

Subject **FW: Introducing NRCS New Assistant State Conservationist for Field Office Operations**
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Message from CA NRCS leadership for the districts

From: Curry, Allen - NRCS, Salinas, CA <allen.curry@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 13, 2021 12:20 PM
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Subject: Fwd: Introducing NRCS New Assistant State Conservationist for Field Office Operations

Good Morning, DCs!

Please forward this message to all Board members and local staff. I look forward to working with each district and it's members.

Sincerely,

Allen Curry

Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations

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Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.

- *Helen Keller*

“Helping People Help the Land”

A Message From NRCS CA

Dear Resource Conservation District Partners:

We are pleased to notify you of three new leadership selections at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), California (CA). Allen Curry has been selected as the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in Salinas covering the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and Stanislaus. Johnnie Siliznoff has been selected as the Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations in Fresno covering the counties of Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Tulare, and Tuolumne. Here is a link to the map [NRCS Office Map](#). Their assignments will be effective November 21, 2021, and they will be reaching out to you for introductions as they begin their important partnership work with Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs).

The Assistant State Conservationist for Field Operations is my direct report and responsible for working closely with employees, customers, and partners to deliver conservation programs and technical assistance, oversee staff, deliver training, and communicate agency plans, progress, and goals. In addition, they will be working with you and the District Conservationists (DC), to strengthen Local Work Groups and focus on your most critical conservation needs. They will also be working with you and the DCs to implement the California Strategic Plan which focuses on people and making progress on six key natural resource concerns, including soil health, plant vigor that includes forest health, air quality, water quality, water quantity, and enhancing habitat.

Allen Curry is currently the DC in Indio, CA. He has worked in several field and area leadership positions in Mississippi (MS) and CA including Soil Scientist, local Soil Conservationist, and as an area Resource Soil Scientist. Curry is a native of Port Gibson, MS, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant and Soil Science from Alcorn State University.

Johnnie Siliznoff is currently the Acting DC in Fresno and previously the DC in Madera. He has

worked as the Central Valley Air Quality Specialist and has extensive experience serving in several technical and leadership positions in CA, the West National Technology Support Center, and National Headquarters. Johnnie is a graduate of California State University-Fresno with a degree in Agriculture Science and has a California Pest Control Advisors license.

I would like to thank Sharon Nance and Kay Joy Barge for the dedication and service to working with NRCS and the RCDs throughout CA.

After transitioning to their new positions, Allen may be reached allen.curry@usda.gov, located at 744-A La Guardia Street, Salinas, California 93905; phone (831) 975-7763. Johnnie may be reached at johnnie.siliznoff@usda.gov, located at 1907 N. Gateway Blvd., Suite 101, Fresno, California 93727; phone (559) 490-5128. If you have any statewide questions, as State Conservationist, I can be reached at carlos.suarez2@usda.gov.


I look forward to working with you and our new team members to continue our shared commitment to conservation with our farmers, ranchers, forest landowners, and tribal nations.

CARLOS SUAREZ

State Conservationist

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Resource Conservation Districts](#)**

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agriculture*

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