

NOTE: THIS WORKPLAN IS UPDATED ON AN ONGOING BASIS

❖ **Vision/Mission:** A cattle ranching industry and family way of life that is sustainable and valued.

❖ **Key Issues:**

- Maintain Fern Bridge
- Get permanent exemption for cattle trucks to use Highway 101
- Maintain slaughterhouse with USDA approval
- Viable way to dispose of dead animals

❖ **Quick Wins:**

- Meet with Hispanic Community Affairs to develop Hispanic workforce for ranching
- Articulate land use policies in the General Plan Update
- Maintain slaughterhouse with USDA approval

Ranching Cluster Goal 1 – Maintain and enhance infrastructure necessary to process and move goods.			
Strategy 1A: Improve transportation in, out and around the County.			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Get a permanent exemption for cattle trucks to travel along Highway 101		Ranching Industry	
Improve Highways 101 and 299 for interstate trucks access		Ranching Industry	
Maintain Fern Bridge...address erosion at base supports		Ranching Industry Dairy Industry Tourism Industry	
Maintain local roadways		Ranching Industry	
Strategy 1B: Maintain basic processing services with USDA approval.			

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Viable way to dispose of dead animals		Ranching Industry Dairy Industry	
Local slaughter house that has USDA approval		Ranching Industry Dairy Industry	

Ranching Cluster Goal 2 – Maintain agriculture land base in a scale that supports sustainable production.

Strategy 2A: Articulate land use policies in the General Plan Update.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
		Ranching Industry Dairy Industry Tourism Industry Crop Farming Industry Cut Flower Industry Community	

Strategy 2B: Maintain funding for the Williamson Act, enforce contracts and make WA contracts more easily accessible.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
		Ranching Industry Dairy Industry Tourism Industry Crop Farming Industry Cut Flower Industry	

Strategy 2C: Participate in development of effective strategies to maintain large tracts of open space land.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Participate in local land trusts	Buckeye Conservancy, NC Regional Land Trust	Ranching Industry Dairy Industry Tourism Industry Crop Farming Industry	
Forest regulatory agencies go through their own process by taking a real forest area and writing a Timber Harvest Plan that meets all rules, regulations and guidelines	Buckeye Conservancy		
Design and deliver a public education campaign to highlight the stewardship successes and efforts of range land owners	Buckeye Conservancy, NC Regional Land Trust		
Participate in education on estate planning			
Support way of life that neighbor helps neighbor that is part of the family ranching culture			

Strategy 2D: Repeal Estate Tax or put a cap on it to protect small, family-owned businesses.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
		Ranching Industry	

Strategy 2E: Maintain a policy of no-net loss of agriculture lands from private to government ownership.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
		Ranching Industry	

Ranching Goal 3 – Pro-actively address environmental concerns and help shape effective solutions that work on the ground.

Strategy 3A: Increase awareness and appreciation of the land and open space stewardship that the ranching community provides

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
		Ranching Industry	

Strategy 3B: Encourage best practices in management and environmental stewardship.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Increase maximum acreage of timber to qualify as “non-industrial” from 2,500 acres to an amount that a family-owned ranch can handle the cost of preparing a THP without cutting more timber and so that large tracks can be maintained for both open space and grazing-based production		Ranching Industry	
Support local watershed groups to implement effective watersheds restoration projects.	Bear River (BRCC), Yager Creek (YES), Redwood Creek Landowners Association		

Strategy 3C: Support effective regulatory agencies, practices and cooperation efforts.

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Streamline and coordinate the regulatory oversight and permitting by multiple agencies through a lead agency model.			

Strategy 3D: Build connections and relationships with other industries and community groups on common ground

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Form a natural resource or open space commission similar to the Fish & Game Commission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Involve people in local watershed groups ○ Define clear focus ○ Create regular voice to Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission ○ Staff support 			
Speak to the local community about the cultural history, way of life, and environmental stewardship efforts of the ranching community	Buckeye Conservancy		
Work with Tourism to create ranch tours and public access while pursuing ranching business			

Ranching Goal 4 – Develop workforce.

Strategy 4A: Increase availability of English and Spanish as a second language training for managers and workers

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>

Strategy 4B: Develop Hispanic workforce for ranching			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Identify strategies for management that overcome distances of grazing land and supervision			
Meet with Hispanic Community Affairs			