



# Butte County Resource Conservation District Quarterly Newsletter, Winter 2009

*Butte County Resource Conservation District is leading the progress of working landscape and open space management in the county through unique and influential partnerships for the benefit of the citizens, the environment, and the economy.*

Our motto is cooperation, not regulation



## COLD STORAGE SCOPING MEETING

The BC-RCD is hosting a scoping meeting to discuss the regional needs for cold storage. The District hopes to apply for a grant to conduct a feasibility study for a regional local food cold storage facility. The scoping meeting will identify key partnerships, create a core workgroup, and consider monetary match requirements in order to prepare for the USDA grant application in 2010. The meeting is open to the public and will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm at the Butte County Farm Bureau, 2580 Feather River Blvd., Oroville. For more information, please contact BC-RCD at (530) 534- 0112 x 122.

## BC-RCD CONSIDERS LOGO CHANGE

The BC-RCD is debating whether or not to adopt the California Association of Resource Conservation District's logo. The statewide RCD logo would help align the BC-RCD with statewide efforts to promote local RCD's on the ground conservation programs. What do you think? The dragon fly can still be our mascot! Staff supports the change.



## HOLISTIC FINANCIAL PLANNING

The Butte and Glenn County RCDs are pleased to host Holistic Financial Planning Workshops for the public. The workshops are designed to help farmers and ranchers hone skills by developing financial plans to increase profitability. The workshops consist of four sessions that build upon each other. For more information, please visit [www.buttecountyrcd.org](http://www.buttecountyrcd.org) or contact the BC-RCD at (530) 534-0112 x 116. Pre-registration is required.

**Happy Holidays from the Butte County  
Conservation Partnership Office!**

## Upcoming BC-RCD Events:

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am– 12:00 pm

Cleantech Innovation Center

2015 Challenger Way

Oroville, CA 95965

### COLD STORAGE SCOPING MEETING

December 10<sup>th</sup>, 4 pm

BC Farm Bureau Conference Room

2580 Feather River Blvd.

Oroville, CA

Please come and let us know how we can serve the community's cold storage needs.

### WEED MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 10 am

BC Farm Bureau Conference Room

Butte County WMA Quarterly meeting to discuss current invasive species challenges.

### HOLISTIC FINANCIAL PLANNING SEMINARS

**January 26, February 2, 16, & 23**

Kick off the New Year by planning your finances to create more profit on your farm, ranch or dairy! The course will provide you with the tools you need to develop a successful financial planning strategy. The workshop is comprised of four sessions that build upon each other. **Space is limited so sign up early!**

## EQIP DEADLINE APPROACHING

The Natural Resources Conservation Service has announced the deadline for the 2010 Environmental Quality Incentives Program. The sign up deadline is January 15, 2010. Applicants are encouraged to meet with a conservation planner in our office to create a confidential conservation plan prior to submitting an application. Conservation Planning is a free service provided by the NRCS. For more information, contact the Butte County Conservation Partnership Office at (530) 534-0112 x 124 or visit <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/>.

## ANNUAL 2009 CARCD CONFERENCE

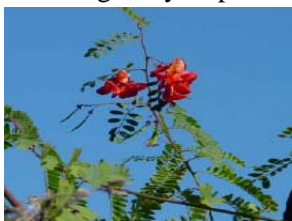
It was a rocky year for Resource Conservation Districts across the state. Many districts, including BC-RCD, struggled with grant freezes due to the state budget shortfalls. However, BC-RCD and other districts have held fast during this economic uncertainty and continued to provide excellent service. The 2009 California Association of Resource Conservation Districts conference was held in Squaw Valley. Tacy Currey, CARCD Executive Director, applauded the endurance and commitment of RCD directors, staff and volunteers who have worked vigorously to continue to put conservation on the ground throughout California. The BC-RCD is pleased to announce that two state grants have been restarted, including the Butte Creek Rural Roads grant and the Lower Feather River Watershed Assessment.

## SEEKING FARM CLEAN UP SITES!

The BC-RCD will be applying for CA Integrated Waste Management Board funds to clean up illegal dumpsites on farms and ranches. If you have an illegal dumpsite on your property, please contact the BC-RCD. We may be able to get it cleaned up for you. Funds can cover recycling of tires, appliances, metal and other waste as well as the installation of property gates to prevent further illegal dumping. Please contact our office, ASAP if you are interested in participating in the cleanup.

## RED SESBANIA BEWARE!

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has provided two grants to the BC-RCD to begin invasive species control on the Lower Feather River. The project targets red sesbania, a riparian noxious weed originally imported from South America as an



ornamental plant. The nasty culprit has escaped cultivation and created serious ecological havoc in several California watersheds. Red

sesbania creates dense thickets along riparian shores which out-compete the native plants and blocks riverbank access. The BC-RCD will be working with its partners beginning in 2010 to remove mature red sesbania plants as well as control seedling recruitment. Please call our office if you are interested in learning more!

## KID'S DAY ON THE FARM

The Butte County Conservation Partnership Office participated at the annual Kid's Day on the Farm, a component of the Butte County Farm City Celebrations. The Annual Farm City Celebrations are co-hosted by California Women for Agriculture. CWA invited over 300 local 3<sup>rd</sup> graders to the CSU, Chico University Farm for a day of **hands on** agricultural learning. Touch is so important!



Hootie gets up close and personal with the students!

## HELP US HELP YOU!!

**The BC-RCD benefits agricultural landowners directly.** Approximately, **\$35 million** of US Farm Bill conservation programs have been contracted directly to private landowners through the Butte County Conservation Partnership Office. Private landowners gain access to the Farm Bill conservation programs through their local Resource Conservation District. The more support the landowners show for their RCD, the stronger the Partnership Office can be to provide additional programs. The BC-RCD is 100% dependent upon grants and donations for its programs. Simply stated: No BC-RCD = No NRCS.

**The District is asking for your tax-deductible donation in order to continue to serve local landowners and local resources. If you would like to provide direct, tax-deductible financial support to the BC-RCD, please contact the Conservation Partnership Office at 530-534-0112 ex 122.**

- *Thank you, in advance, for your support of BC-RCD's commitment to locally lead conservation efforts.*
- *Charitable contributions to BC-RCD are tax deductible under section 170(c)(1) of the IRS Code.*