



*Regional Watershed Advisory
Task Force*

July 1, 2013

Mike Traxinger
SDFU Legislative Director

SDFU



- Resolving watershed management issues is one of SDFU's top priorities
- Held six county meetings open to the public over the last two weeks (June 17-25 in Brown, Clark, Day, Kingsbury, Marshall, and Roberts)
- Collected an initial assessment from meeting attendees (survey)
- Continue collecting data and research best options going forward

SDFU Policy



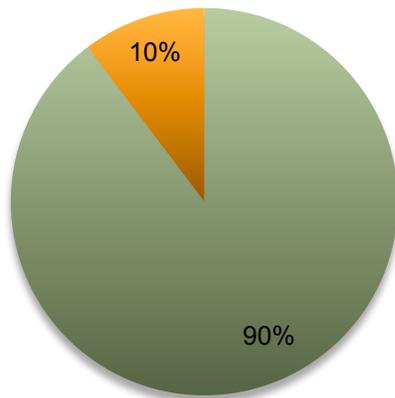
The Legislature should address :

- A cleanup of existing statutes
- Whether or not county commissioners should be compelled to be an active drainage board under state law;
- Whether or not there should be a process to require specific permits for all drainage, both surface and tile, on a specific permit
- Whether or not drainage permits and mapping should be required
- Whether or not all drainage records should be held within the respective county

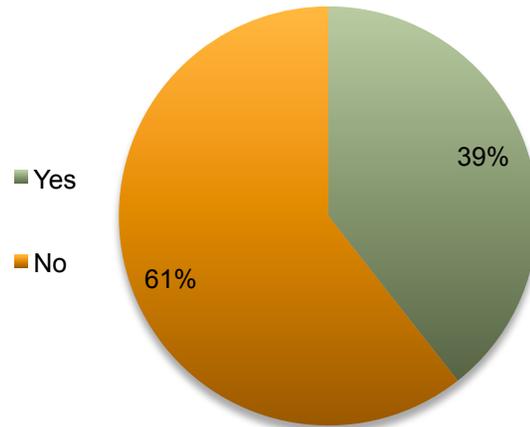
Survey



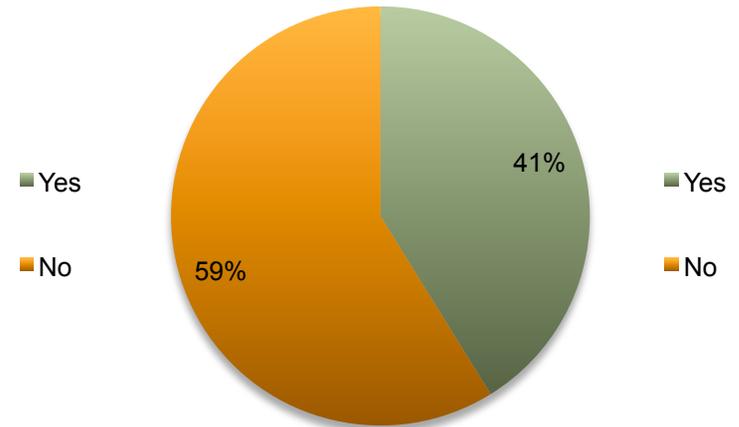
Agricultural Producers



Conducted Drainage?



Had a dispute?



- 72 Respondents / ~ 90 attendees in 6 Counties

- SDFU members & non-members

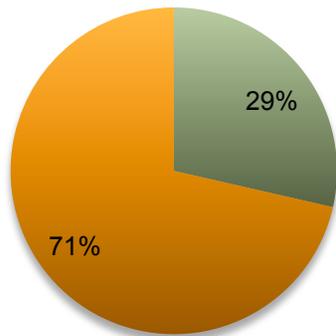
- The charts in this PowerPoint are a direct reflection of the collected responses

*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

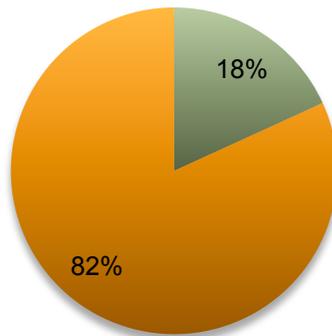
Do you believe the current drainage system is working?



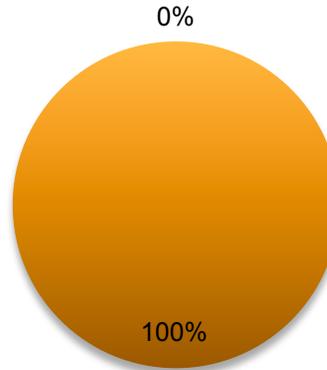
Brown County



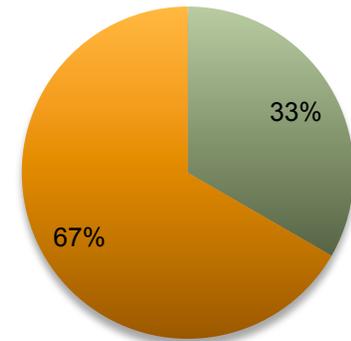
Clark County



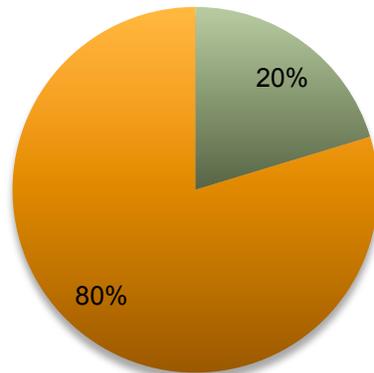
Day County



Kingsbury County



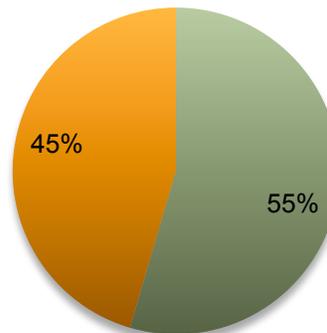
Overall



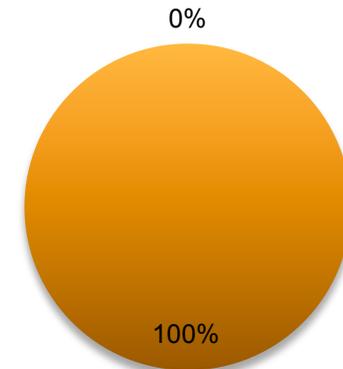
Green: Yes

Gold: No

Marshall County



Roberts County



*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

The Five Discussed Proposals and the Survey

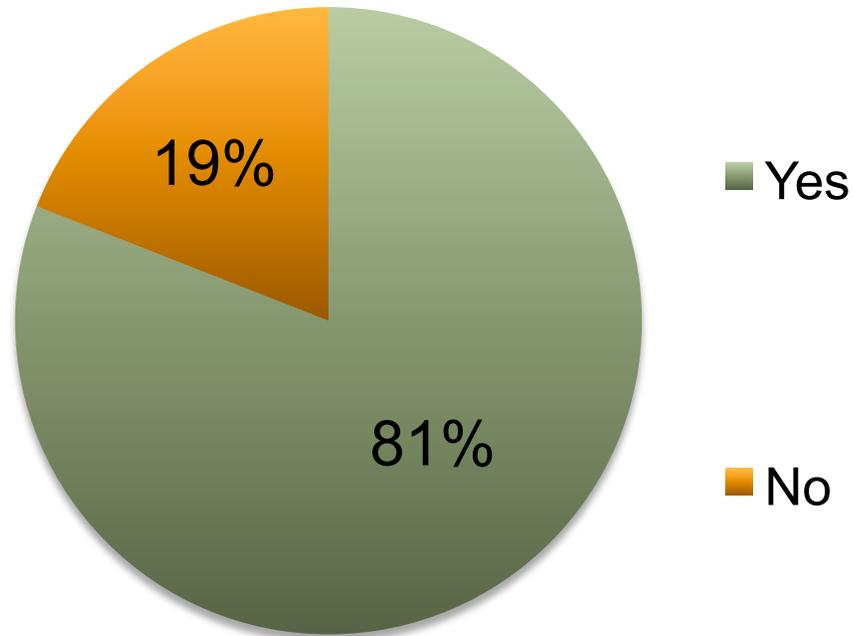


1. Mandatory Mediation of Disputes
2. Standardized Disclosure of New Projects
3. Identify Water Management Assets
4. Fund Best Practices Research
5. Water Management Districts

*This slide repeats Mr. Matt McCaulley's slide titled "Watershed Task Force Presentation – Legislative Concepts"

1. Mandatory Mediation of Disputes

Mandatory Mediation

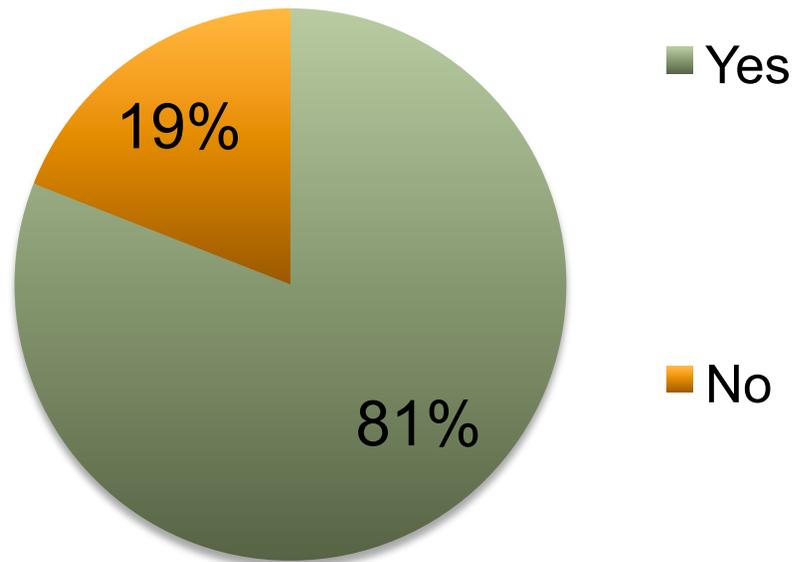


*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

2. Standardized Disclosure of New Projects



Do you support a standardized disclosure form?



*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

2. Standardized Disclosure of New Projects



What do you think should be included?

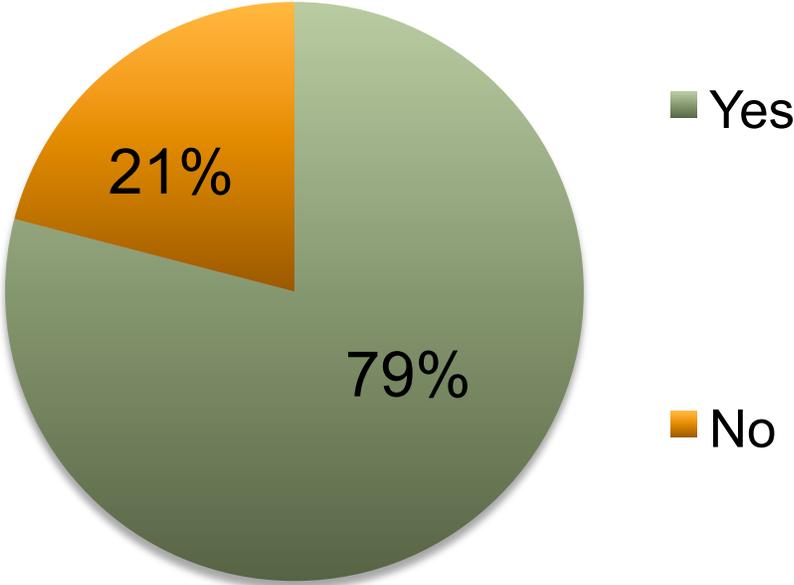


*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

3. Identify Water Management Assets



Support mapping of infrastructure

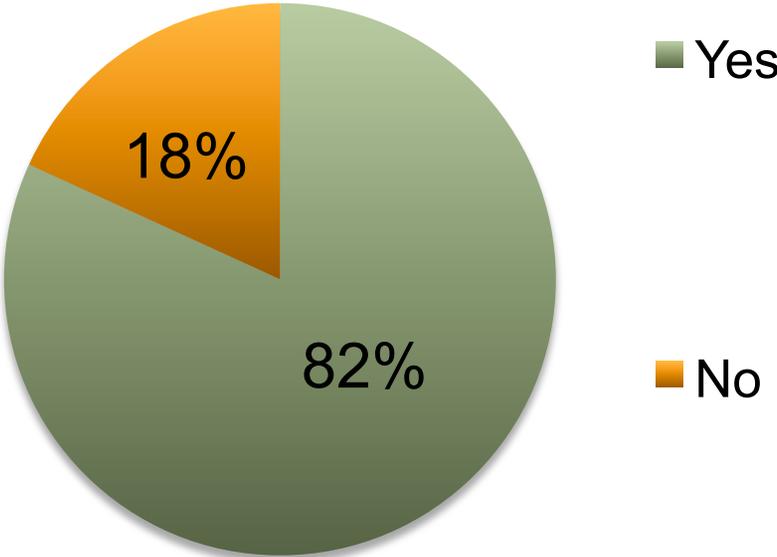


*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

5. Water Management Districts



Support for water management districts in state statute



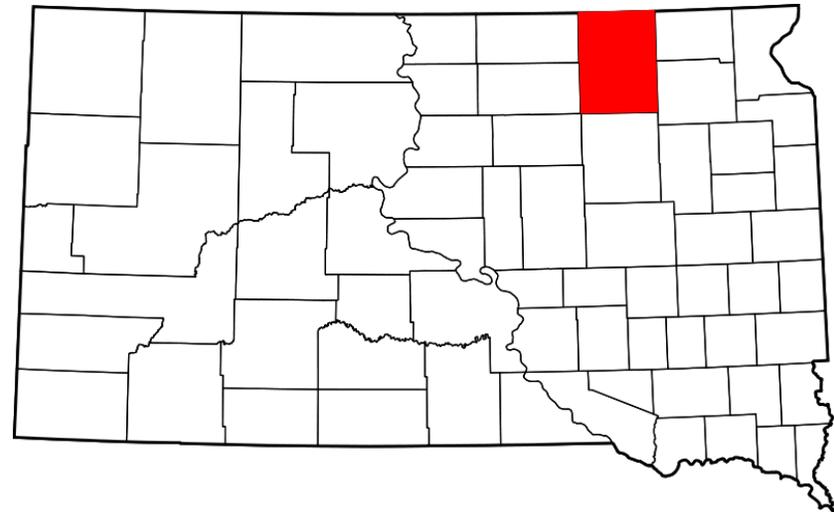
*This slide illustrates results from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Brown County



Comments from Brown County:

- Major issues with James River
- Dealing with different easement issues
- State needs to take leadership
- Need local control
- Better management for wildlife and agriculture if we managed drainage



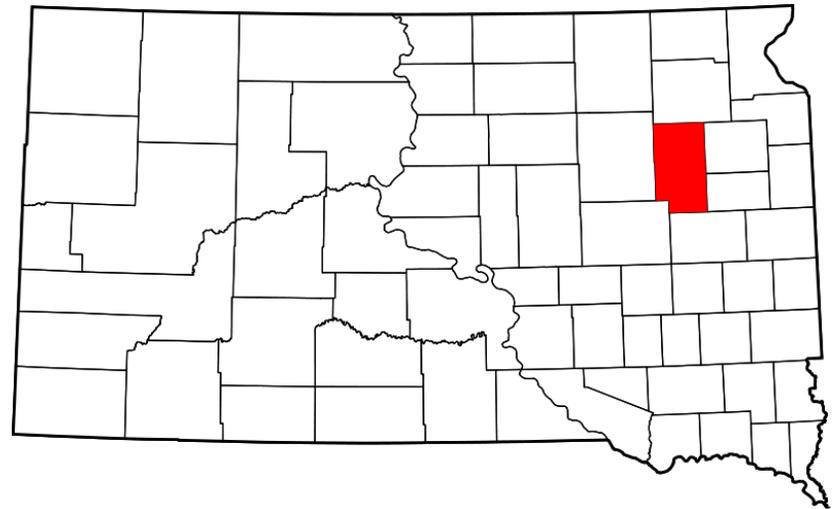
*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Clark County



Comments from Clark County:

- No statewide leadership
- Need to educate agriculture and non-agriculture
- Coordinate efforts between agriculture, conservation, state and federal agencies
- Management is key, control structure should be encouraged
- Need standards

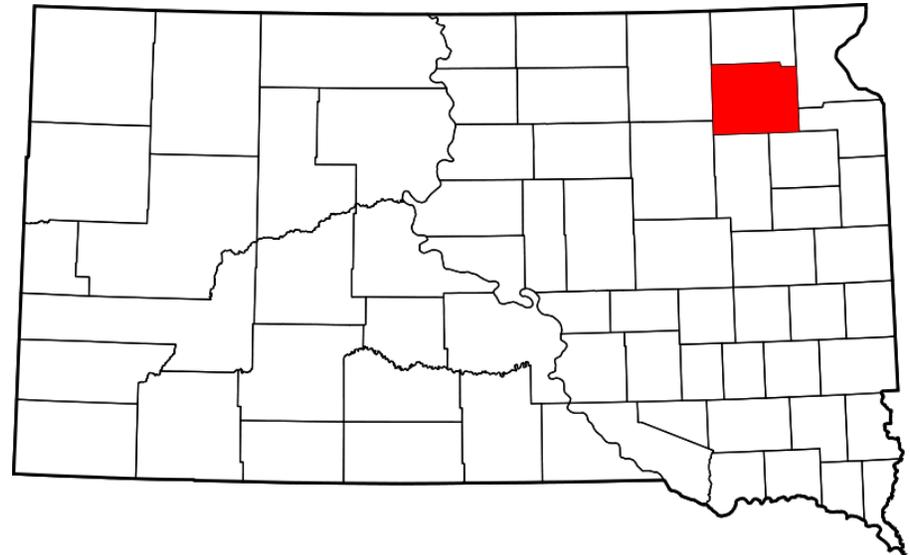


*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Day County

Comments from Day County:

- Controlled drains save money
- Issues with closed basins and lack of drainage plan
- Need infrastructure to handle and control drainage
- Liability is a key issue
- Road should not serve as a dam



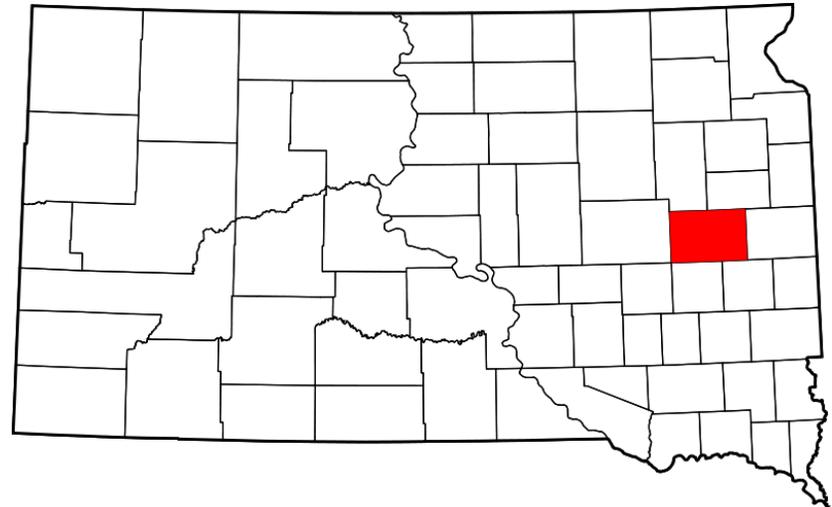
*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Kingsbury County



Comments from Kingsbury County:

- Need a uniform permit, appeal process
- County concerned about cost
- Allow flexibility to continue to form smaller watershed districts
- We need watershed districts
- There needs to be some oversight



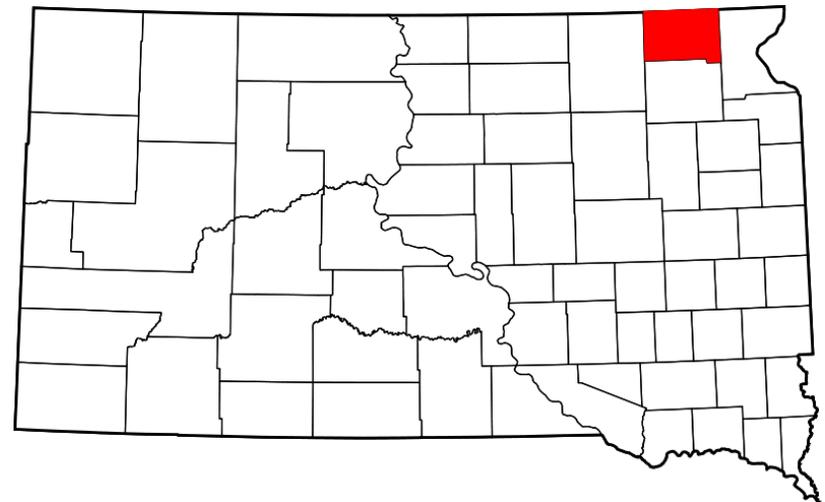
*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Marshall County



Comments from Marshall County:

- Water flows in four different directions
- Be clear what the county can and cannot do
- Currently no enforcement
- Keep it simple and fair, treat everyone the same
- This is also an economic issue
- Need flexibility to work with roadways/ditches



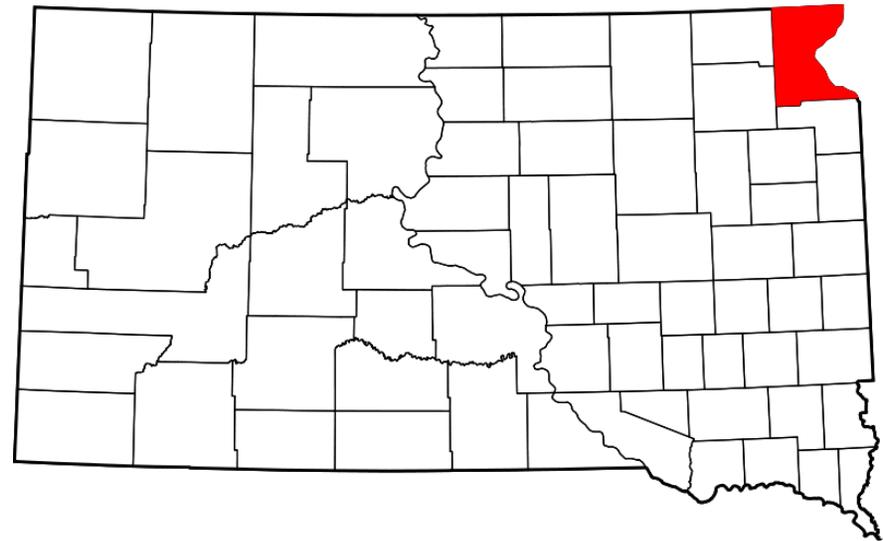
*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Roberts County



Comments from Roberts County:

- Need flexibility to allow districts to work with neighboring states
- You shouldn't need a permit/application if under a certain acreage
- Require gates or control measures
- Cleanup old drainage systems and include them in infrastructure for future
- Bring everyone into the same system



*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

The Five Discussed Proposals and the Survey



1. Mandatory Mediation of Disputes
2. Standardized Disclosure of New Projects
3. Identify Water Management Assets
4. Fund Best Practices Research
5. Water Management Districts

SDFU initially supports the concept of four of the five proposals. Additional needs must be assessed prior to support for number four (Fund Best Practices Research)



Additional Issues that need to be discussed/addressed



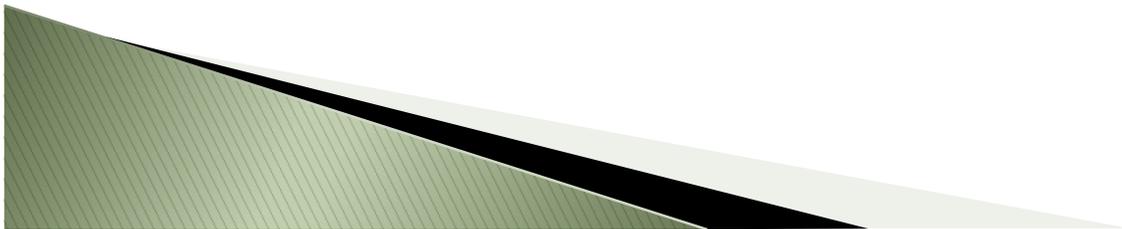
- Resources/Grants
- Transportation/Infrastructure
- Liability
- Cost
- Drought Management

*This slide displays comments from SDFU's survey and does not represent SDFU's policy or position at this time

Conclusion



- Task force's issues are complicated
- Maintain local control
- State framework needed
- Collaboration on legislative proposals
- SDFU is committed to finding workable solutions





*Mike Traxinger
Legislative Director
mtraxinger@sdfu.org
605-377-4110*