HUMBOLDT COUNTY RANGELANDS

Analysis conducted by Northcoast Regional Land Trust.
Questions Asked

• What is the **productive of capacity** of rangelands for beef, dairy and produce?
• How do **revenues relate to the cost of land** for purchase or lease?
• Are local producers planning for **succession**?
• How do **regulations** affect Ag lands?
• What is the impact of **public acquisitions** on bottomlands productivity?
• What could **sea level rise** mean for bottomlands?
Existing Rangelands

487,000 acres

Includes:

- 12% in bottomlands (60,000)
- 88% in uplands (427,000)
- 86% private (419,000)
- 14% public (68,000)

North Coast Dialogues
Rangelands Analysis
427,000 acres

- 85% is privately owned
- Supports approximately 1 cow/30 acres (or 0.03 cows/acre)
- Total carrying capacity = approx 14,000 head in uplands

North Coast Dialogues
Rangelands Analysis
60,000 acres

- 92% is privately owned
- Supports approximately 1 cow/acre
- Total carrying capacity = 60,000 head in bottomlands
Productive Capacity for Beef and Dairy

- Capacity of Uplands = 14,000 head (19%)
  (thirty acres/cow)
- Capacity of Bottomlands = 60,000 head (81%)
  (one acre/cow)
- Total Capacity = 74,000 head

**NOTE:** 81% of the carrying capacity exists on 12% of the rangelands.

**NOTE:** Historic Average (10-yr) = 50,000 head (67% of capacity)
Threats to Rangeland Productivity

Per Acre Gross Revenue Generation vs. Price of Land in Bottomlands

North Coast Dialogues
Rangelands Analysis
Other Threats to Rangeland Productivity

- **No heir to continue their Ag operations**
  - 37% of dairy producers, 27% of beef cattle producers, 65% of farmers

- **No estate plan to protect their land**
  - 65% of producers do not have an estate plan in place.

- **May sell their land within 15 years**
  - 42% of dairy producers, 25% of beef cattle producers, 36% of farmers

- **Regulations**
  - 50% of producers agree that regulations have forced them to consider selling their land or retiring.
  - 73% agree that regulations limit their ability to make business and land improvements to their Ag operations.
Private Bottomlands

55,000 acres (92% of total bottomlands)

- 63% exists in ownerships smaller than 160 acres.
- 7% exists in ownerships larger than 600 acres.
- Carrying Capacity = 55,000 head

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Rangelands Analysis
Public Bottomlands

4,958 acres

• 41% is State owned.
• 29% is Federally owned.
• 17% is City owned.
• Carrying Capacity =
  4,958 head

North Coast Dialogues
Rangelands Analysis
Public ownership represents 8% of the Bottomlands carrying capacity. Production has been decreased by 47% on those lands which could have generated approximately $1.2 million in annual revenue.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total acres</th>
<th>Acres Out of Production*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>2,031</td>
<td>1,320</td>
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<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>1,457</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>City</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>107</td>
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<td>County</td>
<td>531</td>
<td>531</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tribal</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL:</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,958</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,378</strong></td>
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*Approximation based on best data available

North Coast Dialogues
Projected Sea Level Rise

Note: projections do not account for existing infrastructure such as levee systems.

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Rangelands Analysis