# TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Introduction**

**2012 - 2013 Programs and Projects**

**Strategic Program Preferences – Priority Areas – Priority Conservation Concerns**

**Board of Directors – Staff – Contact Information**

**Income by Source**

The following information is deemed truthful and accurate to the best of our knowledge. This document is not to be used during an audit. For audit records please contact the District.
**INTRODUCTION**

The Ventura County Resource Conservation District (RCD) serves as liaison for natural resource conservation between local landowners, regulatory agencies, and municipalities.

We have the authority to carry out our goals and objectives as a Special District organized under the California Public Resources Code Division 9.

Priority issues include preservation of Agriculture, open space advocacy, outreach and education on water resources, watershed protection, watershed restoration, control and/or eradication of invasive species, evaluating the potential impacts of loss of wildlife habitat, and maintaining air quality.

The Mission of the RCD is to collaborate with landowners, government agencies, and other willing partners to facilitate the conservation, sustainability and restoration of Ventura County’s natural resources.

Our function is:
To make available technical, financial, and educational resources, whatever their source, and focus or coordinate them so that they meet the needs of the local land managers for the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources.

The District Board, comprised of local landowner volunteers, dedicates their personal time to represent the community on natural resource concerns.

The District is funded by grants, fee for service programs, and contributions.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Dollar Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Lab Irrigation Efficiency Evaluation Program</td>
<td>226,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This program assists producers with orchards, row crops or nurseries by evaluating the efficiency of their irrigation systems and implementing Best Management Practices to improve system efficiency. This program helps shoulder the burden of BMP expenses through use of a cost-sharing approach to the purchase of new equipment and through leveraging other cost-sharing programs provided by water purveyors. 100’s of acres and 30+ producers have been assisted over this past fiscal year in the Ventura, Santa Clara, and Calleguas Creek Watersheds.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater Quality BMP</td>
<td>42,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The BMP Program offers services free-of-charge to Ventura County’s horse and livestock operators for review and implementation of Best Management Practices related to Storm Water Quality. This program also promotes education and outreach on water quality issues. The RCD facilitated 13 community meetings of a Horse and Livestock Watershed Alliance group in the Ojai area to address to new regulations. Primary funding for this program is provided by the Ventura County Watershed Protection District.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and Outreach</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The RCD hosted 250+ attendees to education classes on irrigation efficiency and nutrient management. This program is a part of the RCD’s larger effort related to storm water quality, water use efficiency and nutrient management. In addition we are working with community members on education and outreach related to Ventura River TMCLs and the subsequent impact of landowners in the watershed.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal Clean-Up Day</td>
<td>19,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The RCD serves as fiscal agent for this annual event. There are numerous stakeholders including local non-profit groups, cities and other government entities. This is the largest single volunteer event annually in California. 2012 Ventura County volunteers numbered 2,900 and collected 10,537 pounds of trash from Ventura County Beaches and Rivers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hillside Erosion Control Ordinance</td>
<td>7,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This program assists landowners with the installation of Best Management Practices on hillsides to reduce erosion, minimize run-off and improve water quality. Funding for administration of this program comes from the Ventura County Watershed Protection District. Over 300 acres were assisted through this program in the last fiscal year. The program is being revised as part of the County’s new grading ordinance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>255,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations include grant invoicing, accounting, human resources, funding development, program development, Board Meetings, and related work items. Core operating support for District is provided by local donors, rental income, and a $38,000 stipend from the County of Ventura.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL** $553,000
The RCD is actively involved with the programs and entities listed below in either a fee-for-service capacity, as a stakeholder, as a lead agency, or by other means.

Calleguas Creek and Upper Santa Clara River Arundo Removal Programmatic Permit Programs
These Programs were developed to reduce the regulatory burden on landowners wishing to remove invasive species within Calleguas Creek and the Upper Santa Clara River Watershed. The RCD is the permit holder and responsible party ensuring that project proponents meet the requirements for these permits.

Ventura County Natural Floodplain Working Group
The Nature Conservancy recently received a grant in the amount of $3.5 million to purchase inundation easements from landowners on the Santa Clara River as part of a natural floodplain management, water quality improvement, and habitat restoration program. RCD serves as a stakeholder in this program. Other stakeholders include the Nature Conservation, VC Farm Bureau, VC Watershed Protection District, and the NRCS.

RCD Annual Ag Appreciation BBQ
This annual event hosted by the RCD is supported by Rabobank and others as recognition of the important contribution agriculture makes to the economic, cultural, and environmental health of Ventura County. The 2012 event was attended by 250 local farmers, ranchers, agency personnel and businessmen.

RCD - Food Share Annual Awards Luncheon
With support from Montecito Bank & Trust and others, Food Share and the RCD host an annual Award for Excellence Luncheon. In consultation with VC Farm Bureau, Ag Futures Alliance, VC Cattleman’s Association and others, the RCD and Food Share present Awards for Excellence in Agricultural Sustainability and Stewardship, and Excellence in Leadership. This annual event draws 200 attendees from the local agricultural community, community leaders and sponsors.

Additional Organizations/Groups which the RCD participates in include:

Watershed Coalition of Ventura County
Ventura River Watershed Council
Santa Clara River Watershed Committee
Calleguas Creek Steering Committee
Ventura County Weed Management Area
Ventura County Cattleman’s Association
VC Agricultural Irrigated Lands Group
Farm Bureau Ventura County
Horse and Livestock Watershed Alliance
Ojai Bio-digester Feasibility Study
AWA Water Issues Committee
**STRATEGIC PROGRAM PREFERENCES**

- Agriculture preservation and conservation
- Water quality and efficiency
- Watershed Planning and Management
- Monitoring and evaluation of conservation projects
- Conservation planning
- Programmatic permit coordination and development
- Coordination of urban/rural interface
- Education and Outreach

**PRIORITY AREAS**

- Ventura County Agricultural Land
- Ventura River Watershed
- Santa Clara River Watershed
- Calleguas Creek Watershed
- Coastal Watersheds
- Malibu Creek

**PRIORITY CONSERVATION CONCERNS**

- Urban and Rural interface
- Water Resources: conservation and quality
- Soil Resources: conservation and erosion control
- Habitat Resources: conservation and restoration
- Flooding Hazards: stream bank conservation and invasive plant removal
- Wildfire Hazards: fuel loading
- Agricultural resources
- Grazing resources
- Livestock Management
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Mobley, President
Victor Contreras, Secretary/Treasurer
Doug Nelson
Bud Sloan
Chris DeVan
Kevin Cannon
Mike Richardson
Steve Murata
Mark Mooring

RCD STAFF

Martin Melvin, Executive Officer
Debra Gillis, Director of Finance and Operations
Vic Akundzadeh, Irrigation Program
Sonya Webb, District Engineer
Katie Haldeman, Environmental Scientist
Dana Bogdanich, Environmental Specialist
Katrina Stotesbery, Administration
Jamie Whiteford, BMP Specialist

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing: P.O. Box 147
Office: 3380 Somis Road
Somis CA 93066
805-764-5130

WWW.CONSERVEVENTURA.ORG

The Resource Conservation District Ventura County prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status or any other protected classes. The Resource Conservation District Ventura County is an equal opportunity provider and employer.
2012 - 2013 Income

- Private Contributions, $186,300
- Rents, $15,887
- Other, $6,248
- Fee For Service, $12,129
- Government Funds, $87,000
- Government Grants, $245,651