



## Butte County Resource Conservation District Quarterly Newsletter, Fall 2008



*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

### BC-RCD Says Thank You & Welcomes New Staff!

The Butte County Resource Conservation District would like to thank Joan Webster, our bookkeeper, for her many years of service. Joan's dedication and support to the BC-RCD has been fundamental in the growth of the district. The BC-RCD would like to



Victoria Tweedie- Office Manger/Bookkeeper welcome Victoria Tweedy as our new Office Manager and Bookkeeper. Victoria joins us from the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Butte County and has experience in grant bookkeeping. Victoria is a welcomed addition to our team.

### CARCD/ RC&DC 2008 Annual Conference

The BC-RCD joined fellow RCD's and Resource Conservation & Development Council's from around the state in the 2008 annual conference. The conference was held in Riverside and provided a collaborative environment for RCD's across the state. The California Secretary of Agriculture, A.G. Kawamura spoke at the conference and highlighted the importance of partnership in developing future programs. The BC-RCD and Caltrans participated in a well attended workshop to discuss the recent mitigation easement and the role RCD's can have as easement holders.

### Upcoming Events:

#### **NRCS Deadline Extended**

The Natural Resources Conservation Service has extended the deadline on the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program programs. Applications are due December 5<sup>th</sup>. For more information please contact the Oroville Field Office at 534-0112 x 124.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Rangeland Coalition Summit**

Registration is now open for the 4th Annual Summit of the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition scheduled for **January 8-9, 2009 in Chico, CA**. Don't miss this once a year opportunity where ranchers, land managers, agency staff and environmentalists come together to learn about cooperative conservation, current research on California's workings landscapes and much more. Visit [www.carangeland.org](http://www.carangeland.org) for more information.

#### **CWA Convention to be held in Butte County**

The California Women for Agriculture state convention is coming to Butte County! The Convention will be on **January 9-11** in Chico. For more information contact Colleen at 533- 1473.

#### **Small Farms Conference**

The California Small Farm Conference will be held on **March 1-3** in Sacramento. The conference aims to bring together small farmers as well as those who support them. The NRCS is also offering scholarships to attend the conference. For more information about the conference and scholarship opportunities visit <http://www.californiafarmconference.com/joomla/>.

#### **Issues Facing Pollinators Workshop**

BC-RCD is hosting a pollinators workshop discussing issues effecting both European honey bees and native pollinators. The workshop will be held on **January 23, 2009 from 9-12**. Contact BC-RCD at 534-0112 x 116 for more information.

#### **UCCE Water Quality and Livestock Management workshops**

UCCE is hosting a series of workshops throughout the North State addressing water quality, range, pasture, and livestock management. Contact UCCE at 530-639-8800 for more information.

### Conservation Easement for Endangered Species

Butte County Resource Conservation District in partnership with Caltrans and a local landowner will be managing the Cottonwood Mitigation Easement as part of advanced mitigation for future Caltrans projects. This conservation area will be managed in perpetuity to maintain the species composition found on the property. The easement benefits both the landowner, whom can continue to manage and, graze the property, and the endangered species, as they will continue to have habitat available. The partnership is the first of a working relationship between Caltrans and the BC-RCD.



Cottonwood Conservation Easement - Jeff Swindle, Caltrans

### BC-RCD 2008 Road Work Nearing Completion

The Butte Creek Implementation Project is completing work for the 2008 season. In 2008 the BC-RCD and its partners have worked on Humboldt Road, Forest Service Road 26N07, and Doe Mill Road. The treatments are designed to improve water quality in storm events by reducing erosion in the Butte Creek Watershed. Humboldt road treatments included replacement and installation of 13 culverts and 3 rolling dips as well as outsloping and gravel surfacing. This work was completed in partnership with the Butte County Public Works department, NRCS and the US Forest Service. The treatments are designed to aid in road drainage and reduction in sedimentation. A treatment on Forest Service Road 26N07 on Colby Creek was implemented by the US Forest Service. A culvert was replaced by a plate arch culvert which will allow a greater volume of water from Colby Creek to pass through without causing erosion of the road surface above. The major treatments for Doe Mill road, including culvert upgrades, are completed. Additional work is scheduled to be completed before the end of the year and will involve cleaning



Culvert installation on Doe Mill Road by BLM the inboard ditches as well as compacting and gravel surfacing 0.75 miles of road. The BC-RCD and its partners will continue to implement storm proofing treatments on the south side of Doe Mill road and Humbug road in summer 2009.

### Draft Lower Feather Watershed Assessment Available for Review

The administrative draft of the Lower Feather River/Honcut Creek Existing Conditions Assessment is available for review. Please follow the link below if you are interested in reviewing the document. [http://www.scrd.org/programs/lfr\\_draft.pdf](http://www.scrd.org/programs/lfr_draft.pdf) Written comments can be submitted to the Sutter County Resource Conservation District at [Larry.Lloyd@ca.nacdn.net](mailto:Larry.Lloyd@ca.nacdn.net) no later than Monday, December 8th. A public advisory meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9th from 1-4pm at the Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau, 475 Palora Ave., Yuba City, CA 95991. For more information contact BC-RCD at 534-0012 x 116.

### Pollinators Workshop

BC-RCD is pleased to announce Issues Facing Pollinators Workshop. The workshop aims to provide information on issues facing European honey bees as well as native pollinators. The workshop will be held **January 23, 2009 from 9-12**. The workshop will include talks by experts in honey and native bees, followed by a panel discussion of local efforts to enhance pollinator populations. For more information and to RSVP contact BC-RCD at 534-0112 x 116 or [alexis-vertolli@carcd.org](mailto:alexis-vertolli@carcd.org).

