

Dixon/Solano Coalition
Actual July 2018 - June 2019 Finances

Total Income 07/18— 06/19	\$ 494,191
Membership Fees (\$3.75/acre)	\$ 488,424
Interest + Misc. Revenue	\$ 5,767
Total Expenses 07/18—06/19	\$ 515,836
RCD Staff	\$ 144,471
RCD Direct Costs	\$ 9,559
Surface Water Monitoring	\$ 109,487
Groundwater/Reporting Requirements	\$ 101,917
SVWQC Fees	\$ 27,079
State Board Fees (95 cents/acre)	\$ 123,323
Fund Balance 07/19	\$ 135,944

Dixon/Solano Coalition
Projected July 2019 - June 2020 Finances

Budgeted Income 07/19—06/20	\$ 482,085
Membership Fees (\$3.75/acre)	\$ 479,085
Interest	\$ 3,000
Budgeted Expenses 07/19—06/20	\$ 519,702
RCD Staff	\$ 172,296
RCD Direct Costs	\$ 15,180
Surface Water Monitoring	\$ 86,250
Groundwater/Reporting Requirements	\$ 78,000
SVWQC Fees	\$ 30,000
State Board Fees (\$1.08 /acre)	\$ 137,976
Fund Balance 06/20 (projected)	\$ 98,327

(Biennial financial audits of Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality)

Member Fees

After 15 years of an Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program that covers all non-rice crops in the Central Valley and similar requirements on the horizon for the rest of the state, there are multiple efforts to review the current requirements and relative costs to members. Costs to administer the program vary by region, by crop, by risk to water quality, by enrolled acreage, and by coalition structure. Within the Central Valley local coalition annual per acre member fees range from \$2.50 to over \$7 per irrigated acre. Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition's policy continues to be to keep program costs as low as possible, while still providing members the tools necessary to maintain compliance with water quality regulations.

As one of 13 subwatershed groups under the Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition, we have been able to achieve significant economies of scale and there may be room for more. Discussions to date (see below) have centered around whether costs should be adjusted further by region, by crop, by water quality issues or risks, by level of staff effort required and/or if there are ways to reduce costs overall by consolidation. Through all of the discussions we are mindful that some costs are a "zero sum gain", where reductions in costs for some members may mean the costs increase for other members. We welcome member input. Call Kelly at 707-678-1655 x102

<u>Costs Being Reviewed</u>	<u>Who Decides?</u>
State Board Per Acre Fee	State Water Resources Control Board
Member/Coalition Requirements in Coalition Orders	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Relative Share of Sacramento Valley Coalition Costs to 13 local subwatershed groups	Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition Management Advisory Committee
Local Subwatershed Group Costs—Can we reduce or contain member costs by partnering with other local subwatershed groups?	Dixon/Solano RCD Water Quality Coalition Governance (Dixon & Solano RCD Boards, Coalition Advisory Committee, RCD Management Staff)

DIXON RCD BOARD

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

SOLANO RCD BOARD

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

COALITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

Dixon/Solano Resource Conservation District Water Quality Coalition

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

DIXON/SOLANO RCD
WATER QUALITY COALITION



Volume 14 ~ Issue 1

ANNUAL UPDATE

October 2019

DMT- Data Management Tool Update

Thank you **Coalition Members** for taking the time and effort to learn the new Data Management Tool (DMT). We had a 98% reporting rate for NMPSRs—Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports. Most members completed their reporting early! The benefit of reporting early is that Coalition staff are readily available to assist. The closer it gets to the reporting deadline of February 15th, the harder it is for staff to find the time to help members with the reporting. For those members that have not used the online system, we suggest logging in early for the reporting season and making an office appointment, if necessary. Login information is the same as last year. If you need your login information, please contact us ASAP. For new members, we will be sending your login information to you in early December.

A common data entry error this year was the Total Parcel Acres. The Total Parcel Acres are the GROSS PARCEL acres, NOT the total leased or irrigated acres. Be sure to verify that the TOTAL Acres of each parcel are correct this year. As for Irrigated Acres, members did a great job of entering the correct Irrigated Acres. If the irrigated acres do change, remember that this is what the system uses to calculate the invoices, so be sure it is always correct. For fallow land that will be farmed in the future, enter one acre under the Irrigated Acres and keep the parcel active. If the parcel is fallow and is not likely to be farmed/irrigated again, set the acreage to zero and deactivate the parcel. Zero acre parcels will be dropped from the program. Dixon/Solano Coalition's policy is to not have parcels enrolled in the program with zero irrigated acres even though the system allows it.

A new feature on the far right of the Accounts page is your invoice balance. If the invoice has been paid, it should be at zero. There have been many other upgrades this year, most of which will be changes that will probably go unnoticed and simply make things easier for you. If you have any questions about the changes, please don't hesitate to ask for help.

To access the DMT, go to: www.dixonrcd.org/irrigated-lands



Annual Member Meeting
Tuesday,
November 19th

6:30pm - 8:30pm
Dixon Multi-Use Center

Drinking Water Well Monitoring for Nitrates Begins in 2022

The State Board's revisions to the Eastern San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition (ESJWQC) Order began requiring ESJWQC members to sample drinking water wells in 2019.

Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition Members (including Dixon/Solano Members) will be required to test their wells on enrolled parcels starting in 2022.

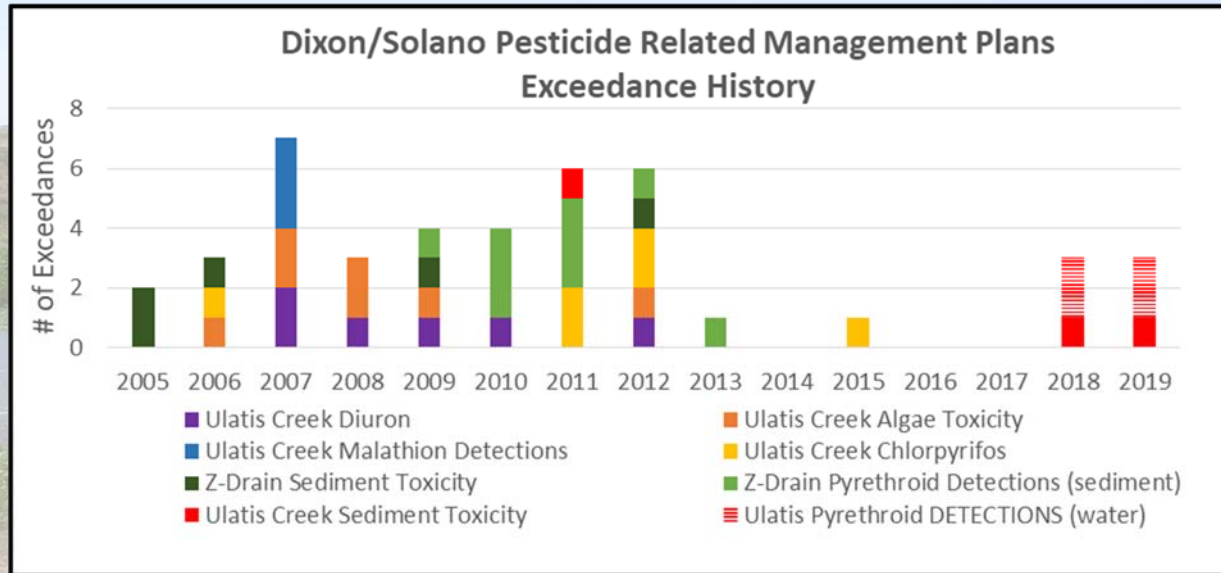
The purpose of this new requirement is to identify drinking water wells that have nitrate concentrations exceeding the standards for drinking water and notify anyone that may be using the well for consumption of the potential health risks. High levels of nitrates found in drinking water effect public health. Rural and agricultural areas often have excess nitrates (NO₃) in soil that can leach to groundwater. Fertilizer, livestock waste, and septic systems are the most common sources of nitrates. Nitrates are extremely mobile and can easily find passage into the groundwater.

For more information: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/drinking_water/

Meet your annual education requirement by attending one of the events or workshops from the calendar inside this issue!

Surface Water UPDATE

Other than new sediment toxicity exceedances at our Ulatis Creek site described below, the surface water monitoring results for 2018 -2019 have not identified any new issues. We continue to have exceedances for physical parameters like pH, dissolved oxygen, electrical conductivity without a clear tie to agricultural activities.



From Wendy Rash ~ District Conservationist USDA NRCS

(707) 448-0106 ext. 111

Save the Date

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. Call us now for an on-site conservation planning consultation to reach your goals- increase irrigation efficiency, provide clean water sources to livestock, or assess your crop's nutrient management 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 December 6, 2019 to be considered in the first round of Fiscal Year 2020 funding.

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.

Save the date for **Farming in the New Normal: A workshop for growers on climate and agriculture**, January 7, 2020 at the Ulatis Center in Vacaville. We will have a great lineup of experts, ag industry professionals and farmers exploring how your operation can adapt and thrive in a new climate reality.

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.

Pyrethroids – What you need to know



Many household & structural pest control products contain pyrethroids

*Pyrethroids are frequently detected in local waterways from both agricultural and urban sources.

*New monitoring methods detect pyrethroids at parts per trillion (one part per trillion equals one second in 31,500 years) and the levels that now trigger an exceedance are smaller.

*Even trace amounts can cause toxicity for aquatic organisms like *Hyalella Azteca* in the waterways.

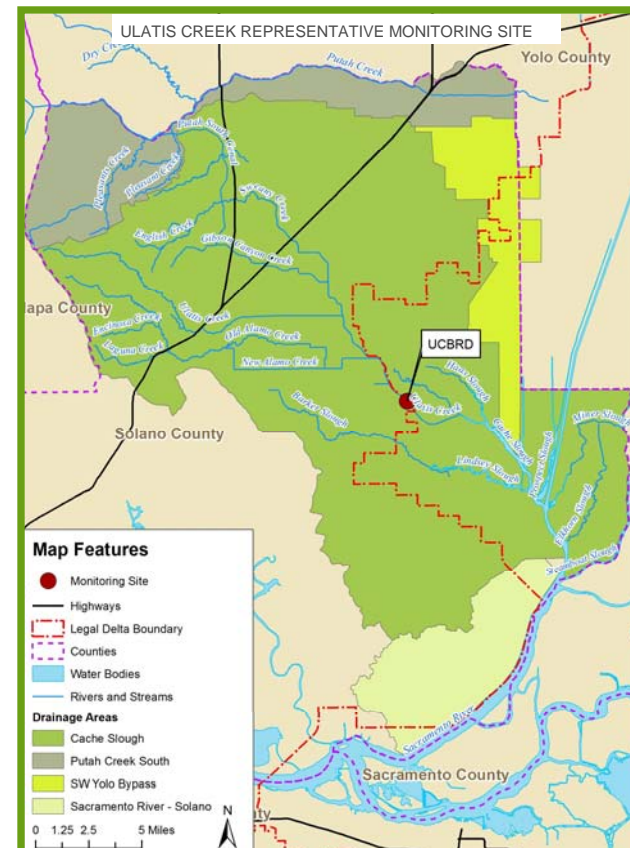


*Active ingredients include: esfenvalerate/fenvalerate, **lambda-cyhalothrin**, cypermethrin, **bifenthrin**, cyfluthrin, permethrin.

*Pyrethroids can take 1-2 months to degrade in soils and months to years once they are in the aquatic sediment.

*Effective means of controlling pyrethroid movement for agriculture:

- Sediment & erosion control practices
- Avoiding application to field ditches that will carry water
- Vegetative and no-spray buffer areas on field edges
- Paying close attention to label restrictions.
- **Many include vegetative buffer requirements.**



Other Annual Reporting!



A NMP—Nitrogen Management Plan Worksheet is required to be completed annually by all members and it is to be kept on-site. The 2020 crop year starts the use of a new worksheet. Go to: www.dixonrncd.org/forms-checklists to download the new INMP— Irrigation & Nitrogen Management Plan Worksheet.

For crop year 2020, farm reporting to be completed in 2021, all members will be required to report their nitrogen use. So that means both high and low designation for groundwater vulnerability will need to complete an INMPSR—Irrigation & Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report in 2021. More details to come.

2019 CROP YEAR ONLINE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Log into the DMT, complete the following by **February 15, 2020**:

- ⇒ **MY INFO**—Verify contact info, make changes as needed. Please include an email address which helps keep mailing costs down. Click **SAVE**. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **ACCOUNT**—Goal is to have the Overall Completion Status read **COMPLETE**. Click on **SELECT**. Remember to go through each account. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **ACCOUNT CONTACTS**—Verify that the billing contact is correct. Update if needed. Remember to **SAVE**. Verify all other information. If the Reporter information is not correct contact us to update. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **PARCELS**— Verify parcels and total acreage. Add or deactivate parcels, if needed. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **CROPPING**—Verify irrigated acres, crops and fields. Add and delete fields as needed. Check the box, click **SAVE**. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **EROSION CONTROL**—Acknowledge that you understand the requirements of a sediment/erosion plan, check the box, click **SAVE**. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **NMP SUMMARY**—Complete the NMP, if required for your parcels (parcels in high groundwater vulnerability areas). If you do not apply N, you still need to enter zeroes in the applied N, yield, enter lbs for yield, N/A in the notes. Click **NMP COMPLETED**. Press **NEXT**.
- ⇒ **TRAINING**—Confirm education event attendance, check the box, click **SAVE**.
- ⇒ **ACCOUNT**—Validate the Overall Completion Status is **COMPLETE!**