

2013 NAPA COUNTY WATERSHED SYMPOSIUM

*Sustaining a Watershed –
Acknowledging Local Efforts to Steward Resources for Future Generations*

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Napa, CA

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	2
Agenda.	3
Afternoon Tour – Map	5
Afternoon Tour – Project Descriptions	6
Speaker Biographies.	7
Directory of Participants.	10
Evaluation Form.	insert

Slides and materials presented during symposium will soon be available at:
www.napawatersheds.org

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Agenda

9:00 **Welcome**

Barry Martin, Master of Ceremonies, Community Outreach Coordinator,
City of Napa

Honorable Brad Wagenknecht Supervisor, Napa County

9:10 **Keynote Address: Thinking Like a Watershed - From Arteries to Capillaries to Muscles to Work!**

Mark Nechodom, Director, California Department of Conservation

9:40 **Morning Session: Making Progress on All Fronts of Resource Stewardship**

Engaging Urban Populations in Resource Stewardship

Steve Lederer, Director, Napa County Public Works Department

10:05 Resource Stewardship in Vineyards

Mitchell Klug, Director, Napa County Resource Conservation District

10:30 Stewarding Open Space and Public Lands

John Woodbury, General Manager, Napa County Regional Park and Open Space
District

10:55 Protecting Waterways and Populations

Rick Thomasser, Operations Manager, Napa County Flood Control and Water
Conservation District

11:20 **Watershed Whirlwind Tour: Virtual County-wide Tour of Projects**

	Presenter	Project Focus
1	Gretchen Hayes	Restoring the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River
2	Andrew Collison	Restoring the Oakville to Oak Knoll Reach of the Napa River
3	Tosha Commendant	Cleaning Butts Creek
4	Claudia Morgan	Restoring Habitat Along Pope Creek
5	Shaun Horne	Removing Barriers in the Napa River Watershed
6	Leslie Scott	Restoring Eticuera Creek Watershed
7	Chris Malan	Coordinating Stewardship of Suscol Creek
8	Darcy Aston	Revegetating Suscol Creek
9	Bill Birmingham	Reducing the Impact of Roads on Water Quality
10	Bill Birmingham	Monitoring Sediment Movement in the Napa River Watershed

11	Leigh Sharp	Monitoring Fish in the Napa River Watershed
12	Wayne Ryan	Mobilizing Volunteers to Support Fish
13	Margret Smetana	Organizing Waterways Keepers
14	Stephanie Turnipseed	Providing Funding for Environmental Education Field Trips
15	Stephanie Turnipseed	Providing Outdoor Education and Stewardship Projects for Kids
16	Bernhard Krevet	Re-Oaking Napa County
17	Louann Talbert	Building Environmental Awareness at River School
18	Shari Gardner	Promoting Fish Friendly Farming
19	Michelle Novi	Greening Napa's Wine Industry
20	Rita Steiner	Encouraging Conservation On-the-Ground
21	Pat Costello	Making Napa County Bay-Friendly
22	Deborah Elliott	Promoting Rainwater Harvesting in the Napa Valley
23	Jamison Crosby	Improving Stormwater Quality
24	Eric Nightingale	Promoting Native Plants
25	Carol Kunze	Building Trails in the Putah Creek Watershed
26	Ken Schwarz	Horizon Water and Environment
27	Jeff Sharp	Providing Hub for Napa County Watersheds

12:00 **Lunch and exhibits in lobby** - All food, napkins, plates, cups, utensils are compostable

1:15 **Afternoon Tour: A Firsthand Look at Resource Protection and Preservation**

Transportation is provided - No individual car please – Check your nametag for bus assignment

1. Napa River Flood Control in Downtown Napa – *Julie Lucido, City of Napa*
2. Napa-Sonoma Marsh Restoration Project - *Karen Taylor and Veronica Pruitt, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife*
3. Napa River Rutherford Reach Restoration Project – *Gretchen Hayes, Tessera Sciences*

Bus 1 Route

Host: Phil Miller, Napa County Public Works

1. Bus to Marsh
2. Bus to Rutherford
3. Bus to Napa
4. Walk to Copia

Bus 2 Route

Host: Shaun Horne, Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

1. Walk to Napa (with Julie and Shaun)
2. Bus to Marsh
3. Bus to Rutherford
4. Bus to Copia

5:00 **No-host Social at Oxbow Market, 644 First Street, Napa**

Afternoon Tour –Map



Afternoon Tour – Project Summaries

Napa River Flood Control in Downtown Napa

The tour will focus on the Napa Creek Culverts and Floodplain Terracing Project. The Project has increased the creek's flow capacity to handle the 100-year flood event. The creek flows through a residential and downtown district and historically overflowed its banks every several years. The project components were designed and constructed to reduce flooding and restore ecosystem functioning.

Napa-Sonoma Marsh Restoration Project

The Napa River Salt Marsh Restoration Project involves the restoration of nearly 10,000 acres of wetlands and associated habitats within the former Cargill salt pond complex in the North Bay. The first two phases were completed in 2006 and 2007 and now only one remaining phase is left to complete, with construction hopefully beginning this Fall. The project goals are to 1) restore large patches of tidal marsh that support a wide variety of fish, wildlife, and plants and 2) manage water depths of the remaining ponds to maximize wildlife habitat diversity, for migratory and resident shorebirds and dabbling and diving ducks.

The Napa Plant Site Restoration Project is 1,460 acres of former salt ponds in Napa County. In 2003, the State of California purchased this land as part of the Cargill Salt Ponds acquisition, which included 15,100 acres of ponds in South San Francisco Bay. The Napa Plant Site and South Bay Salt Ponds projects shared an initial mission – prepare a scientifically sound and publicly supported restoration and public access plan that can begin to be implemented within five years. The goal of the Napa Plant Site Restoration Project is the restoration and enhancement of wetlands and transitional habitats on the Napa River while providing wildlife-oriented public access. The three phases of the restoration project: the North Unit, Central Unit, and South Unit, were breached in 2008, 2009, and 2010, respectively.

Napa River Rutherford Reach Restoration Project

The Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT – “Our Dirt”) is a private-public partnership of diverse stakeholders working together to restore a living river through the agricultural heart of the Napa Valley for the benefit of the community, the economy, and wildlife. This 4.5 mile comprehensive restoration of the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River involves 28 private properties between Zinfandel Lane and the Oakville Cross Road south of the City of St. Helena. Eroding channel banks resulting from channel incision are threatening riverside property, diminishing riparian buffers, and impairing spawning habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The project is setting back land-uses, stabilizing banks, and installing in-stream habitat structures to protect property, expand the native riparian forest, reduce inputs of fine sediment to the channel that suffocate fish eggs, and enhance salmonid rearing habitat.

Speaker Biographies (in order of appearance)

Barry Martin

Barry Martin came to Napa Valley in 1986 as a radio program director and air talent and ran KVON/KVYN for 17 years, while raising a family and coaching baseball and soccer. In 2001 he began working as the Public Information Office for the Napa River Flood Control Project, and in 2007 became Community Outreach Coordinator for the City of Napa. He is a past president of the Kiwanis Club of Napa, a graduate of Leadership Napa Valley, and serves on the board of the California Veterans Support Foundation. Aside from his day job, he is known in the North Bay as an actor, director and playwright and is co-founder of Lucky Penny Productions.

Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht

Brad was elected as a member of the Napa County Board of Supervisors representing District One in 1998. Brad was also a school teacher for over 30 years. Brad graduated from a local high school in Napa and went on to graduate from the University of California Santa Cruz with a degree in Political Science and Elementary Education. Brad is involved in many local committees including the Children and Families Commission (Prop. 10), Child Care Taskforce, Farm Worker Housing, Housing Trust Fund, Housing Authority Regional Bay Air Quality Management District, California State Association of Counties Board of Directors, Local Agency Formation Commission, Napa County Transportation Planning Commission, San Francisco Bay Conservation & Development Commission, Napa County Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee and the County Medical Services Program.

Mark Nechodom

Dr. Mark Nechodom serves as Director of the California Department of Conservation. He has been a leader in conservation science and policy for decades. Prior to his service as DOC Director, Dr. Nechodom was a Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture at the US Department of Agriculture. Dr. Nechodom earned his doctorate in political science and environmental policy from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he taught for several years. He is married to Debra Bowen and has a daughter who attends college in northern California.

Steve Lederer

Steve Lederer has been Napa County's Director of Public Works since 2012. The Department is responsible for the Napa River Flood Control Project, maintenance of roads in the unincorporated County, management and construction of County owned facilities, supporting the two joint powers authorities that oversee solid waste management operations, the County's Green Business program and sustainability efforts, and the County's Airport, Animal Shelter, and Purchasing Division.

Mr. Lederer worked at Mare Island Naval Shipyard in Vallejo from 1982-1993 as the Head of Nuclear Test Engineering and at Harding Lawson Associates, a civil, planning, and environmental consulting firm, from 1993-2001. Mr. Lederer was born and raised in New York and graduated from Tufts University in 1982 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. He lives in Napa with his four children and two corgis.

Mitchell Klug

Mitchell has been a wine grape grower in The Napa Valley since 1981. He started with a small management company and then worked at Robert Mondavi Vineyards overseeing their farming Operations and Opus One from 1986 until 2004. Mitchell then joined Premier Pacific Vineyards where for 5 years he was developing and farming vineyards in California, Oregon and Eastern Washington. There he was responsible for all farming and assisted with development as well. For the last 5 years Mitchell has been a vineyard consultant with winery and vineyard clients where he tailors the service to the needs the project. Mitchell's professional interests are focused on working with people and farms that are diverse. Mitchell has been on the RCD Board for 14 years, is on the Watershed Conservation and Conservancy Board and one of the founders of the Napa Sustainable Winegrowing Group. He has 2 daughters, a dog.

John Woodbury

John Woodbury, like many of his generation, was a professional student in the 1960's through the early 1980's, earning a BA in Comparative Culture from UC Irvine, a MA in Asian Studies from UC Santa Barbara and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from UC Berkeley. He has worked for various cities in the Bay Area on affordable housing, community development, historic preservation, design review, and general land use planning. John was an elected Director for the Alameda-Contra Transit District for ten years, and Executive Director of the Bay Area Open Space Council from its inception in 1993 until 2005. He was hired by Napa County in 2005 to help the County establish a park and open space district. After the voters approved formation of the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District in 2006, John became the District's General Manager.

Rick Thomasser

Rick Thomasser, P.G., is the Operations Manager for the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. He is also the Project Director for Napa County for Measure A funded restoration projects along the Napa River including the Rutherford and Oakville reach projects. Rick also oversees operations, maintenance and monitoring activities for the Napa River Flood Control project. Rick is a hydrogeologist and attended the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. He spent the first 20 years of his career working in environmental consulting and has been with Napa County for the last 5 years.

Julie Lucido

Julie was the Project Manager for the Napa River/Napa Creek Flood Protection Project from 2008 through 2012. During that time, over \$95 million was spent in the design and construction of the Napa Flood Project; including the construction of the Bypass Rail Bridge Relocation Project, the Napa Creek Culverts and Floodplain Terracing, and the design of the Napa River Bypass. Julie also worked as the Project Engineer and Engineering Manager on the Napa Flood Project between 2002 until 2008. Prior to her work in Napa, Julie was a designer with CH2M Hill in Reno, Nevada. Julie is currently a Senior Civil Engineer with the City of Napa managing the Special Projects Division and Sustainability Program.

Gretchen Hayes

Gretchen Hayes, MLA EP, brings 25 years of experience in resource planning and field geomorphology to her work in river restoration and watershed project management. Prior to establishing Tessera Sciences in 2000, she worked as an exhibits design researcher at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History; as a cultural resource preservation planner at the National Park Service Headquarters in Washington DC; and as a water resource specialist with various Bay Area firms. She is currently the landowner liaison and project coordinator for the Napa River Rutherford Reach Restoration Project, which is serving as a model for large scale river restoration via a private-public partnership of diverse stakeholders. In addition to project management, and geomorphic fieldwork, Gretchen also specializes in the creation of innovative interpretive media to facilitate outreach and collaboration among project stakeholders.

Karen Taylor

Ms. Taylor has over 17 years of experience in the field of biology, with over eight years focused in wetland ecology and restoration. She is the main point of contact for two major restoration projects in the North Bay totally over 10,000 acres. She manages and conducts monitoring plans for these long term projects to ensure permits compliance. She has a bachelor's degree in Conservation Biology from the California State University, Sacramento. Skills include environmental compliance, permitting, project planning, and project development.

Veronica Pruitt

Ms. Pruitt has over 3 years of experience in the biological field, with a focus in ornithology and wetland ecology. She moved to the Suisun Marsh in Northern California to work as a waterfowl technician for the California Waterfowl Association where she gained experience in waterfowl identification, nest searching, banding, egg candling, and behavior. She then transitioned to a position as a scientific aid with CDFW where she currently assists the environmental scientist for the Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area with restoration project development, permit compliance, and biological monitoring. Veronica completed her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology at the Metropolitan State University of Denver.

Phillip M. Miller

Mr. Miller is the Deputy Director of Public Works for Flood Control and Water Resources for Napa County. He has been in the water business for 37 years, 20 with private consulting firms and 17 in local government. His current endeavors include the MST Recycled Water Project, the Napa River/Napa Creek Flood Control Project and representing Napa County on the State Water Project.

Shaun Horne

Mr. Horne is the Watershed and Flood Control Resources Specialist at the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. In this capacity, he manages the District's Stream Maintenance Program, which includes clearing and maintaining the 13 miles of channels within the District's jurisdiction, clearing problem areas within the Napa River and its tributaries, repairing and stabilizing the River and stream banks, and installing and operating a Countywide early warning system for flooding. Prior to working in Napa, Mr. Horne was the Stream Maintenance Biologist at Sonoma County Water Agency, a Fellow at the Association for International Practical Training, and an Arborist for Pacific Tree Care. He is a graduate of the Water Education Foundation's Water Leaders Program.

Directory of Participants

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