

WATER IN THE PAJARO VALLEY

Community Dialogue #2 Summary

September 2010



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Community Dialogue #2 Summary

INTRODUCTION

On September 13, 2010, Driscoll's hosted a second community dialogue to address the issue of water in the Pajaro Valley. Nearly 50 people participated, representing a variety of interests related to water resources management in the Pajaro Valley.

An initial community dialogue meeting was held in July 2010 to identify key issues, opportunities and potential solutions to balance water supply and demand in the Valley for agricultural and other uses. As a follow up to this meeting, working groups were tasked with researching four topics related to Pajaro water: groundwater recharge, land management and best practices, big projects, and communication and information. The purpose of the September 13 meeting was to hear the topical working group reports, discuss findings and identify next steps. This report summarizes major findings and participant dialogue.

Miles Reiter of Driscoll's opened the session by welcoming participants and reiterating his vision that this group would eventually arrive at a long-term solution to balance water supply and demand in the Pajaro Valley for agricultural and other uses. Daniel Iacofano of MIG facilitated the meeting. Mr. Iacofano reviewed the ground rules for the morning's discussion and invited a round of introductions from group participants. Following the introductions, each of the study groups presented results of their work, followed by an open discussion of the study group topic. A final short general discussion focused on summary thoughts and action items going forward. Larry Wight of MIG recorded highlights of the dialogue in real-time on a large wall-sized sheet of paper (see Appendix B: Wallgraphic Reduction). Notes were also electronically transcribed during the meeting.

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

Presenter: Katie Montano

The focus of the Groundwater Recharge Group is to identify and discuss projects that abate groundwater overdraft of the Pajaro Valley hydrologic basin using groundwater recharge methods. Before confirming a specific action plan, the working group aims to identify all possible recharge projects and opportunities, and then prioritize potential projects based on a set of criteria (yet to be developed). Opportunities, obstacles and next steps discussed by the group and meeting participants are described below.

Groundwater Recharge Opportunities

Opportunities for the group fall into four general categories: ***GIS mapping and suitability research, landowner outreach, small recharge projects, and large recharge projects.***

GIS Mapping

Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping is a key tool for assembling information to guide decisions about groundwater recharge opportunities. Tasks include:

- Map the valley-wide recharge potential to establish a unified data source (same boundaries as the PVWMA)
- Collaborate with growers to supplement and refine mapping data with their field observations and local knowledge
- Conduct a preliminary analysis in short term with a longer term goal of compiling a complete GIS database

Landowner Outreach

- Coordinate with landowners to ensure accurate and comprehensive research of potential recharge opportunities and implementation of recharge goals (driller logs are important but cannot be accessed without landowner consent)
- Increase participation and landowner involvement

Small Recharge Projects

- Clarify expectations with regard to groundwater recharge benefits from small-scale projects - total of potential recharge areas may not be more than 20% of the Valley
- Coordinate with the Water Quality Control Board to address potential water quality issues associated with recharge basins, pond linings, and water quality regulations

- The Bokeriza-Drobac property pilot recharge project is in the planning stages – it's a tangible private, public and academic collaboration expected to be a model for the Valley

Large Recharge Projects

Several sites offer large-scale opportunities for water capture, including College Lake, Pinto Lake, the levee system, Soap Lake, and Uvas Reservoir. There may be some overlap between Groundwater Recharge and Big Projects group's examination of large-scale projects so coordination between the two groups is essential.

College Lake/Pinto Lake

- These lakes offer an opportunity for water storage and recharge to groundwater (surplus water is currently pumped to the ocean)
- Water quality is better in College Lake than Pinto

Levee System

- Consider ways that flood control planning can redirect stormwater to help recharge the groundwater

Soap Lake

- Evaluate storage capacity and possible ability to convey water to Pajaro downstream

Uvas Reservoir

- Capture surplus water from Uvas Reservoir (20,000 acre/foot capacity) by increasing storage capacity, and piping over the hill
- Utilize excess water to improve riparian habitat and increase recharge capability

Other Recharge Opportunities

- Consider induced recharge, not just natural systems
- Investigate opportunities to integrate stormwater detention requirements into recharge plans

Obstacles

The group identified a number of obstacles to developing a comprehensive, implementable recharge plan. The time to collect data is a primary hurdle, including best locations for recharge, source, quantity and quality of recharge water. Further, water management goals of various groups and agencies often conflict and require coordination of policies and regulations.

Next Steps

Members of the Recharge Group will be involved in GIS mapping, monitoring of Harkins Slough, implementing the Bokariza-Drobac pilot project, defining criteria for project evaluation, and organizing follow-up meetings. Other discussion for moving forward focused on data collection.

Data Collection

- Capitalize on existing information (for example, driller logs should be accessible from the PVWMA)
- Use soil logs and well logs as additional data points to help compile a more accurate and complete picture
- Check PVWMA's new GIS logs
- Locate the new USGS hydro-geological model that maps water on a regional scale (expected to be accessible as a public document)
- Devise a method for verifying accuracy of data

BEST PRACTICES AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Presenter: JJ Scurich

The Best Practices and Land Management Group is focusing on two main topics: conservation and dialogue. Key points and highlights from the presentation and discussion are provided below.

Conservation

Identifying and encouraging widespread use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) related to water conservation is seen as essential to addressing the Pajaro Valley's water problems. BMPs fall into two categories: **efficient water use**, and **crop management systems**.

Efficient Water Use

Efficiency can be approached on the following two levels.

- **Efficiency during design** of irrigation systems
- **Efficiency during application** of water

Achieving irrigation design efficiency requires monitoring state-of-the art technology improvements, upgrading equipment when necessary, and careful attention to design for uniform distribution of water appropriate to the crop.

In addition, operations must ensure efficient application on a day-to-day basis, monitoring conditions and scheduling the right amount of water depending on season and weather. **Continuing education** and training sessions for growers and land users presents an opportunity for significantly improving the implementation of best practices for water management. Obstacles to achieving optimum water efficiency include capital costs, management costs, and acquiring appropriate expertise.

Crop Management

Management of what is grown on the land is also a key factor in conservation, and an effective approach will require implementation of a number of best management practices, including the following.

- Crop rotation
- Consideration of alternate crops
- Integration of fallow land systems

A first step to evaluating best crop management practices and setting appropriate water use reduction targets is to gather information on historical water usage for various crops. In order for the data to be accurate and useful, a high level of participation by growers will be required, as well as a method for dealing with the variability of the information collected.

Benefits of the different crop management approaches will need to be analyzed, and solutions need to be identified for potential obstacles, such as financial incentives that may be needed for leaving land fallow.

Dialogue

Dialogue – or the sharing of information between landowner, tenant and grower – is another critical land management topic. Since about 70% of agricultural acreage in the Pajaro Valley is tenant farmed, communication among all parties is essential to long-term viability of agriculture. Tenants need a venue for participation in decision-making by landowners, with a goal of maintaining permanent production. Growers need to:

- Share data on their agricultural practices and field trial results
- Develop record-keeping methods shared throughout the Valley
- Make a commitment to sustainable best management practices with a goal of reduced water use

This topic overlapped somewhat with the Communications and Information Group, and the discussion emphasized that continuing education is a key venue for fostering dialogue. Participants noted there is a great deal of readily available information about Best Management Practices for agriculture, and a variety of sources that people already access for free information and data. For example, San Luis Obispo has irrigation programs available, other jurisdictions are developing similar field-friendly programs, data from SEMIS is available, and Farm Bureau and County Agriculture Extension services are already in use.

Next Steps

The group identified the following next steps related to best practices and land management.

Conservation/Best Practices

- Identify potential incentives for conservation
- Develop a fallow management system, with detailed recommendations for both short-term and long-term applications (supported by GIS data)
- Consider natural habitat improvements as part of land management practices
- Assess potential of other best management practices, other than irrigation
- Determine water usage by crop

Dialogue

- Set up a Water Information Center
- Conduct specialized workshops for water conservation BMPs
- Activate a Mobile Lab Technical Assistance Program
- Develop certificate programs for farm workers
- Broaden the topic and outreach to include general water conservation in urban areas
- Clarify what information is known and needs to be communicated, and what information needs to be developed

BIG PROJECTS

Presenter: Chuck Allen

The Big Projects Group is developing a master list of all potential large-scale projects that might help reduce overdraft and balance the aquifer. They are also tasked with weighing the feasibility and benefits of potential projects.

The group presented a number of specific projects for consideration, and some broad project types for further investigation. They also outlined important project considerations including: existing historical information and assumptions, timing, cost potential short-term and long-term results, and resources needed by the team.

During the group discussion a range of project types and guidelines emerged as critical to project planning. Salient points and highlights from the presentation and discussion are provided below.

Potential Projects

Specific Projects for Consideration

- Mid-County effluent to the Watsonville treatment plant to increase water quality
- Seasonal water storage – Winter: College Lake, Pinto Lake, Bolsa Canyon reservoir (Trafton Road); Spring: Pajaro River
- Castroville Irrigation Project connection
- Water Desalinization from Moss Landing
- Murphey Crossing and Aptos Recharge projects

Project Types and Guidelines for Consideration

- Identify additional water storage areas (treatment plant is not using current daily capacity because of lack of storage; 3,000 acre feet surplus available, but its use relies on water storage)
- Pipe surplus ground water from Santa Clara County – City of San Jose
- Use coastal wells to pull salty water back toward the coast shore area
- Reinvestigate surface water aquifers – try recharging the alluvial aquifer and bringing the quality back to historical levels (currently contaminated)
- Convey water via the Pajaro River
- Expand sewer treatment capacity
- Identify recycled water projects
- Target multi-benefit projects that address a range of challenges and opportunities such as water supply and storage, flood management and improved habitat

- Explore opportunities for large and/or small-scale water harvesting (for example, catchment from rooftops such as greenhouses or others with large surface area; and wash water capture)
- Consider programmatic measures to improve water quality (for example eliminating water softeners)

Next Steps

- Invite Andy Fisher to address the group to answer questions and provide guidance
- Schedule the next meeting to align with Andy Fisher's availability (late September/early October) and hold the meeting at the City of Watsonville treatment facility on Beach Road

COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION

Presenter: Dobie Jenkins

The Communications and Information Group's charge is to provide information about improving the Pajaro Valley aquifer. Specifically, this working group is tasked with providing information about the overdraft problem, locating gaps in technical information, conducting research, and acting as a resource conduit.

The group outlined a number of responsibilities related to their role in improving communications and expanding their capacity to provide resources. Highlights from the presentation and discussion are provided below.

Working Group Responsibilities

- Compile and disseminate information developed by all Pajaro Valley Water Commitment work groups
- Assemble technical information about the overdraft problem
- Research and inform the larger group about policy and regulations
- Document conservation efforts beyond those identified by other work groups
- Gather information about potential adjudication processes
- Track the overall Pajaro Valley Water Commitment effort
- Determine additional information needs
- Coordinate the calendar and provide organizational support for the working groups and act as a link between the groups
- Foster two-way communication with agencies, water boards and others
- Establish effective internal working group communications first, then branch out to the larger community in a limited and well-targeted manner

Internal Communications and Organization

There was a general consensus that first priority should be to focus on internal communications and organization. The roles of the Communications Group and the coordinating committee need to be clarified in terms of how information is distributed. Recommendations included:

- Develop a clear and consistent communications process and protocol for distribution of information
- Establish a chair and co-chair in each working group
- Identify a historian/information sharer in each working group to report findings to the Communications and Information Group for broader distribution
- Consider using existing website as a unified resource for information and links
- Re-engage participants to ensure active and sustained participation

External Communications and Organization

Although a second priority, there was consensus that communication to the broader community might motivate greater participation, and should not be delayed. Action items include

- Inform the larger community of the group's progress and allow other community members to get involved
- Use a variety of means and styles in communicating with the public, such as traditional face-to-face communication, recruiting one-on-one participation, setting up websites, and others
- Reiterate, clarify, and simplify the problem and potential solutions in a concise and comprehensible manner for complete and mutual understanding
- Consider quantifying how much water each group could save (for example recharge could save potentially 20%)
- Set up a website
- Utilize the Farm Bureau's newsletter as a communication channel
- Investigate use of City resources to reach out to non-farmers
- Consider drafting a press release
- Examine means of presenting successes and positive results to the community – be aware of concerns and sensitivities that may be associated with certain information sharing
- Identify pertinent examples and case studies that could motivate involvement by other community members
- Establish references and points of contact for each case study so the group knows who to contact to get involved or informed about the different proposed projects

Obstacles

- Coordinate at a broader scale beyond the immediate community – Pajaro water is not just a local challenge
- Synthesize the many resources available and determine how to effectively communicate the information

Next Steps

- Hold a follow-up meeting to further refine goals and direction of the group
- Solicit support and assistance to locate additional resources or information – consider a dedicated staff person

NEXT STEPS

Moving forward, the group indicated the importance of identifying big picture trends in agriculture and environmental predictions (related to crops, climate, population growth, and development, among others) to anticipate what the Valley's future landscape could look like.

Participants identified the following next steps for the larger Pajaro Valley Water Commitment effort.

Process and Organization

- Establish an organizational structure for the entire Pajaro Valley Water Commitment Group
- Establish a coordinating or executive committee made up of representatives from each of the working groups (the existing committee of Chuck Allen, Lisa Dobbins, Naomi Sakoda, Karen Christianson, Kalli Camara and Kelley Bell will serve for the immediate future)
- Establish an organizational structure for the working groups (chair/co-chair, note taker, information sharer, points of contact per case studies)
- Set an overall timeline and deadlines for tasks
- Extend future meeting invitations from the entire group (each person's name should be signed at the bottom of the invite – this approach is more personal and shows group commitment)

Collaboration

- Consider political sponsorship / coordination strategy
- Research experience of other agricultural communities

Schedule

- Confirm a date for the next Pajaro Community Water Meeting – tentatively December, 2010

APPENDIX A

Attendance List

	Lowell Hurst	Sam Earnshaw
Frank Capurro	Ed Mitchell	JoAnn Baumgartner
Diane and Don Cooley	Brian Driscoll	John E. Eiskamp
David Davini	Andrew Fisher	Estelle Basor
Steven Dolber	Terry Corwin	David Koch
Tom Farmer	Dennis Osmer	Steve Palmisano
Marilee Irwin	Mary Bannister	Louis Calcagno
Ed Kelly	Dave Kegebein	Kelli Camara
John Lukrich	Dominic Muzzi	John Weisz
Clint and Karen Miller	Nick Wsobac	Allison Reiter
Miles Reiter	Ryan Kuntz	Bob Culbertson
Gloria Sakata	Guy George	John Ricker
Dick and Jean Skillicorn	Lisa Dobbins	Karen Christensen
Steve Skillicorn	Chris Hogan	Nick Drobac
Lauren Vucinich	Harold Griffith	Chuck Allen
John Martinelli	Fred Willoughby	Naomi Sakoda
Dobie Jenkins	Ralph Miljanich	Katie Montano
Tisha Scurich	Nick Bulaich	Kelley Bell
John G. Eiskamp	Dave Runsten	Seth Edman
Kenn Reiller	Dick Peixito	Rob Webb

APPENDIX B

Wallgraphic Reduction

PAJARO water

9/13/6

- SET DATA STRUCTURE
 - CHARACTERISTICS
 - TYPE NUMBER
 - DATE ADDED
 - DATE DELETED
- EA GROUP SHOULD ALSO HAVE:
 - NAME OF PROJECT
 - SET TITLES
 - DATE/NUMBER
- ANTICIPATE CAPTURE DISTRICTS:
 - TRENDS IN AG
 - CROP
 - LAND USE
 - POP GROWTH
 - EST
- CONSIDER PATROL SCHEDULES/CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULES
- RESEARCH OTHER COMMUNITIES EXPERIENCES

GROUNDWATER RECHARGE

- ABATE GROUNDWATER OVERDRAFT
- GIS MAPPING
- LANDOWNER CONTRIBUTION FIELD OBSERVATION LOCAL KNOWLEDGE
- TRIGGER SITE POTENTIAL
- PILOT PROJECT
- WATER QUALITY ISSUE
- FIND LINKING ISUE
- NEED TO COMEY W/ REGR

RECOMMENDATIONS: POSSIBLE PROJECTS/STRATEGIES

- POTENTIAL
 - LARGE TROPIC
 - STORAGE LAKE - PATO LAKE
 - LARGE SYSTEM
 - CAN IT BE USED TO REDUCED WATER
- SOAK LAKE
 - STORAGE
 - WATER RESERVOIR
 - SURPLUS WATER
- OBSTACLES
 - TIME FOR STUDY
 - SITE AVAILABILITY
 - QUANTIFICATION

LAND MANAGEMENT BEST PRACTICES

- CONSERVATION
- DIAGNOSIS
 - DESIGN EFFICIENCY
 - APPLICABILITY EFFICIENCY
 - HYPOTHESIS WATER WARE
 - CROP ROTATION
 - FRANKLIN SYSTEMS
- 70% TENANTS PERMANENT PRODUCTION GOAL
- GREENER
 - DATA SHARING
 - RECORD KEEPING
 - REDUCE WATER USE
 - SUSTAINABLE GOAL
- CONSERVATION WORKS LOCAL AS WORKSHOPS
- SET UP WATER INFO CENTER
- DETERMINE WATER ISSUE BY GROUP
- DESIGN OF FIELDS WATER DELIVERY

BIG PROJECTS

- CREATE MASTER LIST OF TREATMENT PROJECTS
- RECYCLED WATER
- WINTER WATER STORAGE
- COMBINE TO CIRCULATE
- DESIGNATION OF MARKING PLUM VIT
- WINTER OAKLAND ARDS
- CAPITAL NEEDS
- ELIMINATE WASTAGE
- CONSERVATION
- WINTER WATER STORAGE
- WATER WASTAGE
- WATER WASTAGE
- WATER WASTAGE

COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

- WAYS TO PROVIDE INFO
- LOCATE GRASS ROOTS
- BE A REFERENCE CTR
- TELEPHONE
- COMPLEX INFO
- DOCUMENT OTHER COMMUNITIES
- ADJUSTMENT OTHER COMMUNITIES
- TRACK WITH COMMUNITY
- SET UP MEETING
- TRADITIONAL
- RECENT PARTICIPATION
- ONE-TO-ONE

APPENDIX C

Presentations Handout



Community Water Meeting

September 13, 2010

Groundwater Recharge Community Group

To identify and discuss projects that abate groundwater overdraft of the Pajaro Valley hydrologic basin using groundwater recharge methods.

Who Attended

- Jo Ann Baumgartner – Wild Farm Alliance
- Kelli Camara – Resource Conservation District
- Terry Corwin – SC County Land Trust
- Bob Culbertson –Watsonville Wetlands Watch
- Nic Drobac - landowner
- Seth Edman – Driscoll's
- Andy Fisher – UCSC Hydrogeology
- Matt Freeman – SC County Land Trust
- Natalie Jacuzzi – CSUMB master student
- Marc Los Huertos – CSUMB Environmental Science
- Katie Montano – Driscoll's
- Dick Peixoto – Lakeside Organics
- Carol Presley – Santa Clara Valley Water District, CAFF

Focus and Scope of the Group

- To identify and discuss projects that abate groundwater overdraft of the Pajaro Valley hydrologic basin using groundwater recharge methods
- Before establishing a scope the group has agreed to:
 1. Identify/understand all possible recharge projects
 2. Prioritize projects according to criteria TBD

List of Opportunities

GIS mapping of conditions that could be conducive to recharge

- Identify potential recharge areas, assess underlying aquifer conditions, help property owners and others to determine how different areas might contribute to future recharge projects.

Landowner outreach – identifying recharge potential

- Bring maps that identify areas of potential recharge for discussion at community dialogues. Evaluate the interest of landowners to permit additional investigation, evaluate soils, aquifer conditions, extent of runoff, existing containment structures, other site characteristics. Determine feasibility of conducting site investigations to assess conditions and recharge potential.

Small scale basins on ranches

- Pilot project at the Bokariza-Drobac property is being planned. Interest in creating two-tier systems that addresses water quality/treatment and recharge. Goal is to create a replicable model for PV by documenting all the steps and costs of building and maintaining small-scale recharge basins, and quantifying benefit to basin.

List of Opportunities (*Larger Scale*)

College/Pinto Lake

- Excess water in College Lake is currently being pumped into the ocean. Might some of this water be used for other purposes (irrigation, in-stream enhancement, recharge)?

Levee System - coordination with Army Corp of Engineers

- The Army Corp of Engineers has been working on updating the levee system to accommodate larger storm events. How can collaboration help to improve availability of supply for irrigation and/or recharge?

Soap Lake

- Soap Lake defines the 100 year flood plain of the Pajaro River, which provides for a natural stormwater detention function. There may exist potential for storage and/or conveyance to downstream (Pajaro Valley) storage facilities.

Uvas Reservoir

- Could reservoir capacity be increased by raising dam? Could some of the additional storage be used to sustain flows in Corralitos and Salsipuedes Creeks? Would this help to enhance in-stream recharge and riparian conditions?

Identified Obstacles

- Identifying ideal recharge conditions/projects takes time – we need to know:
 - Where are the best opportunities to enhance recharge in the basin?
 - Where can water for recharge be acquired?
 - Where can water be stored temporarily prior to recharge (to maintain supplies, improve quality, etc)?
 - How do we ensure excellent quality of recharged water?
- Quantifying recharge amounts and rates is difficult, requires site by site assessment
- Recharge alone cannot stop overdraft, must be part of a broad portfolio of methods
- Larger projects have financial, regulatory, and stakeholder obstacles:
 - I.e. College & Pinto Lake – expensive, steelhead habitat, water would need to be pumped elsewhere for recharge, variable water quality.
- While some in the valley try to get stormwater and runoff to the ocean as fast as possible, our group is trying to store it or slow it down. Can we work together?
- Driller/well logs could help us understand Pajaro Valley's geology and hydrology, but to access to the logs, landowner permission is required. How can we encourage participation by the broader community in recharge projects?

Next Steps for Group

- Complete preliminary GIS analysis, evaluate recharge potential around basin, identify sites meriting additional investigation (Los Huertos, Fisher, colleagues)
- Continue Harkins Slough monitoring, analysis (PVMMA, Fisher, Los Huertos, colleagues)
- Develop plans and begin work with Bokariza-Drobac basin (Drobac, Edman, Montano, Camara, Los Huertos, Fisher, others)
- Organize/facilitate next recharge group meeting (Edman, Montano, Camera)
- Define criteria for project evaluation (committee)

How can others participate or help?

Considering a recharge project on your land?

- Areas that receive runoff and quickly infiltrate into the ground
 - Well drained, sandy soils
 - Areas that might require more irrigation water than others
 - May coincide with primary recharge zones (GIS map)
- Let us know if you are interested in having a site visit by a committee member
- Make your soil boring and well drilling logs available to the group so we can get a better idea of geology/hydrology
- Come to the next recharge meeting

To join this group or see if your land is ideal for recharge, please contact Seth Edman:
seth.edman@driscolls.com or 831-763-5173

Big Projects Group

To consider all big projects that might help reduce overdraft and balance the aquifer

First Meeting Attendees – August 25, 2010

- Frank Capurro, Capurro Co.
- Karen Christensen, RCDSCC
- Terry Corwin, SC Land Trust
- John Eiskamp, PVWMA Director
- Dave Koch, Watsonville Public Works
- Steve Palmisano, Watsonville Public Works
- Dick Peixoto, Farmer
- John Ricker, SC Co. Water Rec Agency
- Carol Presley, Santa Clara Co. Water District
- Chuck Allen, Farm Land Manager
- *James duBois, Reiter Affiliated – was unable to attend*

Co-Leads Chosen: Frank Capurro and Chuck Allen (also the note-taker)

Initial Focus and Scope

- Create a master list of potential projects:
 - *Take inventory of previous work*
 - *Weigh the feasibility and benefits of each project*
- Identify solutions that could ensure the fate of agriculture in the Valley while helping to reduce overdraft

List of Opportunities Group Will Consider

- Recycled Water
- Mid-County effluent to the Watsonville treatment plant to increase quantity
- Winter Water Storage
 - College & Pinto Lakes
 - Bolsa Canyon reservoir: Trafton Road
 - Spring storage in Pajaro River
- Connecting to the Castroville Irrigation Project
- Water Desalination from Moss Landing
- Murphy Crossing and Aptos Recharge projects
- Coastal Wells to pull salty water back toward the coast shore area
- Pipe surplus ground water from Santa Clara County-San Jose City

Identified Project Considerations

- Existing historical information and assumptions
- Timing
- Cost
- Potential short term and long term results
- Resources needed by the team need to appropriately contribute to the process

The challenge will be to identify projects that will work that the community can afford.

Next Steps for Group with Timeline

- Andy Fisher will be invited to address the group in the next meeting to answer questions and provide guidance
- Next meeting will be planned according to Andy Fisher's schedule for late September or early October at the City of Watsonville treatment facility on Beach Road

How can others participate or help?

Please contact Chuck Allen if you would like to join this working group chuckallenginc@gmail.com or 831-818-1069

Land Management and Irrigation Best Practices

Who Attended

- John E. Eiskamp (*Group leader*)
- Kelli Camara (*Note taker*)
- JJ Scurich (*Presenter*)
- Sam Cooley
- Dick Pexioto
- Ian Greene
- Stuart Kitiyama
- Estelle Basor
- Kent Morrison
- Dan Balbas

Overview of Focus and Scope

Conservation

Identification and definition of Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- Efficiency
- Cropping systems

Dialogue

- Landowner – tenant
- Grower

Conservation - Efficiency

Irrigation system design efficiency

- Hardware, distribution uniformity, etc.

Application efficiency

- Scheduling, amount applied

Opportunities

Continuing education system

- UCCE, RCD, etc.

Obstacles

Capital costs, additional management/expertise

Conservation cont'd – Cropping Systems

Identify range of historical crop water usage

Opportunities

- Target % reduction

Obstacles

- Participation
- Variability

Crop rotation/fallow systems

Opportunities

- Assess efficiency of systems

Obstacles

- Capital investment to fallow

Dialogue - Landowners and Tenants

Approx. **70%** of Ag acreage is tenant farmed

- Self preservation of both groups

Opportunities

- Venue for participation
- Create a system to keep land in permanent production

Obstacles

- Short/long term capital
 - Rent flexibility, financing
- Absentee landowners
 - Technological solutions to facilitate communication

Dialogue cont'd - Grower

- Data sharing
- Field trials
- Record keeping
- Management commitment

Opportunity or obstacle?

- Participation

Conclusion

Identification of conservation measures

Opportunities

- Decreased water consumption
- Create a sustainable system to keep land in production

Obstacles

- Participation
- Capital costs
- Additional management

Next Steps with Timeline

Target specific goals

- Creation of plan
- Dates?

Additional resources or information needed

- Increased participation (both parties)
- Contact lists
- Suggestions?

How can others participate or help?

Next meeting

- October 1st 1:30 at Farm Bureau office
- 141 Monte Vista Avenue

Who to contact to join

- John E. Eiskamp, jefarms@aol.com
- Kelley Bell, kelly.bell@driscolls.com

Communications and Information

Provide information about improving the Pajaro Valley aquifer

Who Attended First Meeting

- Dobie Jenkins – *Co-Chair*
- Dave Runsten – *Co-Chair*
- Mary Bannister
- Tisha Scurich
- Terry Corwin
- Stephen Slade
- Donna Bradford
- Bob Culbertson
- Kirk Schmidt
- John G. Eiskamp
- Rita Gordon
- Lisa Dobbins – *meeting support*

Focus and Scope

- Provide information about the overdraft problem
- Locate gaps in technical information and conduct research
- Be a reference center
- Provide communication link

List of Opportunities

- Compile and disseminate information developed by all PV Water Commitment work groups
- Assemble technical information about overdraft problem
- Document conservation efforts beyond those identified by other work groups
- Gather information about potential adjudication process
- Track overall PV Water Commitment effort
- Determine additional information needs

Identified Obstacles – *Feedback Please*

- Should we only be internal to the PV Water Commitment work groups and larger community group?
or
- Should we be a communication and information resource to the general public ?

Next Steps with Timeline

- Meet again to further refine goals and direction of the group based on feedback from today
 - Possible use of existing web site www.pajarowatershedinfo.org as one resource for information and links
- Additional resources or information needed
 - Staff support

How others can participate

- Next meeting – Monday, October 4, 1-3pm at City of Watsonville Old City Hall
- Whom to contact to join
 - Dobie Jenkins – ann_dobie@yahoo.com
 - Dave Runsten – dave@caff.org