



Humboldt County
Farm Bureau



Humboldt-Del Norte
Cattlemen Association

Commissioner Mary Gearheart, Chair
Humboldt County Planning Commission
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501-4484

March 10, 2011

RE: Comments on Draft of Part 3, Chapter 10, Section 10.1 Combined Element Organization and 10.2 Open Space of the Humboldt County General Plan Update

Dear Chair Gearheart and Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the process of updating the Humboldt County General Plan. With this letter we are submitting our detailed written comments on section 10.1 Combined Element Organization and 10.2 Open Space of the draft General Plan Update. Our comments and suggested changes are shown in strikeout and blue within the comparison chart for your easy reference.

The main points of these comments are:

- Goal #2 Conservation of Working Lands is the most important concept in this Chapter and therefore should be Goal #1
- The Williamson Act is a very effective conservation program. It should continue to be recognized and supported by the County
- Any conservation easements suggested should be entirely voluntary
- We do not support General Update measures that would require increasing the demands on current County staff or require hiring more County staff

More generally, it is difficult to see how the goals and policies would apply given the different types of open space. Additionally, development standards should be part of the zoning ordinance and not the General Plan.

Please feel free to contact us if we can be of assistance. Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Humboldt County Resource Lands Working Group
The Buckeye ~ Humboldt County Farm Bureau
Humboldt Del Norte Cattlemen Association ~ Large Timberland Owners Group
Forest Landowners of California (Humboldt Co. Representatives)

Enclosure

CC: Planning Commissioners: Denver Nelsen; Mel Krebs; Ralph Faust; Linda Disiere; Susan Masten; Bruce Emad;

Staff: Kirk Girard; Tom Hofweber; Martha Spencer