

Water Issues and the University of California's Research Agenda

> Supporting Vibrant Ecosystems, Healthy People & Economic Development for California

> > Dr. Glenda Humiston February 2, 2016

Healthy Communities Healthy Food Systems Healthy Environments Healthy Californians





UC Cooperative Extension

- 200+ local Advisors who live and work in the communities they serve
- 130+ Campus-based UCCE Specialists

Agricultural Experiment Station

• 650+ academic researchers across the entire UC system

Research and Extension Centers

9 locations statewide

Statewide Programs & Institutes

- Ag Issues Center
- Integrated Pest Management Center
- Nutrition Policy Institute
- Sustainable Ag Research & Education
- Water Research Institute
- Youth Development and 4-H

Healthy Communities Healthy Food Systems Healthy Environments University of California Healt ornians Agriculture and Natural Resources

ENTAL SCIENCES



California hub of the national network of water research institutes supported by the federal Water Resources Research Act of 1964.

http://ciwr.ucanr.edu/

- ✓ Integrate CA's research, extension, & education programs
- ✓ Connect academic institutions with water managers & users
- ✓ Develop relevant and timely science-based information for improved decision-making

- Gwen Arnold, UC Davis: efforts to locally restrict high-volume hydraulic fracturing, a new and controversial natural gas and oil drilling in California.
- Roya Bahreini, UC Riverside: <u>water management and air quality in the Salton</u> <u>Sea</u>, where low water levels are leading to increased dust from the dry lakebed.
- Igor Lacan, UC Agriculture and Natural Resources: <u>performance of trees used</u> in street side stormwater management to increase groundwater infiltration.
- Jonathon London and Carolina Balazs, UC Davis: assessing <u>Integrated</u> <u>Regional Water Management and environmental justice</u> approaches to address lack of safe and affordable water in disadvantaged communities.
- Clarissa Nobile, UC Merced: high-tech metagenomic approach to research biofouling of groundwater wells across the state, which has the potential to be a costly challenge.



University of California Cooperative Extension

New Zealand Mudsnail Research and Extension



The New Zealand mudsnail, Potamopyrgus antipodarum, is an aquatic invasive species first found in the US in 1987, now spread throughout the western states. First seen in California late 1990's and now in the Santa Monica Mountains and elsewhere in CA.

"New Zealand Mudsnails in the Santa Clara River".

SKIP TO CONTENT SITE MAP

UCSB: Tom Dudley

UCCE Advisor: Sabrina Drill

Assessing Ecosystem Values of Watersheds in Southern California

Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council February 2011



Project Lead: UCLA Institute of the Environment

Partners:

CA Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council Pacific Southwest Research Service, USFS University of Southern California

Technical Advisory Committee Member: UC Cooperative Extension Advisor: Sabrina Drill

Science-based, report card approach designed specifically to assess the health of environment and communities in the Southern California region at the watershed-scale. The approach can be implemented by agencies that have regulatory or other responsibility in land, water, air, and infrastructural management.





The UC ANR California Naturalist Program fosters a diverse community of naturalists to promote stewardship of California's natural resources through education and service.

California Naturalist Program works with UC Natural Reserve System on programs and to train volunteers. Initial sites include:

- ✓ UCB Sagehen Creek Field Station
- ✓ UCM Merced Vernal Pools and Grassland Reserve
- ✓ UCM Sierra Nevada Research Station-Yosemite Field Station
- ✓ UCSB Sedgewick Reserve
- ✓ UCSB Kenneth Norris Rancho Marino Reserve at Camp Ocean Pines
- ✓ UCSD Elliott Chaparral Reserve
- ✓ UCSD Kendall-Frost Mission Bay Marsh Reserve
- ✓ UCSD Dawson Los Monos Canyon Reserve

Ecosystem Services are Vital Natural Capital



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Healthy watersheds in Sierra & Cascade ranges could produce 9–16% more water for California.



"Effect of forest management on water yields and other ecosystem services in Sierra Nevada forests".

UCM: Roger Bales UCB AES Faculty: Kevin O'Hara UCCE Specialist: Bill Stewart UCCE Advisor: Susan Kocher



http://aginnovations. org/images/uploads/ CRWFS_Storage_FI NAL.pdf



From Storage to Retention: Expanding California's Options for Meeting Its Water Needs

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"Layers" of Funding & Economic Activity Will be Needed



Value of Biobased Products will help finance forest health activities – probably not enough.



Augment with Cap & Trade Credits



Need to monetize value of "reclaimed" water from forest health activities!

Rural-Urban Connections Strategy

Sacramento Area Council of Governments

www.sacog.org/RUCS





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Pursuing Net-Zero Water Use for Ag

U.C. Davis: Jess Jackson Sustainable Winery Building

Showcasing "smart" technology that maximizes environmental capabilities of winery, brewery, and food-processing complex.

- ✓ Automated systems to clean equipment
- ✓ High-purity filtration of rainwater
- ✓ Off-peak processing, …and more!



90% of water & chemicals from each cleaning cycle is captured and processed for future use, being used as many as 10 times.



Working Landscapes

Agriculture ~ Forests ~ Fisheries ~ Mining Watersheds ~ Energy ~ Recreation ~ Habitat



1.2 Million Jobs in California \$318 Billion Direct Sales & Exports 272,000+ New Jobs in Five Years

www.caeconomy.org/resources/entry/2013-california-economic-summit-playbook 2012 Data developed by Center of Excellence Research Office, CA Community Colleges

Growth in Food, Fiber & Natural Resources' Sectors Require Innovation & New Tech



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Strategy for a Sustainable California

Synergia (Greek): creation of a whole greater than the sum of its parts.

E SYNERGY Synergos (Greek): "working together".







CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE



Agricultural Council

of California





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