

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF GLENN
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 94-094

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING LANDOWNER OAK
MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES.**

WHEREAS, the California Board of Forestry has recommended action to support oak woodland protection through local efforts; and,

WHEREAS, privately owned rangelands in Glenn County, have oak trees growing on them, to varying degrees, and these trees provide multiple uses, including production of food fiber, grazing, fuel, wildlife habitat, and recreation; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Glenn recognizes the importance of private property rights and the necessity of establishing guidelines that will not infringe on private property rights; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Glenn endorses the concept that landowners be allowed the maximum right of self-determination for private property use; and,

WHEREAS, the economic viability of the agricultural enterprises operating within these oak rangelands must be protected; and,

WHEREAS, the County of Glenn recognizes that responsible stewardship of these lands by landowners is important in sustaining the balance of the environment and long-term multiple use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Glenn County Board of Supervisors does hereby endorse the sustained management of oak trees on private rangelands in conjunction with traditional multiple uses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Voluntary Guidelines for Oak Rangeland Management in Glenn County attached as Exhibit "A", are hereby adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

1. Landowners who wish to harvest oak on these rangelands are hereby encouraged to develop, voluntarily, their own oak management plans for properties in Glenn County. Landowners are encouraged to contact available private and public sources for expert assistance and utilize the Voluntary Guideline for Oak Rangeland Management in Glenn County in the development of their plan.
2. Local government agencies and private organizations are encouraged to provide copies of the Guidelines and related materials and to offer workshops on oak rangeland management and conservation to landowners, Realtors, developers and community organizations.
3. The Planning Director shall annually conduct a meeting for owners of private rangelands to evaluate the progress of educational programs on oak rangeland management and the effect of the Voluntary Guidelines for Oak Rangeland Management in Glenn County in sustaining oak rangeland habitat in Glenn County. Notice of the meeting shall be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation not less than ten days prior to the meeting and *by such* other means as the Planning Director deems appropriate. The Planning Director shall report to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors regarding the results of the meeting.
4. The adoption of the Voluntary Guidelines for Oak Rangeland Management in Glenn County is Categorically Exempt according the Section 15307 of the Guidelines for the Environmental Quality Act which states the following:

Class 7 consists of actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state law or local ordinance to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of a natural resource where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment.

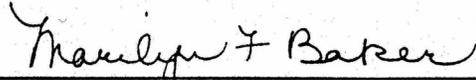
This Resolution was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Glenn at a regular meeting thereof on
August 2, 1994 , 1994, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Harris, Mudd, Hansen, Burbank, and Baker (Chairman)

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None



Marilyn F. Baker
CHAIRMAN,
Board of Supervisors,
Glenn County, California

ATTEST:



Connie Oreggia Deputy
for Carolyn Davis, County Clerk-Recorder
and ex officio Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Glenn County, California

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



David Frank
DAVID FRANK, COUNTY COUNSEL Glenn County, California

VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR OAK RANGELAND MANAGEMENT IN GLENN COUNTY

INTRODUCTION

Glenn County is a relatively small rural county in the northern Sacramento Valley. The unincorporated area is sparsely populated and urban encroachment has been minor. According to the Glenn County Planning Department, areas in Glenn County with hardwood rangeland are planned and zoned for 160 acre agricultural parcels. No hardwood rangeland has been subdivided in the past ten years.

In addition to the 160 acre minimum parcel size, the Glenn County General Plan policies discourage urban development in areas of hardwood rangeland, promote protection of native biological habitats, focus development within urban limit lines (which are not located in hardwood rangeland areas), protect watersheds from poor development practices, and promote existing agricultural uses in large contiguous areas of the foothills.

Compared to its neighbors, Glenn County also has relatively little "woodland"--forest land having at least ten percent canopy cover, but incapable of producing twenty cubic feet per acre per year of industrial wood. According to the most comprehensive inventory of hardwoods in the State (Bolsinger, 1988), Glenn County had 82,000 acres of woodland in 1985, which ranked it 32 of all the State's counties. A more recent inventory by the Forest and Rangeland Resources Assessment Program estimated that Glenn County currently has over 90,000 acres of woodland with ten percent or greater canopy cover, and another 43,000 acres with less than ten percent canopy cover (Greenwood et al, 1993).

While there has been some woodcutting for range improvement, this activity as been fairly limited. In 1990, 1991, and 1992, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF), conducted an aerial monitoring of firewood harvesting throughout the State. During this interval, they observed only five cuts of over ten acres in size in Glenn County (Bleier 1993). The total area affected by these cuts was 1330 acres, for an annual average harvest of 443 acres.

The CDF report estimated that average canopy level in these cuts was reduced from around fifty percent to around five percent. While some dispute the methodology used to estimate the pre-canopy levels (and feel they were probably overestimated), these figures indicate that the total number of cords of hardwoods harvested annually in Glenn County during this period was approximately 4000 (443 acres times nine cords per acre).

According to Standiford (1990), the annual growth rate on the remaining 90,000 acres in Glenn County would be well over 6000 cords (Assuming an average initial stocking of ten cords per acre, and an extremely slow growth rate of .068 cords/acre/year). If the growth were higher, the production would, in turn, be greater. Also, this estimate ignores, the growth on the 43,000 acres with less than ten percent canopy cover, which could be considerable. Clearly, in Glenn County, the amount of hardwoods being grown exceeds the amount being harvested, and the hardwood resource is currently sustaining itself.

GUIDELINES

A. Objective

Historically, range management in Glenn County has recognized the importance of livestock and wildlife and such management has been done in a manner to benefit both and still maintain oak rangelands. Voluntary guidelines have been established to sustain oak rangelands for the conservation of oak resources. These Guidelines cannot violate or infringe on private property rights.

B. Resources

The Planning Director shall mail a letter to persons known to own more than ten acres of oak rangeland informing them of these guidelines and of the educational resources available through UC Cooperative Extension, the California Oak Foundation and public resource agencies. In addition, press releases will be used to notify the general public of these Guidelines to promote the sustained management of oak rangelands in the County.

C. Voluntary Guidelines

1. All landowners who wish to harvest oak trees are encouraged to voluntarily develop an oak management plan for their property, utilizing information and resources of the University of California Cooperative Extension and other local, state and federal agencies.
2. When trees are harvested--either for thinning, range improvement, or firewood--it is recommended that whenever possible, the harvest follows the natural patterns of oak growth on the landscape.
3. Harvesting plans should ensure that harvest areas are protected from excessive erosion, that sedimentation in riparian areas is minimized and that wildlife habitat is protected and enhanced. Tree cutting in or near actively eroding gullies or streams should be avoided, and brush that is used for erosion control should be carefully staked or anchored.

4. The practice of clearcutting and the widespread poisoning of stumps to prevent sprouting is strongly discouraged. The landowner's oak management plan should address canopy cover, seedling regeneration, stump sprouting and sustainability.
5. Leaving brush piles and trees in various stages of development and canopy cover is encouraged to enhance the general environment.
6. Landowners are also encouraged to address the following specific issues in their voluntary oak management plan:
 - a. The preservation of wildlife corridors and habitat.
 - b. The protection of existing oaks during construction
 - c. Careful construction of roads, cuts and fills, building foundations, and septic systems to avoid excessive damage to oak roots, including compaction from heavy equipment.
 - d. The prevention of downstream erosion and sedimentation resulting from poor road design.
 - e. The maintenance of the health and vigor of existing trees by minimizing such practices as irrigation and landscaping around mature trees.

D. Revision of Voluntary Guidelines

It is recognized that it may be necessary to revise these guidelines as additional information becomes available and/or the status of the oak resources in Glenn County changes. The oak rangeland owners are invited to evaluate these guidelines at their annual meetings and make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors as deemed necessary.