Mobile Ranch Butchering, Inc. started in 1988 to serve a need in our community. In 2009, we started the process with the help of Rep. David B. Smith, then a Curry County Commissioner to investigate the need to provide the south coast with a USDA Meat Inspected facility. Curry County received a grant for \$50,000 to a commission a study on the need of the local ranchers and farmers of Coos and Curry Counties to have a USDA facility less than 3hrs away from their farms. The response from the potential customers was overwhelming. The possibility to be able to sale their products in the state and surrounding area and being able to keep their animals under their care until it was harvested was essential to the quality of their product. This facility would have provided more local employment and skilled labor for our community.

Unfortunately, when we finally made it to the funding of the proposed project at 1.5 million the USDA and ODA did not have the funding available. The project died a slow death because we could not continue with the funding on our own.

Then, the idea of resurrecting the state inspection would help fill that need with the local farmers and ranchers and provide the organic producers a local processor, so their products do not have to leave the state for processing. Unfortunately, we then return to the overwhelming costs to the small processing plants. To upgrade our processing facilities to meet the standards are still very expensive. There is a great need for the Department of Ag to help the small processors to be able to meet the standards, that will be required to meet the State Inspection Standards. We know there are other small family oriented meat processors, because there is no doubt that we are all small family businesses that would like the opportunity to expand and help there communities and keep some of the profits at home but, they need a helping hand to fulfill the dream of their community, small farmers, ranchers and for themselves and their families becoming more self sufficient and a major hub of their communities. I just want to say that we are not looking for handouts, just a hand up. We are all hardworking people and will continue to be but we would like to build a lasting heritage for years to come.

Thank You for this opportunity,

The Bussmann Family of Mobile Ranch Butchering, Inc.