

2020 CFWI Agricultural Conservation Planning Sub-team - FINAL

Sub-team Leader:

Jim Fletcher, IFAS

Sub-team Goals: Develop an implementation strategy to achieve greater than the a minimum 4.3 MGD water savings ~~as~~ estimated in the 2015 CFWI RWSP. (See Conservation Team Objective) ~~and continue the effort to advance conservation beyond the estimates established in the 2015 CFWI RWSP~~

Sub-team Approach: The Ag conservation sub-team of the 2020 CFWI RWSP Conservation Planning Team will consist of ag, industry, and government members who will develop planning strategies and options which will be presented to the larger conservation team for consideration. The larger conservation team, consisting of members from FDEP, the Water Management Districts, environmental groups, and the sub-team leads, will offer input and guidance to the sub-team leaders. The sub-team leaders will provide an update of sub-team activities and progress at monthly meetings of the larger conservation team.

Sub-team Scope of Work:

1. Refine quantification and implementation strategy to achieve a minimum of 4.3 MGD agricultural conservation savings as identified in the 2015 CFWI RWSP. This will include a review of the FARMS programmatic approach to identify specific BMP's and the target areas for their implementation to achieve the 4.3 MGD savings, as well as to identify additional BMP's to increase agricultural water savings beyond the 4.3 MGD (See Conservation Team Task 1, 1.a)
2. Coordinate with regulatory uniform ag demand workgroup on evaluating irrigation efficiency and crop coefficients for modeling potential agricultural water savings. Conduct additional documentation and further database review to establish baseline conditions to estimate agricultural irrigation efficiency (See Conservation Team Task 2)
3. Identify ongoing funding programs that support BMP implementation and provide options for increasing the participation rates for existing programs (See Conservation Team Task 1.b)
4. Expand evaluation of agricultural conservation potential to include consideration of BMPs that could not be evaluated previously with the conservation water savings tools to expand water savings beyond the 4.3 MGD identified in the 2015 RWSP. Check existing conservation modeling tools for any BMPs that have been updated or added since the last estimates were completed. Review list of agricultural conservation BMPs and prioritize by anticipated level of savings effectiveness and estimated cost efficiency. Attempt to quantify any agricultural BMPs that are high on the priority list and are currently in practice in the CFWI, but have not been quantified using the current modeling tools. (See Conservation Team Task 1.a)
5. Explore using the data derived from H2OSAV in the development of the implementation strategy and the RWSP Update. Share information from the work with stakeholders and the Steering Committee. Develop options to include in a funding proposal to continue

~~development and support of a statewide clearinghouse as a repository for agricultural conservation data, publications, and goal based planning tools to optimize future conservation programs and promote consistency.~~ [\(See Conservation Team Task 5\)](#)

6. Support and provide input and technical information to the Communications & Outreach team for developing a comprehensive public education and outreach program for promoting water conservation to agricultural producers. [\(See Conservation Team Task 3\)](#)
7. Define set of measures in estimating the water savings that would be used for the purposes of this sub-team. [\(See Conservation Team Task 1.a\)](#)
8. Produce agricultural sub-chapter to be included in the draft water conservation chapter of the 2020 CFWI RWSP [\(See Conservation Team Task 7\)](#)