



**GLENN COUNTY
RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT



**Glenn County Resource Conservation District
2004-2005 Annual Report**

DIRECTORS

Donnan Arbuckle, President
Jerry Ehorn, Vice President
Mike Landini, Secretary/Treasurer
Lorri Pride
Greg Massa
Mike Yalow

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

Anjanette Shadley Martin
Susan Steuben
Jim Giachino

STAFF

Kandi Manhart, District Manager
Ajay Singh, Stony Creek Watershed Coordinator

The following information is deemed truthful and accurate to the best of our knowledge. This document is not to be used during an audit. For audit records please contact the District.

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INTRODUCTION

Established in 1989, the Glenn County Resource Conservation District (“District”) was organized to provide leadership to help people conserve, improve, and sustain our natural resources, our environment, and our county’s economic viability.

Our mission is:

“To promote a sustainable, economically healthy county, through the management of natural resources, maintain a desirable environment, and address local resource issues in a timely manner.”

Our function is:

“To make available technical, financial and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land manager with conservation of soil, water and related natural resources.”

As a “Special District”, organized under the California Public Resources Code, Division 9, we have many powers to carry out our goals and objectives. Priority issues include outreach and education on water resources, maintaining our agricultural land base, range management, control and/or eradication of invasive species, as well as evaluating the potential impacts of loss of wildlife habitat, maintaining air quality, and researching and promoting alternative methods for energy. One of the primary areas the District has actively been working in is the Stony Creek Watershed.

The District Board, comprised of local landowner volunteers, dedicates their personal time to represent the local voice on these types of natural resources concerns. ***It is estimated that the volunteers worked over 1,000 hours during this period.*** We thank them and their hard work in making Glenn County a better place to live!

The District is funded entirely by grants, donations, and contracts, and receives no general tax revenues. Thank you to our sponsors!

PURPOSE OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

“The Legislature hereby declares that resource conservation is of fundamental importance to the prosperity and welfare of the people of this state.”

Conservation Districts emerged during the 1930s as a way to prevent the soil erosion problems of the Dust Bowl from recurring. Formed as independent local liaisons between the federal government and landowners, Conservation Districts have always worked closely with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly the Soil Conservation Service).

In California, Resource Conservation Districts are "Special Districts" organized under the state Public Resources Code, Division 9. Each district has a locally elected or appointed volunteer board of directors made up of landowners in that district. RCDs address a wide variety of conservation issues such as forest fuel management, water and air quality, wildlife habitat restoration, soil erosion control, conservation education, and much more.

California now has 104 Resource Conservation Districts, most of which are funded largely through grants. A few receive limited funds through county property tax revenues. The Department of Conservation and the Natural Resources Conservation Service provide training and in-kind support, as well as a watershed grant program for districts.

Today, RCDs work in urban areas as well as with farmers and ranchers on agricultural-related concerns. California's size and geographical diversity, along with an ever-growing population, make natural resources stewardship a great challenge in the Golden State.

Source: California Association of Resource Conservation Districts, www.carcd.org

PROJECTS

Stony Creek Watershed Project

- ⇒ \$763,200 for an assessment and analysis, monitoring program, and demonstration site awarded by SWRCB (*Years 05-07*)
- ⇒ \$200,000 for monitoring and coordination capacity awarded by SWRCB (*Years 04-06*)
- ⇒ \$150,000 for rangeland management evaluation and recommendations for improvement activities awarded by BOR (*Years 00-05*)
- ⇒ \$78,292 for a watershed coordinator awarded by DOC (*Years 04-07*)

Conservation Security Program, agInnovators Network

- ⇒ \$5,000 for a Central Sacramento Valley RC&D project awarded by CARCD

USDA-NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- ⇒ \$1,502,132 for local projects such as ground service water improvements, grazing land, animal waste systems, and orchard removal

USDA-NRCS Conservation Security Program (CSP)

- ⇒ \$905,265 for Sacramento-Stone Corral area and
- \$56,431 for Lower Butte area

Total \$3,660,320 Project Investment

HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS

Stony Creek Watershed Project

In 2004, the District organized a Landowner Advisory Committee (LAC) to help guide the District in implementing projects in the Stony Creek Watershed. The District also organized a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) consisting of local, state, and federal government agencies with interests in the natural resources of the watershed. While the LAC acts as the voice of landowners, TAC assists the District in reviewing environmental reports and provides advice on how to be successful in implementing projects to the benefit of all those involved in the watershed.

The District has begun a watershed assessment and analysis, has established a demonstration site for *Arundo donax* and *Tamarix* removal and bank stabilization, and is developing a monitoring program. These projects are scheduled to be complete by March 2007. Currently, the District has applied for funding to develop a watershed restoration plan and environmental documents, also referred to as a Coordinated Permit Program. These projects will aid the District and landowners by providing an avenue for funding opportunities to implement work on the ground and to help address the problem of channel widening and incision in the lower watershed.

This on-going project is currently funded by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and Department of Conservation (DOC). We thank them for their support and look forward to continuing our working relationship.



Lower Stony Creek Watershed



Arundo donax & *Tamarisk* dominates Stony Creek



Erosion devastates landowners in the watershed



Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. EQIP offers financial and technical help to assist eligible participants install or implement structural and management practices on eligible agricultural land.

Glenn County Summary:

Fund Code	Sub Fund	Funds Available	Apps	Funds Requested	Contracts Obligated	Excess Funds Requested
Regular EQIP	Grazing Land	\$ 444,099.00	3	\$444,099.00	3	\$0.00
Regular EQIP	Animal Waste Systems	\$ 229,758.00	4	\$229,758.00	4	\$0.00
Regular EQIP	Orchard Removal	\$ -	0	\$ -	0	\$0.00
Regular EQIP	General	\$ 505,144.00	42	\$785,519.00	33	(\$280,375.00)
GSWC		\$ 323,131.00	28	\$1,677,885.00	6	(\$1,354,754.00)
	TOTAL	\$ 1,502,132.00	77	\$ 3,137,261.00	46	(\$1,635,129.00)

By David Rose, District Conservationist, NRCS



Conservation Security Program (CSP)

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. Working lands include cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pasture, and range land, as well as forested land that is an incidental part of an agriculture operation. The program provides equitable access to benefits, to all producers, regardless of size of operation, crops produced, or geographic location.

Glenn County Summary:

Sacramento-Stone Corral			Lower Butte		
County	Funds	Contracts	County	Funds	Contracts
Butte			Butte	\$ 2,297,624.00	118
Colusa	\$ 946,652.00	61	Colusa	\$ 200,887.00	11
Glenn	\$ 905,265.00	71	Glenn	\$ 56,431.00	7
Sutter	\$ 289,671.00	24	Sutter	\$ 59,728.00	5
Yolo	\$ 174,939.00	10	Yolo		
Total	\$ 2,316,527.00	166	Total	\$ 2,614,670.00	141

By David Rose, District Conservationist, NRCS

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Program & Funding Organizations

State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) – Phase II	\$200,000
State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) – Phase III	\$763,200
Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)	\$150,000
Department of Conservation (DOC)	\$78,292
California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD)	\$5,000
USDA-NRCS EQIP	\$1,502,132
USDA-NRCS CSP	\$961,696
County of Glenn	\$6,190
Private Donations	\$587
<i>Total Brought to Glenn County as a Result of District Efforts</i>	<i>\$3,667,097</i>

In-Kind & Match Value

Overhead Provided by NRCS

Office Supplies	\$1,500
Rent	\$40,000
Equipment	\$1,200
Vehicles	\$8,000
Salaries/Technical Support/Engineer	\$250,000
Other	
California State University, Chico	\$150,000
Central Sacramento Valley RC&D	\$1,530

Total Value of Additional Support to Glenn County RCD ***\$452,230***

FUTURE PROJECT FUNDING

The District continuously works to obtain sustainable funding through all avenues in order to further the critical natural resources goals and objectives in Glenn County.

In 2006, the District will receive the following project funding:

- ⇒ \$5,000 for a “Improving Air and Water Quality through Sustainable Agricultural Practices on Dairies” workshop and newsletter series awarded by CARCD

Pending project funding:

- ⇒ \$400,000 for a watershed restoration plan through DWR
- ⇒ \$450,438 for a coordinated permit program through CALFED

FUNDING AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

STATE

California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
California Department of Conservation
California State Water Resources Control Board

FEDERAL

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
USDI Bureau of Reclamation

LOCAL

County of Glenn

OTHER

Private Donators

THANK YOU sponsors and all partners for allowing us to accomplish so much!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Glenn County Resource Conservation District
132 North Enright Avenue, Suite B
Willows, California 95988

Phone (530) 934-4601 x3
Fax (530) 934-8667