

Policy 1: Seasonal facilities should provide opportunities for alternative uses in the off-season.

Action 1.1: Promote the use of alpine and nordic ski facilities for summer mountain bike use.

Action 1.2: Increase public awareness of seasonal recreation opportunities through promotional programs.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

GOAL

To identify, preserve, restore, and interpret cultural resources⁹ in Mono County.

OBJECTIVE A

Provide a comprehensive approach to cultural resource management.

Policy 1: Establish a Cultural Resource Management Program.

Action 1.1: Develop a Cultural Resource Management Ordinance that includes criteria, standards, and guidelines for identifying, preserving, and protecting the County's cultural resources.

Action 1.2: Establish a Cultural Resource Management Commission ("the Commission") to administer the Cultural Resource Management Program, to identify cultural resources, to apply for cultural resource grants, to act as a liaison with federal, state, and local agencies involved in cultural resource management, and to review development proposals affecting significant cultural resources.

Policy 2: Obtain funding to implement the Cultural Resource Management Program.

Action 2.1: Apply to the State Office of Historic Preservation for Certified Local Ordinance Status and Certified Local Government status.

Action 2.2: Consult with federal, state, and non-profit groups concerning the availability of grants and funding for cultural resources preservation and management. ***Seek funding from available sources.***

Policy 3: Encourage private preservation and conservation efforts.

⁹***In Mono County, cultural resources include buildings, sites, structures, objects and districts of interest to Mono County, the region, California and the nation. The term "cultural resources" includes both archaeological and historical resources.***

MONO COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

Action 3.1: Contact owners of privately owned cultural resource sites to discuss long term plans for the sites and the possibility of obtaining grants or loans for restoration.

Action 3.2: Encourage productive and economically attractive uses of historic properties and structures.

Action 3.3: Provide technical assistance to private owners of cultural resource properties wishing to preserve, protect, or restore their properties.

Policy 4: Encourage a coordinated and cooperative approach to cultural resource management.

Action 4.1: Work with appropriate federal, state, and local agencies in the development and implementation of the Cultural Resource Management Program.

Action 4.2: Develop procedures for consulting with local Native American groups and with the California Native American Heritage Commission to ensure that federal and state requirements concerning the preservation and protection of Native American remains are met.

Action 4.3: Adopt provisions in the Cultural Resource Management Ordinance to ensure that traditional Native American religious and cultural practices are protected.

OBJECTIVE B

Identify and inventory cultural resources in Mono County.

Policy 1: Work with private land owners to conduct a comprehensive inventory of cultural resources on private lands.

Action 1.1: Work with federal, state, and local agencies to analyze current data on cultural resources in the County, to develop a work program for a cultural resources inventory on private lands in the County, and to coordinate with inventory data on public lands.

Action 1.2: Investigate cooperative approaches to conducting a cultural resources inventory.

Action 1.3: Seek public involvement in the inventory process.

Action 1.4: Seek funding and establish procedures for an ongoing update of the inventory.

OBJECTIVE C

Preserve, protect, and restore (where appropriate) the cultural resources of Mono County.

Policy 1: Future development projects shall avoid potential significant impacts to cultural resources or mitigate impacts to a level of non-significance, unless a statement of overriding considerations is made through the EIR process.

Action 1.1: Future development projects with the potential to significantly impact cultural resources shall provide an analysis of the potential impact(s) prior to project approval. Examples of potential significant impacts include:

- 1) disrupting or adversely affecting a prehistoric or historic archaeological site or a property of historic or cultural significance to a community or ethnic or social group, or a paleontological site except as a part of a scientific study; and/or
- 2) conflicting with established recreational, educational, religious or scientific uses of the area.

The analysis shall:

- a) be funded by the applicant;
- b) be prepared by a qualified person under the direction of Mono County;
- c) assess the cultural resources in the general project vicinity;
- d) describe the impacts of the proposed development upon cultural resources within the project site and on surrounding areas; and
- e) recommend project alternatives or measures to avoid or mitigate impacts to cultural resources.

Mitigation measures shall be included in the project plans and specifications and shall be made a condition of approval for the project.

Action 1.2: Develop criteria in cooperation with other federal, state, and local agencies, to determine which cultural resources are significant.

Action 1.3: Develop procedures in the Cultural Resource Management Ordinance for the preservation and protection of significant resources, including guidelines for the use of mitigation measures to address the impacts of development on cultural resources.

Action 1.4: Prioritize sites to be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places and/or as California Historic Landmarks or Points of Historical Interest, as well as routes to be nominated for National Trails designation or the California Trails System.

Action 1.5: Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors concerning the local designation of cultural landmarks and districts.

Policy 2: Explore all available measures, including the purchase of easements, dedication to the County, tax relief, the purchase of development rights, the formation of a local land trust, and the consideration of reasonable project alternatives in order to avoid development on or adjacent to culturally sensitive sites.

Policy 3: Establish buffer zones around significant cultural resource sites to protect the integrity of the resource, as well as the integrity of the setting.

Action 3.1: Work with the State Department of Parks and Recreation to address compatible land uses adjacent to State Historic Park properties.

Action 3.2: Encourage the State to purchase properties adjacent to State Historic Park properties in order to prevent impacts from future adjoining incompatible uses.

Action 3.3: Support the acquisition of areas with cultural resource values by federal or state land management agencies or land conservation organizations.

Action 3.4: Protect existing open space and/or designate or acquire open space around identified cultural properties to provide buffer space and to protect historic settings.

Action 3.5: Encourage other federal, state, and local agencies, as well as private individuals and organizations, to provide buffer zones around cultural properties.

Policy 4: Restore and maintain significant cultural resource sites.

Action 4.1: Adopt policies and standards in the Cultural Resource Management Ordinance for the maintenance and restoration of significant cultural resources.

Action 4.2: Establish a fund for the purchase, maintenance, and restoration of significant cultural resources.

Action 4.3: Study the potential of amending the Zoning and Development Code to establish a cultural resource overlay zoning designation and/or local cultural resource or historic districts.

Policy 5: Implement incentives to encourage private preservation and conservation efforts.

Action 5.1: Develop tax incentives for the preservation or faithful restoration of properties with identified cultural resource value.

Action 5.2: Adopt the State Historic Building Code, in lieu of the Uniform Building Code, for significant historic structures.

Action 5.3: Establish requirements in the Cultural Resource Management Ordinance for compatible alterations and additions to historic structures.

Action 5.4: Allow minor variations from zoning requirements (e.g. setbacks, parking standards) to maintain the historic quality of cultural properties.

OBJECTIVE D

Interpret and make accessible to the public cultural resources in Mono County where feasible and appropriate.

Policy 1: Develop cooperative interpretation and education programs on cultural resources in Mono County.

Action 1.1: Work with federal, state, and local agencies and organizations to inventory existing interpretive and educational programs and to develop additional interpretive and educational programs, including living history programs.

Action 1.2: Utilize handouts developed by the Forest Service, the BLM, and the State Department of Parks on the restrictions on gathering artifacts or damaging cultural properties and the penalties involved in violations, and shall make these handouts available at existing visitor facilities.

OBJECTIVE E

Promote Mono County's cultural resources, when feasible and appropriate.

Policy 1: Highlight Mono County's cultural resources, when feasible and appropriate, in promotional materials.

Action 1.1: Work with federal, state, and local agencies and organizations to develop a list of which cultural resources and activities in the County can be promoted without adverse harm to the resource.

Action 1.2: Encourage the Forest Service, the BLM, the County Chamber of Commerce, local Chambers of Commerce, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to include cultural resources and activities in promotional materials.

Action 1.3: Encourage local communities and Chambers of Commerce to develop and promote local historically-oriented special events.

Action 1.4: Encourage local communities and agencies to support and promote traditional folk arts such as Native American arts and crafts and traditional western crafts.

Action 1.5: Study the feasibility of establishing a County historic designation program, with roadside markers.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

GOAL I

To achieve and maintain excellent air quality, water quality, and noise quality such that public health is protected and to protect the public from adverse impacts from hazardous waste and materials.

OBJECTIVE A