

**NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT IS A DRAFT AND UPDATED ON AN ONGOING BASIS**

❖ **Vision/Mission:** A vital, sustainable forest products industry whose businesses are responsibly managed and responsive to the needs of the environment, the economy and the community of Humboldt County.

❖ **Key Issues:**

- Overkill regulation with multiple layers of regulation and agencies competing for authority
- Achieving predictability in the regulatory environment and an ability to anticipate return on investment
- The local community’s understanding and relationship to the local Forest Products Industry.

❖ **Quick Wins:**

- Define and execute a plan to communicate with the community about the Forest Products Industry and practices.
- Take key people and elected officials on a tour of working forests.
- Work with the Tourism industry to include “working forests” in their promotion of the Redwood Coast.
- Document what the local Forest Products industry voluntarily spends on “environmental restoration.”
- Basic skills training for employees.

**Forest Products Industry Cluster Goal 1 – Apply efficient mitigation practices that both protect the environment and allow timberland owners see a return on investment in an international market.**

**Strategy 1A: Articulate land use policies that support timber management, industrial development *and* enhance quality of life for residents.**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Articulate timberland and industrial land use policies in General Plan Update that lessen conflicts between land uses (e.g. forestry, agriculture and residential development)	Forest Products Industry leaders	Spec Ag-Ranching Spec Ag-Horticulture Dairy Manufacturing	

Support policies that keep the timberland-base in production and provide adequate separation from residential and commercial areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional buffers along boundary when one TPZ zoned parcel is adjacent to another to be acquired by state or federal government</li> <li>Require housing developments to provide the buffers between residential areas and TPZ zoned parcels</li> <li>Notification of commercial timber operation, “right to log”, “right to know” on all parcels sold that are adjacent to TPZ zoned land</li> </ul>	Forest Products Industry leaders		
Do not overlay additional local jurisdictional rules over the already complex, multi-layered Forest Practices Act.(i.e. County Building Division inspecting exemptions in addition to CDF inspection)		Spec Ag-Ranching	

<b>Strategy 1B: Pro-actively address regulatory complexity and its cost to industry and the environment</b>			
<b><i>Project</i></b>	<b><i>Leader(s)</i></b>	<b><i>Stakeholders</i></b>	<b><i>Status Notes</i></b>
Develop mechanism for quickly communicating the impact that proposed regulations would have on the viability of the local industry and economy	Forest Products Industry leaders		
Clarify various agency roles in regulating forest practices			
Streamline processes so that environmental standards are met and Timber Harvest Plans can be executed without legal challenge			
Non-industrial landowners must be encouraged to continue their investment in family-owned forests. Increase the maximum acreage for Non-industrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP) from 2,500 to 10,000 acres. Give small timberland owners whose operations are certified as sustainable regulatory relief and not make them subject to the same rules that regulate industrial timberland owners.		Spec Ag-Ranching	

**Forest Products Industry Cluster Goal 2 – Sustainable industry practices and long-term vitality.**

**Strategy 2A: Add value to lumber before it leaves Humboldt County and market Humboldt lumber with an end-user, customer-driven strategy**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop and promote “green” lumber products and tie into the “California Grown” marketing program	Forest Products Industry leaders		
Promote sustainable forestry certifications (e.g. SFI and FSC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Larger certified companies encourage or assist smaller timberland owners to attain certification</li> </ul>	Forest Products Industry leaders		

**Strategy 2B: Develop bio-regional sustained yield policies and programs.**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop a forest management and harvest plan for the region of forestlands, including all owners, resulting in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a sustained yield for the region</li> <li>• recognition of cumulative impacts</li> <li>• inclusion of small and large timberland owners, parklands, national forests</li> </ul>			
Reasearch and develop outcome-based models for bio-regional forest management and timber harvest planning (e.g. WA State, British Columbia) that could result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognition of different species growth patterns</li> <li>• overall treatment of habitat needs</li> <li>• link to regulatory process</li> </ul>			
Manage the Six Rivers National Forest on a sustainable basis including the harvesting of forest products, reducing the risk of wildfire and increasing recreational opportunities			

<b>Strategy 2C: Support and evolve environmental restoration practices.</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Reduce impacts of legacy practices (e.g. through reforestation, lowering culverts to open fish passages, decommissioning roads)	Forest Products Industry leaders		
Complete inventory & assessment of sediment from county roads; determine and execute mitigation	County Public Works		
<b>Strategy 2D: Encourage individual accountability for forest practice rules and regulations</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Determine fine by current market of value tree taken by mistake			
Have individual employees to pay a percentage of fines for intentional violations of FPA			
Develop incentive-based programs to reward employees with no violations			
Further develop violation-avoidance, quality control systems			

**Forest Products Industry Cluster Goal 3 – Enhance competitive edge for success in an international marketplace.**

**Strategy 3A: Improve transportation in, out and around the County.**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Improve Highways 101 and 299 for interstate truck access		Spec Ag-ranching Spec Ag-horticulture Dairy Manufacturing Arts & Culture	
Maintain county roadways. Catch up with the backlog of repairs on county roads.		Spec Ag-ranching Dairy	

Re-start railroad service to SF Bay Area when financially viable		Dairy Manufacturing Spec Ag-ranching Tourism	
<b>Strategy 3B: Maintain and develop the port for shipping pulp, forest products and other products.</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop strategies that lesson the impact on the Jones Act on shipping into and out of Humboldt Bay (including cruise ships)			
<b>Strategy 3C: Increase efficiency of workforce and quality of work experience.</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop solid ready-to-work attitude and skills for entry-level workers			
Develop Forest Products industry vocational education			
Attract and retain more high-skilled talent			
Expand in-house and out-of-house training programs for current employees			
Develop complimentary off-seasonal employment opportunities; partner with other industries	Forest Products Industry leaders		
Provide large equipment mechanic training			
Cover steep slopes in heavy equipment operator training			
<b>Strategy 3D: Work on collective solutions to reduce worker's compensation insurance cost.</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
	Forest Products Industry leaders		
<b>Strategy 3E: Develop coalitions of industry representatives across clusters to work with Independent Physicians Association (IPA) and other sources for more cost effective medical services</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>

<b>Strategy 3F: Re-develop sawmill sites to support mixed commercial and lighter industrial use.</b>			
<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop public-private partnerships to begin re-development plans before mill sites become brownfields			
Clean up and re-develop brownfield mill sites for current and future demand commercial or industrial uses.			

**Forest Products Industry Cluster Goal 4 – Local community understands the quality of forest harvest practices in Humboldt County, works with the local industry to resolve concerns, and appreciates the contributions of the industry to the local economy and community.**

**Strategy 4A: Educate the public on the quality of forest harvest practices in Humboldt County.**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop programs that allow local public to see, understand and be proud of local sustainable forest practices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize that Humboldt County forests are being managed on a sustainable basis and promote understanding of this</li> <li>• Recognize and promote sustainability-certified timber operators</li> <li>• Develop and promote tours of timberlands in different stages of growth and harvest for local public, tourism, media and elected officials</li> <li>• New Zealand cluster work as example</li> </ul>	Forest Products Industry leaders	Spec Ag-Ranching	
Work collectively with K-12 education in developing education programs about the local industry	Forest Products Industry leaders		

**Strategy 4B: Educate the public on the contributions of the industry to the local economy and community.**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>
Develop independent body that is broad based, independent, unbiased and includes all stakeholders and that can speak to both elected officials and the public about the development of the industry, issues challenging the environment, the industry and timberland owners.	Forest Products Industry leaders	Spec Ag-Ranching Spec Ag-Horticulture Dairy	

**Strategy 4C: Develop local industry cluster capacity to collaborate within the local industry and across industry clusters for common solutions**

<i>Project</i>	<i>Leader(s)</i>	<i>Stakeholders</i>	<i>Status Notes</i>