

# **Covelo Community Action Plan**

**Funded by a grant from**

**The U. S. Forest Service**

## **PART I**

### INTRODUCTION

This is the seventh draft of the Round Valley Community Action Plan. This document is subject to change and approval by the community and represents the work accomplished and decisions made at seven meetings held at the Legion Hall or at the Round Valley Public Library on January 30, February 27, March 28, April 22, May 24, June 22, and August 12, 1996. Additionally it contains proposals from various committees addressing key issues identified by the community as important to the cultural, environmental, and economic well being of Round Valley.

Hereafter referred to as the Plan, the Round Valley Community Action Plan is a planning guideline for the future development of the Round Valley area. The Plan establishes a framework which will guide public and private projects within the Plan area while maintaining the area's rural atmosphere.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Round Valley Community Action Plan is to learn and work together to define and develop our human and natural resources on an ongoing basis to achieve a strong and diverse economic base in a way that respects our cultural diversity, enhances our quality of life, and maintains the integrity of our environment.

### VISION STATEMENT

*“Where there is no vision, the people- perish”*

Round Valley is a place that is unique in its setting, history, and in the individuals who make up the community. We recognize its uniqueness comes from many sources, some of which are its isolation, natural beauty, tolerance of others, historical strength of family ties, strong Native American culture, and remoteness from outside pressure. Its solitude, cleanness, and slowness of pace contribute to a serenity fast disappearing from the American landscape. We find opportunities here to form strong bonds with each other and the natural world, to grow as individuals, to accept others for their uniqueness, and form a community which is strengthened by the contribution of all its parts, even as it respects the differences among its members.

We envision a strong, self-reliant, self-governing community. We envision a place where people of all ages can share, thrive, grow and find meaningful work, relationships and lives, a place where this precious quality of life is protected from spiritual and physical pollution, where the land is cherished, the natural resources are protected and used on a sustainable basis, where the economy is composed of diverse elements including sustainable value-added agricultural and timber products, light manufacturing, cottage industries, family businesses, recreation and education based businesses, and human services.

We envision a community where the young are protected, nurtured and educated, and the old are revered as valued elders with much to contribute. Finally we see it as a place where differences are acknowledged and tolerated, and every member of the community is accorded respect and given the opportunity to partake in the good life as they see it.

## DEMOGRAPHICS AND ENVIRONMENT

### Area

Round Valley is located in the northeastern corner of Mendocino County. It is bounded on the north by Trinity County and on the east by Tehama and Glen Counties. The immediate geographical boundaries of Round Valley are the Middle Fork of the Eel River to the east and south and the Main Fork of the Eel River to the west.

This area, the Round Valley Resource District, is the same as the Citizen Advisory Committee Planning Area (CAC) of the General Plan of Mendocino County. The region thus described encompasses approximately 750 square miles and 476,000 acres, making it the largest planning area in Mendocino County.

### Population

The population of the region is approximately 3,000 persons, approximately 1,500 live in the unincorporated town of Covelo. Native American population in the region was 1,131 as of August 1993. Comprised of older residents, Round Valley Indian Tribes, and more recently arrived crafts-oriented families, the population of Round Valley forms a heterogeneous social group.

### Transportation

#### Roads

Highway 162, a two lane paved road, provides the only year round access to Round Valley. Highway 162 intersects Highway 101 at Longvale; it is the only commercial route into the valley.

To the east of Round Valley, Highway 162 is an adopted legislative State Highway, mostly unpaved, maintained by the county. As it passes through Mendocino National Forest, it becomes Forest Highway 7. It is a summertime access to the Sacramento Valley.

County Road 338, the Hoaglin-Zenia road, is a mostly unpaved road that provides access to the north. Use of the road is limited by winter storms.

### Commercial Transportation

Round Valley is served on work days by United Parcel Service. UPS makes deliveries within the valley and also to outlying residences. UPS serves several local businesses as the major carrier of products, both within the United States and abroad. Residents may ship packages by UPS at Western Auto, which provides a pickup stop for outgoing UPS packages.

Federal Express makes deliveries on an almost daily basis within the area of Round Valley and although this is a “no pick up zone,” pick-ups can be scheduled if deliveries are being made.

Large truck trailer rigs can and do come to Round Valley to deliver goods to businesses and to make pick-ups. Most of the large commercial trucks are involved in the transport of logs to mills outside Round Valley.

### Public Transportation

At this time there is no public transportation available to residents of Round Valley. In past years, the Mendocino Transit Authority scheduled bus service both within Round Valley and out to Willits and Ukiah. Service was terminated because of lack of use

### Watershed

The entire area, comprising the Round Valley Resource District, lies within the drainage of the Eel River watershed, a critical salmon and steelhead habitat. Problems have been developing both in stream channels and watershed habitat over the past 80 to 100 years due to droughts, flood, fires and human activity. According to the U.S. Army Engineer District Eel River Report of 1968, the watershed covers approximately 750 square miles. Round Valley is the largest flat land within the watershed, covering approximately 15,000 acres. The town of Covelo lies on a one hundred year flood plain.

Of the roughly 476,000 acres comprising the Middle Fork of the Eel River watershed, approximately 200,000 acres are managed by the U.S. Forest Service, approximately 66,000 acres by the Bureau of Land Management, and approximately 21,000 acres by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Private land ownership varies from small plots in the unincorporated town of Covelo to large holdings of several thousand acres on the valley floor and in the surrounding hills. A major private owner of land and timber rights is Louisiana Pacific Corporation with approximately 70,000 acres.

### Elevation

The elevation of the Round Valley Resource District varies from 1,300 to 6,500 feet above sea level. Round Valley has an elevation of approximately 1,400 feet.

### Soils

About half the soils in Round Valley are very deep, nearly level, sandy loam, well drained and considered to be prime agricultural soil. Another half is nearly level, very deep but somewhat poorly drained clay loam. Beds of gravelly and cobbly soil comprise some areas. The surrounding hills are characterized by moderately deep well drained loam and gravelly loam. The hill soils tend to be unstable when saturated causing slumps and slides, a major part of the problems incurred in maintaining roadways.

### Climate

The climate of the Round Valley Resource District is dominated by continental air 85% of the time. Daily and seasonal fluctuation in temperature is relatively wide. Covelo has a mean temperature of 55 degrees, with 114 degrees being the highest recorded temperature and -9 degrees being the lowest temperature recorded.

The average length of the growing season is 162 days, determined by the average dates of the first and last killing frosts of the season which are September 15 and May 15 respectively. This provides for a growing season that is short but of sufficient warmth and length for successful production of a wide range of fruits and field crops.

Round Valley has an average rainfall of 40 inches, falling mostly between the months of November and March. Snow falls in most years. The mean yearly snowfall in Round Valley being 6.7 inches.

## PART II

### ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

#### COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

The purpose of community assessment is twofold. First we look inward and identify our community's strengths and weaknesses. This enables us to see where we are and to assess what we have to work with. In the second part of the community assessment, we look outward and identify opportunities that exist for our community as well as possible threats that would hinder the accomplishment of our plans. This constitutes where we want to go.

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were the results of several brainstorming sessions and are listed as an index.

#### KEY ISSUES

Key issues were identified by vote. In order to make voting easier, the opportunities previously identified in the March 28th meeting were divided into the following three categories; (1) economic development/economic opportunities/diversification (2) community infrastructure, and (3) social environment. Large sheets of paper with these issues listed on them were posted on the walls. Each person present was given ten votes to indicate issues of greatest importance to them. Key issues were then selected on the basis of the number of votes assigned to them. They are listed in descending order according to the number of votes received.

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Value added agricultural products, niche marketing, expansion of<br>for local products | markets<br>20 votes |
| 2. Vocational training/community college expansion  | 14 votes            |
| 3. Encourage self employment/cottage industries   | 14 votes            |
| 4. Value added timber products/hardwood timber industry                                   | 12 votes            |
| 5. Promote Highway 162  | 12 votes            |
| 6. Attract light clean industries/information based industries                            | 10 votes            |
| 7. Community resource center  | 10 votes            |
| 8. Heal the community,<br>leadership development,   | 8 votes<br>7 votes  |
| encourage community-parental involvement  | 7 votes             |
| 9. Downtown beautification and redevelopment  | 7 votes             |

10. Tourism/recreation based businesses	7 votes
11. Promote local events	6 votes
12. Healing center	6 votes
13. Community based radio	4 votes
14. Planned development and zoning	3 votes
15. Performing arts/culture center	3 votes
16. Development of Historical society and historical attractions	2 votes
17. Child care facilities	2 votes
18. Hospice	2 votes
19. New school	2 votes
20. Airport related development	1 vote
21. Advocate for Round Valley	1 vote
22. Visitor center	0 votes
23. Community advisory council	0 votes
24. Local disaster plan	0 votes

### COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEES

After voting to establish priorities, volunteers formed committees addressing the top nine issues.

- I. Value-added Agricultural Products
- II. Vocational Training/Community College Expansion
- III. Encourage Self employment / cottage industries
- IV. Value added timber products / hardwoods
- V. Attract Light Clean / Inf. based Industries /Promote Business Park
- VI. Community Resource Center
- VII. Heal Community / Leadership Development / Encourage Parental Involvement
- VIII. Downtown Beautification
- IX. Tourism / Recreation based Businesses

### PART III

#### ACTION PLAN

##### Economic Development/Economic Opportunities/Diversification

Project: Value-added and Niche Market Agricultural Products Situation: 1) Little diversity of products. 2) Limited exports. 3) Low prices for traditional export products such as beef. 4) Constraints of distance to markets. 5) Rising production costs. 6) Increasing property values and associated increasing tax burden.

Opportunities: 1) Growth of non-traditional markets i.e. organic and “clean foods” and gourmet quality products. 2) Direct marketing of crops to eliminate the middle man and increase profit to producer. 3) Exports to growing Bay Area market.

Strategies:

What	Who	When	Resources
Questionnaire to assess interest of local growers in organic and other alternative approaches	Ag-products Committee	Fall 1996	
Workshop(s) in College alternative marketing strategies and new crops	Gloria Decater & Lani Hinman	to be determined	Mendocino Food Marketing & Economics Group, Mendocino Bounty Mendo County Ag Commission
Study technical and economic feasibility of hops production & organic feed production	June Matherly Carol O’Ferrall	ongoing	UC Extension, Mendocino Farm Bureau, Mendocino County Ag Commissioner
Create an active agricultural development group to facilitate objectives	Round Valley Individuals	Sept. 1996	

Develop identity Round Valley Summer 1997 for Round Valley agricultural products



Project: Value-added and Hardwood Timber Products

Situation: Collapse of the extraction based timber industry, leading to high unemployment. The need to diversify income base to include value-added products to keep more of the profit in the community.

Opportunities: High value-added manufacturing utilizing hardwoods is the best use for the bio-mass in our area. Develop a local skilled craftsman/artisan work force.

Strategies:

What	Who	When	Resources
Assess resources: supply Company, of raw material, knowledge and skill		Ongoing	West
Assess the feasibility of co-operative operation for log purchasing and marketing			Small Business Administration, Mendocino County Economic Development Coordinator, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services, USDA Forest Service, California Trade & Commerce Hardwoods Development Association
Develop a marketing strategy for high quality value-added timber products			
Design appropriately & sustainably to ensure quality and availability of products			
Educate the community on the value of hardwoods in manufacturing rather than firewood			Mendocino Community College
Identify low interest loans and help with business plans			Hardwood Development Initiative
Coordinate with other local groups and agencies to build a viable and sustainable hardwood industry			

**Project: Cottage Industry and Self employment**

Situation: Round Valley is a sparsely populated area far from markets with a struggling local economy and a diverse population.

Opportunities: To encourage self sufficiency through developing craft and local value-added finished goods and services to primarily outside markets using a cottage industry approach for light manufacturing, craft activities, and agricultural products.

Strategies:

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Encourage entrepreneurial activity with educational opportunities, seminars, and low interest loans	Robert Cunnan Warren Johnson and other Round Valley individuals	Ongoing	West Company, Small Business Administration Mendocino County Economic Development Coordinator, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services, USDA Forest Service, California Trade &Commerce Department, Mendocino County Hardwoods Development Association Mendocino Community College Hardwood Development Initiative
Develop a marketing strategy for high quality cottage, industry products			
Design appropriately & sustainably offering advantage over competition			
Create a unique Round Valley identity in the marketplace synonymous with fine quality and craftsmanship			
Utilize local talent and resources			

Work with Mendocino Warren Johnson 1997-1 998  
County Board of  
Supervisors and Planning  
Commission to create an  
enterprise zone in Round  
Valley

**Project: Vocational Training/Community College Expansion**

Situation:

Opportunities:

Strategies:

Andrea Harris and the Round Valley School Board are working to bring more needed Mendocino Community College classes to Round Valley.

**Project: Attract Light Clean / Info based Industries /Promote  
Business Park**

Situation:

Opportunities:

Strategies: Promoting clean light industry and information based businesses will continue to be a priority for development in Round Valley.

**Project: Community Resource Center**

Situation: The Round Valley area encompasses approximately 744 square miles and 476,000 acres. Problems have been developing in stream channels and watershed habitat over the past 80 to 100 years, a resulting effect being the serious collapse of anadromous fisheries. Management of this area is a mosaic including private owners of small and large parcels, Round Valley Indian Tribes, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, and Mendocino County and state government. The Round Valley Indian Reservation is one of the largest in California. The descendants of many tribes of Indians gathered from all over northern California make this their home.

The socio-economic conditions are typical of resource based communities throughout the Northwest. This includes economic downsizing, involving high unemployment, heavy welfare dependency, lack of fiscal resources, increasing cost of government and a deteriorating tax base, loss of local control.

Like many rural districts, there are no incorporated towns within the area and therefore, no local representation. Experience has shown that, in spite of potential remedial tools and programs, the many regional, state and federal agencies having relevant jurisdiction are ineffective because of policy/role overlaps and frequent lack of manpower.

Many residents are frustrated with the wide range and complexity of decisions regarding the direction of their future by agencies far removed. They are faced with a confusing and enigmatic array of federal, state, regional, and local agencies, and their regulatory standards and plans. County plans are too general to be useful. More specific plans or programs have evolved, but they frequently appear to local residents to represent the goals and values of organized pressure groups and not those of the community as a whole.

Opportunities: 1) Actively search for and seek funding through the grant process to implement the actions created by the Community Action Planning process. 2) Collect, compile, and analyze resource data to produce knowledgeable decisions. 3) Educate local groups, especially youth, of correct habitat management practices. 4) Develop both short and long range habitat management planning, and secure funding to implement restoration and corrective management. 5) Develop and train the local work force in habitat management as a means to increase employment. 6) Promote jobs for local displaced workers to enhance the economic and social conditions and reduce unemployment. 7) Act as a central clearing house and lead agency for community projects. 8) Restore and enhance sub watersheds within the Eel River system, to assist in correcting a serious environmental as well as economic problem of the local community, which relies heavily on the natural resource base of soil, water, timber, forage, fish and wildlife.

Strategies:

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Organize and establish the Round Valley Resource Center	Office manager and staff	on adoption of the Round Valley Community Action Plan .	Local business people
Start grant process for funding	Office manager and staff	1996 .ongoing	Federal, state, and private sources
Contact all agencies for known resource information	Office Manager and all govt. agency specialists	1996 .1997	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service,
Compile known resource data with sub watersheds		1997-1999	Bureau of Land Management,

Consult with agency specialists to develop both short and long range goals

Consult with land owners to promote coordination for contiguous restoration management of streams and adjacent habitat

Set up funding sources and contracts for habitat restoration using local resources and personnel

Establish a training cadre to educate both adults and youth in proper habitat management and restoration

Evaluate progress

Quarterly

Inventory areas not already done to complete the base line planning

Coordinate with other local efforts on ecological and economic development

Act as contact and networking base for “circuit riding” local, county, state, federal, and other agents

Accountable agency for implementation of Round Valley Community Action Plan

1997-2001

Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S.Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, California Dept. of Forestry, California Dept. of Fish & Game Regional Water Quality Control Board, U.S. EPA, Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, Round Valley Indian Tribes, Mendocino Private Industry Council and all stakeholders

**Project: Heal Community / Leadership Development / Encourage Parental Involvement**

Situation: 1) Communication. The community is seriously divided with limited communication and long-standing mistrust between various factions and interest groups. 2) Family priorities. Family priorities are often topsy turvy; too many times caring for and nurturing the children and each other is not the first priority. 3) Substance abuse. Use of legal and illegal substances to create feelings of “OK’ness” is prevalent throughout the community. 4) Low self esteem. The general level of self esteem is low and people tend to withdraw into isolation. 5) Poor health. The general level of health and nutrition in the valley is low exemplified by increasing degenerative progressive diseases.

Opportunities: 1) Identify resources that the elderly can tap into with a minimum of outside help. 2) Raise the level of awareness of the resources that are available. 3) Foster the establishment of support groups for people with common needs and interests, where they can learn to trust each other.

Strategies:

**What**

Reestablish a codependency support group

Create a community radio station and involve the youth in some of the programming

Survey the community about what the perceived needs are

Identify leaders in the various subgroups who will be willing to talk with each other and develop relationships of trust

Identify activities of common interest where people can cooperate together to pull it off

Set up a community center where families can come together for a good time and

Set up a counseling program to teach conflict and challenge resolution

Develop a “Make a Friend” campaign to reach out to people you don’t know

**Project: Downtown Beautification**

Situation: Graffiti on walls, abandoned and empty buildings, general rundown appearance

Opportunities: 1) Assist businesses and individuals located in the downtown area in keeping downtown streets, store fronts, vacant and other properties in a clean and presentable manner, 2) Instill a sense of community pride in all residents of Round valley.

Strategies:

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Outreach to the community through the newspaper suggesting ways to Serve. improve property appearances	Round Valley Chamber of Commerce and Interested individuals	Ongoing	Cal. Trans. RELIEF USDA Forest

Contact owners of vacant or neglected property and discuss overall project, requesting their assistance

in maintaining their own properties. Supply cost estimates for improvements and upkeep for those wanting to do something upon request.

Raise funds from businesses and interested individuals to be used to hire someone to pick up trash and cut weeds in the streets on a regular basis

Contact CalTrans in regard to Covelo Road downtown for assistance in maintaining the streets better

Public recognition of those who maintain their down town properties

Revisit downtown beautification plan of several years ago

Plant trees or vines for shade and ambiance

**Project: Recreation Tourism Based Businesses**

Situation: Round Valley is remote, with no dependable all-weather access between Highway 101 and Interstate Highway 5 and has no single attraction to “sell.” because of this, Round Valley is not well known among recreationists There is a seasonal influx of people for hunting, Christmas tree cutting, and some river rafting and kayaking. Fishing was once a more important aspect of recreation, but habitat degradation, climatic conditions’, and other factors have led to a collapse in stock. There are several man-made lakes in the Mendocino National Forest which are stocked annually with trout. Annual events sponsored by community groups bring an influx of visitors. These include FFA Field Day (May), Blackberry Festival (August), Round Valley Community Rodeo (Labor Day weekend), and California Indian Days (May and September). School sports events are also a draw. Present facilities and infrastructure are insufficient to handle much increase in tourism and recreation.

The town is unattractive and run-down in appearance. In the summer, except perhaps for The Burger Station, there is little shade and few inviting places to rest.



Need: to extend the visitor season, improve existing facilities, aesthetically enhance town, promote local events more widely, create and market an image for Round Valley, and expand into new marketing opportunities.

Opportunities:

*Scenery:* We have lots of beautiful scenery, wildlife, and wildflowers. As more and more urbanization and development occur in other areas of California, Round Valley will become one of the few places left to see a field of brilliant orange California poppies growing with royal blue lupine.

*Birding:* Opportunities abound with an impressive number of species arriving in the spring some staying all year.

*Recreational:* Photographers would find many attractive subjects.

*Theme:* The atmosphere is rural with a decidedly western flavor assets rapidly disappearing from most areas and increasingly in demand.

*Wilderness:* We are the southwestern gateway to the Mendocino National Forest and the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area as well as access to the newly opened first segment of the Back Country Discovery Trail. There are many splendid camping, backpacking, mountain bicycling, off-road motoring, and horse packing opportunities. The higher elevations also offer the possibility of cross country skiing and snow camping in the winter and early spring. The Eel River is becoming better known among hardier recreationists as a great place to swim, kayak, and raft.

*Events:* Local events such as the Blackberry Festival, Labor Day Rodeo, California Indian Days, and F.F.A. Field Day which bring visitors to our area could be more widely marketed and other events added to round out the season.

*North Coast Railroad:* The North Coast Railway might be convinced to stop at Dos Rios and could offer possibilities for those wanting an affordable but unique vacation experience in an isolated rural area bordered by wilderness. Arrive by rail, be transported to Round Valley by wagon, stage coach, or vintage bus, stay on a working ranch, in a rustic cabin, etc. and leave again by train.

*History:* The town has several architecturally interesting and historic buildings and old machinery. Round Valley is a historically and culturally interesting area with numerous archaeological sites and rich Native American heritage.

*Camps:* The opportunity exists for establishing theme camps. These could include agricultural and ranch based music, and environmental or ecological education camps.

Even though we have no single spectacular feature, the sum of our situation is pleasing enough to encourage an influx of visitors in sufficient numbers to have a positive impact on our economy without having a negative impact on the quality of life. In a town the size of Covelo, an influx of ten to twenty people a day shopping at our markets, eating at our restaurants, buying gas, and staying overnight at local motels and R.V. parks would be a significant impact on the local economy.

Strategies:

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Resources</b>
<p>Create a recreation-tourism development group</p> <p>Marketing plan for Round Valley including piggy backing on regional marketing strategies</p> <p>101 Signage</p>	<p>Round Valley Individuals &amp; organizations</p>	<p>Fall 1996</p> <p>Summer 1997</p>	<p>U.S. Forest Service, Mendo Nat'l Forest, California Dept. of Forestry, Fish Game (state &amp; federal), Bureau of Land Mgt., Mendocino County Board of Supervisors</p> <p>Covelo/Round Chamber of Commerce</p> <p>Cal Trans</p> <p>California Department of tourism, Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round Valley Lions! Lionesses, Covelo Community Park, Mendocino County Tourism Board</p>
<p>Town Beautification</p>	<p>Chamber of Commerce</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	
<p>Develop identity for Round Valley marketing strategy</p>	<p>Tourism Group</p>		
<p>Possible scenic road designation for some roads</p>			
<p>Develop green tourism as a specific category and work with regional tourism agencies</p>			

## References

1. U.S. Army engineer District Eel River Basin, California, Interim Report on Water Resources Development for the Middle Fork Eel river (April 1968)
2. Round Valley Indian Tribes Census of 1993
3. Mendocino County, Open Space Conservation Element (Undated)
4. Appropriate Rural Technology Middle Fork of the Eel River Watershed (1977). California Tomorrow, Consultant: Ray Peart
5. Soil Survey of Mendocino County. Eastern Part and Trinity County. Southwestern Part. California (1991) U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service
6. The Mendocino County Economic and Demographic Almanac (1996) Phyllis A. Lammers
7. Mendocino County General Plan (1993)
8. Geohydrology of Part of the Round Valley Indian Reservation. Mendocino County. California (1977) U.S. Geological Survey

## SWOT ANALYSIS

### STRENGTHS

- Good climate
- Gateway to the Mendocino National Forest
- Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area
- Clean air
- Remoteness
- A destination point
- People want to be here
- Good schools
- Agricultural base .soils, water, knowledge, history
- River .recreational, fisheries potential
- Wilderness
- Open spaces
- Undeveloped
- Diversity of people
- Huge pool of talent
- Good place to retire
- Established community organizations
- Elders
- Church organizations
- Forest product industry .trained labor pool
- Small agricultural businesses (organic growers)
- Limited pesticide, fungicide, herbicide use
- Clean ground water .available water
- Airport
- Quiet
- Community pride
- Community roots .heritage
- Community stability
- Room to grow
- Strong youth organizations and activities
- Good community services/resources/volunteer services
- Diverse businesses
- Medical services .ambulance, health center
- Timber resources
- Wildlife
- Numerous species of birds
- Diverse ecology
- High tourism potential
- Outdoor recreational opportunities
- Rich multicultural heritage
- Beauty

- Labor Pool
- Good satellite reception
- High degree of endemism (species)

### WEAKNESSES

- Poor roads
- No public transportation
- Limited medical services
- Lack of vocational training
- Poor law enforcement response
- Reclusive population
- Apathy
- Difficulty of getting diverse groups to work together
- Racism
- Increasing numbers of weapons
- Increasing crime
- Lack of local utility representatives
- Centralizing county and state services .negative impact on community
- Urban center of power not understanding problems of rural areas
- Prevalence of substance abuse
- Lack of adult role models for youths
- History of extractive economic base
- Ignorance of our strengths
- Weakness of school system .people leaving because of schools
- Dependence on a few large businesses .loss of small industry to large business
- Subject to exploitation by big business because not organized
- Lack of local control .unincorporated
- Degradation of resource base
- Disproportionately low percentage of tax revenues coming' back to the community
- Perception of insufficiency of things for young people to do .individual sports
- Dysfunctional family structures
- Lack of good housing
- Lack of good zoning
- Remoteness from large markets
- No hospital
- Child neglect, poor nutrition
- High unemployment
- High dropout rate in school
- High poverty
- Unskilled labor force
- Lack of sufficient job opportunities
- Lack of community pride
- Ugly downtown

- Low self esteem
- Lack of motivation to improve
- Lack of resource center
- Too many people for the jobs
- Lack of life skills and career training
- Breakdown of social structures .family, churches, schools
- Disrespect of the natural environment .no enforcement of garbage dumping
- Preservation versus management attitude in some people
- Poor timber management causing job loss
- Loss of fisheries
- Habitat degradation and loss
- Community acceptance of lawbreakers
- Lack of services for senior citizens
- Teen pregnancy rate .need for services
- Lack of child care
- Lack of community development plan

### OPPORTUNITIES

In order to make voting easier, the opportunities category is divided into the following three categories: 1) economic development/economic opportunities/diversification, 2) community infrastructure, and 3) social environment.

### (1)

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

- Value added timber products
- Value added agricultural products focusing on niche markets
- Organic beef and lamb
- Self Employment and cottage industries
- Recreation based industries
- Organic fruits and vegetables
- Bed and breakfast .lodging
- Attract clean light industry .opportunities for local business park
- Information based businesses
- Nature tourism
- Promote Blackberry Festival
- Export-product development
- Co-op marketing group
- Longvale outlet for Round Valley products
- Cold storage facility
- Hardwood industry

- Juicing drying facility
- Airport related development hot air balloons
- Develop commercial filming sites
- Music camps
- Promote FFA Field Day Rodeo
- Equestrian school dude ranch
- Utilization of train transportation from Dos Rios

## (2)

### COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Child care facilities
- Hospice services
- Community based fm radio self esteem building
- Branch of the community college
- Create new school
- Create local disaster plan
- Create recreational opportunities and places
- Encourage redevelopment of downtown
- Watershed habitat restoration fisheries restoration
- Visitor center
- Downtown beautification
- Road over the hill Highway 162
- Planned development zoning

## (3)

### SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

- Training in natural resources, agriculture, and forestry
- Training in hand skills investigate senior skills and local vocational skills
- Organization to evaluate school services
- Encourage community parental involvement (modeling)
- Be a squeaky wheel
- Create community advocacy council
- Historical society support for historical attractions
- Increase adult education
- Entrepreneurial training
- Heal community
- Learn to be one people
- Develop performing arts culture

**(4)**  
**THREATS**

- Limited leadership
- Increasing pollution of groundwater through old dumps, mill sites, improperly located septic tanks and leaking sewage lines
- Outside exploitation
- Changes in the political climate adverse to Round Valley -i.e. changes in federal and state laws and policy
- Overpopulation and over-development



- I. (Missing page)**
- II.**
- III.**
- IV.**

**V. Attract Light Clean / Info based Industries /Promote Business Park**

Roland Hoehne	983-6215	Ernie Wolf	983-6752
Peter Wich	983-6424		

**VI. Community Resource Center**

Floyd Barney	983-6317	Alan Bier	983-8399
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**VII. Heal Community / Leadership Development / Encourage Parental Involvement**

**VIII. Downtown Beautification**

Art Garner	983-8462	Sheila Matthias	983-6159
Peter Wich	983-6424	Shirley Martion	
Gory Miller message phone	983-8223		

**IX. Tourism / Recreation based Businesses**

Lani Hinman	983-6874	Gory Miller	983-8223
Nina Hetteema	983-8058	Duncan Fitzgerald	983-6222

## **Final Outcomes of the Planning Process**

### Lessons Learned From the Process

One of the most valuable lessons we learned from the process was that there is a wealth of information available to us when we began to search for it in an organized way. For example, when the subcommittee on agriculture began to look for information, they found that the County Ag Extension and Farm Advisor had remarkably detailed information about soils and suitable crops for different micro-climates in Round Valley. Unfortunately, some of the research showed us that conventional programs offered for job training were not very useful for businesses as small as most of those in Round Valley. Still, we found the research empowering.

In our subcommittees, we found that those which made the most progress were also the ones with the most defined goals. Again, the agriculture subcommittee is a good example. They began with the clear and simple goal of learning about all the possible uses of the ag lands in each micro-region of the valley. The task was clear and they could break it down into specific tasks. They accomplished a good deal for this report, and as new questions were raised, this remains an active group even though the formal planning is done.

Another important thing we learned is how much we have in terms of natural and human resources. Inventorying all our resources helped us to appreciate what we do have and to identify the specific problems we have in making the best use of them. Two examples:

- We have lots of resources in terms of harvestable timber, good ag land, and recreational sites, but without a large employer or government agency, we do not have the resources to develop them.
- We have many sophisticated and talented people who work outside the community but we lack a forum in which they can share their abilities with the rest of the community. This is a problem we can solve.

Finally, we learned a few things about human nature. It is very difficult to get people motivated to pursue a long-term goal. People want quick results. Many folks fell away from the planning process when there wasn't a quick impact on our local situation. Quite a few people remained committed to the process, too, but volunteers can burn out.

## Next Steps

- The top priority is to realize the goal of a Resource Center that was the original motivating force behind our application to the U.S. Forest Service. We see it as a base for hands-on job training, using ecological restoration as the on-the-job component, to provide a better qualified work force for future economic development and to restore the natural resource base which we believe will provide the basis of our economic future. We see the Resource Center as a long term project that could provide additional information about best practices in resource conservation and be a permitting information center. In the future, a species inventory could be taken. The most immediate need is for funds for staffing. There are several under-utilized facilities in the community that could house the Resource Center at a reasonable cost.
- Another high priority would be reviving the Black Butte Store as a focus for tourism development and job training in the tourism industry. This would be a good opportunity for training youth, since it would be a seasonal venture. Opportunities at the Black Butte Store include guiding, equipment rental, retail, camping and campground management, maintenance, and recreational marketing of Round Valley and the surrounding areas. We need to find an individual who would be willing to work on the project as a leader, be sure that the present owner is amenable, and that boundary issues with the U.S. Forest Service have been resolved.

Several other next steps were also identified, many of which we can work on within the community or with the assistance of county organizations.

We would like to have an entrepreneurship class held here in the valley. Madelin Holtkamp of EDFC said that she would contact West Company to get that started.

We can use the Community Center or the library as a focus for a community learning/cultural center to provide a forum for knowledgeable residents share their skills and knowledge. This would enrich both the existing residents of Round Valley and newcomers.

We need to make better use of existing community organizations like the Chamber of Commerce to promote community goals like downtown beautification and tourism marketing.

We need to investigate more efficient transportation and/or cold storage for agricultural products being produced now and in the future. Perhaps this will involve a cooperative of small growers or a small business. Ag subcommittee will investigate.

Contact the Community Development Commission to see about combining low-income housing rehab programs with job training. People could learn job skills, more experienced people could be crew leaders, and substandard housing could be upgraded.

Investigate, through the County government, the possibility of forming a risk pool to assist or even subsidize the smallest employers with initial payroll costs. This might facilitate the creation of some jobs in the smaller businesses.