



Opportunities and Constraints in Improving Ag Runoff – A Grower’s Perspective
Dale Huss – Ocean Mist Farms




Ocean Mist Farms –


Vertically integrated – Grower/Shipper of the Best Artichokes and Other Quality Fresh Vegetables

Over 1,500 year around employees in all aspects of the operation from operations to growing.




Ocean Mist Farms – Farming Areas: Total acres 22,000+ and over 30 different vegetable commodities.


- > Castroville, California – summer vegetable and artichoke production
- > Coachella, California – winter vegetable and artichoke production
- > Huron, California – fall and spring lettuce production ****
- > Oxnard, California – fall/spring artichoke and celery production
- > Yuma, Arizona – winter head lettuce production.
- > Santo Tomas, Baja California, and the Mexicali Valley – Year round artichoke (winter) and vegetable production

A Growers Perspective


The Opportunities – what we have done:


- ** CSIP, SVRP, SWWP
- ** Working with Elkhorn Slough and MLML on wetland development projects.
- ** The tunnel between the dams – (proposed)
- ** GWR and the Blanco Drain and Rec Ditch – (proposed).
- ** Drip irrigation
- ** Soil Testing
- ** Fertilizer reductions – reduced preplant apps
- ** New technologies



A Growers Perspective

- > The Constraints:
 - ** Flood events – Like December 2014 losses...
 - ** Tile drains – why needed – what’s being looked at.
 - ** Crop values in the Salinas Valley – land values and growing costs
 - *Buffer strips



A Growers Perspective

- Q and A