

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS



A Message from Chuck

It's hard to believe that a year has gone by since I arrived back in California! I knew something of the pace of activities in the state. After all, I have spent over half of my career with our agency working throughout California. I am still awed by the complexity and diversity of natural resource issues with which we are confronted.

We have had many successes and we will have many more in the future. Our successes are based largely upon the strong commitment of our people, the Resource Conservation Districts, and Resource Conservation and Development Councils. These people share a belief that private landowners and managers will make the right conservation decisions when they are given the right information and further, that a voluntary approach to conservation results in lasting change.

It seems clear that Congress and the President understand and support this approach as well. Last week, Congress completed the fiscal year 2003 Omnibus Spending Bill and reaffirmed a commitment to private lands conservation

through the appropriations process. They have insured that funds necessary to provide technical assistance to Farm Bill programs and to locally led conservation needs not linked directly to the Farm Bill are met. This is a clear message that Farm Bill programs are very important, but that attention to local needs and local direction is ultimately critical if we are to fit a national conservation effort to the landscape of cultural, economic, and geographic diversity within the borders of our great nation.

Change is with us to stay; we can be assured of that. To continue to meet the conservation challenges with which we are faced we will need to continue refining our methods; the way we do business. The one thing that is not likely to change, however, is the commitment of our people; our partnership. I am very proud to be a part of this effort and this conservation team.



Chuck Bell
State Conservationist

EWP: Fire and Flood Events in Calif. a Common Routine

By Bill Ward
State Design Engineer/Davis

History in California has shown that the four-to-five month period between about October and February will generally see California experience either a fire or flood disaster event, and in many cases, both disaster events somewhere in the state. Late summer, early fall conditions are very dry, with high potential for wildfires in many parts of the state, particularly in Southern California. The time period from December through February is also known for having high potential for significant rainfall and flooding to occur somewhere in the state. The only question seems to be is where in the state will one or both of these events occur?

This trend has been demonstrated again this year with the Williams fire that occurred in September to October 2002, in Los Angeles County and the Napa River/Creek Floods in Napa County December to January 2003. Both events created severe damage to the watersheds leaving downstream or adjacent properties at risk of further potential damages without restoration measures being implemented in a timely manner. In both cases, requests to NRCS for EWP assistance by local sponsors triggered EWP technical and financial assistance that led to implementation of restoration measures that were successful in removing the threats left by the disaster event.



Williams fire in southern California: Workers filling and placing sandbags to control damage.

Williams Fire in Los Angeles County, September/October 2002

The Williams Fire in Los Angeles County burned approximately 38,000 acres of steep brush and forestland in the Angeles National Forest. The burned area drains



Williams fire: Completed K-rail and sandbag debris barrier.

south immediately into an urban area consisting of five cities including, Glendora, La Verne, Claremont, Azusa and San Dimas. The damaged watershed was expected to create flooding, mud and debris flow problems for downstream properties, including homes, businesses, storm drainage and other urban facilities.

Three cities requested EWP assistance from NRCS to remove these threats left by the disaster. NRCS responded by preparing and approving five damage survey reports



Williams fire: Trash rack to capture large boulders and debris from burned watershed.

leading to technical and financial assistance to the cities for appropriate restoration measures to remove the threats left by the fire. Measures implemented to accomplish this task-included placement of K-rail debris barriers, sand bags, trash racks, and to do channel clearing. The majority

of all measures are now complete at a cost of about \$500,000. These measures now in place are expected to prevent damages to homes and other properties at risk that could have led to millions of dollars in damage.

Napa River and Creek Floods December/January 2003

Fifteen to 20 inches of rain fell in Napa County over a period from late December through early January. Two critical projects surfaced that required immediate EWP assistance to try to protect properties left at extreme risk as a result of the flooding.

Severe bank erosion occurred along the Napa River, threatening the Millikin Creek Inn, next to the river. Work was considered urgent and compelling. A damage survey report was quickly prepared, and funds were approved for this project to place large rock riprap to protect the bank. The location of the Millikin Creek Inn has historical significance as a stagecoach stopping point. It currently is a modern, full-service resort valued at over \$1.5 million.

Work to place rock started just prior to Christmas and was completed on January 2, 2003. Access for placing rock was very limited and excavators had to place rock to build their own access. An existing sewer line in the area ruptured, further complicating the work area by saturating the bank and dumping raw sewage into the river. At one point, an excavator sank in the saturated area and tilted

dangerously close to falling into the river. Perseverance and dedication paid off however, as ultimately the work was completed and the Millikin Inn protected.

Still remaining to be done is the placement of topsoil and appropriate revegetation. However, for the Millikin Creek Inn Owners the great news is the emergency is over! Their gratitude was expressed in a half-page newspaper ad in the Napa Register to all the "hero's", including NRCS staff, who helped make the project happen.

Napa Creek at Clay Street Bank Erosion

A second EWP site on Napa Creek was identified where a concrete block wall that provided protection to a triplex failed and has fallen into the creek. This caused the bank to erode back to near vertical, close to the triplex. It was determined that approximately 170 lineal feet of anchored sheet pile bank protection is needed. Work is considered urgent and compelling. The complexity and risk associated with the work has created problems for the private engineer putting the design and contract documents together.

A dry spell in the weather has allowed the structure to stand for the time being. The design was finally completed and a local contract is now in place for work to begin about February 6. Sheet piling will be installed along the toe of the bank with a large crane. Work began on February 10th, and is expected to be completed in about two weeks.



Napa River storm damage, December 2002 (above).



Napa River bank protection placement (above).



Napa River bank protection complete, except for topsoil and revegetation (above).



Napa Creek erosion at Clay Street (above and below).



CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS STAFF

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Deputy State Conservationist Retires After 40 Years of Service

By Jolene Lau
Area Public Affairs Specialist/Salinas

Originally from Oregon, Henry C. Wyman has been a part of the NRCS family for decades in Oregon, California, Hawaii, and National Headquarters. Not only did he wear the deputy state conservationist and three-time interim state conservationist hats in California, Hank also served in public affairs and civil rights and as mentor to dozens of young NRCS employees.



Hank began his communications career in the U.S. Air Force before earning a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Oregon. He reported for the Eugene Register-Guard, then joined SCS as a public affairs intern

at the West Regional Office in Portland. A job opportunity opened up in Hawaii and Hank's family decided to relocate.

The Wymans spent six sun and fun-filled years in the Aloha State where he also completed Master's degrees in Communication and American Studies through the University of Hawaii's East-West Center Intercultural Communications fellowship program. As part of the program, Hank traveled for three months to Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, and New Zealand to evaluate communication methods of the U.S. Information Agency and those country's departments of agriculture. He later served as state information officer in Oregon and California and as Director of NRCS's Public Information Division.

For the last few years, Hank has served as vice president of the Friends of the Davis Public Library. He accepts book donations, helps with sorting and organizing, provides books to various organizations, and conducts book sales to benefit the library. He has also signed on as an Earth Team Volunteer to work on various projects, including California's All Employee Training Conference.

Now that there won't be any report deadlines, administrative decisions, committee actions, long meetings, or work details, Hank can focus his energy on relaxing. His grandchildren are excited to have his company more often; family and friends (and a tree farm) in Oregon are expecting visits, once in a while he might cast his reel. But for the most part, Hawaii calls; vacationing is now at the top of his list!



With actor Eddie Albert (left) in a post-"Green Acres" moment in the recording studio.

"Hank just jumped in and worked till the wee hours of the morning. I knew NACD had a friend in Hank."

—Ron Francis, Director of Public Affairs, National Association of Resource Conservation Districts



Through the Years...



"You will be missed by many. Thank you again for all of your support and dedication."

—Hao Vo, President, Asian Pacific Islander Organization



Where's Hank?



"Hank is a lot of fun, very thoughtful, and very generous. I'm so glad that I was able to get to know Hank before he retired. He is truly a first-class individual."

—Gina Kerzman, Oregon State Outreach Coordinator

Reflections on Asilomar

By Charles Davis
State Conservation Engineer/Davis

When we met at Asilomar, field office engineers had an opportunity to meet and get to know Area engineers from around the state and State office staff. These professional engineers and geologists can help field office staffs by mentoring, providing technical assistance, state-of-the-art tools and training to design and install conservation practices. We still have work to do in order to update technical guidance, and the area engineers are preparing conservation practice documentation guides that



will be sent to all offices.

I was very pleased with the high quality technical presentations and the high level of enthusiasm shown by the engineers who attended the workshop at Asilomar. Our future looks bright. I wish all NRCS staff involved in engineering work could have attended — especially the technicians.



From left to right: Welling Tom (son), Lisa Hokholt (NRCS District Conservationist), Quong Tom, and his wife Anne on the family farm.

Farmer Spotlight: The Tom Family

By Joe Takai
Soil Conservationist/Concord

The Tom family, originally from southern China, moved to the United States about 29 years ago. They settled in Contra Costa County to start a fish farm, but later learned that a fish crop might be contaminated from nutrients and pesticides running off nearby fields. They decided to grow vegetables on small plots instead, and took care of some walnut trees. Since then, the Tom family farm has expanded, and now includes a variety of vegetable, fruit, and specialty crops. Their produce is sold at various farmer's markets and through community supported agriculture enterprises.

Soil Science, a Family Affair

By Brian Ziegler
Area Public Affairs Specialist/Fresno

Soil science must run in the Vang family. Sam Vang is a soil conservationist in the Fresno field office. Now, his young cousin Pao Vang is exploring the idea of a career in soils too.

Pao, a freshman at Fresno City College, spends 15 hours a week working with the Fresno Area Office and the Madera Soil Survey Office to learn about soils and soil surveying.

He became interested in soil science while in high school when he participated in a program offered by the Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART). CART partners with Fresno and Clovis high schools to provide advanced, specialized education to students.

“While in high school, I was assigned to do a soil experiment,” Vang says. “The project I came up with was to show how different grasses would grow in different soils.” Impressed, older cousin Sam asked him, “If you really like doing this, why don't you go into this field?”



Pao Vang examines the soil in a pit near Sonora, Calif. (Photo: Edd Russell)

So Pao started volunteering last summer, working with Fresno area resource soil scientist Edd Russell. Since September he has become employed by the Central California Consortium, a program operated through the U.S. Forest Service that funds positions to train economically disadvantaged students.

After his studies at Fresno City College, Vang hopes to transfer to another school to continue studying soil science.

The farm is run by Quong Tom, his wife Anne, and son Welling.

The Tom family received three NRCS-sponsored scholarships in November 2002 to attend the Small Farms Conference in Ventura. At the conference they had the opportunity to learn a variety of farm management practices applicable to their operation. Mr. Tom was also pleasantly caught off guard to see a large number of female farmers attending the conference, and he particularly liked the networking opportunities. Quong Tom said he hadn't realized how many other farmers have similar operations to his and also face the same kind of farming and marketing challenges. Anne Tom is interested in exploring the aspects of agri-tourism.

Mr. Tom applied for and received an EQIP contract last year with practices to improve their existing irrigation system, to monitor irrigation water requirements, and to enhance soil tilth by putting in a cover and green manure crop.

NRCS Employee Contributes to Curriculum

By Edd Russell
Soil Scientist/Fresno

The Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) has just published a curriculum entitled *Teaching Organic Farming and Gardening*.

The Curriculum is based on the Apprenticeship in Ecological Horticulture that is held at UC Santa Cruz each year. This six-month

program gives people hands-on experience with organic farming and gardening.

The curriculum was released at the Ecological farming conference and will eventually be posted on the CASFS Web site at http://zzyx.ucsc.edu/casfs/training/training_manual.html. Hard copies are available from the center for \$45.00.



Soil scientist Edd Russell, seen here teaching at the Apprenticeship program, has contributed two sections on Soil Science to the curriculum. Russell originally came to California to participate in the Apprenticeship, and for the past seven years has taught the introductory soils class.

As Secretary of Agriculture, Richard Lyng's tenure was not without controversy and headline-making events. According to *The Washington Post's* Richard Pearson in an article published days after his death, Lyng advised agency heads by memo after taking office in 1986 that, due to USDA coming under fire from civil rights groups, "race would be a central issue" — and other matters notwithstanding — "they would be judged first by racial discrimination records."

On related subjects, *The Post* quoted Lyng as saying: "I will not tolerate discrimination in any form and I expect you to make equality of opportunity and respect for civil rights an integral part of all decisions and processes affecting your work force and programs."



Hats Off to Secretary Lyng, a "Visionary Leader"

NRCS's state offices in downtown Davis are housed in the Lyng USDA Service Center, a three-story building dedicated in 1998 to honoring Richard E. Lyng's achievement as the first Californian to serve as Secretary of Agriculture. Until his appointment in 1986 under President Ronald Reagan, most office-holders were Midwestern, with an occasional westerner added to the mix, since the first Secretary of Agriculture was named in 1889. Curiously, current Secretary Veneman holds the dubious honor of being only the second Californian to hold this office, considering the state's stature in annual agriculture production and generated revenue.

Richard Lyng was born in San Francisco in June 1918, graduated *cum laude* from Notre Dame University in 1940, and served in the Pacific during World War II. After discharge from the army in 1945, he joined the family seed and bean processing business as

a field representative, traveling throughout Modesto County. In 1949, Lyng became president of Ed J. Lyng Company, the business his father started, and headed it until 1967, when then Governor Reagan appointed him Chief Deputy Director of the California Agriculture Department.

Lyng, a prominent Republican, went to Washington in 1969 to work for the Nixon administration as USDA Assistant Secretary for Marketing and Consumer Services. There, one of his crowning achievements was helping develop the food stamp program. Other notable positions Lyng held prior to becoming Secretary in 1986 included, president of the American Meat Institute (1973-79), Undersecretary of Agriculture (1981-85), and briefly, after leaving government and undergoing heart bypass surgery, as principal in a Washington agriculture consulting firm, Lyng & Leshner.

In an editorial at the time commenting on Secretary Lyng's civil rights mandate within USDA, *The Washington Post* wrote: "True, you don't turn around a department just by writing a memo. But surely that's how you start. Who can remember an affirmation of this kind from any Cabinet officer? Hats off to Mr. Lyng."

Secretary Lyng had a reputation for calm, steady leadership that was well respected and appreciated by Democrats and Republicans alike. Lyng's term as 22nd secretary of agriculture ended in January 1989, when newly elected President George Bush replaced him with successor Clayton K. Yeutter.

Secretary Ann Veneman concluded her statement on Lyng's passing by adding: "Secretary Lyng shared many friends and colleagues and touched the lives of so many people. Today while we mourn his loss, we also celebrate a remarkable man and inspiring life journey."

By Jim Cairns
Public Affairs Specialist/Davis

In a statement released by Agriculture Secretary Ann M. Veneman in response to Richard Edmund Lyng's death on February 1st, she remembered the 84-year-old former secretary as "a visionary leader in agriculture" and "a friend, a mentor and person of great integrity whose insight, candor and wisdom will be sorely missed." "Dick" Lyng, as he was known to colleagues and friends, suffered from Parkinson's disease, and died in his sleep at home in his native Modesto, California. He is survived by two daughters and five grandchildren. His wife of 56 years, Bethyl Ball Lyng, died in 2000.

NRI Highlights and Insights

By Bev Harben
California ICCS Leader/Fresno

Probably everybody in NRCS has heard of the National Resources Inventory, or at least of “NRI,” and dozens of you have been involved in NRI data collection at some point in your career. Like everything else in the agency, NRI has evolved and grown more sophisticated over the last few years with the advent of new technology and computer capabilities.

Today, all California National Resources Inventory, (NRI) operations and materials are centralized in the NRI Inventory Coordination and Collection Site (ICCS) at the Fresno Area Three Office. Since 2001, a permanent full-time staff has been dedicated solely to California NRI data

collection, coordination, and administration. Centralizing the NRI operations has led to increased consistency and efficiency, higher data quality, and reduction of most of the NRI-related workload in field offices. The team is beginning to utilize GIS (ERDAS Imagine and ArcView) to orthorectify aerial photos of each sampling site, and then as a tool to complete data collection.

NRI documents the status, conditions, and trends of our nation’s natural resources, and therefore the need for conservation assistance and program budget-support. Other key internal uses include strategic planning, performance measures, and accountability. NRI fulfills a legislative mandate for the USDA to implement a monitoring and

land-inventory program on all the non-federally owned land in the nation, and to issue a report to Congress on the natural resources at least every five years.

Dozens of California NRCS employees have been involved as data collectors during the inventories that were conducted in 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, and 1997. Beginning in 2000, NRI began a transition to continuous data collection, as opposed to the earlier method of sampling once every five years. Currently, approximately 2,050 Primary Sampling Sites in California are studied each year. At scientifically selected sites, data are collected for changes in land cover and use, cropland use by irrigated and nonirrigated acres, broad land cover/use by land capability class and subclass, prime farmland, erosion and erodibility, and wetlands and

deepwater habitats.

California NRI uses high quality, true-color aerial photography for photo interpretation and remote sensing data collection. The high-resolution photos facilitate very accurate interpretations of land cover, use, and conservation practices. Ancillary references, such as soil surveys and CRP reports, are also used. Field visits are completed as necessary. Additionally, range and agricultural on-site data collection is required on a specified number of sites. In 2003, onsite rangeland sampling will be carried out on 35 sites in Tehama, Glenn, San Benito, Monterey, and San Diego counties.

For more information, contact the NRI office at (559)252-2191, ext. 4, or e-mail beverly.harben@ca.usda.gov.

This photo from 1977 shows how far the ground level in western Fresno County has dropped since 1925. Today, the level is even lower.



Definitive Survey Details Fresno County’s Sinking Soil

By Brian Ziegler
Area Public Affairs Specialist/Fresno

A glimpse into how much the landscape has changed — or rather — dropped on 700,000 acres of land in western Fresno County is reflected in a new soil survey just completed by NRCS Soil Survey Project Leader Kerry Arroues.

The survey shows that the land elevation has sunk as much as 40 feet since 1925. According to Arroues, the change in landscape started when farmers began pumping ground water to irrigate cotton, flax and wheat fields, which caused the land to subside.

Arroues started the survey in

1980. The project involved digging thousands of test holes in order to determine what the soil is composed of and what has been happening to it. “There’s a huge pent-up demand for this survey. It’s one of the many good things our agency does,” he says.

Local governments and farmers will be able to use the information to plan roads, housing developments, and irrigation or drainage systems.

Users with ARC View or similar software can access soil maps of the surveyed area online at www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/ssurgo_ftp3.html.

Tuolumne Indians Benefit From Soil Study

By Brian Ziegler
Area Public Affairs Specialist/Fresno

Tribal leaders expect an explosion of development on the Tuolumne Indian Rancheria, located 15 miles east of Sonora, Calif., so information contained in a preliminary soil survey nearing completion by NRCS Soil Scientist John Rule couldn't come any sooner. "Planners will eventually be able to make predictions about how soils in a certain area will respond when a specific management practice is used," Rule says.



NRCS Soil Scientist John Rule (center) uses a stereoscope to locate boundary lines for Tuolumne Rancheria's Vicki Biggs (left) and Stan Anderson (right).

The Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council initially sought help from Resource Conservation & Development Project Coordinator Dick McCleery to establish a nursery of native plants. NRCS Resource Conservationist Bob Long also provided assistance with erosion control. A need for soil information now exists as well.

Using the soil survey report, tribal leaders will be better able to plan housing, sewers, roads, and underground power lines.

The soil work at the Tuolumne Indian Rancheria is an introductory phase of a comprehensive soil survey for Tuolumne County. The preliminary report for the Rancheria will be finalized when the report for the entire county is complete.

Have You Ever Wondered...

By Sharon Nance
Soil Conservationist/Fresno

If you have ever wondered about how that half-full, half-empty analogy works, well you don't have to look much beyond California NRCS. California NRCS has been given the opportunity to organize a Farm Bill 2002 Forum. What makes this such a "golden opportunity" is that the focus of this meeting is to bring the message(s) of the NEW Farm Bill to California's Tribal Nations, Limited Resource, Beginning and Minority farmers. What an opportunity, yet what a task.

In a special outreach effort by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Lou Gallegos, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Administrator A.J. Yates, and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Bruce I. Knight will travel to California to brief minority farmers, landowners, and other underserved customers about programs made available by the 2002 Farm Bill.

The statewide briefing will be held February 26, 2003, at California State University-Fresno, Residence Dining Facility, 5200 N. Campus Drive, at 8:30 a.m.

In addition to NRCS, other USDA agencies attending will include Farm Service Agency, Rural Development, Risk Management Agency, Agricultural Marketing Service, Agricultural Research Service, Food and Nutrition Service, Foreign Agricultural Service, Forest Service, and the California Small Farm Center. Presentations will focus on a broad spectrum of program topics, including conservation, insurance and drought relief, food and nutrition, rural utility, business, and housing.

Some of the outreach tools that are being used to help get the message out and to assist farmers who are interested in attending include providing charter bus transportation for participants from the Sacramento and Salinas areas and interpreters and translation equipment for non-English speaking participants.

General information about the briefing is posted on USDA's Farm Bill Web site at www.usda.gov. Specific details and registration assistance is available in three languages (English, Spanish & Hmong) by using California NRCS' new toll free number at (866) OUR-SOIL (687-7645).



USDA Assistant Secretary of Agriculture Lou Gallegos (above) and NRCS Chief Bruce I. Knight will be in Fresno February 26th.



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Tehama County RCD Awards Creative Teens

By Vicky Dawley
TCRCD District Manager

Tehama County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) needed help, and many creative Tehama County teens came to the rescue.

TCRCD did not have a logo, so they sponsored a contest to design one. The contest was open to any Tehama County teenager in grades 9-12. Nearly 30 entries were received from students at Red Bluff and Corning High Schools.

The TCRCD board and staff judged the anonymous entries, and awarded prizes to four students from Red Bluff High School, all students in Wes Hendricks' graphic arts classes. Ericka Carmichael received the first place prize of \$50,



followed by Evan Walters in second place who received \$30. Kayla Barry and Joel Pasillas tied for third place, each winning \$20. The logo will be used by TCRCD on letterhead, business cards, and other promotional materials.

A grant from the State Water Resources Control Board helped sponsor the contest. Other goals of the grant are to provide assistance to residents of all county watersheds and to communicate the importance of watersheds and local watershed activities to the community.

"The board and staff were impressed with the initiative the students showed," said TCRCD Board President Ernest White. "Some students interviewed the Natural Resources teachers at their high school for ideas about what they should include in a logo for Tehama County," White added. "We would like to have another art contest to get more students involved."

Considering Biosecurity in Your Next Farm Visit

By Jerry Reioux
Staff Forester/Davis

Biological security measures are becoming a standard in many agricultural sectors. These controls are ment to minimize the risk of disease introduction and spread. They can vary greatly according to the operation and type of site visit.

Originally, biosecurity issues were driven by the international outbreak of Foot-and Mouth Disease. However, the Exotic Newcastle Disease has also resulted in the need to practice biosecurity.

At a minimum, avoid pens, barns, loafing areas, and so on, unless it is necessary. Try to park the vehicle on a paved or concrete area, away from the production locations, and attempt to avoid contact with the dirt, mud or manure. If that is not possible, be certain the tires are free of dirt by hosing off the tires and wheel wells before leaving the

premises, otherwise consider the use of a nearby pressure car wash. Personal hygiene consists of washing the hands with soap and water before and after leaving to avoid the transmission of disease agents.

These measures are designed to ensure that there is a reasonable level of biosecurity protection. However, the producers may have more stringent biosecurity measures in place. If they do, then follow their biosecurity measures.

More stringent measures are contained in Level 1, 2 and 3, which are described in National Bulletin 130-1-2. We should also be aware of any quarantines that limit our activities, such as those posted for Exotic Newcastle disease in southern California, sudden oak death, etc.

Information can be found on the Internet at the APHIS Web site (www.aphis.usda.gov), or from CDFA at www.cdffa.gov. Another source of information is your local County Agricultural Commissioner.



Name	Position	Action	Grade	Location	Date
Alan Bower	Range Consvst	New Hire	GS-9	Greenville FO	10/6/02
Dina Cadenazzi	Civil Engineer	New Hire	GS-9	Hollister FO	10/6/02
Ivana Noell	Biologist	New Hire	GS-11	Livermore FO	12/1/02
Jason Rambach	Ag Engineer	Promotion	GS-11	Colusa to Wetlands Team	10/20/02
Hue Dang	Dist Consvst	Promotion	GS-12	Oroville FO	11/3/02
Sai Syhaphom	Civil Engineer	Promotion	GS-7	Ontario FO	11/3/02
Mark Meissner	Soil Consvst	Promotion	GS-11	Eureka FO	11/17/02
Carol Rutenbergs	Soil Consvst	Promotion	GS-11	Auburn FO	11/17/02
Ha Truong	Ag Engineer	Promotion	GS-9	Woodland FO	12/1/02
Dawn Afman	Soil Consvst	Career Prom.	GS-9	Santa Maria FO	1/12/03
Raul Alvarado	Soil Consvst	Reassignment	---	Blythe to Indio	10/20/02
Vin. Obersinner	Soil Consvst	Reassignment	---	Greenville to Willows	10/20/02
Lisa Hokholt	Soil Consvst	Reassignment	---	San Francisco to Concord	12/1/02
Daniel Martynn	Dist Consvst	Reassignment	---	Colusa to Greenville	12/1/02
James Schneider	Soil Consvst	Reassignment	---	Stockton to Dixon	12/15/02
Bernardo Sajulga	Ag Engineer	Resignation	GS-9	Petaluma FO	10/31/02
Richard Sandberg	Soil Consvst	Resignation	GS-11	Fresno FO	11/1/02
Robert Best	Soil Consvst	Retirement	GS-11	Redlands FO	1/3/03
Michael Jeffries	Dist Consvst	Retirement	GS-12	Visalia FO	1/3/03
Rixon Rafter	Ag Engineer	Retirement	GS-11	Salinas FO	1/3/03
Mario Milani	Civil Engineer	Retirement	GS-12	Davis SO	1/3/03
Henry Wyman	Deputy STC	Retirement	GS-15	Davis SO	1/3/03