

On Ranch Conservation Practice Implementation and Effectiveness – The Conservation Partnership in Marin County, California



David J. Lewis 2nd Annual Rangeland Science Symposium
UCCE Watershed Management Advisor January 24, 2013



**A Half Century of Stewardship: programmatic review of
conservation by Marin RCDD & partner organizations
(1959-2009)**

Marin Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 1146, Point Reyes Station CA 94956
(415) 663-1170, <http://www.marinrcd.org/>

MARIN RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

University of California Cooperative Extension
1682 Novato Boulevard Suite 150-B, Novato CA 94947
(415) 459-4204, <http://ucanr.edu/ucce/>

UC
CE

2011

David Lewis, UCCE
Michael Lennox, UCCE
Nancy Scolari, MRCD
Liza Prunuske, PCI
Charlette Epifanio, NRCS

- Charlette Epifanio, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Paul Sheffer, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service retired
- Earl Holtz, Sonoma County Farm Bureau
- Felicia Hanley, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Chester Gin, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service retired
- Lisa Velasquez, Farm Service Agency
- John Parodi, Students & Teachers Restoring A Watershed
- Tom Gardali, PRBO Conservation Science
- Mike Rugg, California Department of Fish and Game retired
- Mike Jensen, Prunuske Chatham, Inc.
- Harold Appleton, Prunuske Chatham, Inc.
- Liza Prunuske, Prunuske Chatham, Inc.
- Lee Erickson, Erickson Engineering
- Greg Andrew, Marin Municipal Water District
- John DiGregoria, Point Reyes National Seashore
- Brannon Ketcham, Point Reyes National Seashore
- Liz Lewis, Marin County Department of Public Works
- Laurie Williams, Marin County Department of Public Works
- Leslie Ferguson, San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board
- Merv McDonald, McDonald Family Ranch
- Sharron Doughty, Point Reyes Vineyard
- Gary Giacomini, Marin County Supervisor retired
- Larry Serpa, The Nature Conservancy
- Gary Fellers, US Geologic Survey Western Ecological Research Center
- John Wick, Marin Carbon Project
- Patricia Hickey, Marin Agricultural Land Trust

Contributors

Riparian Zone Monitoring Plan



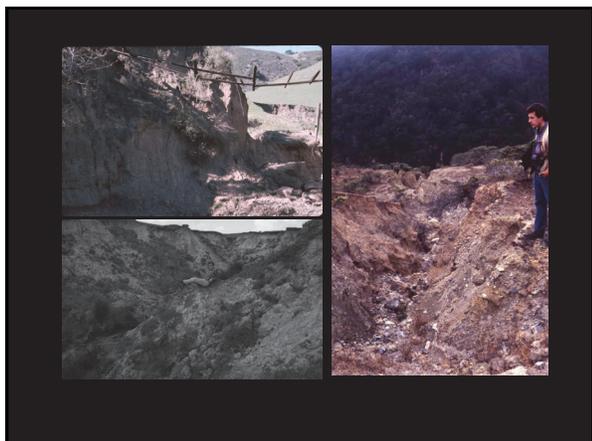
Prepared for:
Marin Resource Conservation District
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April 2010

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“The principle aim of this district is to effect, gradually but surely, a steady improvement in the use of Marin County’s vital resources of soil, water, vegetation, and wildlife. It is our firm conviction that the land of this district should be so used that it will produce crops and livestock of good quality, in amounts commensurate with land-use capabilities, permanently without soil depletion. . . . Our district has been formed to serve its landowners at their request, with no thought of domination or interference with their affairs, but to assist them in making the safest and most efficient use of their farms and ranches.”

Conservation Program & Work Plan, 1959
 MARIN COUNTY
 SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT
 MARIN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
 AUGUST 1959

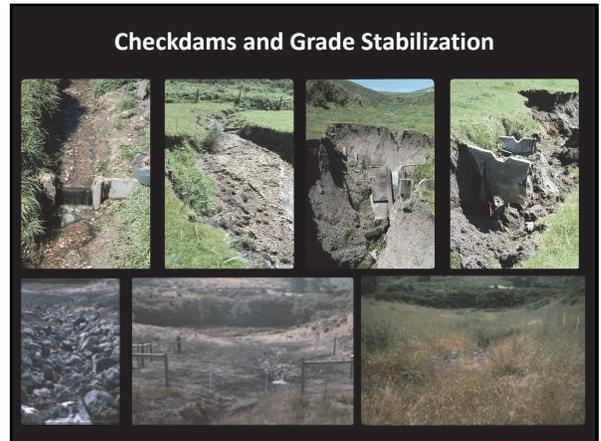
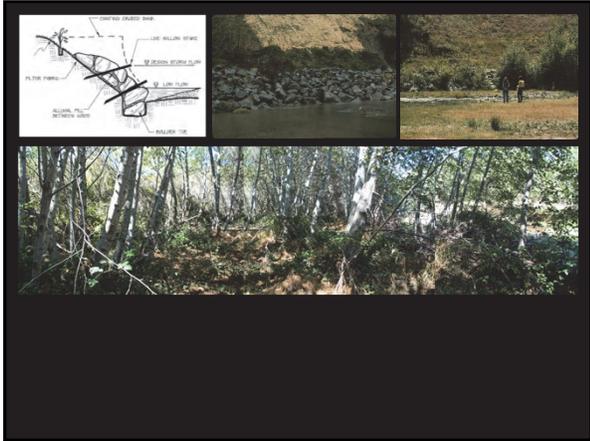
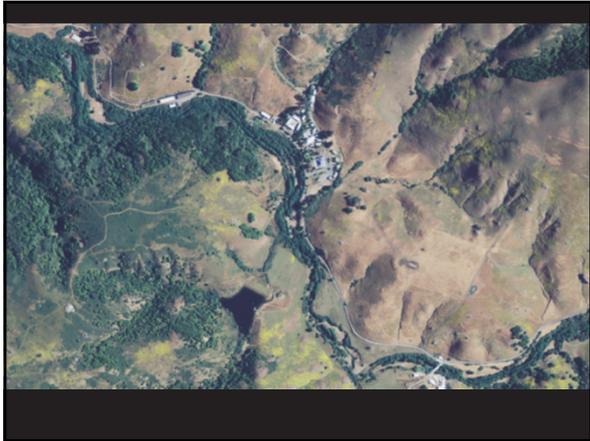
• Waldo Giacomini (President)	1959 – 1990
• Domingo Grossi, Jr.	1959 – 1973
• David Leveroni, Jr.	1959 – 1973
• Louis Albini	1959 – 1977
• Thomas Furlong, Jr.	1959 – 1971
• Walter Weyman	1971 – 1975
• Donald McIsaac (President)	1973 – 1996
• William Barboni	1973 – 1995
• Otto Quast	1975 – 1989
• Edward Pozzi	1977 – 2000
• Richard Plant	1989 – 2013
• Hank Corda (President)	1990 – present
• Sally Gale	1996 – present
• Robert Giacomini	1997 – present
• Steve Doughty	2000 – present
• Terry Sawyer	2013 – present

Partners

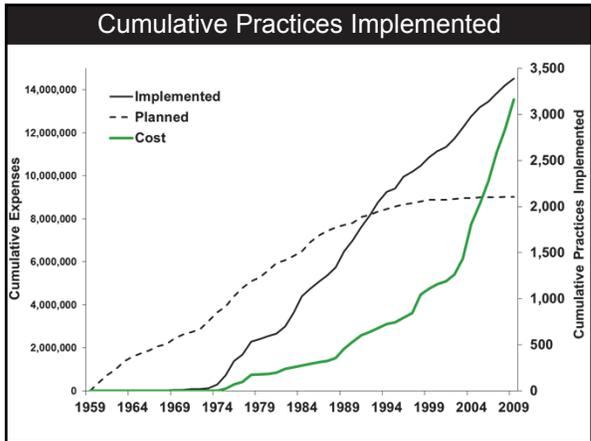
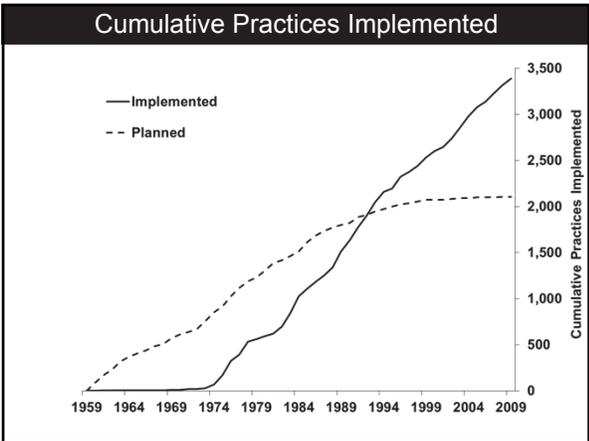
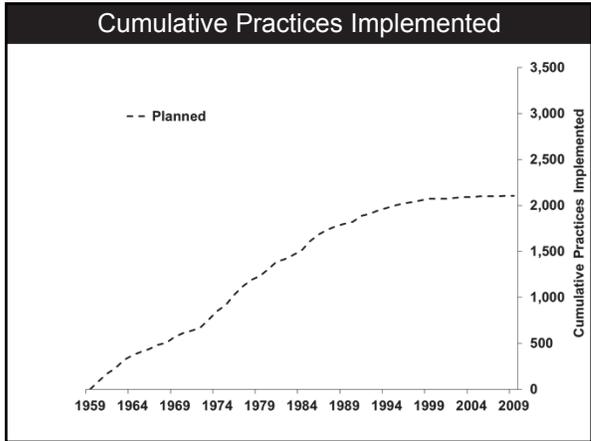
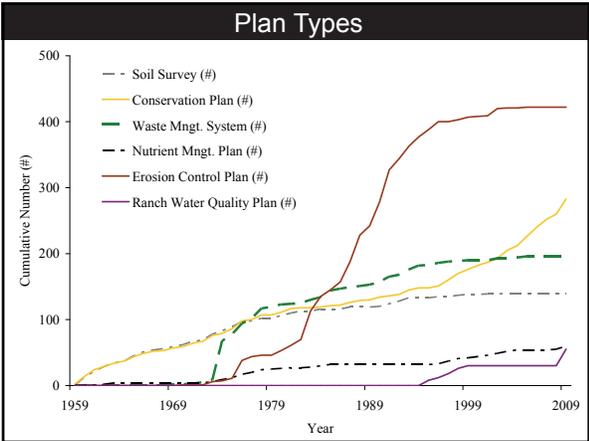
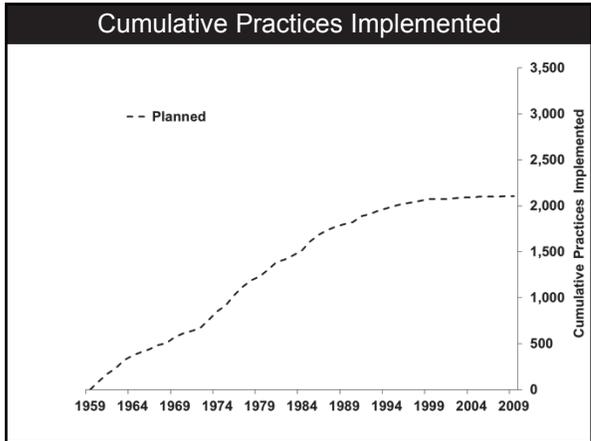
- Association of Bay Area Governments
- Bella Vista Foundation
- Ca. Association of Resource Conservation Districts
- Ca. Cattlemen’s Association
- Ca Dept. of Fish and Game
- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Ca Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Ca. Department of Conservation
- Ca. State Parks
- Ca. Wildlife Conservation Board
- Conservation Corps North Bay – previously Marin Conservation Corps
- County of Marin
- David L. Klein Foundation
- Dean Witter Foundation
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Gold Ridge RCD
- Hog Island Oyster Company
- Inverness Foundation
- Lagunitas Creek Advisory Group
- Lagunitas Creek Citizens Advisory Committee
- Lia Fund
- Marin Agricultural Land Trust
- Marin Community Foundation – previously Buck Fund
- Marin County Agricultural Commissioner
- Marin County Department of Public Works MCSTOPPP (Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program)
- Marin County Fire Department
- Marin County Farm Bureau
- Marin Municipal Water District
- Marin Organic
- National Fish and Wildlife Federation
- North Marin Water District
- Point Reyes National Seashore
- Point Reyes National Seashore Association
- Point Reyes National Seashore Ranchers’ Assoc.
- Prunuske Chatham, Inc.
- Rathman Family Foundation
- Salmon Protection & Watershed Network
- San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
- San Francisco Foundation
- Sotoyome RCD
- Southern Sonoma County RCD
- State Coastal Conservancy
- State Water Resources Control Board
- Stemple Creek Landowners Group
- STRAW (Students Teachers Restoring A Watershed) – previously Shrimp Club
- Sustainable Conservation
- Tomales Bay Agriculture Group
- Tomales Bay Association
- Tomales Bay Watershed Council
- Trout Unlimited
- University of California Cooperative Extension
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service – previously Agriculture Soil Conservation Service
- Walker Creek Watershed Landowner Group
- Western United Dairymen



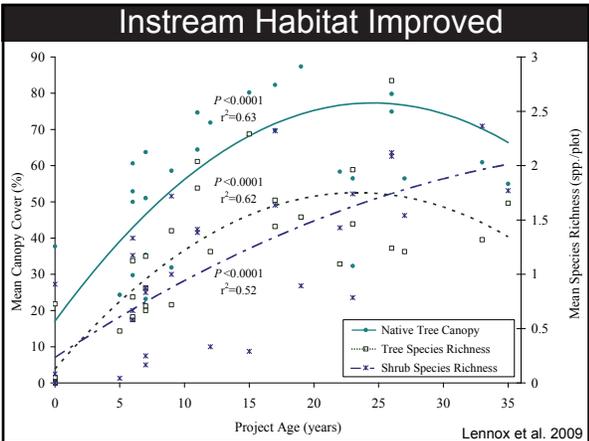
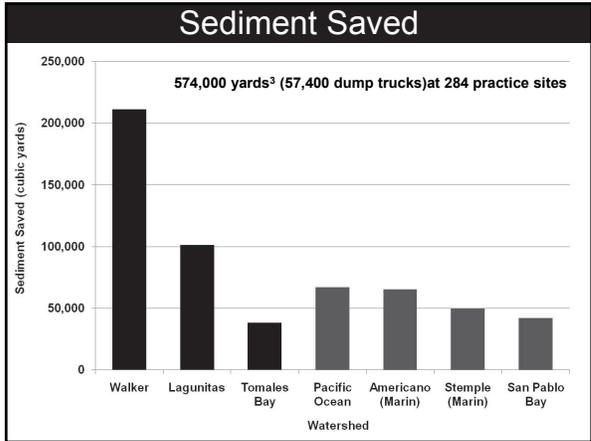
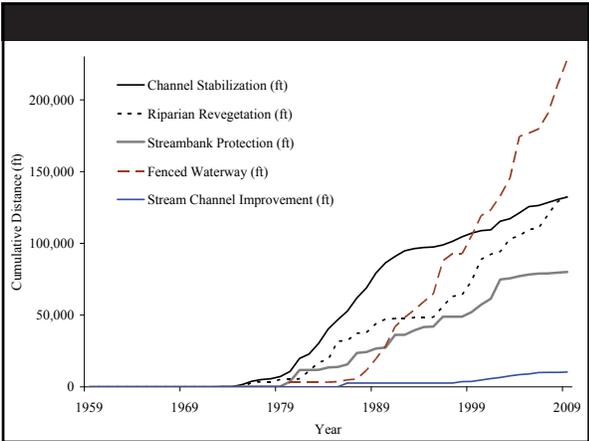
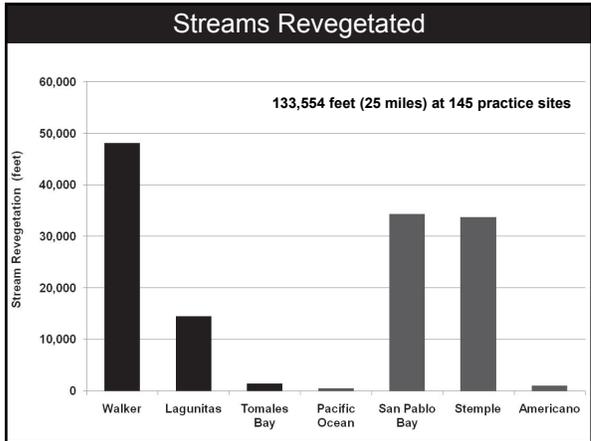
“All of our work is done in a cooperative basis and in the spirit of trust and working together to improve our lands. We appreciate all of the landowners who have allowed us to do erosion control on their property.... We must continue to care for and improve what we have, so it will be available for future generations to enjoy.” - Don McIsaac 1990



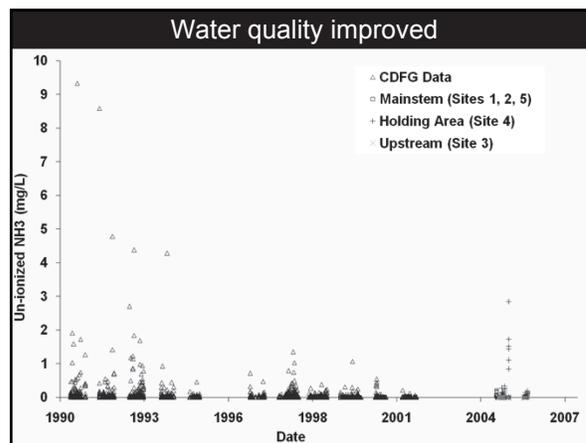
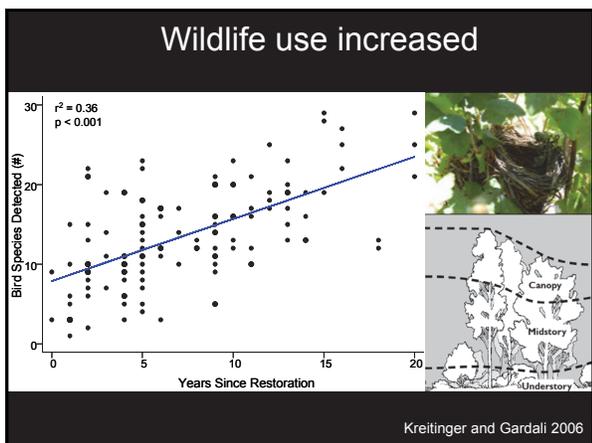
Implementation Monitoring



Effectiveness Monitoring



Validation Monitoring



Your Conservation Partnership

- Using monitoring to document and tell the story
 - Implementation
 - Effectiveness
 - Validation

University of California
Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources
<http://www.ranlab.ucdavis.edu>

Publication 8363 | May 2008

Developing a Monitoring Program for Riparian Revegetation Projects

DAVID LEWIS, Integrated Management Systems, University of California Cooperative Extension, Sonoma County; MICHAEL LENOIR, Staff Research Associate, University of California Cooperative Extension, Sonoma County; SARAH NOSSAMAN, Staff Research Associate, University of California Cooperative Extension, Sonoma County.

INTRODUCTION
Restoring native vegetation along the banks of streams and rivers is one of the primary strategies used to improve riparian habitat and protect soil and water resources (Bull 2003). Restoring native vegetation, however, is a complex task that requires a partnership of private landowners, conservation professionals, and resource agencies. This report provides a framework for developing a monitoring program to evaluate the effectiveness of riparian revegetation projects. It includes information on the process of developing a monitoring program, the types of data to collect, and the importance of involving private landowners in the process.

<http://www.ucanr.org/freepubs/docs/8363.pdf>

Marin Conservation Partnership Summary

- Over 330 landowners participating in cost-share programs or receiving technical assistance
- 1,393 plans developed
- 3,579 conservation practices implemented
- Landowners participating in the this Conservation Partnership:
 - fenced more than 43 miles of stream for livestock management,
 - stabilized 25 miles of channel including over 472 headcut repairs,
 - protected 15 miles of streambank,
 - revegetated 25 miles of riparian forest with over 35,372 native trees and shrubs planted.
- Restored habitat, ecological functions and hydrologic processes
- Controlled approximately 669,243 cubic yards of sediment
- Experienced increases in weaning weights