

Lease Policies and Strategies for Conservation



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Goal: Improved partnerships resulting in sustainable working landscapes and conservation



Topics to be covered

- Why ? Working landscapes provide ecosystem services.
- Who? Extent of working landscapes on public and private land.
- How? Challenges and opportunities for ranchers and conservation landowners/ managers.

“Nature takes care of itself vs
working landscapes”









**Ecosystem Services from
working landscapes include..
improved habitat for
endangered species**



A black cow is grazing on a vibrant green hillside in the foreground. In the background, a calm blue lake is nestled between rolling hills covered in dense green and brown foliage. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**Ecosystem Services from
working landscapes provide...
watershed protection and
function**

**Ecosystem Services from
working landscapes include..
reduced impacts of wildfires**



**Ecosystem Services from
working landscapes include...
wildlife habitat**





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Ecosystems Services from
working landscapes include
maintaining cultural resources



**Working landscapes
provide for recreation**



**Working landscapes provide.....
food and fiber.**



California's Working Landscapes

- 34 million acres of rangeland (34% of the state) managed as a working landscapes in and around the Central Valley.

BAY AREA RANGELANDS

CALIFORNIA
RANGELAND
Atlas

Land Status

-  Private Rangeland
Land on which the existing vegetation
is suited to the grazing of livestock.
-  Public and Protected Land
Fee Title and Conservation Easement
-  Urban and Built-up Land
-  Other Land

Scale
0 50 100 Miles
0 50 100 Kilometers
Map by: [illegible]
Map to: [illegible]



San Francisco Bay Area Upland Habitat Goals Project
Preserving Biodiversity for Future Generations

Bay Area Open Space Landowners

- Federal
 - USFWS
 - Dept of Defense
 - National Park Service
- State
 - DWR
 - Fish and Game
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Department of Transportation
 - University of California (ANR)
- Regional
 - East Bay Regional Park District
 - Contra Costa Water District
 - East Bay MUD
 - Mid-Pen Regional Open Space District
 - San Francisco Water Department
- County
 - Alameda County Waste
 - Santa Clara County Parks
 - Contra Costa County Public Works
 - Santa Clara County Open Space Authority
 - Sonoma County Parks
- Local
 - City of Fairfield
 - San Ramon
 - Martinez
 - Moraga
 - Pleasanton
 - Fremont
 - San Jose
 - Walnut Creek
 - Livermore
- Non-Profit
 - Muir Heritage Land Trust
 - TNC
 - POST
- Private Landowners

Define/ Understand Goals

Who benefits?

- 1. Economic- Revenue, Sustainable Ranching**
- 2. Ecological- Vegetation management**
- 3. Community-Recreation, Local agriculture**



Define/ Understand Relationship

- **Tenant**
- **Contractor**
- **Licensee**
- **Partner**



Lease/ License Arrangements

- 1. Length- short versus long/ renewable
Pride in ownership vs opportunities for new**
- 2. Rate-AUMs versus \$/acre
Set rate versus part of bid**



Rancher roles (Follower/ Leader/ Partner- Collaborator)

- **Grazing Management**
- **Monitoring**



Rancher roles

- **Facilities**

- **Maintenance of fence/water**
 - **Maintenance of roads**
 - **Infrastructure planning**
 - **Infrastructure development**
- rent credit versus EQIP**
versus reduced rate

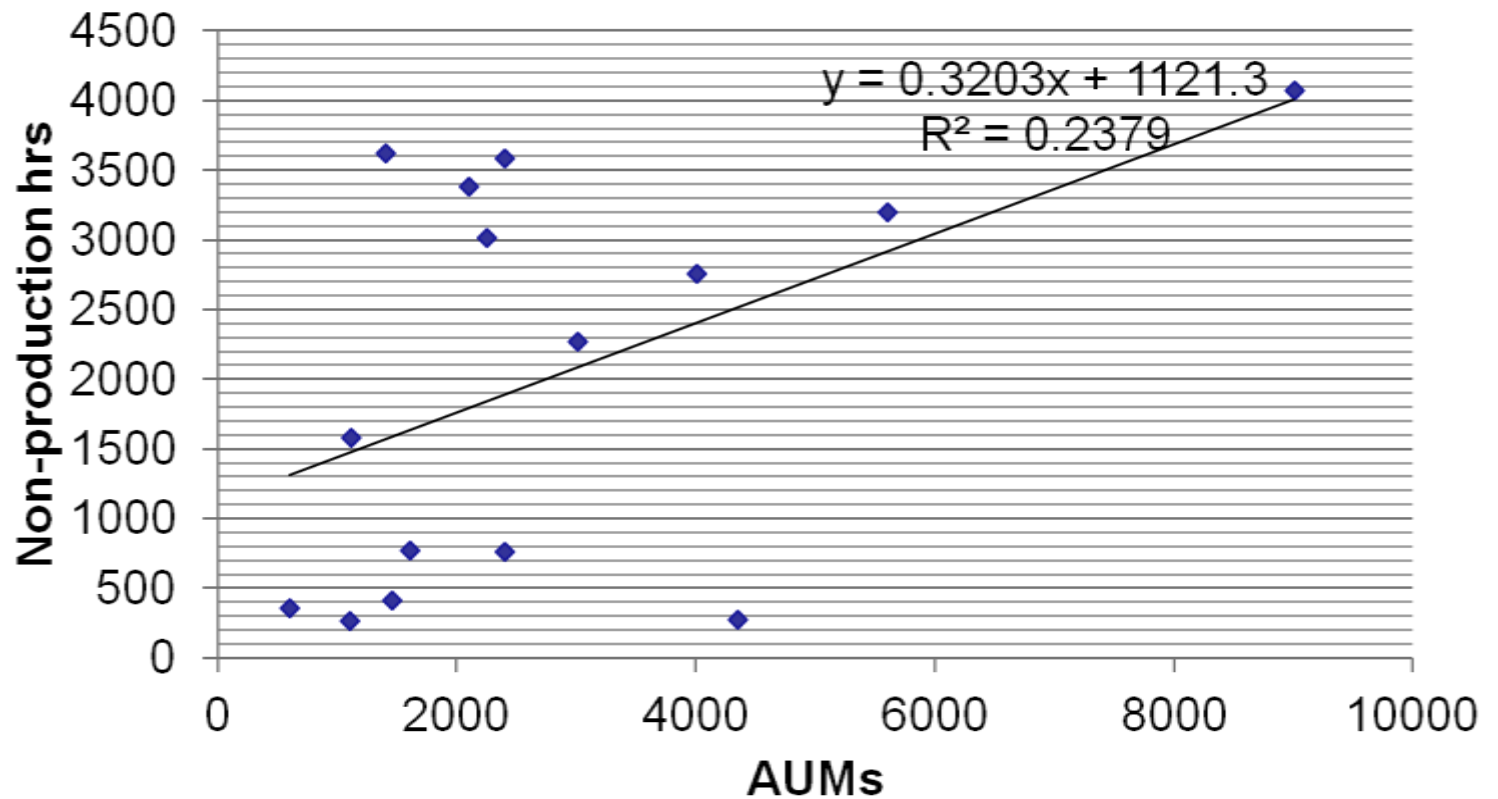


Rancher roles

- **Habitat Management**
 - **Vegetation management**
 - **Pest management**
 - **Rodent control**
 - **Security, outreach, debris removal, erosion control**



Non-production hours by AUM



%Time from total hours spent on the lease

Average non-production time spent: 74% Range 55 to 100%

