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Resource conservation chief addresses state group

Ward Hastings, director of the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District, spoke at the annual convention of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts this week in Redding.

Ward was one of 180 county Resource Conservation District representatives and conservationists

who met to discuss concerns and interests in water resources, wildlife, forestry, public lands and conservation education.

Ward spoke on special district funding and how to develop an erosion control training program.

The Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District received a

special honor from the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. for the district's conservation program and concern for natural resources. The Santa Cruz County district was ineligible for first or second place awards because it had earned one within the past five years.

The district is a unit of state government, administered by locally-

elected directors who serve without pay. It works with landowners, communities and agencies with voluntarily cooperate in conserving, protecting and developing natural resources. Technical assistance is provided by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

Other district directors are Roberta Smith-Evernden, Roger Wicht, Jim Marshall and Frank Siri.