

APPENDIX

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The District wishes to express its appreciation for the contributions of the following individuals, District staff and members of the public who participated in the preparation of this document.

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Photo Credits

Dino Bonos: Table of Contents spread (Russian River); Page 3 (Sonoma Mountain poppies); Page 7 (Red Hill hikers); and Page 21 (Lake Sonoma)

Kathleen Brennan Hunter: Table of Contents spread (cows) and Page 34 (Sonoma Mountain Trail hikers)

Anne Crealock: Table of Contents spread (Red leaf lettuce); Page 7 (farmer); Page 13 (rhubarb); Page 27 (Windsor Town Green); and Page 29 (fisherman); and District Staff:

Ryan Hagerty: Page 23 (red-legged frog)

Stephen Joseph: Table of Contents spread (Sonoma Mountain, ferns); Page 3 (Cooper's Grove); Page 4 (Cooley Ranch); Page 5 (Calabazas Creek Open Space Preserve); Page 8 (Jacobs Ranch); Page 9 (Redwoods); Page 15 (Taylor Mountain, Montini Ranch); Page 16 (Young/Armos); Page 17 (Oken); Page 19 (Tolay Lake Ranch); Page 20 (Matanzas Creek); Page 21 (Laguna de Santa Rosa); Page 22 (Mark West Creek); Page 31 (Dickson Ranch); Page 33 (Petaluma Marsh)

James Liu: Page 8 (Prince Memorial Greenway)

Kathleen Marsh: Page 11 (farm)

Stuart Martin: Page 25 (Russian River canoeing)

Gerald Moore: Page 5 (vines); Page 35 (Tolay Lake Ranch)

Jacob Newell: Page 33 (Maffia Ranch)

Marta Puente: Page 9 (Bianchi dairy); Page 11 (Martin Ranch); Page 12 (rancher and Maffia family); Page 13 (cows); Page 16 (Connolly property); and Page 31 (Maffia Ranch)

Archive: Page 17 (birders); Page 23 (Willow Creek); and Page 32 (Windsor Town Green)

LandPaths Staff: Cover (hikers); Page 25 (Carrington Coast Ranch); Page 27 (Petaluma Marsh kayakers); Page 28 (Taylor Mountain In Our Own Back Yard Program); Page 29 (Taylor Mountain hikers)

Moore Iacofano Goltsman Archive: Page 19 (owl)

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SOURCES

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American Farmland Trust, 1200 18th Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036. 800/431-1499 Internet site: www.farmland.org

Bay Area Open Space Council, 246 John Street, Oakland, CA 94611. 510/654-6591 Internet site: www.openspacecouncil.org

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The Nature Conservancy, 201 Mission Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105. 415/777-0487 Internet site: www.tnc.org

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The Trust for Public Land, 116 New Montgomery Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105. 800/714-5263 Internet site: www.tpl.org

MAPPING METHODS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Farms and Ranches

Farmlands near cities were mapped to illustrate areas of concentrated farming adjacent to cities. These areas include farmers' market certified producers, state registered organic farms, pesticide spray permit sites (agricultural uses only), and Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (2002 FMMP) designated prime, state, unique, and locally important farmland. Rangeland experts in Sonoma County identified the grasslands of the southwest, between Bodega and Petaluma, as a critical grazing region for livestock, including cows and sheep. The region was refined using assessor's information and 2002 farmland maps (State Dept. of Conservation) to create a uniform zone of large, viable areas for ranching and dairying.

Data Acknowledgements:

- Farmland Near Cities: County of Sonoma, Agricultural Commissioner's Office pesticide spray permits, registered organic farms, certified farmers' market producers, all current. California State Department of Conservation, Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (2002).

- Coastal Agriculture: North Coast GIS Lab 1999, revised by Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District 2005.
- Major Roads and Highways, Rivers: County of Sonoma, Information Systems Department, GIS Central.
- Cities and Urban Growth Boundaries: Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department.
- District Holdings and Projects, Public/Protected Land: Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.
- Major Roads and Highways, Rivers: County of Sonoma, Information Systems Department, GIS Central.
- Cities and Urban Growth Boundaries: Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department.
- District Holdings and Projects, Public/Protected Land: Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.

Greenbelts and Scenic Hillside

Greenbelts and scenic hillsides were mapped to include lands between and around cities and areas undergoing urban growth and rural subdivision. Greenbelts and Scenic Hillside include Community Separators and Scenic Landscape Units, as identified in the 1989 Sonoma County General Plan, as well as other highly visible backdrops to cities. Proposed amendments to the County General Plan were also considered.

Data Acknowledgements:

- Greenbelts and Scenic Hillside: Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District with input from technical experts from city and county planning and zoning.

Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas: Forests, Oak Woodlands and Species Rich Areas

Oak woodland and conifer forest priority areas were selected using the following steps. 1) All hardwood- and conifer-dominated communities were identified from the California Department of Forestry (CDF) vegetation map, which is based on 1990-satellite imagery with 25-meter resolution. 2) The vegetation map was updated using several other data sources in order to more accurately identify areas that have been developed or that now support intensive agriculture. 3) The remaining hardwood and conifer areas were then prioritized by selecting only core areas defined as continuous stands of oaks and conifers, separated by no more than 2 pixels (50m) of non-tree habitat (shrub, grass, water, "urban", and other). Thus, several distinct patches

of core forest can exist within a single patch of undeveloped “core habitat.” Patches of conifer or hardwood were considered disconnected if they were separated by 25 meters of either developed or agricultural land. The minimum size for core areas in the northeast, where extensive habitat remains, was 250 acres. In the southeast, where oak woodland stands tend to be much smaller, all core woodlands greater than 50 acres were included. 4) Tanoak-dominated areas mapped by the Land Cover Mapping and Monitoring Program (CDF 1998) were removed from the core areas. 5) The Laguna de Santa Rosa has highly valued Valley Oak trees. Therefore, all hardwoods mapped in the Laguna Priority Plan (Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, 2003) were used to identify remaining Valley Oaks in the Laguna de Santa Rosa. Habitats that are associated with the greatest possible number of vertebrate species (“species rich areas”) according to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Wildlife Habitat Relationship (WHR) models were mapped using the California Gap Analysis Program (CA GAP) polygon data.

Data Acknowledgements:

- Core Forest Lands and Core Oak Woodlands: IHRMP, North Coast GIS Lab 2005; Laguna Priority Plan, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation and Sonoma Land Trust 2003.
- Species Richness: IHRMP, North Coast GIS Lab 1999, derived from California Gap Analysis WHR models 1999.
- Major Highways and Rivers: County of Sonoma, Information Systems Department, GIS Central.
- Cities and Urban Growth Boundaries: Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department.
- District Holdings and Projects, Public/Protected Land: Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.

**Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas:
Aquatic Resources and Water Benefits**

Priority riparian corridors represent stream reaches determined to be important for salmonid fish species and freshwater shrimp by federal, state, and local fisheries biologists. Added to these reaches were upstream headwaters that may not currently support salmonids or freshwater shrimp but are important for water quality protection. Wetlands can be difficult to map due to their small size and ephemeral nature. Wetlands mapped

represent the best available digital information but do not include all wetlands in the county. The information used was taken from the National Wetlands Inventory for the southern part of the county south of the town of Sonoma, and vernal pools and perennial wetlands identified as part of the Laguna Priority Plan (Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation, 2003). Major groundwater basins and natural recharge areas were obtained from the Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department. The original boundaries were derived from Sonoma County Water Agency hydrology maps and the 1989 Sonoma County General Plan. The underlying source is from a surface geology study by M.E. Huffman and C.F. Armstrong (1980).

Data Acknowledgements:

- Wetlands: National Wetlands Inventory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1992, Laguna Priority Plan, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation and Sonoma Land Trust 2003.
- Riparian corridors: NOAA Salmonid Distribution Layers; Historical Distribution and Current Status of Steelhead/Rainbow Trout in Streams of the San Francisco Estuary, California,

Leidy et al (CEMAR, 2005); CalFish Steelhead Abundance Database 2005; Acquisition Plan 2000 salmonid and freshwater shrimp distribution, personal communication with Bob Coey and Bill Cox, Central Coast Region, California Department of Fish and Game 1999; CDFG surveys during 1993-2002; personal communication with Derek Acomb, Central Coast Region, California Department of Fish and Game 2005-2006; personal communication with Caitlin Cornwall, Sonoma Ecology Center 2005; Weldon Jones (CDFG, retired) coastal salmon and steelhead distribution report for NMFS 2000.

- Major Highways and Rivers: County of Sonoma, Information Systems Department, GIS Central.
- Cities and Urban Growth Boundaries: Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department.
- District Holdings and Projects, Public/Protected Land: Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.

Recreation and Education

Recreation connections mapped in this plan reflect the goal of creating connections between communities and existing parks and open spaces.

Included are many recreational priorities set forth by other county departments, such as the Regional Parks and Permit and Resource Management Departments. Added to these priorities are connections to District-protected lands where public access is planned. Mapped river access corridors further reflect the goal of the District to prioritize public access to the county's rivers and streams. The mapped corridors represent priorities designated by the Regional Parks and Permit and Resource Management Departments, and may include riverside trails, boat put-ins, and public beaches.

Data Acknowledgements:

- Recreation Connections: Draft Outdoor Recreation Plan 2003, County of Sonoma Regional Parks Department; 1989 Sonoma County General Plan, Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department; Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.
- River Access: Draft Outdoor Recreation Plan 2003, County of Sonoma Regional Parks Department; 1989 Sonoma County General Plan, Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department.
- Major Highways and Rivers: County of Sonoma, Information Systems Department, GIS Central.

- Cities and Urban Growth Boundaries: Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management Department.
- District Holdings and Projects, Public/Protected Land: Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.

MEASURES A & C

In February 1990, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors sponsored AB 3630, the enabling legislation for the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. In August 1990, the Board created the Open Space Authority to finance the acquisition of interests in agricultural and open space lands through a 1/4 percent sales tax. The Open Space Authority requested that the Board call a special election on the Authority's measure imposing a 1/4 percent sales tax and Expenditure Plan.

The District was formed under Section 5500 et. seq. of the Public Resources Code. Acquisition and management of lands by the District will conform to the provisions of the enabling legislation. Specifically, Section 6 states that the District shall not exercise the power of eminent domain. Further, the District may not

validly convey any interest in real property actually dedicated and used for park or open space purposes, or both, without the approval of two-thirds of the District's Board of Directors, and consent of a majority of the voters of the District in a special election called by the Board and held for that purpose (Section 5540).

COUNTY OF SONOMA OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FORMATION MEASURE A

Shall the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District be created and established?

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE A

RESOLUTION NO. 90-1532

Dated: August 14, 1990

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA. CONCLUDING THE PUBLIC HEARING, CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION ON THE FORMATION OF THE SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS LIMIT, ORDERING NOTICE OF ELEC-

TION, ORDERING CONSOLIDATION OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 1990, REFERRING THE MATTER TO THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION EXECUTIVE OFFICER PURSUANT TO PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 5517.1, AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION NO. 90-1419, DATED JULY 24, 1990.

WHEREAS, this Board did on July 10, 1990 adopt resolution no. 90-1286 noticing a public hearing on the question of the formation of the proposed Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District; and

WHEREAS, that public hearing has been correctly noticed and all persons present were allowed to hear and be heard; and

WHEREAS, following the conclusion of the public hearing this Board did adopt resolution no. 90-1419, dated July 24, 1990 which resolution incorrectly set forth the language of the ballot measure in a manner that does not meet the requirements of Public Resources Code section 5518;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors hereby finds, declares, determines and orders as follows:

1. That the foregoing recitations are true and correct.
2. That the public hearing is concluded.
3. The name of the district shall be the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District.
4. The reason for forming the district is to further the state policy on the preservation of open space expressed in Government Code section 65562 and to implement the Agricultural and Open Space Elements of the 1989 Sonoma County General Plan.
5. That the District shall only purchase interests in real property from willing sellers.
6. That all lands within the boundaries of the district will be benefited by being included within the district.
7. It is proposed that the district will be financed by gifts, grants, special taxes, general obligation bonds and other sources of revenue authorized by law or any combination thereof.
8. The boundaries of the district be coterminous with the boundaries of the County of Sonoma.
9. The annual appropriations limit of the district shall be \$20 million.
10. A special election on the following question is hereby called to be held on November 6, 1990:
 Shall the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District be created and established?
 YES
 NO
11. The special election is hereby ordered consolidated with the November 6, 1990 general election and the County Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to do all things required by law to conduct the election.
12. In accordance with Public Resources Code section 5517, the Clerk shall cause a certified copy of this resolution to be published once a week for three successive weeks prior to the date of the election in the Press Democrat.
13. In accordance with Public Resources Code section 5517.1, the Clerk shall deliver a copy of this resolution, within five days of its adoption, by registered mail to the Executive Officer of the Sonoma County Local Agency Formation Commission for the preparation of an impartial analysis to be included with the sample ballot.
14. That the formation of the District is exempt from the requirements

of the California Environmental Quality Act as a program or project which is submitted to a vote of the people [California Administrative Code §15378(b)(4)].

15. That resolution no. 90-1419, dated July 24, 1990, is hereby rescinded.

SUPERVISORS:

NICHOLAS: absent

HARBERSON: aye

SMITH: absent

CARPENTER: aye

ESPOSTI: aye

AYES: 3

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 2

SO ORDERED

COUNTY OF SONOMA AGRICULTURE AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION: MEASURE C

Shall the people of Sonoma County approve an ordinance for agricultural land preservation and open space acquisition, imposing a 0.25 percent sales tax for a period not to exceed 20 years, with an annual appropriations limit of \$40 million?

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE C

AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE EXPENDITURE PLAN

EXHIBIT A

The purpose of this expenditure plan is to implement the 1989 Sonoma County General Plan by preserving agricultural land use and open space. This purpose will be accomplished primarily through the purchase of development rights from willing sellers in areas of the County which are designated in the General Plan Open Space Element but may include the purchase of fee interests for public recreation where the public use would not be inconsistent with the Open Space designation provided below.

Designated open space areas include community separators, scenic landscape units, scenic corridors, critical habitat areas and riparian corridors.

- I. Community separators are generally located between cities, providing visual relief from continuous urbanization. These lands are frequently subject to development pressures, and therefore, have been identified as priority sites for acquisition to prevent urban sprawl, to retain the rural and open character of the County and to preserve agricultural uses.

2. Scenic landscape units and scenic corridors are areas of high visual quality.
3. Critical habitat areas and riparian corridors, such as wetlands, rare and endangered species locations, fresh and salt water marshes, oak savannahs, streams and watercourses, are environmentally sensitive areas requiring protection and careful management.
4. Other areas of biotic significance which may be adversely impacted by development and incompatible land use are the Petaluma River, Laguna de Santa Rosa, and San Pablo Bay margin.
5. Other open space projects including, but not limited to, urban open space projects within incorporated areas of Sonoma County. Funds for these projects will be available on a competitive matching grant basis, with preference given to acquisition and development projects which affect both incorporated and unincorporated lands and watercourses. Examples of such projects include restoration of the Petaluma River and Santa Rosa Creek.

This expenditure plan shall be administered by the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open

Space District and the Authority shall enter into a contract with the District for that purpose.

DIRECTORS:

ALYS: aye
 ANDERSON: absent
 COOKE: aye
 GILLEN: aye
 GOUIG: aye
 MERZ: aye

AYES: 5
 NOES: 0
 ABSTAIN: 0
 ABSENT: 1

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared the above and foregoing ordinance duly adopted and

SO ORDERED

s/ Charles Cooke, Chairperson
 Attest: s/ Eeve T. Lewis