

## Appendix B

### **BRBNA Conservation Partnership: Organization and Committee Statements**

#### BRBNA CONSERVATION VISION

In 2003, the Partnership completed its first strategic plan. As part of the planning process the Partnership developed an overall conservation vision for the BRBNA and a set of conservation and stewardship goals.

*It is the year 2030. The 785,000-acre BRBNA is an expansive landscape composed of publicly owned wild, resource, and recreation lands; and well-managed private lands, ranches, and vital agricultural operations. The landscape supports a variety of resource-appropriate recreation activities. The BRBNA is protected from urban sprawl through a combination of public ownership, conservation easements, and the efforts of conscientious landowners. New housing and visitor services are located in the gateway communities that border the BRBNA, further protecting this extraordinary region. The region is renowned for its biodiversity, undisturbed natural processes and scenic beauty. Visitors enjoy views and vistas of the serene landscape and appreciate the variety of resource-based activities it affords – research and academic study of the sensitive natural areas, ranching, agricultural operations, and recreation. The public, nonprofit and private landowners within the BRBNA are all partners in the BRBNA Conservation Partnership. This group actively works together to conserve and enhance the sustainability, biodiversity and productivity of the BRBNA's resources, and to address new challenges as they arise.*

#### BRBNACP STRATEGIC GOALS

The Partnership has five strategic goals that guide its activities and decision-making. These are:

- Strategic Goal 1: Foster coordination and collaboration among the partners.
- Strategic Goal 2: Support the partners' efforts to conserve, enhance and manage the BRBNA.
- Strategic Goal 3: Provide research, information, and education services to the partners.
- Strategic Goal 4: Educate the public about conservation of the BRBNA.
- Strategic Goal 5: Build a strong and lasting organization with the structure and adequate financial capacity to support the mission of the Partnership.

#### BRBNACP GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Five principles guide the activities and decisions of the Partnership. Activities that do not conform to these principles are not undertaken by the Partnership.

- Preserve, protect and enhance natural resource values of the BRBNA including its lands, wildlife, plants, creeks and bodies of water.
- Support conservation-based land-use activities and sustainable economic development in the BRBNA.
- Respect the rights of private landowners.
- Encourage resource-compatible, non-growth inducing public recreation facilities on public lands.
- Consider all positions on an issue but only support activities when the Partnership has reached consensus.

## BRBNA WORKING RANCHES CONSERVATION GOALS

### Land Conservation

- Work in partnership with local land trusts, the Rangeland Trust and other similar organizations, to promote existing programs that allow for donation of conservation easements or that compensate ranchland owners for relinquishing their development rights
- Through the *Conservation Framework*, promote opportunities for protecting those lands of highest priority with regard to habitat, ranching, and recreation values.

### Stewardship

- Promote and support stewardship efforts that demonstrate “adaptive management” – incorporating research into conservation through the integration of design, management and monitoring.
- Through collaborative efforts and willing participation of landowners, support efforts that protect environmentally sensitive resources, particularly riparian areas and habitat for rare species.
- Promote cooperative efforts to ensure that ranching land uses are conducted in such a way as to be consistent with protecting environmental resource values in nearby protected areas.
- Promote restoration of degraded areas and enhancement of habitat values.
- Promote the control and elimination of harmful exotic and invasive species.
- Encourage appropriate fire management, consistent with promoting habitat values as well as private property.

### Economically Sustainable Ranching

- Assist in promoting brand identification for locally produced, grass-fed livestock and other sustainably produced ranching products.
- Develop a scaleable business model for the production of grass-fed livestock that is optimized for both profitability and beneficial land stewardship.
- Promote field-testing and monitoring of various grazing patterns that can potentially reduce invasive weed populations while maintaining appropriate livestock growth rates.
- Seek water supply sufficient to carry local grass fed herds through the late summer in order to eliminate the need to truck cattle to out-of-state pasture for some portion of each year. Consider reuse of treated wastewater from Berryessa area waste treatment systems.
- Support efforts to develop local infrastructure for livestock slaughter and packaging.

## **BLUE RIDGE BERRYESSA NATURAL AREA TRAILS AND RECREATION**

### **VISION**

A natural area which is a mosaic of conservation and recreation lands, and working landscapes linking Lake Berryessa to the Blue Ridge and to the creeks, hills, valleys, and communities within the Putah and Cache Creek watersheds.

### **MISSION - "Connecting People to Nature"**

To promote opportunities to enjoy the area's unique recreation resources, while fostering respect, sustainable use, and active community stewardship in the conservation of the region's natural resources and unique biodiversity.

### **GOAL AND OBJECTIVES**

Primary Goal: Promote trails and other nature-based recreation while also encouraging resource conservation, protection of the natural values of the BRBNA, and respect for private property.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- ✓ Support the creation of a regional trail system on recreation lands, providing hiking, biking, and horseback-riding opportunities and appropriate nature-based recreational facilities for both day use and backcountry experiences. .
- ✓ Where overnight accommodations and supporting recreational facilities are planned or located within the BRBNA, encourage environmentally sensitive design and development compatible with nature-based recreation.
- ✓ Encourage balanced water based recreation considering both the desire for motorized boating and an interest and need for quiet areas for hiking, fishing, paddling, swimming and enjoying nature around the lakeshore and throughout the BRBNA.
- ✓ Promote diverse recreation opportunities for learning about the BRBNA's natural resources and unique biodiversity.
- ✓ Promote educational opportunities to develop nature-based outdoor recreation skills.
- ✓ Promote community involvement in the development, maintenance, management, and stewardship of trails and recreational facilities.

# Preserving Cultural Resources in the BRBNA

## Vision Statement

The BRBNA Conservation Partnership appreciates the immense societal benefits and educational opportunities that derive from preserving archeological, historical and other culturally important resources. Public members of the Partnership, including federal, state, county, municipal, and city agencies, strive to uphold the laws and regulations requiring that cultural resources be taken into account as part of their project planning efforts, as well as in the permits they issue and private projects they help fund. Private landowners in the Partnership recognize that they may have cultural resources on their property, and make every effort to prevent looting and vandalism, and, if applicable, to comply with state and federal law by avoiding negative impacts to these resources through development or other land use activities. The Partnership as a whole promotes cooperation among its Partners in the preservation of cultural resources and supports research and education that furthers understanding and appreciation of their value.

**Goal:** To inform the Partners and general public about the importance of cultural resources in the overall vision and mission of the Partnership, lay out a basic construct of how the Partners and the Partnership can promote the preservation of cultural resources, and provide a broad overview of the state of knowledge about these resources in the region.

**Definitions:** Archaeological resources include prehistoric remains which represent Native American occupation of the region prior to the arrival of Europeans (ca. 1854), and historic remains which represent post-European contact activities (over 50 years old). Information about prehistoric and historic archaeological remains, which include sites, districts, buildings, structures, objects and traditional cultural properties, is generally obtained through scientific investigations conducted by archaeologists, ethnographers, historians, and other cultural resource management (CRM) professionals.

Traditional cultural resources are those utilized by the Native American community for maintenance of traditional cultural practices such as hunting, gathering and lithic procurement. Information about these resources is generally obtained through consultation with tribal governments and traditional practitioners.

## CONSERVATION PRIORITIES

Cultural resource conservation priorities are described below. All cultural resources, regardless of conservation priority, must be addressed within the framework of the state and federal laws designed to protect them.

- Traditional Native Lands.
- Lands that are examples of the BRBNA's regional history including areas of early non-Native American settlement and the history of mining in the region.
- Sites that are threatened due to erosion, vandalism, or looting.
- Sites that are subject to development threat
- Sites that can meet multiple use objectives (e.g. cultural resource conservation and recreation).