

## Appendix E: Policy Options Worksheet

The following list of policy options is a compendium of policy described in the resource and hazard chapters. The numbers correspond to the applicable chapters where these options are discussed. A preliminary evaluation is provided to highlight features of the options. This worksheet is provided as a tool for members of the public to evaluate policy options and indicate preferences for accepting (indicated by “Yes”), modifying, or rejecting (indicated by “No”) these policy options (see shaded column). For those policies marked as “Modify”, please state how the policy should be modified in the comments column.

<i>Policy Option/Evaluation Criteria:</i>	<i>Responds to Phase I Issues; New Policy Direction (N)</i>	<i>Provides Economic Benefits</i>	<i>Provides Environmental Benefits</i>	<i>Requires Minimal Public Costs</i>	<i>Public Preference (Yes, No or Modify)</i>	<i>Comments</i>
<b>I. Water Resources</b>						
<b>Option I.1</b> Continue to use the Streamside Management Areas and the Streams and Riparian Corridors Protection Regulations for the Coastal Zone to protect water resources.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option I.2</b> Establish a secondary watershed protection zone along streams and riparian corridors where TMDL designations have been established.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>Option I.3</b> Continue to require use of Best Management Practices for Stormwater Control to minimize pollution from area sources.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option I.4</b> Pursue grant funds to rehabilitate impacted watersheds to meet TMDL targets for sediment control and water temperature reductions	✓ N	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option I.5</b> Update the County's Water Export Policy to strongly encourage the reduction of water exports from Humboldt County and to ensure that water quality, fisheries and sensitive habitat will not be adversely affected by a new water export project. Include specific standards for habitat and fisheries protection and water quality in an updated policy.	✓ N	✓	✓	✓		

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<b>Option 1.6</b> Establish standards for maximum allowable runoff from new development where streams and water quality could be adversely impacted.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>Option 1.7</b> Establish flood control and stormwater management standards on a watershed basis, taking account of planned urban development not just existing uses.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>Option 1.8</b> Continue to monitor groundwater withdrawals associated with rural subdivisions.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 1.9</b> Eliminate the special provisions for subdivisions over 60 acres in size, which exempt them from having to provide information on water availability.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 1.10</b> Restrict residential development in resource production areas	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>2. Biological Resources</b>						
<b>Option 2.1</b> Continue to map and analyze biological information, particularly for sensitive habitats on a watershed basis.	✓		✓			
<b>Option 2.2</b> Work with the California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR) Program of the Department of Fish and Game to develop predictive models of habitat relationships geared to Humboldt County.	✓ N		✓			
<b>Option 2.3</b> Establish a County-level Habitat Protection Program to complement State and federal programs.	✓		✓			

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	N					
<b>Option 2.4</b> Establish incentives for creation of “Rural Conservation” parcels, including provisions for Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) and cooperative arrangements with land trusts and others who could accept conservation easements.	✓ N		✓			
<b>Option 2.5</b> Establish a Habitat Mitigation Fee and Land Banking Programs to help protect habitat for special status species.	✓ N	✓	✓			
<b>Option 2.6</b> Support creation of a private non-profit open space trust.	✓ N	✓	✓	✓		
<b>3. Forest Resources</b>						
<b>Option 3.1</b> Initiate discussion with the timber industry and the environmental community about modifications to requirements for timber harvesting plans to protect and enhance timber resources and respond to needs of those with small timber holdings, while maintaining water quality and protecting fishers and sensitive habitats and recreational opportunities.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 3.2</b> Create a two-tier system of TPZ zoning, with larger lot sizes for existing and potential industrial timberland and smaller lot sizes for timberland within or adjacent to community plan areas.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 3.3</b> Continue to work with the timber industry and the environmental community on management issues of concern.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 3.4</b> Promote the County as a model for sustainable forestry.	✓	✓	✓	✓		

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<b>Option 3.5</b> Create a Timberland Infrastructure Maintenance and Improvement Program.	✓	✓	✓			
<b>4. Agricultural Lands</b>						
<b>Option 4.1</b> Support creation of a private non-profit land trust to support agricultural conservation programs (coordinated with Option 2.7).	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 4.2</b> Support creation of greenbelts and agricultural buffers where agricultural operations may pose land use conflicts.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 4.3</b> Continue to use a Right-to-Farm Ordinance to enhance and encourage agricultural activities within the county.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 4.4</b> Create zoning provisions that allow reduced lot size for small-scale, intensive agriculture – either a new AE-15 zone or an AI Agriculture Intensive zone.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>5. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space</b>						
<b>Option 5.1</b> Establish an open space classification system to summarize open space resources in the county and serve as a framework for land use planning and environmental resource management programs.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 5.2</b> Establish a secure funding source for open space acquisition and management sufficient to enable acquisition of high priority open space that can not otherwise be preserved by regulatory incentives or partnerships with non-profit land trusts or other open space and agricultural conservation organizations.	✓ N	✓	✓			

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<b>Option 5.3</b> Discourage subdivision in designated open space areas.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>7. Mineral and Energy Resources</b>						
<b>Option 7.1</b> Establish provisions for “-MR” Mineral Resource combining zone to facilitate implementation of the County’s regulations for surface mining and reclamation.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>8. Scenic Resources</b>						
<b>Option 8.1</b> Establish a GIS-based visual resources inventory.	✓		✓			
<b>Option 8.2</b> Develop a Visual Quality Assessment Metric.	✓ N	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 8.3</b> Coordinate with State and Federal Scenic Roadways initiatives. Currently “eligible” routes should be applied for “officially designated” status.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 8.4</b> Complete Scenic Route Plans or Corridor Studies and adopt Scenic Corridor Overlay Zoning.	✓		✓			
<b>Option 8.5</b> Develop heritage landscape protection provisions.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>Option 8.6</b> As part of the scenic corridor overlay zone, develop standards for the placement, type, height, and number of roadway signs.	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 8.7</b> Establish an amortization program to remove billboards along identified scenic corridors over a reasonable time period, consistent with State	✓	✓	✓			

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and Federal law.	N					
<b>Option 8.8</b> Establish use agreements with outdoor advertising companies and municipalities for the removal or relocation of billboards.	✓ N	✓	✓	✓		
<b>Option 8.9</b> Establish a wayfinding signage network within the county.	✓ N		✓			
<b>9. Air Quality</b>						
<b>Option 9.1</b> Establish performance standards for cottage industries and for commercial and industrial uses and buffering standards where these uses abut residential neighborhoods to minimize environmental impacts, including air quality.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>Option 9.2</b> Promote residential development near employment centers to minimize commuting and air emissions from vehicles.	✓ N	✓	✓	✓		
<b>10. Geotechnical, Soil, and Seismic Hazards</b>						
<b>Option 10.1</b> Continue to require an independent registered engineering geologist to review reports submitted by applicants if exceptions to standards are requested.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 10.2</b> Require formation of geologic hazards abatement districts in higher risk area to allow for cooperative funding of engineering solutions that benefit multiple property owners and to reduce the County's liability for high maintenance costs for public	✓ N		✓	✓		

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infrastructure and areas of public benefit.						
<b>Option 10.3</b> Require geologic reports for all subdivisions with proposed building sites on slopes over 15 percent.	N		✓	✓		
<b>11. Flooding Hazards (see also # 1.4)</b>						
<b>Option 11.1</b> Update the flood hazard regulations to restrict development in the floodway and the flood fringe, consistent with federal guidelines and current practice in comparable jurisdictions.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 11.2</b> Update the flood hazard regulations to address the water quality impact of manure storage areas (ponds).	✓		✓	✓		
<b>12. Fire Service and Emergency Response</b>						
<b>Option 12.1</b> Support the Board of Supervisors action to establish a County Fire Marshall position and develop a new Fire Protection Master Plan.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>Option 12.2</b> Establish development standards for new development adjacent to an identified hazard, such as a nuclear power plant, propane tanks, gas stations, pulp mills, etc.	✓ N		✓	✓		
<b>Option 12.3</b> Promote the cooperation between the County, the California Division of Forestry, fire protection districts, and cities' law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services, and support the required training of all personnel who may respond to an emergency, including emergencies involving hazardous materials.	✓		✓	✓		
<b>13. Noise</b>						

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<b>Option 13.1</b> Adopt a noise ordinance based on current zoning districts, tailored to community noise standards.	✓		✓	✓		



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