

Annual Report 2022-2023

Yolo County Resource Conservation District



The Yolo County Resource Conservation District (RCD) has accomplished a number of successes in improving water quality, addressing water conservation issues in urban and rural areas, preserving and restoring habitat, and developing new ways of achieving conservation goals. By using a model of cooperation and voluntary action instead of regulation, the YCRCD is able to solve complex local, regional, and statewide issues under four program categories: Community Wildfire Planning, Farm and Ranch Technical Assistance, Open Space Lands Management, and Planning, Monitoring and Studies. Our major projects and programs that have furthered Yolo County RCD's goal of promoting voluntary land stewardship include:



RCD staff at Bobcat Ranch in May 2023 touring past rangeland and habitat restoration projects and discussing future pollinator and wildfire projects.

YOLO PRESCRIBED BURN ASSOCIATION (PBA)

Coordination of the county-wide collaborative building prescribed fire capacity for Yolo County landowners, land managers, and volunteers to safely use prescribed fire as a land stewardship and hazardous fuels reduction tool.

SUTTER-YOLO MOBILE IRRIGATION LAB

Trilingual, on-farm technical assistance and irrigation evaluations to help Yolo, Sutter, and Colusa County growers optimize their irrigation systems, conserve energy and water, and implement conservation practices.

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Coordination of the county-wide forum of fire officials, stakeholders, and community members that reduces the risk of wildfire through community education and the implementation of the Yolo County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

CAPAY OPEN SPACE PARK

Enhancement and restoration of oak savanna and native grassland to restore riparian diversity and function of Cache Creek and serve as a model for the Cache Creek Parkway; completed in 2022.

PUTAH-CACHE WATERSHED ARUNDO PROGRAM

Watershed-scale eradication of Giant Reed (*Arundo donax*) and creek riparian restoration for increased streamflow and habitat improvement.

YOLO HABITAT CONSERVANCY

Development of a monitoring framework and implementation of habitat restoration to ensure that progress towards species, natural community, and landscape level biological goals is consistent with the Yolo Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan.

YOLO CREEK AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

On-farm restoration and habitat conservation projects in Yolo County's agricultural community, in partnership with the Center for Land-Based Learning, Putah Creek Council and Point Blue Conservation Science.

HIGHLIGHT OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- One 27-acre prescribed rangeland burn attended by over 80 volunteers and local and state fire officials
- Four free Yolo PBA community meetings
- 24 free irrigation evaluations and one community irrigation workshop conducted
- Four Community Wildfire Protection Plan public meetings
- Created one wildfire preparedness and community education website created (yolofiresafe.org)
- Seven free Neighborhood Chipper Days in rural Capay Valley and West Winters
- Four community volunteer days with Putah Creek Council
- 12 field days with local high school students (Woodland, Winters, and Davis)

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- 2.29 miles of pollinator and wildlife hedgerows planned and implemented
- Over 150 acres of land treated for invasive weeds resulting in 1,239 acre-feet per year of water saved
- 2,615 native trees and shrubs planted resulting in 36 tonnes of CO₂ sequestered
- Over 10,920 native grass and wildflowers plugs planted

Yolo County Resource Conservation District acts as a central hub for conservation, connecting our community and individuals with the technical, financial and educational resources they need.

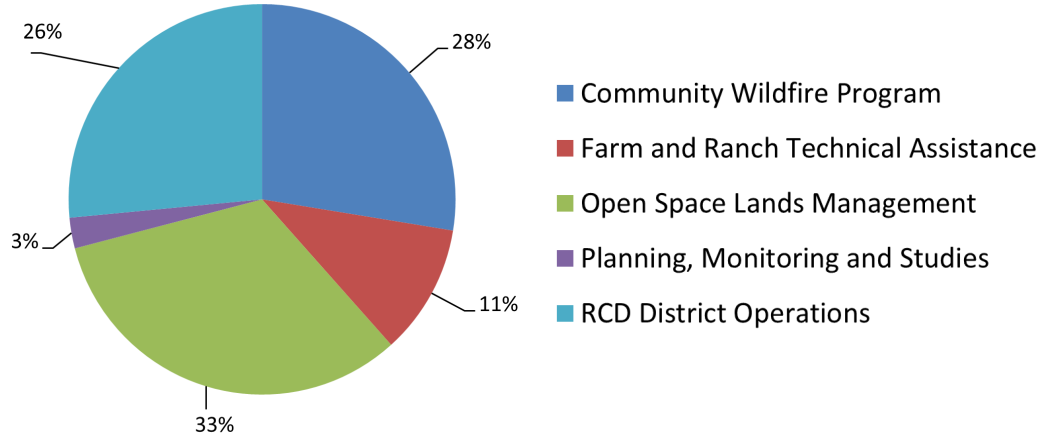


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2022-2023 AT A GLANCE

The YCRCD Strategic Plan guides district activities to address conservation issues in Yolo County. Activities this year focused primarily on biodiversity, climate-smart agriculture, riparian ecosystems, and wildfire resiliency.

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS BY TYPE



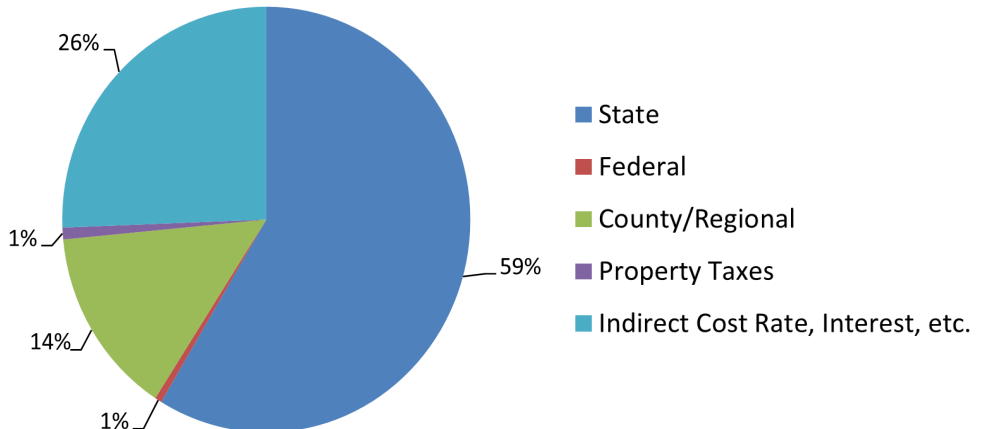
As a Special District, the YCRCD is subject to state transparency and accountability laws. The Brown Act and Division 9 of the California Public Resource Code require public meetings, open records, annual audits and financial reporting to the State Controller’s Office. Our income and expenses for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023:

EXPENSES

Administrative Salaries & Wages	\$482,918
Project Salaries & Wages, Contractors, Supplies & Equipment	\$2,209,125
Office (rent, utilities, phone, IT)	\$82,874
Training and Compliance	\$32,371
Insurance, Audit, Legal	\$46,768
Total	\$2,854,056

INCOME SOURCES

State	\$1,746,362
Federal	\$16,019
County/Regional	\$427,574
Property Taxes	\$26,574
Indirect Cost Rate, Interest, Etc	\$762,861
Total	\$2,979,391



District offices located at 221 West Court in Woodland, CA.



MISSION

To protect, improve, and sustain the natural resources of Yolo County.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 Matt Toney, Project Manager
 Michele Talbott, Controller
 Nancy Musick, Office Assistant
 Sue McCloud, Financial Manager
 Tanya Meyer, Senior Program Manager



Many of our projects reflect a cooperative effort with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

NRCS STAFF

Nick Gallagher, Rangeland Specialist
 Corey Shake, Partner Biologist
 Brandi Murphy, District Conservationist
 Kenny Ramirez, Ag Engineer
 Sara Lipschutz, Soil Conservationist
 Shayla Ramos, Wildlife Biologist

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