

Wednesday, November 12, 2008 (file cac170)

To: Dan Breedon

Fr: Ed Miller

Subj: Planning strategy for unincorporated areas of Butte County and interfaces with conservation organizations

Ref A: A. Olsen, Strategy and Planning for Dummies, Wiley 2007 ([www.mystrategicplan.com](http://www.mystrategicplan.com))

Ref B: C. McDonald, Green Inc, Insider reveals how a good cause has gone bad, Lyons Press 2008 (note: pp 54-58, 82-97, 219-234 and 235-242)

Background: I have been searching for references that offer guidance for organizations to voice concerns about zoning and related activities in and around an area defined by the Forest Ranch Community Association. I am assuming that the December 10 workshop will follow up the earlier workshop. I have had some limited contact with Jim Crane and Marty Leicester in an effort to flush out strategic planning in accord with Ref A. I have reviewed Ref B to try to get a feel for relationships between conservation groups and the Butte County general plan update. The following questions/comments/suggestions come to mind:

1. Should the County fund a geologist/hydrologist to gather initial well logs/performance from DWR and subsequent well performance to define measurement tools/sampling and evaluate trends/sustainable levels that can define growth boundaries and assist stakeholders with problem wells? In the absence of funding, should we contact the hydrology department at Chico State or trusted local observer to at a minimum reliably assist stakeholders in performing measurements and archiving data for ongoing and future trend analysis/prediction?
2. Should the county fund a vegetation management consultant to evaluate practices that tradeoff water conservation, greenhouse gas emission, wood product production and aesthetics? In the absence of funding, should the county in conjunction with the U.C. cooperative extension provide the supervisors knowledge of current and proposed practices that affect all stakeholders in the county?
3. Should we encourage/fast track develop additional biomass processing and combined heat power facilities?
4. Should we develop standards for cluster housing that recognize WUI, wildlife and biodiversity?
5. Should we encourage/fast track remote medical facilities?
6. Should we encourage/fast track local agriculture distribution that enhances efficiency/lower carbon footprints?
7. Should we encourage/fast track high data rate communication systems in rural areas of the county?
8. Should we encourage/support vegetation management, wood product and niche farms development that can provide productive/sustainable jobs for young families or fulfilling retirement activities?

