Regulatory Permits for Farm Bill Projects

Jackie Charbonneau, Ecologist Natural Resources Conservation Service September 20, 2012

Why Do We Need Permits?

• NRCS requires compliance with applicable regulations & laws for projects that we fund



When Do We Need Permits?

- Potentially impacting a T&E Species or their habitat
 - CA red-legged frog
 - CA tiger salamander
 - Alameda whipsnake
- Altering a creek or drainage
- Discharging sediment into a drainage
- Impacting a wetland



NRCS Projects that Usually Require Permits

- Pond restoration (desilting, spillway repair, etc.)
- Stream restoration
- Livestock water development (Spring development, pipeline, tanks & troughs, etc.)
- Erosion control (access road improvements, culvert improvements, etc.)

NRCS Projects that Usually Require Permits







Agencies that May Require Permits/Authorization

- Alameda County Grading
- Army Corps of Engineers
- Regional Water Quality Control Board
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- CA Department of Fish and Game
- State Water Board (water rights)



The Good News

NRCS and ACRCD can help YOU with the permits!



How ACRCD/NRCS Can Help with Permits

- NRCS is responsible for Federal ESA Consultation
 Programmatic Biological Opinion (BO) expected soon
- ACRCD coverage for State Listed species
 Voluntary Local Program (VLP) expected soon
- NRCS is responsible for Army Corps Permit

 Nationwide Permits (NWP's), Exemptions
- Other permits are landowner's responsibility, but we can help with project facilitation

Summary

- Participants that are enrolled in NRCS programs are eligible for assistance with permits
- NRCS and ACRCD have experience & relationships with regulatory agencies
- We can help you get good projects on the ground (a little patience is always helpful)



