• ALSEA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN •

To address current issues that affect the well-being and future of our Alsea and Lobster Valley community

Funded by a technical assistance grant from the U.S. Forest Service through the Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative

Alsea Strategic Plan Committee Alsea Community Effort P.O. Box 7 Alsea, Oregon 97324

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December 1995

LETTER FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

December 1995

Dear Fellow Residents:

The Alsea Strategic Plan Committee is pleased, and a little relieved, to present to you in this document the results of two years of planning discussions. Our goals seemed impossible at first: to survey the community; to identify, qualify, and quantify the concerns of our residents; and to propose projects to address those concerns -- in short, to distill the opinions of a diverse group of individuals and find common themes and directions for the community of the Alsea and Lobster Valley area. We hope you will agree that in some measure this plan has found those common directions.

As you read through the following pages, you will see that our intent is to be comprehensive. We have tried to explore every concern or opportunity on every topic brought to our attention through a community questionnaire, at our town meetings, and through your contact with committee members. We expect this plan will give Alsea a strength of purpose and voice that will help us more firmly into the future.

This document may inspire you, persuade you, or provoke you to get involved in your community's future. You can become involved by attending committee and town meetings, serving on a subcommittee, or helping to implement one of the plan's 41 projects. In this effort, we hope you will join us to organize a formal community planning/project group to address issues and act on opportunities on an ongoing basis.

We live in interesting times. Recent changes may have disillusioned many of us, but times of great change are also times of great opportunity. The opportunities presented in this plan and detailed in the Appendix can provide a starting point from which to influence and create a satisfying future for us all.

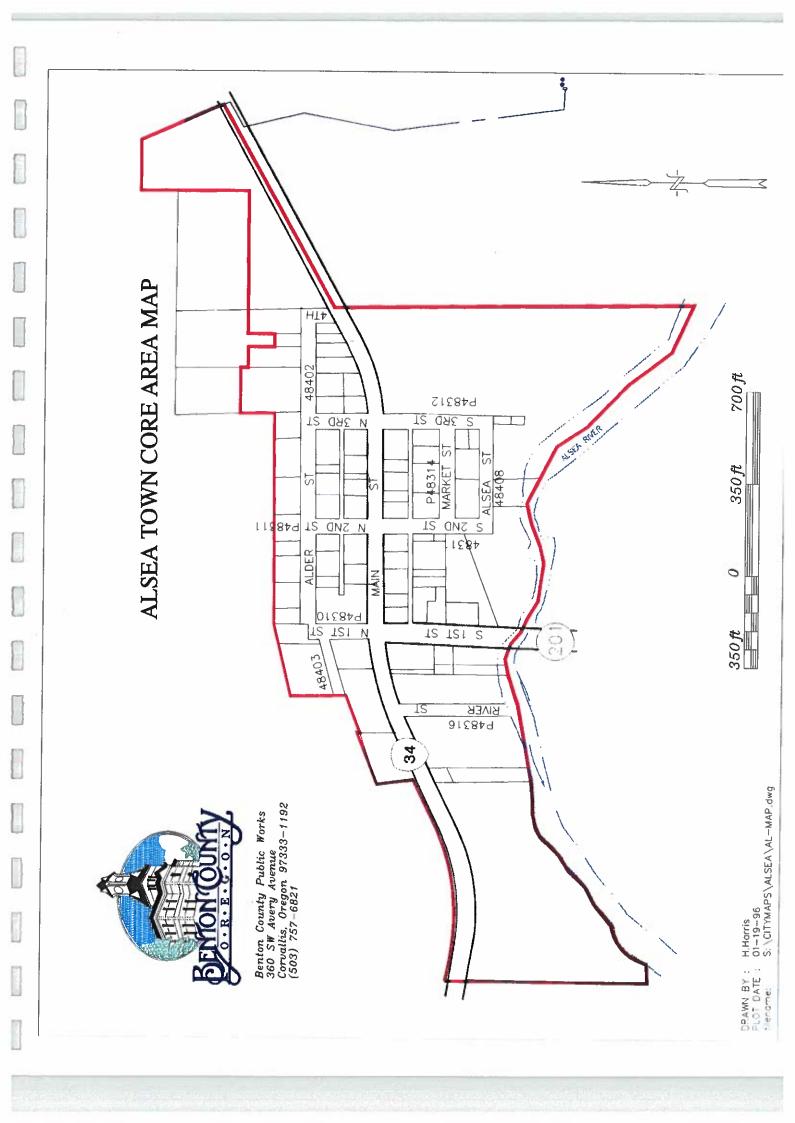
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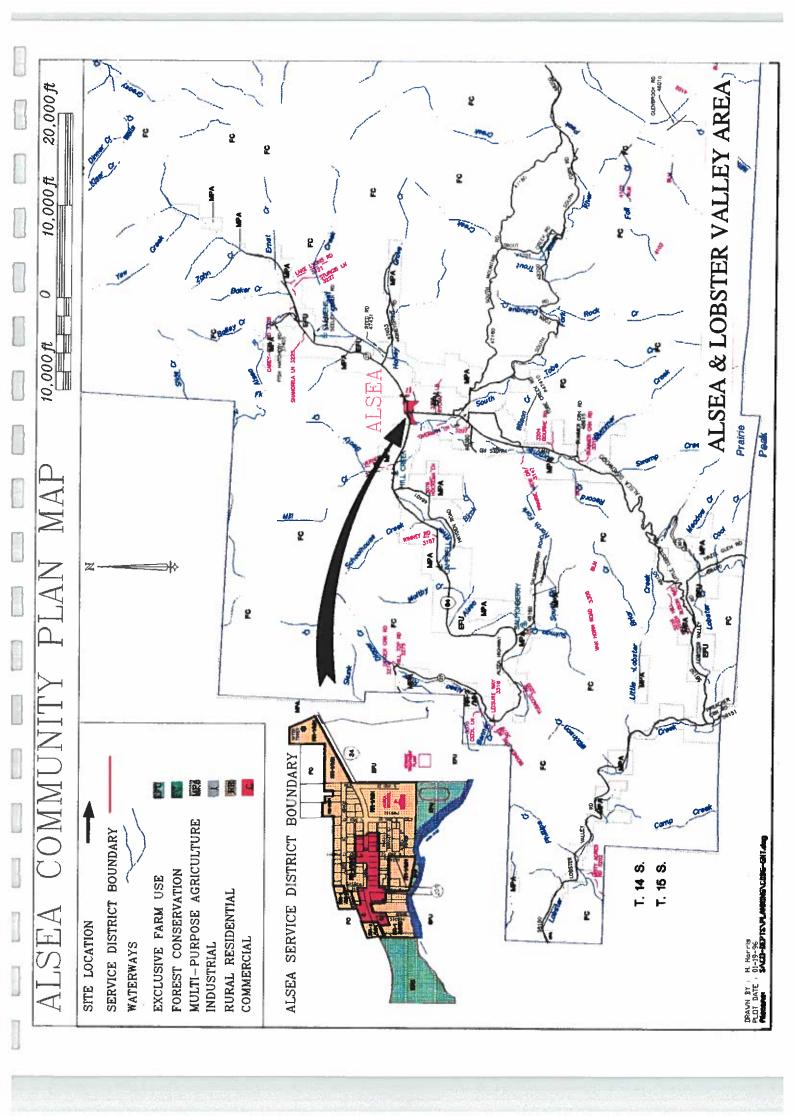
Alsea Strategic Plan Committee Alsea Community Effort

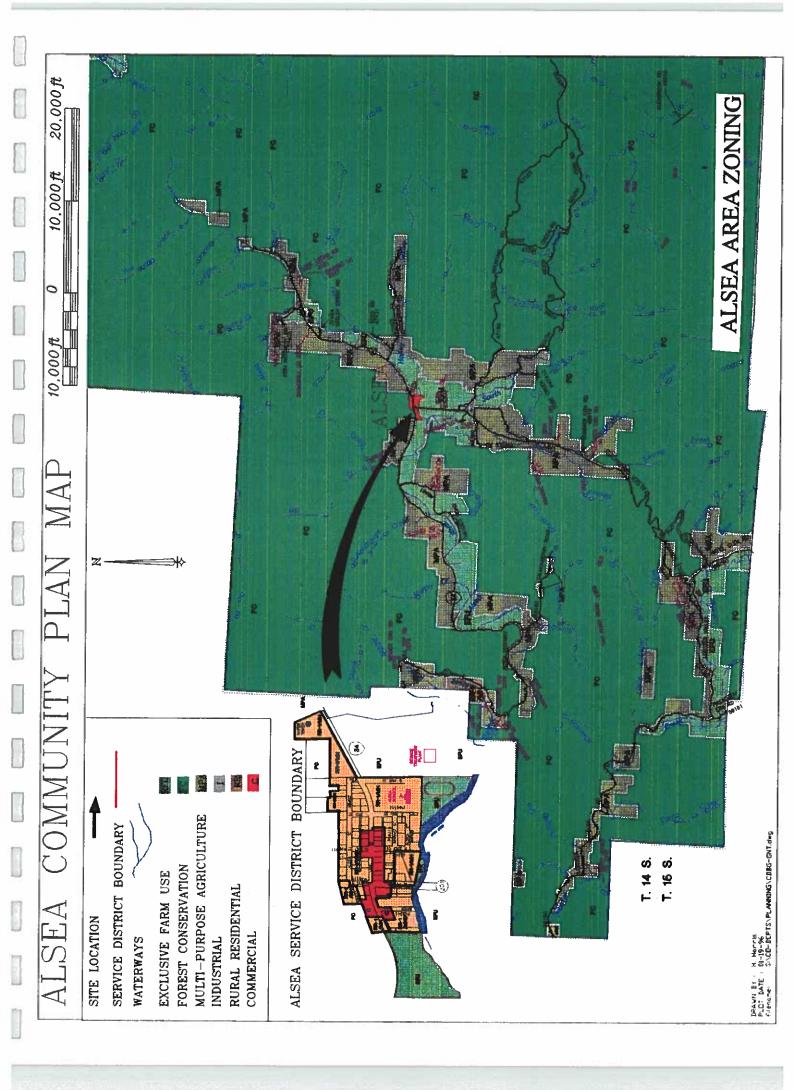
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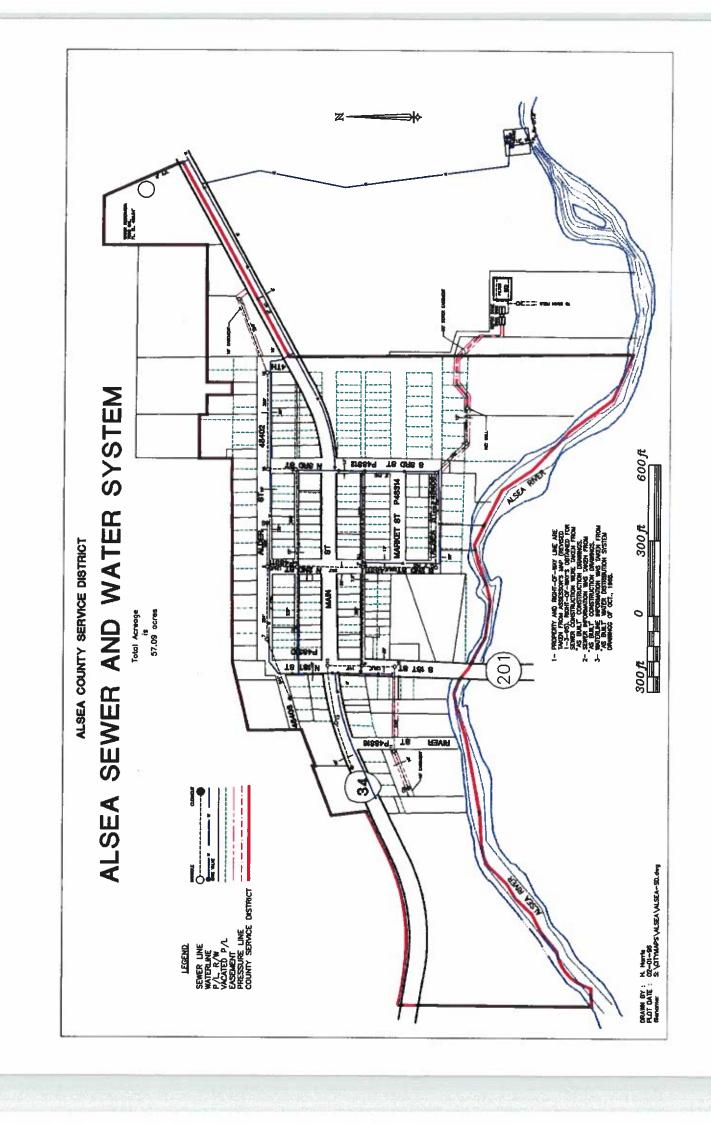
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Development of this plan was funded by a technical assistance grant from the U.S. Forest Service. Technical assistance was provided by Benton County and Sheryl Bennett, Bennett & Bennett Associates, facilitator.









PLAN SUMMARY

Our strategic plan is a tool to describe what is important and what needs to be changed or improved in the Alsea and Lobster Valley area over the next ten years. The plan outlines our expectations for the future: what we need to do to diversify our economic base and how we can maintain or improve community livability.

This plan is our collective voice which outlines common directions for acting on issues, concerns, and opportunities in our unincorporated rural area. Our mission is to address current issues that affect the well-being and future of our Alsea and Lobster Valley community. We have identified five areas to which to dedicate our time and energies:

- community facilities and infrastructure;
- timber dependency & economic development;
- land-use policies, housing & the environment;
- families, children & youth; and
- local representation.

Our plan is ambitious. It includes 41 project workplans and a vision for what we believe the Alsea area could look like in the year 2005. Many community members have agreed to work together and to take personal responsibility for making contacts in order to pursue the proposed projects. As a committee and as a community, we intend to organize as a formal, non-profit community group to address issues on an ongoing basis and implement this plan. We will set priorities and take action to improve or maintain our community, our business environment and job base, our neighborhoods and the use of our land, and our quality of life.

INTRODUCTION

We choose where we want to live for many reasons: a closeness to family and friends, beautiful natural surroundings, a satisfying lifestyle and reasonable cost of living, education for our children, employment opportunities, and others. Over time, these conditions may change. Some change is gradual and expected, but at other times, change can be unsettling, especially when its causes seem beyond our control.

The Alsea and Lobster Valley area is experiencing significant economic change with the loss of timber-related jobs. Our most visible employers are restructuring their organizations. Jobs in management, labor, and support services are declining or being relocated to other communities. As individuals, how we adjust to these changes affects our ability to earn a decent living and other aspects of our personal lives. Collectively, as a community, how we adjust to these changes affects the stability and vitality of our town and outlying areas.

The Alsea Community Strategic Plan is a tool to describe what is important and what needs adjusting in the Alsea and Lobster Valley community. The plan outlines how we can maintain or improve our community livability and diversify the area's economic base. It presents our ideas, our values, and our interests. A sincere effort was made to represent the sentiments of all or most community members and to develop workplans that would result in successful outcomes.

This document is our map to the future. It begins a period of adjustment and growth as a community to improve our chances of success. Through town meetings, community members have approved our strategies for improvement, and many have agreed to work together on subcommittees to complete workplans and report progress to their neighbors. As an unincorporated rural area, this plan is our collective voice which provides some common directions for acting on issues, concerns, and opportunities.

The purpose of the Alsea Community Strategic Plan is to:

- join together a representative group of area organizations and residents;
- gather community information and solicit public opinion;
- identify and evaluate needs and opportunities for our community;
- map out ways to preserve or improve our community over the next ten years;
- obtain funding for identified needs and projects; and
- organize a planning group, assistance agencies, and interested community members to work on projects.

To that end, the Alsea Strategic Plan Committee was formed in April, 1994, to represent programs, organizations, and interests in the rural Alsea and Lobster Valley area. We have met twice a month, conducted a community survey, and held several town meetings to talk with residents about their priorities, our findings, and the challenges and opportunities for our community.

STRATEGIC PLAN MISSION AND VISION FOR THE ALSEA AND LOBSTER VALLEY AREA

A mission and vision are set forth in this document to encourage a common focus and direction. "Mission" defines the broad responsibilities or purpose for action. "Vision" anticipates what could or should happen as a result of the proposed action. As part of the strategic plan, this mission and vision help draw together our community to work toward a shared future.

Our Mission And Commitment

Our mission and commitment are to address current issues that affect the well-being and future of our Alsea and Lobster Valley community. We dedicate our time and energies to attend collectively to the challenges and opportunities that influence our:

- community facilities and infrastructure;
- timber dependency and economic development;
- land-use policies, housing and the environment;
- families, children and youth; and
- local representation.

As we experience success in fulfilling this mission and effectively completing our workplans, we realize what our community would look like in the year 2005. This image assumes that we have set realistic expectations and outlined reasonable methods for pursuing those expectations. It also assumes that we will need to influence our own future and create economic opportunities and enhanced community livability.

Vision for the Year 2005

In the Alsea and Lobster Valley area, we believe there is a future for small town living. Our community works together to face issues and to support a rural lifestyle. We care for and attend to our children, as they are the next generation. We value our environment and our surroundings, being encircled by 120,000 acres of prime timberland at the base of the highest peak in the Oregon Coast Range. Hard work, resourcefulness, and individual responsibility are evident in our self-sufficiency and the kinds of work we do.

Together, as a community, we will continue to strive to retain and improve our local job base and economic opportunities for residents. Our economy has gone through successive waves of active and declining timber harvest activities since the late 1880's. A variety of small scale operations are reaching new markets with products, crops, and services. Agriculture, specialty products and trades, cottage industries and tourism have diversified our once timber-dependent economy. Expanded local shops and retail trade have established our area as the largest rural service center in southwest Benton County.

Over the last ten years, a permanent health clinic facility has been constructed. School classrooms and athletic facilities have been improved to provide adequate room for the education and activity of our growing youth. New preschool, child care, and parent education programs have been developed so that children and families may be engaged in active learning, work, and play. Issues of access, sufficient facility space, and equipment have been resolved so that our library and fire department may continue to provide quality community services.

Important issues and difficulties still remain, however. We continue to be challenged by economic change and by efforts to maintain some influence over the way our land and natural resources are governed. These challenges form the framework for future collective efforts. Community vitality and rural living will always be important to us. Most people can only dream of the beautiful country setting and small town feeling we enjoy every day. We will continue to plan, to act, and to work together, and we will have a positive influence over the future of our community.

STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

When the Alsea Strategic Plan Committee began discussing what needed to be done, we realized there were no easy answers. Issues surfaced involving education, health care, safe streets and neighborhoods, social values, environmental quality, opportunities for jobs and new businesses, land use, infrastructure, housing, community facilities, and local representation. We needed to know what was important to the community -- what needed to be maintained and what needed to be improved.

To gain some influence over what was important to our area, community members organized. As the Alsea Strategic Plan Committee, we solicited public opinion and identified community concerns. A community questionnaire was crafted to find out what people thought about economic and social issues. The range of topics included community vitality, growth, and business development. A complete list appears in the Appendix.

The results of this questionnaire focused our attention on five areas:

- · community facilities and infrastructure;
- · timber dependency and economic development;
- land use, housing, and the environment;
- · family, children, and youth; and
- local representation.

Through workplans and town meetings, we have identified and evaluated both needs and opportunities. Our strategies for improvement map out ways to preserve or improve our community over the next ten years. Every effort has been made to accurately reflect and be faithful to the results of the questionnaire and the feedback from town meetings. Tables of strategies for each of the five areas follow. This information is organized without any prioritization.

Community Facilities & Infrastructure

	improve school facilities for current and future use
	improve health clinic (modular facility) space, conditions
	maintain available nurse practitioner/physicians
	improve Alsea Library building
	maintain fire protection & EMT assistance
	improve water & sewer district
	maintain safe roads & highways
	improve North Fork Bridge
=	encourage residents/businesses committed to preserving area

Schools, a health clinic, library, fire station, community meeting (grange) hall, parks, roads, and a water and sewer system form the backbone of the Alsea community. They represent some facilities and services the residents cannot easily provide for themselves and that benefit a major portion of the population. They help keep the community informed, protected, and active. They influence the area's appearance and attributes. Along with the residents themselves, they are the physical structures and services that enhance a sense of community, a sense of responsibility, and common involvement.

Various taxing districts and community organizations support most of these services. The Alsea School District 7J, Alsea Rural Fire District, Alsea Rural Health Care, Inc. (the clinic), and Alsea Water and Sewer District have local boards who oversee these operations and facilities. Other facilities are maintained or improved by Benton County through its parks division and public works department. A community meeting hall is available through the Hope Grange.

Community facility and infrastructure improvements are needed now. The population or user groups have outgrown almost all facilities. Some facilities, such as the fire hall, violate public facility and health regulations such as OSHA and ADA requirements. The water system is currently operating at a 40% loss due to deteriorated pipes and substantial leaks. The sewer system is currently operating at 80% to 85% design capacity with only 5-6 additional hook-ups currently available.

Other infrastructure needs include correcting road hazards, redesigning crosswalks, adding street lights, helping maintain parks and roads, and replacing the North Fork Bridge along Oregon Highway 34. The bridge is of great concern to residents. Many have stories to tell of the close calls when walking, bicycling, or driving over the narrow bridge. Although the Oregon Department of Transportation has the bridge scheduled for replacement in 1998, other seismic assessments performed elsewhere in the state may postpone the repair.

RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

Improve and Upgrade Alsea School Facility

With school board approval, determine appropriate repair projects for volunteer work parties and pursue donated materials and alternative funding sources.

Construct New Alsea Health Clinic Facility

Design and construct a permanent primary health care facility and parking area to replace the deteriorating 16-yearold modular unit.

Maintain Full Roster of EMT Personnel

Regularly recruit, train, and sustain a full roster of qualified Emergency Medical Technicians to provide adequate first-response medical care.

Assess (Collaborative) Community Facility Needs

Determine present and future facility needs for human service programs and create a collaborative plan to combine appropriate activities within a common area.

Develop Alsea Community Library Facility Plan

Secure technical assistance to evaluate needed library services, explore cooperative building options, estimate costs, and outline construction plans.

Improve Alsea Fire District Facility & Equipment

Seek funding assistance for facility improvements to comply with OSHA and ADA requirements, explore cooperative building options, and secure alternative resources for equipment upgrades and training.

Upgrade Alsea Grange Hall for Community Use

Identify community volunteers and secure needed funding to complete facility improvements to the Hope Grange Hall.

Upgrade Water/Sewer System

Upgrade and repair the existing water lines and install a second reservoir. Design and construct an upgraded, expandable system to accommodate additional users.

Reduce Alsea Area Road Hazards

Identify area road hazards for potential fatal or serious accidents and take corrective action to reduce or eliminate physical causes.

Redesign/Relocate School Crosswalk For Safety

Study traffic patterns and obstructions to determine needed design changes to school crosswalk.

Install Needed Street Lighting

Identify target areas for street lighting to address property safety and traffic concerns.

Improve/Replace North Fork Bridge

Encourage timely replacement of the narrow North Fork Bridge to eliminate safety hazards for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.

Develop Adopt-a-Park, Boat Launch, or Road Program

Develop a local program to maintain public and private areas to help keep high visibility/high use areas clean and in good condition.

Timber Dependency & Economic Development

KEY ISSUES:	
improve mix of full & part-time family wage jobs	
encourage and assist new business opportuniti	es
expand available sites & buildings for commerc	ial and industrial use
help stabilize existing businesses	
expand local retail shops for food, clothing, hou	sehold goods, hardware
develop new jobs in the woods	

Economists identify factors and subfactors that influence business development in any given area. These factors include access to markets and resources, workforce and facility availability, financing, government-imposed costs, and quality of life characteristics. Existing businesses in the Alsea area and potential new business opportunities are influenced in different ways by each of these factors.

Located in the Oregon Coast Range, Alsea is Benton County's most forest-dependent community. Approximately 120,000 acres of prime timberland surround it. Access from the Willamette Valley is along Oregon Highway 34 with a series of 23 switchback curves that climb to Marys Peak Pass, elevation 1230', and then descend into the Alsea River Valley.

Top public employers in the Alsea area are the Alsea School District 7J with 34 full-time permanent employees and the U.S. Forest Service, Alsea Ranger District with 26 full-time permanent employees. Top private employers are Sapp Brothers Logging, Inc. with 25 full-time employees and Weist Logging with 10 employees. Grains, field crops, livestock, small woodlots, and Christmas trees are the principal agricultural commodities sold by area farms. There is also a growing number of cottage industries and artisans, most of whom market their goods and services outside the Alsea area. In addition, a growing number of Alsea residents commute to jobs in the Willamette Valley. Local jobs in the timber industry have declined dramatically over the past 20 years.

Announced Closure of USFS Alsea Ranger Station

In August, 1995, the Siuslaw National Forest announced that the Alsea Ranger Station was scheduled for closure in December, 1995. There is much concern within the community over losses of jobs; of emergency medical and fire personnel who volunteer their services to the community; of educational programs provided by the Ranger Station to the schools; of facilities for child care and a sheriff's substation under partnership arrangement located at the station facility; and of an active 24-acre station with multiple buildings which supported up to 129 Forest Service employees in 1992. The community, Forest Service, and Oregon's congressional representatives are currently working together to modify the decision, retain a Forest Service presence in Alsea, and find new ways to utilize vacated space at the station facility while diversifying the local economy.

Proposed Economic Development

To help mitigate the impact of continued job loss and to stimulate economic revitalization, community members are focused on new or expanding business groups that could generate jobs. Special attention will be given to small business (e.g., communications, training, software, and light assembly); value-added and specialty forest

products; vegetable, fruit, and berry crops; small woodlots; tourism/visitor market; retail; and arts and crafts. These business groups have characteristics that are consistent with the community's values and objectives, show realistic growth potential, and could operate within the economic factors of the area (such as access to markets and resources).

Additional business assistance will be sought, including management counseling from the Business Development Center at Linn-Benton Community College, the establishment of a rural business incubator and workforce training center, and the formation of an Alsea business association. This assistance should help improve the success and stability of new and existing local businesses.

RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

Establish Alsea Economic Development Program & Business Incubator at USFS Alsea Ranger Station

Pursue business development projects, identify alternative uses for vacated portions of USFS Ranger Station, and attract responsible partners to utilize space and provide area jobs.

Develop Timberland Products Value Enhancement Project

Inventory local special forest materials and value-added opportunities, conduct a market and feasibility study, and establish a processing plant to make or supply consumer ready products.

Explore Farm Produce Processing Plant (Quick-freeze) & Expand Fresh Market Opportunities

Explore opportunities for coordinating and expanding sales outlets for locally grown produce and investigate the feasibility of a farm produce processing plant.

Organize Small Landowner (Agricultural) Coop & Equipment Share

Organize agricultural landowners with common needs and interests and coordinate equipment share agreements.

Create Tourism Development Program

Evaluate area attractions and travel issues and promote visitor-related activities and services.

Designate Alsea Area Scenic Route

Work with interested residents, businesses, visitor agencies, and transportation agencies to map out, sign, and promote a scenic route through the Alsea area to attract visitors/tourists.

Establish Food Cooperative/Membership Store

Survey Alsea and Lobster Valley households and determine the interest in and operational feasibility for starting up a food cooperative/membership store.

Create Arts & Crafts Sales Outlet(s)

Identify and help organize Alsea area artisans and craftspeople to establish and expand sales opportunities.

Provide Small Business Guidance

Work with the Business Development Center from Linn-Benton Community College to set up management workshops and counseling on specific subjects of interest.

Develop Local Information Brochure / Checklist for New Businesses

Develop a checklist or brochure of local services, assistance agencies and resources, and building information to aid prospective new businesses.

Form Alsea Business Association

Bring together established local business owners and prospective business owners to discuss ways to help each other.

Support Local Small Business Expansion

Recognize the efforts of local businesses striving to improve their operations; review and lend support for suitable proposals to outside agencies.

Forecast Area Employment & Contractor Needs

Develop a method to periodically gather and disseminate employment opportunities & sub-contractor needs.

Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment

In the words of one community member, "We can get all the grants available and have nice public facilities, but the community as a whole will continue to languish unless we get some flexibility in land use." For the unincorporated areas of Alsea and Lobster Valley, land-use planning requirements are determined by the Benton County Code and Comprehensive Plan. The code and plan must adhere to goals, rules, provisions, and standards set by the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development and other regulatory agencies.

All residents are committed to preserving the natural beauty and land resources of the area. We agree that any development must be responsible development. We believe that rural unincorporated areas should be given special consideration, and that inappropriate rules which limit buildable sites, small-scale farming, and housing should be opposed. Although the regulations may be well-intended, most residents believe that some rules adversely affect Benton County and its rural communities. We believe these rules work against reasonable efforts to promote community livability and economic diversification. In addition, some provisions take away what had been granted in the past or add one more regulatory and administrative hurdle for families and businesses.

Specific land-use issues include:

- original zoning provisions for Multi-Purpose Agriculture lost or changed to Exclusive Farm Use;
- original provisions in lot of record lost to separate, independent deeded parcels, regardless of common ownership and contiguous location;
- restrictions disallowing additional residences or accessory units on single-family lots;

- limitations on hardship case residences and the removal of such residences at the end of claimed hardship;
- one-year window to apply for repair or replacement of destroyed or removed homes and structures;
- limitations on new commercial buildings to no more than 4,000 square feet and industrial buildings to no more than 10,000 square feet;
- requirement of \$80,000 in gross agricultural sales per year for 2 years before any residence can be permitted on Exclusive Farm Use sites; and
- urban standards for the Willamette Valley applied to the Oregon Coast Range, Alsea and Lobster Valley community.

The above issues will only be resolved through additional awareness and understanding among our community, the Benton County Planning Commission and Development Department, and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

Rural Service Center Recommended for Alsea Town Core

To address what has been viewed as unreasonable limits to development in the Alsea town core area, rezoning as a Rural Service Center is recommended. Such zoning would replace the present Rural Residential zone with one-acre minimum parcels. The new Rural Service Center would make existing lots buildable without a variance, and would permit additional commercial development and multi-family housing within the Alsea town core: less than one square mile area in central Alsea, along and within the boundaries of the existing water and sewer district.

This recommendation is made after much discussion with Benton County Development Department staff. The recommendation comes from the Alsea Strategic Plan Committee and the Alsea Citizens Advisory Committee (a committee recognized by Benton County for providing local assistance and advice on land-use matters). The committees jointly held a town meeting to solicit public opinion on the recommendation. From ballots received, 75% were in favor of rezoning the town core as a Rural Service Center, 12% favored lobbying the legislature for revised land-use policies in rural areas, and 7% wished to continue the present Rural Residential zone. The two committees will take their recommendation to the Benton County Planning Commission in Winter, 1996.

The committees will also give special attention to housing needs. Over the last 40 years, school enrollment figures indicate that the community's population doubled. According to the 1990 Census, a total of 1,192 persons, comprising 393 households, were reported as living within the Alsea School District 7J-Alsea Valley area. In 1995, approximately 1,400 persons reside in the area: approximately 190 persons, comprising 65 households, make up the Alsea town core and approximately 1,200 persons, comprising 410 households. Most of these residents are located in single-family dwellings and mobile homes. A complete list of community statistics from the 1990 Census appears in the Appendix.

Recommendations for improved housing are reported in a Benton County Housing Needs Assessment prepared in June, 1995 by the Community Planning Workshop, University of Oregon, and the Community Services Consortium for the Benton County Board of Commissioners. The assessment suggests allowing "accessory units" such as cottages that are small, permanent homes installed on single-family home lots, encouraging self-help housing, as well as other improvements for rural housing.

December, 1995 ALSEA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN

RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Recommend Land-Use Revisions

Recommend appropriate changes or modifications of existing laws and standards to fit the needs of the Alsea area community to local and state land-use authorities.

Apply for Joint Commercial/Industrial Rezoning

Work with landowners to design land-use plans for commercial and industrial use.

Rebuild Abandoned or Destroyed Structures

Assist in rehabilitating or rebuilding Alsea area housing or other structures that are no longer in use.

Determine Housing Rehabilitation & Construction Options

Identify the most appropriate rehabilitation and construction options so Alsea area residents of all income levels can rent or own housing.

Distribute Alsea Area Recycling Information

Assist recycling volunteers and distribute information for residents regarding proper disposal/recycling procedures and regulations.

Establish Annual Excellence Awards

Publicly recognize outstanding examples of improved buildings and grounds maintenance in Alsea area.

Organize Small-scale Habitat Enhancement Demonstration Projects

On a voluntary basis, work with landowners and public and private agencies to improve habitats in woodland, wetland, riparian, stream and river areas.

Families, Children & Youth

KEY ISSUE	S:
mai	tain existing educational programs
mai	tain family-oriented community
prov	ide recreational opportunities
imp	ove pedestrian and bicycle paths
mai	tain adequate police protection

As Alsea area residents, we care for and attend to our children as they are the next generation. We value our families and friends and strive continuously to develop local programs that serve their interests and pursuits. We believe our rural area flourishes when each individual feels a sense of personal well-being and community.

Quality education for all ages helps prepare us as individuals, employees, and community members. Education enables us to reach our full potential and to be of service to others. Currently there is interest to provide additional care and education for our preschoolers and parents. This interest will be surveyed and appropriate programs developed. There is also interest in expanding educational opportunities for adults. To date, adult education

has been limited because most classes require travel into neighboring communities, substantial class enrollment, and a great time commitment. With innovation, new programming may address these needs. The Alsea schools and library, Linn-Benton Community College, and Alsea Family Resources will work with the community to survey interests and develop such programs.

Recreation promotes individual enjoyment and collective activity in our natural surroundings and at our facilities and events. Expanding youth activities beyond what is currently available at our schools would provide another organized outlet for children and families to enjoy common interests and play hard. In the Alsea area, this should include adding a bike path to ensure safe passage along our roads and highways. It will require working with Benton County to consider additional facilities (e.g., covered picnic shelters, children's play areas, public restrooms, walking trails, and outdoor sports and game fields) in parks or other areas.

Increased awareness is needed in order to address some evidence of drug trafficking and vandalism. As a community, we can work with our neighbors and appropriate law enforcement agencies to identify and prevent potential crime problems. The safety and well-being of our children and youth are influenced by any level of criminal activity. Together, we can help protect our lives, our rights, and our property.

RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

Expand Childhood Care and Education Program

Identify family needs for childhood care and education and collaborate with group providers to implement improved programs.

Develop Curriculum for Adult Students

Determine areas of interest where alternative adult education programs could be offered within the Alsea community and pursue outside funding to support or supplement costs.

Establish an Alsea Youth Activities Club

Coordinate, organize, and promote year-round youth activities for preschoolers, grade-school children, teenagers, and their families through an Alsea Youth Activities Club.

Design and Construct Alsea Bike Path

Work with county and state transportation departments to develop and maintain paved paths for bicycle commuting that include Alsea schools and area parks.

Encourage Facility/Site Improvements At Area Parks

Survey community interests for expanding recreational facilities at area parks and encourage site improvements.

Encourage Cross-County Drug Enforcement and Substance Abuse Education

Increase awareness of substance abuse services and encourage a cooperative effort to reduce the distribution and use of illegal drugs.

Local Representation

KEY ISSUES:	
improve reliable information source about	
events/issues	
develop local voice/representation	

The Alsea and Lobster Valley community is independent, self-sufficient, and fairly isolated. People live here because of the beautiful natural environment, affordable and safe areas to live, and quality education and health care. Considering these unique community characteristics, residents wish to expand or supplement rural newspaper and school newsletter information. We wish to explore other options for regularly announcing events, activities, issues or concerns, and group efforts of common interest.

Community Organization to be Established

A collective local voice and representation are also important to residents. During the strategic plan's development, the Alsea Strategic Plan Committee reviewed basic information about community involvement and incorporation. This review was stimulated by favorable results in our community questionnaire to consider a town council and the committee's own interest in understanding more about the benefits and risks of incorporation.

The Committee recommends that the Alsea area not consider incorporation at this time. However, the Committee will retain the information gathered about incorporation in its files and monitor any changes within the community that may lead to an interest in reopening the discussion. Information will be retained from Adair Village and Monroe in Benton County, Tangent in Linn County, and Sunriver in Deschutes County. (Sunriver is the only area in Oregon to recently prepare an economic feasibility study and petition the county for incorporation. Its proposed tax base and incorporation was voted down by Sunriver residents in 1995.) General information regarding the advantages, disadvantages, and initial requirements of incorporation will also be retained.

In order to address local issues, be organized to represent the community's concerns, and act on recommended community projects, the Alsea Strategic Plan Committee will begin the process of establishing a non-profit community organization: a community development corporation. This type of organization works to promote the well-being and future of a community -- to maintain and improve its quality of life. Bylaws will be prepared, articles filed, and officers elected. All Alsea and Lobster Valley residents are encouraged to participate in this organization and influence not only its development but its future activities.

RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

Develop Information Source for Community Events/News

Identify appropriate information outlets to make community events and news items more available to area residents.

Establish a Community Organization to Implement Plan

Establish a non-profit organization to preserve or improve our community that represents area residents and groups, encourages awareness of and participation in resolving issues, and completes workplans.

IMPLEMENTATION

Our plan is ambitious. It includes 41 project workplans and a vision for what we believe the Alsea area could look like in the year 2005. Many community members have agreed to work together and to take personal responsibility for making contacts and pursuing the proposed projects. Subcommittees will be formed to work through the steps identified in each workplan, monitor progress, and report back to the strategic plan committee.

All projects require time and energy from community members. Some projects require funding assistance of less than \$50,000; other projects, such as the Alsea water and sewer system, require more. As appropriate, the committee and other related local boards will continue to pursue outside funding and technical assistance. We will act on projects, review and report progress to the community, and evaluate and update our workplans over the next ten years.

Seven project proposals are currently under review through President Clinton's Northwest Economic Adjustment Initiative. Funding from the U.S. Forest Service through this initiative provided technical assistance for developing our plan. We hope to receive additional funding for project implementation from the initiative and from private foundations.

• ALSEA COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN •

APPENDIX

Project Workplans

Community Statistics

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Plan Development Process

Community Questionnaire Results

Community Facilities and Infrastructure Project Workplans

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21	Improve and Upgrade Alsea School Facility
	With school board approval, determine appropriate repair projects for volunteer work parties and pursue donated materials and alternative funding sources.
22	Construct New Alsea Health Clinic Facility
	Design and construct a permanent primary health care facility and parking area to replace the deteriorating 16-year- old modular unit.
23	Maintain Full Roster of EMT Personnel
	Regularly recruit, train, and sustain a full roster of qualified Emergency Medical Technicians to provide adequate first-response medical care.
24	Assess (Collaborative) Community Facility Needs
	Determine present and future facility needs for human service programs and create a collaborative plan to combine appropriate activities within a common area.
25	Develop Alsea Community Library Facility Plan
	Secure technical assistance to evaluate needed library services, explore cooperative building options, estimate costs, and outline construction plans.
26	Improve Alsea Fire District Facility & Equipment
	Seek funding assistance for facility improvements to comply with OSHA and ADA requirements, explore cooperative building options, and secure alternative resources for equipment upgrades and training.
27	Upgrade Alsea Grange Hall for Community Use
	Identify community volunteers and secure needed funding to complete facility improvements to the Hope Grange Hall.
28	Upgrade Water/Sewer District
	Upgrade and repair the existing water lines and install a second reservoir. Design and construct an upgraded, expandable system to accommodate additional users.
29	Reduce Alsea Area Road Hazards
	Identify area road hazards for potential fatal or serious accidents and take corrective action to reduce or eliminate physical causes.
30	Redesign/Relocate School Crosswalk For Safety
	Study traffic patterns and obstructions to determine needed design changes to school crosswalk.
31	Install Needed Street Lighting
	Identify target areas for street lighting to address property safety and traffic concerns.
32	Improve/Replace North Fork Bridge
	Encourage timely replacement of the narrow North Fork Bridge to eliminate safety hazards for pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles.
33	Develop Adopt-a-Park, Boat Launch, or Road Program
	Develop a local program to maintain public and private areas to help keep high visibility/high use areas clean and in good condition.

December, 1995

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure/Commitment To Quality Education

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Improve and Upgrade Alsea School Facility

DESCRIPTION: Assist Alsea School Board and Facilities Committee in addressing repair and construction needs of school facility. With School Board approval, determine appropriate repair projects for volunteer work parties and pursue donate materials and alternative funding sources. Total cost to remodel current school facility structures (ADA access, electrical code updates, etc.); improve heating efficacy/efficiency, plus new construction of gym, media, science, administrative offices, and storage is approx. \$2.9 million.

PROJECT STEPS	GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Choose architect and develop initial plan and cost estimates	School Board/ Facilities Committee	Completed
Determine improvement projects and alternative financing methods	School Board	ongoing
Provide information concerning cost, needs, scale of project to district households	School Board and Facilities Committee	- 5
Fine tune plans	School staff, any interested Alsea residents, School Board	
Determine appropriate projects and organize volunteer work parties for school facility repairs	School Board & Alsea Strategic Plan subcommittee	
Pursue alternative funding options/sources, volunteer efforts & donated materials	School Board & Alsea Strategic Plan subcommittee	

AREA: Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Accessible health care

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Construct New Alsea Health Clinic Facility

DESCRIPTION: Alsea Rural Health Care, Inc. is a centrally located primary care facility in a 500 square mile area of the Coastal mountain range of Benton County. Our estimated service population is 1300 people. The organization was formed in 1980 in response to wide spread concern about the inadequacy of current health care. Although the Clinic owns its land, the facility it occupies is a 16 year old mobile home unit which is deteriorating quickly. Given the level of deterioration within the trailer, repairs are no longer possible. To continue its service to the Alsea Valley, the Clinic needs a permanent facility and parking area. With the assistance of the Oregon Office of Rural Health and the Rural Health Design Group at the University of Oregon, it has been estimated that design and construction of a 2,400 sq.ft. facility, plus fees, site preparation, and some office equipment would cost approximately \$262,000.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Develop workable design and cost analysis	U of O Rural Health Clinic Board and staff	Spring / Summer 1995
Utilizing this, pursue outside funding in form of grants to supplement clinic building funds	Clinic Board and staff, Benton County agencies, Office of Rural Health	Fall 1995
Fine tune design/construction plans to accommodate any necessary changes (i.e., use of volunteer labor)	Clinic Board and staff, U of O, community members	Fall 1995
Building permit review	Clinic, Benton County Development Dept	Winter 1996
Bidding process	Clinic	Spring 1996
Begin construction	Clinic	Summer 1996
Organize appropriate volunteer work parties	Clinic	
Complete project and occupancy of new building		Fall 1996

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Accessible Health Care

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Maintain Full Roster of Qualified Emergency Medical (EMT) Personnel

DESCRIPTION: Determine the actual number of Emergency Medical Technicians needed to provide adequate first response medical care for the Alsea valley. Develop a method to regularly recruit, train, and sustain a full roster of qualified EMTs. Determine how (and when) to provide funding to sponsor candidates through the initial training and certification.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Interview and poll the existing Alsea Emergency personnel to determine the actual number of new EMT members needed.	Alsea Fire Department	Spring 1995
Outreach the Alsea community to determine potential candidates and their willingness to serve on the team if the education funds are provided	Alsea Fire Department Citizen Committee	Spring 1995, ongoing
Provide funding via grants, Fire Department funds, donations, etc.	Alsea Fire Department Funding Committee	Spring 1995, ongoing
Hold meeting with above candidates for orientation and their personal commitment to serve	Alsea Fire Department	Spring-Summer 1995
Enroll successful candidates at LBCC	Alsea Fire Department	Summer - Fall 1995
Study feasibility and costs for paying EMTs either full-time or for hourly call		

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Quality Education, Social Concerns

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Assess (Collaborative) Community Facility Needs

DESCRIPTION: Assess the social, education and human service needs not currently being met locally; determine program expansion and creation to address those needs; determine facility needs for those programs; create collaborative group of representatives of programs; create funding strategies for implementation of programs; create collaborative plan to combine public and private resources for shared facility to house programs.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Assess unmet community services/resources needs and plan programs to meet those needs (e.g., food bank, literacy outreach, adult education, family programs)	Alsea Schools, Alsea Library, Alsea Family Resources, Gleaners, Churches, LBCC, Community Services Consortium, interested community members	- ε α
Assess facility needs to serve programs including Alsea Library, EMT/Alsea Fire District, adult education/family programs, food bank, youth activities, community meeting space – identify common needs, interest in collaboration	Alsea Schools, Alsea Library, Alsea Family Resources, Gleaners, Churches, LBCC, Community Services Consortium, Hope Grange, USFS Ranger Station, interested community members	
Bring together representatives of programs/agencies involved to build collaborative program and plan process	interested groups	4 114 L
Determine feasibility of collaborative effort/combined facility	interested groups, planner and accountant	
Survey public interest in collaborative approach	interested groups	== '8'
Research funding strategies to combine public and private resources for facility and program use	interested groups) =

AREA: Community Facilities and Infrastructure

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Develop Alsea Community Library Facility Plan

DESCRIPTION: The Alsea Community Library Facility Plan involves the basic planning process of designing a new library facility to fully serve the community of Alsea. The current building which houses the library is totally inadequate: a) The 640 sq.ft. is too small to provide adequate collection and user services. There is no room for children's or adult's programs to be offered on-site, no room for patrons to sit and read or study, and no room for more computers to offer better electronic access to information. (According to the 1994 revised Oregon Public Library Standards, the minimum space requirement is 3,000 sq.ft. to serve Alsea's population base.) b) The property is leased with no opportunity for expansion. c) The condition of the facility remains damp and dark and is not suitable for library use. A facility plan is needed to start the process for a new library and improved library services.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Secure technical assistance funding for facility planning effort	Library Services District, Benton County, Committee	W J. W. LOSE I
Evaluate current library services and survey community members regarding library service needs — educational, cultural, and recreational use	Library Services District, library staff, subcommittee of Strategic Plan Committee, interested community members	24
Explore appropriate cooperative facility design and use with other community agencies (such as common meeting room areas, public rest rooms, and other shared space))E	= × ×
Develop library building program with the assistance of Oregon State Library	-	
Consult with a library architect for design, detailed cost estimates, and construction plans	= 3	
Consult with a financial advisor for information on financing options		
Regularly inform Alsea area residents of progress: plan assessment and alternatives		

AREA: Community Facilities and Infrastructure

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Improve Alsea Fire District Facility and Equipment

DESCRIPTION: As in most rural areas, Alsea Valley residents rely on their rural fire district for emergency response to home and barn fires and medical crisis. The district has limited opportunities for raising the needed capital to improve their fire hall facility, pay for required training, and purchase newer (used) equipment. Improved mapping and a newer fire engine is needed to help speed response time and efficiency. The Fire Hall is currently not in compliance with OSHA and ADA facility requirements which may ultimately result in limited or reduced response or closure. Required OSHA and ADA improvements include wash rooms and showers (for proper clean up after emergencies so as not to transfer any contamination to their homes), and office and meeting space accessible to the general public.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Contact suppliers/contractors and estimate costs for needed mapping and equipment replacement	Fire District Board	me o
Evaluate and estimate Emergency Medical Technician training costs		
Evaluate and estimate facility improvement plans and costs		10 W
Explore appropriate cooperative facility design and use with other community agencies (such as common meeting room areas, public rest rooms, and other shared space)	Fire District Board, subcommittee, interested community members	
Explore alternative sources and seek funding assistance for equipment upgrade, facility improvements, and training		
Seek and secure appropriate funding assistance		
Regularly inform Alsea area residents of progress		

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Upgrade the Alsea Hope Grange Hall for Community Use

DESCRIPTION: Identify needed facility improvements to upgrade hall for community use (e.g., foundation work, rewiring, replace kitchen roof, repair windows, install storm windows). This could provide some local employment during repair and replacements. The upgraded hall would continue to serve the community as a place to hold events, group activities, and meetings.

PROJECT STEPS	GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Recognize the efforts of the Alsea Hope Grange to improve its facility for community use	Alsea Hope Grange, interested community members, committee	Spring-Summer 1995
Identify community volunteers who will assist with repairs and replacements and/or secure donated materials		
Seek and secure necessary outside funding		
Lay new foundation	# 00	
Repair all windows as needed		>
Install storm windows		£
Reroof kitchen		1
Rewire up to code		
Add heating system		

AREA: Community Facilities and Infrastructure

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Upgrade Water/Sewer System

DESCRIPTION: The Alsea water and sewer system is greatly restricted by its low level capacity.

Currently there are 60 connections; only a maximum 5-6 additional connections are possible without any upgrade. An upgrade will replace the existing mainline with an 8" pipe thereby doubling the volume. To cover current maintenance requirements, the District has just raised its rates. Without this upgrade, the system has no hope for operating efficiently. The current system is too small to be cost effective and too limited to support additional development. The Alsea community needs an adequate water and sewer system. Engineering plans need to be developed and funding secured to construct an upgraded, expandable system.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Evaluate existing water and sewer system and determine alternatives and costs for upgrade	Water/Sewer District Board, Benton County Public Works & Commissioners	- " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "
Forecast future community needs and expansion of system	Water/Sewer District Board, district members, interested community members	:: =
Apply for system upgrade funding assistance	Water/Sewer District Board, Benton County Public Works & Commissioners, Strategic Plan Committee	
Complete engineering plans and let contract for construction	Water/Sewer District Board, Benton County Public Works	
Regularly inform district and Alsea area residents of system improvements	Water/Sewer District Board, Benton County Public Works, Committee	

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Safe Streets & Neighborhoods

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Reduce Alsea Area Road Hazards

DESCRIPTION: Identify area road hazards (e.g., Alsea-Deadwood/Haines/Stout Curve) and potential for fatal or serious injuries from accidents. Consider frequency and causes of accidents (e.g., sloping dirt highway shoulder used by people to drive side hill, semi-blind intersections, or dangerous curves) and necessary actions to reduce or eliminate hazard (e.g., straighten curve and remove dirt and trees).

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify frequency and causes for area road hazards	Committee, interested community members, Benton County Public Works Dept & Sheriff's Office, Oregon Dept of Transportation	determined by project/cause
Determine responsible agency		
Work with agency to decide corrective action, encourage improvements	7 7	
Schedule improvements	*	
Monitor improved safety		

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Safe Streets & Neighborhoods

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Redesign/Relocate School Crosswalk For Safety

DESCRIPTION: Alsea's only school crosswalk is located on Highway 34 and 3rd Street. This is a busy intersection obscured by shrubbery and a curve in the highway. To reduce this hazard, the crosswalk needs to be redesigned or moved.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Conduct traffic study	Oregon Dept of Transportation, Benton County Sheriff's Office, property owners, Alsea Schools	1 month
Consider improvements to reduce hazard including crosswalk design change encourage agencies to make improvements		1 month
Clear obstruction and/or install crosswalk/signal light	WT0 2 85 % H WE	1 month

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Safe Streets & Neighborhoods

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Install Needed Street Lighting

DESCRIPTION: Streets and neighborhoods in Alsea have no lighting, except for a few private lights. This darkness promotes theft and vandalism. Some intersections are dangerous due to lack of visibility. Attention should be given to supplement area private lights and the existing light near the Library (where costs are shared by area businesses and the Library).

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Determine safety needs and target areas for lighting	Sheriff's Office,	6 months
=	Consumers Power, Inc. (CPI)	
26	Benton County Public Works,	
Establish cost of installation and maintenance	CPI, Committee	
Work with local citizens and businesses for input and cost- sharing		9
Install lights		4 months

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Safe Streets and Neighborhoods

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Improve /Replace the North Fork Bridge east of Alsea

DESCRIPTION: The bridge over the North Fork of the Alsea River east of Alsea is too narrow to be considered safe for two vehicles to pass over at the same time, especially for trucks and buses. It is even more dangerous if pedestrians are present on the bridge at the same time. The existing bridge should be replaced with a wider one – with consideration for pedestrians and vehicles. It is currently scheduled for improvement in 1998 by the Oregon Dept of Transportation (ODOT).

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Collectively notify ODOT of community concern over bridge safety	Subcommittee, ODOT	- Fall
Study traffic and pedestrian safety and alternatives to reduce hazard – record and report findings to community members	2" = 2 ME	-2 2
Encourage earliest scheduling of bridge replacement and keep appraised of ODOT schedule	= 22 = m = M	e g ⁿ
Request updated copies of 6 year plan		: 111 277
Advocate for bicycle, pedestrian walkway and bridge replacement as soon as possible	3/200	

AREA:

Community Facilities and Infrastructure / Well-Maintained Alsea Area

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Develop Adopt A Park, Boat Launch, Or Road Program

DESCRIPTION: Develop a local program to allow individuals or groups to "adopt" or be responsible for, in addition to any public agency, cleaning up or maintaining local public or private areas, and provide a means to publicly recognize their civic charity.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify groups and individuals willing to volunteer their services to help keep Alsea's high visibility areas clean and maintained	Committee, interested community members	
Survey agencies now maintaining these facilities to determine the feasibility of integrating volunteers to help clean and maintain high visibility and roadside areas by which visitors tend to judge our town	Oregon and County Departments of Transportation/Public Works, Parks and Recreation, etc.	A
Locally advertise adoption opportunities and the responsibilities, with a sign-up procedure	Newspapers, bulletin boards, etc.	
Erect signage or plaques in, or adjacent to, adopted areas to publicly recognize a group's or individual's efforts and civic responsibility	Oregon and County Departments of Transportation/Public Works, Parks and Recreation, etc.	

Timber Dependency & Economic Development Project Workplans

PAGE	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS:
35	Establish Alsea Economic Development Program & Business Incubator at USFS Alsea Ranger Station Pursue business development projects, identify alternative uses for vacated portions of USFS Ranger Station, and attract responsible partners to utilize space and provide area jobs.
36	Develop Timberland Products Value Enhancement Project Inventory local special forest materials, conduct a market and feasibility study, and establish a processing plant to make or supply consumer ready products.
37	Explore Farm Produce Processing Plant (Quick-freeze) & Expand Fresh Market Opportunities Explore opportunities for coordinating and expanding sales outlets for locally grown produce and investigate the feasibility of a farm produce processing plant.
38	Organize Small Landowner (Agricultural) Coop & Equipment Share Organize agricultural landowners with common needs and interests and coordinate equipment share agreements and fresh market/commodity sales.
39	Create Tourism Development Program Evaluate area attractions and travel issues and promote visitor-related activities and services.
40	Designate Alsea Area Scenic Route Work with interested residents, businesses, visitor agencies, and transportation agencies to map out, sign, and promote a scenic route through the Alsea area to attract visitors/tourists.
41	Establish Food Cooperative/Membership Store Survey Alsea and Lobster Valley households and determine the interest in and operational feasibility for starting up a food cooperative/membership store.
42	Create Arts & Crafts Sales Outlet(s) Identify and help organize Alsea area artisans and craftspeople to establish and expand sales opportunities.
43	Provide Small Business Guidance Work with the Business Development Center from Linn-Benton Community College to set up management workshops and counseling on specific subjects of interest.
44	Develop Local Information Brochure /Checklist for New Businesses Develop a checklist or brochure of local services, assistance agencies and resources, and building information to aid prospective new businesses.
45	Form Alsea Business Association On a regular basis, bring together established local business owners and prospective business owners to discuss ways to help each other.
46	Support Local Small Business Expansion Recognize the efforts of local businesses striving to improve their operations; review and lend support for suitable proposals to outside agencies.
47	Forecast Area Employment & Contractor Needs Develop a method to periodically gather and disseminate future employment and sub-contractor needs in the Alsea area.

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Viable Economy & Business

Development

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Establish Alsea Economic Development Program & Business Incubator at

USFS Alsea Ranger Station

DESCRIPTION: An Alsea economic development program and business incubator will make space and business counseling available for rural business expansion, self-employment, or service agencies. Currently, there is no available office space near the Alsea town core. A business incubator would alter underutilized facility space at the USFS Alsea District Ranger Station, converting existing rooms for private, non-forest service use. The Ranger Station currently rents one of its five on-site residences to the Alsea Community Day Care, Alsea Family Resources. A formal evaluation and assessment process is needed to determine the proposed office center's feasibility (e.g., potential tenants, facility maintenance, operating responsibilities and costs), facility alterations (e.g., door locks and phone system hook-ups), and lease arrangements (e.g., lease rates, liability issues, and contracts). The incubator would offer such support services as business management counseling and workshops, a conference/meeting room, some computer equipment, a photocopier, and fax machine.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Inventory available space at USFS Ranger Station and test idea with administration to ensure appropriate short-to-long-term use of facility	Committee, USFS Ranger Station	Fall 1994
Determine feasibility and marketability of proposed Alsea incubator/office center operation — identify potential tenants, evaluate facility operating responsibilities and costs	Subcommittee, LBCC-Small Business Development Center, USFS administration, interested community members, Benton County	Spring 1995 - Spring 1996
Secure necessary funding for facility alterations, business counseling, marketing and start-up operation		Summer 1995 - Spring 1996
Identify needed facility alterations for multi-tenant use explore door locks, phone system hook-ups, joint reception area, etc.	£	Spring - Summer 1996
Study and arrange the needed lease arrangements lease rates, liability issues, and contracts]	Fall 1996
Complete assessment. Begin operation.	ii) =	

AREA: Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Viable Economy & Local Employ Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Develop Timberland Products Value Enhancement Project

DESCRIPTION: Develop a forest products processing plant that makes or supplies consumer ready items including wreaths, swags, cascara bark and yewwood bark, and the minor products such as moss, ferns, and other decorative greens. Available local trees are fir, cedar, hemlock, aider, wild cherry, chinquapin, yewwood, maple, oak, cottonwood, and cascara — also some fruit trees and walnut.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Conduct a market survey to determine which consumer products offer the best opportunities for a profitable venture, based on the kinds of wood and materials available locally	Subcommittee, Forest Service, and OSU Extension Service	
Visit other processing plants and firms like Tree Products Hardwoods, Inc. in Eugene to secure data on materials for do-it-yourself customers	Subcommittee, Forest Service, and OSU Extension Service	-3V
Contact floral centers, nurseries, and Saturday market farmers that use fems, moss and other decorative greens as well as cascara bark and yewwood bark	Subcommittee	F = 7
If the information looks favorable, determine start up costs and requirements for processing plant facility (e.g., total capacity, cooler units, storage, loading docks, delivery, sales counter, packaging, materials, staff or co-op, management)	Subcommittee, LBCC Small Business Development Center	77 3
Prepare business plan and application for funding	Subcommittee, LBCC Small Business Development Center	18
Secure processing plant facility	Subcommittee, Forest Service	

AREA: Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Viable Economy & Local Employ Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Explore Farm Produce Processing Plant (Quick Freeze) And

Expanded Fresh Market Opportunities

DESCRIPTION:

Investigate the feasibility of a food-processing plant for locally grown produce.

Pursue the matter to the construction of a plant, so long as the outlook is favorable. Explore opportunities for coordinating and expanding sales outlets of locally grown produce.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Make initial contact with County Agent for possible access to OSU research on the possibilities of quick-freeze processing and/or fresh market opportunities for produce raised in the coastal valleys	Subcommittee	As soon as project is approved
Evaluate the expanded markets and research data as to season length the various products suitable for fresh market and/or freezing. If the conclusion is positive, go to the next step.		Upon completion of evaluation
Survey landowners to determine how many would be interested in growing the listed products; if this response looks favorable, continue (landowners in Lincoln County could be included in this survey).	Subcommittee, interested agricultural landowners, OSU extension service	
Contact sales outlets for fresh markets (e.g., food cooperatives and Saturday markets in Corvallis and Newport) and coordinate collection and delivery of local produce		As soon as all pertinent information is assembled
Contact firms qualified to estimate size and cost of the quick-freeze plant necessary to process the anticipated volume of produce		As soon as all pertinent information is assembled
Determine the appropriate form of the entity to own and operate the facility prepare marketing projections		Simultaneous with above step
Prepare applications for funding, as appropriate (grants, low cost loans, an angel)		As soon as cost estimates and market projects are in
Locate site for plant; make any necessary applications for land zoning changes, and secure permits		While waiting for funding results
Schedule construction to permit processing of 1996 crop	Board of Directors	

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Distinct Viable Economy

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Organize Small Landowner Agricultural Cooperative for

Equipment Sharing & Marketing

DESCRIPTION:

Gather together landowners with agricultural interests who would like to explore opportunities for sharing equipment and pursuing new markets. Determine appropriate level of formal

or informal agreements.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Organize ad advertise meeting to landowners	II 20000 a	1 month
Discuss viable crops, equipment needs, and new market opportunities	Interested landowners	1 month
Research costs and conditions of equipment rental or coop purchase (and per person costs if group forms cooperative)	Landowners, local equipment owners, area equipment renters	1 month
Contact OSU Extension Service, market organizers, and other associations to identify new market possibilities	Landowners, agricultural resources, market organizers	2 months
Investigate legal requirements/agreements, liability issues for equipment share and market contracts	Landowners, lawyer	1 month
Work out possible logistical difficulties, timeshare of equipment	Landowners	1 month/ongoing
Schedule use of equipment	Equipment owners	ongoing
Coordinate produce/commodity collection and delivery	Landowners, new markets	seasonal
Review and refine efforts for next season	Landowners	ongoing

AREA: Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Viable Economy & Local Employ Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Create Tourism Development Program

DESCRIPTION: Located just west of Marys Peak, the highest peak in the Coast Range Mountains, the community of Alsea wants to organize and promote its scenic environment for visitors traveling from Interstate 5 to the coast — or Willamette Valley residents looking for a rewarding day-trip. Its location along Oregon Highway 34 includes site access to Marys Peak for panoramic views, botanical study, backpacking, and camping; the Alsea River for fishing, boating, and water play; the Alsea Falls Recreation Site for backpacking, picnicking, and camping, and visits to the Alsea River Trout Hatchery, Hayden Covered Bridge, and herb gardens of The Thyme Garden. Technical and financial assistance is needed to help start-up and expand tourist-related businesses, to clean and improve signs, storefronts, and public areas, and to promote the recreation area for day-use visitors.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify community members and assistance agencies interested in developing tourism program	Committee, interested community members, visitor-related agencies	
Evaluate site and travel issues, day-trip impacts on the community, and visitor trends		8
Outline existing recreational opportunities and commercial services in the area plus projected or needed improvements	× = = = =	
Outline existing promotional materials and activities and needed improvements or additions	,	
Develop tourism development plan		
Seek funding and donations to help cover costs for promotional materials, visitor-related activities, recreational or commercial improvements	à à	
Regularly inform Alsea area residents of visitor- related activities and refine development plan		

AREA: Timber Dependency & Economic Development / New Business Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Designate Alsea Area Scenic Route

DESCRIPTION: Work with interested residents, businesses, visitor agencies, and transportation departments to map out, sign, and promote a scenic route through Alsea to attract visitors/tourists.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify area residents, businesses, community organizations, and agencies interested in promoting tourism to determine procedures, timing, funding, and signage requirements	Interested individuals, 34/20 Partnership, Oregon Department of Transportation, Benton County Public Works Dept, Corvallis Convention & Visitors Bureau	10 g
Determine most appropriate route and any adverse impacts to be resolved		
Request scenic route designation, signage, and inclusion in appropriate visitor promotion materials/brochure	6 // Sa	D. []

AREA: Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Local Employment Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Establish Food Cooperative/Membership Store Market Study and Start-Up

DESCRIPTION: A food cooperative in Alsea could be a non-profit community/membership-based effort that provides new employment opportunities and an expanded selection of local produce/products, plus nutritional and specialty foods. A market study is needed to determine the extent of Alsea Valley clientele, their interests and habits in food buying, and the costs of bulk purchasing, transportation, shelving, and selling. A storefront is needed for members and other customers to purchase groceries during regular retail hours, at a location large enough to shelve or freeze products. A storefront would serve both Alsea Valley residents and pass-through visitors traveling along Highway 34.

Members of a successful food cooperative in Corvallis have offered to assist the Alsea community with providing product information and general operational guidance.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Survey Alsea Valley households to determine their interest in a food cooperative and buying habits	Committee, interested community members	
Determine operational feasibility for bulk purchasing and transportation, financial and technical management of cooperative, membership services		
Establish organization with board of directors, solicit members	Board of directors, interested community members	
Seek technical and financial assistance from other cooperatives and management professionals complete market study		
If results are favorable, inventory available space, shelving, refrigeration units and freezers, scales, and cash registers		
Test pilot cooperative purchasing on a limited number of products		
Refine operational plans, gain start-up commitments from members and suppliers		
Secure (and refurbish) storefront space, equipment implement plan		

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Local Employment Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJEÇT:

Create Arts/Crafts Sales Outlet(s)

DESCRIPTION:

Identify and help organize Alsea area arts and crafts people to establish and

expand sales locations

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify interested individuals	Newspapers, mercantile	T] II
Identify possible sale sites	Volunteers	
Schedule meetings to determine interests and commitment of artisans	Volunteers	W 111
Explore local, county, regional site possibilities: availability, costs, appropriateness, conditions	Volunteers, Corvallis Arts Center, Willamette Arts Council, county resources	
Follow-up meeting to coordinate offerings for sale and to discuss success possibilities	Volunteers	
Establish set-up costs and time schedule for getting started	Volunteers, site owners	
Establish sales policies: times, dates, etc.; and decide on evaluation of success or failure	Volunteers	

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Business Dev & Employ Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Provide Small Business Guidance

DESCRIPTION:

Work with the Small Business Development Center of Linn-Benton Community College to set up small business management workshops and counseling on specific subjects of

interest.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Advertise workshops and counseling to interested citizens	Benton Bulletin, Gazette-Times	Spring 1996
Identify information needs	Committee formed from advertising	Spring
Identify resources (people) available	LBCC, OSU, SBA	Spring
Estimate costs of consultants	Committee	Summer
Query potential source of funds	Committee	Summer
Establish feasibility of setting up a series of business workshops and counseling in Alsea	Committee	Summer
If feasible, set up workshops and counseling at school or at Forest Service building in the evenings	Committee	Summer, ongoing
Administer workshops	Committee	Fall, ongoing

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / New Business Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Develop Local Information Brochure Or Checklist For New Businesses

DESCRIPTION: Develop a checklist or brochure to aid prospective new businesses find local services, technical assistance agencies, financial and marketing resources, permitting, zoning, and ordinance information, and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) contacts.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify individuals interested in starting a business or helping a business get started in Alsea, who would be willing to document the steps they take during start-up; i.e., the agencies they had to deal with, local groups or individuals who helped them in some way, problems to watch out for, etc.	Interested individuals, existing business owners	2-01 =37 AC.4 1-1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1 1-1
Obtain Oregon Business Guide and find possible ways to supplement and localize its information for businesses starting up in the Alsea area. (Would include names of people to contact, phone numbers, suggestions of ways to proceed at each stage of progress, etc.)	Interested individuals, Oregon Business Information Center, existing business owners, Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Partnership	
Correlate and print up copies of compiled information into brochure and advertise its availability to local residents. Small charge per copy could cover some printing and distribution costs.	Interested individuals, Alsea Public Library (as distribution point)	

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Business Development

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Form Alsea Area Business Association

DESCRIPTION: Bring together established local business owners, as well as prospective business owners, to discuss ways we can help each other. Help new businesses brainstorm their ideas and offer insights from our own experiences. Discuss what direction we would like to see the economy go and if we could encourage any improvements or enhancements to the Alsea area.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Contact existing businesses to discuss interest in forming an association – post bulletins advertising business association idea	Committee, interested businesses & community members, CAC economic development committee, business assistance agencies	
Meet together to determine areas of interest and/or concern		П
Discuss possible projects (e.g., sharing business management success/not-so-successful experiences, tourism development ideas, marketing opportunities, interest in changing the building facades on Main Street to create greater interest/image of town)		
Begin meeting on a regular basis to discuss ideas and pursue appropriate projects		

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Viable Economy & Business Dev

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Support for Local Business Expansion / For Example: Improvements to

The Thyme Garden -- as a tourist destination point

DESCRIPTION: Recognize the efforts of local businesses striving to improve and expand their operations. Solicit expansion ideas and plans from area business owners. For example: 1) Establish The Thyme Garden as a tourist destination point for the Alsea area. The Thyme Garden features herb and flower gardens that are educational to the public and a (soon-to-be-completed) gift shop selling products from The Thyme Garden as well as local crafts and produce. It is envisioned that with expansion, The Thyme Garden will also be a place to hold seminars, classes, special gatherings, weddings, wine tastings, herbal dinners and festivals, etc. This local business expansion will provide job opportunities and new business opportunities through spin-offs.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Recognize and support efforts of local business expansion: for example – improvements to The Thyme Garden	Strategic Plan Committee	ongoing
Identify other local businesses who are ready to expand and would benefit from community recognition, inclusion in the strategic plan, and the expansion of The Thyme Garden		E II

AREA:

Timber Dependency & Economic Development / Mix of Full & Part Time Jobs

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Forecast Area Employment and Contractor Needs

DESCRIPTION:

Develop a program or forum which periodically gathers and disseminates future employment and sub-contractor service needs of existing and new businesses in the Alsea area.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Volunteers survey Alsea area businesses to determine how their future activities might require or be aided by the use of new employees or sub-contractor services. This employment forecast survey should include any necessary qualifications and confidentiality	Volunteers, area businesses	
Survey and compile information. Coordinate with state/county employment agencies to determine how other local or regional full or part-time employment opportunities might be satisfied by Alsea residents or businesses	Volunteers, job service, employment agencies, Community Services Consortium	i o
Disseminate information locally on jobs and service bulletin boards so as to help Alsea residents prepare to compete for any available new jobs or sub-contractor opportunities before exporting those outside the local area	Volunteers, Alsea Library, other bulletin board location(s)	11 M

Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment Project Workplans

PAGE	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS
49	Recommend Land-Use Revisions
	Recommend to local and state authorities appropriate changes or modifications to existing land-use laws and standards to fit the needs of the Alsea area community.
50	Apply for Joint Commercial/Industrial Rezoning
	Work with landowners to design land-use plans for commercial and industrial use.
51	Rebuild Abandoned or Destroyed Structures
	Assist in rehabilitating or rebuilding Alsea area housing or other structures that are no longer in use.
52	Determine Housing Rehabilitation & Construction Options
	Identify the most appropriate rehabilitation and construction options so Alsea area residents of all income levels can rent or own housing.
53	Distribute Alsea Area Recycling Information
	Assist recycling volunteers and distribute information for residents regarding proper disposal/recycling procedures and regulations.
54	Establish Annual Excellence Awards
33	Publicly recognize outstanding examples of improved buildings and grounds maintenance in Alsea area.
55	Organize Small-scale Habitat Enhancement Demonstration Projects
-	On a voluntary basis, work with landowners and public and private agencies to improve habitats in woodland, wetland, riparian, stream and river areas.

AREA:

Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Recommend Land-Use Revisions

DESCRIPTION: Increase opportunities for housing and small business in the town of Alsea and outlying areas while preserving the small community atmosphere and the environment. Recommend land use laws be changed or modified to fit the needs of the Alsea community. See that the Governor, State Legislators, LCDC and County officials are informed and understand the land use needs of our community. Work with them for changes in the regulations that will benefit our community. Work with County planners on revised zoning and plan amendments for the town of Alsea.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Educate Alsea citizens about zoning regulations and development procedures — all interested people invited to CAC meetings	Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings	ongoing
Make list of parcels in this area	CAC	February 1995
Make list of regulations affecting our area that need improvement	CAC and interested persons	Spring 1995
Study bills before Legislature to see if some are favorable for the Alsea community and should be supported and visit legislators and Governor with request for improve regulations and to tell them the needs of this community	CAC Strategic Plan Committee Interested Persons	Spring - Summer 1995, ongoing
Pull together interested individuals to develop procedures for land use plan revisions	Landowners, CAC, interested community members, Benton	Spring - Winter 1995
Discuss landowners' ideas and schedules for commercial/industrial/residential development, existing housing inventory, buildable property, street and utility plan, recreational plan, and school projections	County Development Dept - Public Works - Parks Dept - Health Dept, Alsea School District, Strategic Plan Committee	Winter 1995 - Spring 1996
Involve community members in discussing responsibly planned approach to future land/economic development in the Alsea area and proposed revisions	Committee, CAC, Landowners	
Go before Development Department with rezoning applications and requests for comprehensive plan amendments	CAC, Landowners, Committee	

AREA:

Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment / available commercial & industrial sites

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Apply For Joint Application For Commercial/Industrial Rezoning

DESCRIPTION:

Survey area landowners to identify those interested in having parcels rezoned as

Commercial or Industrial, and organize a group to work with Benton County Development Department to design area specific land use plans (e.g., an Alsea rural service center).

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Pull together interested individuals to develop survey procedures for land use plan revisions	Landowners, CAC, interested community members, Benton County Development Dept	M Si
Discuss landowners' plans and schedules for commercial/industrial uses, housing inventory, street and utility plan, recreational plan, and school projections	Landowners, CAC, Benton County Development Dept - Public Works Dept - Parks Dept - Health Dept, Alsea School District	
Involve community members in discussing responsibly planned approach to future land/economic development in the Alsea area and proposed revisions	Committee, CAC, Landowners	
Go before Development Department with rezoning applications and requests for comprehensive plan amendments.	CAC, Landowners, Committee	ш

AREA: Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment / Available Housing

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Rebuild Abandoned or Destroyed Structures

DESCRIPTION: Assist in rehabilitating or rebuild Alsea area housing that is no longer habitable.

Contact housing assistance organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Community Services

Consortium, and AmeriCorp's community revitalization program to organize and manage

rehabilitation project(s). Make more housing available by using established programs to shepherd

qualified housing projects through permitting restrictions, and possibly provide some or all funding.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Assemble interested landowners, building officials, and housing program representatives to determine feasibility	Subcommittee, interested community members, landowners, Benton County Development Dept, Community Services Consortium	
Outline objectives and necessary criteria for rehabilitation		
Evaluate current housing rehabilitation program and housing needs assessment survey		7) %=
Explore rehabilitation parameters, sponsorship, and funding for rebuilding abandoned or burned houses	34 The Control of the	
Encourage and secure sponsorship of projects	- B	::
Seek donations for materials		

AREA: Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment / Available Housing

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Determine Housing Rehabilitation and Construction Options

DESCRIPTION: Identify the most appropriate housing rehabilitation and construction options for the Alsea area to help determine how residents/citizens of all income levels can rent or own housing. Work with land-use policy-makers/planners, for-profit and non-profit developers, and funding agencies to act on specific rehabilitation and/or construction projects appropriate for the Alsea area.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Review available information to outline housing needs and recommendations — including the 1994 income study, 1995 rural housing needs assessment, 1995 housing rehab process and (future) results, 1994 community questionnaire, 1994-95 CAC information, and other feedback from residents	Housing subcommittee of Strategic Plan Committee	
Identify and involve appropriate parties to discuss purpose and feasibility of housing rehabilitation and/or construction options for the Alsea area	Housing subcommittee, Alsea Rural Health Care/Family Services Coordinator, CAC, interested citizens, property owners, Benton County Dev Dept, Community Serv Consortium	
Explore options for upgrading current housing and potential construction identify and resolve barriers	a a - 10	500 Lines 1
Determine most appropriate recommendations to act on	Housing subcommittee, Strategic Plan Committee, CAC, interested citizens	8 5 2 a l
Gain interest of potential renters/buyers, property owners, volunteers, suppliers of construction materials, and potential funding sources		
Act on specific housing rehabilitation and/or construction projects appropriate for the Alsea area		

AREA:

Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment / preserving environmental quality

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Distribute Alsea Area Recycling Center Information

DESCRIPTION: Develop a concise information source on local recycling and disposal facilities, procedures, regulations, and contact agencies for use by residents who are concerned with environmental quality but unfamiliar with their options to participate. Assist recycling center volunteers by encouraging ongoing education and proper recycling practices of users.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify individuals presently involved with or interested in recycling matters locally	Recycling Center volunteers, interested community members,	
Meet and discuss range of problems and concerns with the present system and facilities (e.g., some community members depositing un-recyclable materials, sorting incorrectly)	appropriate agencies	=
Coordinate with DEQ, Coffin Butte Landfill, Benton County Environmental Health, etc., to obtain current regulations, guidelines, and accepted procedures for compilation and adaptation to local conditions and situations	9 · 1	٥
Print up and disseminate information pamphlet or brochure to local distribution points, i.e., Recycling Center, Mercantile bulletin board, Library, etc.		
Inform community members on a regular basis of updated recycling guidelines and operational/management issues		

AREA:

Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment / Well-Maintained Alsea Area

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Establish Annual Excellence Awards

DESCRIPTION: Establish an awards committee to judge Alsea businesses and residences in several categories and make annual awards to publicly recognize outstanding examples of appearance and maintenance of buildings and grounds in the local area.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify groups and individuals now concerned with maintaining appearances or community image around Alsea area, and discuss ways to encourage improved appearance (e.g., on residential and commercial property)	possible participants include: Alsea Garden Club, church groups, Hope Grange, 4-H Club, interested community members	7870 <u> </u>
Determine process, categories, timing, judges, and awards for Alsea area Annual Excellence Award program		JVE TREET TO
Establish and publicize judging date and categories of awards		- u
Group of judges gather and drive around area on given day to determine winners	200 m	(0) = = (0)(0) (1)(1)
Present winners with awards at community event and announce winners in the newspaper, on bulletin board, etc.	. Se	577

AREA: Land-Use Policies, Housing & the Environment / Well-Managed Fish and Wildlife Habitats

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Organize Small-Scale Habitat Enhancement Demonstration Projects

DESCRIPTION: Interested groups or individuals (possibly in conjunction with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, and timber companies) work on a limited scale to improve habitats on private woodlands, wetlands, riparian areas or the streams and rivers themselves, in an effort to demonstrate habitat enhancement benefits to other landowners in the community and their compatibility with traditional land uses and values.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify groups and individuals involved with or interested in habitat enhancement	Volunteer landowners, ODF&W, ODF, timber companies, hunting, fishing, hiking groups	
Develop list of practical projects after consultation among interested parties, trying to determine project parameters	e/f	
Review list of projects with pertinent agencies to ensure compliance with applicable regulations and accepted procedures, and possibly identify funding sources, technical advise, equipment, etc.	fë.	\$3
Select appropriate pilot demonstration projects (different plans proceed at different speeds over different periods of time, possibly even multi-year duration).		П
Keep community aware of progress and impacts of enhancement projects through community information sources		

Families, Children & Youth Project Workplans

PAGE	RECOMMENDED COMMUNITY PROJECTS:
57	Expand Childhood Care and Education Program
	Identify family needs for childhood care and education and collaborate with group providers to implement improved programs.
58	Develop Curriculum for Adult Students
	Determine areas of interest where alternative adult education programs could be offered within the Alsea community and pursue outside funding to support or supplement costs.
59	Establish an Alsea Youth Activities Club
	Coordinate, organize, and promote year-round youth activities for preschoolers, grade-school children, teenagers, and their families through an Alsea Youth Activities Club.
60	Design and Construct Alsea Bike Path
	Work with county and state transportation departments to develop and maintain paved paths for bicycle commuting that include Alsea schools and area parks.
61	Encourage Facility/Site Improvements At Area Parks
	Survey community interests for expanding recreational facilities at area parks and encourage site improvements.
62	Encourage Cross-County Drug Enforcement and Substance Abuse Education
3	Increase awareness of substance abuse services and encourage a cooperative effort to reduce the distribution and use of illegal drugs.

AREA:

Families, Children & Youth / Commitment To Quality Education, Social Values/Concerns

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Expand Childhood Care and Education Program

DESCRIPTION: Identify the various ways preschool and after-school children are cared for in the Alsea area. Determine if there are any needs for care or education that are currently not being met (or that could be improved). Assess any social, education and human service needs; determine program expansion(s) or program creation to address those needs; collaborate with group providers; create funding strategies for implementation of programs.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Determine full range of child care needs, including before and after school care of 5-12 year olds - survey of families with 0-12 year olds	Alsea area households, Alsea Family Resources, Alsea Schools, Alsea Library, Council of Govts - demographic info.	
Research preschool population and needs for "drop-in" preschool, parent cooperative preschool, outreach services, and identify those eligible for Head Start	LBCC, Alsea Schools, Alsea Family Resources, interested community members	
Research and plan consolidated childhood care and education program	LBCC, Alsea Schools, Alsea Family Resources, interested community members	
Research and plan facility needs of childhood care and education program	LBCC, Alsea Schools, Alsea Family Resources, interested community members	

AREA:

Families, Children & Youth / Commitment to Quality Education

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Develop Curriculum for non K-12 Students in the Alsea Area

DESCRIPTION:

Curriculum development for K-12 students is an on-going task for Alsea Schools. This project would target needs of non K-12 students. At times, these needs could be met within existing programs At other times, alternative programs and funding may be necessary.

PROJECT STEPS	GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify group of people interested	Interested community members, educators	Spring 1995
Group meets with Alsea School Board to identify current possibilities, discuss direction, and plan objectives	Identified group School Board	Winter 1995
Group develops brochure detailing what is possible. Informs citizens and surveys wants / needs of community		188 ° a 20 4
Determine priority needs, needs able to be met within existing school functions and budgets, and explore funding for those projects outside of existing school function and budget	School Board Site Committee	Winter 1995 - Winter 1996
Apply for grants as needed; plan curriculum and schedule educational programs	Identified group	Spring - Summer 1996
Provide educational programs	Chosen staff Identified group	Summer 1996- Spring 1997
Evaluate program regarding meeting objectives and ongoing need. Repeat and refine programming	Identified group School Board Site Committee Others	Ongoing

AREA: Families, Children & Youth / Social Values & Concerns, Youth Activities

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Establish

Establish an Alsea Youth Activities Club

DESCRIPTION: Establish an Alsea Youth Activities Club to help coordinate, organize, and promote year-round youth activities for preschoolers, grade-school children, and teenagers and their families. involve the Alsea Schools, Alsea community groups, Alsea area churches, and other youth groups to identify and expand existing efforts and new opportunities.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Identify representatives of youth-related groups and invite them to an exploratory meeting	Interested community members, Committee	1 month
Discuss the purpose and feasibility of an Alsea Youth Activities Club, outline expectations, and secure commitment/interest of groups to be involved	Alsea Schools, Alsea Student Council, community groups & other youth groups (e.g., 4-H), interested community members	2 months
Establish an Alsea Youth Activities Club (AYAC) and club officers (if appropriate)	Interested group/ community members	3-6 months
Outline existing Alsea youth activities & identify new opportunities	Youth activities subcom, AYAC members	1 month/ongoing
Promote existing activities to all Alsea Valley youth & families	AYAC members	ongoing
Organize & promote 2 new activities for each age group per year	AYAC members	ongoing
Determine appropriate funding options for ongoing club efforts and specific youth activities such as club membership fees, event fees, donations, and grants (e.g., Benton County Foundation and Benton County Commission on Children & Families)	AYAC finance group/treasurer	ongoing
Explore existing Alsea Valley facilities for meetings and events; determine need and feasibility for an actual youth center	Youth activities subcom, AYAC members, AYAC finance group/treasurer	6 months

AREA:

Families, Children & Youth / Safe Streets and Neighborhoods, Recreational Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT:

Develop an Alsea Bicycle Path

DESCRIPTION:

Provide a wider shoulder on Highway 34 or a separate paved path, or a combination of both, for bicycle traffic commuting to and from Alsea along town core -- to Clemens Park, to Mill Creek, and out Alsea -Deadwood Highway 201.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Notify ODOT & Benton County Public Works of the interest and need for the Alsea community	Committee, interested community members, Alsea Schools	
Define the extent, design of the paths	Oregon Dept of Transportation (ODOT), Benton County Public Works	
Encourage agencies to make improvements, support (grant) proposals for funding	Committee	E Win W S
Assist agencies, as needed, in maintaining paths		

AREA: Families, Children & Youth / Recreational Opportunities

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Encourage Facility/Site Improvements At Area Parks

DESCRIPTION: Determine community interests for expanding recreational facilities at area parks and encourage site improvements.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Survey community interests for expanding recreational facilities at area parks (e.g., covered picnic shelters, additional sports fields, open seasons at area campgrounds)	Subcommittee	# # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # # #
Discuss findings with recreational agencies (e.g., Benton County Parks, USFS, BLM)	Subcommittee, Benton County Parks, USFS, BLM	
Encourage appropriate site improvements and maintenance	Subcommittee	

AREA: Families, Children & Youth / Safe Streets & Neighborhoods

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Encourage Cross-County Drug Enforcement and Substance Abuse Education

DESCRIPTION: Encourage a cooperative effort to reduce the distribution and use of illegal drugs; detect and eradicate areas of marijuana growth; and increase awareness of substance abuse prevention and reduction services.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Request law enforcement, health, counseling service agency assistance to assess conditions of substance abuse in Alsea/Lobster Valley area	County agencies, Safe Neighborhoods subcommittee of the Strategic Plan Committee, Community Watch Program, land owners, and interested residents	
Determine the amount of illegal marijuana growth in forest lands and other issues important to land owners and forest area users	Safe Neighborhoods subcommittee, Community Watch Program, land owners, and interested residents	
Work with law enforcement agencies in Benton and Lane counties to outline appropriate actions and response	Safe Neighborhoods subcommittee, landowners, State Police, Benton County Sheriff's Office, and Lane County Sheriff's Office	
Work with the Alsea schools to determine appropriate ways to inform children and youth about substance abuse prevention	Safe Neighborhoods subcommittee and Alsea schools	

AREA: Local Representation / Community Voice & Action

SPECIFIC PROJECT: Establish a Community Organization to implement Plan

DESCRIPTION: Establish a non-profit organization to preserve or improve our community that represents area residents and groups, encourages awareness of and participation in resolving issues, and completes workplans.

PROJECT STEPS	COMMITTEE MEMBERS/ GROUPS INVOLVED	APPROXIMATE TIMELINE
Review available bylaws and articles of incorporation information — determine appropriate non-profit status, membership or non-membership organization	Committee	Fall - Winter 1995
- draft bylaws and articles of incorporation inform community of opportunity to review draft bylaws, serve on committee/board of directors, and	Committee & community	Fall - Winter 1995
become members Hold organizational meeting, elect officers, schedule and begin regular meetings	Committee & community	Winter 1995
File for organization's incorporation with Department of Revenue and Secretary of State	Committee	Winter 1995
Actively pursue workplans with subcommittee members, update and monitor plan's progress	Committee & community	Winter 1995, ongoing

Alsea Area Community Statistics

Alsea School District 7J General Characteristics from 1990 Census

POPULATION

	Alsea 7J	Benton County	Oregon
Total Persons	1,192	70,811	2,842,321
Male	673	35,818	1,396,905
Female	519	34,993	1,445,416
Total Children (age 3-19 years not high school graduates)	358		631,693
Male	214		326,221
Female	144		305,472
Rural - Farm Status	232	1,852	68,729
Rural - Nonfarm Status	960	18,725	770,593
Educational Attainment for Persons 20 Years & Over			9
12th Grade or Less, No Diploma	119	4,283	376,142
High School Graduate	291	7,246	591,428
Some College, No Bachelor Degree	218	12,066	676,013
Bachelor Degree or Higher Degree	110	16,598	397,527
Number of Families	306		757,986
Number of Households	393	26,126	1,105,362

HOUSEHOLDS/HOUSING UNITS

Total Housing Units	440	27,024	1,193,567
Vacant Housing Units	62	898	90,254
Occupied Housing Units	378	26,126	1,103,313
Owner Occupied	277	14,392	695,957
Renter Occupied	101	11,734	407,356
Rural - Farm Units	66		24,679
Rural - Nonfarm Units	312		283,279
Median Housing Value	\$ 51,905	\$ 72,900	\$ 66,789
Median Gross Rent	\$ 310	\$ 387	\$ 408

ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

	Alsea 7J	Benton County	Oregon
Total Persons	1,192	70,811	2,842,321
Median Household Income	\$ 24,063	\$ 27,295	\$ 27,250
Per capita income in 1989	\$ 10,696	\$ 12,994	\$ 13,418
Persons 16 Years & Over In Labor Force	505	35,019	1,410,695
Civilian Employed	485	32,984	1,319,960
Civilian Unemployed	20	1,826	87,183
Percent in Poverty	17.28		12.13
Poverty Status and Public Assistance Income in 1989		5	
Persons with Assistance	24		66,998
With Income Above Poverty Level	986		2,431,040
With Income Below Poverty Level	206		344,867

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Total Children	358	631,693
Total Children Enrolled	328	515,198
Percent Public Enrolled	86.59	89.88
Percent Private Enrolled	13.41	10.12
Percent Ages 3-5 At-Risk	13.33	8.84
Percent Ages 6-19 At-Risk	2.12	2.45

Strategic Plan Committee Roster

Alsea Grange	Vi Bedell
Alsea Family Resources	Ann Clark
Alsea Rural Fire Protection District	Doug Colgan
US Forest Service	Karlene Colgan (resigned)
Alsea Schools	Dale Cox
CAC Econ Development Committee	Rolfe Hagen
Small Business	Russ Kaufman, Janet Hagen
Alsea Town Residents	Mike Koetz, Ann Webb
Alsea Health Care	Mary Ann Carr, Jeni Lanning
Area Churches	LeRoy Russell, Willie Wilson
Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)	Mimi Stout, Cecil Cathcart
Alsea Library	Mary Rounds
At-Large Residents	Craig Bruneau, Dave Gammon,
	Dale Hulse, Carolynn Avery,
	Fred Hendrix, Harry Hendrix
* =	Jackie Nichols, D'Ette Hendrix
	- N
Facilitator	Sheryl Bennett, Bennett & Bennett Associates
	(on contract with Benton County)

Plan Development Process

	€	status	plan period
ES	TABLISH AGREEMENT / SITUATION ANALYSIS	Ä	
•	identify key people and assemble the appropriate community team to guide the plan's development	1	May 1994
•	collect and analyze facts, figures, and existing services (household income study, service identification, community profile, guest speakers)	1	May 1994 to June 1995
•	research incorporation process/costs/impacts and present information to community members	= 1	June 1994 to July 1995
CO	MMUNITY ASSESSMENT		
•	develop, distribute, compile, and analyze a citizen opinion survey/community questionnaire	1	May to September 1994
•	identify areas to keep the same, areas to improve advantages & disadvantages of change	1	November to December 1994
•	rank problems/opportunities according to importance, timeliness, ability to act (re: NWEAI project notification opportunity)	1	September to November 1994
•	hold a town meeting to discuss questionnaire results & talk with community members informally (ongoing)	1	July 1994 to April 1995 ongoing
•	analyze available federal, state, and local resources to provide appropriate assistance (ongoing)	1	NWEAI (Nov 1994 / Oct 1995)
•	develop a community vision statement	1	October 1994 / Aug- Sept 1995
PR	IORITY SETTING		
•	identify and describe actions to act on problem/opportunities advantages & disadvantages for inclusion in community plan	1	December 1994 to February 1995
•	rank projects / identify short-list and long-list priorities & determine ability to act	1	February 1995 to June 1995
•	gain implementation commitments and subcommittee volunteers	1	March 1995 to June 1995
•	plan and hold a town meeting to discuss proposed community projects / gain additional volunteers	1	March 1995 to June 1995
•	determine future role (and authority) of strategic plan committee	1	April 1995 to Novembe 1995
•	complete plan document and distribute	4	October 1995 to November 1995
AC	CTION, EVALUATION & UPDATES		
٠	act on projects, review and report progress to strategic plan committee	•	May 1995 to present
•	evaluate and update workplans and strategic plan		

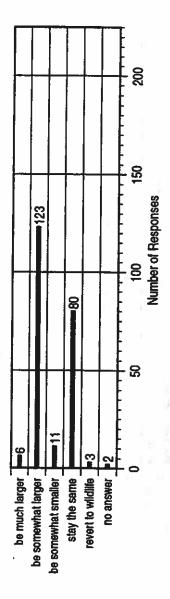
Community Questionnaire Results

COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE — ALSEA STRATEGIC PLAN JUNE/JULY 1994 — 226 respondents 44% return

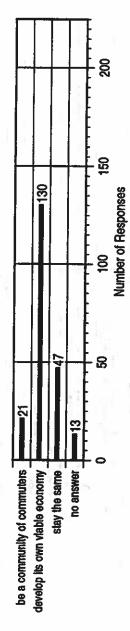
In your opinion which of the following is most important to the quality of life in Alsea?

											262							200														500	!
																																051	
]76		62	-35	38		64	1	<u>+</u>	15	49	41	31	36	13	13	24	30	-24	14	-22	19		L =	6	23		6	-32	77	- 57		50 100	M
accessible health care	community committed to quality education	safe neighborhoods	accountable/honest government leaders	family oriented community	shore amorphisms and family wans jobs	Dalsus films of post o	gine in the property of the pr	INBITICIBLITY DAIRLICED COUNTY/STATES TOTAL BOY STRINGS IN	positive and distinct community identity	commitment to environmental quality	appropriately balanced/managed rural land use	community based upon traditional values	community with natural beauty	access to local college or university programs	accessible day care for aged/sick adults	active involved citizens	areas protected for wildlife	healthy business environment	accessible day care for children	balanced commercial, residential community	safe streets and highways	respect for community history		active central business area	commercial, Industrial development	diversity of worship opportunities	nice restaurants and entertainment opportunities	community facilities that meet the area's needs	less dovernment interference	new timber harvest bolicles	NA =2	Ĺσ	>

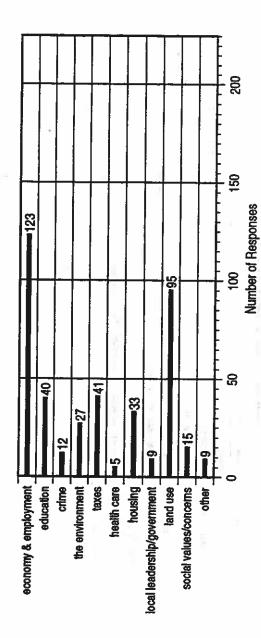
In the future would you like the population of the Alsea area to:



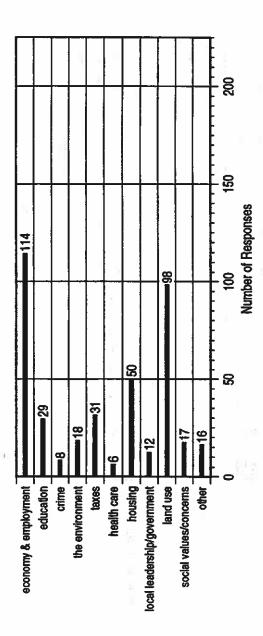
In the future would you like to see the Alsea area:



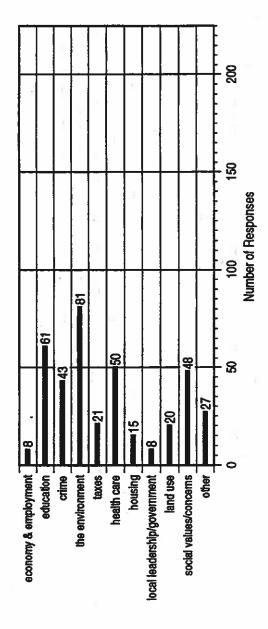
What do you think will be the most important issue facing Alsea over the next 10 years?



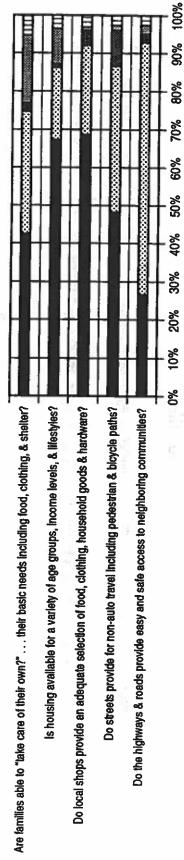
If you could fix or change anything about Alsea what would it be?



If you could keep anything about Alsea the same what would it be?



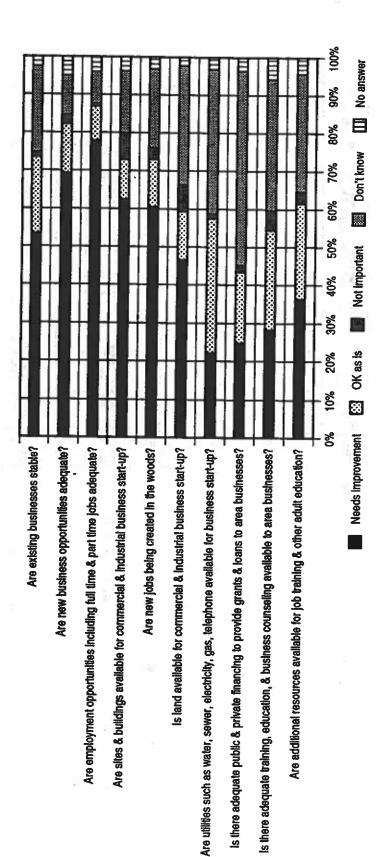
Basic Needs



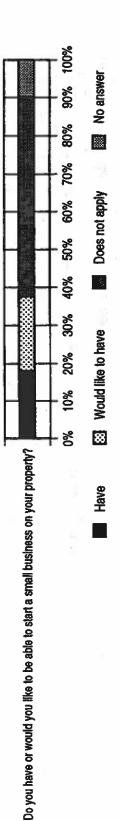
Business & Job Opportunities (part 1)

Mot important 🔤 Don't know 🖽 No answer

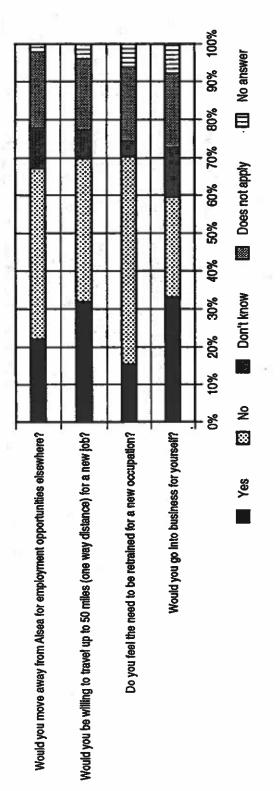
Needs improvement (SE) OK as is



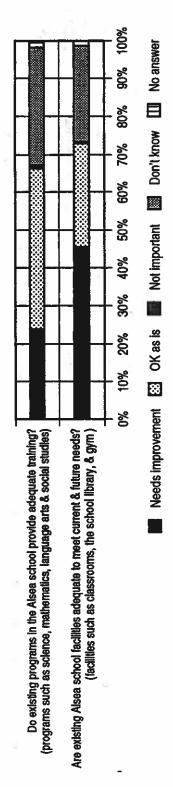
Business & Job Opportunities (part 2)



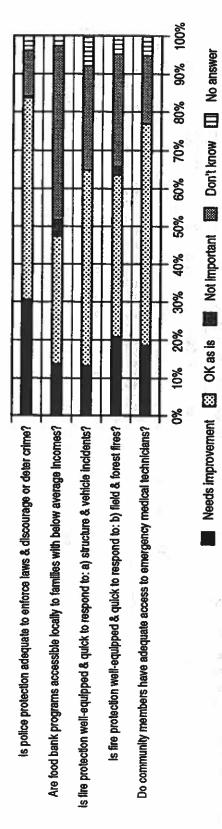
Business & Job Opportunities (part 3)



Education

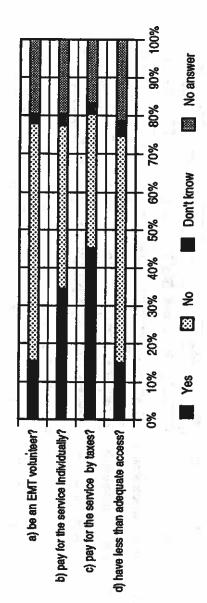


Emergency Services (part 1)

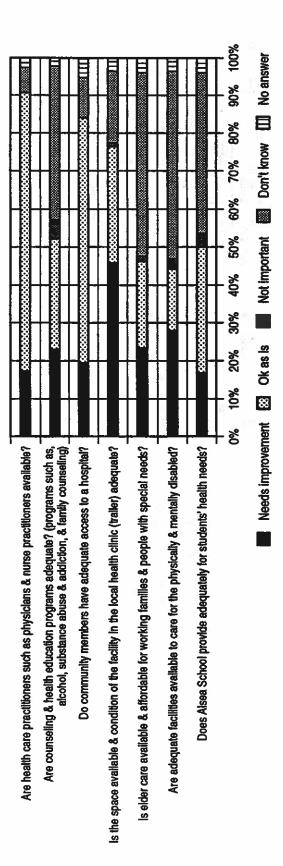


Emergency Services (part 2)

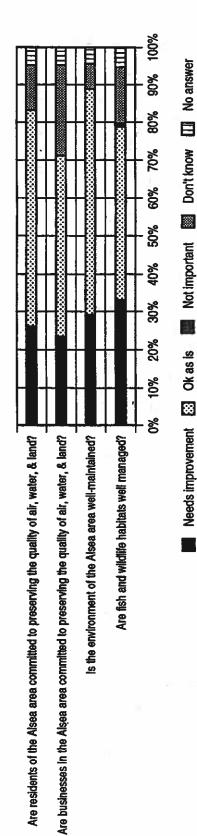
The number of available EMTs is declining. Would you be willing to:



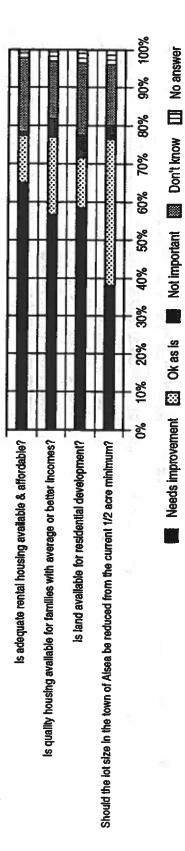
Health Care



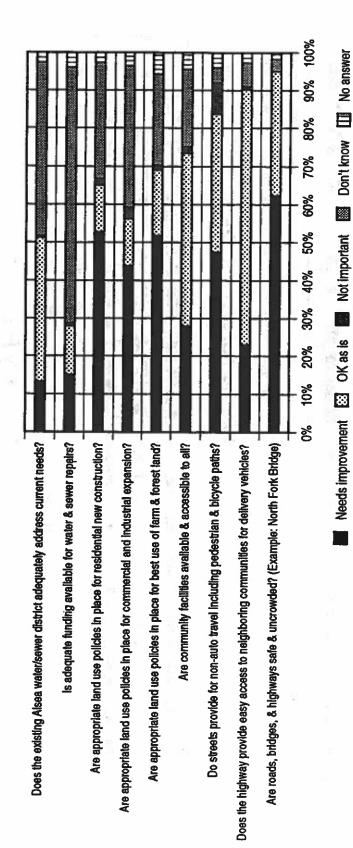
Environment



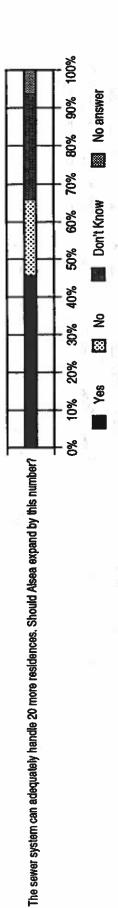
Housing



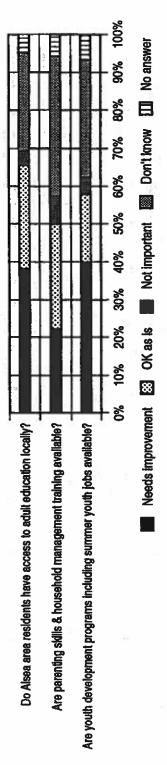
Infrastructure (part 1)



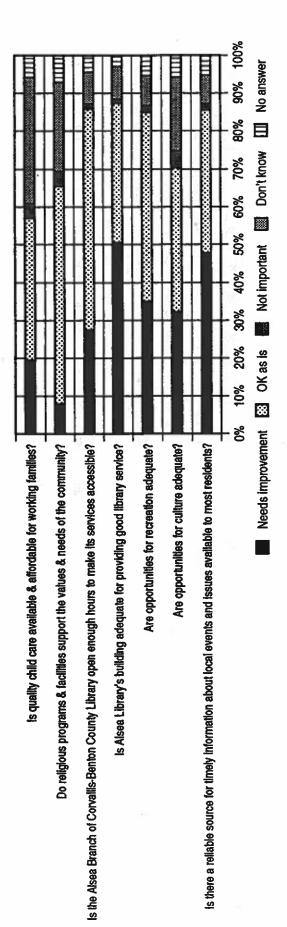
Infrastructure (part 2)



Personal Development/Continuing Education

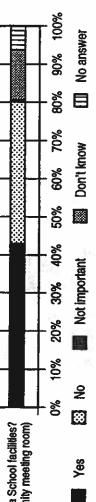


Community Resources (part 1)

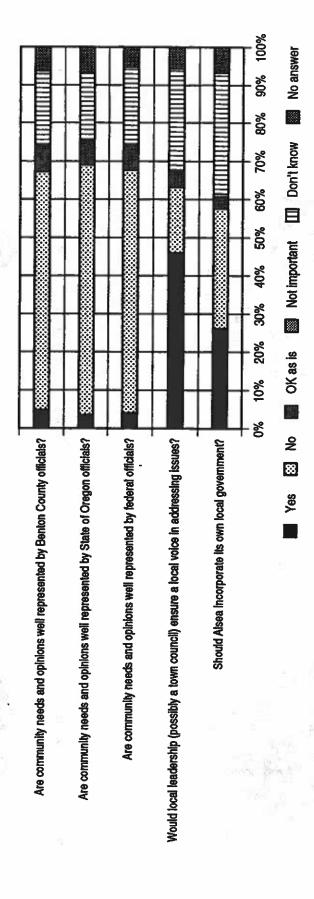


Community Resources (part 2)

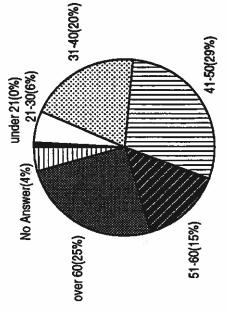
Is it appropriate for services usually provided in another location to be included in Alsea School facilities? (such as: public library, health services, preschool, community meeting room)



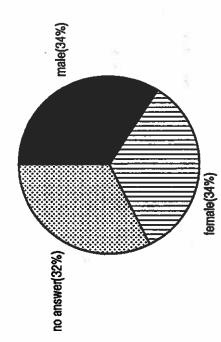
Local Leadership



What is your age?



What is your gender?

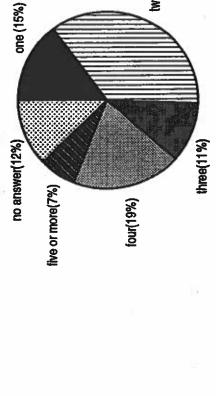


How many family members are living at home, including yourself?

Do you own or rent your home?

no answer(6%)

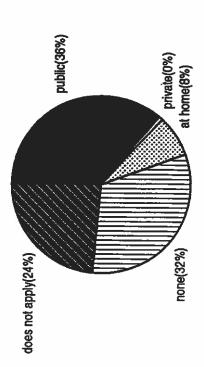
rent(15%)



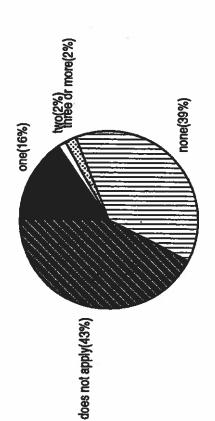
two(36%)

own(80%)

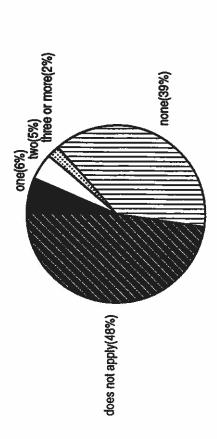
How many of your children are enrolled in school (grades K - 12)?



How many of your children are enrolled in college?



Of your adult children, how many now work & live in Alsea?



What is your level of education?

