



# The Disappearing Western Landscape

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The Anchor Ranch  
Ervin's Grassfed Beef  
Gila Watershed Partnership  
Coronado RC&D

It took us a while to figure out what's happening with ranch economics.



The share of the consumer's dollar that the producer keeps.

\$0.40



1910

\$0.07



1997

Environmental pressures  
are rising.



Threatened and endangered species are creating new challenges.



Reintroduced species have added even more challenges.



Political pressures are rising.



There is increased pressure from special interest groups.



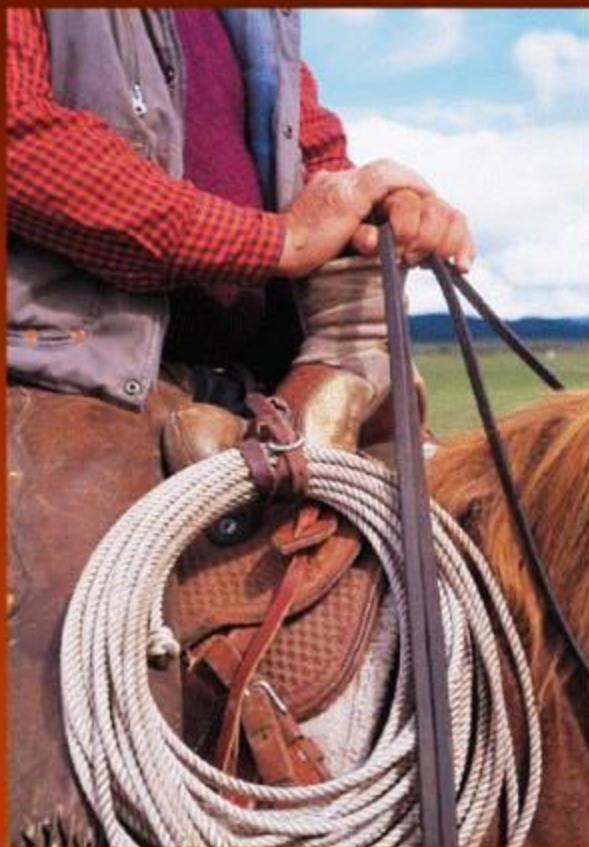
And, Mother Nature always has a few surprises such as the drought.



Ranchers are finding it increasingly hard to stay on the land.



It's not just the loss of a job.



Most ranchers would have to  
relocate to find work.



We will lose our generational connection to the land.



Our struggling communities will become increasingly impoverished, and the gap between the urban rich and the rural poor will become even greater.



We will lose our  
“Western Way of Life”



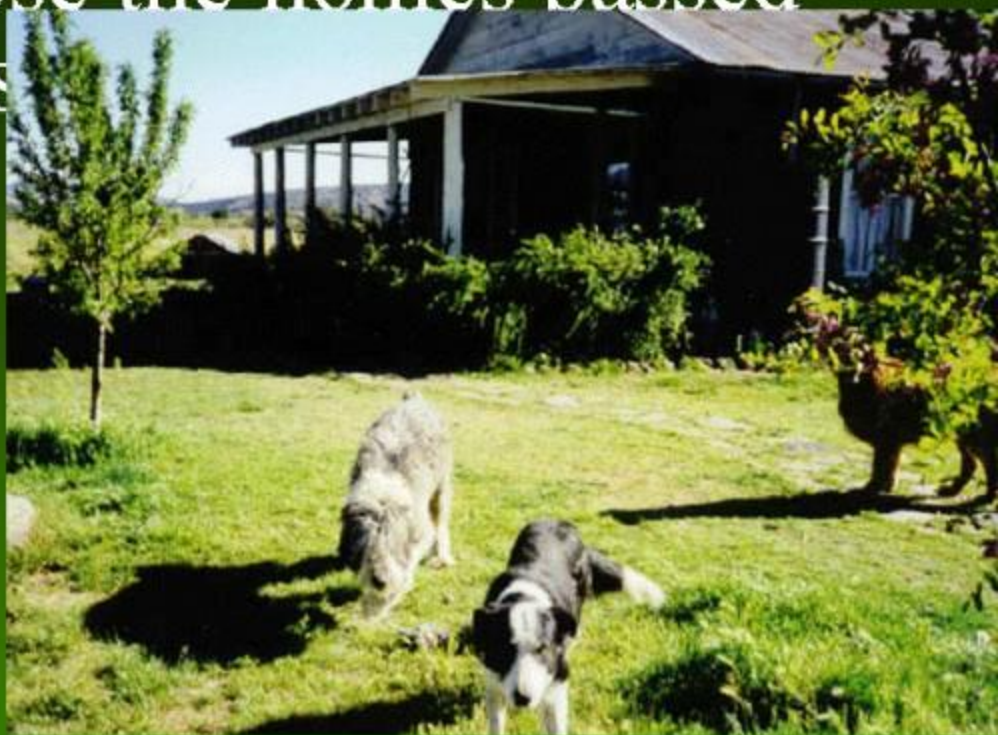
Our open landscapes will become fragmented as ranches are sold as vacation properties.



There will be less locally produced foods and more factory farms.



We will lose the homes passed  
down to us



There will be a loss of history  
and heritage.



IS THERE ANY HOPE?



We are going to have to adapt to  
a changed world.



We will have to address the social,  
economic, and environmental  
aspects of these changes together.



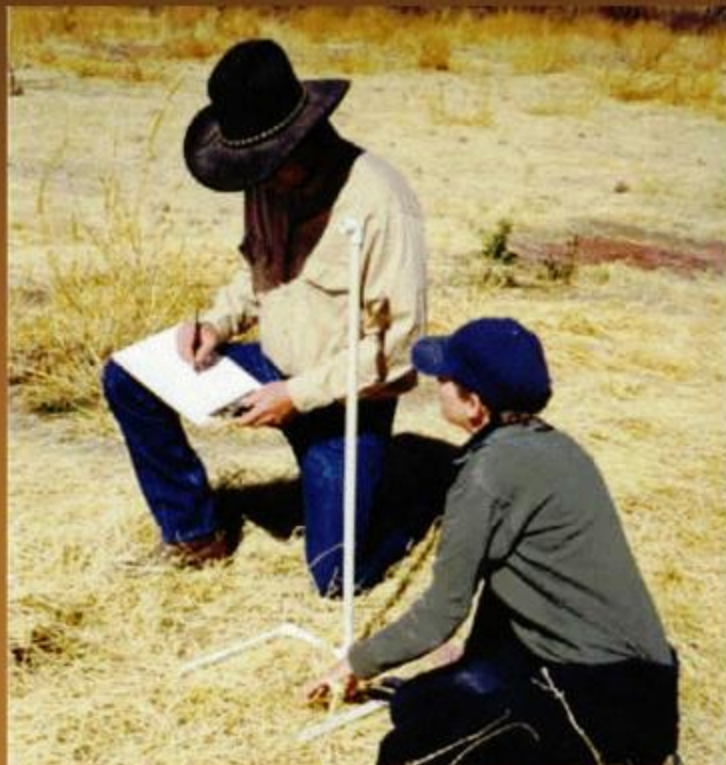
We will have to develop new strategies to stay on the land.





We will have to become even  
better land stewards.

We will have to monitor our progress.



It is possible  
to live with  
environmental  
changes, and  
use them as a  
source of  
income.



We will have to diversify to insure profitability in economic, social, and political downturns.



We will have to invent methods for maximizing the income of our existing operations.



*“There will, in time, be more and more citizens who understand that relics of the old West add meaning and value to the new.”*

*- Aldo Leopold*

