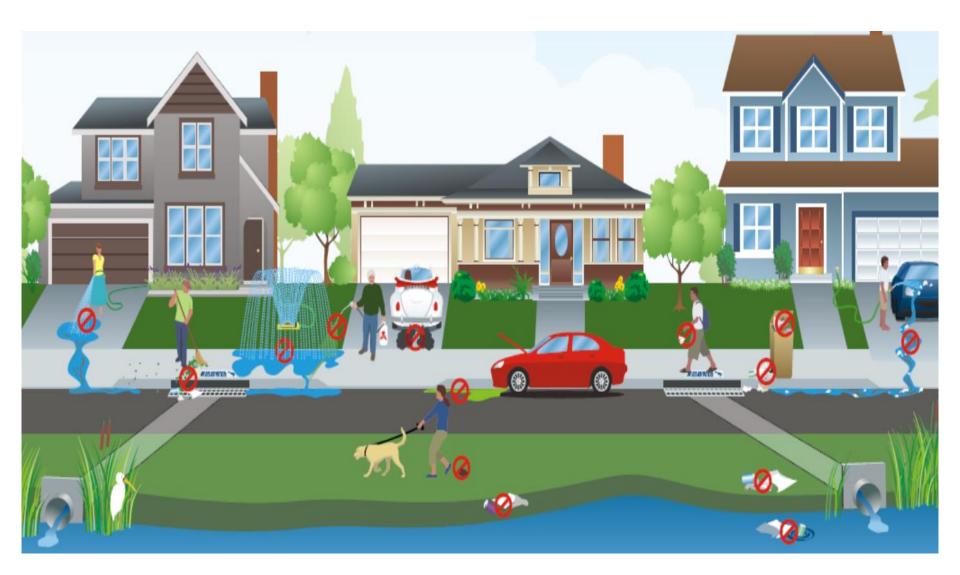
# 2019 Pollutant Summary

• Pollutants are compared to Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) which are the upper limits of recommended ranges

Which contaminants were above and below their Water Quality Objectives:

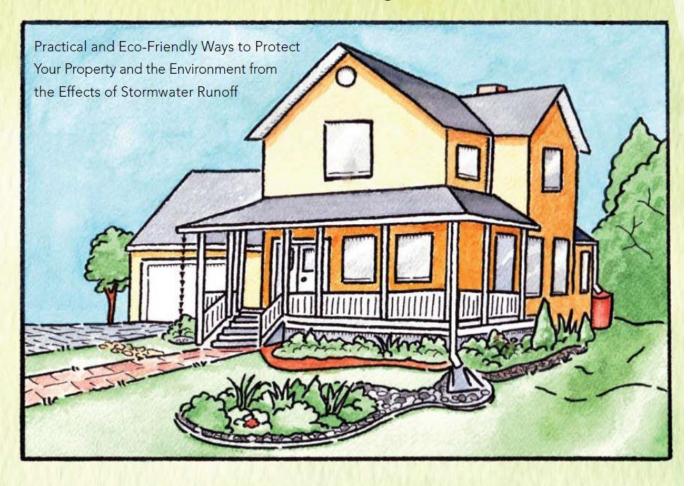
FIB All sites (but Montara and Pilarcitos)	Phosphorous All but (Montara and Pilarcitos)	Zinc Capistrano and Arroyo		Copper Capistrano, Vassar, Kelly, Arroyo	Bad
	Nitrogen All but Capistrano	Lead All Sites	TSS All Sites	Conductivity All Sites	Good

# What can you do?



# Slow it. Spread it. Sink it!

A Homeowner's Guide to Greening Stormwater Runoff



# What can you do?

Collect your roof water in a RAIN BARREL.



Cost: LOW Installation difficulty: EASY See page 24

Install a WATERBAR on your driveway.



Cost: MODERATE
Installation difficulty: INTERMEDIATE
See page 35

Plant a RAIN GARDEN in your landscape.



Cost: LOW to MODERATE
Installation difficulty: EASY to INTERMEDIATE
See page 27

Use PERVIOUS PAVERS when renovating your patio.



Cost: MODERATE - HIGH
Installation difficulty: INTERMEDIATE
See page 30

## Next Steps



- Raise Awareness
- Distribute Data
- Recruit for Next Year

Continue First Flush and other education/outreach initiatives (FY20-FY22)

SAM Estimate=\$20,000 for 3 years= \$60,000 total PPH Estimate = \$10,000 for 3 year= \$30,000 total

# Thank you!

**Questions?** 

Noah Katz

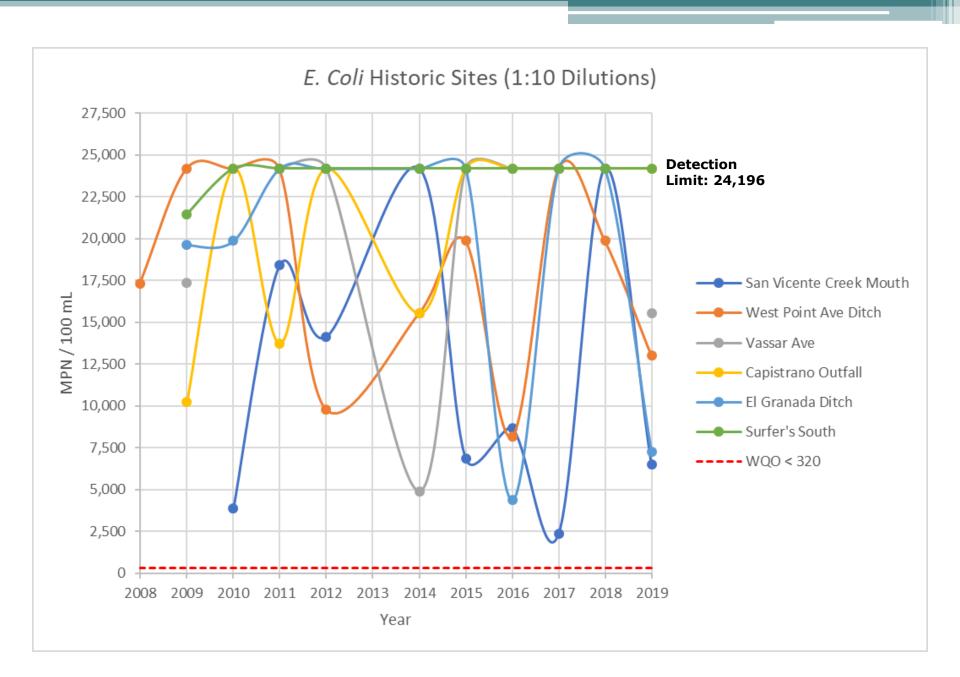
noah@sanmateorcd.org

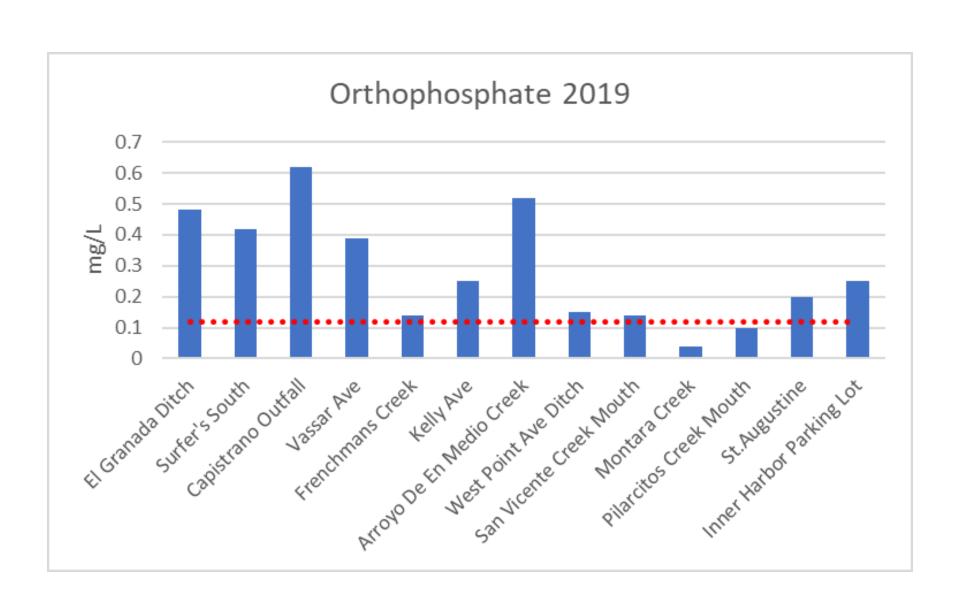
650.712.7765 ext. 117

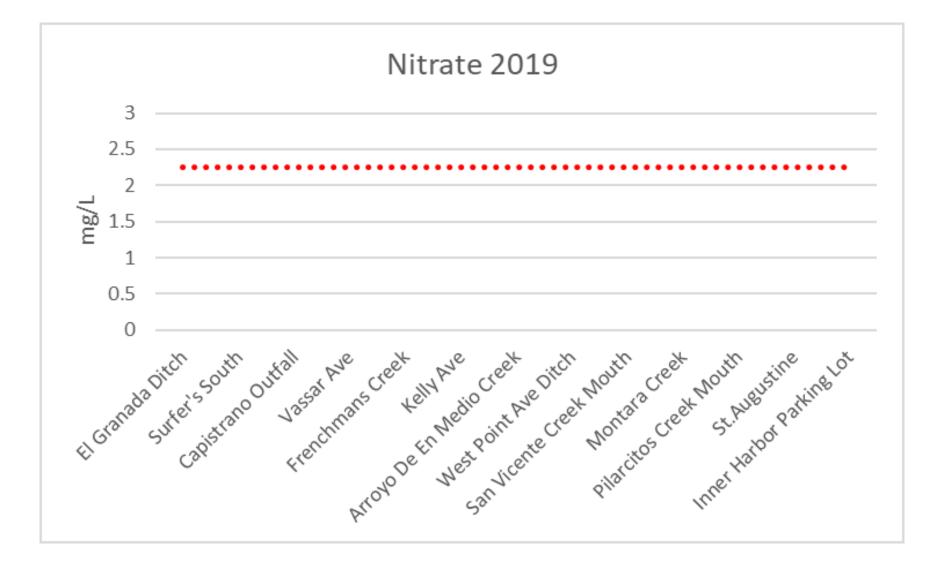
www.sanmateorcd.org

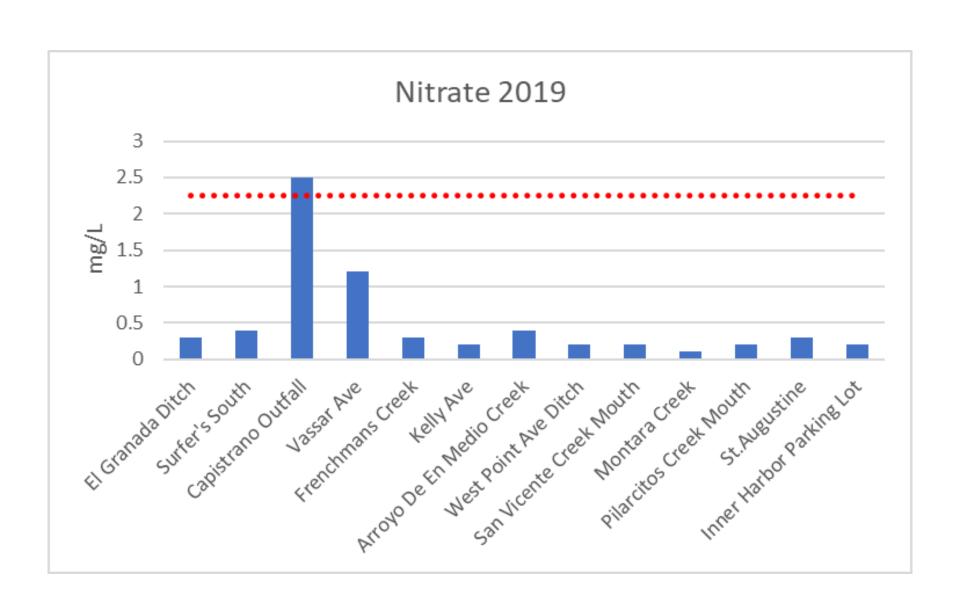
www.facebook.com/sanmateorcd

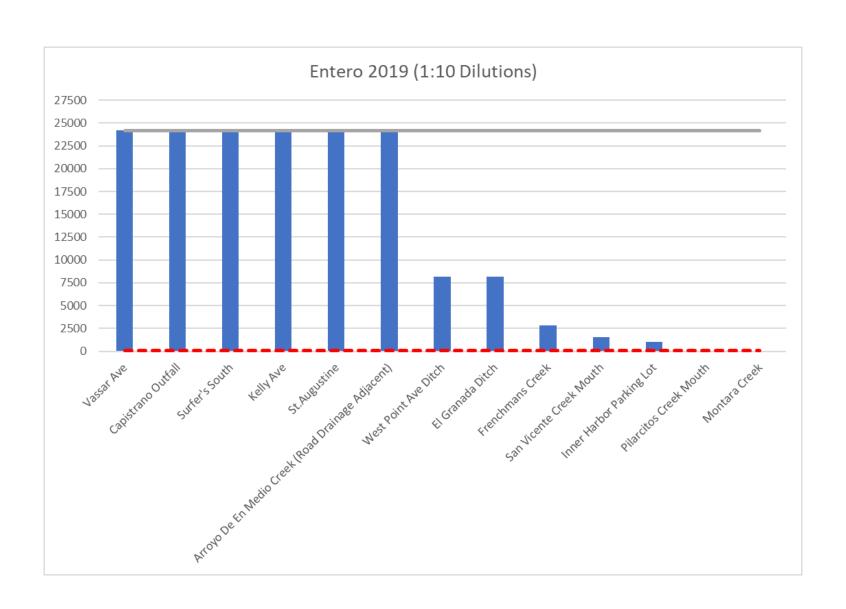


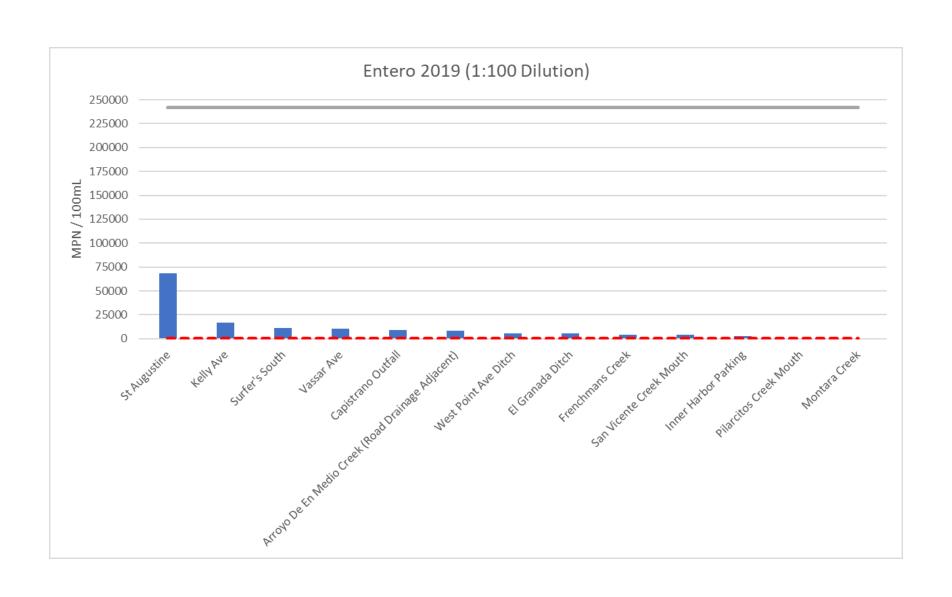




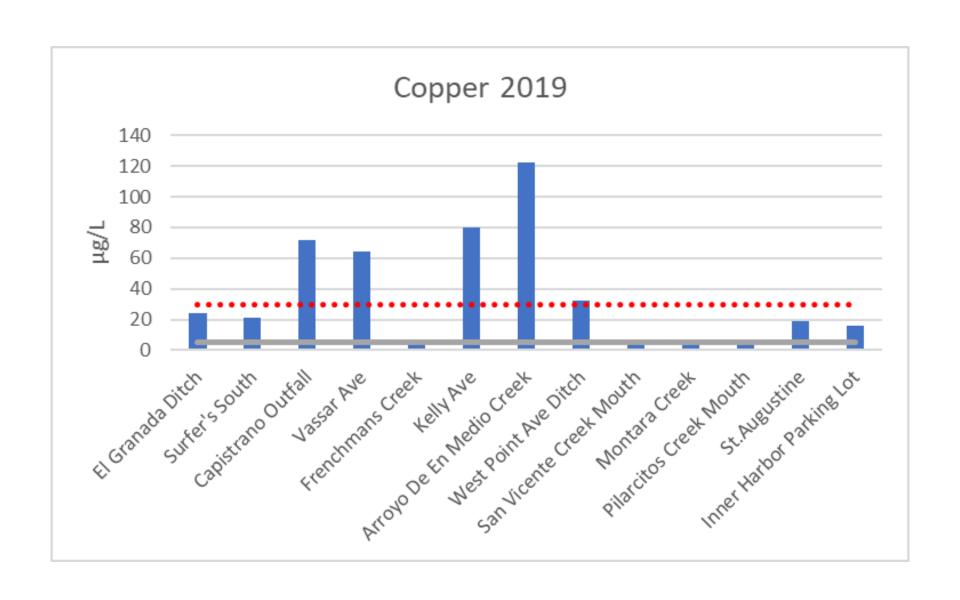


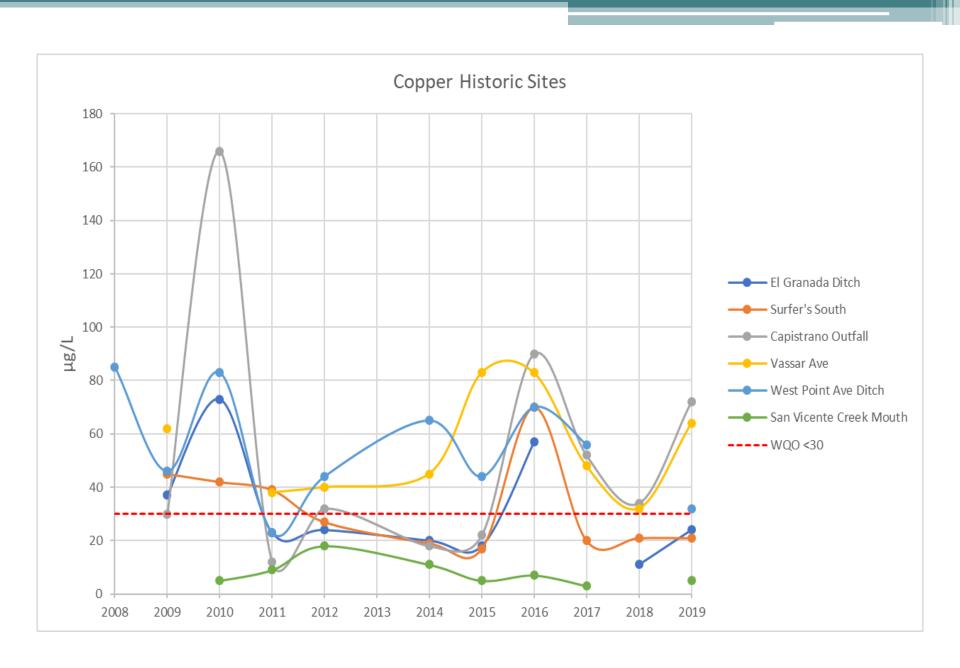


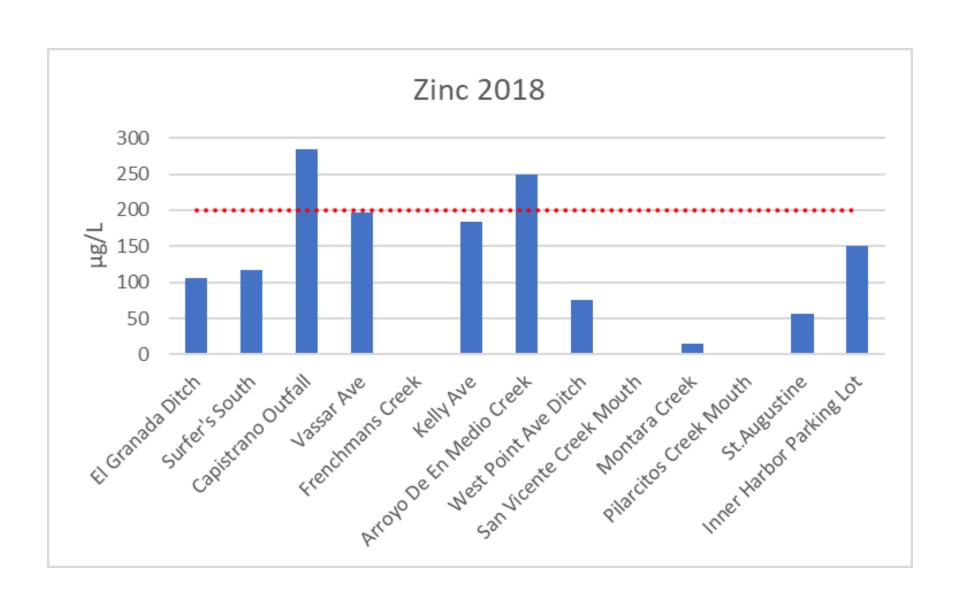


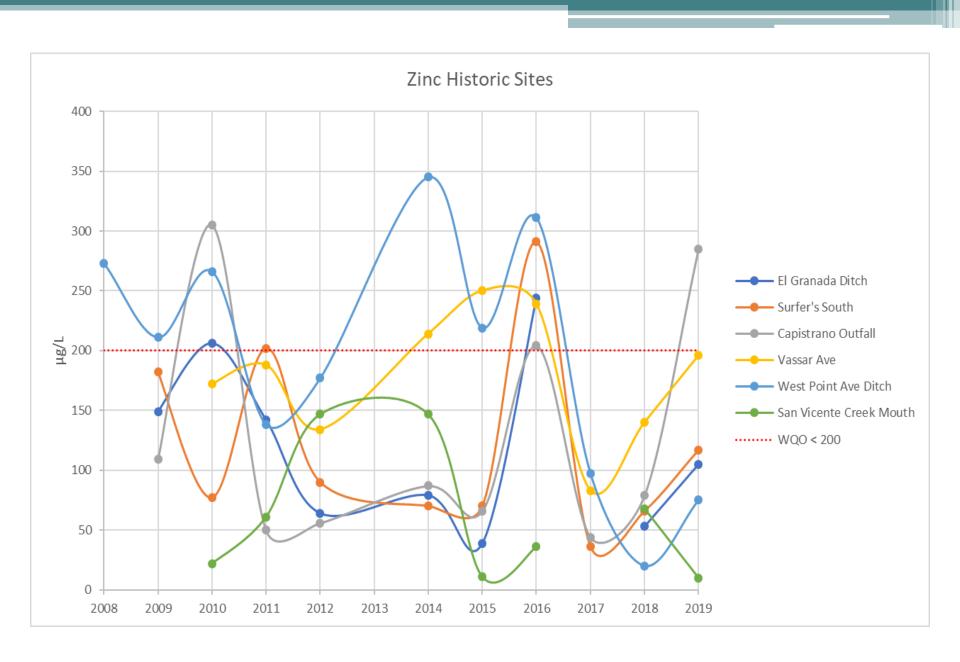


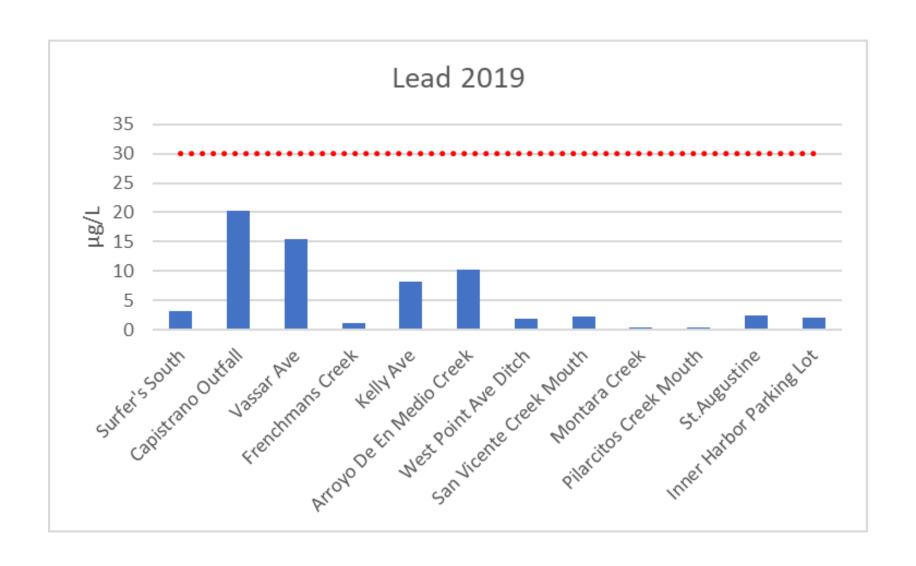




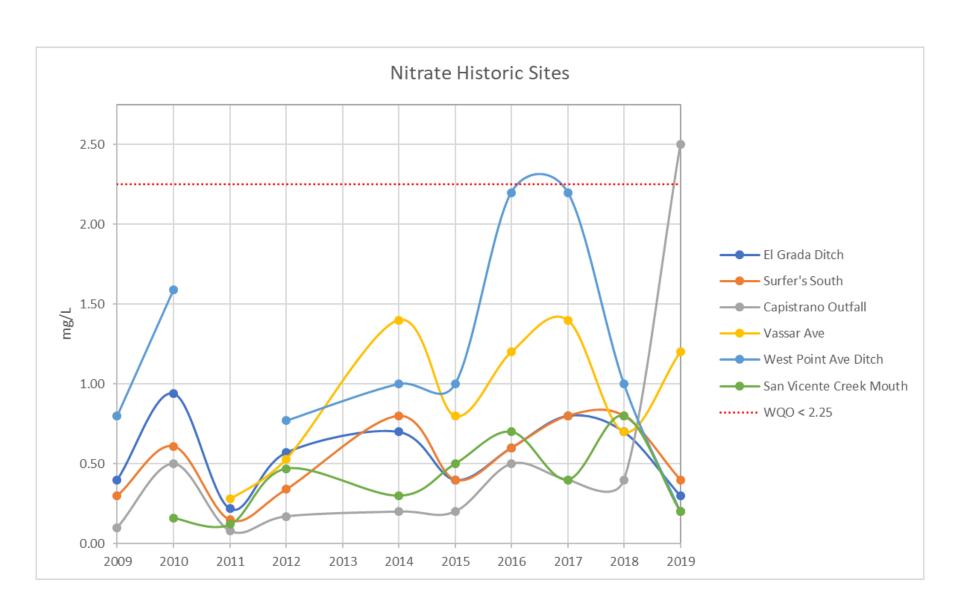


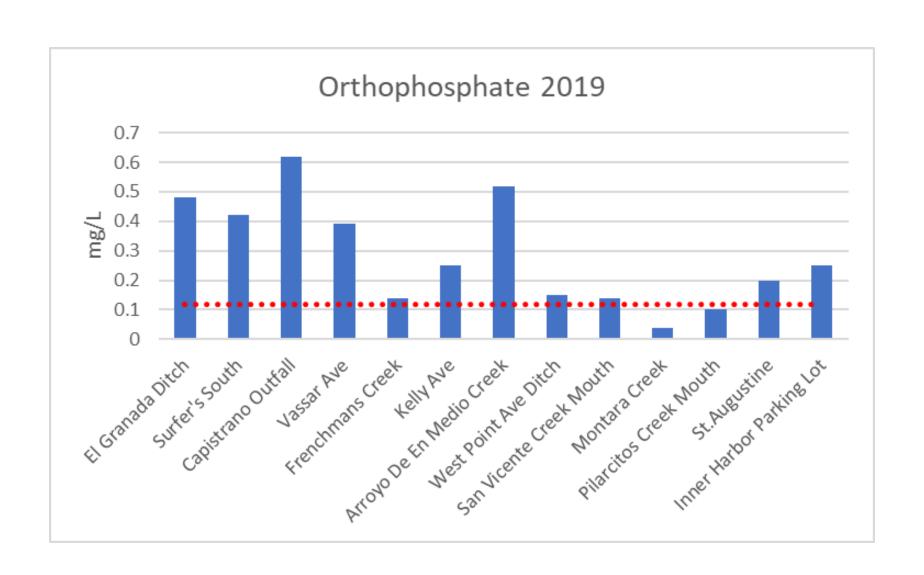


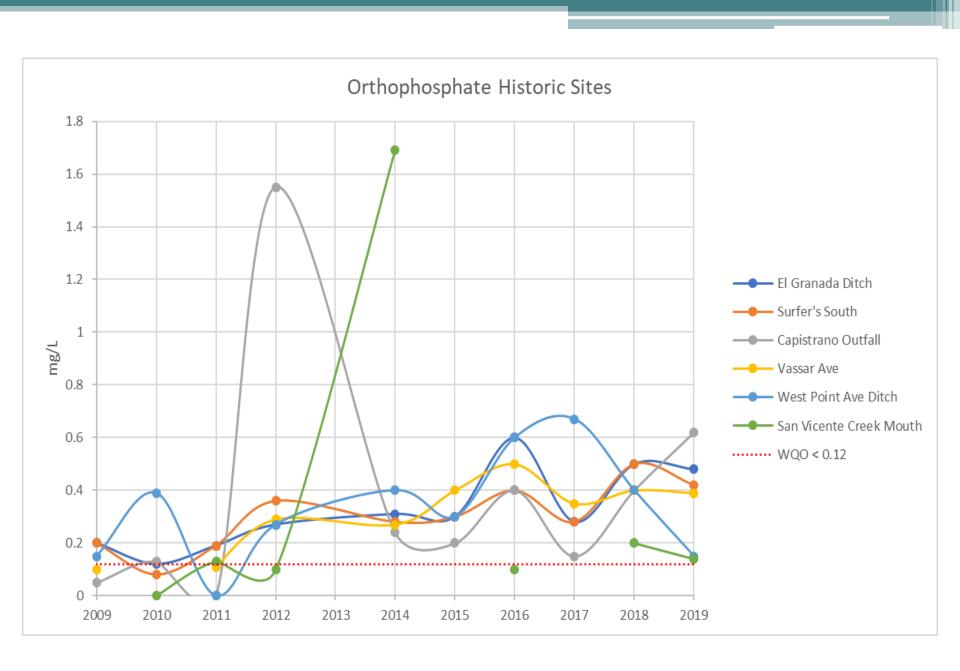


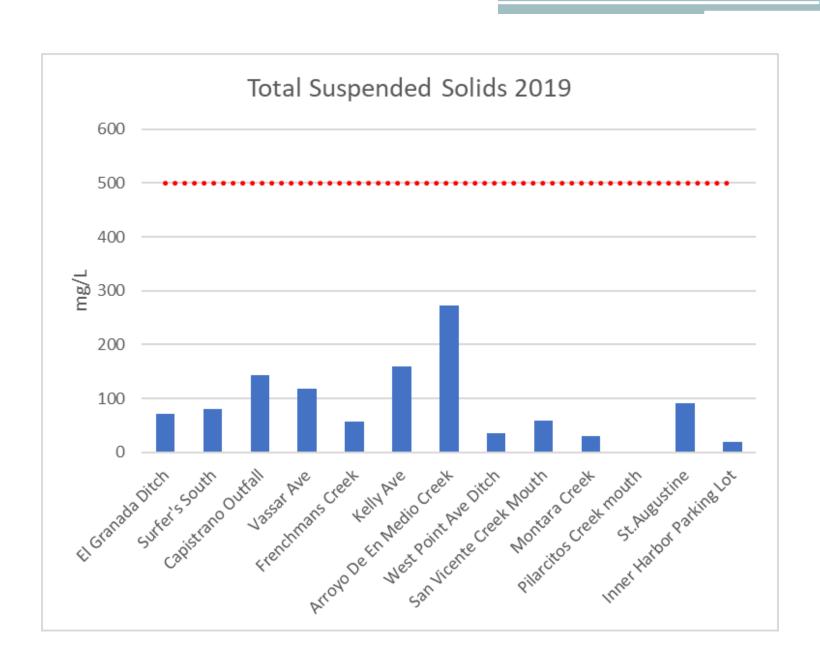


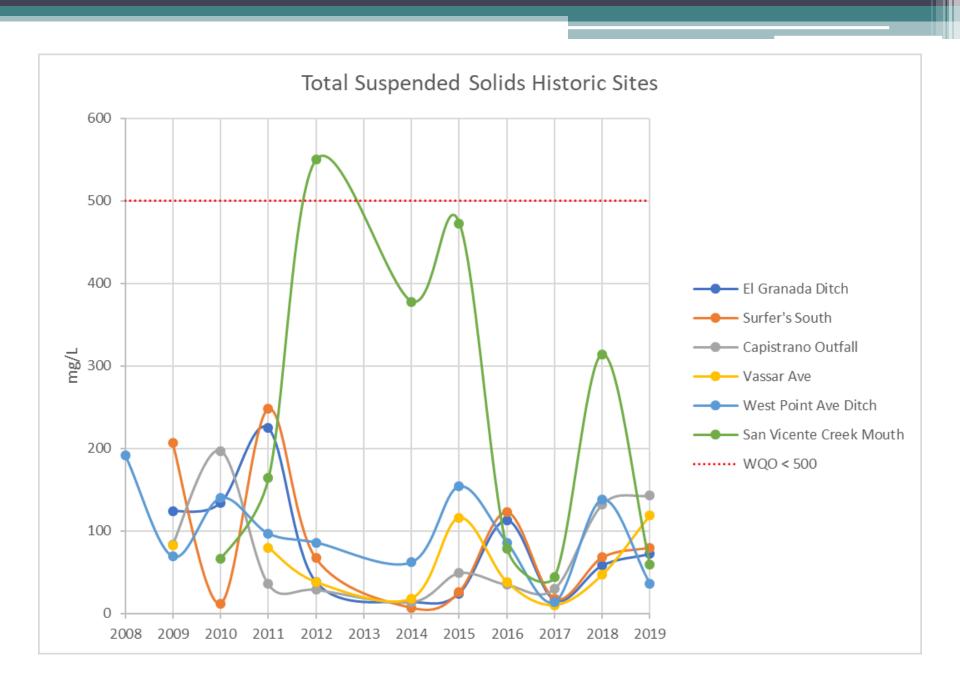
















#### Memorandum

Date: February 20, 2020

To: Board of Directors

From: Kellyx Nelson

SAN MATEO

Re: Recommendation to Approve Grading Exemption for Midpeninsula Regional

Open Space District Mindego Pond Project

RCD staff recommends approving a grading exemption for Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's (Midpen) Mindego Pond Project. RCD staff has confirmed that the project meets the Grading Exemption requirements of natural resource enhancement and that NRCS practice standards are being adhered to according to the project engineer (cbec eco-engineering and the contractor, Hanford ARC). RCD staff have visited the project site and confirmed that adequate protection measures are included in project plans. The attached application packet from Midpen obtains all of the necessary documentation.



February 3, 2020

To: Resource Conservation District Board Members

**Subject:** New State-Level Memorandum of Agreement between NRCS, CARCD and individual Resource Conservations Districts

We are excited to report our joint efforts to finalize a new state-level Memorandum of Agreement between CA-NRCS, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) and each individual Resource Conservation District (RCD) has been completed. The original national MOA template has been reviewed and edited by the CARCD board members after which, a draft copy was distributed to all RCDs in July/August 2019 for their review and concurrence. Attached is the final RCD-MOA, MOA attachments and a MOA fact sheet.

NRCS District Conservationists across the State will present this MOA to the RCD Directors with the appropriate RCD name in the agreement for signature. After the RCD signs the MOA, we will provide the agreement to Don Butz, President, CARCD, for signature and he will return the agreement to Carlos Suarez, State Conservationist. A copy of the final signed agreement will be returned to each RCD. The original copy of each agreement will be kept at the CA-NRCS state office.

For the board's information, attached is a MOA fact sheet which includes the following:

- Background information;
- Why a new agreement is necessary;
- Why a name change;
- What's in the new agreement, and are there any negative impacts;
- History of our partnerships:
- What we can do together, and the intent.

If you have any questions please contact Gayle Barry, Special Assistant to the State Conservationist at 530-792-5661 or gayle.barry@usda.gov.

Thank you so much for your continued partnership.

Carlos Suarez

State Conservationist

with attachments:

RCD-MOA

MOA Attachments

**MOA Fact Sheet** 

# MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE

United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service
AND

## San Mateo Resource Conservation District, State of California AND THE

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts

#### I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is entered into between the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (hereafter referred to as NRCS) and the San Mateo Resource Conservation District (hereafter referred to as Resource Conservation District), and the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts.

The NRCS and San Mateo Resource Conservation District (referred to jointly as the Parties) have common objectives of delivering technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, forest stewards, and other entities to voluntarily protect, restore, and enhance the productivity of American agricultural lands. The Parties recognize the importance of natural resources, the wise use and management of these natural resources, and, as appropriate, the protection and/or development of these natural resources. This agreement is made and entered into with the objectives of:

- Continuing to support the delivery of excellent and innovative customer service;
- Recognizing conservation planning as foundational to our work and working together to meet the conservation planning assistance needs of our cooperatives/customers.
- Strengthening and modernizing conservation delivery to optimize efficiency and effectiveness;
- Continuing and broadening our outreach to existing and new customers and partners;
- Supporting science-based decision making as close to the resource issue/opportunity as possible;
- Encouraging a voluntary approach with landowners as the primary means of accomplishing conservation goals; and
- Using sound approaches to strengthen each Party and its role in the delivery of soil, water, and related natural resource conservation across the nation.

#### II. BACKGROUND

The NRCS and San Mateo Resource Conservation District share a rich history of collaborating to deliver comprehensive technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, forest stewards, and other entities to voluntarily protect, restore, and enhance natural resources.

The Soil Conservation Service was established in 1935 (renamed NRCS in 1994 to reflect its broader conservation mission). NRCS is committed to "helping people help the land." It provides assistance and resources for conservation practices that improve water and air quality, prevent erosion, restore wetlands, and enhance wildlife. NRCS's approach to mission delivery and customer service is deeply rooted in the notion that locally-led, voluntary efforts yield the most effective and productive outcomes. Locally-led conservation is the principle that farmers, ranchers, and forest stewards know their lands better than anyone else based on their personal knowledge and experience with those lands. As such, they are best positioned to make optimal decisions for the benefit of their operations, their natural resource conditions, and their communities.

The first Conservation District was established in 1937 to provide local leadership in natural resources management. Resource Conservation Districts serve as the link between federal and state agency resources with the local farmers, ranchers, and forest stewards. They are responsible for promoting and carrying out their conservation programs by assisting communities and its members develop, apply, and maintain appropriate conservation practices and resource management systems. They are authorized to provide broad area planning and implementation assistance to units of government. They are a focal point for coordinating and delivering conservation technical assistance and funding to their respective communities.

#### III. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT

In conjunction with the NRCS, the San Mateo Resource Conservation District coordinates and implements locally led conservation plans because of to their connections to Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments; private resources; and the public. The Parties agree to facilitate cooperation, collaboration, and agreement between agencies, landowners, and other stakeholders; develop comprehensive conservation plans; and bring those plans to the attention of landowners and others within the district.

In addition, the Parties recognize the importance of working together to broaden strategic assessment and planning under the authority of the Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act of 1977 for the conservation, protection, and enhancement of soil, water, and related natural resources. The Parties further recognize that natural resources are finite and under increasing pressure from a variety of impacts and demands. Soil, water, air, plants, animals, and energy are all addressed under the programs, initiatives, and partnership efforts of the Parties.

In order to deliver the necessary technical and financial assistance to enable locally-led, voluntary conservation, the Parties agree to adhere to the principles, roles, and responsibilities outlined in this Section of the MOA. This MOA does not affect or modify existing regulations or agency responsibilities and authorities. Moreover, this MOA does not commit either party to activities beyond the scope of its respective mission and statutory authorities.

#### A. Locally-Led, Voluntary Conservation

The Parties agree that locally-led, voluntary conservation must be driven by natural resource conservation needs, rather than by funding. Its primary focus is to identify natural resource concerns, along with related economic and social concerns. Locally-led conservation consists of a series of activities and phases that involve community stakeholders in natural resource planning, implementation of solutions, and evaluation of results:

As funding and other resources allow, the Resource Conservation District agrees to:

- Assist NRCS in promoting USDA programs by participating in outreach and community education activities.
- Advocate for a strong natural resource conservation program by keeping appropriate boards, landowners, legislators, county agricultural commissioners, and other key stakeholders apprised of District conservation activities
- Assemble and chair the USDA local working group, as chartered under the State Technical Committee and authorized by 7 CFR 610, Part C to encourage public participation.
  - Refer to MOA Attachments, Appendix B, which is a full text of 7 CFR 610, Part C and available upon request. The language for the State Technical Committee authorized by 7 CRF 610, Part C may change, in the future, with a new farm bill. To see the latest State Technical Committee authorization, go to:

https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/7/part-610/subpart-C

Legal Information Institute; Electronic Code of Federal Regulations; Title 7. Agriculture; Subtitle B. Regulations for the Department of Agriculture; Chapter VI NRCS, Subpart B, Conservation Programs; NRCS 7 CFR Subpart C-State Technical Committees.

- Encourage diverse participation in local working groups through community outreach and education, to include stakeholders from historically underserved communities.
- Open local working group meetings to the public and provide public notice of meetings to federal, state, Tribal entities, local agencies and community stakeholders, including using Tribal publications if they exist in the district, including historical lands.
- Develop the agenda and associated materials/information for local working groups and distribute at least 14 calendar days prior to the meeting.
- Develop and file local working group meeting records at the local NRCS office within 30 calendar days of the meetings.
- Adhere to local working group responsibilities and standard operating procedures, as documented in NRCS policy, Title 440, Part 500 - Conservation Programs Manual, Locally Led Conservation.
  - Refer to MOA Attachments, Appendix C, which is a full text of Title 440, Part 500-Conservation Programs Manual: Locally Led Conservation and is available upon request. Title 440, Part 500 -Conservation Programs Manual, Locally Led Conservation may be revised in the future. To see the latest Title 440, Part 500 Conservation Programs Manual, Locally Led Conservation go to:

https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/RollupViewer.aspx?hid=27712

- Develop a conservation needs assessment through broad-based community participation and in accordance
  with NRCS policy and procedures. This will provide a basis for making decisions about local priorities or
  policies in all local conservation programs.
- Recommend local natural resource priorities and criteria for NRCS conservation activities and programs based on the conservation needs assessment and public input.
- Develop a Long-Range Plan every three (3) to five (5) years and an Annual Plan of Work and/or Plan of Operations each year, or as specified in state statute. These documents must incorporate local and community inputs.
- Identify NRCS program resources, develop and implement conservation plans and work with NRCS to evaluate/measure the technical and community impacts.
- Update NRCS on conservation activities of local and state advisory committees and community groups attended by resource conservation district board members and staff.
- Cooperate and collaborate across other resource conservation districts, as appropriate and as permitted by state statute.

#### NRCS agrees to:

- Support outreach activities and ensure the Resource Conservation District is kept informed of NRCS activities and programs on at least a monthly basis. This includes bringing technical and financial assistance opportunities (including matching fund strategies) to the attention of the Resource Conservation District.
- Work cooperatively to solicit and leverage community recommendations to inform priorities that guide the delivery of NRCS conservation programs.
  - O Designate a NRCS representative to participate in Resource Conservation District meetings and events, including local working group meetings. Alternatively, NRCS will chair the local working group should the Resource Conservation District be unable or unwilling to.
  - o Develop and transmit written notifications to the local working group members as to the decisions made in response to their recommendations within 90 days.
- Respond to requests from the Resource Conservation District for technical guidance and assistance.

- Partner with local and Tribal entities and agencies, as well as community groups where possible, to further Resource Conservation District natural resource conservation goals and objectives.
- Attempt to align program priorities within the resource conservation district with the natural resource concerns identified by the local working group.
- Provide an annual summary of NRCS accomplishments to the Resource Conservation District.
- Work with resource conservation districts to identify NRCS program resources, develop and implement conservation practices/plans and to measure the technical and community outcomes of conservation efforts.

#### B. Adherence to Technical Standards

The Parties agree to the use of science-based decision-making to address local natural resource issues. Implementation of sound conservation plans and practices will strengthen each party, as well as their roles in the delivery of soil and water conservation.

The Resource Conservation District agrees to:

- Adhere to Federal, State, Local, and Tribal laws and regulations.
- Utilize NRCS policies and procedures, including the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG), and/or other science-based technical standards as applicable to the local conservation priorities and activities.
- Leverage and promote use of USDA technologies and software applications, as appropriate.
- When implementing NRCS conservation practices on behalf of, or in partnership with NRCS, assign
  conservation practice job approval authority to its personnel based on employee knowledge, skill, and
  ability level, and within applicable laws and guidelines. Obtain NRCS concurrence for job approval for
  practices involving USDA authorities or programs.
- As funding and other resources allow, participate in local, state, and national opportunities for policy, program, and project development.

#### NRCS agrees to:

- Develop, update, and disseminate technical standards, policies, and procedures.
- Seek input and comment from communities on natural resource conservation policies and issues.
- Inform the Resource Conservation District and communities when pending NRCS statutes, laws, regulations, policies, or procedures may have a significant impact on the community.
- Develop and provide access to USDA technologies and applications to facilitate shared standards, as appropriate.
- Evaluate non-NRCS employees and assign job approval authority in accordance with NRCS policy and consistent with State laws when districts are implementing NRCS conservation practices in partnership with, or on behalf of, NRCS.
- Provide engineering job approval, when Resource Conservation Districts are implementing NRCS conservation practices in partnership with, or on behalf of NRCS, as based on job class and in accordance with NRCS policy and Federal, State, and local laws, regulations and codes.
- Provide conservation planning certification for Resource Conservation District employees, as requested, and in accordance with NRCS policy and Federal, State, and local laws, regulations and codes.
- Create and promote opportunities for the Resource Conservation District board members and staff to participate in NRCS policy, program, and project development.

- Provide technical or other training for Resource Conservation District employees in conjunction with its
  own training, or as separate events. Training must be consistent with and in support of NRCS's mission
  objectives. As such, the principal emphasis will be on the support and delivery of field-based conservation
  technical assistance.
- C. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD)

The California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) serves as a strong advocate, technical resource, and partner to RCDs in achieving the vision for the RCD field. CARCD builds the network and local impact of RCDs in California, strengthening locally-led conservation and stewardship of natural and agricultural resources. CARCD believes Resource Conservation Districts have greater impact working collectively than working alone and a strong State Association provides a powerful voice for their needs.

#### CARCD agrees to:

- Participate in State level work groups, committees, and public venues to educate partners and funders about the critical role RCDs play across communities in California.
- Work with State and Federal Agencies to define the potential for CARCD to serve as lead funding recipient in a model where partnerships with one or more RCDs will enhance strategic or program outcomes.
- Develop tools for all RCDs that want to explore the potential for greater conservation involvement and input to conservation efforts.
- Conduct surveys as needed of RCDs to identify partnership needs.
- Plan and host a state-wide Annual Conference with content driven by the conservation needs of California.
- Identify existing resources (NACD, CSDA, NRCS) for webinars and trainings focused on conservation.
- Host an online RCD-exchange portal to include an RCD directory, event calendar, communication and capacity building tools, message boards, and a Resource Library for all RCDs to provide information that can be posted.
- Develop management training series to build the capacity and competencies of District Managers to implement local conservation priorities and chair local work group meetings.
- Develop a board training series to support board effectiveness.
- Provide targeted support to regional networks.
- Develop and disseminate tools for engagement and relationship-building with government decision-makers.

#### D. Data and Information Sharing

Any information furnished to NRCS under this agreement is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). Cooperators providing technical or financial assistance under USDA programs may have access to information that must not be subsequently disclosed and may only be used for the purpose of providing that assistance. The parties also acknowledge that resource conservation districts are subject to the California Public Records Act.

See Appendix A, "ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REQUIREMENTS FOR PROTECTION OF PRIVACY OF PERSONAL AND GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE PROGRAMS." The signatory agrees to abide by these requirements as a condition of receiving access to such information.

#### IV. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### A. Period of Performance

This MOA takes effect upon the signature of the Parties and shall remain in effect until mutually modified or terminated.

#### B. Amendments

This MOA may be extended or amended upon written request of either Party and the subsequent written concurrence of the other. Either of the parties may terminate this MOA with a 60-day written notice to the other.

This state-level MOA may be supplemented by a local-level MOA, if desired and mutually agreed to by the parties. The local-level MOA reflects locally developed detailed working arrangements, to include NRCS's and Resource Conservation District's Annual Workplan and/or Plan of Operations. These may include, but are not limited to, documenting specific goals and objectives, action items, provision for documentation of accomplishments, schedule of planned events, and assignment of responsibilities.

#### C. Transfer of Funding or Non-Monetary Resources

This MOA is established to document the collaborative relationship between the Parties. Nothing in this MOA shall require either Party to obligate or transfer funding, or anything of value. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Office spaces and equipment/supplies
- Vehicles and associated expenses (e.g., fuel, maintenance)
- Computers, software, and technical equipment

The transfer of funding or other resources of value among the Parties requires execution of a separate agreement. The appropriate instruments include:

- Cooperative Agreement (2 CFR 200.24), which allows federal agencies to transfer a thing of value to the State, local or Tribal government, or other recipient to carry out a public purpose authorized by law of the United States.
- Contribution Agreement (7 CFR 6962a), which is a unique statutory authority allowing NRCS to enter into an agreement with a non-federal entity that shares a mutual purpose in carrying out NRCS programs. All parties must contribute resources to the accomplishment of these objectives.
- Reimbursable Agreement (31 USC 686; PL 90-577), which allows federal agencies to provide specialized or technical services to State and local governments.

#### D. Other

This MOA is not intended to, and does not create any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by any party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.

All activities and programs conducted under this MOA shall be in compliance with the nondiscrimination provisions contained in Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-250); and other nondiscrimination statutes; namely, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975. Also, they will be in accordance with regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture (7 CFR Part 15, subpart A), which provide that no person in the United State shall on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity of an applicant or recipient receiving federal financial assistance from the Department of Agriculture or any Agency thereof.

All activities, funded by the NRCS, shall be in compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D).

# V. SIGNATURES

# SAN MATEO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Signature:	Date:
Barbara Kossy, President	
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF RESOURCE CO	NSERVATION DISTRICTS
Don Butz, President	Date:
USDA NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION	<u>Service</u>
Carlos Suarez, State Conservationist	Date:

#### Appendix A

# Acknowledgement of Requirements for Protection of Privacy of Personal and Geospatial Information Relating to Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs

#### SEC. 1619. INFORMATION GATHERING. (Appendix C – Section 1619 of the 2008 Farm Bill)

- (a) GEOSPATIAL SYSTEMS. The Secretary shall ensure that all the geospatial data of the agencies of the
- (b) Department of Agriculture are portable and standardized.

#### (b) <u>LIMITATION ON DISCLOSURES</u>. —

- (1) **DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATION**. In this subsection, the term "agricultural operation" includes the production and marketing of agricultural commodities and livestock.
- (2) **PROHIBITION.** Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), the Secretary, any officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture, or any contractor or cooperator of the Department, shall not disclose—
  - (A) information provided by an agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land concerning the agricultural operation, farming or conservation practices, or the land itself, in order to participate in programs of the Department; or
  - (B) geospatial information otherwise maintained by the Secretary about agricultural land or operations for which information described in subparagraph (A) is provided.

#### (3) AUTHORIZED DISCLOSURES. —

- (A) LIMITED RELEASE OF INFORMATION. If the Secretary determines that the information described in paragraph (2) will not be subsequently disclosed except in accordance with paragraph (4), the Secretary may release or disclose the information to a person or Federal, State, local, or tribal agency working in cooperation with the Secretary in any Department program—
  - (i) when providing technical or financial assistance with respect to the agricultural operation, agricultural land, or farming or conservation practices; or
  - (ii) when responding to a disease or pest threat to agricultural operations, if the Secretary determines that a threat to agricultural operations exists and the disclosure of information to a person or cooperating government entity is necessary to assist the Secretary in responding to the disease or pest threat as authorized by law.

#### (4) **EXCEPTIONS.** — Nothing in this subsection affects—

- (A) the disclosure of payment information (including payment information and the names and addresses of recipients of payments) under any Department program that is otherwise authorized by law:
- (B) the disclosure of information described in paragraph (2) if the information has been transformed into a statistical or aggregate form without naming any—
  - (i) individual owner, operator, or producer; or
  - (ii) specific data gathering site; or
- (C) the disclosure of information described in paragraph (2) pursuant to the consent of the agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land.
- (5) **CONDITION OF OTHER PROGRAMS**. The participation of the agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land in, or receipt of any benefit under, any program administered by the Secretary may not be conditioned on the consent of the agricultural producer or owner of agricultural land under paragraph
- (6) WAIVER OF PRIVILEGE OR PROTECTION. The disclosure of information under paragraph (2) shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege or protection under Federal law, including trade secret protection.



## Memorandum of Agreement Fact Sheet

### **Background Information:**

NRCS is in the process of replacing the current State Level Cooperative Working Agreement (CWA) (signed in 1999), with each Resource Conservation District, with a new **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)**.

- Currently NRCS has a state level Cooperative Working Agreement with each Resource Conservation District. These Cooperative Working Agreements will be replaced with a new Memorandum of Agreement.
- The Memorandum of Agreement is between California-NRCS, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, and each Resource Conservation District.
  - The Memorandum of Agreement documents the relationship and basic framework for the cooperation between NRCS, and the Resource Conservation District on a statewide basis.
  - Neither funding nor things of value can be transferred through the Memorandum of Agreement.
  - The Memorandum of Agreement is not a legally or financially binding document.

# **Why New Agreements with Resource Conservation Districts:**

• NRCS now falls under a new branch of USDA called Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC). The administrative functions of the component Agencies (NRCS, FSA and RMA) have been merged. Thus, numerous supporting documents are being looked at with fresh eyes, including the Agreements that Soil Conservation Service (SCS) and NRCS have operated under with conservation districts for the last 80 years. Now we are being directed to reformat and re-sign these documents to bring them up-to-date and make them consistent with the language used across FPAC.

## Why a Name Change:

- The reason to change the name from Cooperative Working Agreement to Memorandum of Agreement is to ensure the correct and legal use of the partnership agreement.
  - The state level Cooperative Working Agreement was previously improperly used as a Memorandum of Agreement, which documents the working relationship between NRCS and RCD's but is not legally or financially binding
  - Memorandum of Agreements are very different from Cooperative Agreements, which are used for securing agreements of monetary



### Memorandum of Agreement Fact Sheet

- value or imply transfer of funds. Memorandum of Agreements cannot be used in exchange of monetary value or transfer of funds.
- Cooperative Agreements are legally or financially binding and imply there is some type of monetary transfer and is a legal or financial binding document.

# What's in the New Memorandum of Agreement:

- Several additions have been made to the Memorandum of Agreement which
  were highlighted in the 2018 Farm Bill and subsequently prompted NRCS to
  review the Cooperative Working Agreement for quality assurance. The
  Memorandum of Agreement has been updated nationally with a statement of
  mutual benefit. The following language additions have been made:
  - o Emphasis on locally-led voluntary conservation has been added;
  - Specific language on what NRCS and the RCD's shall do regarding locally-led voluntary conservation and adherence to technical standards;
  - o To include language on data and information sharing; and
  - A section on general provisions that address period of performance, amendments and transfer of funding or non-monetary resources.

### **Are there any negative impacts?**

• We do not expect this to have any negative impacts on our relationship with the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, or individual Resource Conservation Districts. In fact, this is a positive thing that we will be codifying in current terms the historic relationship between NRCS and our District partners. It's not surprising that across 50 states, 2 territories and 85 years our many agreements have gotten a bit "individualized." FPAC is developing a standard template and now our agreements will be similar from Alabama to Wyoming.

#### **History of Partnerships:**

- The Brown Creek Soil Conservation District in North Carolina signed the first Memorandum of Understanding, (currently called a Cooperative Working Agreement and soon to be replaced by a new Memorandum of Agreement) with USDA in 1937. The acreage in districts topped the two billion mark in 1973. Beginning in 1980, Native Americans organized districts and began receiving assistance from NRCS as well.
- Partnerships expand the reach and depth of conservation on the land. It is our duty to provide quality assistance to farmers, ranchers and landowners to ensure protection of our nation's lands. Individually the federal and state agencies, nonprofit groups, and Resource Conservation Districts that comprise our conservation partnerships have a diversity of expertise in discipline,



## Memorandum of Agreement Fact Sheet

location/area, and focus. As partners in conservation, these groups share their unique areas of expertise and conservation work to put more conservation on the land.

### What we can do together:

- Approve conservation plans, in accordance with conservation policy;
- Provide technical assistance;
- Provide administrative support;
- Lead the locally led process;
- Provide input on local natural resource concerns and recommendations to NRCS for Conservation Technical Assistance programs;
- Lead local communication and public participation;
- Assist with outreach programs;
- Convene the USDA local working group; and,
- Become a certified TSP.

#### The intent is:

- Continued support of customer service;
- Strengthen and modernize conservation delivery;
- Outreach to new and existing farmers and partners;
- Encourage a voluntary approach; and,
- Practical approach to conservation of water, soil and environment

If there are any questions concerning the new state-level Memorandum of Agreement, please contact the local District Conservationist or the Area Assistant State Conservationist. Assistant State Conservationist contact info:

- Area 1, Tony Sunseri, 530-737-5217 or tony.sunseri@usda.gov
- Area 2, Kay Joy Barge, 831-975-7763 or kay.joybarge@usda.gov
- Area 3, Sharon Nance, 559-490-5218 or Sharon.nance@usda.gov
- Area 4, Curtis Tarver, 951-684-3722 or Curtis.tarver@usda.gov

# MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ATTACHMENTS Which Include The Full Text of Appendix B and Appendix C

Appendix B and C are available upon request to the California NRCS State Office or can be downloaded at the following source/link

❖ Appendix B: 7 CFR 610, Part C: The language for the State Technical Committee authorized by 7 CRF 610, Part C may change, in the future, with a new farm bill. To see the latest State Technical Committee authorization, go to:

#### https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/7/part-610/subpart-C

Legal Information Institute; Electronic Code of Federal Regulations; Title 7. Agriculture; Subtitle B. Regulations for the Department of Agriculture; Chapter VI NRCS, Subpart B, Conservation Programs; NRCS 7 CFR Subpart C-State Technical Committees.

❖ Appendix C: Title 440, Part 500 - Conservation Programs Manual., Locally Led Conservation may be revised in the future. To see the latest Title 440, Part 500 - Conservation Programs Manual, Locally Led Conservation go to:

https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/RollupViewer.aspx?hid=27712

# Appendix B

#### 7 CFR 610, Part C

#### 610.21 Purpose and scope.

This subpart sets forth the procedures for establishing and using the advice of <u>State</u> Technical Committees. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will establish in each <u>State</u> a Technical Committee to assist in making recommendations relating to the implementation and technical aspects of natural resource conservation activities and programs. The Department of Agriculture (USDA) will use <u>State</u> Technical Committees in an advisory capacity in the administration of certain conservation <u>programs</u> and initiatives. Pursuant to <u>16 U.S.C. 3862(d)</u>, these <u>State</u> Technical Committees and Local Working Groups are exempt from the provisions of the <u>Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.</u> 2).

#### 610.22 State Technical Committee membership.

- a. <u>State</u> Technical Committees will include agricultural producers, nonindustrial private forest land owners, and other professionals who represent a variety of disciplines in soil, water, wetlands, plant, and wildlife sciences. The <u>State</u> Conservationist in each <u>State</u> will serve as chairperson. The <u>State</u> Technical Committee for each <u>State</u> will include representatives from among the following, if willing to serve:
  - 1. NRCS, USDA;
  - 2. Farm Service Agency, USDA;
  - 3. State Farm Service Agency Committee, USDA;
  - 4. Forest Service, <u>USDA</u>;
  - 5. National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA;
  - 6. Each of the Federally recognized Indian Tribes in the State;
  - 7. State departments and agencies within the State, including the:
    - i. Fish and wildlife agency;
    - ii. Forestry agency;
    - iii. Water resources agency;

- iv. Department of agriculture;
- v. Association of soil and water conservation districts; and
- vi. Soil and water conservation agency;
- 8. Agricultural producers representing the variety of crops and livestock or poultry raised within the State;
- 9. Owners of nonindustrial private forest land;
- 10. Nonprofit organizations, within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the <u>Internal Revenue Code of 1986</u>, with demonstrable conservation expertise and experience working with agriculture producers in the <u>State</u>;
- 11. Agribusiness; and
- 12. The State Cooperative Extension Service and land grant universities in the State.
- a. The <u>State</u> Conservationist will invite other relevant Federal, <u>State</u>, and regional agencies, organizations, and <u>persons</u> knowledgeable about economic and environmental impacts of natural resource conservation techniques and programs to participate as needed.
- b. To ensure that recommendations of <u>State</u> Technical Committees take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by <u>USDA</u>, membership will include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent the conservation and related technical concerns of particular historically underserved groups and individuals; i.e., minorities, women, <u>persons</u> with disabilities, socially and economically disadvantaged groups, and beginning farmers and ranchers.
- c. In accordance with the guidelines in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section, it is the responsibility of the <a href="State">State</a> Conservationist to seek a balanced representation of <a href="interests">interests</a> among the membership on the <a href="State">State</a> Technical Committee. Individuals or groups wanting to <a href="participate">participate</a> on a <a href="State">State</a> Technical Committee within a specific <a href="State">State</a> may submit a request to the <a href="State">State</a> Conservationist that explains their <a href="interest">interest</a> and outlines their credentials which they believe are relevant to becoming a member. Decisions regarding membership are at the discretion of the <a href="State">State</a> Conservationist. <a href="State">State</a> Conservationist decisions on membership are final and not appealable to any other individual or group within <a href="USDA">USDA</a>.

# [74 FR 66912, Dec. 17, 2009, as amended at 84 FR 19702, May 6, 2019] 610.23 State Technical Committee meetings.

- a. The <u>State</u> Conservationist, as Chairperson, schedules and conducts the meetings, although a meeting may be requested by any <u>USDA agency</u> or <u>State</u> Technical Committee member.
- b. NRCS will establish and maintain national standard operating procedures governing the operation of <u>State</u> Technical Committees and Local Working Groups in its directive system. The standard operating procedures will outline items such as: The best practice approach to establishing, organizing, and effectively utilizing <u>State</u> Technical Committees and Local Working Groups; direction on publication of <u>State</u> Technical Committee and Local Working Group meeting notices and agendas; <u>State</u> Technical Committee meeting summaries; how to provide feedback on <u>State</u> Conservationist decisions regarding <u>State</u> Technical Committee recommendations; and other items as determined by the Chief.
- c. In addition to the standard operating procedures established under <u>paragraph</u> (b) of this section, the <u>State</u> Conservationist will provide public notice and allow public attendance at <u>State</u> Technical Committee and Local Working Group meetings. The <u>State</u> Conservationist will publish a meeting notice no later than 14 calendar days prior to a <u>State</u> Technical Committee meeting. Notification may exceed this 14-day minimum where <u>State</u> open meeting laws exist and provide for a longer notification period. This minimum 14-day notice requirement may be waived in the case of exceptional conditions, as determined by the <u>State</u> Conservationist. The <u>State</u> Conservationist will publish this notice in at least one or more newspaper(s), including recommended Tribal publications, to attain statewide circulation.

#### § 610.24 Responsibilities of State Technical Committees.

a. Each <u>State</u> Technical Committee established under this subpart will meet on a regular basis, as determined by the <u>State</u> Conservationist, to provide information, analysis, and recommendations to appropriate officials of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) who are charged with implementing and establishing priorities and criteria for natural resources conservation activities and <u>programs</u> under Title XII of the <u>Food Security Act of 1985</u> including, but not limited to, the Agricultural Conservation Easement <u>Program</u>, Conservation Reserve <u>Program</u>, Conservation Security <u>Program</u>, Conservation Stewardship <u>Program</u>, Environmental Quality Incentives <u>Program</u>, Conservation Innovation Grants, Conservation of Private Grazing Land, Grassroots Source Water Protection <u>Program</u>, the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive <u>Program</u>, and the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. The members of the State Technical Committee may also provide input on

other natural resource conservation <u>programs</u> and issues as may be requested by NRCS or other <u>USDA agency</u> heads at the <u>State</u> level as long as they are within the <u>programs</u> authorized by Title XII. Such recommendations may include, but are not limited to, recommendations on:

- 1. The criteria to be used in prioritizing <u>program</u> applications;
- 2. The <u>State</u>-specific <u>application</u> criteria;
- 3. Priority natural resource concerns in the State;
- 4. Emerging natural resource concerns and program needs; and
- 5. Conservation practice standards and specifications.
- a. The role of the <u>State</u> Technical Committee is advisory in nature, and the committee will have no implementation or enforcement authority. The implementing <u>agency</u> reserves the authority to accept or reject the committee's recommendations. However, the implementing <u>USDA</u> <u>agency</u> will give strong consideration to the State Technical Committee's recommendations.
- b. <u>State</u> Technical Committees will review whether Local Working Groups are addressing <u>State</u> priorities.

#### [74 FR 66912, Dec. 17, 2009, as amended at 79 FR 44639, Aug. 1, 2014]

#### 610.25 Subcommittees and Local Working Groups.

a. *Subcommittees.* In some situations, specialized subcommittees, made up of <u>State</u> Technical Committee members, may be needed to analyze and examine specific issues. The <u>State</u> Conservationist may assemble certain members, including members of Local Working Groups and other knowledgeable individuals, to discuss, examine, and focus on a particular technical or programmatic topic. The subcommittee may seek public participation, but it is not required to do so. Nevertheless, recommendations resulting from these subcommittee sessions, other than sessions of Local Working Groups, will be made only in a general session of the <u>State</u> Technical Committee where the public is notified and invited to attend. Decisions resulting from recommendations of Local Working Groups will be communicated to NRCS in accordance with the standard operating procedures described in § 610.23(b).

## b. Local Working Groups.

- 1. Local Working Groups will be composed of conservation district officials, <u>agricultural producers</u> representing the variety of crops and livestock or <u>poultry</u> raised within the local area, nonindustrial private forest land owners, and other professionals representing relevant agricultural and conservation <u>interests</u> and a variety of disciplines in the soil, water, plant, wetland, and wildlife sciences who are familiar with private land agricultural and natural resource issues in the local <u>community</u>;
- Local Working Groups will provide recommendations on local natural resource priorities and criteria for conservation activities and programs; and
- 3. Local Working Groups will follow the standard operating procedures described in § 610.23(b).

# **Appendix C**

# Title 440, Part 500 – Conservation Programs Manual Locally Led Conservation

# **Table of Contents - Locally Led Conservation**

#### Subpart A - Locally Led Conservation Defined

- 500.0 Executive Summary
- 500.1 Locally Led Conservation Defined
- 500.2 Locally Led Leadership and Public Involvement
- 500.3 The Conservation Needs Assessment
- 500.4 The Conservation Action Plan
- 500.5 Implementing the Conservation Action Plan
- 500.6 Evaluating Results

#### Subpart B - Exhibits

- 500.10 NACD Guidance Document, "Locally Led Conservation: An Overview for Conservation Districts"
- 500.11 NACD Guidance Document, "Conservation District Board Member Recruitment"

[M\_440\_500\_\_TOC - Amend. 70 - September 2010]

# **Subpart A - Locally Led Conservation Defined**

## 500.0 Executive Summary

Locally led conservation consists of a series of phases that involve community stakeholders in natural resource planning, implementation of solutions, and evaluation of results. Locally led conservation begins with the community itself, working through the local conservation district. It is based on the principle that community stakeholders are best suited to deal with local resource problems. Generally, the locally led process will involve the phases listed in figure 500-A1.

Figure 500-A1

Phase	Activity	Further Information
Public Involvement and the Conservation Needs Assessment		Section 500.3.

	assessment and establish broad conservation goals to meet those needs.	
2. Conservation Action Plan	The conservation district involves community stakeholders developing and agreeing on a conservation action plan that documents decisions and time schedules, identifies priorities, sets goals, and identifies Government and nongovernment programs to meet those needs. Community stakeholders, under conservation district leadership, identify which Government and nongovernment programs are needed to address specific natural resource concerns.	Section 500.4.
	Note: USDA conservation programs are just some of the many programs that can be used to satisfy the community's goals and needs.	
3. Implementation of the Conservation Action Plan	Community stakeholders, under conservation district leadership, obtain Government and nongovernment program resources and assist in implementing the programs that can satisfy the community's goals and needs, as identified in the action plan.	Section 500.5.
4. Evaluation of the Conservation Action Plan	The effectiveness of plan implementation should be evaluated to ensure that the community stakeholders' planned goals and objectives are achieved. An evaluation should be made to determine where the actual results differ from those anticipated. The difference may result in retracing one or more of the steps in the locally led conservation effort.	Section 500.6.

#### 500.1 Locally Led Conservation Defined

- A. Definition of Locally Led Conservation
  - (1) Essentially, "locally led conservation" is community stakeholders performing all of the following:
    - (i) Assessing their natural resource conservation needs
    - (ii) Setting community conservation goals
    - (iii) Developing an action plan
    - (iv) Obtaining resources to carry out the plan
    - (v) Implementing solutions
    - (vi) Measuring their success
  - (2) These actions have been grouped into four major activities for the purpose of this guidance:
    - (i) Conservation needs assessment
    - (ii) Conservation action plan
    - (iii) Action plan implementation
    - (iv) Evaluation of results
- B. The Locally Led Principle

Locally led conservation is based on the principle that community stakeholders are best suited to identify and resolve local natural resource problems. Thus, community stakeholders are keys to successfully managing and protecting their natural resources. It challenges neighbors, both urban and rural, to work together and take responsibility for addressing local resource needs.

C. Definition of the Word "Local"

The word "local" can mean a county, a portion of a county, a watershed, a multicounty region, or whatever geographic area is best suited to address the resource conservation needs identified. Local may also include specific sectors of a county, watershed, region, or community with common resource concerns. This may include but is not limited to groups based on operational type (organic, specialty crop,

etc.), groups based on operator type (limited-resource, family-owned farms, retirees, etc.), or groups based on other mutual resource concerns.

#### D. Primary Focus: Resource Concerns

(1) It is important to keep in mind that locally led conservation must be driven by natural resource conservation needs rather than by programs. Its primary focus should be to identify natural resource concerns, along with related economic and social concerns. Once the natural resource concerns are identified, appropriate Federal, State, local, and nongovernmental program tools can be used, both individually and in combination, to address these resource concerns and attempt to meet the established goals of the community stakeholders.

#### 500.2 Locally Led Leadership and Public Involvement

#### A. Locally Led Leadership

- (1) While there is a wide range of groups that may be in a position to lead a local conservation effort, conservation districts, under State or Tribal law, are charged with facilitating cooperation and agreements between agencies, landowners, and others; developing comprehensive conservation plans; and bringing those plans to the attention of landowners and others in their district. Thus, conservation districts are experienced in assessing resource needs, determining priorities, and coordinating programs to meet those needs and priorities.
- (2) Conservation districts are the logical group to coordinate locally led conservation due to their connections to Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments; private resources; and the public. Therefore, further discussion of the locally led effort presumes that districts will provide primary leadership; however, leadership can come from any willing and interested group.
- (3) Refer to section 500.10 for the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) guidance document, "Locally Led Conservation: An Overview for Conservation Districts."

#### B. Public Involvement

- (1) Input from a broad range of agencies, organizations, businesses, and individuals in the local area that have an interest in natural resource management and are familiar with local resource needs and conditions is an essential element of locally led conservation. These representatives should reflect the diversity of the residents, landowners, and land operators in the local area.
- (2) The NACD documents "Locally Led Conservation: An Overview for Conservation Districts" and "Conservation District Board Member Recruitment and Community Outreach Guide" provide suggested guidelines for public outreach efforts and ways to reach out to underserved communities.

#### C. NRCS Role and Responsibilities

NRCS will support the locally led conservation effort by-

- (i) Providing assistance in identifying conservation needs.
- (ii) Providing technical and program advice to the community stakeholders throughout the effort.
- (iii) Assisting in developing and implementing strategies to include socially and economically disadvantaged groups in the locally led effort.

Note: It is not the responsibility of the designated conservationist to lead the locally led effort. NRCS's task is to support the process and provide technical information upon request.

#### 500.3 The Conservation Needs Assessment

#### A. Introduction

A conservation needs assessment is the first step and a critical element of locally led conservation. With input and resource data from all interested parties, this assessment should provide a comprehensive evaluation of the condition of the area's natural resource base and will be the platform for making decisions about local priorities and policies for conservation programs delivered at the local level.

#### B. Definition of a Conservation Needs Assessment

- (1) The conservation needs assessment is a comprehensive analysis of the work that needs to be done to achieve broad conservation goals set by community stakeholders and to solve natural resource problems. This assessment should be based on public input and science-based information. It should include a detailed analysis of natural resource concerns within the area. To ensure versatility in all program areas, it is important that this needs assessment be resource-based, not program-based.
- (2) The conservation action plan that results from the conservation needs assessment will identify the tools that can be used to satisfy the needs.

- C. Purpose of the Conservation Needs Assessment
  - (1) The purpose of the conservation needs assessment is to ensure that conservation efforts address the most important local resource needs. The assessment will be the basis for selecting the type and extent of needed conservation systems and practices. It will also be the basis for making recommendations on funding priorities and priority areas to be addressed by the various conservation programs available.
  - (2) The conservation needs assessment is the foundation for carrying out Federal programs such as the USDA Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). From a resource concern identification standpoint, this conservation needs assessment may also be used to assist localities in implementing the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, as well as many State, Tribal, and local programs that provide assistance to private land owners and managers.
- D. NRCS Roles and Responsibilities
  - (1) The NRCS designated conservationist will support, where requested, the development of the conservation needs assessment by—  $\,$ 
    - (i) Providing assistance in assembling natural resource inventories and data.
    - (ii) Assisting in analyzing the data and other information.
    - (iii) Providing information on socioeconomic factors involved in determining the conservation needs.
  - (2) For specific guidance on resource assessment, consult steps one through four of the areawide planning process in the National Planning Procedures Handbook (NPPH).

#### 500.4 The Conservation Action Plan

A. Introduction and Identification of Leadership

Using the conservation needs assessment, the conservation district involves community stakeholders to develop and agree on an action plan, generally referred to as a "conservation action plan."

B. The Conservation Action Plan

This plan will—

- (i) Identify natural resource conservation priorities.
- (ii) Set measurable conservation goals and objectives.
- (iii) Identify conservation technology needed to achieve these goals and objectives.
- (iv) Identify responsibility for action and create a time schedule for completion of elements.
- (v) Identify Federal, State, Tribal, local, and nongovernment programs and services needed to address specific conservation needs.
- (vi) Identify a need to develop new programs or processes to address those problems not covered by existing programs.
- C. NRCS Roles and Responsibilities
  - (1) The NRCS designated conservationist will support the development of the conservation action plan by—  $\,$ 
    - (i) Providing overall planning assistance.
    - (ii) Identifying non-USDA programs that may be of assistance.
    - (iii) Explaining appropriate USDA conservation programs and services.
  - (2) For specific guidance on planning assistance, consult steps five through seven of the areawide planning process in the NPPH.

#### 500.5 Implementing the Conservation Action Plan

#### A. Introduction

- (1) Implementation of the conservation action plan means that the community stakeholders, with the leadership of the conservation district, obtain the needed programs and services to address the problems identified by their conservation needs assessment.
- (2) In this step, they coordinate existing assistance, available through private organizations, Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies, including USDA; ensure that appropriate program application processes are followed; develop detailed proposals for new programs; and seek financial, educational, and technical assistance as necessary.
- B. NRCS Roles and Responsibilities
  - (1) The NRCS designated conservationist will support the implementation of the conservation action plan by—

- (i) Explaining, interpreting, and clarifying USDA rules, regulations, and procedures.
- (ii) Providing input on other potential sources of assistance from Federal, State, Tribal, and local government or private sources.
- (iii) Implementing designated roles and responsibilities as defined in Part 502, "USDA Conservation Program Delivery."
- (2) For specific guidance, see step eight of the areawide planning process in the NPPH.

#### 500.6 Evaluating Results

#### A. Introduction

Locally led conservation does not end when the conservation action plan has been implemented. The effectiveness of plan implementation should be evaluated to ensure that the community stakeholders' planned goals and objectives are achieved. An evaluation should be made to determine where the actual results differ from those anticipated. This difference may result in retracing one or more of the steps in the locally led conservation effort.

- B. NRCS Roles and Responsibilities
  - (1) The NRCS designated conservationist will support the conservation district and the community stakeholders in evaluating the results of their locally led conservation efforts by—
    - (i) Assisting in the evaluation process.
    - (ii) Providing updated natural resources information and assessments.
    - (iii) Keeping them aware of changes in the USDA programs and the program delivery process.
    - (iv) Assisting in interpreting the impact of conservation action plan implementation on the condition of the natural resources.
  - (2) Refer to step nine of the areawide planning process in the NPPH for specific guidance.

[M\_440\_500\_\_A - Amend. 70 - September 2010]

# **Subpart B - Exhibits**

500.10 NACD Guidance Document, "Locally Led Conservation: An Overview for Conservation Districts" for a copy of this document go to:

https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/OpenNonWebContent.aspx?content=27918.wba

500.11 NACD Guidance Document, "Conservation District Board Member Recruitment" for a copy of this document go to:

https://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/OpenNonWebContent.aspx?content=27714.wba

[M 440 500 B - Amend. 70 - September 2010]

		FY 20	12.31.19	Notes	
		Budget	Actual	Remaining	
REVENUE					
	Program Revenue				
	Agricultural Ombudsman	\$44,588	\$18,240	\$26,348	
	Climate Mitigation and Adaptation	\$197,856	\$53,077	\$144,779	
	Conservation Technical Assistance	\$179,568	\$39,594	\$139,974	
	Erosion and Sediment Management	\$640,084	\$50,465	\$589,619	
	Fire and Forestry	\$239,040	\$81,698	\$157,342	
	Habitat Enhancement	\$8,289,785	\$5,316,602	\$2,973,182	
	Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network	\$442,680	\$158,926	\$283,754	
	Water Resources & Conservation	\$2,569,066	\$2,366,905	\$202,161	
	Water Quality	\$272,634	\$96,611	\$176,023	
	Billing Rate Adjustments	\$50,000		\$50,000	
	Subtotal Program Revenue	\$12,925,301	\$8,182,120	\$4,743,181	
	Other Revenue				
	County Contributions	\$200,000	\$200,000		
	Individual Contributions	\$10,000	\$96,268	(\$86,268)	
	Interest Income	\$500	\$3,251	(\$2,751)	
	Misc. Income	\$0			
	Property Tax	\$65,000	\$41,946	\$23,054	
	Service Fees	\$0	\$17,026	(\$17,026)	
	Subtotal Other Revenue	\$275,500	\$358,491	(\$82,991)	
	Total Revenue	\$13,200,801	\$8,540,611	\$4,660,100	
	1 otai Kevenue				
EXPENSES		ψ13,200,001	φο,540,011	\$4,660,190	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses	\$1 <i>3</i> ,200,001	ф <b>0,</b> 5 <b>40,</b> 011	\$4,000,190	
EXPENSES		\$ 1,654,251	\$ 653,066	\$1,001,185	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses				
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe)	\$ 1,654,251	\$ 653,066	\$1,001,185	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155	\$1,001,185 \$253,845	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses Program Expenses	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b>	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 \$ 722,221	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 \$ 722,221	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$221 \$6,781	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network Water Resources & Conservation	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380 \$2,231,600	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982 \$2,220,158	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398 \$11,442	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network Water Resources & Conservation Water Quality	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380 \$2,231,600 \$101,034	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982 \$2,220,158 \$45,114	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398 \$11,442 \$55,920	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network Water Resources & Conservation	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380 \$2,231,600	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982 \$2,220,158	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398 \$11,442	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network Water Resources & Conservation Water Quality	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 <b>\$1,977,251</b> \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380 \$2,231,600 \$101,034	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 <b>\$ 722,221</b> \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982 \$2,220,158 \$45,114	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398 \$11,442 \$55,920	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network Water Resources & Conservation Water Quality  Subtotal Program Expenses  Total Expenses	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 \$1,977,251 \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380 \$2,231,600 \$101,034 \$11,124,672 \$13,101,923	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 \$ 722,221 \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982 \$2,220,158 \$45,114 \$7,361,722 \$ 8,083,943	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398 \$11,442 \$55,920 \$3,762,950 \$5,017,980	
EXPENSES	Operating Expenses Personnel (Salaries & Fringe) Other  Subtotal Operating Expenses  Program Expenses Agricultural Ombudsman Climate Mitigation and Adaptation Conservation Technical Assistance Erosion and Sediment Management Fire and Forestry Habitat Enhancement Santa Cruz Mountains Stewardship Network Water Resources & Conservation Water Quality  Subtotal Program Expenses	\$ 1,654,251 \$ 323,000 \$1,977,251 \$600 \$49,566 \$85,823 \$593,500 \$135,000 \$7,620,169 \$307,380 \$2,231,600 \$101,034 \$11,124,672 \$13,101,923	\$ 653,066 \$ 69,155 \$ 722,221 \$6,781 \$3,378 \$41,375 \$16,617 \$4,926,096 \$101,982 \$2,220,158 \$45,114 \$7,361,722	\$1,001,185 \$253,845 \$1,255,030 \$379 \$42,785 \$82,445 \$552,125 \$118,383 \$2,694,074 \$205,398 \$11,442 \$55,920 \$3,762,950	

# San Mateo Resource Conservation District Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2019

AS OF December	7C1 31, 2013
	Dec 31, 19
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1030 · Checking Account (5269)	2,028,568.67
1031 · Restricted State Funds (5012) (Butano Channel)	179,580.25
1032 · Operating Reserve (0202)	148,930.35
Total Checking/Savings	2,357,079.27
Accounts Receivable	
1200 · Accounts Receivable	3,913,236.76
Total Accounts Receivable	3,913,236.76
Total Current Assets	6,270,316.03
TOTAL ASSETS	6,270,316.03
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 · Accounts Payable	2,155,889.17
Total Accounts Payable	2,155,889.17
Credit Cards	
2025 · Visa - Nelson - 0145	1,134.98
2035 · Visa - Issel - 0129	3,065.13
Total Credit Cards	4,200.11
Other Current Liabilities	
2045 · Accrued Payroll	98,933.77
2060 · Accrued Time Off	57,273.50
2400 · Deferred Revenue	
2405 · Bonde Weir	4,051.36
2409 · SCMSN- Regional Climate Action	70,103.43
2410 · Santa Cruz Mountain Stewardship	200,794.65
2411 · SCMSN - Atlas Project	270,629.84
2412 · SCMSN-Spotlight Stewardship	35,810.98
2413 · SCMSN-Permitting	10,932.38
2414 · SCMSN - Veg Gen	50,000.00
2420 · MROSD - Driscoll Ranch	9,018.20
2421 · MROSD - Apple Orchard	13,747.75
2425 · Randtron Antenna	3,424.32
2430 · PG&E - Butano Mitigation Proj.	855,399.80
2431 · PG&E - Project Development	6,989.07
2432 · PG&E Foundation - Hedge Rows	15,000.00
2434 · PG&E - San Bruno Mountain	174,886.50
2435 · Cloverdale Ponds	75,132.38
2445 · SMC Old Haul Raod Phase 1	4,186.98
2450 · STATE - Butano Channel (HE-BC-STATE	
2451 · SMC - Butano Channel	309,875.30
2465 · NACD - Urban Farming TA	6,637.30

# San Mateo Resource Conservation District Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2019

	Dec 31, 19
2470 · SVCF - Carbon Farm Planning	8,354.38
2473 · TMDL - Pescadero Butano	55,000.00
2475 · SAM - First Flush	-210.96
2476 · SAM - Mitigation	15,000.00
2480 · Colma - Cemetery Sustainability	1,414.75
2490 · POST - DR Match Funds	136,437.36
2491 · POST - Rangeland Compost	7,378.90
Total 2400 · Deferred Revenue	2,430,817.56
Total Other Current Liabilities	2,587,024.83
Total Current Liabilities	4,747,114.11
Long Term Liabilities	
2500 · Recoverable Grants	200,000.00
2600 · Deferred Rentention (>1yr)	195,681.29
Total Long Term Liabilities	395,681.29
Total Liabilities	5,142,795.40
Equity	
3500 · Net Assets	672,917.21
Net Income	454,603.42
Total Equity	1,127,520.63
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	6,270,316.03

# San Mateo Resource Conservation District **Profit & Loss**

July through December 2019

	Jul - Dec 19
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4010 · Contracts	8,199,145.43
4020 · Donations	
4025 · Annual Appeal Donation	4,642.80
4030 · General Support Donations	90,500.00
4035 · Individual Donation	1,125.30
Total 4020 · Donations	96,268.10
4040 · Interest	3,251.17
4050 · SMC Contributions	
4055 ⋅ SMC Property Tax	41,910.81
4060 · SMC Property Sale Proceeds	35.38
4065 · SMC Operating Support	200,000.00
Total 4050 · SMC Contributions	241,946.19
Total Income	8,540,610.89
Gross Profit	8,540,610.89
Expense	
5100 · Personnel	
5110 ⋅ Salary	549,066.77
5120 · Benefits	103,999.27
Total 5100 · Personnel	653,066.04
5200 · Operating Expense	
5205 · Bank Fees	278.91
5210 · Communications	4,457.25
5215 · Dues-Membership-Subscriptions	1,307.00
5220 · Equipment	1,042.78
5225 · Information Technology	10,336.89
5230 · Insurance	47.50
5235 · Office Supplies	548.15
5240 · Rent	19,731.40
5245 · Accounting Services	17,448.75
5250 · Legal Services	308.10
5255 · Misc. Consulting Services 5265 · Discretionary (	8,877.12
)	1,270.41
5270 · Prof. Development & Meetings	3,501.02
Total 5200 · Operating Expense	69,155.28
5300 · Program Expenses	
5310 · Project Implementation	7,363,786.15
Total 5300 · Program Expenses	7,363,786.15
Total Expense	8,086,007.47
Net Ordinary Income	454,603.42
Net Income	454,603.42

# San Mateo Resource Conservation District **Profit & Loss**

July through December 2019
Jul - Sep 19

July through L	Jul - Sep 19	Oct - Dec 19	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4010 · Contracts	5,662,423.87	2,536,721.56	8,199,145.43
4020 · Donations			
4025 · Annual Appeal Donation	4,500.00	142.80	4,642.80
4030 · General Support Donations	90,500.00	0.00	90,500.00
4035 · Individual Donation	425.30	700.00	1,125.30
Total 4020 · Donations	95,425.30	842.80	96,268.10
4040 ⋅ Interest	1,953.83	1,297.34	3,251.17
4050 ⋅ SMC Contributions			
4055 · SMC Property Tax	3,745.19	38,165.62	41,910.81
4060 · SMC Property Sale Proceeds	35.38	0.00	35.38
4065 · SMC Operating Support	200,000.00	0.00	200,000.00
Total 4050 · SMC Contributions	203,780.57	38,165.62	241,946.19
Total Income	5,963,583.57	2,577,027.32	8,540,610.89
Gross Profit	5,963,583.57	2,577,027.32	8,540,610.89
Expense			
5100 · Personnel			
5110 · Salary	290,721.76	258,345.01	549,066.77
5120 · Benefits	61,549.66	42,449.61	103,999.27
Total 5100 · Personnel	352,271.42	300,794.62	653,066.04
5200 · Operating Expense			
5205 · Bank Fees	243.31	35.60	278.91
5210 · Communications	2,260.37	2,196.88	4,457.25
5215 · Dues-Membership-Subscriptions	0.00	1,307.00	1,307.00
5220 · Equipment	1,042.78	0.00	1,042.78
5225 · Information Technology	1,111.02	9,225.87	10,336.89
5230 · Insurance	0.00	47.50	47.50
5235 ⋅ Office Supplies	131.68	416.47	548.15
5240 · Rent	9,865.60	9,865.80	19,731.40
5245 · Accounting Services	10,768.75	6,680.00	17,448.75
5250 · Legal Services	0.00	308.10	308.10
5255 · Misc. Consulting Services 5265 · Discretionary (	0.00	8,877.12	8,877.12
)	0.00	1,270.41	1,270.41
5270 · Prof. Development & Meetings	1,943.58	1,557.44	3,501.02
Total 5200 ⋅ Operating Expense	27,367.09	41,788.19	69,155.28
5300 · Program Expenses			
5310 · Project Implementation	5,165,830.58	2,197,955.57	7,363,786.15
Total 5300 · Program Expenses	5,165,830.58	2,197,955.57	7,363,786.15
Total Expense	5,545,469.09	2,540,538.38	8,086,007.47
Net Ordinary Income	418,114.48	36,488.94	454,603.42
t Income	418,114.48	36,488.94	454,603.42

# San Mateo Resource Conservation District Profit & Loss

July through December 2019

	Jul 19	Aug 19	Sep 19	Oct 19	Nov 19	Dec 19	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense							
Income							
4010 · Contracts	529,846.33	318,297.71	4,814,279.83	5,000.00	379,003.16	2,152,718.40	8,199,145.43
4020 · Donations							
4025 · Annual Appeal Donation	0.00	0.00	4,500.00	0.00	50.00	92.80	4,642.80
4030 · General Support Donations	5,500.00	10,000.00	75,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	90,500.00
4035 · Individual Donation	0.00	365.30	60.00	200.00	0.00	500.00	1,125.30
Total 4020 · Donations	5,500.00	10,365.30	79,560.00	200.00	50.00	592.80	96,268.10
4040 · Interest	661.85	643.20	648.78	511.04	261.39	524.91	3,251.17
4050 · SMC Contributions							
4055 · SMC Property Tax	294.49	3,368.39	82.31	0.00	6,415.42	31,750.20	41,910.81
4060 · SMC Property Sale Proceeds	0.00	0.00	35.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.38
4065 · SMC Operating Support	0.00	0.00	200,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200,000.00
Total 4050 · SMC Contributions	294.49	3,368.39	200,117.69	0.00	6,415.42	31,750.20	241,946.19
Total Income	536,302.67	332,674.60	5,094,606.30	5,711.04	385,729.97	2,185,586.31	8,540,610.89
Gross Profit	536,302.67	332,674.60	5,094,606.30	5,711.04	385,729.97	2,185,586.31	8,540,610.89
Expense							
5100 · Personnel							
5110 · Salary	102,353.76	99,252.32	89,115.68	87,382.84	86,415.54	84,546.63	549,066.77
5120 · Benefits	25,409.19	16,786.96	19,353.51	14,822.02	16,435.20	11,192.39	103,999.27
Total 5100 · Personnel	127,762.95	116,039.28	108,469.19	102,204.86	102,850.74	95,739.02	653,066.04
5200 · Operating Expense							
5205 · Bank Fees	0.00	213.31	30.00	34.00	0.00	1.60	278.91
5210 · Communications	984.05	542.66	733.66	648.36	752.21	796.31	4,457.25
5215 · Dues-Membership-Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,282.00	25.00	0.00	1,307.00
5220 · Equipment	0.00	966.32	76.46	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,042.78
5225 · Information Technology	980.94	65.04	65.04	762.04	2,903.64	5,560.19	10,336.89
5230 · Insurance	0.00	0.00	0.00	47.50	0.00	0.00	47.50
5235 · Office Supplies	54.68	51.50	25.50	25.50	104.31	286.66	548.15
5240 · Rent	230.00	230.00	9,405.60	230.00	9,405.80	230.00	19,731.40
5245 · Accounting Services	1,797.50	0.00	8,971.25	0.00	3,630.00	3,050.00	17,448.75
5250 · Legal Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	308.10	0.00	308.10
5255 · Misc. Consulting Services 5265 · Discretionary (	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,860.48	3,016.64	8,877.12
)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	268.09	1,002.32	1,270.41
5270 · Prof. Development & Meetings	682.71	586.37	674.50	599.76	942.26	15.42	3,501.02
Total 5200 · Operating Expense	4,729.88	2,655.20	19,982.01	3,629.16	24,199.89	13,959.14	69,155.28
5300 · Program Expenses							
5310 · Project Implementation	1,444,761.55	805,535.26	2,915,533.77	948,276.27	596,316.80	653,362.50	7,363,786.15
Total 5300 · Program Expenses	1,444,761.55	805,535.26	2,915,533.77	948,276.27	596,316.80	653,362.50	7,363,786.15
Total Expense	1,577,254.38	924,229.74	3,043,984.97	1,054,110.29	723,367.43	763,060.66	8,086,007.47
Net Ordinary Income	-1,040,951.71	-591,555.14	2,050,621.33	-1,048,399.25	-337,637.46	1,422,525.65	454,603.42
Net Income	-1,040,951.71	-591,555.14	2,050,621.33	-1,048,399.25	-337,637.46	1,422,525.65	454,603.42