

## ARIDLANDSINSTITUTE

DESIGN INNOVATION AT THE NEXUS OF WATER, ENERGY, AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
@Woodbury University

7500 Glenoaks Blvd  
Burbank CA 91510-7846  
818 394 3335  
aridlands@woodbury.edu  
aridlands.org

Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013

## Program: Celebrando las Acequias 2013

6<sup>th</sup> Annual Exploration of Land, Water, and Culture in the Lower Embudo Valley  
Mission Embudo, Dixon, NM

## HERE/NOW Drought, climate change, and the Lower Embudo Valley

### Morning Session: Handling the Drought [9am – noon]

Drought tests the limits of land, customs, patience, and trust. It asks us hard questions, and requires that we take stock. From 9 to 12, residents of the Lower Embudo Valley are invited to come together and respond to four questions whose answers might form a strong basis for getting through this drought together.

9:10 am: Introduction and Welcome: Estevan Arellano, Acequia Junta y Cienega;

9:20 am: Framework for Dialog/Overview + Format: Hadley + Peter Arnold, Arid Lands Institute.

#### 9:30am: **Question 1. Is it worth it?**

Why bother with the hard work of acequia culture? What are the limits of our commitment to our place, our history, and our neighbors? What are the payoffs?

9:45 am: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

#### 10:00am: **Question 2. What's not working?**

What practices are making drought harder on you? On your family? On your neighbors?

10:30 am Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

#### 10:45am: **Question 3. What might work?**

What am I open to trying? Am I open to renewing old practices? Am I open to trying new approaches?

11:15 am: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

#### 11:30am: **Question 4. What do I need to be effective? How do I find out more?**

Are there others who want to work with me on this? How can I learn from others? Where can I see examples or talk with someone who has experience?

11:45 am: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

---

**12:00 – 1:30 pm:** Lunch, for participants only.

---

## **Afternoon Session: Adapting to Climate Change** [1:30pm -5pm]

### **An Updated Watershed-Based Plan for the Lower Embudo Watershed, New Mexico**

The US Environmental Protection Agency [EPA] and the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau [NMED] have recently green-lighted a watershed-based planning process for addressing urgent water and land-use issues for the Lower Embudo Valley. The two-year process, funded by the federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h), is a direct outgrowth of ongoing efforts in the Embudo Valley community to form a long-term, collaborative program for ecological restoration and stabilization of soils, arroyos, acequias, and streams in the valley. The objective is to produce, by 2015, an updated Watershed-Based Plan (WBP) for watersheds within the lower Rio Embudo drainage, northern New Mexico. A project area map is attached.

Participants in the afternoon session will work in small groups to answer five questions that will shape the watershed-based planning process:

#### **1:30pm: Overview of the EPA Watershed-Based Planning Process: Peter Arnold**

Where we have been, where we are going, what your role might be, how today is going to work?

1:50pm: Q + A

#### **2:00pm: Question 1. What about this Valley do you cherish? What would you preserve unchanged?**

Participants will be drawing on a shared map (one map per table).

2:15pm: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

#### **2:30pm: Question 2. What is missing? What's not working? What would you change?**

What would you add? Where do you see those changes taking place?

Participants will be drawing on a shared map (one map per table).

2:45pm: Designated spokesperson summarizes table discussion: 2 minutes each.

#### **3:15pm: Question 3. Why make those changes? Why allocate that particular land to those changes? How would those changes affect the region?**

Participants will be making written annotations to their maps and discussing possible outcomes.

#### **3:45pm: Table Presentations:**

Designated spokesperson presents and summarizes each table's vision: 5 minutes each.

#### **4:30pm: Summary Overview and Question 4: What role do you see for yourself in this process?**

**5:00pm: END**