California Rangeland Resolution

The undersigned recognize the critical importance of California's privately owned rangelands, particularly that significant portion that encircles the Central Valley and includes the adjacent grasslands and oak woodlands, including the Sierra foothills and the interior coast ranges. These lands support important ecosystems and are the foundation for the ranching industry that owns them.

WHEREAS, these rangelands include a rich and varied landscape of grasslands, oak woodlands, vernal pools, riparian areas and wetlands, which support numerous imperiled species, many native plants once common in the Central Valley, and are home to the highest diversity and density of wintering raptors anywhere in North America;

WHEREAS, these rangelands are often located in California's fastest-growing counties and are at significant risk of conversion to development and other uses;

WHEREAS, these rangelands, and the species that rely on these habitats, largely persist today due to the positive and experienced grazing and other land stewardship practices of the ranchers that have owned and managed these lands and are committed to a healthy future for their working landscapes;

WHEREAS, these rangelands are a critical foundation of the economic and social fabric of California's ranching industry and rural communities, and will only continue to provide this important working landscape for California's plants, fish and wildlife if private rangelands remain in ranching;

THEREFORE, we declare that it is our goal to collaboratively work together to protect and enhance the rangeland landscape that encircles California's Central Valley and includes adjacent grasslands and oak woodlands by:

- Keeping common species common on private working landscapes;
- Working to recover imperiled species and enhancing habitat on rangelands while seeking to minimize regulations on private lands and streamline processes;
- Supporting the long-term viability of the ranching industry and its culture by providing economic, social and other incentives and by reducing burdens to proactive stewardship on private ranchlands;
- Increasing private, state and federal funding, technical expertise and other assistance to continue and expand the ranching community's beneficial land stewardship practices that benefit sensitive species and are fully compatible with normal ranching practices;
- Encouraging voluntary, collaborative and locally-led conservation that has proven to be very effective in maintaining and enhancing working landscapes;
- Educating the public about the benefits of grazing and ranching in these rangelands.

California Rangeland Resolution Signatories

Agricultural - Natural Resources Trust of Contra Costa County

Alameda County Board of Supervisors

Alameda Co. Resource Conservation District

Amador Resource Conservation District

American Farmland Trust

American Land Conservancy

Audubon California

Bureau of Land Management

Butte County Resource Conservation District

Butte Environmental Council

Calaveras Co. Resource Conservation District

California Association of Resource Conservation

Districts

California Cattlemen's Association

California CattleWomen's Association

California Chapter of the International Soil and

Water Conservation Society

California Climate and Agriculture Network

California Council of Land Trusts

California Deer Association

California Department of Conservation

California Dept of Fish and Game

California Dept of Food and Agriculture

California Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection

California Farm Bureau Federation

California Grazing Lands Coalition

California Invasive Plant Council

California Native Grasslands Association

California Native Plant Society

California Open Lands

California Rangeland Trust

California Resources Agency

California Wildlife Foundation/California Oaks

California Wool Growers Association

Cal-Pac Section Society For Range Management

Central Coast Rangeland Coalition

Central Sierra Region of Resource Conservation

Districts

Central Valley Bird Club

Central Valley Land Trust Council

Chimineas Ranch Foundation

City of Livermore

Coarsegold Resource Conservation District

Committee for Green Foothills

Community Alliance with Family Farmers

Contra Costa Resource Conservation District

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

Defenders of Wildlife

Ducks Unlimited

East Bay Regional Park District

El Dorado Resource Conservation District

Endangered Species Coalition

Environmental Defense

Friends of Swainson's Hawk

Glenn County Resource Conservation District

Hollister Ranch

Humboldt State University Rangeland Resources

Institute for Ecological Health Jumping Frog Research Institute

Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo

Land Trust for Santa Barbara County

Lassen Land & Trails Trust

Marin Agricultural Land Trust

Marin County Resource Conservation District

Mariposa Co. Resource Conservation District

Middle Mountain Foundation

Napa County Board of Supervisors

National Wild Turkey Federation

National Cattlemen's Beef Association

Natural Resources Conservation Service Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Nevada Co. Resource Conservation District

Nevada County Land Trust

Northern California Regional Land Trust

Placer County Resource Conservation District

Placer Land Trust

Planning and Conservation League

Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

Sacramento River Watershed Program

Sacramento Valley Conservancy

Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau

San Joaquin Et Al

San Joaquin Raptor/Wildlife Rescue Center

San Joaquin Valley Conservancy

San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors

Sierra Foothills Audubon Society

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Solano Land Trust

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

State Water Resources Control Board

Sustainable Conservation

Sutter County Resource Conservation District

Tehama County Resource Conservation

District

The Nature Conservancy

Trust for Public Land

Tuleyome

Tuolumne Co. Resource Conservation District

University of California

UC California Rangeland Research and

Information Center

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource

Conservation District

US Fish and Wildlife Service

US Forest Service

VernalPools.org

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District

Wildlife Conservation Board

WildPlaces

Yolo County Board of Supervisors

Yolo County Resource Conservation District

Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

July 30, 2010