Petition to Establish Benmore Valley Viticultural Area

Submitted by Sara Schorske
On Behalf of Vimark, Inc.

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In accordance with 27 CFR 4.25 (e) (1), the B.A.T.F. is hereby petitioned to establish the grape growing region known as "Benmore Valley" as an American Viticultural Area under Part 9 of 27 CFR.

Introduction

The proposed viticultural area is a small, high elevation valley, approximately two miles long running in a northwesterly direction, located in the sparsely populated Mayacmas mountain range in western Lake County near the Mendocino County border. The valley is approached by a private road off of Highway 175, the route which traverses the grade between Hopland in Mendocino County and Lakeport in Lake County. The proposed appellation lies totally within the boundaries of the North Coast Viticultural Area, but it is physically isolated from the surrounding area and other North Coast vineyard sites by bordering mountains which climb to elevations of up to 3000 feet or more.

The total area encompassed by the proposed viticultural area is approximately 1440 acres, of which 125 are planted to Chardonnay wine grapes. Studies indicate the feasibility of planting another 75 acres, possibly more. There are currently no bonded wineries in the area. The existing vineyards are owned and cultivated by petitioner Vimark, Inc. Vimark's holdings encompass approximately 70% of the proposed viticultural area. None of the other Benmore Valley property owners have established commercial vineyards as of the date of this petition.

The North Coast region has a long history of viticulture. While winegrowing is a relatively recent undertaking in the proposed viticultural area (Vimark's vineyards were planted in 1988), other vineyard sites at comparable elevations in the

North Coast mountain ranges have established a track record of producing wine grapes of quality and distinction (see Table 1).

Viticulture's recent arrival in Benmore Valley reflects the increased consumer demand for premium varietal wines. Historically, vineyards were first established in the warmer and more accessible areas of Lake County and nearby Mendocino County. These areas were easier to cultivate and closer to producing wineries. However, it became commercially attractive to cultivate the higher reaches of the region when it became evident that vineyards planted in cooler microclimates and grown under more stressful circumstances produced grapes of distinctive flavor and quality. The cooler temperatures that prevail at higher elevations slow the ripening of the grapes and allow them to reach the right balance of acid and sugar necessary for the production of premium wines.

This petition will establish that due to its singular geographic and viticultural features, Benmore Valley is a unique grape growing region and should be recognized as an approved viticultural area. The establishment of Benmore Valley as a viticultural area and its subsequent use as an appellation of origin on wine labels and in wine advertisements will allow wineries to better designate where their wines come from and will enable consumers to better identify the wines from this area. The following evidence is offered in support of this petition.

The Name

The use of the name Benmore Valley is well-established. Benmore Valley is identified on USGS maps. Benmore Creek runs the length of the valley and exits at the northwestern end.

The first use of the name *Benmore* (or *Benmoore)* is undocumented; however, it can be traced back to the nineteenth century. The valley itself and several other Lake County landmarks were named after Benjamin Logan Moore, a notorious cattle rustler.

As a teenager, Ben Moore came west from Missouri with his family and their large herd of livestock and settled in Sonoma, California in 1846. His skill as a cattle drover led him to Lake County, which he first visited as one of the vaqueros who drove Salvador Vallejo's herd of wild longhorn cattle from Vallejo's Spanish land grant in northern Lake County. Ben Moore's familiarity with the uncivilized wilds of Lake County stood him in good stead when, some years later, he killed a man following a disagreement over the price of some maverick cattle Ben wanted to sell. Fearing the consequences of his action, he fled far from the reach of the law, and lived out his days as a fugitive.

He became the most infamous horse thief and cattle rustler in Lake County history. His practice was to steal cattle in Mendocino County, as far north as Willits, Ukiah, and Hopland, then drive the cattle up the mountains just over the county line to the hidden valley that now bears his name. (A visit to Benmore Valley confirms its usefulness for the fugitive rustler's purpose: the valley is remote, well-watered, and from the trail approaching its entrance affords an amazing lookout over the entire panorama of Clear Lake and much of the surrounding county. No angry rancher or posse of lawmen could sneak up on Ben in his namesake valley!) When it was safe, Ben would drive the stolen cattle down Benmore Creek, north around Clear Lake, through Colusa County to the Sacramento Valley, where he sold them. On his return trip he rustled cattle from the Sacramento Valley herds, drove them west, and eventually sold them in Mendocino County. He continued this practice for years until finally he and a son emigrated to South America to escape the law.

Ben Moore left his name on numerous landmarks in Lake County: Benmore Creek, Benmore Trail, Benmore Ridge, and of course, Benmore Valley. This history is documented in the August 1988 *Pomo Bulletin*, published by the Lake County Historical Society (Exhibit A) and is a fascinating piece of local folklore familiar to many Lake County residents.

Boundaries

The natural boundaries of Benmore Valley are defined by the terrain of the area. Located at an elevation of 2400 feet, it is bordered by even higher mountains. These mountains have an average height of 2800 feet, with a maximum elevation of 3089 feet above sea level. The surrounding mountainous terrain is rugged and rather sparse, forested primarily by manzanita and wild grasses. It is not suitable for wine grape cultivation.

The valley floor contrasts sharply with the surrounding area. Benmore Valley was originally formed by a lake, thus the valley walls slope gently down to the relatively flat expanse of alluvial land where deeper soils and ample water are more conducive to plant growth and commercial agriculture.

For ease of definition, the proposed boundaries follow straight lines along section demarcations, county boundaries, and, in part, from peak to peak. An attempt has been made to include the entire area of the rather irregular valley floor and its approximate watershed. This is the logical and natural boundary of the area known as Benmore Valley.

Geographic Features

As a valley surrounded by mountains, Benmore Valley is geographically distinct. In addition to its geographic isolation, the primary characteristics distinguishing Benmore Valley from neighboring areas are climate, soil, and water availability.

Climate

Due to its particular topography, Benmore Valley experiences measurably different climatic conditions than prevail outside its boundaries. Available thermograph data (1989) places Benmore Valley in Region I, with fewer than

2,500 heat units, even after correcting for probable long-term weather behavior.[1] In contrast, other viticultural areas in Lake and eastern Mendocino Counties have been classified by the UC Davis system of classification as Region II (2,500 to 3,000 heat units), Region III (3,000 to 3,500 heat units), or even warmer. Table 2 summarizes the classifications of nearby viticultural areas and towns.

An analysis of data provided by the University of California Hopland Field Station shows that a Region I classification is unexpected, even in Benmore Valley's immediate environment. Table 3 illustrates how Benmore Valley's climate deviates from the local norm. Interpolation of temperature records from various elevations in close proximity to the proposed viticultural area (the field station's measurements were taken in the mountains east of Hopland, immediately west of Benmore Valley) suggest that if the climate of Benmore Valley conformed to the trends of the immediate area, it would fall in Region III. As the graph in Table 3 shows, corrected heat units calculated from actual Benmore Valley data varies substantially from this expectation. The climate of Benmore Valley is clearly very different from the climate of the surrounding area.

The uniqueness of Benmore Valley's climate is further demonstrated by comparing the average date of the last frost of the year. Over ten years of data provided by the University of California Hopland Field Station shows that the growing season in Benmore Valley begins considerably later in the year than that of the surrounding region (see Table 4).[2]

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[1] Correction for long term behavior is obtained by averaging many years of heat units for the nearest location where long term data is available. The correction factor for any given year is figured by calculating the difference, plus or minus, by which the heat units for the year deviate from the long term average. In effect, this is a method of quantifying the subjective observations "it was a cool year" or "it was a warm year." The correction factor can then be added in a cool year, or subtracted in a warm year, to adjust the heat units calculated for a location that lacks long term data. The resulting sum or difference gives an approximation of the heat units for that location in an average year.

[2] This table contains a graph of the date of latest spring frost (based on a review of the available data for the last ten years) for a variety of locations, including Benmore Valley. A second graph of

Despite Benmore Valley's cool climate classification and late spring, analysis of the available weather data using techniques developed by former UC viticultural advisor Robert Sisson indicates ample climate support for viticulture in the valley.

Climatological studies by Robert Sisson, head of the University of California Extension Service in Sonoma County from 1950 to 1985, led him to modify the existing system of heat summation for application to vineyards in the coast ranges of California. He defined two climatic regions which he called "coastal cool" (2000 to 2800 heat units) and "coastal warm" (2800 to 3500 heat units) and introduced an empirical method to classify vineyards more accurately than degree day calculations permit.

As a result of his decades of study, Sisson developed an alternative to the heat unit method of temperature analysis that he found is significantly more reliable than heat unit summations. Because heat units are calculated using an average daily temperature without regard to the length of time during the day at any given temperature, Sisson noticed that relying on heat units yielded wide fluctuations from year to year and can suggest misleading comparisons between very different locations. To overcome the inherent limitations in the calculation of heat units, Sisson studied the number of hours during the growing season during which the temperature remains in the highly effective photosynthetic range between 70° and 90°. He found this total to be a much more stable indicator of grape ripening capability. This total did not change much from year to year, even if a given year happened to be unusually "warm" or "cool" compared to its average.

Sisson's research concluded that "coastal cool" sites can be accurately characterized as consistently having less than 1,000 hours during the growing

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average dates of last frost over the past ten years demonstrates that the pattern shown in the first graph is typical of the area's long term weather.

season in the highly effective photosynthetic range between 70° and 90°. "Coastal warm" sites consistently experience over 1,000 hours.

Analysis of thermograph records from Benmore Valley shows an estimated 900 hours[3] in the effective temperature range. Although degree day calculations for the same period place Benmore Valley in a low Region I classification, the calculation of hours of optimum photosynthesis place it near the warm end of the "coastal cool" classification. These results confirm that although Benmore Valley does not experience high temperatures, it warms up earlier and more quickly, and cools down later and more rapidly than many coastal sites and thus stays relatively warm for a longer percentage of the day. Conversations with local residents confirm that this is true, and that the valley is relatively free of fog.

Soils

The soils of Benmore Valley distinguish it from the surrounding mountains. There are three soil types found on the valley floor in Benmore Valley. The predominant soil is Manzanita loam. There are also substantial areas of Still loam and Wolfcreek loam. These soils are all deep, well-drained soils of slow to moderately slow permeability found on alluvial plains. These soil types are not found at all in the mountains that rim Benmore Valley. The soil types in the bordering mountains are complexes made of varying mixtures of Maymen, Etsel, Mayacama, and Snook soils, all shallow, excessively drained soils derived from weathered shale and sandstone.

The soils found in Benmore Valley also distinguish it from other high elevation vineyards in nearby North Coast locations. A study of the soils of many of the high elevation vineyards listed in Table 1 shows a variety of soils (see Table 5). The soils present on the valley floor in Benmore Valley are not found in any of the other vineyards.

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[3] Temperature data for a portion of the summer was unavailable. This figure represents the sum of actual and extrapolated data.

Water

Benmore Valley's water supply is another factor which distinguishes it from the surrounding area. Benmore Valley is blessed with an ample supply of water for plant growth. Not only are there three man-made lakes and a creek in the valley, but there is also a high water table and plenty of ground water. This is in contrast to the surrounding mountainous area, which is characterized by thin, dry soils of little water capacity.

Summary

Benmore Valley is a unique and distinctive grapegrowing area and deserves recognition as an American viticultural area in light of the evidence presented in this petition, summarized as follows:

- The proposed area is locally and historically known as Benmore Valley and is identified by that name on USGS maps.

- Benmore Valley is naturally distinguished from the surrounding area because it is high-elevation upland valley, isolated from other areas by high mountains which completely border it.

- Benmore Valley is viticulturally distinctive because of its unique climate. The growing season begins quite late because of late spring frosts. Heat unit summations indicate that the average temperature in the valley is uncharacteristically cool for its location. Although the weather is relatively cool, however, the daily pattern of warming and cooling provides uniquely strong climate support for early ripening wine grape varieties.

- The predominant soil types found in Benmore Valley are not found in the surrounding mountains or in other high elevation vineyards in the region.

- The high water table and ample water supply distinguish Benmore Valley from the surrounding area.

Boundaries

The proposed viticultural area is located entirely within Lake County. The boundaries may be found on four U.S.G.S. 7.5 minute series maps. They are titled "Purdy's Garden," "Hopland," "Lakeport," and "Highland Springs." The beginning point is the southwest corner of Section 35, Township 14 North, Range 11 West in the southeast quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

1. From the beginning point, follow the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties in a southerly and easterly direction to the point where the boundary crosses into the northeastern quadrant of the "Hopland" map.

2. Thence along the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties in a southerly and easterly direction to the point where the boundary crosses into the "Highland Springs" map.

3. Thence along the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties in an easterly direction to the point where the boundary crosses the unnamed private road that leads from Hopland Grade Road (at survey marker 2495) in a northwesterly direction toward Benmore Valley.

4. Thence in a straight line due north to the northern section line of Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southwestern quadrant of the "Lakeport" map.

5. Thence west along that section line to the northwestern corner of Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southeastern quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

6. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,904 feet.

7. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,788 feet.

8. Thence southwest in a straight line to the beginning point.

These boundaries are delineated on an enclosed map.

Table 1

Representative High Elevation Vineyards in the North Coast Viticultural Area

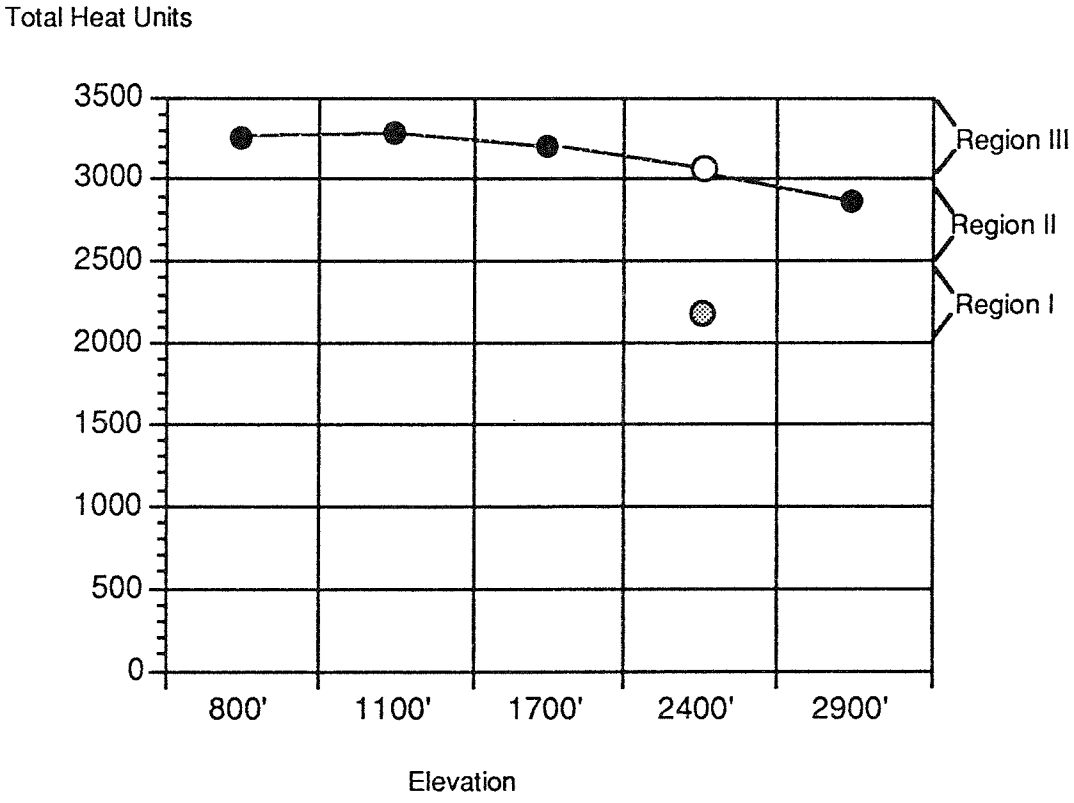
Owner	Location	Altitude	Grapes
Louis Martini Winery	Cobb Mountain, Lake County	1800-2200'	Cabernet Sauvignon Barbera (30 acres)
Scharffenberger Vineyards	above Ukiah Valley, Mendocino County	1800'	Cabernet Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Zinfandel, Petite Sirah (70 acres)
Poor Ranch (John Poor)	between Hopland and Benmore Valley, Mendocino County	1800-2000'	Zinfandel, Carignane, Petite Sirah (6 acres)
5 Bar S Ranch (Harold Smith)	Alexander Valley, east of Cloverdale, Sonoma County	up to 2000'	Cabernet Sauvignon (60 acres)
Beringer Winery	southeast of Kelseyville, Lake County	2200'	200 acres planned
Gauer Ranch	Alexander Valley, Sonoma	2000-2100'	Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvigon , Cabernet Franc (16 acres)
Hess Collection	Mt. Veeder, Napa Valley	1600-2000'	Cabernet Sauvignon

Table 2

UC Davis Classifications of Selected Lake and Mendocino County Locations

McDowell Valley Viticultural Area (Mendocino County, 1.75 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region II**
Cole Ranch Viticultural Area (Mendocino County, 8. 75 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region II**
City of Hopland (Mendocino County, 3 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region III**
City of Kelseyville (Lake County, 2.75 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region III**
City of Middletown (Lake County, 26 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region IV**
City of Ukiah (Mendocino County, 10.5 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region IV**
City of Clear Lake (Lake County, 17 miles from Benmore Valley)	**Region V**

Table 3
Summary of Heat Unit Comparison



- ● Actual heat unit summation (long term averages) for sites near Benmore Valley
- ○ Average heat units projected for Benmore Valley based on regional weather patterns
- ◍ Corrected heat unit summation for Benmore Valley based on available thermograph readings (1989)

Table 4
Comparison of Date of Last Frost

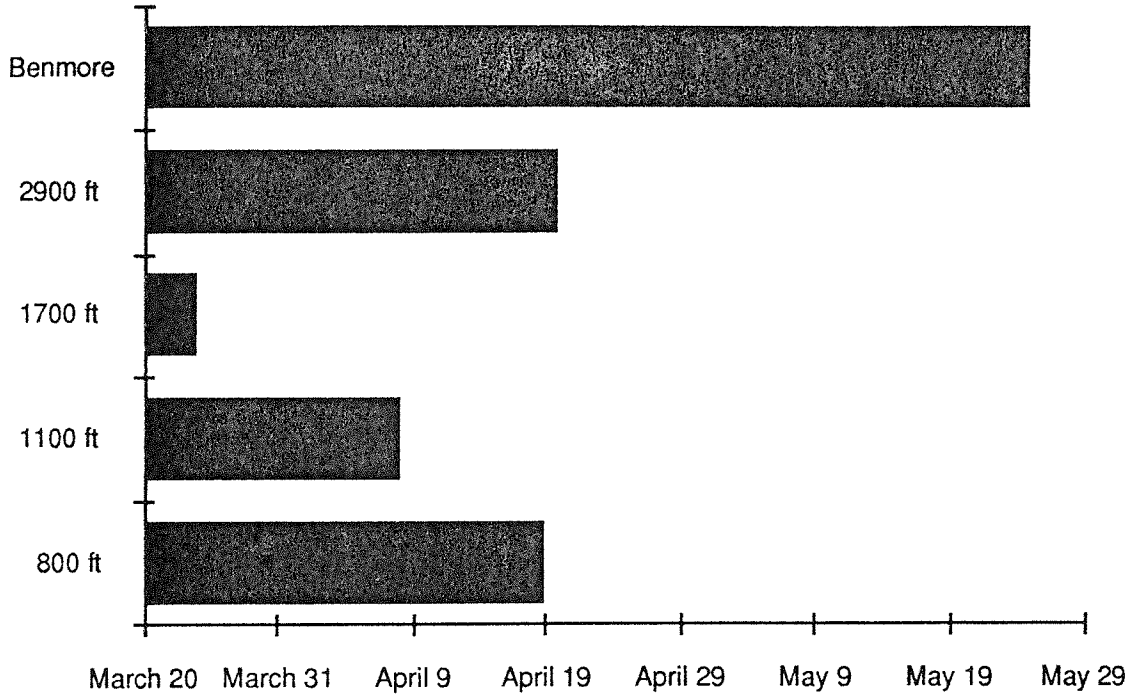


Figure 1. Comparison of the latest recorded frost date at varying elevations (from data gathered over a ten-year period) with latest recorded frost date from available Benmore Valley data

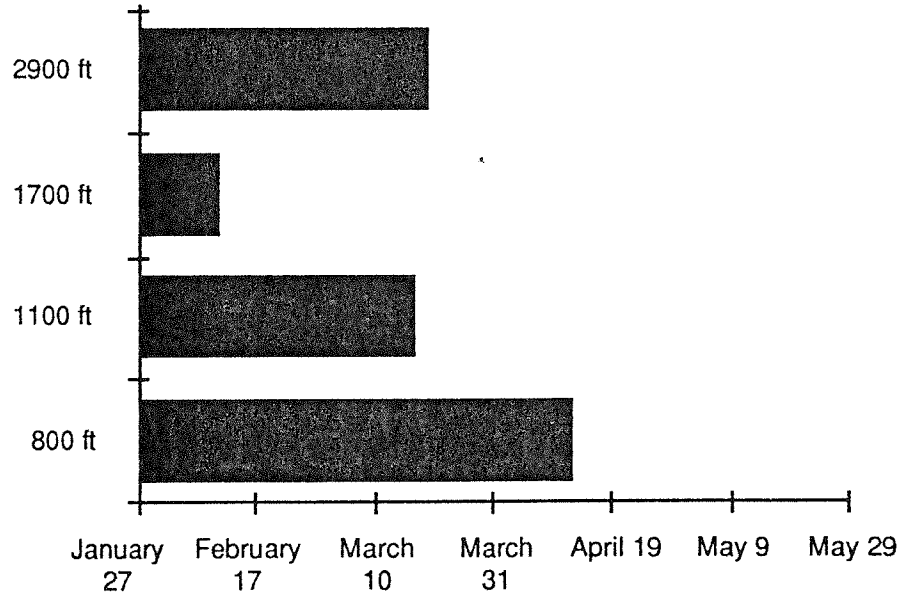


Figure 2. Average date of last frost at varying elevations (from data gathered over a ten-year period) for comparison with Figure 1. Benmore Valley not included because of insufficient data.

Table 5

Soils of High Elevation Vineyards in the North Coast Viticultural Area

Owner	Elevation	Predominant Soils
Louis Martini Winery	1800-2200'	Collayomi-Aiken-Whispering complex, Aiken-Sobrante association
Scharffenberger Vineyards	1800'	Yokayo sandy loam, Pinole gravelly loam, Redvine sandy clay loam
Poor Ranch (John Poor)	1800-2000'	Hopland-Sanhedrin-Kekawaka complex, Bearwallow-Helman loams, Hopland loam
5 Bar S Ranch (Harold Smith)	up to 2000'	Yorkville clay loam, Suther loam
Beringer Winery	2200'	Bottlerock-Glenview-Arrowhead complex, Aiken-Sobrante association
Gauer Ranch	2000-2100'	Yorkville clay loam, Suther loam

Exhibit A

POMO BULLETIN

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LAKE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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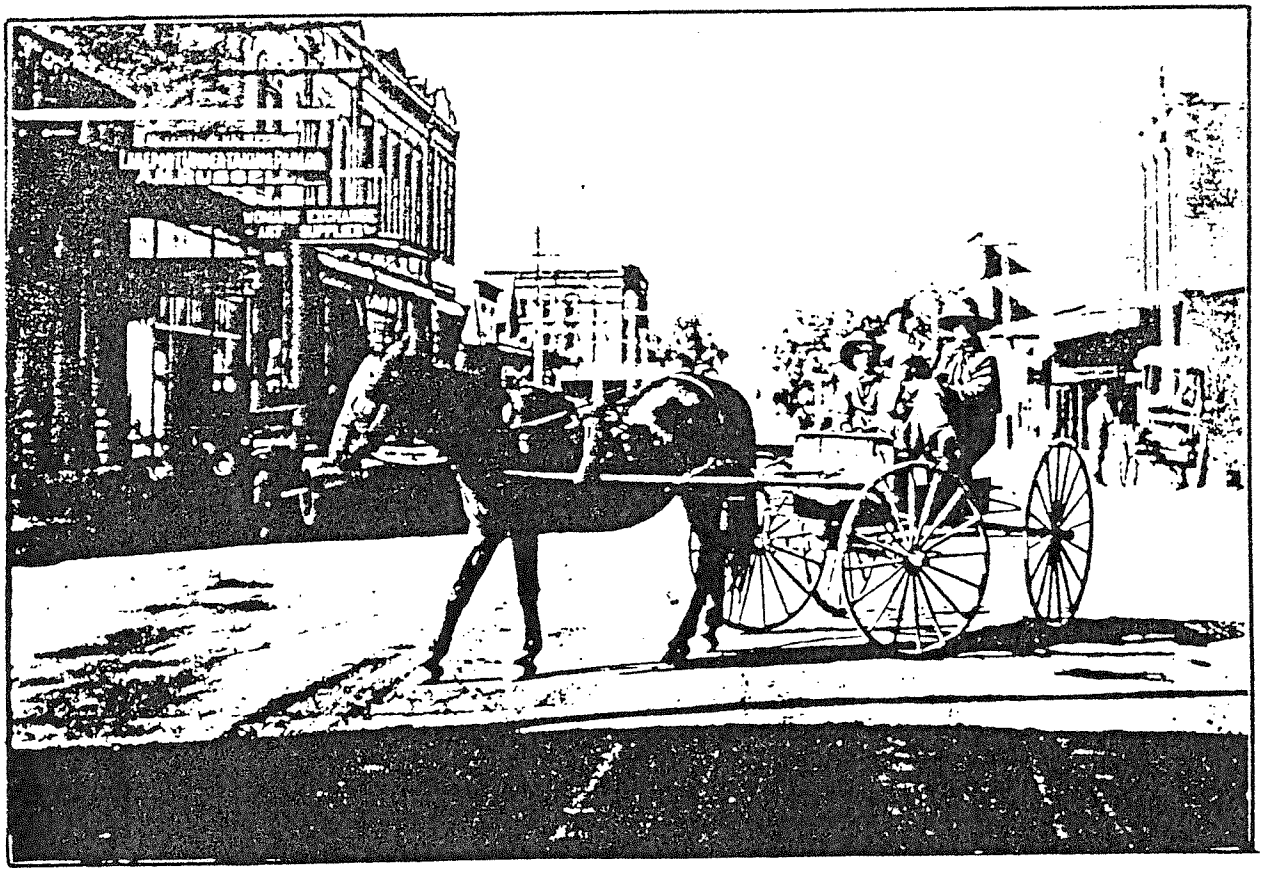
(Organized in 1955)

PRESENTING

EXCERPTS OF LAKE COUNTY HISTORY



MAIN STREET - LAKEPORT

BENJAMIN LOGAN MOORE

by

Donald M. Griner

In tracing family lineages I have uncovered a very famous man in my wife's ancestors. He was her great-great uncle Benjamin Logan Moore, born in Boone County, Missouri, November 29, 1830. He was the oldest of ten children. Her great grandmother, Nancy Cecilia Moore was the youngest, born September 30, 1851 in Sonoma California. The family crossed the plains to California in 1846 driving a large herd of cattle and horses and settled in Sonoma. Ben Moore, age about 15 or 16 was one of the main cattle drovers, and soon became an expert as a teenager. From their arrival at Sonoma, until about 1852 when Ben joined the J. Broome Smith longhorn cattle drive out of the Laguna with Salvador Vallejo's last maverick and unclaimed cattle, there is very little recorded history. It was known however, that he was very adventurous, brave and daring and loved to herd and drive longhorn cattle. You no doubt are wondering how this rather stellar, adventurous and daring young wild cattle vaquero became famous. Well, after engaging in and leading several wild longhorn cattle roundups and drives, and after meeting with several adversities, he went into hiding from the law and finally became the largest cattle rustler and horse thief in Lake County history. From this infamy, more landmarks and geographical locations have been named after him than anyone else in our history.

A list of places associated with him are immediately following and then I will follow with all the details I can find of his life and activities, which may show some of the causes, which I will try not to make too boring.

Shortly after his arrival in California Ben Moore seems to have joined some of the earliest cattle drives of Salvador Vallejo from Big Valley to Sonoma and even wandered up to the Upper Lake area and joined three other bachelors in temporarily settling in the valley, nicknamed after them -"Bachelor Valley."

Ben Moore's name was actually stamped on (1) an ancient log cattle corral near Rodman Hill on the Nice highway cutoff, named just plain "Ben Moore" by old Indian vaqueros who had ridden with him in the Tule area of the present Reclamation districts. (2) There was the Ben Moore Trail, an ancient Indian and stock droving trail from Scott's Valley, over Hopland Mountain to Ukiah and Hopland Valleys and toward the coast. (3) Ben Moore Valley at the top of Hopland Mountain bordering on Mendocino County which drains down east into (4) Ben Moore Creek and on into Scott's Creek. Then part way up Little Cow Mountain in the north is (5) Ben Moore Ridge running from Four Mile Clades toward his favorite valley to the south. Then (6) Upper and Lower Ben Moore Roads running both sides of this ridge. On the east side of Lake County bordering on Colusa County and Sacramento Valley, was (7) Ben Moore Canyon, well grassed, watered and well hidden, running from Cache Creek up into Walker Mountain toward his "eastern market" and "victims". (8) Then of course, we next find on the official maps another Ben Moore Creek draining the area between Elk Mountain - Lake Pillsbury Road and Pine Mountain, to the west and which empties into Eel River about 2 miles below the Lake Pillsbury Dam (formerly Gravelly Valley). (9) Finally, as far as I know , there was Ben Moore Glade where he and his Indian wife, Mary lived for about 2½ years and Dick Moore was born. This was its commonly used name for about 30 years until Bill Montgomery and his wife home-

steaded it in 1884 and the mapmakers changed it to Montgomery Glades. It may be of interest to note that William Fields Montgomery homesteaded, in 1884, the central and upper parts of Ben Moore Glades, and his wife filed on the lower parts of the glades up to the brush line. They built their cabin on the same site that Ben and Mary had their shack. Bill had met and known them when Ben Moore first settled in the glades and described its location and structure. Even to this day, the old name often creeps up among pioneer families.

This seems to be the way it all started: Shortly after Salvador Vallejo drove his large herd of wild longhorn cattle out of his Spanish land grant in northern Lake County, named the Laguna, aided by J. Broome Smith, Ben Moore and about 20 other vaqueros. The 1881 history states that Ben Moore led the round up and marketing of the Stone and Kelsey massacre estate cattle, probably in early 1850. Then about a year later J. Broome Smith gathered together 6 of the hardiest and most daring of all these former drovers he had ridden with and headed back for the Lake where they knew a great many longhorns were still hiding out which they had missed in the former drives and they were free for the taking by anyone. His group included Ben Moore and Briscoe, from the Stonyford area. When they left Sonoma they all agreed that all possible cattle should be corralled near the Lake and then driven down to the Army market at Sonoma. At that point they would divide up the herd into 6 parts and then each drover could do as he pleased with his share. So they rode into the Big Valley area and soon became disappointed and alarmed at the scarcity of wild cattle. On questioning the natives they were told that there were many cattle tracks leading over the trail from Scotts Valley to where Hopland now is, and that there were shod horse tracks following the cattle tracks. And I here directly quote Henry Mauldin's historical writings which so excellently portrays this classic episode. "This could only mean one thing and that was that Spaniards, living on their Mexican land grant at Hopland,had been in ahead of the Smith group and had driven out the bulk of the unowned cattle. The horse tracks being the horse tracks of the Spanish Vaqueros when driving the stock."

"Together with a few friendly Lake County Indians, J. Broome Smith and his men rode over the trail to Hopland. It was a time of bright moon light summer nights. Without letting their presence be known they quietly worked the stock toward the foot of the trail leading back to Lake County. The third night the cattle were driven back toward the Lake and were moved along without rest. One wonders how many of the Spanish's own stock were in the drive! The next day about noon, the Spaniards woke up that there was something wrong. They too found cattle tracks headed up the trail, followed by horse tracks. Several of the Hoplanders gave hot pursuit and dashed up and over the trail. By this time the stock were nearly to Scotts Creek in Scotts Valley. Smith had planned that this would happen, so he stayed behind his men and the herd. This trail led through heavy brush, it was hot summer time and the vegetation was dry. When Smith saw the Spaniards coming, he set fire to the dry growth which drove his adversary back toward Hopland and they gave up further effort to retrieve the stock, which, for such a short time belonged to them".

"After Smith and his partners had gathered all the stock they reasonably could from within Lake County to add to the herd from Hopland, the total was driven to Sonoma where each man took his share of the animals. The partnership broke up and each went his own way. This was the last large drive of longhorms from Lake County, except for those

near Middletown, for which we have no record".

"Among the six men in the drive was one, Ben Moore, who received his share of cattle and proceeded to sell them to a cattle buyer. Here the story gets a little confused. Either the cattle buyer was an Army Officer buying for the Army; was a Mexican Army Officer buying on his own; or had been an Army Officer. At any rate when the sale was made, Ben Moore got into an argument with the buyer and they decided to settle the matter with swords. Each man mounted his horse, drew a sword and rushed at each other. Moore killed the buyer. Whatever the reason for the quarrel and killing seemed to make no difference to Moore. When he cooled off he believed the best part of valor was to leave for parts unknown, and as soon as possible. This he did and lived in dread of the law for a long time".

"Moore left Sonoma, came through the Clear Lake area where few white men lived at that time, and went on to Colusa County (that part now Glenn County). There he married a young Indian woman. That territory was too close to civilization and the law, so he took his wife and moved near the Eel River in northern Lake County where there would be no white man within at least two day's ride".

"On the west side of the road going from Upper Lake to Lake Pillsbury is a deep canyon whose stream enters the Eel River about two miles down stream from the Scott Dam which forms the Lake. Upon the side of Pine Mountain west of this stream is a large sized glade which contains water. Here Ben Moore and his Indian wife built a rough type Tepee or cabin and made their home".

During the next two and a half years, while head quartered there, they had several Indian scares from roaming outlaw bands from Round Valley and even fled back to her people in Stonyford once until things had cooled down.

Family lore quotes one episode of theirs when a very "friendly" Indian came by to visit, but Ben was very careful not to turn his back on him. Finally, however, in a lax moment the Indian jumped Ben and stabbed him on the back of his neck with a long hunting knife. It so happened that Ben had developed a boil on his neck and had bound on a pitch knot for a poultice and the blade had stuck fast into it. Ben whirled around and quickly used his own knife on the "friendly" Indian.

After their son Dick was born in the spring of 1855, Ben became mean to Mary and she finally decided to run away from him and take the baby back to her people. She finally found the opportunity to escape after a heavy, early winter storm had left a deep snow cover in the mountains. Ben struck out west to hunt for winter meat and Mary grabbed a few pieces of dried jerkey and a heavy jacket, strapped the baby on her back and headed east for home on foot. To anyone at all familiar with this wild and rugged country, I'm sure you would agree with me that it would be a terrific journey on horse back in good weather in less than two days. But Mary made it on foot with a six month old baby on her back over the Low Gap between Goat and Snow Mountains in the winter with about 4 feet of crusted snow on the ground with practically no stop over or rest possible. She had to keep ahead of Ben Moore until she hit the deep crusted snow where his horse could not carry him in pursuit.

This meant many miles of very faint Indian trails down Ben Moore Creek to Eel River, then up gravel bars and the gorge to Gravelly Valley, thence up Rice Fork of Eel River to the foot of Snow Mountain and either

up Bear Creek or by brushy trails through Snow Mountain Glades and Kelly Cabin, Summit Springs, and "Deafy Glade", and gradually down the south slope of Snow Mountain by ancient trail to Fouts Springs. Or she may have worked around south from the main divide along South Fork of Stony Creek until she could cross over to Letts Valley and down east on Goat Mountain then through timber country and a longer route to Fouts Springs. And finally there was the seemingly unbearable miles of nearly level traveling and struggle to the Stony-ford Indian Village. How long she was traveling no one knows, but it is certain that over half of her journey she could not possibly stop or sleep as both she and the baby would have frozen. She had nothing to eat except a few pieces of jerkey to shew on, but of course she stopped occasionally to nurse the baby and try to keep him warm.

The family say that when she staggered into the village she was not only completely exhausted and starving, but she was litterally bare footed with feet raw and bleeding. I have often wondered if old "Uncle Ben" was to ornery that he kept her bare foot and pregnant and not allowed her good enough moccasins to run away on. The slim shreds of rawhide still around her ankles tell me however, that the miles of crusted snow just simply wore them out.

It was over two months before Ben could ride his horse through the snow over any of the passes in search of Mary and his son. When he arrived at the village, the Indians just couldn't remember where Mary had gone. So he took the hint and rode on. Shortly returning, he rode onto her walking up the village street. He tried to coax her to come back with him but she would have none of it, nor would she let him take their son. So rather than fight the whole Indian encampment, he tossed her a ten dollar gold piece and rode back over to Lake County and soon married another Indian woman living near Upper Lake and raised another family of boys, thus the Indian "Moore" family name frequently occurs. But here the Indian lore gets mixed up with somewhite family geneology records. The Vann family geneology records a small amount of Ben Moore's history such as birth date, some early travels and his marriage in 1856 to a white woman, named Harriet Waller in Sonoma, California. To them was born a son "Hiram" January 3, 1857. Thus ends the geneology record and we don't know what has become of Hiram or Harriet since.

Thus I have to assume that Ben Moore tried to blend back into white civilization again, but apparently it didn't work. Either the lapse of 5 years was not enough to bury his fear of the law, or his years of freedom made it too hard to settle down in polite white society. We suppose he soon deserted his new white family and headed back to the Upper Lake area and married his second Indian wife. It was from here that he probably recalled his earlier cattle droves and vaquero raid on the Hopland Spaniard's easy cattle steal. And he soon ventured into it again as a lone wolf cattle rustler and horse thief, so he quickly became "notorious" and wanted. How he was able to gather up, drive out, herd and move those semi-wild cattle and mules and horses all by himself through heavy brush and rough trail-less areas with no fences and few corrals is almost beyond imagination. It is doubtful if he even used trained stock dogs or extra vaqueros in his operations, at least until his second half Indian son from Upper Lake got large enough to ride with him.

It seems to be a pretty well accepted fact that he would steal cattle in Mendocino County as far north as Willits and Ukiah Valleys

and around Hopland, and drive them at night up the Ben Moore Trail to his hidden valley on top of the mountain into Lake County. Thence down the creek named after him to Scotts Creek and Valley and turn them loose in the vast Tule dry lake bed area of our present reclamation districts below Upper Lake, where they remained hidden until wet weather when he chose to drive them around the Lake to Ben Moore Canyon on Walker Mountain, adjoining Colusa County and then when he chose, he drove them east over the ridges to Sacramento Valley where he sold them. (Few cattle or horses were branded in those days). Then after sizing up the Valley's vast herds of livestock, he rounded up the ones he wanted and started his long trek up the stream beds and gravel bars to hide his trail, and back up Cache Creek to Ben Moore Canyon. When all seemed quiet, he reversed his process and sold his stock in Mendocino County. I have often wondered if he ever made a mistake and redrove any of his earlier stolen stock back to their original owners. At any rate as the years progressed, each stolen batch became better bred and not quite as wild as the earlier ones and easier for him to handle. The rainy seasons generally over flowed the Tule area, and swollen stream and muddy trails slowed down his winter operations, so his cattle rustling particularly, was mostly a summer operation, allowing him more time for home life.

How he succeeded in these livestock stealing operations for quite a number of years, and escaped the long arm of the law makes one wonder about our early day communications system. But gradually the law reached closer and closer and though they never actually caught him, he got the message finally and struck out for South America with his second oldest half-breed son from Lake County. This boy no doubt had been riding with him in his final years of rustling. They officially disappeared entirely, but bits of rumor occassionally sifted back, indicating that in a drunken brawl one Christmas night in Argentina, his son shot and killed my wife's "Uncle Ben".

(Foot notes: Ben Moore's Glenn County wife Mary never married again, but lived out her life around Stonyford. This author has proudly acquired a picture of her at about middle age. The son, Dick Moore married a white woman and they raised a family of five children, and most all of them have lived around the Stonyford area as stock men, Farmers and school teachers.

Dick Moore started ranging in the mountains of northern Lake and Glenn Counties from about 1875 on, and became a real pioneer authority on early homesteaders, human events, and history of Lake County's northern mountains surrounding Gravelly Valley, Snow, Hull, and Sheet Iron Mountains. His sons, Earl and Sharkey and their sons likewise, have continued on in his footsteps, as mountain stock men.

Sharkey Moore spent countless hours and weekends taking our County Historian, Henry Mauldin, through the back mountain country of Lake County. He supplied the saddle horses and pack animals for extended trail tours of historic sites, homesteads, and ancient Indian Village sites that would surely have never gotten recorded without his very valuable help.

My wife and I have spent many hours also, visiting with Sharkey Moore and his family, and have found them very enjoyable and a great source of information on Lake County history in particular. So many thanks from us from Lake County to the Moore family of Glenn County who have certainly become an outstanding and stable element in the life

and development of the Stonyford area.

Sharkey asked me two years ago if I knew the exact location of his grandparent's old cabin in Montgomery Glades. I told him the rumors didn't seem to agree, but I would try and locate it for sure.

In my several hunting and exploring trips around "Ben Moore Glades" over the years, I had subconsciously wondered where his old cabin site might be. So after extracting all the information I could from old timers, mountain cattlemen and drovers, I narrowed it down to the upper end of the glades. Early summer of 1987, I'm sure I finally found the place. From the main trail from Eel River south, up through Montgomery Glades, to the last large glade area, short of Fern Spring, one crosses a near level dry lake bed area sloping up west to the timberline. This long dry glade area shows some where grass and old water weed out croppings, gradually greening to a large willow clump, just short of the timber. Just above the willow was a damp area of several old spring development dig outs. Some time in the past this had apparently been a usable spring, quite rare for this glade area. About six feet up the gradual slope was a very definite dug out pit, possibly eight feet across and two feet deep, such as many Indian Tepees or huts would be built in the mountains for protection and warmth. After 135 years, such pits sluff in and would partly fill, but the evidence seems conclusive for a practical site of Ben Moore's original hideout cabin.)

Written by DONALD M. GRINER at age 85.

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A HISTORY OF FAIRS

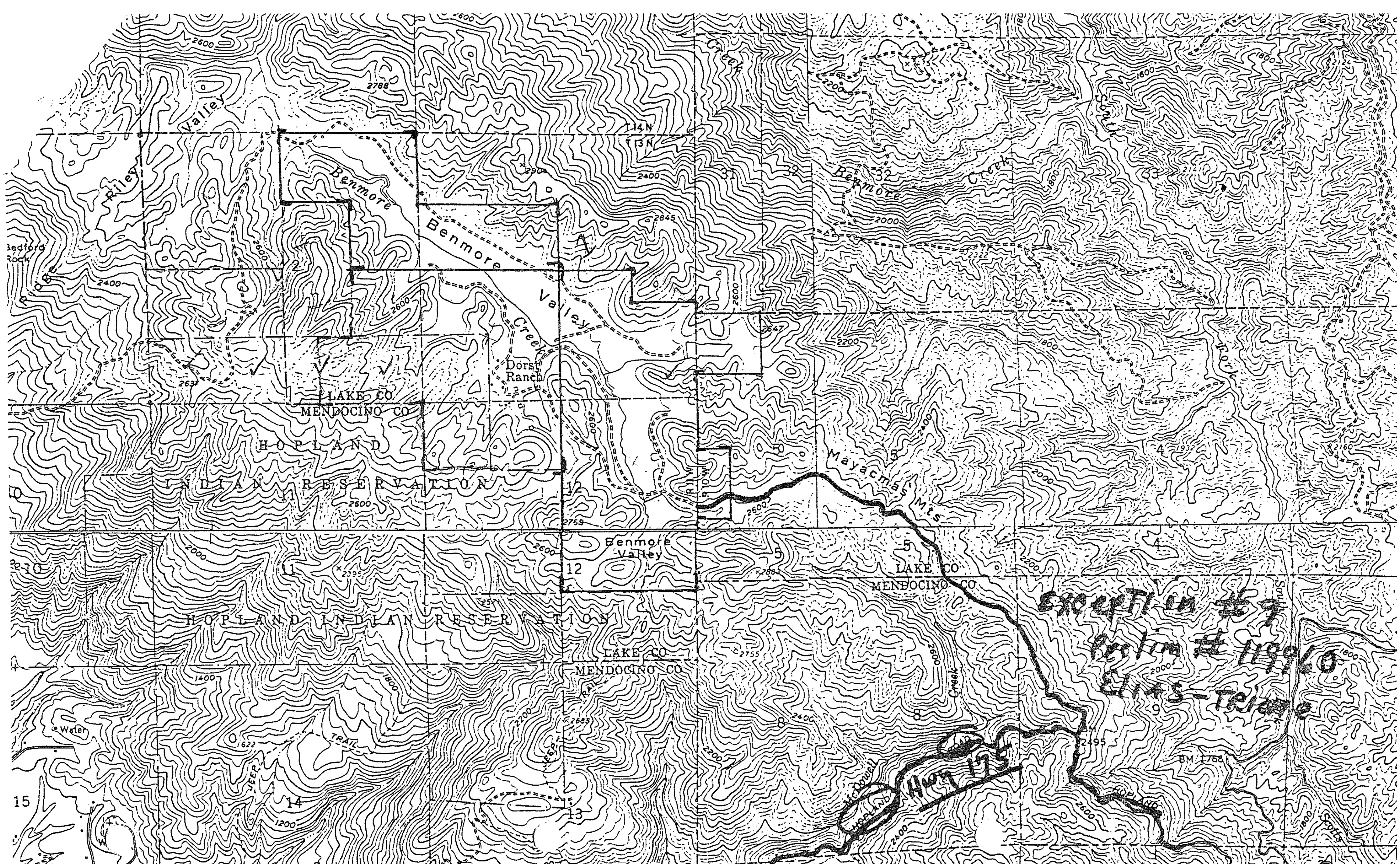
by Marion Geoble

"88 Update is the theme of this year's Lake County Fair, that will officially open Thursday evening, Sept. 1st, at 6:00 p.m. with the ringing of Lakeport's "Old Town Bell" from the Fairgrounds Bicentennial Bell Tower, as the ribbon to the entrance is cut, starting the festivities of this, our 40th Annual Lake County Fair, to be held at this location at Lakeport.

Lake County has long had a history of Fairs, and our county citizens have always shown their appreciation of these events by their patronage. They have always been a sociable group and ready at all times to celebrate in a "great" and "vigorous" style, and this year, they are prepared to turn out enforce to celebrate this stellar event, which is held over every Labor Day weekend, and this year promises to be the biggest and best ever.

But let us "step back in time" to hear about the origin of these ancient fairs.

*"Egypt, Chaldea and China were among the first nations that followed agricultural pursuits to a considerable extent. From Egypt the knowledge of this art extended to Greece about 1,000 B.C. The ancient Greeks held fairs in conjunction with popular assemblys for political purposses. The Romans 'fora' meaning 'outdoor' was probably permanent market places, and they attracted great multitudes at times of festivity and important judicial and political gatherings, and on such occasions the special facilities for selling goods, as well as the special provisions for popular entertainment, gave them somewhat the character of fairs, as they were considered."



Riley Valley
Bedford Rock
Benmore
Benmore Valley Creek
Benmore Creek
Creek
South Fork
T14N
T13N
R11W
R10W
Dorst Ranch
LAKE CO
MENDOCINO CO
HOPLAND INDIAN RESERVATION
Benmore Valley
Mayacmas Mts
McDowell
HOPLAND
TRAIL
JEEP
Water
Exception #9
Hwy 175

Sara Schorske
compliance specialists

September 27, 1990

Director, Wine and Beer Branch
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
Federal Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20226

ATTN: Ms. Nancy Sutton

Re: Petition to Establish Benmore Valley Viticultural Area

Dear Nancy:

I have received your letter in response to the petition to establish Benmore Valley viticultural area and carefully reviewed the areas of your concern. Specifically, you wished me to address the following points:

- A substantial portion of the boundary we proposed follows the border between Lake and Mendocino Counties. You questioned this choice because "political subdivision boundaries rarely coincide with natural geographical delineations and microclimates."

- You were concerned that our proposed boundary resulted in including mountainous regions with elevations of 2769', 2600' and 2521' that "do not fit within the purview of the Benmore Valley."

- You wished me to review the proposed boundaries in general in order to more accurately reflect the valley area, to generally minimize the amount of mountainous terrains and soils included in the proposed appellation.

- You wished me to provide copies of soil maps.

Soil maps of Benmore Valley and its immediate environs are enclosed, along with detailed descriptions of the soil types shown (keyed to the map by numbers). I trust you will find these self-explanatory. We used topographic and other maps to determine the soils of other high altitude vineyards in the North Coast for Table 5 in the petition, and these

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maps are not included. If you would like them also, please let me know and I will send them to you as well.

Also enclosed is a 9" x 12" map with three acetate overlays which I prepared to help evaluate the appropriateness of the currently proposed boundaries and three alternatives I have defined (formal boundary descriptions of all new proposals are attached).

On the bottom overlay I have colored, in yellow, areas surrounding Benmore Valley having elevations over 2600 feet. You can see that the 2600' contour line encroaches very close to the valley floor, which lies at elevations of 2450-2500' (each contour line on the enclosed map represents a change of 40 feet). The bottom overlay also illustrates the fact that Benmore Valley is quite literally a slight (in geographical terms) depression in which alluvial soils have collected on top of a mountain. The valley floor is actually higher than most of the other area shown on the map, even though all of the rest of the terrain visible on this map is quite steep and mountainous in character.

On the same overlay I have traced all of the creeks and streams shown in the map, and marked their direction of flow in order to visualize the water drainage of the area. These markings show that, except for a single ravine northwest of Benmore Valley and the small ridges which define the immediate outer edges of the valley, all of the surrounding terrain drains away from the valley. This indicates that the tops of the ridges immediately surrounding Benmore Valley define a natural watershed boundary (between Benmore Valley and virtually the rest of the world!). I believe that approximating the ridge line/watershed boundary around Benmore Valley would be an appropriate way to define the viticultural area boundary, for two reasons.

First, it is impractical if not impossible to define a valley boundary that perfectly excludes the surrounding slopes: The soil-type boundaries delineating the transition from alluvial to mountainous soils are not among the features found on USGS maps; contour lines, while they are shown on USGS maps, do not form a continuous, unbroken boundary line around the valley .

Second, the use of ridge lines/watershed boundaries is consistent with ATF precedent set in all of the valley appellations with which I am familiar. Sonoma Valley, Russian River Valley, Dry Creek Valley, Alexander Valley, Wild Horse Valley, Napa Valley were all defined to include the slopes that drain toward the valley floor. This precedent was recently reaffirmed when ATF modified the boundary of Alexander Valley in August to include the foothills of its northeastern watershed.

If the Bureau agrees that watershed boundaries are still an appropriate way to define a valley appellation (if not please let me know!), the task remaining before us is, what is

the best way to do so in this case? I believe that the section of county boundary I used in the appellation definition was not such a bad choice in this regard, for both geographical and historical reasons.

Geographically, county lines that run through mountainous terrain such as this are not usually purely political. Often they represent an attempt to approximate a ridge line dividing the two counties. I believe the section of county boundary used in the original proposal for Benmore Valley was intended to, and actually does, approximate the ridge line dividing the watersheds of the two counties. Everything south and west of the southern ridge defining Benmore Valley drains into Mendocino County, and everything north and east of that ridge drains into Lake County.

Historically, I feel it is correct for Benmore Valley to be contained 100% in Lake County, and not overlap into Mendocino County, because my research indicated that Benmore Valley is the name for the area used by Lake County residents historically, while Mendocino County dwellers referred to the area as Riley Valley. A copy of testimony in this regard is enclosed.

I did devise a possible modification of our originally proposed boundary which eliminates some of the mountainous terrain it had included unnecessarily on the far east side. This modification is shown in purple on the top overlay, and is identified as "Modification of currently proposed boundary" in the enclosed boundary descriptions. The modified line more closely follows the ridge which borders Benmore Valley on the east, and of all of the boundaries described with this letter, it is my first choice for approval. Although some elevations above 2700 feet are included, those elevations are only 300 feet above the valley floor. Other "valley" appellations contain far greater elevation differentials.

I also drew in two other alternative lines which do not rely on the county boundary. Alternative boundary #1 (the green line on the middle overlay) runs almost entirely from peak to peak around the valley area. It is more practical to use lines running from peak to peak than to try to connect contour lines that are not continuous around the valley floor—especially when we are attempting to follow a ridge line. This alternative, although it has the advantage of relying exclusively on geographical rather than "political" lines, has the disadvantage of including a little more high elevation acreage than my modification of the original boundary. It also includes substantial area in Mendocino County.

Alternative boundary#2 (the brown line on the middle overlay) uses the 2800' contour line and a road for the western boundary of Benmore Valley viticultural area. This alternative has the advantage of minimizing the high elevation area included but has the disadvantage of overlapping Mendocino County in two places.

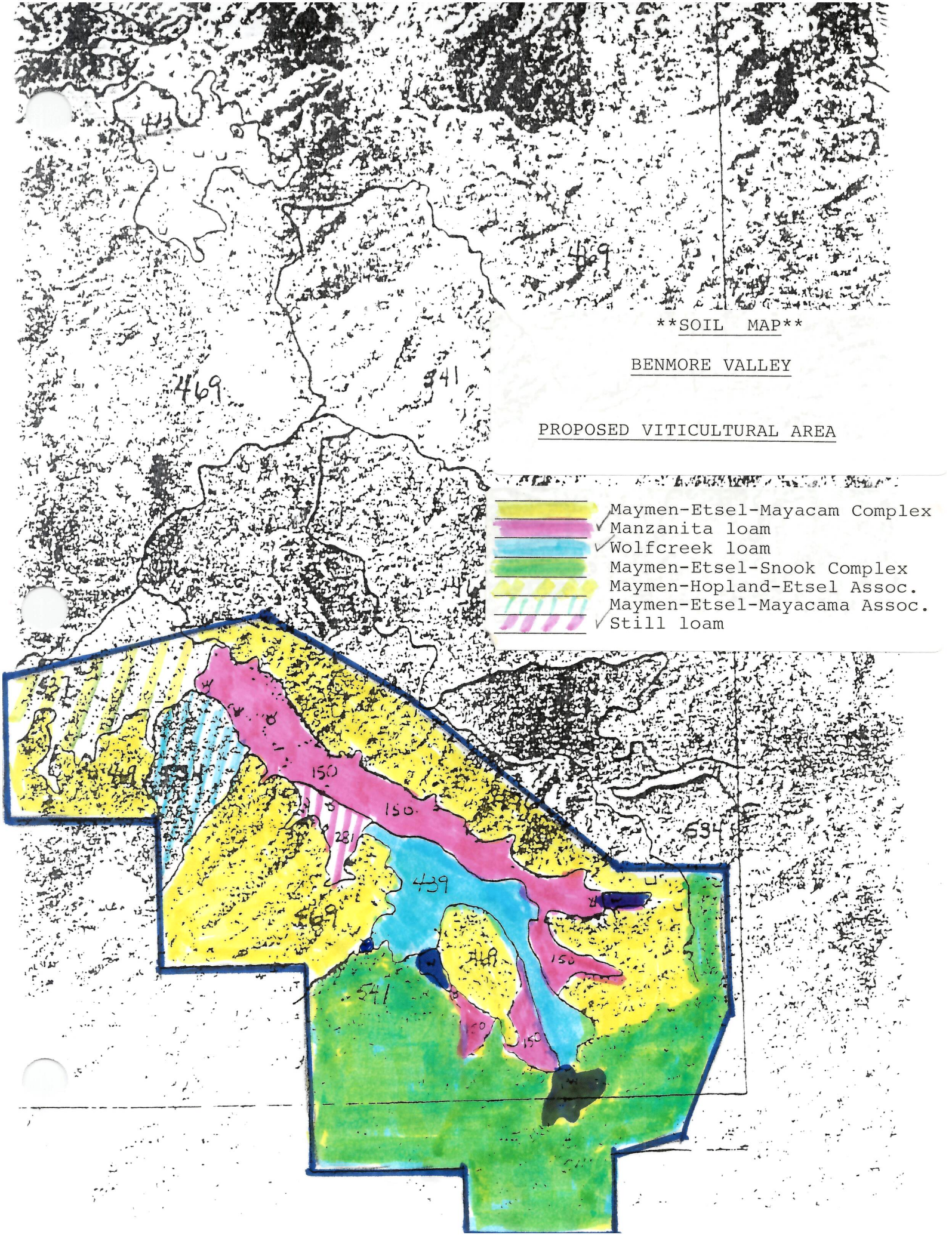
I appreciate your interest in completing your evaluation of our petition promptly. Please contact me to discuss the alternatives I have proposed, and to request any other information you might need.

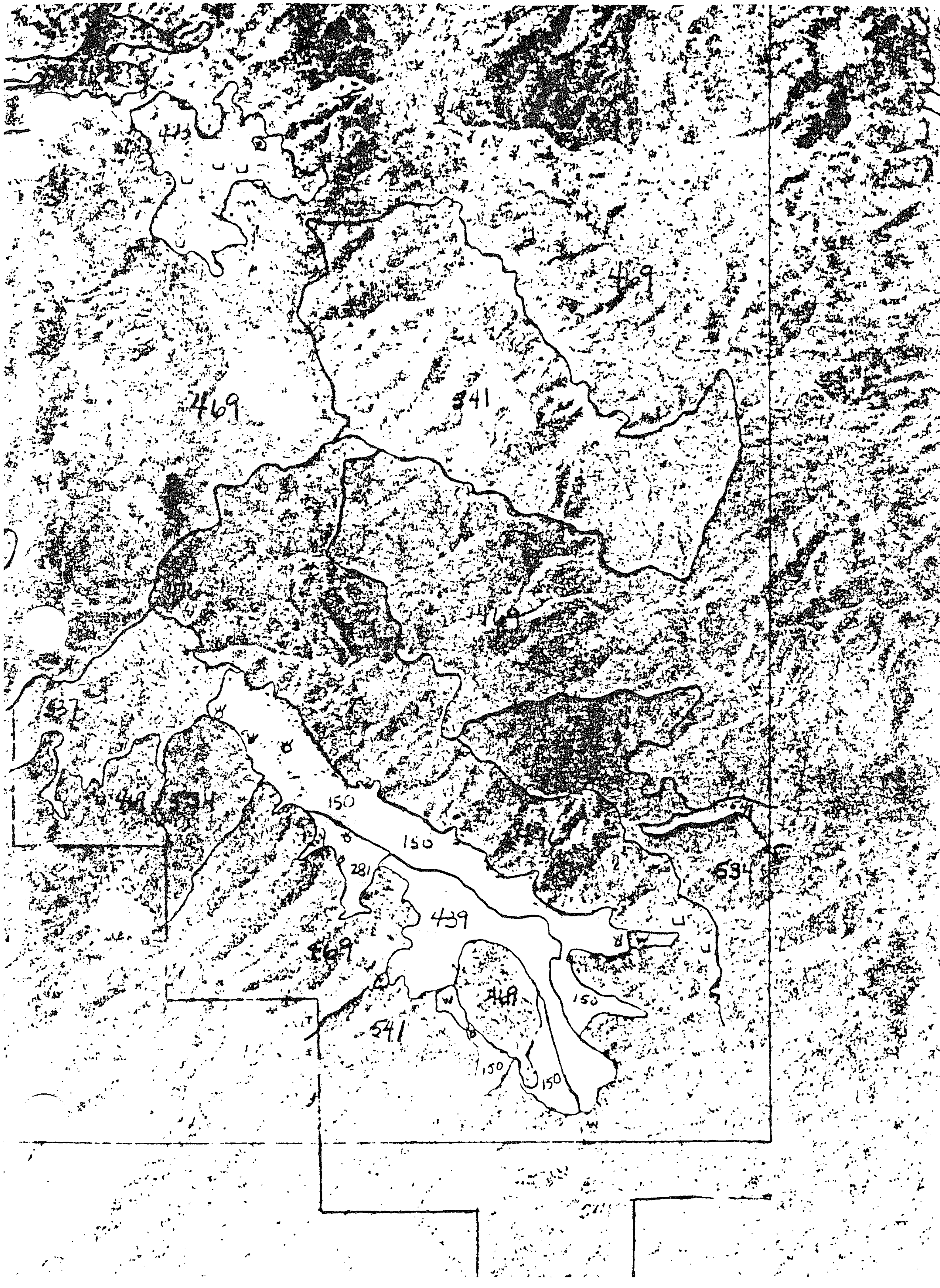
Sincerely,

Sara Schorske

Encl.

c: Mr. Mark Trione


SOIL MAP
BENMORE VALLEY
PROPOSED VITICULTURAL AREA
Maymen-Etsel-Mayacam Complex
Manzanita loam
Wolfcreek loam
Maymen-Etsel-Snook Complex
Maymen-Hopland-Etsel Assoc.
Maymen-Etsel-Mayacama Assoc.
Still loam
469
541
439
584
150
281


469
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181

$I10469¢Maymen - Etsel - Mayacama complex, 30 to 75 percent slopes. $T1This map unit is on hills and mountains. The vegetation is mainly brush on the Maymen and Etsel soils and hardwoods with scattered conifers on the Mayacama soils. Elevation is 1,500 to 4,000 feet. The average annual precipitation is 30 to 50 inches, the average annual air temperature is 52 to 57 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 135 to 180 days.

$I01This unit is about 35 percent Maymen gravelly loam, about 25 percent Etsel gravelly loam, and about 20 percent Mayacama very gravelly sandy loam. The components of this unit are so intricately intermingled that it was not practical to map them separately at the scale used.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Henneke, Millsholm, Montara, Neuns, Sanhedrin, Snook and Speaker soils and Rock outcrops. Henneke and Montara soils occur on serpentine intrusions. Millsholm soils are on grassy sideslopes. Neuns and Speaker soils are on some north- and east-facing slopes at elevations greater than 3,000 feet. Snook soils are on warm south-facing slopes below 2,500 feet. Sanhedrin soils on north-facing toeslopes. Sandstone and graywacke rock outcrops 10 to 60 feet in diameter on ridgetops and metastable sideslopes. Also included are small areas of this unit that occur above 4,000 feet. Included areas make up about 20 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01The Maymen soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone or shale. Typically, the surface layer is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 4 inches thick. The subsoil is light

yellowish brown gravelly loam 8 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at a depth of 12 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Maymen soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 12 to 20 inches. Surface runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$IO1The Etsel soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone or shale. Typically, the surface layer is very pale brown gravelly loam 3 inches thick over very pale brown very gravelly loam 7 inches thick. Fractured sandstone is at a depth of 10 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Etsel soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 0.5 to 1.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 6 to 12 inches. Surface runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$IO1The Mayacama soil is moderately deep and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone. Typically, the surface layer is pale brown very gravelly sandy loam 5 inches thick. The subsoil is very pale brown very gravelly sandy clay loam 26 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at depth of 31 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Mayacama soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 20 to 40 inches. Surface runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

469

I01This unit is used mainly for wildlife habitat and watershed. It is also used for firewood production.

$I01 The natural vegetation on the Maymen and Etsel soils is mainly brush because of the limited soil depth, low available water capacity, and climate. The species on these soils are mainly chamise, manzanita, and buckbrush. Properly planned and applied prescribed burning or chemical or mechanical treatment can be used in small areas to improve wildlife habitat, increase access and water production, and decrease the fire hazard.

$I01Canyon liveoak, California black oak, and knobcone pine are the main tree species on the Mayacama soil. Among the trees of limited extent are California nutmeg and Douglas-fir. Estimates of the site index and yield for Douglas-fir and the hardwoods have not been made. Conifer stands are usually small and widely scattered making them generally noncommercial.

$I01The main soil limitations for the harvesting of firewood are steepness of slope and the low volume of commercial species. Because of these limitations, harvesting of trees on this unit generally is not economically feasible.

$I01This map unit is in capability subclass VIIs (15), nonirrigated.

$I10150¢Manzanita loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes. $T1This very deep, well drained soil is on terraces. It formed in alluvium derived from mixed rock sources. The vegetation in areas not cultivated is oak, manzanita, and annual grasses. Elevation is 1,400 to 1,600 feet. The average annual precipitation is 25 to 35 inches, the average annual air temperature is 55 to 59 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 160 to 200 days.

$I01Typically, the upper 5 inches of the surface layer is light yellowish brown loam. The next 14 inches is strong brown loam. The upper 9 inches of the subsoil is strong brown loam. The lower 56 inches is variegated strong brown and yellowish red clay loam.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Forbes, wile soils. Also included are small areas of soils similar to this Manzanita soil that have a gravelly subsoil. Included areas make up about 15 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01Permeability of this Manzanita soil is slow. Available water capacity is about 7.5 to 10.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Surface runoff is slow, and the hazard of erosion is slight under bare soil conditions. The shrink-swell potential in the subsoil is high.

$I01This unit is used mainly for orchards, hay and pasture, livestock grazing, and homesite development. It is also used for firewood production.

$I01The major crop currently grown on this unit is walnuts. Where water is available, irrigation is used for maximum production of this crop. This soil

150

maintaining a constant moisture content around the foundation area or by backfilling with material that has low shrink-swell potential. If this soil is used as a base for roads and streets, it can be mixed with sand and gravel to increase strength and stability.

$I01This map unit is in capability unit IIe-3 (14), irrigated, and IIIe-3 (14), nonirrigated.

150

has potential for vineyards. The main limitation is slow permeability. Due to the slow permeability, irrigation water needs to be applied slowly to minimize runoff.

$I01If this unit is used for hay and pasture, the main limitation is slow permeability. Due to the slow permeability, irrigation water needs to be applied slowly to minimize runoff.

$I01The production of vegetation suitable for livestock grazing is limited by the tendency of this soil to produce woody species. Where trees and brush exist, forage production can be increased by harvesting trees and controlling brush. Vegetation in drainageways and eight to ten scattered trees per acre should be left for erosion control, wildlife habitat, and esthetic purposes. Volumes of 25 cords of wood per acre have been measured on this soil. This soil responds well to fertilizer, to range seeding, and to proper grazing use. Among the common understory plants are soft chess, purple needlegrass, and filaree.

$I01If this unit is used for homesite development, the main limitations are slow permeability, high shrink-swell potential in the subsoil and low load bearing capacity. If this soil is used for septic tank absorption fields, the limitation of slow permeability can be minimized by increasing the size of the absorption field or by using a specially designed sewage disposal system. The shrink-swell potential and low load bearing capacity of this soil should be considered when designing and constructing foundations, concrete structures and paved areas. The effects of shrinking and swelling can be reduced by

154

$I10281¢Still loam, stratified substratum. $T1This very deep, well drained soil is on alluvial plains. It formed in alluvium derived from mixed rock sources dominantly from sandstone and shale. Slope is 0 to 2 percent. The vegetation in areas not cultivated is mainly annual grasses and forbs, with scattered oaks. Elevation is 1,000 to 2,000 feet. The average annual precipitation is 25 to 40 inches, the average annual air temperature is 55 to 59 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 150 to 205 days.

$I01Typically, the surface layer is brown loam to a depth of 6 inches and brown clay loam below that to a depth of 36 inches. The upper 16 inches of the underlying material is stratified brown clay loam and loam. Below this to a depth of 70 inches is extremely gravelly loamy coarse sand. In some areas the surface layer is gravelly loam.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Cole, Cole Variant, Kelsey, Lupoyoma and Talmage soils and Xerofluvents. Kelsey and Talmage soils and Xerofluvents are near drainageways. Also included are small areas of soils similar to Still soils with a seasonal high water table at a depth of 2 to 4 feet; small areas of similar soils with hard and massive surface layers where compaction due to livestock grazing has been significant; small areas of similar soils without a gravelly substratum and similar soils occurring at elevations up to 2,300 feet. Included areas make up about 20 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01Permeability of this Still soil is moderately slow. Available water capacity is about 7.5 to 10.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Surface runoff is very slow, and the hazard of erosion is slight under

bare soil conditions. Some areas adjacent to stream channels are subject to rare flooding. Many areas of this soil are protected from flooding by dikes and levees.

$IOIThis unit is used mainly for orchards, vineyards, and hay and pasture. It is also used for homesite development.

$IOIThe major crops currently grown on this unit are walnuts, pears, and wine grapes. Irrigation commonly is used for maximum production of these crops. The main limitation is the hazard of flooding in some areas. In areas with a flooding hazard, capital improvements should be designed to withstand flooding.

$IOIThis unit is well suited to hay and pasture.

$IOIIf this unit is used for homesite development, the main limitations are moderately slow permeability and the rapidly permeable sustratum. Increasing the size of septic tank absorption fields or using a specially designed disposal system can help compensate for the moderately slow permeability. The disposal system should be designed so that effluent does not reach the rapidly permeable substratum.

$IOIThe map unit is in capability units I (14), irrigated, and IIIc-3 (14), nonirrigated.

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$I10439¢Wolfcreek loam. $T1This very deep, well drained soil is on flood plains. It formed in alluvium derived from mixed rock sources. Slope is 0 to 2 percent. The vegetation is mainly annual grasses and forbs. Elevation is 1,300 to 2,600 feet. The average annual precipitation is 25 to 40 inches, the average annual air temperature is 55 to 59 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 150 to 205 days.

$I01Typically, the surface layer is pale brown loam 7 inches thick. The underlying material is brown clay loam and sandy clay loam to a depth of 46 inches and brown very gravelly sandy clay loam below that to a depth of 72 inches.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Still soils. Also included are small areas of soils with gravelly sandy loam textures throughout. Included areas make up about 15 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01Permeability of this Wolfcreek soil is moderately slow. Available water capacity is about 7.5 to 10.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 60 inches or more. Surface runoff is very slow, and the hazard of erosion is slight under bare soil conditions. This soil is subject to rare flooding during prolonged high intensity storms.

$I01This unit is used mainly for livestock grazing, and hay and pasture. It is also used for homesite development.

439

$IOlThe production of vegetation suitable for livestock is limited by the susceptibility to compaction when wet. Grazing should be delayed until the soil has drained sufficiently to withstand trampling by livestock. This unit responds well to fertilizer, to range seeding, and to proper grazing use. The characteristic plant community is mainly soft chess, filaree, and burclover.

$IOlThis unit is well suited to hay and pasture.

$IOlIf this unit is used for homesite development, the main limitation is moderately slow permeability and the hazard of flooding. Increasing the size of septic tank absorption fields can help compensate for the moderately slow permeability. Dikes and channels that have outlets for floodwater can be used to protect buildings and onsite sewage disposal systems from flooding. Roads and streets should be located above the expected flood level.

$IOlThis map unit is in capability unit I (14), irrigated, and IIIc-1 (14), nonirrigated.

(figure 5)

$I10541¢Maymen - Etsel - Snook complex, 30 to 75 percent slopes. $T1This map unit is on hills and mountains. The vegetation is mainly brush with some hardwoods and annual grasses. Elevation is 1,500 to 4,000 feet. The average annual precipitation is 30 to 50 inches, the average annual air temperature is 52 to 57 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 135 to 185 days.

$I01This unit is about 35 percent Maymen gravelly loam, about 20 percent Etsel gravelly loam and about 20 percent Snook loam. At elevations above 3,500 feet Snook soils occur on south-facing slopes. The components of this unit are so intricately intermingled that it was not practical to map them separately at the scale used.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Bressa, Hopland, Mayacama, Millsholm, Neuns and Speaker soils, Rock outcrop and stones. Bressa and Millsholm soils are on grass covered west- and south-facing slopes. Hopland and Mayacama soils are on east- and north-facing slopes below 3,000 feet. Neuns and Speaker soils are on north-facing slopes above 3,000 feet. Rock outcrop and stones 6 inches to 6 feet in diameter are on higher side slopes and ridge tops. Also included are 2,000 small areas of the map unit that occur above 4,000 feet. In an area 2 to 10 miles east of Lower Lake, particularly near Brushy Skyhigh, inclusions of shallow and moderately deep soils with clayey subsoils are found. Included areas make up about 25 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01The Maymen soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone and shale. Typically, the surface layer is

541

light yellowish brown gravelly loam 4 inches thick. The subsoil is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 8 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at a depth of 12 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Maymen soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 12 to 20 inches. Surface runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$IO1The Etsel soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone and shale. Typically, the surface layer is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 3 inches thick. Below this is light yellowish brown very gravelly loam 5 inches thick. Sandstone is at 8 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Etsel soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 0.5 to 1.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 6 to 12 inches. Surface runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$IO1The Snook soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. If formed in material weathered from sandstone and shale. Typcially the surface layer is ligh yellowish brown loam 5 inches thick. Fractureed sandstone is at 5 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Snook soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 0.5 to 1.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 4 to 14 inches. Surface runoff is very rapid and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

541

$I01This unit is used mainly for wildlife habitat and watershed.

$I01The natural vegetation on this unit is mainly brush because of limited soil depth, low available water capacity, and climate. The vegetation in most areas is mainly chamise, manzanita and buckbrush. Properly planned and applied prescribed burning or chemical or mechanical treatment can be used in small areas to improve wildlife habitat, increase access and water production, and decrease the fire hazard. Constructing firebreaks or ridgetops helps to prevent wildfires, which result in extensive erosion. Where the Maymen soil is cleared for firebreaks, grass seeding will reduce surface erosion. The Etsel soil will not support good stands of grass.

$I01This map unit is in capability subclass VIIs (15), nonirrigated.

81

$I10534¢Maymen-Hopland-Mayacama association, 30 to 50 percent slopes. $T1This map unit is on hills and mountains. Rock outcrops and stones 6 to 25 feet in diameter occur randomly throughout the unit. The vegetation is mainly brush and annual grasses on the Maymen soil and brush and hardwoods with a few conifers on the Hopland and Mayacama soils. Elevation is 1,500 to 3,500 feet. The average annual precipitation is 30 to 50 inches, the average annual air temperature is 53 to 57 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 140 to 185 days.

$I01This unit is about 40 percent Maymen gravelly loam, about 20 percent Hopland loam and about 20 percent Mayacama very gravelly sandy loam. The Hopland and Mayacama soils are on north- and east-facing slopes. The Maymen soil is on south- and west-facing slopes and ridgetops.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Bressa, Etsel, Henneke, Millsholm, Montara, Sanhedrin and Speaker soils. Bressa and Etsel soils are on south-facing slopes and ridgetops. Henneke and Montara soils are on serpentinitic intrusions. Millsholm soils are on grassy south- and west-facing slopes. Sanhedrin and Speaker soils are in some protected north-facing ravines. Also included are small areas of deep gravelly loam soils with greater than 40 percent cobbles and stones throughout. Included areas make up about 20 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01The Maymen soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone or shale. Typically, the surface layer is

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light yellowish brown gravelly loam 4 inches thick. The subsoil is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 8 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at a depth of 12 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Maymen soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 12 to 20 inches. Because the bedrock is fractured, the effective rooting depth and available water capacity estimates are low. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$IO1The Hopland soil is moderately deep and well drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone or shale. Typically, the surface layer is brown loam 6 inches thick. The upper 9 inches of the subsoil is brown loam. The lower 19 inches is light brown clay loam. Soft, highly weathered sandstone is at a depth of 34 inches.

$IO1Permeability of the Hopland soil is moderately slow. Available water capacity is about 3.0 to 7.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 20 to 40 inches. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$IO1The Mayacama soil is moderately deep and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone. Typically, the surface layer is pale brown very gravelly sandy loam 5 inches thick. The subsoil is very pale brown very gravelly sandy clay loam 26 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at a depth of 31 inches.

$I01Permeability of the Mayacama soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 20 to 40 inches. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$I01This unit is used mainly for wildlife habitat and watershed. It is also used for firewood production.

$I01The natural vegetation on the Maymen soil is mainly brush because of the limited soil depth, low available water capacity, and climate. The vegetation in most areas is mainly chamise, manzanita, and buckbrush. Properly planned and applied prescribed burning or chemical or mechanical treatment can be used in small areas to improve wildlife habitat, increase access and water production, and decrease the fire hazard. Brush control through type conversion to improve forage production generally is not practical because of soil limitations and low economic returns. However, where the Maymen soil is cleared for firebreaks, grass seeding will provide forage for limited livestock grazing and will help control erosion.

$I01California black oak, Pacific madrone, and live oak are the main tree species on this unit. Volumes of 22 to 94 cords of wood per acre have been measured on the Mayacama and Hopland soils. Among the trees of limited extent are Douglas-fir and California-laurel on the Mayacama soil. Estimates of the yield for Douglas-fir have not been made.

$I01The main soil limitations for the harvesting of firewood are steepness of slope, seasonal wetness, and erosion hazard. Use of wheeled and tracked

equipment when the soil is wet produces ruts, compacts the soil, and can damage the roots of trees. Unsurfaced roads and skid trails are slippery when wet. They may be impassable during rainy periods. Rock for construction of roads is generally available in this unit. Establishing plant cover on steep cut and fill slopes reduces surface erosion on the Hopland soil. Revegetation of cut and fill slopes is difficult on the Mayacama soil because of the amount of rock in the soil. Unless adequate plant cover or water bars are provided, steep yarding paths, skid trails, and firebreaks are subject to rilling and gullying.

$IO1Planting of conifers on the this unit is not practical because of the low available water capacity, the high temperature of the soil surface and the large amount of rocks. Hardwoods can regenerate by sprouting after cutting. Regrowth is best if cutting is done December through May.

$IO1Among the common forest understory plants are California nutmeg, scrub oak, and posion-oak.

$IO1The Maymen soil is in capability subclass VIIe (15), nonirrigated; the Hopland soil is in capability subclass VIe (5), nonirrigated; and the Mayacama soil is in capability subclass VIs (5), nonirrigated.

185

$I10473¢Maymen - Etsel - Snook complex, 15 to 30 percent slopes. $T1This map unit is on hills and mountains. The vegetation is mainly brush with some hardwoods and annual grasses. Elevation is 1,500 to 4,000 feet. The average annual precipitation is 30 to 50 inches, the average annual air temperature is 52 to 57 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 135 to 185 days.

$I01This unit is about 45 percent Maymen gravelly loam, about 15 percent Etsel gravelly loam and 15 percent Snook loam. At elevations above 3,500 feet Snook soils occur on south-facing slopes. The components of this unit are so intricately intermingled that it was not practical to map them separately at the scale used.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Mayacama and Speaker soils and Rock outcrop. Mayacama and Speaker soils are on benches. Rock outcrops are on ridgetops and in steep drainageways. Also included are small areas of soils similar to Maymen soils that have a significant clay increase in the subsoil; and small areas of this unit that occur above 4,000 feet or below 1,500 feet. Included areas make up about 25 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01The Maymen soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone and shale. Typically, the surface layer is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 4 inches thick. The subsoil is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 8 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at a depth of 12 inches.

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$I01Permeability of the Maymen soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 12 to 20 inches. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is moderate under bare soil conditions.

$I01The Etsel soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone and shale. Typically, the surface layer is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 3 inches thick. Below this is light yellowish brown very gravelly loam 5 inches thick. Sandstone is at a depth of 8 inches.

$I01Permeability of the Etsel soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 0.5 to 1.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 6 to 12 inches. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is moderate under bare soil conditions.

$I01The Snook soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone and shale. Typically the surface layer is light yellowish brown loam 5 inches thick. Fractured sandstone is at 5 inches.

$I01Permeability of the Snook soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 0.5 to 1.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 4 to 14 inches. Surface runoff is rapid and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

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$I01This unit is used mainly for wildlife habitat and watershed.

$I01The natural vegetation on this unit is mainly brush because of limited soil depth, low available water capacity, and climate. The vegetation in most areas is mainly chamise, manzanita and buckbrush. Brush management to increase forage production through type conversion is generally not practical because of soil limitations and low economic returns. Properly planned and applied prescribed burning or chemical or mechanical treatment can be used in small areas to improve wildlife habitat, increase access and water production, and decrease the fire hazard. Constructing firebreaks on ridgetops helps prevent wildfires which result in excessive erosion. Where the Maymen soil is cleared for firebreaks, grass seeding will prevent surface erosion. The Etsel soil will not support good stands of grass.

$I01This map unit is in capability subclass VIIs (15), nonirrigated.

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$I10537¢Maymen - Hopland - Etsel association, 15 to 50 percent slopes. $T1This map unit is on mountains. The vegetation is mainly brush on the Maymen and Etsel soils and hardwoods on the Hopland soil. Elevation is 1,500 to 3,200 feet. The average annual precipitation is 30 to 45 inches, the average annual air temperature is 54 to 57 degrees F, and the average frost-free period is 145 to 185 days.

$I01This unit is about 30 percent Maymen gravelly loam, about 30 percent Hopland loam and about 20 percent Etsel gravelly loam. The Maymen and Etsel soils are on ridgetops and south- and west-facing slopes. The Hopland soil is on north- and east-facing slopes and in ravines.

$I01Included in this unit are small areas of Henneke, Mayacama, Millsholm, Montara, Sanhedrin, Snook and Speaker soils and Rock outcrop. Heneke and Montara soils are on serpentinitic intrusions. Millsholm soils are on grassy sideslopes at lower elevations within the unit. Sanhedrin and Speaker soils are in some protected north-facing ravines. Also included are small areas of soils similar to Etsel soils that have a thermic temperature when found below 2,000 feet. Included areas make up about 20 percent of the total acreage. The percentage varies from one area to another.

$I01The Maymen soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone, or shale. Typically, the surface layer is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 4 inches thick. The subsoil is light yellowish brown gravelly loam 8 inches thick. Hard, fractured sandstone is at a depth of 12 inches.

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$I01Permeability of the Maymen soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 1.0 to 3.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 12 to 20 inches. Because the bedrock is fractured, the effective rooting depth and available water capacity estimates are low. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$I01The Hopland soil is moderately deep and well drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone, or shale. Typically, the surface layer is brown loam 6 inches thick. The upper 9 inches of the subsoil is brown loam. The lower 19 inches is light brown clay loam. Soft, highly weathered sandstone is at a depth of 34 inches.

$I01Permeability of the Hopland soil is moderately slow. Available water capacity is about 3.0 to 7.0 inches. Effective rooting depth is 20 to 40 inches. Surface runoff is rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

$I01The Etsel soil is shallow and somewhat excessively drained. It formed in material weathered from sandstone, or shale. Typically, the surface layer is very pale brown gravelly loam 3 inches thick. The subsoil is very pale brown very gravelly loam 7 inches thick. Fractured sandstone is at a depth of 10 inches.

$I01Permeability of the Etsel soil is moderate. Available water capacity is about 0.5 to 1.5 inches. Effective rooting depth is 6 to 12 inches. Because the bedrock is fractured, the effective rooting depth and available water capacity estimates are low. Surface runoff is very rapid, and the hazard of erosion is severe under bare soil conditions.

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$I01This unit is used mainly for wildlife habitat and watershed. It is also used for firewood production.

$I01The natural vegetation on the Maymen and Etsel soils is mainly brush because of the limited soil depth, low available water capacity and climate. The vegetation in most areas is mainly chamise, manzanita, and buckbrush. Properly planned and applied prescribed burning or chemical or mechanical treatment can be used in small areas to improve wildlife habitat, increase access and water production, and decrease the fire hazard.

$I01California black oak, Pacific madrone, and liveoak are the main tree species on the Hopland soil. Volumes of 22 to 94 cords of wood per acre have been measured on the Hopland soil.

$I01The main soil limitations for the harvesting of firewood are seasonal soil wetness and erosion hazard. Use of wheeled and tracked equipment when the soil is wet produces ruts, compacts the soil, and can damage the roots of trees. Unsurfaced roads and skid trails are slippery when wet. They may be impassable during rainy periods. Rock for construction of roads is generally available in this unit. Establishing plant cover on steep cut and fill slopes reduces surface erosion. Revegetation of cut and fill slopes is difficult on the Etsel soil because of the low available water capacity. Unless adequate plant cover or water bars are provided, steep yarding paths, skid trails, and firebreaks are subject to rilling and gullying.

$I01Planting on the Hopland soil is not practical because of the low available water capacity and high summer soil temperatures. Hardwoods can

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regenerate by sprouting after cutting. Regrowth is best if cutting is done December through May.

$I01Among the common forest understory plants are poison-oak, scrub oak, and sparse annual forbes.

$I01The Maymen soil is in capability subclass VIIe (15), nonirrigated; the Hopland soil is in capability subclass VIe (5), nonirrigated; and the Etsel soil is in capability subclass VIIs (15), nonirrigated.

San Francisco. Charles lives in Lake County. Ida E.Green lives in Healdsburg. There were seven of us kids. This is the best of my memory

Signed Arthur E.McNeill,

318 Hendley St., Santa Rosa, California.

P.S. my fathers sister, my aunt Eliza Robbins, is now livingin a Berkeley rest home, age 94. A.E.M.

3/15/1956 by Mrs. W.C.Peters of Siskiyou County

formally of Benmoore Valley.

Benmoore Valley is the correct spelling. This name is known and usad by people in Lake County. Those from Mendocino County call it Riley Valley, after an early surveyor.

The valley was first taken up by several settlers. In an early day a Mr. Rodgers came through this area and thought it the nicest place he had ever seen. He bought out these first owners and consolidated the Valley under his one ownership.

In 1889 the fatherinlaw of the informant (also W.C.Peters) bought out Rodgers interest. He owned the ranch, then comprising some 1200 to 1400 acres, but never lived on it. The family lived in San Francisco.

In 1915 a son, W.C.Peters,Jr., because of ill health, moved to the ranch. The house had been burned down before he and his wife came. At th time they moved there there were several squatters around the edge of the valley who owned acreages of brush and used part of the Peters' valley land.Peters Jr. had the place surveyed and all squatters moved out. The ranch now has been added to and contains around 2000 acres.

The original road from Benmoore Valley to Hopland went down by a route via 39°-0'-37"--123°-4'-0". During the Peters family regime a road was built from the lower end of the valley down to the McDowell school. This road is not shown on the present Geological Survey maps. It was not built by the Peters family but was used by them between

1915 and 1924.

The State Highway Route 16 was built in 1921 and in 1924 Mr. Peters built the present road from the valley to the summit of Route 16.

Benmoore Valley was named after Ben Moore, a cattle rustler, that cached his stolen stock in this mountain hide away.

When W.C.Peters, Jr., moved there in 1915 there was a crude cart road from the valley along the ridge to the summit of the Long Toll Road, then a free road.. The summit of the free road and Route 16 is at the same location.

The old Indian trail came up from the Russian River, through the Pratt ranch, near the lower barn of the Benmoore Valley ranch at 39°-1'-1"--123°-2'-5", up the valley, then left it at about 39°-0'-35" 123°-0'-45" to go directly east over the ridge at the same place the electric line now goes.

There had been many elk in Benmoore Valley and old horns were found by Peters Jr. Indians told him of hunting elk in the valley.

W.C.Peters Jr., built the reservoir at the house and all on his own about 1939-it contained about 10 acre feet of water. The southern lake he built with government help in 1940-41 and it contains about 50 acre feet of water. Benmoore Valley is some two miles long and has had about 350 acres under plow. It contains much lake bottom soil as it was once a lake. Peters Jr. planted out 10 acres in walnuts.

The two children of W.C.Peters Jr., William C. and Harry B., attended the McDowell school which entailed a horseback ride every day, five miles each way.

Peters Jr. raised sheep and they had some coyote trouble. There were also mountain lions which caused only a little trouble.

Just after Benmoore Creek leaves Benmoore Valley there is a fal in the streambed high enough that trout were unable to go above it.

Mr.Peters Jr. hauled trout in milk cans and stocked the stream (1) above t
falls. (2) Fine trout upstream have been the result up to date. This was i
the I920s.

In the Benmoore Valley (3) area there are lots of deer, quail and trout. There are some emense sugar pine in the valley but not many Peters followed the practise of brush burning over the years and was t thereby able to increase the acreage of the surrounding grass lands.

In I945 J.C.Peters,Jr. sold out his interest in Benmoore Valley (3) to a Mr. Banta. The latter sold to W.Dorst about I947, the present owner.

Numbers on the map of this sheet refer to locations by latitude and longitude

Benmore Valley Proposed Viticultural Area

Modification of currently proposed boundary:

The beginning point is the southwest corner of Section 35, Township 14 North, Range 11 West in the southeast quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

1. From the beginning point, follow the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties in a southerly and easterly direction to the point where the boundary crosses into the northeastern quadrant of the "Hopland" map.

2. Thence along the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties in a southerly and easterly direction to the point where the boundary crosses into the "Highland Springs" map.

3. Thence along the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties in a southerly, easterly, and northerly direction to the southeastern corner of Section 12, Township 13 North, Range 11 West.

4. Thence northeast in a straight line to an unnamed peak of elevation 2883 feet.

5. Thence in a straight line northeast to the easternmost peak of an unnamed ridge with three peaks in Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southwestern quadrant of the "Lakeport" map.

6. Thence due north in a straight line to the northern section line of Section 5.

7. Thence west along that section line to the northwestern corner of Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southeastern quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

8. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,904 feet.

9. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,788 feet.

10. Thence southwest in a straight line to the beginning point.

Alternative boundary #1

The beginning point is the southwest corner of Section 35, Township 14 North, Range 11 West in the southeast quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

1. From the beginning point, proceed southeast in a straight line to an unnamed peak of elevation 2637 feet.

2. Thence in a southeasterly direction to an unnamed peak of elevation 2521 feet in the northeastern quadrant of the "Hopland" map.

3. Thence in a southeasterly direction to an unnamed peak of elevation 2755 feet.

4. Thence in a straight line northeast to the easternmost peak of an unnamed ridge with three peaks in Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southwestern quadrant of the "Lakeport" map.

5. Thence due north in a straight line to the northern section line of Section 5.

6. Thence west along that section line to the northwestern corner of Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southeastern quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

7. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,904 feet.

8. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,788 feet.

9. Thence southwest in a straight line to the beginning point.

Alternative boundary #2

The beginning point is an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,788 feet in the southeast quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

1. From the beginning point, proceed southeast in a straight line to the point where an unnamed unimproved dirt road leading from the center of Benmore Valley crosses the south section line of Section 35, Township 14 North, Range 11 West west of Benmore Creek.

2. Thence in a southeasterly direction along that road to its intersection with the boundary between Lake and Mendocino Counties.

3. Thence easterly and southerly along the county line to its intersection with the 2800 foot contour line near the center of Section 2, Township 13 North, Range 11 West.

4. Thence along that contour line to its intersection with the south section line of Section 2, Township 13 North, Range 11 West.

5. Thence in a southeasterly direction to an unnamed peak of elevation 2755 feet.

6. Thence in a straight line northeast to the easternmost peak of an unnamed ridge with three peaks in Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southwestern quadrant of the "Lakeport" map.

7. Thence due north in a straight line to the northern section line of Section 5.

8. Thence west along that section line to the northwestern corner of Section 5, Township 13 North, Range 10 West, located in the southeastern quadrant of the "Purdy's Garden" map.

9. Thence northwest in a straight line to an unnamed mountain peak of elevation 2,904 feet.

10. Thence northwest in a straight line to the beginning point.

Sara Schorske
compliance specialists

May 3, 1991

Director, Wine and Beer Branch
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms
Federal Building
650 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20001

ATTN: Mr. Charlie Bacon

Re: Petition to Establish Benmore Valley Viticultural Area

Dear Charlie:

Enclosed is a copy of your map of Benmore Valley. After meeting with you I drew in the colored line, which was my best attempt to approximate a boundary based on the 2600 foot elevation line. I checked with Vimark, which has vineyards in the area, and they confirmed that the boundary shown in green would be acceptable and not exclude viticultulturally viable area. I understand you've already drafted a proposal with a slightly larger boundary, but as we discussed, this information will be useful in case your more extensive proposal is questioned and needs to be revised.

I appreciate your efforts to get this application processed promptly. I am looking forward to seeing it in print! Please send me a copy as soon as the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is published, and let me know if anything else is needed to complete the approval.

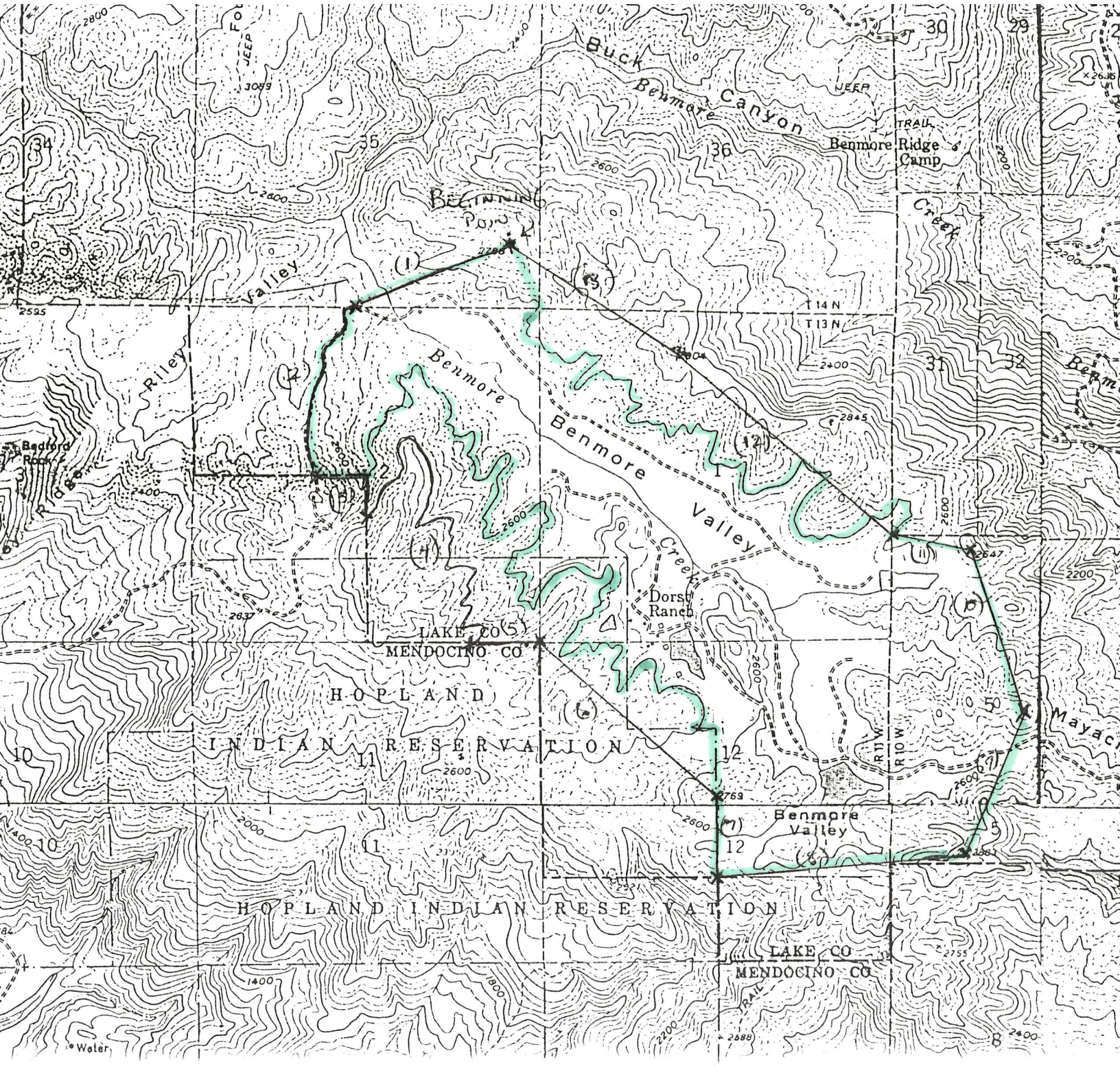
Sincerely,

Sara Schorske

Encl.

c: Mr. Mark Trione

TEL (707) 578-9432 • 1048 Wild Rose Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 • FAX (707) 542-8138


Buck Benmore Canyon
Benmore Ridge Camp
Beginning Point
Riley Valley
Benmore Valley
Dorsey Ranch
LAKE CO
MENDOCINO CO
HOPLAND INDIAN RESERVATION
Benmore Valley
T 14 N
T 13 N
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