

Summary of Comments from the Flood Corridor Program Public Hearing on Elkhorn Basin – River Ranch Conservation Easement Acquisition

A public hearing was held on Friday, June 15, 2012 at 10:00 am to receive comments on the River Ranch Conservation Easement Acquisition Project to be funded by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) through the Flood Corridor Program. Six people were in attendance including Amy Young and David Martasian representing DWR's Flood Corridor Program. Amy Young gave an overview of the Flood Corridor Program and the purpose of the public hearing. Erik Vink who represented the project proponent, The Trust for Public Land, gave an overview of the project to acquire conservation easements over a portion of the River Ranch property. The meeting was then opened for questions and formal comments.

- There were some concerns regarding restrictions under the proposed easement, such as the ability to move soil on the property to make emergency levee repairs. A request was made to avoid such restrictions in the easements if they are proposed.
- There was a suggestion to put individual easements on the parcels in the event a portion of the property were to be sold in the future. In this scenario the easement language would more easily follow the parcel.
- There were also questions regarding the project handout and whether certain areas were to be under the easement. The mapping will be updated to show proper easement delineations.