



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Conservation, Development and Planning

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Hillary Gitelman
Director

February 1, 2010

**RE: Request for Comments/Suggestions on the draft Napa County Voluntary Oak
Woodland Management Plan**

As part of the implementation of the Napa County General Plan, the County committed to develop a Voluntary Oak Woodland Management Plan (Plan) to protect oak woodlands and encourage long-term stewardship by creating a voluntary protection and conservation program, including landowner incentives.

County planning staff has prepared a draft of the plan and now we would like to hear from you. Please review and consider the enclosed draft document, and provide us with your comments and suggestions. We would be interested in general comments about how to improve upon the current draft, as well as specific comments about suggested best management practices, and ways to refine/simplify the suggested conservation/restoration criteria. We would also be interested in your thoughts about development of a fee mitigation/bank program and on integrating information from this document into a Climate Action Plan, which is being developed as a separate planning effort.

A copy of the draft Napa County Voluntary Oak Woodland Management Plan is attached and will also be available on the new County website (www.countyofnapa.org). Please send us your comments and suggestions by **Monday, March 15, 2010**. The draft Plan will then be revised and an updated Plan will be provided to the Planning Commission for their consideration during the Summer of 2010.

Please send your comments, suggestions or questions to us at the Conservation, Development & Planning Department, by e-mail to patrick.lowe@countyofnapa.org, or phone (707) 259-5937; or to Jeff Sharp, Principal Planner, by e-mail to jeff.sharp@countyofnapa.org, or phone (707) 259-5936.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick Lowe".

Patrick Lowe
Deputy Director