



COASTAL SAN LUIS
RESOURCE
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Your Local Partner
in Conservation & Agriculture



Winter 2019

Bill and Diana Waycott of Nipomo Native Seeds Receive Conservationist of the Year Award



On March 12, Bill and Diana Waycott received the Board of Supervisors' certificate.

Bill Waycott was presented with the Conservationist of the Year Award from the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) for making outstanding conservation-related improvements to agricultural crops through plant breeding. The presentation took place March 12 at the Board of Supervisors' chambers.

Bill and his wife, Diana, own and operate Nipomo Native Seeds, LLC, in Nipomo, producing hybrid vegetable seeds, California native seeds and bio-control agents for organic strawberry production.

After serving in the American Peace Corps, Bill studied plant breeding with the goal of improving the available food supply. He has worked on several species of crops to introduce natural disease resistance, enhanced human nutrition, improved water-use efficiency, and suitability for mechanical harvest. Bill has worked on the Plant Genome Project for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and, more recently, introduced more than 30 varieties of vegetables used by farmers in San Luis Obispo County and throughout California.

"I have known and worked with Bill for many years," said RCD President Neil Havlik. "After years as an expert seed geneticist, Bill and Diana started their own business growing plants for seed production and biological pest controls in a facility in Nipomo which they built themselves. With all of this, Bill still has time to work on native plant issues as President of the local chapter of the California Native Plant Society, organize and lead hikes, work as a volunteer trail worker at the Pismo Preserve, Irish Hills and the Dana Adobe, and address the Supervisors on matters such as proper restoration for the Justin Vineyard oak clearing controversy, and the development of the County cannabis ordinance. Both he and Diana



Purple Ragwort

Upcoming Events

April 26, noon
Board of Directors Meeting
UCCE Auditorium, SLO

May 24, noon
Board of Directors Meeting
UCCE Auditorium, SLO

[2017-2018 Annual Report](#)
[Now Available](#)

[Support local conservation](#)
[with a donation to the](#)
[RCD.](#)



are dedicated citizens who consistently give of their time and energy to community projects and programs.”

“We are learning a lot as we work with the RCD and partners to improve our seed productivity and adopt more sustainable methods going forward,” said Bill Waycott. “We are already seeing dramatic improvements in soil tilth, water-use efficiency, and plant health by using best practices and an eco-friendly approach to land management in this county.”



Diana and Bill Waycott with RCD President Neil Havlik (right) hold the Farm Supply Conservationist of the Year plaque.



Board of Directors

Neil Havlik
President

Expertise: botany and natural resource management

Jean-Pierre Wolff
Vice President

Expertise: vineyard management and engineering

Dave Alford

Expertise: agricultural business

Linda Chipping

Expertise: community development

Jessica Crutchfield

Expertise: environmental law

Kevin L. Piper

Expertise: agricultural and natural resources management

Cheryl Lenhardt

Associate Director
Expertise: construction and civil engineering

Ron Munds

Associate Director
Expertise: water

Learn More About CSLRCD at www.coastalcrd.org

Two February Workshops Helped Attendees Apply for CDFA Financial Incentive Programs

On February 6, the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) and the San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau hosted two workshops—the Healthy Soils Program (HSP) and the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP).

Attendees learned about the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) financial incentive programs that growers and ranchers could apply for. The CSLRCD Project Manager, Hallie Richard, took the attendees step by step on how to fill out the application and on the process of submitting the application to CDFA. The workshops were well attended, and CSLRCD expects CDFA to announce another round of incentive programs.

Healthy Soils Program

(HSP) – The program provides financial incentives to California growers and ranchers to implement conservation management practices that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs), and improve soil health. CDFA was appropriated \$5 million in FY 2018-19 from the California Climate Investments Program and \$10 million from Proposition 68 Parks & Water Bond 2018 fund.



State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program

(SWEEP) - SWEEP's objective is to provide financial incentives for California agricultural operations to invest in irrigation systems that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and save water. The program achieves both objectives through funding of holistic irrigation designs and supports project components

such as sensors, new irrigation methods, pump retrofits or upgrades, fuel conversion, and renewable energy. CDFA was appropriated \$20 million in FY 2018-19 from Proposition 68 Parks & Water Bond 2018 fund.



CSLRCD Job Announcement for Conservation Project Manager

The Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) is committed to enhancing the overall integrity of ecological functions throughout our District. We offer interesting work that truly makes a difference in our community, and a flexible work environment.

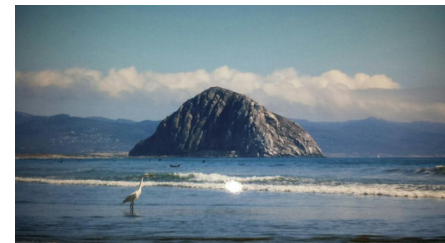
Position Title: Conservation Project Manager

Location: Morro Bay, CA, with services throughout District

Primary Responsibilities:

- Manage and oversee the various projects assigned to you
- Regularly review all grant contracts, scopes of work, and budgets to stay on track and meet deadlines
- Manage and track the invoicing, reporting and budget for the grants assigned to you
- Maintain a working knowledge of all current and pending regulatory programs and requirements
- Prepare environmental documents and permitting documents
- Build and maintain strong strategic partnerships
- Interact and maintain positive communications with numerous stakeholders
- Research grants, develop fee-for-service contracts, and foster relationships with potential funders

Hours: Full-time position.



Staff

Jackie Crabb
District Manager

Larissa Clarke
Conservation Program Manager

Hallie Richard
Conservation Project Manager

Jen Nix
Grants & Development Coordinator

Joe Murphy
District Engineer

Seamus Land
Restoration Coordinator

Mark Skinner
Restoration Specialist II

Grant Johnson

Salary: \$20 - \$25 depending on experience.

Restoration Specialist I

Minimum Requirements:

- B.S. degree or equivalent experience in soil science, agronomy, climate science, environmental science, natural resources or related areas.
- At least 3 years experience working in the natural resources field.
- GPS/GIS: field data collection, data management, data analysis, map creation.
- Applicant should have strong written and oral communication skills. Attention to detail and self motivation are essential. The successful candidate must be able to work with limited supervision.

Shelly Rachels
Bookkeeper

Della Barrett
Board Secretary

Additionally, the ideal Conservation Project Manager applicant is able to provide technical support to the organization in one or more of the following program aspects: soil and water monitoring, stormwater management, climate change adaptation, watershed planning and facilitation, and agricultural conservation measures and practices.

Please send cover letter, resume and three references to jcrabb@coastalrcd.org (Jackie Crabb) and include "Job Announcement" in the subject line. Deadline for application is Friday, April 19.



Conservation Clip List is a weekly collection of articles distributed by NACD (National Association of Conservation Districts). This link discusses CDFA's Healthy Soils Program in all 10 California RCD regions:
<http://www.nacdnet.org/2017/06/15/california-rcds-cdfas-healthy-soils-program-leading-way-climate-smart-ag/>

RCD Services

Call us today at [\(805\) 772-4391](tel:8057724391) for help with all of the following:

- Irrigation Evaluations
- Engineer Design
- Alternative Agricultural Grading Review (ARP)
- Erosion & Stormwater Control
- Conservation Easements
- Conservation Planning
- Permit Coordination
- Watershed & Habitat Restoration

