Watershed Information Center & Conservancy (WICC) Board of Napa County

Joint GRAC-WICC Meeting
July 26, 2012

www.napawatersheds.org
WICC Overview

- Role & Responsibility
- Membership & Meetings
- Key Programs/Efforts
  - Education & Outreach
  - Policy Monitoring
  - Watershed Projects/Monitoring
  - Funding Opportunities
- Future Goals & Efforts
Role & Responsibility

- WICC Board created in 2002
- Advisory committee to the Board of Supervisors
- Conduit for citizen input regarding watershed resources, and
- Supports data collection, analysis and monitoring efforts related to the health of our watersheds

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Membership & Meetings

◆ **WICC Membership**
  
  − Diverse community representation
  
  − 17 members (originally 14)
    ◆ Council Member from Cities/Towns
    ◆ Board of Supervisors
    ◆ Planning Commissioner
    ◆ Land Trust/RCD/NRCS
    ◆ Farming/Agriculture Industry
    ◆ Environmental Interest Groups
    ◆ Business/Wine Industry

◆ **Meetings**

  − 4th Thursday alternate months

[www.napawatersheds.org](http://www.napawatersheds.org)
Key WICC Programs

◆ Provide Education & Outreach
  – WICC WebCenter
  – Public Involvement/Events

◆ Monitor Federal, State & Regional Policies
  – Water Board, EPA & Other Agencies

◆ Support Watershed Projects
  – Monitoring & Assessment
  – Restoration & Conservation
  – Planning & Management

◆ Pursue Funding Opportunities
  – Partners & Grant Collaboration
Education & Outreach

- Bi-Annual Watershed Symposium
- Hosting Public Meetings/Forums
  - WICC, Issue/Tech Forums, Project Mtgs
- Participation in Events
  - Earth Day, River Fest, others
- Public Speaking
  - Class Rooms, Organizations, Groups
Policy Monitoring

- State & Regional Water Boards
- California/Federal EPA
- Legislative actions/bills
- Policy workgroup involvement
- Attendance at key meetings
- Updates to Boards, staff & public

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Watershed Monitoring & Program Development

- Supported habitat & fisheries assessments countywide (2003-Present)
- Developed monitoring strategy (2005)
- Identified/prioritized watersheds (2007)
- Developed watershed goals & monitoring indicators (2009)
- Developed/applied EPA’s Watershed Assessment Framework (2010)

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Focus on Fisheries

Key indicator of watershed health

- Stream surveys & habitat assessments
- Barrier assessment & prioritization
- Salmon redd & carcass counts
- DNA testing
- Out migration monitoring

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Project Support

- **Funding & Grant Support**
  - Announcements, letters, partnerships, cost-share, coordination

- **Building Capacity & Coordination**
  - Promotion & outreach
  - Implementation & collaboration
  - Reporting & dissemination

- **Example Projects**

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Napa River Outmigration Monitoring
Rotary Screw Trap
Napa River Restoration Project
Rutherford Reach (RDRT)

Reach 8 and Sequoia Grove Area Design
Napa River Restoration Project
Oakville to Oak Knoll Reach

• Conceptual Plan completed and landowner kickoff held early 2011
• Received EPA grant to support Phase 1 design ($395,000)
• Consultant selected for CEQA Review
• First phase of project will involve Arundo removal
Zinfandel Bridge Fish Passage Improvement Project

• Construction completed in October 2011
• Supported by a grant from the Coastal Conservancy ($400,000)
• Now provides unrestricted fish passage to over 20 miles of upstream river spawning habitat and over 60 miles of upstream tributary spawning habitat
TMDL Implementation: Reducing sediment delivery to Napa River by improving rural roads

• Erosion sources prioritized in Sulphur and Carneros Creek watersheds with Stewardship Groups in 2004

• Priority sites treated in both watersheds between 2009 and 2011

• Episodic and chronic erosion sources addressed

• 11.2 miles of rural roads storm-proofed (half of priority mileage)

Replacing culverts and armoring stream crossings reduces episodic erosion
Historical Ecology &

“Re-Oaking of the Valleys”....

- Look for opportunities to reintroduce oaks into our existing landscapes (parks and trails, streetscapes, landscaping, projects, & others)

- Public Outreach, grant assistance, and other steps to begin the journey....
What's Next for............

Napa County Watersheds

• Support for watershed projects, assessments & monitoring
• On-going monitoring of water & watershed policies
• Build partnerships for effective communication & coordination
• Seek funding in support of the mission of the WICC and directive of the Board