1) Difference betw ranching + N/r management -

- monoculture vs more diversity of habitat not mut. exclusive
- MOW to remove Thistle, radish
- herbicides not favored - used only 1X used on iceplant but issue near organic farms

- all methods benefit ranching not n. resources
- elk doing well at PP - veget. in good shape
- fences help separate ranches + elk — discussed options
- wildlife ~~farmed~~ harmed by fences
- restore coastal prairie
- spraying doesn't work for organic
- grazing ~~good~~ for native veg - reduces compt.

(3)

pro/cons of electric fences –
not a problem if use plastic handle

(1) importance of overall goal of planning: food production (sustainable) + max. nat. resource protection

predators: coyotes + mtn. lions

(2) compare health of land in + out of elk zone

baseline of disturbance is greater in ranch zone that totally natural N.P.

If discing is allowed?
- what is the impact?

What are the best mgmt practices to promote natural resources

Important to hear from the ranchers, what their challenges are

* Using a CAT to remove Tule Grass on an individual basis

What are the Goals of the Ranchers & Natural Resour

Balance of Ranch Practices w/ Natural Landsca

Best Ways to Impliment:

Factors:

- Scale
- Available resources
- Conservation friendly
- Wildlife-friendly.

3 Things

goal. MODEL RANCHES/education

method COMMITTEE to guide implimentation

leadership COMMUNITY COLLABORATION to be the best.

Discussion Topic: Pasture Mgmt

* Where is the baseline for pasture mgmt? How can you ~~es~~ have one set of rules for the different ranches?
* Mob Grazing
* Streamline & Flexability for weed removal/pasture growth

Challenges: Tule Grass & Coyote Brush
Current practices don't work

3 Main Topics / Info

* Flexibility
* Hearing from the ranchers directly on the challenges
* Balance of Ag Operation Economic Viability / Feasability & protecting Natural Resources

- EDUCATION & MANAGEMENT:

(1) Focus on benefits/impacts of grazing as tool to encourage biodiversity
Native species, invasive control

(2) ENCOURAGE ROTATIONAL Grazing, Support fencing practices, alternative water sources.

(4) Develop finer grained scientific basis for brush management.
How do balance the needs to control invasive grasses w/ nesting.
Developing springs for better pasture mgmt.

(3) ~~Study in key~~
Examine the status of the rules on herbicides for invasive control. ~~utility~~
How to integrate rancher effort with NPS efforts.

- Electric fencing is a decent option in some cases for wildlife
- Biggest issue: Elk breaking fences
  ~~↳ Get a budget to repair fences.~~

Develop consistent policies/ answers.

Pasture Management

Harvest mowing.
Brush & Weed Control
Fencing.

#3. Thistle management
Succession: input by current lessee
Diversification
~~Thistle management~~

#3. Brush control by park
Landing becoming unusable

#2. Fencing: Quality, electric, vulnerability
Cattle "push-over" factor

#1. Ranchers are good people, caring for this place.

* Compare Ranching + Natural Recorses
  - profitable ranch are well managed
  - Brush + weeds managment, use different Practices.
  - Brush + weed managment benefit both ranch + Park.
  - Controlled Burns to help w/ Brush + weeds.

* Farm + put in permanent pasture to Controle Brush + weeds.
  - with unpredictable weather let ranchers Controle their farm lands. + Adapting to conditions
  - Creating + diversifiying for water storage w/ climate change

* Working together w/ park service to decide best ways to implement these practices.

* Creating more water sorces
  - Create less impact on the Lands national rescorses!
  - making water sorces away from the streams. to keep cattle out!

* Need good fence
  - Sometimes wildlife friendly fences won't Keep cattle in!
  - Succer rod fencing lifetime fence for road access.

1. Brush + weed controle will be more profitable for Ranch + Natural resources! Permanent pasture.

2. Water resources - Creating New by stock ponds or increasing curent ponds
   Benefits livestock + wildlife!

3. Right fance for the right job.

PASTURE MANAGEMENT: SOIL, SEEDS, NUT.

① What is the role of no till practices (as BMP) & NEED FOR THEM, wrt carbon storage & Nutrient retention.

② What are ~~impacts~~ BMPs with respect to native plant species? → These are beneficial for maintaining diverse insect community

→ ~~What about use~~ How/can practices encourage of native grasses? these are slower to establish, expensive, which requires long fallow times, rotation issues.

One of the main considerations for machinery is erosion control, not size.

"Drilling is the best way, period!"

liquid v solid manure management is a matter of timing → can magnit change to reduce CO_2eq emissions?

③ BMP: rotational grazing / fencing, Electric!

Pasture Mgmt Sen
Session 2

① DAIRIES ARE REQUIRE ORGANIC

* ② NEED ~~TO MAXIMIZE PASTURE (ALL AVAIL~~
~~TO A~~ ACCESS TO all available tools TO MAXIMIZE PASTURE

* ③ PRESERVE + SAME TOOLS AVAILABLE NOW TO ALL RANCHES
NOT UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES OF PROCESS

④ EXPANDED ABILITY TO GROW SILAGE
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS GREAT

⑤ NATIVE GRASSES REPLANTED WHEREEVER POSSIBLE / NOT REAL

⑥ FLEXIBILITY

⑦ FORAGE - HEALTHY PASTURES

⑧ TE CURRENT SYSTEM &

⑨ NO TILL / FU SEEDING BUT NEED OPTIONS - DISCING 3-5 YEARS PERIODIC

⑩ ELECTRIC FENCES ~~PREFERRED~~ EFFECTIVE AND LEAST HARM

(11) EMBRACE MAKIN CARBON PROJECT PROTOCOLS FOR SEASHORE RANGELANDS

(12) MOVING - AROUND HERD

(13) ALLOW SALE OF FORAGE WITHIN PARK

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(1)

1A. GRAZING BY COWS IS SUPPORTIVE OF PASTURE HEALTH RANGELAND

Ranching depending on healthy grasslands -

1 to benefit resources + industry

- not contribute to ~~erosion~~ erosion - Slopes

- tilling ? not with native grasses

- # of grazing animals - not too many. but enough

- weed management. Rye + clover

*2 site + ~~content~~ context specific

healthy soil → fewer weeds, ~~p~~ better pasture

- Pasture rotation

- Good management → better yield

- Carbon sequestration—
  a win-win practice
- No tilling practice
- Clearing land to produce good pasture – Remove brush – for no tilling.

3 Size of ~~&~~ pasture needs to be determined for each ~~&~~ ranch + production capacity—

Succession

- If the family no longer interested, then what?
  - Ranchers choice if they have one. a neighbor, family member. Ranchers know who are good stewards.
  - Ranchers would like input on who gets it.
  - No Ranchers beyond park because the park families know the land and practices.
  - How does park deaide who gets it if many are interested?
    - Do not open up to bidding
    - All interested must submit a RFP. RFPs go threw a review process by a commitee of park & othe Ag agencies.
  - Don't close a ranch just because that family lost interest - keep it in Ag.
  - Also access the prodivity of said ranch. Is the whole ranch still productive? Maybe some sections are not productive anymore.
  - keep good productive land in Ag.

Succession

- Other models?
  - RFPs and grading proposals. Advisory groups ~~elected~~ ranks proposals. based on BMP & Ranch plans.
  - * Advisory group consists of NRCS, FSA, Marin Co. Ag. Commissioner
  - * -NO AUCTIONS
- -Leases
  - -Stability - need ~~to~~ stability
  - -~~Have~~ Ranchers need time to renegotiate their lease.
  - * -When the next generation ~~that~~ takes over a lease - it should "reset the clock" and that generation gets to have the 20 years start over - not just pick up where the older generation left off.

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(1) Continue how its been done - let the Ranchers have an input on who the next lessee of their ranch is.

(2) If no one is interested, come up with an Advisory Comm. ~~that~~ consisting of Park, NRCS, Ag. Comm, FSA, etc. that ranks RFPs that interested Ranchers would have to submit.

(3) When the next generation takes over a lease the ~~clock~~ 20 yr. clock should be "reset". They get to have 20 years not just finish out what previous generation had left.

DO NOT OPEN UP TO PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS

Succession

Maintaining Integrity of the neighboring ranches

Keeping it in the Family

Restoring vacant homes/buildings & the pasture land

Family consideration/recommendation for who takes over

Streamline Process

* Continuous Active Mgmt of land/buildings
  ⇒ streamling process
* Restoring vacant homes/buildings & Pasture

* Family Consideration

SUCCESSION

BALANCE
THRU FAMILY

(1) IS THE PARK COMMITTED TO AG?
NEED WRITTEN PLAN
OPEN UP TO FAMILY OR IF NOT
OPEN IT UP SO LAND DOESN'T GO FALLOW.

PARK DECISIONS
GOOD STEWARDSHIP IS A FACTOR — WHAT IS IT
NOT HOW WELL A RANCHER GETS ALONG W/ PARK

CONSIDER EMPLOYEES

IS PARK UNDER ANY OBLIGATION TO CONTINUE A
RANCH IF FAMILY GIVES IT UP?

PARK SHOULD CONTINUE RANCHING ON ABANDONED
RANCH

PARK SHOULD HAVE DISCRETION ~~TO~~ ~~MORE~~ PASTURE
LEASES - PROTECT WILDLIFE

(2) EXISTING PARK PROCESS GOOD - MEMORIALIZE

PARK NEEDS FLEXIBILITY

(3) NEED GUIDELINES
NEED TO GET FAMILY MEMBERS ON LEASE

Succession

what would be appropriate process to choose next lessee?

- are options on list a priority-based list? yes ranchers answered survey
  ① family ② neighbors w/i seashore
  ③ ranchers w/i seashore
- no option to return land to wilderness on table #2?
- original leases/permits only allowed family succession
- But need balance between farmland & wilderness
- some pastoral land includes wilderness protection
- organic farming attempts balance solution?
- succession ~~with~~ by outside interest may risk practices out of balance

Succession

1. Clear criteria for good ranching practices
   if there ~~is~~ ~~[illegible]~~ good ranching practices *
   are part of succession determination

2. We support Longer leases allow better
   investment in conservation practices +
   worker housing + loans

3. Longer lease = 20 years
   which will Help with securing funds for upgrades
   including housing + loans

~~[illegible]~~

Additional thoughts on #1

* Including fair worker wage + housing considerations

3. Families, ~~[illegible]~~ ranchers in park
   as successors. No outsider
   bidding

Succession

1. Bid out to open those based on best management practices OR
2. Revert to Park when lease ends to prairie restoration i.e. no succession.

If succession: (as per #1 above) open to:

- existing Ranching familes in Park thru bidding process given priority
- Bidding not based on money but on conservation/farming practices

→ 3. Ag continues in park.

3 points

We're split

- Some say no diversification

Others say yes to low impact diversification - well managed - Core areas

→ Need process - preapproved list to support permitting

→ Understand the priorities of ranchers

→ Site / Farm specific

Diversivication

- How many Ranchers are interested in Diversification now/Future
- Spreading risk
- The optam, or opportunity to grow multiple things depending on markets
- Flexability for ranchers ~~depe~~ short time Frames/Timely manner
- Time where & how much
- Camping?
- Hands need to be untied for ranching
- Pre approved list of what you can & cant do
- Answers from park in timely fashion
- Multiple income streams can keep you going during down markets
- Better park capacity to handle ranch issues

1. Flexability for Ranchers/Short time Frames/Timely manner
   Untie hands
2. Multiple Income Streams can keep you going during down markets
3. Pre approved list of what you can & cant do

Diversification is key to viability, how to balance while protecting Park values + resources.

- farm stays education OK
- other animals - chickens + pigs - concern
- organic + value added - e.g. cheeses quality, modest scale on farm value added important.
  - cheese + butter

→ manage scale/balance w resource needs/impacts accountability to ensure balance b+w diversification + resources

Diversification

Meaning

"D" May be ok but must preserve Park values.

Should not go to kitchens, maybe farm stands.

- Why do we need "D"
  - Adding complementary ag uses, consistent w history of ag in the area - supports local food supply + diminishes other env impacts - e.g. transportation/shipping

Some forms of D. trigger management practices that have their own impacts - e.g. Fencing

Economic viability relates to keeping families on farm

- Primary purpose of a NPark is to protect resources
  Ag is incompatible
  impact of traffic from farm stays vs visitors - millions

Diversification

- Best ways to implement, extensiveness
  - Depends on what the diversification is.
  - Each ranch is different
  - Equal opportunity to do the same things.
  - Need for longer leases in order to invest in certain projects.
  - The importance of scale, of opporation.
  - Would like to see the park have a quicker response and more collaboration with other Ag agencies.
  - Need more clear guidelines regarding diversification.

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① Diversification, ~~and~~ flexibity, options open, & opportunities to educate.
② Balance of opportunity to diversify & protecting park resources
③ Clear guidelines and a timely process for those wanting to diversify.

- Identify best practices for diversification beyond "the core".
- Look outside of this area to learn how others have implemented these practices.

Diversification

- Diversification is....
  - flexibility to try something different
  - keeping ophions open for the future for example processing, row crops
  - being able to keep up with the times and do a variety of things.
  - education is something that can be done without interfering with the opportations.
  - Supports entuerpernuli & support ranchers starting new businesses while protecting wildlife
  - Balance needs of wildlife with new opportunities.
  - Wants this process to make it easier for ranchers to thrive & survive. Ranchers are good examples of ~~sus~~ sustainability.
  - Education is a key componert.

- Opportunities/Activities
  - on-farm processing
  - free-range poultry
  - Raw Crops
  - Flexibility to go with the times
  - Education
  - farm-stays

1. What is diversification?
goal is: viability,
improve habitat, encourage
Succession, public education,
(organic/BMPs)

2. We realize the Park will set
Standards/fit within
laws + regulations.
look to history/be flexible

3. Diversification Management Strategy - Committee
of Park personnel, RCD,
Ranchers, ag Extension

Diversification

- A variety of definitions and practices
- Row crops limited by water ~~(un)~~ (un) availability
- Native plant ~~restro~~ restoration procedures
- Fencing: wildlife, livestock, electric

#1. Agreement on limited diversification centered at ranch core

#2 A variety of ~~opion~~ opinions on how to implement diversification outside core.

#3 Agreement on limiting new construction and on repurposing existing structures for diversification.