

# CALIFORNIA RANGELAND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

19 slides: OVERHEAD SET

George Gough or a rancher often do  
this talk

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# CALIFORNIA'S RANGELAND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

## Range Livestock Industry Responds to Clean Water Issues



In 1989 the Range Management  
Advisory Committee (RMAC) to the  
State Board of Forestry Identified  
Water Quality as a High Priority Issue

# Range Management Advisory Committee Membership

- California Cattlemen's Association
- California Farm Bureau Federation
- California Woolgrowers Association
- California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
- Watershed Fire Council of Southern California
- Public Members with knowledge of rangeland resources

1990 - RMAC formed a Technical Committee  
charged with finding out how the range livestock  
industry could voluntarily respond to clean water  
issues

# Technical Committee

- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- University of California Cooperative Extension
- CDF Forest & Rangeland Assessment Program
- State Water Resources Control Board

# Water Quality Laws

- Clean Water Act
- Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments
- Porter-Cologne Act

Porter-Cologne Act provides for a  
three tiered approach to achieving  
water quality objectives



# Three Tiered Approach

- Tier 1 - Voluntary Implementation of Management Measures
- Tier 2 - Regulatory Based Encouragement of Management Measures
- Tier 3 - Effluent Requirements/Waste Discharge Permits

Voluntary Approach was recommended to  
RMAC by the Technical Committee and  
the State Water Resources Control Board

RMAC and the Technical Committee began to develop a voluntary process of planning and implementation which became the  
**California Rangeland Water Quality  
Management Plan**

**Purpose**

The purpose of the CRWQMP is to provide a process individual ranchers or groups of ranchers can follow to plan for the maintenance of beneficial uses of surface water as it passes through and out of California's private rangelands

# California Rangeland Water Quality Management Plan 1993

- Consultant hired with funds from the SWRCB
- Consultant combined technical information with policy sections to form a draft of the California Rangeland Water Quality Management Plan
- Advisory committee comprised of representatives of agriculture, agencies and conservation organizations reviewed and revised the plan

# California Rangeland Water Quality Management Plan 1994

- Consultant conducts 18 public review meetings where local landowners made input to the draft plan
- Industry groups approved plan
- U.C. Cooperative Extension tests the first water quality planning short course in Mendocino County



# California Rangeland Water Quality Management Plan 1995

- Range Management Advisory Committee approves plan
- State Water Resources Control Board Approves Plan
- Marin Coastal Watershed Enhancement Project conducts Ranch Water Quality Planning Short Course

# Five Elements

- Inventory of Resources
- Nonpoint Assessment
- Development of Management Strategy
- Implementation of Practices
- Monitoring Procedures



# Additional Items

- Glossary of Terms
- Sample Water Quality Management Plans
- Items to Monitor & Methodology
- Sources of Funding & Technical Assistance

# Implementing the CRWQMP

- Ranch Water Quality Planning Short Course - UCCE and NRCS
- Landowners can complete water quality plans without the short course. Some may hire consultants to prepare plans.

# DEVELOPING CALIFORNIA'S RANGELAND WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (CRWQMP)

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- 1994 - Industry groups approved plan
- 1995 - Range Management Advisory Committee approves plan
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