

MLRP Solutions Seminar

- Date** Wednesday, April 17th, 3 - 5:15 PM
- Location** International Agriculture Center, 4500 S Laspina St, Tulare, CA 93274
- Purpose** The purpose of this seminar is to provide growers, land owners, and community members with:
- Practical information on land use options,
 - Where and how options can be best implemented,
 - Current funding sources, tools, and technical assistance,
 - and other considerations for converting ag land to uses such as Solar, Temporary Fallowing, Recharge, No-/Low-Irrigated Crops, Wildlife Grazing, and Habitat.

Agenda

3:00 - 3:25 PM	Welcome, Opening Comments, & MLRP Overview	
	Track 1	Track 2
3:30 - 4:00 PM	Temp Land Fallowing & Low/No Water Crops	Habitat & Open Space
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Solar Farms (<i>Utility & Commercial Scale</i>)	Permanent Conservation
4:30 - 5:00 PM	Recharge	Livestock Grazing
5:00 - 5:15 PM	Next Steps and Closing Comments	

Speaker Information

Welcome, Opening Comments, & MLRP Overview, *Speakers:*

Robert Gould, Managing Facilitator, Ag Innovations

Allison Tristao, Resources Coordinator, Lower Tule River and Pixley Irrigation Districts

Kathy Wood McLaughlin, Principal, TKM Consulting, Inc, Board of Directors Member, Tule Basin Land & Water Conservation Trust

Temporary Land Fallowing, *Speakers:*

Susan Long, Executive Director, Tule Basin Land and Water Conservation Trust. Susan was born and raised in the Central Valley and comes to the Trust with 27 years of experience in affordable housing with Self-Help Enterprises; an educational background in agriculture science and business from CalPoly SLO and Fresno State; and experience in local government, community development, grant management and program implementation. In her previous role as program director at Self-Help Enterprises, Long helped bring in \$263 million dollars to secure safe, affordable housing, water, infrastructure, and services for Valley residents. Long is well suited for the role, given her passion for governmental representation, agricultural knowledge, and state agency involvement in water-related issues in the Valley.

Frank Fernandes, Board President, Tule Basin Land and Water Conservation Trust. Frank is a 3rd generation farmer in Tule Subbasin where he farms 1,500 acres near Pixley and grows and harvests his own crops for his cows. He manages a young pistachio orchard. Frank's is passionate about sustainable farming practices such as regenerative farming and improving soil health. He has implemented Land Repurposing Solutions on his own farm and in his outreach to farmers in the Tule Subbasin. Frank's has supported the Capinero Creek conservation project, north of the Pixley National Wildlife Preserve, which is one example of an MLRP solution that brings hope to farming and SGMA rules.

Armando Leal, Land Following Program Farmer. Armando Leal was born and raised on a dairy farm in Tipton, CA. He has been a crop advisor for over 40 years. His family has almonds, open ground, and farms a small acreage of walnuts. He participates in both Land Trust and Land Flex programs.

Low and No Water Crop Farming, Speakers:

Susan Long, Executive Director, Tule Basin Land and Water Conservation Trust.

Andrew Glazier, Graduated with a degree in communication design. A lifelong gardener he turned his attention to California natives in 1980 while working in retail nurseries. Since then, he has grown natives and been involved in restoration grow outs, drought tolerant plants and what he calls "Residential restoration" or educating homeowners on the benefits of planting native plants to attract beneficial pollinators. He also has worked with Pistachio farmers to create pollinator hedgerows.

Solar Farms, Speakers:

Frank Leyendekker, Coldwell Solar. He serves as the Finance Manager at Coldwell Solar, located in Tulare, CA. Frank has 6 years of experience in solar development, particularly within the agriculture and manufacturing sectors, helping develop over 100 MW of solar capacity.

Recharge, Speakers:

Taylor Broadhead, Senior Manager of Water Policy, Audubon California

Allison Tristao, Resources Coordinator, Lower Tule River and Pixley Irrigation Districts

John Michael Domondon, District Engineer, Pioneer Water Company, Tea Pot Dome Water District, Vandalia Water District, and Campbell Moreland Water Company

Local farmers

Habitat and Open Space, Speakers:

Abigail Hart, Agriculture Project Director, Water Program, The Nature Conservancy

Leticia Classen-Rodriguez, Science Program Director & Environmental Science Lead, SEEN

Permanent Conservation, Speakers:

Gregory Liebau, Land Protection Program Manager, Sequoia Riverland Trust

Livestock Grazing, Speakers:

Ben Munger, Director of Mitigation and Land Management, Sequoia Riverland Trust