

Annual Report 2024-2025

Yolo County Resource Conservation District



YOLO COUNTY
RCD

Yolo County Resource Conservation District

The **Yolo County Resource Conservation District (RCD)** promotes land stewardship and is committed to conserving the natural resources of Yolo County by implementing on-the-ground, community-based projects that address evolving resource concerns. Yolo County RCD provides responsive, non-regulatory services to the community through the following programs:

FIRE RESILIENCE

The RCD developed and leads the implementation of the countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). Projects include wildfire prevention planning and implementation such as roadside shaded fuel breaks and prescribed grazing; and prescribed fire projects implemented by through several grants. The RCD also coordinates the Yolo County Fire Safe Council, the Reflective Address Sign Program and the Neighborhood Chipper Program.

FARM AND RANCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The RCD offers free non-regulatory technical assistance to private farmers and ranchers in Yolo County to implement conservation projects on their land. The RCD offers bilingual on-farm irrigation evaluations and pump tests to improve water use efficiency; technical assistance for CDFA Healthy Soils and SWEEP and USDA NRCS cost-share programs; carbon farm planning; and on-farm pollinator and wildlife habitat implementation. The Mobile Irrigation Lab collaborates with academics to facilitate research that improves on-farm technical assistance and implementation.

HABITAT RESTORATION

The RCD provides stewardship expertise for many public open spaces and private wildlands in Yolo County. Our highly qualified restoration ecologists carry out weed management and habitat restoration across hundreds of acres in important natural and enhanced ecosystems including riparian, oak woodland, grassland, slough, wetland, and vernal pool habitats. The RCD is active in Putah and Cache Creeks, the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, City of Woodland Stormwater Ponds, Woodland Regional Park, Yolo Habitat Conservancy sites, City of Davis Open Space sites, and areas in the Delta.

CONSERVATION PLANNING & MONITORING

The RCD contributes to local and regional natural resource efforts including providing administrative support to the Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Coordinating Committee, participating in the Yolo County Regional Resilience Collaborative, the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency, and the Sac Valley Soil Hub, and coordinating the Yolo County Weed Management Area. The RCD monitors easements for the Yolo Habitat Conservancy, and connects researchers of conservation practices with interested land managers.



Every year, our staff leads planting days with local high schools on farms in Yolo County to encourage healthy and sustainable land stewardship.

OUR ON-THE-GROUND WORK:

- Over four miles of shaded fuel break
- 21 acres of prescribed fire
- 8 Neighborhood Chipper Days
- 25 free Reflective Address Signs
- 40 on-farm water pump efficiency tests
- 65 on-farm irrigation evaluations
- 155 acres of invasive weeds treated
- 8.43 miles of on-farm hedgerows created for pollinators and wildlife
- 2,309 native trees and shrubs planted
- 1,560 native grassland plants planted
- 5,501 native pollinator plants planted

OUR IMPACT:

- Reduced the likelihood of wildfire and increased protection of vital evacuation routes
- Increased pollinator habitat and crop pollination on agricultural lands
- Improved soil health on farms
- Increased power and irrigation efficiency for more than 50 farms
- Reduced greenhouse gases equivalent to 229,190 miles driven by gasoline powered vehicle

Yolo County Resource Conservation District acts as a central hub for conservation, connecting our community and individuals with the technical, financial and educational resources they need.



Yolo County RCD staff during a Staff Retreat to a local restoration site.



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Many of our projects are cooperative efforts with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

NRCS STAFF

- Brandi Murphy
- Nick Gallagher
- Sara Lipschutz

CONTACT US

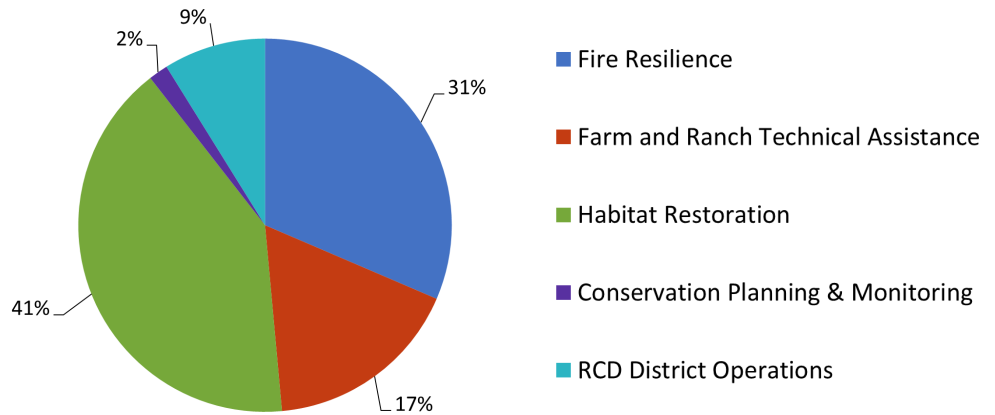
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2024-2025 AT A GLANCE

The YCRCD Strategic Plan guides district activities to address conservation issues in Yolo County. Activities this year focused primarily on climate-smart agriculture, riparian and oak woodland ecosystems, fuels management and prescribed fire.

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS BY TYPE



As a Special District, the YCRCD is subject to state transparency and accountability laws. The Brown Act and Division 9 of the California Public Resource Code require public meetings, open records, annual audits and financial reporting to the State Controller’s Office. Our income and expenses for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025:

EXPENSES

Projects (staff, contractors, supplies, equipment, admin. and project dvlpmt.)	\$2,898,184
Office (rent, utilities, phone, IT, etc.)	\$119,673
Insurance, audit, and legal	\$55,032
Equipment repair, training fees, and travel	\$34,282
Total	\$3,107,171

INCOME SOURCES

State grants and contracts	\$1,809,948
Federal grants and contracts	\$167,656
County and regional grants and contracts	\$923,001
Local property taxes	\$29,597
Administrative overhead from projects, interest and misc. income	\$252,902
Total	\$3,183,104

