

**ADDENDUM
TO MASTER PLAN FOR THE McFARLAND RANCH LIVING HISTORY RANCH
May 2011**

This document serves as an addendum to the McFarland Ranch Living History Ranch Master Plan (MP) which was completed in June 2001. The addendum provides current updates and revisions to the Master Plan.

The MP Addendum was compiled through a series of meetings held by the Master Plan Reviewing Committee, who consisted of members from the McFarland Advisory Committee, Galt Area Historical Society (GAHS), as well as Sacramento County Regional Parks staff.

The following is our updates and revisions to the MP.

Definition/Clarification of Terms used through out the document.

Period of Interpretation is 1878 – 1904

McFarland Ranch is the 102.7 acre parcel owned by Sacramento County Regional Parks. 67.7 acres of McFarland Ranch is managed by the Cosumnes River Preserve, 35 acres are managed by the GAHS.

Living History Ranch is the 35 acres leased and managed by the GAHS.

Cultural Preserve is the 2-3 acres which include the historical buildings. This area is also called the Historical Zone or Historical Footprint.

Chapter 1 - Introduction

Change Objective #2

(page 1-2)

Develop and sustain education programs for youth and adults that interpret the rich cultural history and natural resources of the area.

Add Objective #7

(page 1-2)

Develop revenue producing programs and events appropriate to the character of the McFarland Living History Ranch with the intention of becoming self-sustaining.

Change “Governance and Staff” heading to “Background”

(page 1-2)

Chapter 2 – Resources and Facilities

Change “Sacramento County Acreage” heading to “Sacramento County Acreage within the Cosumnes River Preserve”

(page 2-1)

Change “Sacramento County Acreage within the Cosumnes River Preserve” section to read

(pages 2-1 – 2-2)

The McFarland Ranch Living History Ranch is located on the Cosumnes River Preserve. The 35-acre Living History Ranch site is part of the 102.7 acre parcel owned by Sacramento County Regional Parks, a land-owning partner in the Cosumnes River Preserve.

About 68 (67.7) of the 102.7 acres of the property owned by Sacramento County are managed by the Cosumnes River Preserve. This land is leased to area ranchers for cattle grazing. The Cosumnes River Preserve also manages the land along the Cosumnes River.

The Cosumnes River Preserve is a broad-based effort to restore and safeguard the integrity of the Cosumnes River and its surrounding landscape. The Cosumnes River Preserve was first established in 1987. The Preserve now encompasses more than 46,000 acres. Because of the Cosumnes River Preserve’s long standing commitment to this area, the educational outreach programs, and the recognition that farm activities are an integral part of the Cosumnes corridor, the Preserve enjoys considerable good will and support from local residents.

The Preserve’s mission and vision statement are included in Appendix D. Additional information about the Cosumnes River Preserve’s mission, partners and conservation and educational programs can be found by visiting their website (www.cosumnes.org).

The Cosumnes River Preserve activities overlap with the McFarland Ranch acreage in that access for members of the Cosumnes River Preserve, volunteers, and lessees is by way of the access roads that run across the McFarland Ranch acreage. In addition, these lands serve as a visual context for the McFarland Ranch and contribute to the interpretation of the ranch as an historic site. In light of this contextual relationship, the GAHS has an interest in seeing that the surrounding Sacramento County acreage remains in agricultural or natural use, thus preserving the historic setting on the ranch.

Chapter 4 – Land Use and Site Planning

Change and Add to “Native American Resources” section to read
(page 4-3)

Oral history and pictorial records show that members of the Miwok Tribe worked on the McFarland Ranch for John McFarland. While there, they lived for sometime in a bunkhouse built for them by McFarland. The Miwok people were farm hands at McFarland Ranch, contributing to the operations of the ranch. Within the designated cultural preserve, school programs may teach children how the Miwok people lived and contributed to the McFarland Ranch.

- The Society shall preserve any and all history of those Miwok people members who lived on the McFarland Ranch.

- Miwok cultural activities that took place off-site historically will be interpreted outside the cultural preserve.

Chapter 5 – Restoration Program

Change 3rd bullet of “Interior Renovation” section to read
(page 5-3)

The downstairs bathroom has been returned to its historic appearance. An ADA compliant toilet has been installed in an outdoor restroom.

Change 5th bullet of “Interior Renovation” section to read
(page 5-3)

The entire upper level, consisting of four bedrooms and a sewing room, will be decorated in period furnishings that convey the original use of the room. Although these rooms are primarily for display, one of them may occasionally be used as a retiring room for up to 5 people who are using the Ranch for an authorized event, subject to the terms of their contract with the Ranch.

Chapter 6 – New Facilities

Change “Trees, Shrubs, Lawn” section to read
(page 6-5)

Photographic record shows the trees that were planted by John McFarland. It also shows a lawn area around the house surrounded by a picket fence. Planting elsewhere on the ranch consisted mostly of the trees that were on the land when McFarland purchased it. A few small eucalyptus trees can be seen in photographic records.

In the Thompson and West History of Sacramento County, the drawing of the McFarland Ranch shows three fountains, two on the north and one on the south of the front stairs. Existing pipe shows the north fountain near the

house still to be in existence. The front porch spanned the entire front of the house. Photographic records show a walkway from the front steps to the hitching post at the front gate, which divided the front lawn in half, and the entire house area was surrounded by picket fence.

The landscape around the McFarland house will be renovated to be in keeping with the 1878-1904 era. Plants and other landscape materials for walkways and benches will be typical of this time period. Suitable elements from the original landscape, such as the picket fencing and fountains, may be included in the new landscape plans, but may be re-designed to improve function and aesthetics. Historic trees will be evaluated by an arborist, and selected historic trees will be kept that contribute to the overall function and aesthetics of the landscaped gardens.

The landscaping renovation will be designed in a manner to contribute to the goal of revenue generation and self-sufficiency. Weddings, family reunions, and retreats are activities that can take place in the landscaped gardens around the house.

Change “Pathway Design and Medium” section to read
(page 6-5)

Walkways at McFarland Ranch will meet or exceed Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. The Society’s goal is to have all pathways at McFarland Ranch fully accessible to people with special needs. The walkways will be developed with a well-compacted surface in keeping with the Plan’s time period, to meet this requirement.

Chapter 7 – Interpretive Programs

Change “Interpretive Themes” section to reflect changed objectives
(page 7-2)

Change #2

Develop and sustain education programs for youth and adults that interpret the rich cultural history and natural resources of the area.

Add #7

Develop revenue producing programs and events appropriate to the character of the McFarland Living History Ranch with the intention of becoming self-sustaining.

Change “One-Day School Field Trips” heading to “School Field Trips”
(page 7-10)

Change “Youth Day Camp or Day Retreats” heading to “Youth Camp or Retreats”

(page 7-10)

Change “Youth Camp or Retreats” section to read

Youth groups, such as the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts, can also coordinate with the Society to arrange a field trip or overnight stay at the McFarland Living History Ranch.

Change “Adult Day Retreats” heading to “Adult Retreats”

(page 7-10)

Chapter 8 – Management and Operations

Change “Caretaker Responsibilities” section to read

(page 8-2)

The caretaker is responsible for the McFarland Living History Ranch. He/she must also protect ranch visitors’ safety. The caretaker should be available to protect the ranch, to prevent fire hazards, and coordinate with area law enforcement and prevent illegal camping or poaching, vandalism, and theft. More detailed responsibilities are written up in the caretaker contract.

The staff housing consists of a doublewide manufactured home for the caretaker, which was placed just east of the historical footprint across from the main ranch house. This will afford the caretaker a clear view of the parking lot and entrance gates as well as the ground in general. The staff residence should not be intrusive on or detract from the natural and cultural resources being presented on the ranch.

Chapter 9 – Implementation

Change “Introduction” section to read

(page i)

This master plan provides long range development guidelines and resource management policies. Because of the long-range scope, it is unlikely that the entire plan will be implemented in one step. It is more likely that the proposals of this plan will be implemented in a series of steps or phases. Considerations for implementing these phases include: financial constraints, user health and safety, resource protection and facility deficiencies.

One way to define the sequence of plan implementation is to assign priorities to each element of the plan, but it is sometimes difficult to place

constantly changing priorities together in a single phase. For this reason, the phases suggested here should be considered only as general guidelines; they must be re-analyzed as funding becomes available. Such a procedure will guarantee that each phase will satisfy the highest set of priorities at the time of its implementation.

Change “Work Phases” section to read
(pages i and ii)

Proposed activities and facilities have been prioritized. The recommended sequence of plan implementation shown in table 2 takes into account existing and future user needs and recreational deficiencies. At the beginning of each project the Society will coordinate with Regional Parks in accordance with the compliance and review process described in appendix C.

Although this project is divided into two parts- the restoration of the McFarland Home and the creation of the turn-of-the-century ranch – each component of the planned project interrelates to make a coherent whole. Some of the areas in this project will become operational sooner than others. It is possible that some of the suggested plans will take longer to be implemented. The program is therefore planned so that the McFarland Living History Ranch Museum can function in some manner even when only a fraction of the overall program is completed.

The work proposed now will span many years, depending on available funding. The committee has purposely identified priorities so that after each year the ranch can be functioning in some additional manner.

Appendix D

Cosumnes River Preserve's Mission and Vision Statement

Mission Statement

"We seek to protect and enhance the habitat within the Cosumnes River Preserve project area, including riparian forest, wetland, vernal pool grassland, oak woodland, riverine, marsh, and farm habitat, in order to preserve biodiversity and benefit declining, threatened, and endangered species of wildlife and plants. We attempt to accomplish this using a cooperative management approach by developing both short- and long-term integrated conservation and management projects, as well as supporting policies compatible with our goals. We believe that effective conservation integrates the preservation of natural lands as well as agricultural lands and practices."

Vision Statement

The Cosumnes River Preserve Partners envision the permanent protection of a continuous riparian corridor extending from the Cosumnes headwaters to the Delta, including adjacent floodplain and wetland habitats and a vast vernal pool grassland complex supporting endangered species. The Partners will utilize stewardship and compatible ranching and farming activities as methods to sustain native plant and wildlife communities and the processes that perpetuate a dynamic mosaic of habitats. We will provide opportunities for people of all ages to appreciate the flora and fauna of the Cosumnes River Preserve and to experience being part of a natural landscape.