

**Dixon/Solano Coalition
July 2017 - June 2018 Finances**

Total Income 07/17— 06/18	\$ 411,640
Membership Fees (\$3.00/acre)	\$ 381,128
Newly Enrolled Parcel Fees	\$ 26,332
Interest + Misc. Revenue	\$ 4,180
Total Expenses 07/17—06/18	\$ 442,782
RCD Staff	\$ 144,045
RCD Direct Costs	\$ 14,411
Surface Water Monitoring	\$ 100,436
Groundwater/Reporting Requirements	\$ 49,358
SVWQC Fees	\$ 21,622
State Board Fees (87cents/acre)	\$ 112,910
Fund Balance 07/18	\$ 157,589

**Dixon/Solano Coalition
Projected July 2018 - June 2019 Finances**

Budgeted Income 07/18—06/19	\$ 488,803
Membership Fees (\$3.75/acre)	\$ 486,803
Interest	\$ 2,000
Budgeted Expenses 07/18—06/19	\$ 562,059
RCD Staff	\$ 160,386
RCD Direct Costs	\$ 14,150
Surface Water Monitoring	\$ 128,200
Groundwater/Reporting Requirements	\$ 107,500*
SVWQC Fees	\$ 28,500
State Board Fees (95 cents/acre)	\$ 123,323
Fund Balance 06/19 (projected)	\$ 84,333

* includes one-time \$40,000 start up cost for online data tool

(Biennial financial audits of Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition are posted on our website.)

Servicios de Traducción en Español!

La Coalición de Calidad de Agua de RCD Dixon/Solano (RCD Water Quality Coalition) ofrece servicios de traducción al español a nuestros miembros. En Enero del 2019 vamos a ofrecer dos sesiones de dos horas cada una en la oficina con servicios de traducción en que los miembros pueden recibir asistencia para completar los formularios de cobertura agrícola, aprender más acerca de las prácticas recomendadas para proteger la calidad del agua y la disponibilidad de asistencia técnica:

Ubicación: 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110. Se necesita RSVP (Confirmar asistencia)

* Lunes 7 de Enero de 6:00pm - 8:00pm
* Sábado 12 de Enero de 9:00am - 11:00am

Si quiere registrarse para una de la sesiones por favor envíe un correo electrónico kelly-huff@dixonrcd.org o llame a Kelly al (707) 678-1655 Ext 102

**FREE Technical Assistance Visits
Would you like advice on Water Quality and Erosion Control Practices?**

Through a USDA NRCS grant, Dixon and Solano RCD staff are available to visit your property, review your water quality records and provide advice and tips on water quality protection and erosion control practices and write up a conservation plan that can be used in applications for financial assistance programs. If you are interested in a site visit from RCD or USDA NRCS. Sign-up at:

<https://www.dixonrcd.org/copy-of-sign-up-for-farm-help>

DIXON RCD BOARD

Dave Viguie
Sam Beukelman
Spencer Bei
Chope Gill
Vacant
Jim Campbell, Associate
Leo Soukeris, Associate

SOLANO RCD BOARD

Joe Martinez
Paul Lum
Kurt Balasek
Darrell Hill
John Knowles
Randi Thompson
Glenda Riddle
Terry Riddle, Associate
Kathi Stutz, Associate

COALITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bruce Brazelton
Joe Martinez
Cork McIsaac
Paul Lum
Guy Garcia
Rick Martinez
Spencer Bei
Dave Viguie
Chope Gill

Dixon/Solano Resource Conservation District Water Quality Coalition

1170 N. Lincoln Street, Suite 110
Dixon, CA 95620
(707) 678-1655

John Currey, District Manager, Dixon RCD · Chris Rose, Executive Director, Solano RCD

Kelly Huff, Project Manager
kelly-huff@dixonrcd.org
(707) 678-1655 x102

Martha McKeen, Membership Coordinator
martha-mckeen@dixonrcd.org
(707) 678-1655 x103

Visit us at: www.dixonrcd.org/irrigated-lands

**DIXON/SOLANO RCD
WATER QUALITY COALITION**



Volume 13 ~ Issue 1

ANNUAL UPDATE

October 2018

Coalition Expenses

Member Fee Increase to \$3.75/acre →

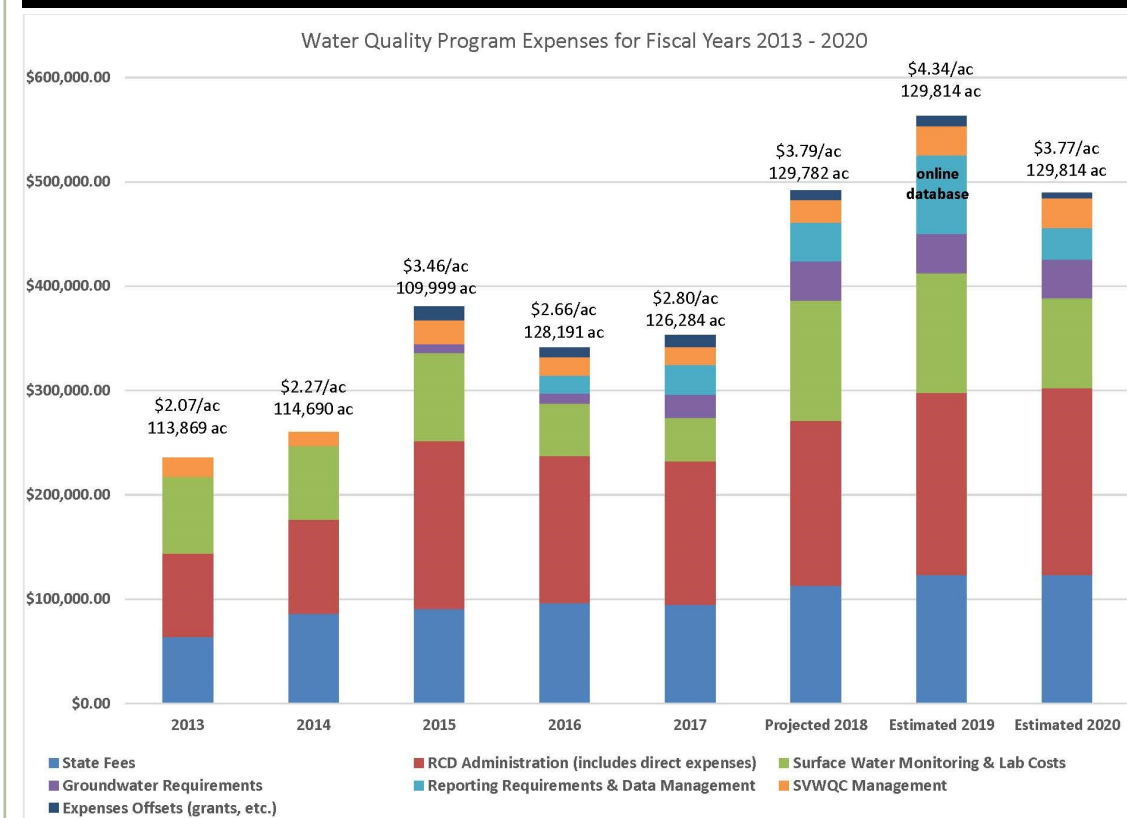
The decision to raise member fees by .75 cents per acre was made by the two RCD Boards of Directors with input from the Advisory Committee Members as well as staff. Annual expenses have fluctuated significantly over the last five years in response to the new requirements that began in 2014. We have been able to delay and moderate increases in fees up until now through a combination of additional income from new acreage enrolling as well as delays in some of the expenses for new requirements. The Coalition's objective continues to be to keep the program as cost-effective as possible and to reduce year to year fluctuations in fees. The intent with the new fee rate is to maintain this rate for multiple years without another increase. We continue to achieve significant cost savings by being in a Regional Coalition (Sac Valley). See back page for annual financial details. Please contact us with any questions.

INCREASED EXPENSES

- Surface water monitoring requirements
- State Water Board fees
- Coalition staff costs (regional & local)
- New groundwater requirements

GUIDING PRINCIPALS

- Avoid frequent fluctuations or mid-year increases in member fees
- Partner for economies of scale & utilize grant funds to offset costs
- Maintain minimum cash balance \$50,000 to cover unexpected costs & maintain positive cash flow



**Annual Member Meeting
November 8th
6:30pm-8:30pm**

Nuevo este año!
horas especiales de oficina en español. Vea el artículo en la página posterior y el cronograma adjunto para más detalles

Changes to Order

Regional Board is due to adopt changes to our Order (Sac Valley group permit) in February 2019. Some of the changes will provide relief from repetitive reporting. Some will increase requirements.

REDUCTIONS / RELIEF

- Less frequent farm evaluation reporting (once every five years)
- Exemptions from yield reporting for unique crops on nitrogen forms
- Improvements to methods for calculating "outliers" for nitrogen use
- Alternatives to in person attendance to meet annual education requirement

INCREASES/ NEW REQUIREMENTS

- ALL parcels will submit nitrogen use data starting in 2021.
- Starting in 2022 all drinking water wells will require nitrate sampling, reporting of results to State database & notification to water users if levels exceed drinking water standard.
- New focused management practice reporting in areas with surface and/or groundwater management plans.
- Coalition conducts annual monitoring of representative wells to record trends in regional nitrate levels
- Education requirements for members that have fields identified as "outliers".

REDUCED Farm Reporting for 2018 Crop Year

Congratulations Members! This year the only individuals that will need to submit farm reporting will be those who have parcels that are in high vulnerability areas for groundwater quality and they will only be required to complete the Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report (NMPSR) online by February 15, 2019. Late fees will apply after February 15th. **So no Farm Evaluations until year 2021 for crop year 2020!**

Part of the reason members do not have to complete a farm evaluation is because of a high level of commitment to the program that has allowed the Coalitions to request some relief. Additionally, site inspections have not resulted in any violations and have resulted in positive feedback from the Regional Board. **Late fees for farm reporting began last year and our percentage of late reporting dropped from 30% to 5%!** **REMEMBER:** Annually, each Member is still required to complete the Nitrogen Management Plan Worksheet (kept onsite) and to participate in an education/outreach activity. See enclosed schedule of events.

From Wendy Rash ~ District Conservationist USDA NRCS

(707) 448-0106 ext. 111

Attention growers! Funding opportunities are available for projects on your farm or ranch that conserve water, build soil health, establish wildlife habitat, improve rangeland conditions, or protect water quality. Start a farm conservation plan now to increase irrigation efficiency, provide clean water sources to livestock, or assess your crop's nutrient management plan. Call us for an on-site conservation planning consultation to begin your plan. Your conservation plan is the first step toward funding your on-farm conservation project. Applications for funding programs are accepted at any time. Please submit applications by November 9, 2018 for the first round of Fiscal Year 2019, which will include:

- National Air Quality Initiative (tractor replacements)
- National On-Farm Energy Initiative (Energy audits & equipment to conserve energy)
- High Tunnel systems
- Conservation Activity Plans
- Other projects will be considered for funding in early 2019, pending the new Farm Bill.

Funding is provided through the Natural Resources Conservation Service, from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). The money comes from the Federal Farm Bill. For more information or to apply, Solano County growers should contact the Vacaville NRCS Field Office at 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 104, or call 707-448-0106 extension 3. For more information on NRCS programs, visit www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov.

NRCS has provided leadership in a partnership effort to help America's private land owners and managers conserve their soil, water and other natural resources since 1935.

Data Management

Tool-DMT



No more paper waste!

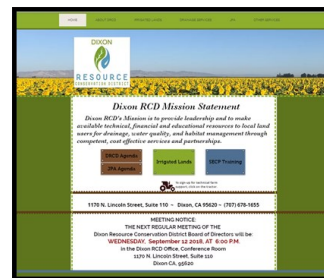
We have finally gone to an online system to enter farm reporting and to update member information like address, email or phone changes. Each member will now be known as an "Owner" or "Reporter", and will be given a log-in for the new DMT. All Owners and Reporters need to log-in to verify contact information and their parcels. Login & Passwords will be sent in December. When you receive yours, visit our website to log-in. www.dixonrcd.org/irrigated-lands

Then click on this button.



There's a New Website in Town!

The Dixon RCD Website has a new face! The site has all of the same important information as well as new features. Please take some time to check it out at: www.dixonrcd.org



Are you Testing your Drinking Water Wells for Nitrate Levels?

Beginning in 2022, Regional Board will require annual testing of nitrates for all drinking water wells on parcels enrolled in the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (This includes us!).

Groundwater Trend Monitoring for Nitrates

As required, three representative wells have been selected in Solano County to be sampled annually for nitrate levels to show long-term trends in nitrate levels. Thank you to the three landowners who agreed to have their wells sampled as representative sites on behalf of all Dixon/Solano Coalition members.

NMPSR Self-certification Training

Do you have parcels that are in high vulnerability areas for groundwater quality? If so, if you have not been self-certified and wish to, please sign-up and reserve your spot in the class on January 31, 2019 from 8am to 1pm by registering online at www.dixonrcd.org/irrigated-lands

Groundwater and Nitrates

Nitrate can occur naturally in surface and groundwater at a level that does not generally cause health problems. High levels of nitrate in well water often result from improper well construction, well location, overuse of chemical fertilizers, or improper disposal of human and animal waste. Sources of nitrate that can enter your well include fertilizers, septic systems, animal feedlots, industrial waste, and food processing waste. Wells may be more vulnerable to such contamination after flooding, particularly if the wells are shallow, have been dug or bored, or have been submerged by floodwater for long periods of time. Nitrates are also made in large amounts by plants and animals, and are released in smoke and industrial or automotive exhaust.

Nitrate can be harmful to 0-4 month old infants and pregnant women. The nitrate is converted to nitrite in the infant's stomach. Nitrite binds to oxygen molecules in red blood cells depleting oxygen and potentially suffocating the baby. An obvious symptom of nitrate poisoning is bluish skin color, especially around the eyes and mouth. If detected at this early stage, methemoglobinemia or "blue baby syndrome" as it is commonly known, is rarely fatal, readily diagnosed, and rapidly reversed with clinical treatment. In pregnant women, they can pass methemoglobin on to the developing fetuses and low birth weights have been attributed to high nitrates in water. This is why testing wells is so important.

Heating or boiling your water will not remove nitrate. Because some of the water will evaporate during the boiling process, the nitrate levels of water can actually increase slightly in concentration if the water is boiled. Mechanical filters or chemical disinfection, such as chlorination, DO NOT remove nitrate from water.

Nitrate may be successfully removed from water using treatment processes such as ion exchange, distillation, and reverse osmosis. Contact your local health department for recommended procedures.

Credits/References:

CDC (2015). <https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/private/wells/disease/nitrate.html>
PENN State (2018). <https://extension.psu.edu/nitrates-in-drinking-water>

Dixon/Solano Surface Water Update

Since 2005 Dixon/Solano Coalition Members have successfully completed five out of six pesticide related management plans and the remaining plan is under review to be deemed complete (Chlorpyrifos at Ulatis Creek).

Even with new pesticide monitoring requirements in 2017-2018, no new pesticide related management plans were triggered. **However, there was one sediment (hyaella toxicity) exceedance at the Ulatis Creek monitoring site in April 2018 with associated levels of pyrethroid pesticides and another detection of pyrethroids at the same site in August 2018.** The active ingredients found in the sediment in April indicated a mixture of agricultural and non-agricultural contributions. The detection in August 2018 appears to be from agricultural applications. Coalition staff will be reaching out to both ag and non-ag users of pyrethroid products to avoid another exceedance. **If there is another sediment toxicity at the Ulatis Creek site in the next three years it will trigger a new management plan.**

Please use extreme caution during and after applications!

COMMONLY USED AG PRODUCTS CONTAINING PYRETHROIDS: Cobalt Lamda-Cy, Lambdastar, Warrior II, Karate, Ammo, Mustang, Silencer, Asana SL, Pounce, Baythroid, Besiege

Pyrethroids bind tightly to soil, so erosion control practices can be effective at minimizing pyrethroids from moving offsite.