



2008 USDA-CSREES National Water Conference  
Sparks, NV

**Coordinated Management of Water Quality Protection and Food Safety Practices  
in Cool Season Vegetable Production**

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**Abstract Text:**

Efforts to exclude human pathogens such as *E. coli* O157:H7 from farms growing irrigated lettuce and leafy vegetables on California's Central Coast are conflicting with traditionally accepted strategies to protect surface water quality. Co-managing food safety and water quality requires reliable information on the impact of crop management and water quality practices on pathogen transport and survival. In the face of uncertainty many produce buyers have adopted private standards, delivered through suppliers of third party certification services in addition to recently intensified industry guidelines. This session seeks to facilitate national discussion of these emerging issues.