



AGENDA

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 21, 2013, 4:00 p.m.

Trefethen Family Vineyards
1160 Oak Knoll Avenue, Napa, California 94558

Board of Directors

Susan Boswell
Diane Dillon
Marita Dorenbecher
Warren Flint
Mitchell Klug
Gary Kraus
Jason Lauritsen
Kenneth Leary
Jim Lincoln
Mark Luce
Marc Pandone
Matt Pope
Jeffrey Redding
Jeff Reichel
Scott Sedgley
Rita Steiner
Peter White

Alternate

Keith Caldwell

Staff

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Natural Resources
Conservation
Manager,
Dept. Public Works

Jeff Sharp,
Principal Planner,
Dept. Public Works

Robert C. Martin,
Legal Counsel
Deputy Counsel,
County Counsel's
Office

804 First Street,
Napa, CA
94559-2623

Tel: 707-259-8600

info@napawatersheds.org

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chair)

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Meeting of March 28, 2013 and Joint GRAC/WICC Meeting of July 25, 2013 (Chair) (2 min)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chair)

4. **UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a) Update on **WICC Board Membership** and terms of office and new appointments (WICC staff) (5 min)
- b) Update on Napa County **Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee** (GRAC) (WICC staff) (5 min)
- c) Update on **Milliken-Sarco-Tuluca (MST) Recycled Water Project** (Phil Miller, Deputy Director, Napa County Public Works) (10 min)
- d) Report on the publication of the **2014 Watershed Education Calendar** – “Slow it, Spread it, Sink it” (Steph Turnipseed, Education Coordinator, Napa County RCD) (5 min)
- e) Report on Napa County’s **Rainwater Harvesting Program** and Vintage High School’s rain garden installation (Deborah Elliott, Water Resources Specialist, Napa County Public Works) (5 min)

(cont.)

- f) Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning (IRWMP)** and Round 2 implementation grant funding recommendations for the Bay Area and Sacramento River funding areas (WICC staff, Napa County Flood District staff) *(5 min)*
- g) Other reports and updates (WICC staff, Board)

5. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Presentation on **Boater Outreach at Lake Berryessa** and the multi-jurisdictional challenges surrounding the lake's use and management to prevent invasive species and protect and water quality (Chris Lee, Solano County Water Agency; Marianne Butler, Solano County Resource Conservation District) *(15 min)*
- b) Presentation on the **Removal of a Fish Passage Barrier on Murphy Creek**; which included the removal of a concrete weir spanning the channel in order to provide 0.64 mi. of additional habitat suitable for steelhead spawning and rearing (Lisa Godfrey, Senior Geomorphologist, California Land Stewardship Institute) *(15 min)*
- c) Presentations on **Agroforestry Opportunities in Napa Valley** – Combining environmental restoration, agriculture and forestry management for multiple benefits (WICC staff introduction)
 - i. **An Agroforestry Model for the Napa Valley** – Where Napa River restoration meets agriculture (Shaun Horne, Flood District) *(10 min)*
 - ii. **Agroforestry in Napa with Truffles** – Use of truffle cultivation as an agroforestry practice in Napa (Robert Chang, Managing Director, American Truffle Company) *(25 min)*

6. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a) **Report by WICC Ad-hoc Subcommittee** on recommendations for opportunities to leverage monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts, and review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition (Ad-hoc Committee, WICC staff, Board) *(20 min)*
- b) **Review of Draft 2014 Meeting Calendar** and discussion of possible 2014 meeting dates and times (WICC staff, Board) *(5 min)*

7. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Exchange of **informational announcements and events** (WICC staff, Board, and Public) *(5-10 min)*

(cont.)

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board, WICC staff) (5 min)

- a) Election of 2014 Chair and Vice Chair and adoption of 2014 meeting calendar
- b) Presentation on pilot study examining spawning gravel, streambed scour and permeability in the Napa River watershed
- c) Update on City and County supported water conservation programs

9. **NEXT MEETING** (Chair)

Regular Scheduled Board Meeting: **January 23, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.**

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chair)

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.





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ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, March 28, 2013, 4:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Members Present: Susan Boswell, Diane Dillon, Marita Dorenbecher, Warren Flint, Mitchell Klug, Jason Lauritsen, Kenneth Leary, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Jeffrey Redding, Jeff Reichel, Scott Sedgley, Rita Steiner, Peter White, Keith Caldwell

Members excused: Gary Kraus, Mark Luce,

Members absent: Matt Pope,

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

1. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Meeting of January 24, 2013 (Chair) (5 min)

Approved as presented

SB	DD	MD	WF	MK	GK	JL1	KL	JL2	ML	MP1	MP2	JR1	JR2	SS	RS	PW	KC
					X				X			A					

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

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None provided

3. UPDATES, REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Update on Napa County **Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee** (GRAC) (WICC staff) (5 min)

Patrick Lowe provided an update and mentioned upcoming joint WICC/GRAC meeting on July 25, 2013 in Yountville.

- b. Update on **Integrated Regional Water Management Planning** (IRWMP) in the Bay Area and Sacramento River funding areas, planning and plan update processes, Round 2 implementation grant applications and projects (WICC staff, Flood District staff) (5 min)

Jeff Sharp announced that the Westside Sac River IRWMP plan will be released for public comment on May 10, 2013. A Round 2 Implantation Grant for that plan was submitted totaling over \$9M in project funding. Rick Thomasser announced the Bay Area plan update is underway and a full plan for review is expected in the Fall. A Bay Area Round 2 Implementation Grant was also submitted and included two projects in the Napa River watershed. Round 2 funding should be announced by DWR in the late Fall.

- c. Update on status of the **Napa River Sediment TMDL** and withdrawal of **Vineyard Conditional Waiver** of Waste Discharge Requirements by the Water Board (Leigh Sharp, Executive Director, Napa County RCD) (5-10 min)

Leigh Sharp provided an update on the waiver's development. The waiver has been withdrawn by the RWQCB do to public comment. It is likely a General Order, which does not expire, will be developed in place of the waiver, and an EIR will be prepared to support its adoption. The RWQCB's goal is to have some kind of a program up and running by the Oct 2014 deadline stated in the TMDL.

- d. Update on the **Oakville to Oak Knoll River Restoration** project (Shaun Horne, Flood District Staff) (10 min)

Shaun Horne provided a presentation and overview of the Oakville to Oak Knoll project and the studies and steps planned to initiate project construction. The reach includes 73 parcels and 34 landowners. The project would cost roughly \$32M if fully implemented. \$10M is expected to come from Measure A and \$22M will be sought in grants to complete the project in a phased manner.

- e. Other reports and updates (WICC staff, Board, Public)

None provided

5. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Presentation on "**Napa Green Certified Land and Winery Programs: Spring 2013 Overview**" – Michelle Novi, Industry Relations Manager, Napa Valley Vintners, working on environmental and regulatory issues facing the wine industry, including helping oversee the enrollment, certification, and promotion of vineyards and wineries within Napa Green (15 min)

Michelle Novi provided a presentation and overview of the Napa Green Land and Winery Programs. Third party program certification was highlighted as an important part of each program. 55,000 acres are enrolled, 26,000 are certified 15,700 are vineyards. The winery program is founded based on the Bay Area Green Business Program with a winery specific checklist. A new website has been launched to support the programs.

- b. Presentation on **“Environmental Planning and Compliance for Stream and Road Maintenance Projects, an overview of the regulatory permitting process related to routine stream and road maintenance activities”** – Jill Sunahara, Senior Associate, Horizon Water and Environment, will provide an overview of the regulatory permitting process related to routine stream and road maintenance activities. She will review the 5-W’s of permitting: 1) Who are the regulatory agencies; 2) What the permits cover; 3) Where regulatory jurisdiction applies; 4) When/how long it takes; and 5) Why a programmatic permitting approach may make sense (20 min)

Jill Sunahara provided a presentation and examples of projects that could benefit from a streamlined permitting process.

- c. Presentation on **“Increasing Restoration on Private Lands through Programmatic Permitting – Local Vs Statewide Approach”** – Erika Lovejoy, Associate Director of Restoration on Private Lands, Sustainable Conservation, will provide an overview of the Partners in Restoration (PIR) consolidated permitting program, developed by Sustainable Conservation in partnership with local Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), and will follow with a summary of Sustainable Conservation’s new Statewide Programmatic Permitting effort, designed to promote implementation of restoration projects on private lands throughout California (20 min)

Erika Lovejoy provided a presentation on Sustainable Conservation’s program, the partners involved and the types of projects it supports. Sustainable Conservation is now turning their focus towards working directly with state agencies and state legislature to facilitate some level of programmatic/coordinated permitting state-wide.

There was interest from the Board to further explore ways in which the WICC could help support a local programmatic permitting approach.

6. UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Update on the status of the **Napa River Sediment TMDL Implementation Tracking & Accounting System (ITAS)** project (WICC staff) (5 min)

Jeff Sharp provided an update on the status of the project and some of the draft metrics under consideration that will be used to track and account for TMDL implementation.

- b. Review of **Napa River Watershed Assessment Framework (WAF) Pilot Study** (WICC staff) (5 min), and

Jeff Sharp provided an overview of the project (completed 2010) and the pilot study to apply the State’s framework in the Napa River watershed. A preliminary score card for the watershed was developed. Warren Flint provided additional input on the use of indicators and value of reporting on the condition of our watershed in order for the community to know if we are meeting our goals. Further work is needed to refine the WAF indicators/metrics and scorecard to reflect current watershed needs and condition.

- c. Discussion and **possible action to appoint an Ad-Hoc Committee** of the WICC Board to:
 - i) Discuss opportunities for leveraging monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts,
 - ii) Review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition proposed in the ITAS and WAF projects and other possible key indicators for consideration as part of the ITAS, and
 - iii) Report Ad-Hoc Committee recommendations to the WICC Board for consideration (WICC staff, Board) (10 min)

The Board discussed the scope of the committee’s work and timeline to report back (September). Susan Boswell, Jason Lauritsen, Jeff Reichel and Warren Flint were appointed to serve on the ad-hoc subcommittee.

SB	DD	MD	WF	MK	GK	JL1	KL	JL2	ML	MP1	MP2	JR1	JR2	SS	RS	PW	KC
					X				X								

7. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presentation of **informational announcements and events** (WICC staff, Board, and Public) (5-10 min)

- a. **WICC website enhancements** – new design, simplified navigation, mobile support (WICC Staff)

Jeff Sharp referenced the site screen-shots provided in the agenda materials and provided an overview of the enhancements and expected site-launch at the Watershed Symposium in May.

- b. **Earth Day** – visit the WICC booth, April 20th, downtown Napa (WICC Staff)

Jeff Sharp announced WICC’s participation in Earth Day and urge Board members to stop by the booth.

- c. **2013 Napa County Watershed Symposium**, May 23, Copia Theatre (WICC Staff)

Jeff Sharp highlighted the event, noted confirmed speakers to date and encouraged Board members to attend.

- d. Other announcements (WICC staff, Board, Public)

Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Open House on March 30th and April 6th, 9-10AM, details on the Napa County RCD website (The RST is an out- migrant fisheries monitoring station)

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion of possible **items for future agendas** (Board, WICC Staff) (5 min)

None provided

9. **NEXT MEETING** (Chair)

Regular Scheduled Board Meeting:

May 23, 2013 – 4:00 PM (*Cancellation due to Watershed Symposium*)

July 25, 2013 – 4:00 PM (*Joint Mtg. with Napa County GRAC, Yountville Community Center*)

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chair)

Motion and approval to adjourn

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 804 First St., Napa CA 94559-2623.



Voting Key

If not unanimous, votes will be tallied (N = No; A = Abstained, X = Excused) using the following Board Member abbreviations:

SB = Susan Boswell; DD = Diane Dillon; MD = Marita Dorenbecher, WF = Warren Flint, MK = Mitchell Klug; GK = Gary Kraus; JL1 = Jason Lauritsen; KL = Kenneth Leary; JL2 = Jim Lincoln; ML = Mark Luce; MP1 = Marc Pandone; MP2 = Matt Pope; JR1 = Jeffrey Redding; JR2 = Jeff Reichel; SS = Scott Sedgley; RS = Rita Steiner; PW = Peter White; KC = Keith Caldwell (alternate)

Example Key:

SB	DD	MD	WF	MK	GK	JL1	KL	JL2	ML	MP1	MP2	JR1	JR2	SS	RS	PW	KC
X			A			N					A						



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ACTION MINUTES

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

WATERSHED INFORMATION CENTER & CONSERVANCY (WICC) BOARD
NAPA COUNTY GROUNDWATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (GRAC)

Thursday, July 25, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

Yountville Community Center, 6516 Washington St., Yountville, CA

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Members Present: Warren Flint, Mitchell Klug, Jason Lauritsen, Kenneth Leary, Jim Lincoln, Marc Pandone, Matt Pope, Jeff Reichel, Rita Steiner, Peter White, Keith Caldwell

Members excused: Susan Boswell, Diane Dillon, Marita Dorenbecher, Gary Kraus, Mark Luce, Scott Sedgley

Members absent: Jeffrey Redding

Staff present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Steve Lederer, Director, Public Works, provided opening comments.

3. UPDATES FROM THE WICC

Jeff Sharp, Principal Watershed Resources Planner, Public Works, gave an update on WICC and staff activities since March. The WICC participated in Earth Day on April 20th by staffing an informational booth about the WICC and other Napa County water resources programs. At their first meeting in May, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed May 2013 as Watershed Awareness Month in Napa County. The WICC website posted a number of events that provided recreational and stewardship opportunities involving the watersheds of the county. May concluded with the Napa County Watershed Symposium being held at the Copia Theater on May 23rd. The symposium was well received with over 100 people attending and coincided with the launch of the redesigned WICC website. The new website utilizes modern web services and tools to provide a more user-friendly experience. A connect tab at the top of the home page lets users enter their email address to receive the latest news, calendar of events and site updates. A new mapping structure on the site highlights Napa County's three main watersheds and provides a variety of information, such as soils, faults, streams and sub-watershed locations. A task for WICC staff for the new fiscal year is to provide more information through the improved mapping features. Mr. Sharp gave an update on the Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) regulations mandated by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board). County staff is following the development of an agricultural waiver of waste discharge reporting process related to the TMDL.

The agricultural waiver was pulled back by the Regional Water Board due to public comments received. It is likely the permit for vineyards will return in the form of a general permit along the lines of the County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. There is a compliance deadline of October 2014 mentioned in the TMDL. The County is researching if the deadline can be extended or if the Regional Water Board will use their discretion to delay enforcement. In relation to compliance, the County is developing a system to track TMDL implementation through a web-based tool that would catalog the County's efforts and report its progress in simple terms. The County is meeting with the Regional Water Board early next month to show the schematic of the design and to get their input and concurrence that the tool will be a local mechanism to track and document TMDL compliance. Mr. Sharp reported on the progress of Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) planning, which is the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) effort to manage California's water in an integrated fashion. DWR funding allows agencies to develop IRWM plans and projects across jurisdictional boundaries. Napa County is split by two separate IRWM planning efforts: the Bay Area IRWM Plan, which includes the Napa River and Suisun basins, and the Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan, which covers the Putah Creek basin. The Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan was just completed and adopted by the Flood Board on July 9th. A Round 2 IRWM implementation grant submittal requested \$2 million to support some of the water districts around Lake Berryessa and fund a regional water conservation program for the Putah Creek area. The Bay Area IRWM Plan is nearing completion with only a few draft chapters still open for public comment. Comments can still be submitted at the Bay Area IRWM website. There will be a final public comment period on the whole plan. Both the Westside Sacramento and Bay Area IRWM Plans must be adopted by local agencies in order to obtain DWR funding. The Westside Sacramento IRWM Plan will go before the Board of Supervisors on August 6th for adoption, as well as the Lake Berryessa and Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement Districts. The next WICC meeting will be held Thursday, September 26. One of the presentations will be on the results of a pilot project conducted by the RCD that monitored streambed scour and gravel permeability funded by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. There will also be a presentation on a new concept of agro-forestry in which truffles could be farmed under oak trees and a possible presentation on fire ecology.

4. UPDATES FROM THE GRAC

Michelle Benvenuto, GRAC Vice-Chair, presented a PowerPoint presentation on Napa County's Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program. Groundwater in Napa County has been monitored since the mid-1900s. Groundwater levels throughout the Napa Valley Floor are stable with the exception of the Milliken-Sarco-Tulucay (MST) area, but even in that area recent stabilization has been shown. Overall, Napa County's groundwater resource is in pretty good shape. Groundwater quality is generally good with the exception of Calistoga and in southern Napa County (the MST Subarea in the east, south of Soscol Avenue, Carneros and the Napa River marshes near Jameson Canyon). Groundwater recharge potential is also good. There is a need to find out more about the aquifers – what their state is, and what the interaction is between groundwater and surface water. Additional monitoring will help answer these questions. The Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program addresses the County's resources goals in the General Plan, coordinates data with other State and federal agencies and addresses monitoring data gaps that have been identified in a couple of past studies. Priority monitoring areas were determined by looking at groundwater basins, sub-basins, subareas, identifying groundwater level and quality data gaps. 18 areas of interest have been identified where additional monitoring wells are needed to fully understand the groundwater resource(s). The objectives of the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program will be fulfilled if one well can be located in each of the 18 priority areas. Wells and well owners have been identified in the areas of interest, and the GRAC has begun outreach efforts. Well owners are asked if their wells can be monitored twice a year – in the spring and fall. If a well owner agrees to participate, they are given a form to complete, which is then routed to County staff for

follow-up. In addition to ongoing public outreach, the GRAC will be reviewing the County's draft Groundwater Ordinance and permit process, as well as developing a set of sustainability objectives next month (a sustainability sub-committee of the GRAC met earlier this month). The GRAC's work will culminate with their recommendations being provided to the Board of Supervisors. GRAC outreach is being planned for the agricultural industry, environmental groups (this joint meeting), community events and public speaking engagements. The GRAC members and staff are willing to present to any group upon request. Groundwater sustainability ties directly to the County's General Plan goals and actions and is also an action item for the GRAC as directed in the in the Board of Supervisors. There is no universally accepted definition of groundwater sustainability, but the goal for Napa County is to maintain a stable, long-term supply of groundwater. Although groundwater levels are currently stable in most areas, additional monitoring will help maintain stability, which has been recently demonstrated in the MST.

Steve Lederer, Director, Public Works, reported on the current status of the Groundwater Ordinance and the Water Availability Analysis (WAA) report. Both documents are being updated by staff and the County's groundwater consultant, Vicki Kretsinger Grabert, Principal Hydrologist, LSCE, with input from the GRAC. The Ordinance, originally passed in 1999, was primarily in response to the MST groundwater decline. The GRAC has seen a draft of the ordinance and will review an updated draft in August. The WAA is also known as Phase 1 analysis or fair share amount. Since 1990, the County has adopted standards for groundwater use related to discretionary permits. If you use less than one acre foot of water per acre on the Napa Valley floor, less than 0.5 acre foot of water per acre in the hills or less than 0.3 acre foot of water per acre in the MST, it is assumed you are under your fair share. This has worked well over the years as a general standard. There are other sections of the WAA, such as the Phase 2 and 3 standards, which require additional pumping and other tests, that don't work very well. Staff and Ms. Kretsinger Grabert are working on improving the WAA by incorporating more specifics and scientific justification/data and will bring a revised draft of the WAA to the GRAC's August meeting for review and comment.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

None provided.

6. INFORMATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michael Haley, GRAC member, mentioned the sign-up sheets available for any well owners present who might be interested in participating in the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program. Jeff Sharp, Principal Watershed Resources Planner, Public Works, also asked those present if they knew any well owners in the areas of interest who might be interested in participating in the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program to contact staff and they will refer a GRAC member for follow-up.

Marilee Talley mentioned the Voluntary Groundwater Monitoring Program, which the WICC will eventually inherit, doesn't monitor just water levels but also water quality and is supported by an enriched database and the updated hydrogeologic conceptualization of the County (LSCE, 2013).

Mr. Sharp mentioned the groundwater basin maps developed as part of LSCE's work are on the WICC mapping site, and staff hopes to add to the website a simplified map of the geologic conceptualization (all the information underneath that isn't visible).

7. ADJOURNMENT to the NEXT MEETING

Motion and approval to adjourn.



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

County Executive Office

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Nancy Watt
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2013

**Applicants sought for Watershed Information Center
and Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County**

(Napa, CA--) The County Executive Officer announces the existence of **two (2) Public At Large** openings on the Board of Directors of the **Watershed Information Center and Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County** due to expiring terms. The term of office commences immediately upon appointment and expires August 2017.

The WICC Board serves as an advisory committee to Napa County Board of Supervisors. The WICC's role is to assist the Board of Supervisors in their decision-making process and serve as a conduit for citizen input by gathering, analyzing and recommending options related to the management of watershed resources. In that capacity, the WICC has a responsibility to publicly evaluate and discuss matters that they have been requested to review and comment upon by the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors has charged the WICC with making recommendations on matters relating to watershed restoration projects and resource protection activities, coordination of land acquisition, and development of a long-term watershed resource management program that provides public outreach and education, monitoring coordination, inventory and assessment, and data management. The WICC was created by the Board of Supervisors in May 2002. The WICC Board encourages collaboration, cooperation and consistency among those working in Napa County's watersheds by coordinating and facilitating partnerships among individuals, agencies and organizations involved in improving watershed health; supporting watershed research activities and

2-2-2-2

Applicants sought for Watershed Information Center and Conservancy of Napa County

providing watershed information and education. The WICC Board meets the fourth Thursday every other month at 4:00 p.m. in the Hall of Justice, 1125 Third Street, Napa, CA 94559.

The Board consists of seventeen members and one alternate member as follows: one (1) member nominated by the Napa County Land Trust from among the Land Trust's Board of Directors; one (1) director or associate director nominated by the Napa County Resource Conservation District; one (1) representative from the Natural Resource Conservation Service; two (2) members and one (1) alternate of the Napa County Board of Supervisors; one (1) member of the Napa County Conservation, Development and Planning Commission; one (1) council representative from each city or town in Napa County nominated by their respective city or town council; and six (6) Napa County residents from the public at large representing environmental, agricultural, development and community interests.

Anyone interested in consideration for appointment must submit a completed application form and apply directly to the County Executive Office, 1195 Third Street, Suite 310, Napa, 94559, telephone 253-4421 no later than **5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2013**. The application form is available on the County website at www.countyofnapa.org. Go to the main County page and click on the Committees and Commissions link in the left-hand navigation under County Info. To submit an application directly online, click "application for appointment" and follow the application instructions.

The Board of Supervisors and staff of Napa County are dedicated to preserving and sustaining Napa County for present and future generations as a community with generous open space, a thriving agricultural industry and a quality human and natural environment. Visit us on the Web at www.countyofnapa.org.

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MEETING SYNOPSIS

Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee

October 24, 2013 - 14th Committee Meeting

Prepared by the Center for Collaborative Policy, CSUS

Meeting Synopsis

The Napa County Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC) held its fourteenth meeting on October 24, 2013. The meeting began with Mr. Patrick Lowe, Napa County, reviewing the updated work plan schedule for the Committee and noting that the GRAC's work is anticipated to be concluded by April 2014. Mr. Lowe then provided a status update on well owner and industry outreach for the voluntary monitoring program. Members requested that County staff identify remaining areas of interest that are still in need of monitoring wells. The sustainability objectives ad-hoc committee and staff then reviewed their preliminary framework on the scope and appropriate level of detail for the objectives. Their work included suggestions for defining the sustainability goal and process, design principles and potential topics, guest speaker criteria, and a format for objectives. Members agreed to send comments on the sustainability objectives framework to Mr. Lowe and Mr. Fougères by November 1. Mr. Steven Lederer, Department of Public Works, presented proposed revisions to the Water Availability Analysis (WAA), which included new well-to-well and well-to-surface water interference standards. The GRAC then created an ad-hoc committee to review and provide recommendations on the proposed amendments to the WAA process prior to the December meeting. Mr. Jeff Sharp, Napa County, then provided an update on the County's groundwater data management system. The GRAC's next meeting will be on December 12, 2013.

Please see the GRAC's webpage (www.countyofnapa.org/bos/grac) for copies of the October 24, 2013 presentations and handouts.



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Department of Public Works

1195 Third Street, Suite 101
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www.countyofnapa.org/publicworks

Main: (707) 253-4351
Fax: (707) 253-4627

Steven E. Lederer
Director

To: Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) Board	From: Patrick Lowe, Natural Resources Conservation, Department of Public Works
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Date: November 6, 2013	Re: 2014 Watershed Awareness Calendar
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The Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) of Napa County, the Napa County Resource Conservation District (RCD), and Friends of the Napa River (FONR) are proud to present you with a copy of our tenth annual calendar. The Watershed Awareness Calendar Series was created to contribute to the local understanding of Napa County's watersheds.

Our 2014 calendar "*Slow It. Spread It. Sink It.*" provides a monthly guide to managing stormwater runoff with examples of practices and projects to help inspire us all to take action. As you know the calendar has become very popular and we always run out early. So this year in response to the growing demand over five thousand copies will be available and distributed throughout the community.

For additional copies, please contact Jeff Sharp, WICC/Watershed Coordinator, at (707) 259-5936 (jeff.sharp@countyofnapa.org); or Stephanie Turnipseed, RCD Education Coordinator, at 707-252-4188 ext.111 (steph@naparcd.org).

We hope you enjoy the calendar and as always, your feedback is welcome.

Patrick Lowe
Natural Resources Conservation
Program Manager
Department of Public Works
707-259-5937
patrick.lowe@countyofnapa.org

Slow it. Spread it. Sink it!

A Monthly Guide to Preventing Pollution in Napa County's Watersheds
2014 Watershed Awareness Calendar





RAINWATER HARVESTING INCENTIVES

Available to residents and businesses
located in the Napa River Watershed

THE NAPA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT is offering rebates for rain barrels or cisterns and reimbursement for rain gardens in an effort to increase water conservation and reduce stormwater runoff.

- Rain gardens and rain barrels/cisterns are two simple approaches to slow, spread and sink stormwater before it has a chance to impact local creeks.
- Rain gardens are designed to capture and treat rainwater that runs off roof and paved surfaces.
- Rain barrels/cisterns can be installed to capture stormwater runoff from rooftops and stored for later use.
- Visit www.napawatersheds.org/rainwater for application forms and additional information.



Napa River Watershed Rain Barrel/Cistern Rebates*

- Rebate of 75% of the cost of materials, subject to maximum of \$2/gallon of barrel/cistern capacity.
- Rain barrels/cisterns must have a minimum capacity of 40 gallons.
- Maximum rebate per household is \$500. Maximum rebate per business is \$1,000.

Napa River Watershed Rain Garden Reimbursement*



- 75% reimbursement for approved expenses up to \$5/ft² of rain garden installed, including contract labor (applicant labor not eligible).
- Rain gardens must be minimum of 25ft².
- Maximum rebate per household is \$1,500. Maximum rebate per business is \$5,000.

For additional information, visit
WWW.NAPAWATERSHEDS.ORG/RAINWATER

or call (707)259-5969

*Subject to additional requirements, please see application forms.

Barrels/cisterns/rain gardens purchased or installed before January 1, 2013 are not eligible.



Funding for these rebates comes from the State of California water bond measure, Proposition 84-Safe Drinking Water Bond Act, administered by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and is subject to funding availability.



Truffle Cultivation Overview and Agroforestry

Truffles and Agroforestry

Truffles are underground mushrooms that live in mutually beneficial symbiosis with host trees. By



planting native trees inoculated with truffles, managed retreats/forests become an economically attractive option for environmental conservation. Furthermore, truffle orchards are complementary to vineyards

and wineries, bringing cachet to the vineyard and winery. A sustainable and viable truffle industry can be created in Napa County that could encompass upwards of 200-250 acres of truffle orchard, creating even more prestige and value for Napa.

The Business Opportunity

Growing truffles is an extraordinarily profitable business. An acre of truffle orchard can generate as much as \$30,000-\$40,000 in net profit every year. Truffles have been routinely and successfully cultivated in many parts of the world for over 50 years, but yields have been wildly inconsistent. ATC specifically addresses the yield inconsistency, as the world's only source of **rigorous scientific methodology** to **consistently** maximize truffle yields, based on years of research, hard science and large-scale scientific data. This unique advantage, with our methodology available exclusively to our client-partners, takes the gamble out of truffle cultivation. Some of the reasons truffle cultivation makes exceptional business sense include:

- **Extraordinary economics** – significant **annual** cash revenue stream for decades.
- **Low operating effort and cost** – high margin, low management effort/cost. Compared to other crops, truffle orchards require much less maintenance, resulting in significantly lower labor costs. Little or no fertilizer is used. Furthermore, equipment can be shared with existing farm operations.
- **Fresh, sustainable and organic** – orchard-to-table in literally hours, compared to many days for current imports. This is significant because truffle quality starts to decline upon harvest and shelf life only lasts 7-10 days.

Harvest Time Frame

Truffle production time frame depends on the type of host trees. Oaks take a little longer to produce the first truffles, but continue to produce for 60-90 years. Filberts (hazelnut trees) yield truffles sooner, but produce for 25-40 years. On average, an orchard with both oaks and filberts usually sees first truffle production in 5-6 years, which is typical of other fruit-producing orchards. However, **ATC's advanced technology trees have shown strong evidence they could yield truffles even sooner.**

Investment and Return

The initial investment is roughly \$17,000 - \$25,000 total per acre. This includes seedling purchase, soil improvement, irrigation, electronic monitoring system and fencing/infrastructure. The exact amount per acre depends on the truffle species planted as well as local labor and materials costs.

Returns are extremely high for truffles. The initial investment is completely recovered within the first two production years. As truffle yield continues to grow, it plateaus in the fourth or fifth production year (\$30,000 - \$40,000/acre per year, in 2013 dollars with no adjustment for inflation or truffle price appreciation) and continues year after year for 30-60 years, depending on the host tree species.

With low operating costs, a truffle orchard regularly exceeds 95% operating margin, without vineyards' typical peak demand for seasonal labor.

ATC Helps You Get Started

Successful truffle cultivation requires at least three important elements:

- Favorable soil and climate
- Ultra-high quality inoculated seedlings
- Ongoing maintenance methodology based on **continued** research, science and large scale data

ATC helps you get started by determining your soil and climate suitability and providing ultra-high quality seedlings, as well as providing a specific, scientific orchard management methodology.

ATC Provides Active Ongoing Assistance

ATC's success is based entirely on **your** success in producing truffles. Even beyond the initial assistance to get you started, ATC uniquely provides proactive ongoing methodology assistance and monitoring – the third important element required to maximize commercial truffle yields. While the orchard owner is responsible for the operation of the orchard, ATC provides methodology and know-how starting at the very beginning and continues throughout the life of the orchard, including:

- Site selection, preparation and set up
- Active and regular monitoring of truffle and tree health
- Ongoing maintenance know-how and yield maximizing measures

ATC's know-how and methodology are unique in the industry. Unlike well-established methodology for other crops, truffle cultivation methodology available in the public domain is largely built on word-of-mouth and small-scale/spotty academic research. We believe the only way to reliably maximize truffle yield is through hard science, with which we have a long history and are uniquely equipped to continue to lead:

- World's **largest** and most **geographically diverse** set of scientifically monitored truffle orchards as active samples – this is the most powerful and unique aspect of ATC. The largest samples allow us to continuously refine our methodologies based on large-scale, scientifically meaningful data. Such geographically diverse samples result in our rich experience with many soil and climate types. The benefit for you is that we have the expertise to **customize** the ongoing maintenance methodology for you, no matter what your local micro-climate and soil conditions are.
- World-leading academic truffle research – ATC continues to carry out leading academic research and therefore has direct access to world-class talents, laboratories, instruments and research results that are not published in the public domain. The benefit for you is the continuing availability

of cutting-edge research results to maximize your commercial truffle yield.

ATC's Successes in the U.S. and Beyond

Many truffle orchards in the U.S. and across 4 continents in over 25 countries have become ATC's client-partners, strongly endorsing our scientific methodology and client-first business principles. Together, our ever-expanding client-partner orchards strengthen our unique scientific lead for yield optimization. Select sites include:

- Multiple sites throughout the United States and Canada, including California
- South Africa, New Zealand & Australia
- Multiple sites on continental Europe, United Kingdom, Finland, Estonia & Ireland

Marketing & Distribution

Once your orchard starts producing truffles, you can choose either to distribute the truffles yourself (i.e. local restaurants and chefs with whom you have relationships), or through ATC. ATC is building a unique brand representing the high quality, fresh and organic truffles from our entire client-partner orchard community, thereby commanding a brand premium on behalf of all our growers. Because ATC has a strong interest in securing the highest price for the truffles you produce, your interests as a producer and our interests as a marketer/distributor are exactly aligned.

Summary

Truffle cultivation in Napa is real and progressing. When used as a conservation and diversification vehicle, truffle cultivation benefits the environment, the local economy and individual vineyard and winery's brand. As worldwide truffle demand continues to outpace supply, truffle cultivation is an extraordinarily profitable business. ATC is uniquely equipped to bring the world's best truffle cultivation science to ensure success in Napa, in a bespoke partnership approach. With ATC as your truffle partner, you gain access to methodology based on world-class science, ensuring you are successful in producing the highest yield of quality truffles possible in 5-6 years, sold at the highest price. Together, we can create a sustainable and viable truffle industry in Napa County.

For more information, visit www.americantruffle.com, or contact Kathleen Iudice, (707) 225-2354.



November 8, 2013

ITEM 6a:

Report by WICC Ad-hoc Subcommittee on recommendations for opportunities to leverage monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts, and review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition (Ad-hoc Committee, WICC staff, Board) (20 min)

WICC Ad-Hoc Committee Report

On March 28, 2013 the WICC Board heard updates on the ITAS and WAF projects. Following the updates and discussion, the WICC Board appointed four of its members (Susan Boswell, Jeff Reichel, Jason Lauritsen and Warren Flint) to serve on an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee to:

- i) Discuss opportunities for leveraging monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts,
- ii) Review and comment on indicators of watershed health/condition proposed in the *Napa River Sediment TMDL Implementation Tracking & Accounting System (ITAS)* and *Napa River Watershed Assessment Framework (WAF) Pilot Study* projects and other possible key indicators for consideration as part of the ITAS and
- iii) Report Ad-Hoc Committee recommendations to the WICC Board for consideration.

The Subcommittee met on June 11th and August 20th and further communicated via email. Their review and discussions resulted in the following findings and recommendations:

DEVELOPMENT:

Successful development of a watershed monitoring program requires public participation and engagement to effectively determine the vision, goals, objectives, criteria, indicators, metrics and baseline. Community involvement also serves to identify overall program strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Napa County and its communities have a long history of undertaking environmental measures and practices to protect and preserve natural resources. A monitoring and assessment program that speaks to effectiveness of these long-standing efforts would be informative and valuable.

INDICATORS:

The Subcommittee reviewed and discussed various potential indicators of watershed health/condition and sustainability. The role of an indicator is to make complex systems understandable and perceptible/tangible). Picking indicators that are relevant and attractive to the local media will gain support and popularity for the monitoring program. Good indicators are responsive to cause and affect, function as early warning signals, and identify how far we are from chosen targets or community values. Below is a list of important indicator properties:

- Important to Sustainability
- Reference or Threshold Values
- Understandable
- Chosen by the community who'll use the information
- Usable in practice
- Statistically measurable
- Logically or scientifically defensible
- Reliable
- Sensitive to Change in Time
- Reflective of community values
- Attractive to the local media
- Provides early warning of changes
- Outcome (results) oriented
- Integrative
- Unbiased

“Key indicators” are those that inform several key areas of interest and cut cross the boundaries of environment, social well-being, and economic health, and other community values and/or goals.

A high-quality indicator will effectively support the implementation of Adaptive Management, a decision-making process and implementation strategy built upon the premise that people learn from their successes, as well as their mistakes. An adaptive, learn-as-you-go, approach to the practice of watershed management implies constant attention and evaluation (monitoring) of the success and failure of activities and actions taken in order to continually improve current understanding and future action (or inaction). Good indicators inform adaptive management steps to plan, do, check and act.

Below is a summary, organized by category, of suggested criteria to develop and monitor indicators for:

1) Water Supply, Quality and Conservation:

Surface water, groundwater, imported water, and conservation program savings by use/sector

2) Natural Resources Assessment and Conservation:

Key animal and plant resource assessment, and natural/native habitat improvement, restoration and resource protection, consumer and natural resource recycling and composting

3) Climate and Green House Gas (GHG) Reduction:

Local climate change assessment/tracking, GHG reduction targets/levels, climate plan/adaptation actions and programs

4) Energy Use, Efficiency and Reduction:

Community energy use (per-capita), adoption of conservation by sector, alternative generation, off-set demand, and local program(s) performance

5) Socio-Economic:

Tourism, taxes, home ownership, employment, wages, school and community support program enrollments, recreational values, watershed/water education programs, sustenance fishing, institutional capacity, expenditures for watershed protection

6) Public Health:

Air and water quality, recreation opportunity, community/worker health, healthcare and protection, contaminated site remediation, hazardous waste disposal

FUNDING:

To facilitate and effectively implement long-term monitoring, reliable program funding is needed. Continued funding and resource support by local government entities is essential. Supplemental funding could be acquired by creating a non-profit arm or mechanism (i.e., foundation) of the WICC to receive additional funds and hold collected data. Sources of funding could include voluntary contributions from a variety of sources (State, Federal, local government, and greater community – businesses, organizations, individuals, and targeted philanthropy). Funding support will require the application of good science and the development of new tools and technology to show results, manage data and maintain program relevance and transparency.

Annual program costs are not fully known at this time, but could be significant depending greatly on the program's final goals, objectives and selected indicators. Program costs would also be subject to current projects and related water resource programs, as well as current and future environmental regulatory programs. Examples of a few related efforts include: the TMDL implementation monitoring and tracking (ITAS) project, voluntary groundwater monitoring program by the Napa County Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee (GRAC), city and County NPDES (stormwater pollution) monitoring, climate change monitoring, large-scale river restoration monitoring, along with many others.

Community buy-in for the program is critical in securing funding support. Financial backing hinges upon stakeholder needs and values being addressed. Community engagement, building off of current regulatory monitoring requirements, and coordinating with and consolidating related monitoring programs could leverage program development, incentivize participation and foster financial support.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Given the Subcommittee's review and discussions, opportunities do exist for leveraging local monitoring, assessment and reporting efforts. Based upon the Subcommittee's review of past and current processes to develop indicators of watershed health/condition, the following recommendations are offered for the WICC Board's consideration:

- 1) Given the foundation provided by past work on the WAF pilot study and current work on the Napa River TMDL ITAS and groundwater work being conducted by the County's Groundwater Resources Advisory Committee's (GRAC), it is advantageous to begin preliminary scoping for the development of a county-wide watershed monitoring program for future consideration by the WICC.
- 2) Program development should consider the monitoring elements of the ITAS project and the GRAC final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, expected in 2014, to ensure that the final program runs in parallel with these efforts.
- 3) Program development should include a community outreach plan to ensure stakeholder involvement and participation in the development of meaningful indicators.
- 4) Program development should include a long-term funding plan that outlines challenges, opportunities and options.
- 5) Further discussion on program development and scoping should be brought back to the WICC in advance of County budgeting for FY13-14.



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service



2014 Meeting Calendar

"To educate and support community efforts to maintain and improve the health of Napa County's watershed lands"

Members:

- Susan Boswell
- Diane Dillon
- Marita Dorenbecher
- Warren Flint
- Mitchell Klug
- Gary Kraus
- Jason Lauritsen
- Kenneth Leary
- Jim Lincoln
- Mark Luce
- Marc Pandone
- Matt Pope
- Jeffrey Redding
- Jeff Reichel
- Scott Sedgley
- Rita Steiner
- Peter White

Alternate:

- Keith Caldwell

Staff:

- Patrick Lowe
Natural Resources
Conservation Manager
Public Works
- Jeff Sharp
Principal Planner
Public Works
- Robert Martin
Legal Counsel
County Counsel's Office

Meeting Details

Time: 4:00 PM

Location:

2nd Flr. Conference Room
Hall of Justice Building
1125 Third St., Napa CA

These are public meetings,
all are welcome to attend.

Time and location may change
as directed by the Board.

January

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- Regular Meeting Dates

www.napawatersheds.org