

**AMADOR RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, 19 October 2023

Time: 2:00pm - 4:00pm Location: 12200-B Airport Rd, Jackson CA 95642

Virtual attendance via video conference or telephone is available:

Google Meet: meet.google.com/hyh-zwww-ngn

Telephone: (612) 470-1917 - PIN 294-465-236#

Other Meeting Locations: 1208 ID-31 Victor, ID 83455

ARCD Directors: Steve Cannon, Carol Marz, Emily Taylor, Dan Port, Dr. Kelsi Williams
Executive Director: Amanda Watson

Approval of agenda for this date, and any and all off-agenda items, must be approved by the Board of Directors Pursuant to Para 5495.2 of the government code. Oral communications by the public for items not appearing on the agenda consideration of “emergency or “subsequent need” items not appearing on the agenda cal. gov` t code 54954.2(b)(2).

Item #	Time	Topic
1	2:00-2:05	Approval of Agenda
2	2:05-2:10	Public Comment for any items not appearing on the agenda
3	2:10 - 2:15	Approval of Itemized Warrants
4	2:15 - 2:20	Approval of Past Meeting Minutes
5	2:20 - 2:30	NRCS Report - <i>Jennifer Wood</i>
6	2:30 - 2:40	Treasurer Report - <i>Dana Simpson</i>
7	2:40 -2:50	Upper Rancheria Notice of Exemption Filing Approval – <i>Amanda Watson</i>
8	2:50 -3:10	Michell Mine Fuel Break Contractor Selection – <i>Amanda Watson</i>
9	3:10 – 3:30	Executive Director Report - <i>Amanda Watson</i> Christmas Party
10	3:30 – 3:40	SAWQA Report - <i>Dan Port</i>
11	3:40	Adjourn

Next ARCD Board of Directors Meeting: 4th Monday of each month
November 27th 4:15-6:00

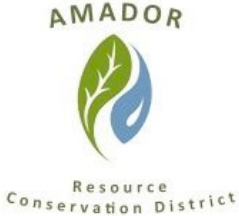
Oct 2023 - ARCD Board Meeting

23-103

Warrant Number	Amount	Pay to	Project	Notes	Approved by	Status
23-103	\$150.00	Lily Himmel	Speak Off	1st place speak off	DS	9/26/23 DS
23-104	\$100.00	Teresa Brown	Speak Off	2nd place speak off	DS	9/26/23 DS
23-105	\$50.00	Ava Thornock	Speak Off	3rd place speak off	DS	9/26/23 DS
23-106	\$1,937.50	Ed Struffeneger	MMFB	April - Sep 2023	AW	10/10/23 DS
23-107	\$341.00	Balancing the Books	Admin	Sep 2023 Payroll	DS	10/10/23 DS
23-108	\$82.00	USPS	SAWQA	PO Box Renewal	DS	10/10/23 DS
23-109	\$6,594.53	UCCE	Jackson Creek	July - Aug 2023 (Scott, Susan & Dan)		
23-110	\$1,397.12	UCCE	MMFB	Aug 2023 (Brian)		
23-111	\$227.50	Molly Taylor	HSP21	Sep 2023	DS	10/10/23 DS
23-112	\$1,599.13	ACES	Chipping 2	Sep 2023	DS	10/10/23 DS
23-113	\$9,049.35	Timber Ridge	Chipping 2	Inv 290 Sep 2023		

ARCD Income

Check Date	Check From	Project	Notes	Status



12200-B Airport Rd
Jackson, CA 95642
Phone: 209-223-65643
Email: ARCD@amadorrccd.org
Web: www.amadorrccd.org

Directors
Steve Cannon, Carole Marz, Dan Port, Emily Taylor, Dr. Kelsi Williams

Minutes for Regular Meeting of 21 September 2023

Called to order on 21 September 2023 at 2:00 p.m. at 12200-B Airport Road, Jackson, CA

Present were: Directors Cannon, Marz, Port, Taylor (Attended virtually/non voting)
Executive Director Amanda Watson, Dana Simpson, Jennifer Wood,
Bradley Booker, Ravi Pathak, Daniel Keenan

Motion to approve the agenda by Director Port, 2nd by Director Marz. Roll call vote: Port-Aye, Marz-Aye, Cannon-Aye. Nay - none Motion passed

No oral communications from the public

Motion to approve warrant 23-101 and to accept Warrant Report made by Director Port, seconded by Director Marz. Roll call vote: Port-Aye, Marz-Aye, Cannon-Aye. Nay - none Motion passed.

Minutes of August 2023 meeting: Motion to accept by Director Port, 2nd by Director Marz. Roll call vote: Port-Aye, Marz-Aye, Cannon-Aye. Nay - none Motion passed

NRCS Report: District Conservationist Wood gave her report (attached)

Treasurer Report: Admin Asst. Dana Simpson presented the current report (attached). Overall, both RCD and SAWQA are in good financial situation.

Healthy Soils Coordinator: E.D. Watson presented the proposal to establish and hire a coordinator to handle the Healthy Soils Program. Discussion included assurances that the RCD has the financial capacity for this position. Motion to approve by Director Port. 2nd to the motion by Director Marz. Roll call vote: Port-Aye, Marz-Aye, Cannon-Aye. Nay - none Motion passed

Executive Director Position: Discussion about moving the E.D. position to a salaried position from hourly. Advantages discussed. Recommendation from BizHaven was also discussed. No financial impact to RCD. Motion by Director Port to approve the classification of the E.D. position as an Exempt Employee effective October 1, 2023. 2nd to motion by Director Marz. Roll call vote: Port-Aye, Marz-Aye, Cannon-Aye. Nay - none Motion passed

AMADOR



Resource
Conservation District

12200-B Airport Rd
Jackson, CA 95642
Phone: 209-223-65643
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ARCD Meeting time and date: Discussion about changing the date and time of the RCD meetings in order to accommodate all directors and to ensure that the RCD has a quorum at each meeting. Motion by Director Marz to set the regular meeting day and time for ARCD meetings as the 4th Monday of each month at 4:15 p.m., starting in November of 2023. 2nd to the motion by Director Port. Roll call vote: Port-Aye, Marz-Aye, Cannon-Aye. Nay - none Motion passed

Executive Director Report: Attached.

SAWQA: Director Port reported that this is a relatively quiet period for reporting and fee collection is almost complete. Director Port, Jill Damsky and E.D. Watson will get together to plan the year-end reports.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.



USDA-NRCS Report by Jennifer Wood, District Conservationist, Jackson LPO October 2023

Program Deadlines

- There is a November 3 application deadline for EQIP and CSP, see attached. There could be another in the spring. With our rangeland backlog, we wouldn't be able to rank any more rangeland applications in FY24 than we already have. It wouldn't hurt to have more forestry applications into us before November 3rd, although the RCPP funding, with a later deadline, can take care of additional forestry interest. See application attached. Customers can mail them to us or call our office when we can take an application over the phone for signing at a later date.

Partnerships/Planning

New

- TCRCDD is hosting an outreach event on Tuesday, October 17 from 2 to 5 that includes the Modesto FSA staff presenting information on their loan programs, along with other partners. The focus is Healthy Soils.
- Partners in Amador County are testing a searchable resources spreadsheet that catalogs natural resources technical and funding assistance.
- TCRCDD will be advertising the Forester position that will be similar to the NRCS affiliate forester position that Amador has. They will be working on Tuolumne forestry projects, as well as RCPP that will cover all 3 counties.

Ongoing

- Tuolumne County RCD (TCRCDD) has secured the NRCS Cooperative Agreement to assist with technical and financial assistance outreach and navigation for forestry and other working lands operators. The Agreement is meant to assist with organizing the resources to help us all, across all 3 counties, deliver a consistent set of information to customers.
- Staff continues to work through the over 70 applications that have not received site visits in the order they came in. There is backlog of at least 125 requests for planning in addition to the applicant list.
- Applications are accepted year-round. It is unlikely that new rangeland applicants will get a site visit this year due to the backlog. Exceptions could include candidates for CSP or new fund pools and initiatives.
- There are new opportunities to assist the Tribes, and building relationships with the Tribes is a priority for the Area and the office. There is also a fund pool specifically for Native American owners and operators.

Staff Updates

- The assistance we can get from the NRCS Auburn Office Rangeland Conservationist is limited. There is still a GS 9-11 vacancy for a Rangeland Conservationist on the staffing plan for our office. There is a goal to have it advertised by the end of the year.
- NRCS Area 3 Biologist position was advertised, and selections being considered. Biology assistance is a critical need to conduct bird nesting surveys for anticipated increased forestry work and for helping to plan wildlife practices.
- Current staff: District Conservationist Jennifer Wood, Engineer Bradley Soares and Forester Garrett McFall. Tamryn Zahradka is the ACRCF Forester and an NRCS affiliate who is assisting with NRCS forestry customers.

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) and Conservation Incentives Program (CIC)

- Administration of 66 active conservation contracts to treat 24,195 acres is ongoing, with 3.46 million dollars obligated.
- There area total of 11 FY' 23 contracts obligating approximately \$500,000 on approximately 3500 acres for range and forestry conservation activities.

Summary of new contracts by county

FY '23 Contracts	Amador	Calaveras	Tuolumne
Range	1 EQIP, 1 CSP	1 EQIP, 2 CSP	1 CSP
Forestry	1 EQIP, 1 CSP	1 EQIP	1EQIP
Disaster			1EQIP



Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

News Release

430 G St., #4164, Davis, CA 95616 • Phone: 530.792.5600 • Fax: 530.792.5790 • www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov

"Helping People Help the Land"

Historic On-Farm Conservation Funding Assistance Available for Producers

More than \$100 million is available for conservation practices on farms, ranches, and private non-industrial forestland

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in California announces Fiscal Year 2024 (October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024) federal assistance opportunities for agricultural producers, including through the [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP), and the [Conservation Stewardship Program](#) (CSP). While NRCS accepts applications for these programs year-round, interested applicants should apply no later than **November 3, 2023**, for the first application cutoff period.

“We are excited to support California’s producers with an historic investment in on-farm conservation this Fiscal Year,” said NRCS California State Conservationist Carlos Suarez. “With the addition of the Inflation Reduction Act, we will be investing approximately 50 percent more federal funding to help producers address their unique resources concerns and help them achieve their stewardship goals.”

Through EQIP, CSP, and the Inflation Reduction Act, more than \$100 million is available for conservation practices and initiatives, including:

- through the National Air Quality Initiative (NAQI) to assist farmers in replacing outdated engines with new and cleaner-burning technology.
- activities that support wildlife habitat creation and enhancement on farms and ranches.
- NRCS and Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart partner projects to help improve water infrastructure, delivery, and application on farms.
- National Water Quality Initiative for targeted conservation actions to improve water quality in the Calleguas Creek and Salt River watersheds.

Application cutoff periods allow NRCS to screen-and-rank applications for those with the highest conservation benefits across California’s landscapes, including cropland, ranchlands, and private non-industrial forestlands. A second cutoff period may be scheduled in Spring 2024 as federal conservation funding is available.

EQIP provides financial assistance to agricultural producers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits. These include improved water and air quality, improved irrigation efficiency, reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, forest restoration, and creating or enhancing wildlife habitat.

CSP provides producers to earn payments for actively managing, maintaining, and expanding conservation activities integrated within their agricultural operations. CSP enhancements like cover crops, ecologically-based pest management, and buffer strips help producers improve soil

health while protecting water quality. Other CSP activities help sustain and increase pollinator and beneficial insect habitat in harmony with agriculture production on their land.

Applying for Assistance

NRCS California will be utilizing ACT NOW to process conservation applications for NAQI and Conservation Plan Activities ranking pools to deliver conservation faster. ACT NOW allows NRCS to immediately approve and obligate a ranked application. This means no longer having to wait for all applications to be reviewed and preapproved. Applications selected through ACT NOW will be batched and processed in the order received. Selections will be made on a weekly basis.

NRCS accepts conservation program applications year-round. State Technical Committees, composed of producers and partners, work with NRCS to set state-specific, ranking dates to evaluate applications for funding. These dates account for producer needs, staff workload, and to ensure potential participants have ample opportunity to apply. To find out more about our application process or to begin an application, please contact your local NRCS Service Center by visiting [here](#).

Technical Assistance

NRCS offers conservation technical assistance at no cost to give producers personalized advice and information, based on the latest science and research, to help them make informed decisions. If a producer chooses to take the next step towards improving their operations, NRCS staff can work with them to develop a free, personalized conservation plan, with conservation practices that can help them reach their agricultural production and conservation goals.

The voluntary conservation plan defines and explains existing resources in a simple, easy to understand manner. Typically, the plan will include land use maps, soils information, inventory of resources, engineering notes, and other supporting information. One benefit to landowners who work with an NRCS professional conservationist to develop a plan is an increased potential for participating in financial assistance programs and is a good first step in the overall process.

Historically Underserved Producer Benefits

Special provisions are also available for [historically underserved producers](#). For EQIP, historically underserved producers are eligible for advance payments to help offset costs related to purchasing materials or contracting services up front. In addition, historically underserved producers can receive higher EQIP payment rates (up to 90% of average cost). NRCS sets aside EQIP and CSP funds for historically underserved producers.

NRCS has provided leadership in a partnership effort to help America's private landowners and managers conserve their soil, water, and other natural resources since 1935.

-NRCS-

CONSERVATION PROGRAM APPLICATION

Applicant (Decision Maker):	Application Date:
Address:	Location where assistance is requested:
Email:	
Telephone:	Receive text messages (optional):
Assistance Requested:	

Click here for [instructions](#) to complete this form or contact the local office for assistance.

1. Do you have a customer record with the Farm Service Agency (FSA)?

Yes No

2. Interested in participating in the following (select all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Conservation Easement Program-Wetland Reserve Easement (ACEP-WRE) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) | |

a) Program enrollment type, activity type, and/or project name, as applicable:

3. Applicant Information:

Select the business structure and enter the legal name, and tax identification number for all applicants who will be participants on the contract or agreement including the decision maker.

Business Structure (Mark with an X)		Applicant Legal Name	Tax Number (last four digits)
Individual	Entity		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

To add more applicants, complete [NRCS-CPA-1200 Continuation Page](#), Applicant Information and attach to this form.

a) If applicant is a legal entity or joint operation, do you have appropriate documents including proof to sign for the entity or joint operation?

Yes No N/A

b) Complete the table below for all applicants who meet the requirements for one or more of the historically underserved categories. Refer to the instructions on page 4, to learn more about the requirements. If none, leave blank. (optional)

Applicant Legal Name	Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher	Beginning Farmer or Rancher	Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher	Veteran Farmer or Rancher	Veteran Discharge Date
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

4. **Land Information.** The following questions apply to the land being offered for enrollment through this application.

a) **Land Type (check all that apply):**

- Private Land
- Public Land: Federal Government State Government Local Government
- Indian Land: Allotted Tribal Trust Land Tribal Non-Trust Land Other

b) **Control of Land Documentation (check all that apply):**

- Deed or other evidence of land ownership
- Written lease agreement

Other agreement or legal conveyance (describe):

c) **Is the land currently enrolled in other USDA conservation program(s)?**

- Yes No

Which program(s):

d) **Organic Certification:**

- Certified Organic by the National Organic Program (NOP)
- Transitioning to become Certified Organic by the NOP
- Exempt from Organic Certification as defined by the NOP
- Not Applicable

e) **What is the primary crop type(s)?**

f) **What is the primary livestock type(s)?**

The applicant agrees not to start any financially assisted conservation practice or activity or engage the reimbursable services of a certified technical service provider before an obligating document is executed by NRCS. The applicant understands that if they start a conservation practice or activity prior to NRCS executing an obligation the applicant will be ineligible to receive payment for the conservation practice or activity. The applicant may request a waiver to begin a conservation practice or activity early by submitting their written request to the applicable NRCS State Conservationist. Applicants must provide NRCS with written authorization from the landowner to install structural or vegetative practices on leased land included in this application.

The applicant acknowledges that they have or will file all other required eligibility information including highly erodible land conservation/wetland conservation certifications, adjusted gross income certifications, and member information for entities and joint operations with the FSA, as applicable, prior to NRCS approving an agreement based on this application.

The applicant may obtain a copy of the applicable conservation program contract appendix, which defines the full terms and conditions of program participation at the local NRCS office.

Check here if NRCS-CPA-1200 Continuation Page, Applicant Information is attached.

Applicant Signature	Date
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NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at [How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint](#) and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Instructions for NRCS-CPA-1200, Conservation Program Application

This form is used to apply for program assistance.

Field Name	Instruction
Applicant (Decision Maker)	Enter the name of the decision maker who is authorized to make decisions pertaining to the application and whose name will be displayed on the NRCS contract or agreement documents if selected for funding.
Application Date	Enter the date of application submission.
Address/Email	Enter mailing address and email address for communication with the decision maker.
Location where assistance is requested	Enter the location of the land where assistance is requested, which may include County and State, farm and tract numbers, etc.
Telephone	Enter the telephone number where decision maker may be contacted.
To receive text message(s)	Enter a primary and/or secondary mobile number if you would like to receive text messages. This is optional.
Assistance Requested	Describe the type of assistance needed. Provide details of what you seek to accomplish through this application.
Question 1	Mark 'Yes' if you have records established with FSA. If answering 'No', NRCS will assist you with determining which records must be established to continue processing your application. Note: All persons or legal entities listed in question 3 will also need records with FSA for NRCS to determine eligibility.
Question 2	Select the conservation program(s) you are applying to participate in. It may be necessary to sign a new application if you decide to change your program selection(s).
Question 2a (optional)	Enter the program enrollment type(s) applying to participate in. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter CSP-Renewal if applying to renew a CSP contract. • Enter EQIP-CIC if applying for an EQIP conservation incentive contract • For ACEP-WRE, enter "Permanent Easement", "30-Year Easement", or "30-Year Contract with Tribes" • For RCPP, activity type includes: Land Management, Rental, US Held Easements. The RCPP project name may be entered if known. <p>Note: Do not use this form for the following programs: ACEP-ALE or RCPP Entity Held Easements, Supplemental Agreements, or Watershed Activities. To apply for one of these programs, follow this link or contact NRCS for additional information.</p>
Question 3	Provide the legal identity of each party seeking participation through this application. Indicate whether each applicant is an individual or an entity and enter the legal name and last four digits of tax identification number.
Question 3a	For each applicant that is a legal entity, documentation of sufficient signature authority is required for anyone signing on behalf of the entity.
Question 3b (optional)	If applicable, mark the appropriate box(s) for each applicant meeting one or more of the definitions for the historically underserved categories below. Applicants that mark Veteran Farmer or Rancher must also provide the date of discharge. <p>Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher – The term "Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher" means a participant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous two years, and • Who has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of county median household income in each of the previous two years. <p>A legal entity or joint operation can be a Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify. A Self-Determination Tool is available to the public and may be completed on-line or printed and completed hardcopy at: https://lrftool.sc.egov.usda.gov/</p> <p>Beginning Farmer or Rancher – The term "Beginning Farmer or Rancher" means a participant who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years. This requirement applies to all members of a legal entity, and • Who will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. <p>In the case of a contract with an individual, individually or with the immediate family, material and substantial participation requires that the individual provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm or ranch, consistent with the practices in the county or State where the farm is located.</p> <p>In the case of a contract made with a legal entity, all members must materially and substantially</p>

	<p>participate in the operation of the farm or ranch. Material and substantial participation requires that the members provide some amount of the management, or labor and management necessary for day-to-day activities, such that if the members did not provide these inputs, operation of the farm or ranch would be seriously impaired.</p> <p>Socially Disadvantaged Farmer or Rancher – The term “Socially Disadvantaged” means an individual or entity who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group. For an entity, at least 50 percent ownership in the farm business must be held by socially disadvantaged individuals. A socially disadvantaged group is a group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.</p> <p>These groups consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Indians or Alaskan Natives • Asians • Blacks or African Americans • Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders • Hispanics. <p>Note: Gender alone is not a covered group for the purposes of NRCS conservation programs. The term entities reflect a broad interpretation to include partnerships, couples, legal entities, etc.</p> <p>Veteran Farmer or Rancher – The term "Veteran Farmer or Rancher" means a producer who served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Coast Guard, including the reserve component thereof; was released from service under conditions other than dishonorable; and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has not operated a farm or ranch, or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years; or • who first obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period. <p>A legal entity or joint operation can be a Veteran Farmer or Rancher only if all individual members independently qualify.</p>
Question 4	Enter information regarding the land being offered for enrollment in a conservation program.
Question 4a	Check the applicable box(s) identifying the type of land included in the application.
Question 4b	Check the applicable box(s) that support the documented control for the land being offered for enrollment in a conservation program. Note: A deed or evidence of ownership is required for all ACEP-WRE and RCPP easement applications.
Question 4c	Mark 'Yes' if the land in this application is currently enrolled in another USDA conservation program under an active contract or agreement and list the program(s) in the space provided. Otherwise, mark 'No'.
Question 4d	Check the applicable box acknowledging organic status of the operation. Mark 'N/A' if this application is for an operation not in organic-related production. Certification in any of these categories is to assist with planning and will not automatically result in the application being considered in any initiatives made available for organic-related production. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certified Organic Producer must maintain organic certification for the life of the contract. • Transition Organic Producer must self-certify that agree to develop and implement an Organic System Plan (OSP). • Organic Producers selling less than \$5,000 per year will need to self-certify that agree to develop and implement an Organic System Plan (OSP). Note: Applicants must specifically request to participate in an organic initiative.
Question 4e	Enter the predominant crop type(s) produced by the operation.
Question 4f	Enter the predominant livestock type(s) produced by the operation.

Note: If this application is selected for funding, it is the responsibility of the participants under a program contract or agreement to provide accurate information to support all items addressed in this application at the request of NRCS. False certifications are subject to criminal and civil fraud statutes. Each participant listed for share of the payment must provide an SF-1199A, Direct Deposit Form to proceed with contract execution. All participants that certify land control or certify eligibility as Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher, Beginning Farmer or Rancher, or Veteran Farmer or Rancher, will provide all records necessary to justify their claim as requested by a NRCS representative.

Grant Progress Tracking 09/30/2023

ARCD	<u>Grant Period</u>	<u>Amount Awarded</u>	<u>Direct Cost</u>	<u>Indirect Cost</u>	<u>Remaining Advance</u>	<u>Expended to Date</u>	<u>Invoiced</u>	<u>Amount remaining</u>
Jackson Creek Watershed 8GG20624	11/15/2021 - 3/31/2025	\$ 3,603,152.00	\$ 3,217,100.00	\$ 386,052.00	\$ 464,938.42	\$ 505,552.89		\$ 3,097,599.11
Chipping 2021 - Round 2 5GG20102	11/2021 - 3/15/2025	\$ 718,292.00	\$ 652,993.00	\$ 65,299.00		\$ 100,851.12	\$ 79,473.04	\$ 617,440.88
Mitchell Mine Fuel Break 2CA05282	6/10/2021 - 6/9/2024	\$ 327,700.00	\$ 297,910.00	\$ 29,790.00		\$ 21,076.48		\$ 306,623.52
RCPP	5/15/2019 - 8/31/2023	\$ 312,362.00	\$ 312,362.00	n/a		\$ 296,656.51	\$29,205.60	\$ 15,705.49
Healthy Soils - Round 2 21-0540-000-SG	10/1/2021 - 10/1/2024	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 27,678.32	\$ 4,512.35	\$ 32,321.68
NACD 2022 - Round 5		\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00		\$ 11,218.33	\$ 38,781.67		\$ 61,218.33
WCB Grant - Carbon Farms		\$ 251,000.00	\$ 251,000.00			\$ 337.16		\$ 250,662.84
WCB Grant - Wildlife Habitat		\$ 200,000.00						\$ 200,000.00
Defensible Space	Awarded, but not executed yet	\$ 633,584.00						\$ 633,584.00
Misc Receivables								\$ -
AFSC Staff Time							\$ 46,000.64	
LCRCD Staff Time							\$ 3,293.40	
SAWQA Staff Time								
		<u>\$ 6,206,090.00</u>	<u>\$ 4,881,365.00</u>	<u>\$ 491,141.00</u>	<u>\$ 476,156.75</u>	<u>\$ 990,934.15</u>	<u>\$ 162,485.03</u>	<u>\$ 5,215,155.85</u>
					*Deferred Rev			
						*Accounts Rec		

SAWQA

	<u>Amount Billed</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
Member Fees			

Amador Resource Conservation District Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

Accrual Basis

July through September 2023

	Jul - Sep 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
45000 · Investments				
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	4,746.86	2,500.00	2,246.86	189.9%
Total 45000 · Investments	4,746.86	2,500.00	2,246.86	189.9%
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46009 · Partnership Contracts	42,591.32	214,000.00	(171,408.68)	19.9%
Total 46400 · Other Types of Income	42,591.32	214,000.00	(171,408.68)	19.9%
47890 · Program Income				
47891 · Grant Income	243,175.57	3,056,793.00	(2,813,617.43)	8.0%
Total 47890 · Program Income	271,115.67	3,056,793.00	(2,785,677.33)	8.9%
Total Income	318,453.85	3,273,293.00	(2,954,839.15)	9.7%
Gross Profit	318,453.85	3,273,293.00	(2,954,839.15)	9.7%
Expense				
50100 · Payroll Expenses	88,240.10	483,609.00	(395,368.90)	18.2%
51000 · Insurance				
50600 · Worker's Compensation Insurance	3,004.38	3,000.00	4.38	100.1%
51500 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	3,282.05	3,000.00	282.05	109.4%
Total 51000 · Insurance	6,286.43	6,000.00	286.43	104.8%
52000 · Memberships and Dues		3,000.00	(3,000.00)	
52200 · Office Expenses				
52200-1 · Office Equipment	1,875.16	15,000.00	(13,124.84)	12.5%
52200-2 · Postage, Mailing Service	8.56	300.00	(291.44)	2.9%
52200-3 · Printing and Copying	399.10	1,200.00	(800.90)	33.3%
52200-4 · Supplies	679.64	1,000.00	(320.36)	68.0%
52200-5 · Telephone, Telecommunications	239.19	1,200.00	(960.81)	19.9%
52200-6 · Advertising		1,500.00	(1,500.00)	
52200-7 · Software	403.79	3,000.00	(2,596.21)	13.5%
52200-8 · Website		600.00	(600.00)	
52200-9 · Tech Support	54.86	150.00	(95.14)	36.6%
Total 52200 · Office Expenses	3,660.30	23,950.00	(20,289.70)	15.3%
52300 · Professional Services				
52300-4 · Consulting	934.30	6,300.00	(5,365.70)	14.8%
52321 · Auditor's Services		10,000.00	(10,000.00)	
52383 · Bookkeeping	660.32	4,000.00	(3,339.68)	16.5%
52399 · Other		5,000.00	(5,000.00)	
Total 52300 · Professional Services	1,594.62	25,300.00	(23,705.38)	6.3%
52800 · Special Departmental Expenses				
52800-1 · Community Garden	343.57	800.00	(456.43)	42.9%
52800-3 · Fair Booth	635.40	600.00	35.40	105.9%
52822 · Mini Grants	1,000.00	5,000.00	(4,000.00)	20.0%
Total 52800 · Special Departmental Expenses	2,044.43	6,400.00	(4,355.57)	31.9%
52900 · Travel and Meetings				
52905 · Travel and Transportation				
52905-1 · Mileage	104.02	5,885.00	(5,780.98)	1.8%
Total 52905 · Travel and Transportation	104.02	5,885.00	(5,780.98)	1.8%
52910 · Convention and Meetings		2,000.00	(2,000.00)	
52915 · Meals		500.00	(500.00)	
Total 52900 · Travel and Meetings	104.02	8,385.00	(8,280.98)	1.2%
54138 · Contractor Services				
54138-1 · Groundwork Contractor	184,315.20	1,760,991.00	(1,576,675.80)	10.5%
54138-2 · Professional Service Contractor	12,104.66	453,600.00	(441,495.34)	2.7%
Total 54138 · Contractor Services	196,419.86	2,214,591.00	(2,018,171.14)	8.9%
65100 · Other Types of Expenses				
65160 · Grant Supplies/Costs	575.00	95,325.00	(94,750.00)	0.6%
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	575.00	95,325.00	(94,750.00)	0.6%
Total Expense	298,924.76	2,866,560.00	(2,567,635.24)	10.4%
Net Ordinary Income	19,529.09	406,733.00	(387,203.91)	4.8%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Expense				
70000 · Additions to Reserves		150,000.00	(150,000.00)	
Total Other Expense		150,000.00	(150,000.00)	
Net Other Income		(150,000.00)	150,000.00	
Net Income	19,529.09	256,733.00	(237,203.91)	7.6%

Amador Resource Conservation District

Balance Sheet

As of September 30, 2023

10/16/23

Accrual Basis

	<u>Sep 30, 23</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
101768 · Sac/Ama Water Quality Alliance	440,013.37
101769 · Amador RCD	803,363.70
Total Checking/Savings	<u>1,243,377.07</u>
Accounts Receivable	
11000 · Accounts Receivable	162,485.01
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>162,485.01</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1,405,862.08</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,405,862.08</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
24500 · Accrued Time Off	5,602.51
25800 · Unearned or Deferred Revenue	476,156.72
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>481,759.23</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>481,759.23</u>
Total Liabilities	481,759.23
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	714,685.99
32000 · Retained Earnings	178,445.19
Net Income	30,971.67
Total Equity	<u>924,102.85</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>1,405,862.08</u>

SAWQA
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
July through September 2023

	Jul - Sep 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
45000 · Investments				
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	3,414.07	5,000.00	-1,585.93	68.3%
Total 45000 · Investments	3,414.07	5,000.00	-1,585.93	68.3%
47890 · Program Income				
47895 · SAWQA Member Fees	12,146.44	346,300.00	-334,153.56	3.5%
Total 47890 · Program Income	12,146.44	346,300.00	-334,153.56	3.5%
Total Income	15,560.51	351,300.00	-335,739.49	4.4%
Gross Profit	15,560.51	351,300.00	-335,739.49	4.4%
Expense				
51000 · Insurance				
51500 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	3,004.93	3,000.00	4.93	100.2%
Total 51000 · Insurance	3,004.93	3,000.00	4.93	100.2%
52200 · Office Expenses	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%
52300 · Professional Services				
52300-2 · Project Administration	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.0%
52300-3 · Workshops	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
52300-5 · Record Keeping	0.00	20,000.00	-20,000.00	0.0%
52300-6 · Monitoring and Reporting	0.00	165,676.00	-165,676.00	0.0%
52321 · Auditor's Services	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00	0.0%
52383 · Bookkeeping	0.00	21,403.00	-21,403.00	0.0%
52384 · State Board Oversight	0.00	140,740.00	-140,740.00	0.0%
Total 52300 · Professional Services	0.00	373,319.00	-373,319.00	0.0%
Total Expense	3,004.93	381,319.00	-378,314.07	0.8%
Net Ordinary Income	12,555.58	-30,019.00	42,574.58	-41.8%
Net Income	12,555.58	-30,019.00	42,574.58	-41.8%

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

PROJECT TITLE	Upper Rancheria Community Fuel Break		
PROJECT LOCATION	Unincorporated areas outside Fiddletown and Sutter Creek	COUNTY	Amador
LEAD AGENCY	Amador Resource Conservation District (RCD)		
CONTACT	Steve Q. Cannon, President, Amador RCD		
ADDRESS	12200 B Airport Road Jackson, CA 95642	PHONE	(209) 223-3581

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will construct a community fuel break on prominent ridges just north and south of Rancheria Creek, east of Fiddletown and northeast of Sutter Creek. This 8.5-mile fuel break encompasses an area of approximately 412 acres.

The objective of the project is to create a shaded fuel break up to 400 feet wide. This fuel break will protect hundreds of habitable structures directly adjacent to the fuel break from catastrophic fire, will protect the communities of Fiddletown, Volcano, Plymouth, and other communities, and will protect water quality in the Rancheria Creek watershed. The project will utilize a combination of treatments to reduce or remove incompatible vegetation within the fuel break. These treatments may include mechanical mastication, hand thinning and chipping, piling and burning, pruning, the application of herbicides and/or other treatment methods. Ground fuels and brush will be masticated, and small conifer and hardwood trees will be thinned. Property owners included in the project have signed Right-of-Entry agreements to allow project work to be performed on their properties. The project area has been flagged on the ground with flagging.

Portions of the fuel break will be constructed on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. BLM is a cooperating partner in this project and will prepare all necessary environmental documents for BLM lands as part of a separate environmental process.

The intent is for this Notice of Exemption to cover ongoing maintenance of the project in perpetuity.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type/Section: 14CCR§15304 Minor Alterations to Land
 - Statutory Exemption (state code section):
 - Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
 - Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
 - Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))
-

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under the description for a Class 1 Categorical Exemption to CEQA. Amador RCD staff conducted an environmental review to confirm that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Amador RCD has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, energy, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, utilities and service systems, or wildfire. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Amador RCD staff is kept on file at the Amador RCD office in Jackson, CA.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

Steve Q. Cannon, President
Amador Resource Conservation District

Date



Schedule of Events for Mastication Phase of the Mitchell Mine Fuelbreak Maintenance Project

Prepared By: Gordon Long for the 10/19/23 ARCD Board Meeting

- The Mitchell Mine Maintenance Project- Mastication Phase Request for Proposal was released September 29th, 2023.
- The RFP called for machine mastication of 67.7 acres, split up into five separate units on the original Mitchell Mine Fuelbreak footprint. Bidders had to bid for all five units.
- 15 contractors sent in a RSVP to attend the pre-bid tour on October 5th.
- 9 contractors showed up for the tour, led by RPF Ed Struffenegger and assisted by Project Manager Gordon Long.
- 2 bidders left the tour after reviewing the first of five treatment units.
- ARCD received two bids by the closing date of October 13th at 5:00 pm. One of those bids was from a contractor who attended the pre-bid tour. The other bidder made no other contact with the ARCD with this RFP other than sending in a bid.
- On October 4th, the bids were sent to the Project Selection Committee, which included ARCD board president Steve Cannon, ARCD Executive Director Amanda Watson, Project Registered Professional Forester Ed Struffenegger, and ARCD Project Manager Gordon Long
- On October 16th, the Selection Committee met to review their individual rankings of bids, and to recommend a chosen bidder for the contract.
- The Selection Committee had a unanimous decision to recommend to the ARCD board Krisman Enterprises to be awarded this Mitchell Mine Fuelbreak Maintenance Project.

Milestone	Timeline
Release Request for Proposal	September 29, 2023
Pre-proposal Tour (Contact ARCD to RSVP)	October 5, 2023
Proposals Due	October 13, 2023
Review and Selection of Contractor(s)	No later than October 17, 2023
Announcement of Selected Contractor(s)	October 20, 2023
Agreement Signed/Executed	No later than October 27, 2023
Work Begins	November 7, 2023 (weather, fire season dependent)

Amador RCD
Executive Director Report
Prepared for: October 19th 2023 Board Meeting

Current Projects Updates:

Community Chipping Program: Community Events and Roadside Chipping are continuing. Reporting due at the end of October.

Healthy Soil Program Technical Assistance Funding- working on hiring a TA provider to assist landowners to apply for the next round of funding, which likely be announced mid-November.

Forest Health Assistance Program (FHAP): CARCD is working with contracting with NRCS and then contracts between RCDs and the CARCD will be drafted and executed.

Jackson Creek Forest Health Project: Both contractors are scheduled or already working on completed mastication units. ARCD will be hosting a landowner workshop in Winter 2024. The second round of mastication/grazing units will go out to bid in Winter 2024. Reporting is due at the end of October.

WCB Habitat Structure Grant: ARCD/Calaveras is working to transfer contract to ARCD.

WCB Pollinator Habitat Installation: Working on hiring staff to assist with this project.

Mitchell Mine Fuelbreak: See Gordon's attached report on bidding process for mastication work.

Upcoming Funding/Projects:

NACD 2023: Application submitted for \$100k to fund a position to assist with NRCS workload.

Healthy Soils TA Program (HSP):

- ARCD HSP TA: ARCD was awarded \$60k to assist landowners in applying for HSP funding.
- HSP Block Grant: Placer RCD awarded funding, ARCD will receive funding over the next 3 years to help plan and distribute \$3.4 million in the Central Sierra/Foothills region.

Defensible Space Assistance Project:

- CalFire Grant Award: awaiting contract for signature.

Amador-Alpine-Calaveras-Tuolumne Natural and Working Land Collaborative –

- CCI Carbon Hub (Natural & Working Lands Hub) Funding: Tuolumne RCD hired a Carbon Hub Coordinator.
- Dept. of Conservation- Climate Smart Management Grant Application: \$1.6 million dollars awarded! This is a reduction of \$250,000; staff will be working with DOC to adjust budget/deliverables and finalize the contract.

Next Up:

- Board Recruitment
- Review of Benefits for Staff
- Review of Policy Handbook with BizHaven
- Formation of Executive and/or Projects Committee(s)
- New Policy Discussion: Change Order/Extra Work Policy
- Executive Staff Trainings: Management, Supervision and/or Leadership Trainings

SAWQA Report

Prepared for: October 19th 2023 Board Meeting

Exceedances Update:

SAWQA Exceedance Report Summary 2021-2023				
Sample Date	Site	Analyte	Result	Trigger Limit
12/28/2021	Grand Island Drain*	Nitrate+Nitrite as N	20 mg/L	10 mg/L
12/29/2021	Grand Island Drain	E.coli	816.4MPN/100mL	235MPN/100mL
4/21/2022	Grand Island Drain	E.coli	275.5MPN/100mL	235MPN/100mL
4/21/2022	Grand Island Drain	Hyalella azteca survival	76.5% of Control	% of control
4/21/2023	Cosumnes River at Twin Cities Road	Hyalella azteca survival	59.7% of Control	% of control
5/19/2022	Grand Island Drain	E.coli	313MPN/100mL	235MPN/100mL
7/20/2022	Grand Island Drain	E.coli	435.2MPN/100mL	235MPN/100mL
8/18/2022	Grand Island Drain	E.coli	325.5MPN/100mL	235MPN/100mL
9/28/2022	Grand Island Drain	E.coli	524.7MPN/100mL	235MPN/100mL
12/21/2022	Grand Island Drain	Nitrate+Nitrite as N	11 mg/L	10 mg/L
2/16-23/2023	Grand Island Drain	pH	5.83 -log[H+]	6.5 -log[H+]
2/16-23/2023	Grand Island Drain	Specific Conductivity	1,1015 µS/cm	700 µS/cm
2/16-23/2023	Grand Island Drain	Discharge**	0 CFS	NA
4/19-20 2023	Grand Island Drain	Specific Conductivity	974 µS/cm	700 µS/cm
4/19-20 2023	Grand Island Drain	Discharge**	9.6 CFS	NA
*Grand Island at Leary Road				
**Discharge recorded as zero due to no measurable flow. Discharge and/or velocity measurements are provided as relevant site conditions when field measurements exceed water quality objectives. Discharge and velocity				

SAWQA 2023-2024 Timeline	updated: 10/16/2023
Farm Evaluations	
Mail Date	N/A
Due Date	N/A
Irrigation & Nitrogen Management Plan	
Database Opened - Land IQ	Nov. 6th
Send email blasts - update cropping/acreage	Dec. 1
Mailing- Update database/ Reporting (5 day)	Dec. 4th
Office Hours - 1st Round	Early January
Office Hours- 2nd Round	Mid-January
Online walk-through - outreach	Mid-January
Invoicing	
Cutoff date (freeze data and generate Invoice)	January 26th
Mail Date	February 2nd 2024
Due Date	March 1 2024
Late Fee* - Advertised Due Date (10%)	March 15th 2024
Pull late fee list (10%)	March 18th 2024
Late Fee -Advertised Due Date (20%)	April 12th 2024
Pull late fee list (20%)	April 17th 2024
Late Fee - Advertised Due Date (30%)	May 17th 2024
Pull late fee list (30%)	May 20th 2024
Pending Termination Letter	May 2nd 2024
Give regional board non-complaint list	Check with Chelsea
Cancellation Letter	June 16th 2024
Cancel Unpaid Members	July 1st 2024
Reinstatement Deadline	July 1st 2024
Membership List due to Coalition	July 10th 2024
Membership/Communications	
Winter Newsletter	January 6th 2024
Invoice Reminder/Checkbox Mailing/Late Fee/Cancellation warning	with first late fee
Healthy Soils Incentive Program Mailing	
Sacramento Farm Bureau Newsletter	
Coalition Nitrogen Delta Email Blast	

*A member is considered late in payment and/or reporting is not complete.