

8. Environmental Resources Management

ERM-5.19 Allowable Uses on Timber Production Lands

The County shall allow uses (not related to forest production) on lands designated Resource Conservation in forestry production areas, provided it is demonstrated that:

- They are compatible with forestry uses,
- Will not interfere with forest practices,
- Consider forest site productivity and minimize the loss of productive forest lands,
- Will meet standards relating to the availability of fire protection, water supply, and waste disposal, and
- Will not degrade the watershed and/or water quality due to increased erosion. [*New Policy*].

8.6 Cultural Resources

ERM-6

To manage and protect sites of cultural and archaeological importance for the benefit of present and future generations. [*New Goal*]

ERM-6.1 Evaluation of Cultural and Archaeological Resources

The County shall participate in and support efforts to identify its significant cultural and archaeological resources using appropriate State and federal standards. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.2 Protection of Resources with Potential State or Federal Designations

The County should encourage the protection of cultural and archaeological sites with potential for placement on the National Register of Historic Places and/or inclusion in the California State Office of Historic Preservation's California Points of Interest and California Inventory of Historic Resources. Such sites may be of statewide or local significance and have anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific, religious, or other values. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.3 Alteration of Sites with Identified Cultural Resources

When planning any development or alteration of a site with identified cultural or archaeological resources, consideration should be given to ways of

protecting the resources. Development should be permitted in these areas only after a site specific investigation has been conducted pursuant to CEQA to define the extent and value of resource, and mitigation measures proposed for any impacts the development may have on the resource. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.4 Mitigation

If preservation of cultural resources is not feasible, every effort shall be made to mitigate impacts, including relocation of structures, adaptive reuse, preservation of facades, and thorough documentation and archival of records. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.5 Cultural Resources Education Programs

The County should support local, State, and national education programs on cultural and archaeological resources. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.6 Historic Structures and Sites

The County shall support public and private efforts to preserve, rehabilitate, and continue the use of historic structures. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.7 Cooperation of Property Owners

The County should encourage the cooperation of property owners to treat cultural resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage public support for the preservation of these resources. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.8 Solicit Input from Local Native Americans

The County shall continue to solicit input from the local Native American communities in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.9 Confidentiality of Archaeological Sites

The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts. [*New Policy*]

ERM-6.10 Grading Cultural Resources Sites

The County shall ensure all grading activities conform to the County's Grading Ordinance and California Code of Regulations, Title 20, § 2501 et seq. *[New Policy]*

8.7 Soil Resources

ERM-7

To preserve and protect soil resources in the County for agricultural and timber productivity and protect public health and safety. *[New Goal]*

ERM-7.1 Soil Conservation

The County of Tulare shall establish the proper controls and ordinances for soil conservation. *[ERME IV-C; Soils; Recommendation 9] [ERME; Pg 59, Modified]*

ERM-7.2 Soil Productivity

The County shall encourage landowners to participate in programs that reduce soil erosion and increase soil productivity. To this end, the County shall promote coordination between the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Resource Conservation Districts, UC Cooperative Extension, and other similar agencies and organizations. *[New Policy]*

ERM-7.3 Protection of Soils on Slopes

Building and road construction on slopes of more than 30 percent shall be prohibited, and development proposals on slopes of 15 percent or more shall be accompanied by plans for control or prevention of erosion, alteration of surface water runoff, soil slippage, and wildfire occurrence, unless otherwise provided for in this General Plan. *[ERME IV-C; Soils; Recommendation 5] [ERME; Pg 59, Modified]*



For other policies relating to slopes can be found in Chapter 5, Land Use, Policy LU-1.7, Development on Slopes; and Policy FGMP-9.11, Development on Slopes.

8.8 Acronyms

ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
AC	Asphaltic Concrete
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CLG	Certified Local Government
CSD	Community Service Districts
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
MOUs	Memorandum of Understanding
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zones
NDDB	National Diversity Database
PCC	Portland Cement Concrete
SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey

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