

Jobos Bay Conservation Effects Assessment Project: Partnership Success Story

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The formula for a successful partnership...

PARTNERSHIP = TEAMWORK + NETWORK



Jobos Bay CEAP Conservation Partners

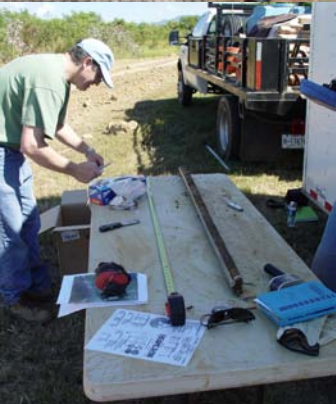
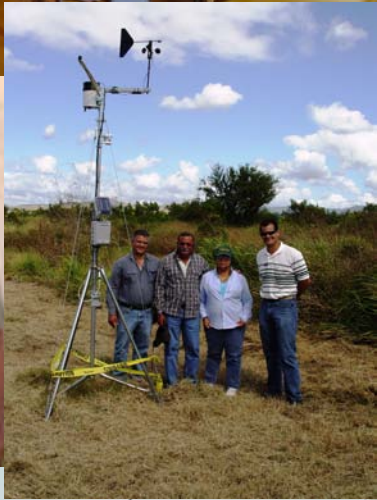


Salinas Forage, Inc.



Sudeste SCD





Principles of Partnerships for success

- Agree upon vision, mission, and goals.
- Develop mechanisms to monitor, evaluate, and report on results.
- Reinforce agency accountability for collaborative efforts through agency plans and reports.
- Clear, open, and accessible communication
- Build rapport and a working relationship.

Principles of Partnerships for success

- Strengthen relationship built on mutual trust, respect, genuineness, and commitment.
- Builds upon strengths and assets, but also on weakness areas.
- Shares and leverages responsibilities in order to balances power and enables resources.
- Establish compatible policies, procedures, and other means to operate across agency boundaries.
- Focus on solutions and share credit for accomplishments.

Partnership challenges: Project Network

- Provide and leverage technical and financial assistance
- Develop new technology and strategies for concerns arise during team-taught meeting
- Foster strong participation from the private and community sector to create opportunities
- Adapt to social and economic changes

Summary of Findings and Accomplishments:

- Jobos Bay CEAP serves as a partnership and research model for others tropical and sub-tropical regions.
- Cooperative Agreement was signed by heads of local and federal government collaborating in project.
- Total cost of project is approximately 2 millions dollars, not including in kind services from local agencies.
- Developed a communication plan to educate and communicates the conservation watershed approach.
- Developed a comprehensive whole conservation for the Salinas Forage Farm which serve as the basis to prepare EQIP contract.

Summary of Findings and Accomplishments:

- Real time weather station was installed nearby Salinas Forage Farm. Data can be accessed at http://www.jbnerr.org/investigacion_monitoria/index.html.
- 23 monitoring wells were installed; 0.5 ppb of Atrazine has been found out in monitoring well; 3 ppb inhibits photosynthesis.
- Two research technicians were trained on data sampling.
- Conservation practices evaluated are: Mulch Till, Cover Crop, Irrigation Management System, Riparian Forest Buffer, Nutrient Management y Pest Management.

Summary of Findings and Accomplishments:

- Training on center pivot irrigation system design and management was provided to NRCS employees of the Caribbean Area.
- Developed baseline assessment of coral reef health condition and soils quality characterization to compare status with future research.
- Planted 62 acres of cover crop (cowpea) as part of Plant Material Program.
- Site characterization data has been gathered to calibrate SWAT and REMM.
- National Soil Survey Laboratory conducted electromagnetic induction (EMI) test on 250 acres of farm to delineated soil properties.

Summary of Findings and Accomplishments:

- Over 50 governmental and NGO partners were trained on salts flats wetland identification.
- Sediments tramps were installed to measure pollutant transport in runoff and soils particles.
- NOAA will continue monitoring of coastal water ecosystem.
- ARS selected a Post-doctoral researcher to complete quantification of conservation practices effects.
- Cooperative agreement was signed with UPR Sea Grant Program to characterize plant composition on salt flats wetland ecosystem in order to make recommendation to improve riparian forest buffer.

Opportunities

- Memorandums of Understanding
- Cooperative Agreements
- Grant Proposals
- Technical Service Providers
- Volunteering

WHAT'S NEXT?

Expand partnership project success to watershed level, develop and transfer innovative technology to other similar areas.

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