

General Plan goals and policies relating to IRWM Planning

Appendix 7-1

General Plan Goals and Policies Relating to Integrated Regional Water Management Planning

Consistency w/ IRWMP	Goal and Policy Name/Number	Goal/Policy Description (verbatim)
Goals (✓ = consistent, disc = further discussion provided in Land Use chapter)		
CITY OF LOYALTON GENERAL PLAN		
Housing Element (ADOPTED 2015) (no other Elements available)		
N/A	N/A	
CITY OF PORTOLA GENERAL PLAN 2020 (ADOPTED 2012)		
Land Use Element		
✓	Goal LU-2.	Protect and preserve natural environmental features and amenities
✓	Goal LU-3.	Reinforce strong urban design, quality development, and a compact City form.
✓	Goal LU-8.	Maintain access to open space within the urban portions of the City, particularly the Middle Fork Feather River.
✓	Goal LU-10.	Ensure that the mix of land uses results in a balance between public revenues and public service demands.
✓	Goal LU-11.	Establish orderly growth in new development areas to ensure logical public service areas.
✓	Policy LU-P-1	The City shall manage and plan for growth in population and economic development.
✓	Policy LU-P-2	The City shall encourage a pattern of development that promotes the efficient and timely development of urban infrastructure and preserves valuable natural and environmental resources.
✓	Policy LU-P-3	Growth shall mitigate its own impacts and shall provide a positive benefit to the community.
✓	Policy LU-P-8	Development shall be managed to ensure that adequate public facilities and services, as defined in the Public Services Element, are planned and provided and the public health, safety, and welfare is protected.
✓	Policy LU-P-9	The City of Portola will accommodate projected population and employment growth in areas where the appropriate level of public infrastructure and services are planned or will be made available concurrent with development.
✓	Policy LU-P-12	The City will consider applications for annexations that are consistent with the City's Annexation Policy and: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Are contiguous with City boundaries and provide for a logical expansion of the City; Create clear and reasonable boundaries; Ensure the provision of adequate municipal services;

		<p>d. Are a fiscal benefit to the City and its residents;</p> <p>e. Are consistent with State law and Plumas County Local Agency Formation Commission standards;</p> <p>f. Are consistent with the General Plan.</p>
✓	Policy LU-P-13	<p>The City may consider expanding its sphere of influence to incorporate areas that logically should be planned and serviced by Portola. Pursuant to LU-P-11, the City shall consider the following factors when making determinations involving sphere of influence boundaries:</p> <p>a. Present and planned land uses in the area;</p> <p>b. Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area;</p> <p>c. Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services;</p> <p>d. Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area; and</p> <p>e. Open space and forest lands.</p>
Community Design Element		
✓		Goal CD-1. Guide development of the community in a manner that will sustain the natural resources and amenities and will be economically sustainable over time.
✓		Goal CD-3. Ensure that development will be compatible with the natural features that define the existing City and surrounding area.
✓		Goal CD-5. Protect natural environmental features and integrate the built environment with the natural environment.
✓	Policy CD-P- 2.	Meadows and riparian corridors along drainage ways and the river are to be maintained in the natural condition. No structures will be permitted in meadows or riparian corridors other than small structures incidental to recreation, agriculture, forest management, environmental management, or education activities. Such structures may include open pavilions, seating areas, small informal amphitheaters, kiosks, open shelters for recreation, small structures for storage required for maintenance, and similar basic structures. Major structures such as lodges, residences, restaurants, resorts and other similar buildings will not be permitted in a meadow or riparian corridor.
✓	Policy CD-P- 3	The edge of the City adjacent to forests and meadows will provide a transition from urban to open space by reducing the intensity of land development.
✓	Policy CD-P-34	Businesses will provide a view toward the river from the main sales or dining area where feasible. Decks and terraces oriented to the river are encouraged.
✓	Policy CD-P-35	Refuse, storage and service areas will be screened and/or located to have minimum visual impact from the river.
✓	Policy CD-P-39	The City shall continue to seek to acquire land for recreation and public purposes.
Public Services and Facilities Element		
✓		Goal PF-1. The City will be innovative in new techniques and technologies to provide the best available “state-of-the-art” level of public services in a cost effective manner.
✓		Goal PF-2. Public infrastructure and services will be affordable to the residents and business interests in the City.
✓		Goal PF-3. Facilities improvements and services required to serve development will not place an economic burden on existing residents of the City. Development will pay a fair share of all costs of required public infrastructure and services.
✓		Goal PF-5. The City’s public services and facilities will support economic development and residential growth in the city.
✓		Goal PF-6. Public facilities and services agencies will cooperate on a regional basis.

✓	Goal PF-7.	Conduits to provide connection between public facilities on both sides of the river shall be included on any new bridge structure.
✓	Policy PF-P-1	Facilitate development of the in-fill areas by extending infrastructure.
disc	Policy PF-P-5	Secure sufficient sources of water to meet the needs of the existing community and planned growth.
✓	Policy PF-P-7	The City will allocate water for future development to maintain a balance of jobs and housing. Exceptionally high water users that do not generate a reasonable number of jobs will not be permitted in the absence of other significant benefits to the community.
✓	Policy PF-P-8	City water service will not be extended to unincorporated areas unless an adequate supply is available for all areas within the city.
✓	Policy PF-P-9	The City will develop a program for the use of recycled water for exterior landscaping within the parameters of State and County Health Codes and standards.
✓	Policy PF-P-10	Develop and implement water conservation measures as necessary elements of the water system.
✓	Policy PF-P-11	Ensure that all development provides for and funds a fair share of the costs for adequate water distribution, including line extensions, easements, and plant expansions.
✓	Policy PF-P-12	Monitor water quality regularly and take necessary measures to prevent contamination.
✓	Policy PF-P-13	Provide an emergency backup system which that meets 150% of average demand.
✓	Policy PF-P-17	The City will maintain the ability to handle peak discharge flow while meeting State Regional Water Quality Control Board Standards as established in the current NPDES Permit.
✓	Policy PF-P-18	The City will seek to minimize additional storm water runoff from new development areas.
✓	Policy PF-P-20	Storm water will be managed in natural channels rather than underground pipes where feasible.
✓	Policy PF-P-21	No net increase in storm water compared to the undeveloped condition will be permitted in new development areas.
✓	Policy PF-P-22	Stormwater system improvements will be extended to the in-fill areas shown in Figure 6-1 when feasible.
Safety Element		
✓	Goal SG-1.	Minimize injury and property damage due to seismic activity and geologic hazards.
✓	Policy SG-P-3	Create and adopt slope development standards to be used in the planning process for any area identified as having significant slope.
✓	Policy SG-I-2	Employ the services of a professional Registered Geotechnical Engineer or Certified Engineering Geologist for hillside development and to evaluate the potential for landslides (including debris slides and mudslides).
✓	Policy SG-I-5	Require contour grading, where feasible, with drainage directed away from the tops of slopes.
✓	Policy SG-I-6	Require revegetation to control erosion and mitigate the appearance of engineered slopes.
✓	Policy SG-I-7	Implement the Uniform Building Code sections related to Excavation and Grading Ordinance, which requires that hillside lots with substantial cuts and fills have the fills properly compacted by sheepsfoot roller.
✓	Policy SG-I-8	Develop a comprehensive plan for septic tanks and water-wells based upon Berry's Geologic Map and applicable regulations of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.
✓	Goal F-1.	Minimize the potential for loss of life and property due to flooding.
✓	Goal F-2.	Pursue flood control solutions which minimize environmental impacts.
✓	Policy F-P-1	Regulate all uses and development in areas subject to potential flooding through zoning and other land use regulations.

✓	Policy F-P-2	Prohibit development that is not raised above the 100-year floodplain level.
✓	Policy F-P-3	Pursue a regional approach to flood issues.
✓	Policy F-P-4	Combine flood control, recreation, water quality, and open space functions, where feasible.
✓	Policy F-P-6	Ensure that impacts of flooding are adequately analyzed when considering areas for future urban expansion.
✓	Policy F-P-7	Protect fisheries and allow for adequate water passage to ensure the survival of downstream riparian ecosystems.
✓	Policy F-P-8	Maintain natural stream courses and adjacent habitat, where feasible.
✓	Goal DF-1. Minimize injury and property damage due to dam failure inundation.	
✓	Policy DF-P-1	Ensure that all development is above the inundation zone of any potential dam failure at Lake Davis.
✓	Goal WF-1. Protect against injury, loss of life, and damage to property and the environment due to wildland fire.	
✓	Policy WF-P-2	Work with the Plumas National Forest, the California Department of Forestry, and Plumas County Fire Departments to establish cooperative participation in establishing fuel breaks and prescribed burns.
Conservation and Open Space Element		
✓	Goal WC-1. Minimize the consumption of water to reasonable levels consistent with a high level of amenities and quality of life for residents and visitors.	
✓	Goal WC-2. Maximize the beneficial uses of water by recycling water for irrigation and other non-potable uses.	
✓	Policy WC-P-1	Develop and implement water conservation standards for all commercial and industrial development, and for all existing and new residential development.
✓	Policy WC-P-2	Explore potential uses of treated wastewater.
✓	Policy WC-P-3	Protect the quantity of Portola's groundwater.
✓	Goal SC-1. Preserve and maintain Portola's soils to avoid pollution of the Feather River and its tributaries and loss of soil.	
✓	Policy SC-P-1	Minimize soil erosion and loss of topsoil from land development activities, wind, and water flow.
✓	Goal WQ-1. Maintain water quality in Portola surface and ground waters.	
✓	Policy WQ-P-1	Minimize sedimentation and loss of topsoil from soil erosion.
✓	Policy WQ-P-2	Minimize pollution of waterways and other surface water bodies from urban runoff.
✓	Policy WC-P-3	Maintain a high level of water quality in the Feather River and tributary areas.
✓	Policy WC-P-4	Protect the quality of Portola's groundwater.
✓	Goal OS-1. Maintain open space as a key feature of Portola.	
✓	Policy OS-P-3	Minimize sedimentation and loss of topsoil from soil erosion.
✓	Goal FR-1. Enhance and make use of the river for public access and recreation compatible with the qualities of the Wild and Scenic River designation.	
✓	Policy FR-P-1	The Feather River corridor through the City of Portola will be accessible to the public where feasible and practical.
✓	Policy FR-P-2	The Feather River corridor through the City of Portola will provide recreation amenities for residents consistent with the natural resource.
✓	Policy FR-P-3	The Feather River corridor through the City of Portola will provide space for public events such as craft fairs and music presentations consistent with the natural resource.
✓	Policy FR-P-4	The Feather River corridor through the City of Portola will include a bike trail along the river.

✓	Goal BR-1. Protect and maintain all biological resources in the Portola area.
✓	Policy BR-P-1 Emphasize existing natural areas bordering the Wild and Scenic Middle Fork Feather River.
✓	Policy BR-P-2 Encourage exchange of urban land uses for U.S. Forest Service lands within the City's Sphere of Influence.
✓	Policy BR-P-3 Protect special-status species and other species that are sensitive to human activities.
✓	Policy BR-P-4 Maintain healthy and well-managed habitat areas in conjunction with one another.
✓	Policy BR-P-5 Enhance the fish habitat potential of the Feather River in the City.

LASSEN COUNTY GENERAL PLAN 2000 (ADOPTED 1999)

Land Use Element	
✓	GOAL L-5: Orderly, contiguous growth and appropriate land-conserving densities as an alternative to sprawl and "leap-frog" development.
✓	Policy LU-8 Future residential development should consist of the expansion of, or be located adjacent to, existing communities, designated residential centers, and established residential areas. An increasing number of small, isolated housing tracts in outlying areas shall be discouraged since they are difficult to provide with urban services and they tend to disrupt the surrounding rural and productive activity of ranches, forests and farms.
✓	Policy LU-9 County zoning and subdivision regulations shall protect agricultural and open space lands, including grazing lands and wildlife habitat, by not allowing land divisions intended for residential use to be developed in areas which are not specifically designated in the General Plan or an area plan for community development land use (e.g., rural residential or agricultural residential) and zoned accordingly.
✓	Policy LU-15 In order to provide open space and buffer areas within development areas to protect important resources, the County will encourage the use of conservation and clustering subdivisions designed to dedicate and maintain open space areas where they will be most effective.
✓	GOAL L-14: A rate and the location of community growth which does not result in a significant burden to existing levels of public services and facilities, including schools, fire protection, and community sewer and water facilities.
✓	Policy LU-36 Public facilities and services should be based upon a projection of reasonably expected population increase and economic growth, and should recognize the limits of the County's human, financial, and natural resources.
✓	Policy LU-38 The County supports the provision of community facilities and services to provide for the orderly development of existing communities.
✓	GOAL L-19: Multiple use of public lands in ways which provide for the effective management and protection of natural resources for the public while optimizing the continuing contribution and support of public land resources to the economy, lifestyle, and traditions of County residents.
✓	GOAL L-21: Minimize damage caused to and by development within areas which are subject to flooding.
✓	Policy LU-46 The County shall continue to discourage inappropriate development in areas subject to flooding as indicated in the most recent and effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps adopted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency; said maps being hereby incorporated by reference into this Land Use Element.
✓	Policy LU-47 Land within identified 100-year flood hazard areas should be zoned for agricultural uses or other relatively low-intensity land uses.
✓	Policy LU-48 In consideration of proposed development within areas subject to flooding, the County shall encourage the use of sites outside of flood prone areas when such alternatives exist and options are feasible.

✓	GOAL L-22: Protection and enhancement of important wildlife habitats to support healthy, abundant and diverse wildlife populations.	
✓	Policy LU-49	The County supports the management of wildlife resources in ways that enhance the health and abundance of wildlife populations and the diversity of species and their habitats and which, at the same time, balance management policies and program objectives with the range of social and economic needs for which the County is also responsible
Natural Resources Element		
✓	GOAL N-1: Productive cooperation with and from Federal and state agencies which manage natural resources in Lassen County and improved consistency in resource management objectives, policies and programs.	
✓	Policy NR-1	Federal and state agencies shall be requested and expected to coordinate and cooperate with the County when considering resource management issues in Lassen County, and to recognize the County's General Plan and resource management policies pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.
✓	Policy NR-3	The County supports partnerships of private resource users with public agencies to provide for continued progressive management and conservation of public and private resources within the context of productive stewardship.
✓	Policy NR-4	Proposed changes in Federal resource management policies and related environmental evaluations need to consider and mitigate potential economic, social and cultural impacts to Lassen County citizens and communities, and impacts to related private lands in Lassen County.
✓	GOAL N-2: To protect and maximize the present and future productive, economic and environmental values of the County's soil resources.	
✓	Policy NR-10	The County shall exercise an appropriate degree of regulation designed to minimize soil erosion, including the administration of standards for grading and site clearance related to development projects.
✓	Policy NR-12	The County encourages sound soil management and erosion prevention and control programs and projects, including the use of windbreaks, minimum tillage practices, grazing management, and riparian area rehabilitation.
✓	GOAL N-3: Water supplies of sufficient quality and quantity to serve the needs of Lassen County, now and in the future.	
✓	Policy NR-13	The County recognizes the critical importance and future value of its water resources and shall support the conservation of water supplies and protection of water quality.
✓	Policy NR-14	The County supports efforts by state and Federal agencies, including the California Department of Water Resources, to monitor the quantity and quality of the County's water supplies and to protect the water resources of the County when such efforts are demonstrated to be based on sound, scientific assessment of potentially adverse impacts to those resources.
✓	Policy NR-15	The County advocates the cooperation of state and Federal agencies, including the State Water Resources Control Board and its regional boards, in considering programs and actions to protect the quality of ground water and surface water resources.
disc	Policy NR-16	The County supports the continued use of appropriated and adjudicated surface water rights.
✓	Policy NR-17	The County supports measures to protect and insure the integrity of water supplies and is opposed to proposals for the exportation of ground water and surface waters from ground water basins and aquifers located in Lassen County (in whole or part) to areas outside those basins.
✓	Policy NR-18	The County may adopt specific resource policies and development restrictions to protect specified water resources (e.g., Eagle Lake, Honey Lake, special recharge areas, etc.) to support the protection of those resources from development or other damage which may diminish or destroy their resource value.

✓	Policy NR-19	The County supports control of water resources at the local level, including the formation of local ground water management districts to appropriately manage and protect the long-term viability of ground water resources in the interest of County residents and the County's resources.
✓	GOAL N-4: Maintain a sensible appropriation and utilization of water for agricultural use in the county	
✓	Policy NR-20	In order to insure adequate supplies of irrigation water to areas having the highest potential for agricultural productivity, the County supports analysis and, when warranted, development of water impoundments and aqueducts to transport water resources to areas within the County which have the foremost agricultural soils.
disc	GOAL N-5: The development of new, well-planned reservoirs and other facilities and projects for water supply and/or flood control purposes which will benefit related resources and provide opportunities for multiple public benefits.	
disc	Policy NR-21	The County encourages feasibility studies for and, when appropriate, the development of new, well-planned reservoirs and the conservation and replenishment of water resources through means such as infiltration basins and reinjection when feasible.
disc	Policy NR-22	Plans for reservoirs, flood control facilities and other water supply and flood control programs and projects shall regard the related impacts and cost-benefit relationships to other resource values and land uses which may be affected, and shall consider opportunities and design elements to achieve multiple public benefits including recreation and enhancement of wildlife and fishery resources.
✓	GOAL N-6: Eliminate the threat of flood events which may result in the loss of lives and major damage to property and resources.	
✓	Policy NR-23	The County supports interagency cooperation in developing programs and considering projects to protect people, property and resources from the threat of and damages from flood events.
✓	Policy NR-24	The County encourages feasibility studies, planning projects and, when appropriate, the development of new, well-planned reservoirs, flood channels and other facilities and programs which can serve to control flooding and help reduce flood-related damage.
✓	GOAL N-7: To maintain diverse and healthy vegetation communities in order to sustain natural and economic benefits, including watershed, soil stabilization, wildlife, fisheries, timberland, grazing and scenic values.	
✓	Policy NR-25	The County recognizes that there are vegetation communities that warrant special consideration and protection, and that these areas may be regarded as important or significant vegetation communities or areas of special biological importance. These areas include, but are not limited to, bitterbrush plant communities, wetlands and riparian areas.
✓	Policy NR-26	In order to avoid or reduce the extent of potential adverse impact to important vegetation communities which may result from projects and land use decisions within its jurisdiction, the County shall consider the potential extent of such impacts in the course of project review.
✓	Policy NR-27	Projects subject to County approval which will result in significant disturbance of a site's vegetative cover shall be required to prepare and implement an effective plan to revegetate disturbed, undeveloped areas of the site.
✓	GOAL N-8: Protection of rare and endangered plant species balanced with the need to sustain productive, multiple land uses when possible.	
✓	GOAL N-9: Control invasive weeds and plant species.	
✓	GOAL N-10: Manage wildfire for the protection of life, property and natural resources.	
✓	Policy NR-30	The County supports programs for vegetation management to reduce the probability and potential severity of wildfires, provided that due consideration is given to related site-specific resource issues including protection of wildlife habitat and

		visual impacts in highway corridors.
✓	GOAL N-11:	Healthy forest environments which will continue to provide resources for multiple uses and timber production in sustainable quantities which will benefit the local economy.
✓	Policy NR-31	It is recognized by the County that the timber industry has historically been and continues to be a major economic and social component of Lassen County and therefore represents a vital factor in the fundamental culture and customs of the community.
✓	Policy NR-32	The County supports the conservation and management of timber production areas for the production of timber and shall, within the County's authority, protect them from land uses (e.g., residential development) and factors which would significantly restrict their capacity for production.
✓	Policy NR-33	The County supports the balancing of policies for the conservation of natural resources (including wildlife management policies) in forested areas with the need to maintain production of timber at abundant, sustainable levels as an economic resource.
✓	Policy NR-34	The County recognizes the critical role that timber resources on Federal lands have in the economy of Lassen County and shall continue to advocate and support Federal resource management policies and practices which make plentiful, sustainable quantities of timber available for local lumber and timber-related industries.
✓	Policy NR-35	The County supports the efforts of the timber industry and local citizens to forge cooperative plans and agreements to achieve diverse objectives for protecting and managing forest resources while providing for the long-term economic stability of timber-reliant industries.
✓	Policy NR-36	In areas having significant forest and timber resources, the County supports the formulation of resource management goals and objectives which address the long-term health and diversity of resources in these areas as well as the sustained productivity of timber products.
✓	Policy NR-37	The County supports management of endangered species and critical wildlife habitats in balance with other resource management needs, including the need for economic stability related to timber industries.
✓	Policy NR-38	The County supports successful reforestation of harvested and fire damaged areas on private and publicly-owned timberlands.
✓	GOAL N-12:	To manage the resources of rangeland areas within Lassen County by maintaining healthy, diverse ecosystems while encouraging and providing for multiple use of resources which contribute to the economic stability of the County's citizens.
✓	Policy NR-39	To protect the extensive resource values of rangeland areas, the County will support the maintenance of relatively large parcel sizes by discouraging small, isolated land divisions without appropriate justification.
✓	Policy NR-41	The County supports grazing practices on private lands and lands managed by state and Federal agencies which support the long-term health and sustainability of rangeland resources.
✓	Policy NR-42	The County advocates grazing policies on Federal and state lands which support the economic viability of related private livestock operations while maintaining the long-term productivity of rangeland ecosystems. Proposed changes to resource management policies regarding rangeland use need to consider and mitigate potential economic, social and cultural impacts to Lassen County citizens and communities, and impacts to related private lands in Lassen County.
✓	Policy NR-44	In order to address environmental concerns regarding rangelands while continuing to provide for economic and social needs related to resource use and management of private and public lands, the County supports the development and

		implementation of cooperative resource management programs, based on sound biological science, which include goals and objectives that address and provide for the sustained health of rangeland resources.
✓	Policy NR-45	The County encourages strategy plans and strong measures to manage feral horses and burros on public and private rangelands and to minimize related damage to livestock and wildlife forage and water resources.
✓	GOAL N-21: Continued use and enhancement of the county's fishery resources.	
✓	Policy NR-72	The County supports the continued availability of the Eagle Lake trout for sport and recreational fishing, supports improvement of Eagle Lake trout habitat, and opposes proposals for the listing of the species as a threatened or endangered species.
✓	Policy NR-73	The County supports provisions to reintroduce and improve natural spawning of the Eagle Lake trout in Pine Creek as a component of the population produced under natural selection.
Agriculture Element		
✓	GOAL A-1: Conservation of productive agricultural lands and lands having substantial physical potential for productive agricultural use, and the protection of such lands from unwarranted intrusion of incompatible land uses and conversion to uses which may obstruct or constrain agricultural use and value.	
✓	Policy AG-3	Residential development in agricultural areas shall be discouraged because it disrupts the surrounding productive activity of ranches and agricultural operations. Future residential development, with the exception of building permits on an individual basis, should be relegated to the expansion of existing communities and residential areas, including areas designated as "residential" by the County in the General Plan or an area plan even though those areas may not yet be developed.
✓	Policy AG-9	When considering proposals for agricultural land conversions and/or associated mitigation measures, the County will recognize that the cumulative impacts from land conversions places an increased burden on the remaining agricultural land to provide environmental quality, wildlife habitat and open space values and may threaten the viability of the remaining agricultural land; therefore, the County will support measures to help minimize the impacts of that burden.
✓	GOAL A-5: Productive cooperation with and from Federal and state agencies which manage natural resources in Lassen County and improved consistency in resource management objectives, policies and programs.	
✓	Policy AG-17	The County supports grazing practices on private lands and lands managed by state and Federal agencies which support the long-term health and sustainability of rangeland resources.
✓	Policy AG-18	The County supports cooperative efforts between private sector interests and public agencies that incorporate economic viability while addressing environmental resource concerns such as the Eagle Lake I Pine Creek CRMP.
✓	Policy AG-19	The County advocates grazing policies on Federal and state lands which support the economic viability of related private livestock operations while maintaining the long-term productivity of rangeland ecosystems. Proposed changes in resource management policies regarding rangeland use need to consider and mitigate potential economic, social and cultural impacts to Lassen County citizens and communities, and impacts to related private lands in Lassen County.

Wildlife Element		
✓	GOAL W-3:	Enhanced opportunities for consumptive and non-consumptive uses of wildlife resources recognizing the economic, educational, recreational and aesthetic benefits these uses bring to the County
✓	Policy WE-13	The County supports enhanced public access to wildlife resources for hunting and fishing, as well as for recreational and scientific wildlife observation, while respecting private property rights.
✓	Policy WE-15	The County encourages improvements to wildlife habitat, including the continued use, maintenance, and further development of guzzlers to augment natural water sources and to provide dependable new water sources for wildlife.
✓	GOAL W-4:	Protect and enhance the wildlife habitat of riparian areas and wetlands.
✓	Policy WE-16	The County supports interagency efforts to protect and restore the wildlife habitat values of lakes, riverine and riparian areas and wetlands.
✓	GOAL W-6:	Maintain, restore and enhance fishery resources and habitat within the county.
✓	Policy WE-18	The County supports the protection and improvement of the County's fishery resources, including fish stocking of local waters, in concert with related land use and resource management objectives.
✓	Policy WE-19	The County supports the continued availability of the Eagle Lake trout for sport and recreational fishing, and will support efforts to improve habitat, reestablish and improve natural spawning in the Pine Creek watershed, and other steps which will improve the long-term health of the species and avoid listing as a threatened or endangered species.
✓	Policy WE-20	The County supports the continued availability of the Eagle Lake trout for sport and recreational fishing, and will support efforts to improve habitat, reestablish and improve natural spawning in the Pine Creek watershed, and other steps which will improve the long-term health of the species and avoid listing as a threatened or endangered species.
✓	Policy WE-21	The County encourages feasibility studies for and, when appropriate, the development of new, well-planned reservoirs which may be used, along with other objectives, to expand the County's fishery, wildlife and related recreation resources.
Open Space Element		
✓	GOAL O-2:	To manage and help the people of Lassen County prosper from the wealth and diversity of Lassen County's open space resources which are available for responsible productive use and development.
✓	Policy OS-6	When open space is needed for residential or other forms of development for mitigation or enhancement purposes, such open space shall be dedicated and provided within the development area by techniques such as conservation subdivisions and clustering, and neighboring lands shall not be expected to provide the needed open space.
✓	Policy OS-27	The County recognizes that its surface and ground water resources are especially valuable resources which deserve and are in need of appropriate measures to protect their quality and quantity.
2035 PLUMAS COUNTY GENERAL PLAN UPDATE (ADOPTED 2013)		
Land Use Element		
✓	Goal 1.1 General Land Use	Development within the County is planned in a manner which will provide opportunities for current and future residents to enjoy rural, community-oriented living environments that are similar to those currently found in the County. Encourage higher densities in Town and Community defined areas and their identified expansion areas where appropriate, and promote in-fill development to discourage

	agricultural and forest lands conversion demands.	
✓	1.1.1 Future Development	The County shall require future residential, commercial and industrial development to be located adjacent to or within existing Planning Areas; areas identified on Plumas County's General Plan Land Use Maps as Towns, Communities, Rural Areas or Master Planned Communities (insert reference to maps here) in order to maintain Plumas County's rural character with compact and walkable communities. Future development may also be approved within areas for which Community Plans or Specific Plans have been prepared. Small, isolated housing tracts in outlying areas shall be discouraged as they disrupt surrounding rural and productive agricultural lands, forests, and ranches and are difficult and costly to provide with services. Land division may be allowed outside of Planning Areas only when the resulting development complies with all applicable General Plan Policies and County Codes
✓	1.1.2 Infill Development	The County shall plan to concentrate new growth both within and contiguous to existing Towns and Communities and require expansion of existing infrastructure as needed to efficiently and safely serve the new growth.
✓	1.1.3 Increased Housing Density	The County shall allow for and promote increased housing densities within existing developed areas where adequate public services are available and community character can be maintained.
✓	1.1.4 Land Divisions	The County shall ensure that zoning and subdivision regulations protect agricultural and ranching lands, open space, and natural resources which include: grazing, forests, and wildlife habitat lands, by not allowing land divisions that convert the primary land use to residential to be developed in areas which are not specifically designated as residential in the General Plan, for which appropriate long-term planning has not been completed as outlined within the General Plan. The County shall require the following findings for land divisions outside of Planning areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resulting development will have structural fire protection; Land division does not result in any conflict with zoning and density standards, and • Any clustering of parcels does not convert the primary land use to residential and is part of an overall integrated plan for resource protection.
✓	1.1.5 Community Plans	In order to be responsive to the needs and opportunities of various areas within the County, specific Community Plans may be developed for designated commercial, residential, industrial or recreational areas within a Town, Community or Rural Place boundary. A Community Plan will develop standards that are equal to or superior to those of the County and, at a minimum, will address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Standards • Circulation and Parking • Density • Public Spaces • Infrastructure • Land Uses • Public Health and Safety
✓	Goal 1.3 Coordination with City of Portola Coordinate with the City of Portola in land use planning and development within their sphere of influence and joint planning areas. Plan towards compatibility and coordination of land use designations.	

✓	Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure To promote a development pattern that maximizes the use of existing infrastructure prior to the construction of new infrastructure. Develop a land use pattern to facilitate the delivery of community services in the most cost-effective manner possible for infrastructure construction and maintenance, fire protection, emergency medical and police.
✓	1.5.1 Use of Existing Infrastructure The County shall require the use of existing infrastructure for new development whenever feasible
✓	1.5.2 Cost Effective Land Use Pattern The County shall develop a land use pattern that, to the maximum extent feasible, will facilitate the delivery of community services in the most cost-effective manner for water, sewer, flood control, public safety services, and road construction and maintenance.
✓	GOAL 1.11 Land Use and Water Conservation To promote development patterns that recognize the need to conserve water resources, consistent with other stated goals.
✓	1.11.1 Groundwater Management Plans The County shall support the development and implementation of a regional groundwater management plan and shall work with water resources agencies, water users, and other affected parties to develop basin-specific plans for high priority groundwater basins to ensure a sustainable, adequate, safe and economically viable groundwater supply for existing and future uses within the County.
Economics Element	
✓	GOAL 5.9 Energy Efficiency and Transportation Develop a sufficient connection between land-use and transportation systems to maximize energy efficiency and minimize vehicle miles traveled.
✓	5.9.5 Incentives for Use of Existing Infrastructure The County shall provide incentives for the location of new uses in close proximity to existing infrastructure by requiring that new development pay the full cost of their share of the extension of new infrastructure and by creating incentives for uses that maximize the function of existing infrastructure.
✓	GOAL 5.11 Energy Efficient Businesses and Agricultural Enterprises Encourage the operation of businesses and agricultural enterprises as energy efficiently as possible, within the bounds of sound economic principles. A specific objective of this goal is a 10% improvement in 2010 business and agricultural energy use on a per-capita basis by 2025.
✓	GOAL 5.12 Energy Efficient Community Services, Facilities & Infrastructure Encourage the construction, operation and maintenance of community services, facilities and infrastructure as energy efficiently as possible, within the bounds of sound economic principles. A specific objective of this goal is a 15% improvement in 2010 community service, facility and infrastructure energy use on a per capita basis by 2025.
✓	GOAL 5.13 Increase Local Renewable Generation Encourage the development of local renewable-energy resources for direct application and power-generation purposes. A specific objective of this goal is increasing the amount of current local renewable energy generation by 100% without adverse effects to energy resources or the environment in 10 years.
Public Health and Safety Element	
✓	GOAL 6.3 Wildland Fire Hazards and Fire Protection To minimize the possibility of the loss of life, injury, damage to property, and loss of habitat and natural resources as a result of fire.
✓	6.3.9 Fuel The County shall require new development within high and very high fire hazard areas to designate fuel break

	Modification	zones that comply with defensible space requirements to benefit the new and, where possible, existing development.
✓	6.3.10 Prescribed Burning	The County shall encourage the use of prescribed burning as a management tool for hazardous fuels reduction, timber management purposes, livestock production and enhancement of wildlife habitat. The County shall support removal of fuels and chipping and onsite distribution of chipped materials as an alternative to burning.
✓	6.3.13 Landscape-Scale Fuel Modification	The County shall support fuel modification across public and private forestlands to reduce the potential for catastrophic wildfires, with the highest priority directed toward reducing hazardous fuel levels in the wildland-urban interface.
✓	GOAL 6.4 Flood and Dam Inundation Hazards To minimize the loss of life, injury or damage to property as a result of floods in Plumas County.	
✓	6.4.2 Development in Floodways and Dam Inundation Areas	The County shall prohibit the development of new critical or high-occupancy structures within the floodway of any river, stream or other body of water. Similar structures should not be located within the inundation area resulting from failure of dams identified by the State Department of Water Resources Division of Safety of Dams.
✓	6.4.3 New Parcels in Floodplain	The County shall strongly discourage the creation of new residential parcels which lie entirely within Special Flood Hazard Areas as identified on the most current version of the Flood Insurance Rate Maps provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Proposals for new parcels that are partially located within designated Special Flood Hazard Areas must be evaluated to determine if sufficient land is available outside the Special Flood Hazard Area to support residential development and that potential flood impacts can be sufficiently mitigated.
✓	6.4.4 Floodplain Development Restrictions	The County shall ensure that riparian areas and drainage areas within floodplains are free from development that may adversely affect floodway capacity or characteristics of natural/riparian areas or natural groundwater recharge areas.
✓	6.4.5 Multi-Purpose Flood Control Measures	The County shall encourage multi-purpose flood control projects that incorporate recreation, resource conservation, preservation of natural riparian habitat and scenic values of the County's waterways.
✓	6.4.6 Flood Control Design	The County shall avoid flood control projects involving further channeling, straightening or lining of waterways until alternative multi-purpose modes of treatment, such as wider berms and landscaped areas in combination with recreation amenities, are studied.
✓	6.4.7 Limit Surface Runoff	The County shall review development projects to determine that such development can be permitted without alteration of off-site historical flood patterns or contribution to flooding hazards for downstream users. Each project with the potential to create off-site drainage shall be required to submit a plan showing how the impacts of such drainage will be addressed, both on-site and off-site.
✓	6.4.8 Storm Water Retention/Detention and Groundwater Infiltration	As appropriate, the County shall require development to incorporate storm-water retention/detention ponds to encourage groundwater recharge and to make efficient use of storm water.

Conservation and Open Space Element

✓	GOAL 7.1 Conservation and Open Space The conservation and utilization of natural resources, including water and its hydraulic force, forests, soils, rivers and other waters, fisheries, wildlife, minerals and other natural resources and protection of open space land for the continuation of the County's rural character; scenic beauty; recreation; the protection of natural and cultural resources; and as consideration of open spaces as an important factor in the County's quality of life.
✓	7.1.3 Collaborative Open Space Land Use Management The County will promote collaborative resource management among land management agencies, including State and Federal agencies and private entities, monitor the resource quality over time, and engage in public processes with management agencies to advance the County's interest in land management in those processes.
✓	7.1.4 Conservation Easements The County shall encourage private and public conservation easement programs that protect natural resource and open space lands that generate economic returns to the landowners along with continued resource production, in exchange for permanent protection of natural resource and open space values.
✓	GOAL 7.2 Biological Resources Conserve and protect the County's biological resources.
✓	7.2.1 Habitat Protection The County shall protect areas that have significant habitat and wetland values, including riparian corridors, wetlands, grasslands, and creeks and rivers, from incompatible rural development. The County shall also support their protection as a method to provide carbon sequestration for GHG emissions under applicable State programs.
✓	7.2.2 Species and Habitat Avoidance The County shall require new development projects to avoid or minimize adverse impacts to threatened, rare, or endangered species and critical, sensitive habitat, as defined by appropriate local, state, and federal agencies, through proper project location and design. In the event that avoidance is not feasible, the County shall require a "no-net-loss" of these sensitive natural plant or habitat communities. Wildlife habitat will be preserved and managed in a manner that will not lead to the listing of additional species as threatened and endangered or negatively impact listed threatened or endangered species.
✓	7.2.3 Land Use Management The County shall restrict the density and intensity of development in wildlife habitat areas to the extent needed to avoid significant interference with the habitat. These restrictions shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, maintenance of large parcel sizes, increasing building setback lines, limiting building and fencing, and designating open space corridors.
✓	7.2.4 Stream Corridor Development The County shall only permit new development within stream corridors when there is no lesser environmentally damaging feasible alternative and where the best feasible mitigation measures have provided to minimize adverse environmental effects. This policy is not intended to affect the cleaning of stream channels to avoid the flooding or erosion of existing developed lands, stream restoration projects or permitted mining operations consistent with CEQA and the SMARA.
✓	7.2.5 Fishery and Stream Corridor Inventories The County shall cooperate with the California Department of Fish and Game in inventorying streams and lakes with spawning and rearing habitat, evaluating those streams' existing and potential habitat value, and determining current and potential fish population levels.
✓	7.2.6 No Net-Loss of Wetland Habitats The County shall require new development that is subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act to achieve a "no-net-loss" of wetland habitat through avoidance or appropriate mitigation in consultation with the appropriate resource protection agencies.

✓	7.2.7 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Buffers	The County shall require new development that is subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act to identify wetlands and riparian habitat areas and designate a buffer zone around each area sufficient to protect these habitats from degradation, encroachment, or loss. The County shall continue to identify areas as Open Space and Significant Wetlands as an ongoing process when those areas are identified.
✓	7.2.12 Habitat Protection and Monitoring	The County shall continue to cooperate with land trusts, organizations, and local, State, and Federal agencies to ensure that adequate on-going protection and monitoring occurs within or adjacent to sensitive habitat areas.
✓	7.2.13 Biological Resource Maps	The County shall maintain and consult biological resource maps during the discretionary permit review process in order to identify habitat concerns and guide mitigations that will reduce biological resource impacts.
✓	7.2.14 Natural Landscapes in Site Design	The County shall encourage the integration of natural landscapes, such as rivers streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, and riparian areas, into new development in such a way as to enhance the aesthetic and natural character of individual sites while avoiding the destruction, disturbance, and fragmentation of these natural landscapes.
✓	7.2.15 Use of Native Plant Species for Landscaping	The County shall encourage the use of native plant species in landscaping plans and projects, where feasible.
✓	7.2.16 Controlled Fuel Management	The County shall support the use of controlled fuel management where feasible and appropriate as a natural ecosystem process, to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and promote healthy forest environments and habitats.
✓	7.2.17 Private Land Management	The County shall support private land owners or organizations that acquire land in order to provide habitat protection for the maintenance of sensitive habitats and/or rare, threatened, or endangered plant/wildlife species.
✓	7.2.18 Inter-Agency Coordination	The County shall consult with appropriate State, Federal, and trustee agencies during the environmental review process when special status species and/or sensitive habitats may be affected by a project
✓	GOAL 7.3 Soil Resources Conserve and protect the County's soil resources.	
✓	7.3.2 Soil Erosion and Vegetation Protection	For development projects that require earthwork and grading, including cut and fill for roads, the County shall require the developer to minimize erosion and sedimentation, conform to natural contours, maintain natural drainage patterns, minimize impervious surfaces, and maximize the retention of natural vegetation wherever feasible. Specific standards for minimizing erosion and sedimentation shall be incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance.
✓	7.3.3 Soil Limitations and Sewage Disposal	The County shall require low-density residential development in areas where soils have moderate or severe limitations for sewage disposal, unless infrastructure exists for a public sewer system.
✓	7.3.4 Erosion Control Plan	The County shall require the preparation of a runoff evaluation and erosion control plan by an engineer for erosion potential areas. The runoff evaluation and erosion control plan shall provide mitigations which preclude hazards to public health, safety and general welfare and ensure maintenance of water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.
✓	GOAL 7.7 Parks and Recreation To maintain an equitable and quality system of parks, recreation areas, multiuse trail systems, and access to local, state, and federal recreation opportunities within Plumas County.	

✓	7.7.3 Recreation Use along Waterways	The County shall encourage increased public access and recreational uses along waterways wherever feasible and where it does not conflict with adjacent landowner rights.
✓	GOAL 7.10 Climate Change To address climate change and manage its effects by pursuing programs and strategies in order to meet or exceed state requirements for reductions in GHG emissions.	
✓	7.10.2 Develop a Climate Change Strategy	The County shall integrate climate change planning and program implementation into County decision making by developing a climate change strategy that implements requirements adopted by the California Air Resources Board and/or the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District. Components of the strategy may include the establishment of a GHG emissions qualitative and quantitative threshold of significance, establishment of GHG reduction targets and, wherever feasible and appropriate, incorporation of SB 375 Sustainable Communities Strategy measures.
✓	7.10.4 Forest Sequestration and Biomass Energy	The County shall investigate providing incentives for increased carbon sequestration on forest lands and encourage the use of forest biomass for sustainable energy generation.
✓	7.10.6 Sustainable Agricultural Practices	The County shall promote GHG emission reductions by encouraging carbon efficient farming methods, such as no till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping, installation of renewable energy technologies, protection of grasslands, open space, riparian, and forest lands from conversion to other uses, and development of energy-efficient structures.
Agriculture and Forestry Element		
✓	GOAL 8.1 Protect Agriculture as a Productive Use of Resource Land Protect and Support agriculture as a productive use of resource lands, for the continuation of a diversified economy, for the maintenance of the County's rural character, for the protection of scenic, natural, and recreational resources, and as a defining characteristic of the County's quality of life.	
✓	GOAL 8.2 Prevent Conversion to Non-Agricultural Uses The County will strive to protect Agricultural lands, strongly discourage conversion to non-agricultural uses, and prohibit uses that are incompatible with long-term agricultural production.	
✓	GOAL 8.5 Preserve, Protect and Conserve Water Supply and Quality Protect the supply and quality of the County's water resources, by maintaining the proper ecological function of watersheds, including sediment transport groundwater recharge and filtration, biological processes, flood mitigations, and maintaining enough water for local and agricultural needs and uses.	
✓	GOAL 8.6 Protection of Resources to Ensure Agriculture's Sustainability Protect the natural resources needed to ensure that agriculture remains an essential part of Plumas County's future.	
✓	8.6.1 Groundwater Recharge Areas	Protect areas identified as significantly contributing to groundwater recharge from uses that would reduce the ability to recharge or would threaten the quality of the underlying aquifers.
✓	8.6.2 Preserve Water Resources	Ensure that adequate water resources for agriculture are secure, both in quantity and quality, before water allocations are dedicated to developments, mitigation banks, and/or interests from outside of the County.
✓	8.6.7 Agriculture's	Recognize the valuable role that agriculture plays in mitigating the effects of climate change, including permanent

	Role in Mitigating Climate Change	crops that sequester carbon for long periods of time and the use of farming methods that reduce the use of fossil fuels and pesticides.
✓	GOAL 8.8 Maintain Healthy Productive Forest	Maintain a healthy and sustainable forest that provides the raw materials necessary for continued timber production while limiting intrusion of incompatible uses and activities.
✓	GOAL 8.11 Forest Management and GHG Emissions	Promote the utilization of forested lands to address GHG emissions.
✓	8.11.1 Forestlands as Locations for Carbon Sequestration	The County shall work through the CEQA process to comply with GHG reductions as set forth in AB 32 to create policies that encourage utilization of forestlands to serve as locations for carbon sequestration.
✓	GOAL 8.12 Timber Resource Lands and Development Entitlements	Provide for the efficient consideration of development entitlements on Timber Resource lands.
✓	8.12.1 Development Application Findings for Timber Resource lands	<p>The County shall evaluate discretionary development applications involving identified Timber Resource lands and parcels adjoining those lands. Prior to granting an approval, the approving authority shall make all of the following findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed use will not significantly detract from the use of the property for, or inhibit, growing and harvesting timber on that parcel or to adjoining parcels for long-term timber resource production value or conflict with timber resource production in that general area, The proposed use will not intensify existing conflicts or add new conflicts between adjoining proposed uses and timber production and harvesting activities, The proposed use will not create an island effect wherein timber production lands located between the project site and other non- timber production lands are negatively affected, The proposed use will not hinder timber production and harvesting access to water and public roads or otherwise conflict with the continuation or development of timber production harvesting, and The proposed use will not significantly reduce or destroy the buffering effect of existing large parcel sizes adjoining timber production lands.
Water Resources Element		
✓	GOAL 9.1 Groundwater Management	To manage groundwater as a valuable and limited resource and to ensure its sustainability as a reliable water supply sufficient to meet the existing and future needs of Plumas County.
✓	9.1.1 Groundwater Management	<p>The County shall support the development and implementation of a regional groundwater management plan and shall work with water resource agencies, such as the Sierra Valley Groundwater Management District, water users and other affected parties to develop basin-specific plans for high priority groundwater basins to ensure a sustainable, adequate, safe and economically viable groundwater supply for existing and future uses within the County. As appropriate, the groundwater management plans should include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer models of groundwater recharge, storage, flows, usage and sustainable yield; • Assessment of water quality contaminants;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of resource limitations and relationships to other users for wells serving public supply systems and other large users; • Opportunities for changing the sources of water used for various activities to better match the available resources and protect groundwater; • Possible funding sources for monitoring, research, modeling and development of management options; and • Provisions for applicant fees and other funding of County costs. • Groundwater elevation monitoring to address the requirements of the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program (CASGEM) • Groundwater quality monitoring to address the requirement of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.
✓	9.1.2 Groundwater Recharge Area Protection	The County shall require new development projects to adequately protect groundwater recharge areas.
✓	9.1.3 Groundwater Demand Reductions	The County shall encourage the use of alternate sources of water supply as appropriate and to the maximum extent feasible in an effort to reduce demand on key groundwater resources in the county.
✓	GOAL 9.2 Water Quality	
		To protect, restore and enhance the quality of surface and groundwater resources to meet the needs of all reasonable beneficial uses.
✓	9.2.1 Participation in Water Quality Objectives	The County shall support and assist in the development of reasonable and prudent Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the impaired water bodies and pollutants of concern identified by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to achieve compliance with adopted Total Maximum Daily Loads. Work with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop and implement measures consistent with the adopted TMDLs. The County shall also work closely with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, the City of Portola, public water supply purveyors and other interested parties in the development and implementation of water quality plans and measures.
✓	9.2.2 Background Water Quality	The County shall encourage the use of water management strategies, biological remediation and the best available technology to address naturally occurring water quality problems.
✓	9.2.3 County Facilities	The County shall design, construct and maintain County buildings, roads, bridges, drainage and other facilities to minimize sediment and other pollutants in stormwater flows.
✓	9.2.4 Wildfire and Water Quality Controls	The County shall, in cooperation with wildfire management agencies, such as Cal Fire, United States Forest Service and local fire protection agencies, develop a variety of land-use planning, site design and vegetation management techniques to reduce the risk of wildfires. This risk reduction shall also include post-fire erosion, sedimentation and water-quality conditions.
✓	9.2.5 Wastewater Standards and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	The County shall support wastewater agencies' efforts to meet applicable NPDES permit requirements and waste discharge requirements in compliance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and California's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.
✓	9.2.6 Erosion and	The County shall ensure that Best Management Practices to control erosion and sediment will be incorporated into

	Sediment Control Measures	development design and improvements.
✓	9.2.7 Wastewater Application Management	The County shall approach all wastewater applications, both individual on-site and community systems, in a manner that supports Federal, State and local wastewater regulations to ensure the protection of public health and the environment.
✓	GOAL 9.3 Climate Change Adaptation To ensure that the County proactively develops and supports programs and policies for forest and watershed management to counteract trends in declining snowpack storage, accelerated Spring runoff, and declining overall runoff that threaten both larger flood events and diminished late-season water supplies.	
✓	9.3.1 Water Resource Adaptation	The County shall encourage water purveyors to develop plans for responding to potential changes in weather patterns resulting from climate change effects, the sharing of water resources to improve water supply reliability and the allocation of water supply to priority users. Climate patterns will also be monitored for their ability to affect existing drainage patterns and their resultant effects to floodprone areas.
✓	9.3.2 Forest Management	The County shall support plans and projects to improve the conditions of overstocked forestlands, especially around communities-at-risk, to reduce the potential adverse impacts from wildfires, to protect watersheds, habitats and reduce excessive evapotranspiration losses.
✓	GOAL 9.4 Watershed Management and Water Exports To maintain sound management of the water resources in Plumas County's diverse watersheds and assure that any proposals for surface and groundwater exports are stringently reviewed to ensure that they do not undermine the County's ability to sustain an adequate supply of high-quality water for all its water users and dependent natural resources.	
✓	9.4.1 Watershed Protection	The County shall require new development projects to mitigate potential impacts on surface water, recreation areas, agriculture and wildlife habitat areas.
✓	9.4.2 In-stream Flow Rate Management	The County shall support reasonable in-stream flow standards to protect aquatic habitat and fisheries while balancing water supply needs and protecting water rights within the Feather River watershed.
✓	9.4.3 Watershed and Community-Based Efforts	The County shall support the efforts of local community-based watershed groups to protect water resources and work with local groups to ensure decisions and programs take into account local opinions, priorities and needs.
✓	9.4.4 Regional Water Management	The County shall support regional efforts through the Upper Feather River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (UFRIRWMP) to ensure coordination and adaptive management between statewide water resource planning efforts, regional priorities and local needs. The goals and objectives of the UFRIRWMP shall be considered in establishing County water resource priorities and policies.
✓	9.4.5 Watershed Program Funding	The County shall support efforts to obtain grant funding for locally sponsored watershed programs, planning efforts and projects that enhance and protect the Feather River Watershed.
✓	9.4.6 Water Export Projects on Plumas County Watercourses	The County, prior to giving its approval and support to export projects on county watercourses, will require the following information to demonstrate the export project's adherence to the requirements of California Water Code Section 10505 protecting development rights and Section 11460 protecting beneficial needs of the watersheds. The analysis of the export project shall include:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects on in-stream flows including flood events; • Assessment of the environmental impact of the proposed project using appropriate ecological studies by a team of independent experts qualified to conduct such studies, funded by the project sponsor and completed before project authorization; • Effects on fisheries and native wildlife habitat and restoration efforts; Analysis of the sustainability of any proposed fisheries and wildlife habitat mitigations; • Impacts to Native American communities, including cultural and archaeological resources, economies, fisheries and water supplies; • Water supplies necessary to meet the ultimate future development needs of residential, agricultural, municipal, industrial and recreational users and to promote environmental protection and fisheries habitat restoration; • Cost and benefits to recreation; • Water quality impacts and provisions for enhancement of any impaired water bodies (Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act); • Property tax and other fiscal or economic losses to local entities; • Public infrastructure and service demands and costs including roads and recreation facilities; and • Public cost and benefits on statewide, regional, county and local scales including the monetized value of impacted ecological services.
✓	9.4.7 Minimizing the Effects of Water Exports	<p>The County shall require that exports not damage the County’s environmental and economic setting by ensuring that “no unreasonable effect” occurs in the transfer and withdrawal of water resources pursuant to Section 1810 of the State Water Code. County standards for defining “no unreasonable effect” include actions that will not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to a decline in the population of any sensitive or protected plant, fish or wildlife species; • Reduce water levels in any existing public or private groundwater wells to levels that preclude withdrawal by existing users or would substantially increase the costs or such withdrawal; • Contribute to any impacts on water quality that reduces water quality below health standards or Federal or State water quality standards; • Contribute to effects on water quality that would result in a deficiency by the water treatment agency’s ability to treat water to appropriate standards; • Reduce available groundwater or surface water resources to levels that would make access and/or use of these waters uneconomical for development planned in accordance with this General Plan; and • Directly or indirectly discharge contaminants into surface or groundwater resources
✓	9.4.8 Hydroelectric Project Relicensing	<p>The County shall encourage that dam relicensing projects effectively balance development values, such as electric power, flood control and water supply, with non-developmental values, such as environmental resource protection, recreation, habitat restoration and water quality, and other values that best reflect the public interest. Efforts to mitigate project impacts should not impose redirected impacts on other public or private resources.</p>
✓	GOAL 9.5 Public Water Supply	
	To encourage public water systems and their sources to provide an adequate supply to meet long-term needs and that is provided in a manner that maintains water resources for other water users while protecting the natural environment.	
✓	9.5.1 Adequate	The County shall support water purveyors’ plans to develop new reliable future sources of supply, while promoting

	Water Supply Facilities and Services	water conservation and water recycling/reuse. Additionally, through the development review process, the County shall ensure that public water facilities and services will be adequate and operational to serve new development and meet capacity demands when needed. Such needs shall include capacities necessary to comply with public safety.
✓	9.5.2 Cooperative Planning for Water Supply	The County shall work with public water supply purveyors to disseminate and discuss information on the limits of available water supplies, how the supplies can be used efficiently, the possible effects of drought conditions, acceptable levels of risk of shortage for various water users, priorities for allocation of the available water supply, conditions for use of limited supplies and limits of alternate sources that could be used or developed..
✓	9.5.3 Urban Water Management Plans	The County shall encourage and assist in the preparation of master facilities plans, and urban water management plans where required by State law, for all public water suppliers to design and construct all facilities in accordance with sustainable yields and the planning documents of applicable jurisdictions.
✓	9.5.4 Water Supply for New Development	The County shall ensure a sufficient water supply for all new residential/nonresidential development. To do this, the County shall enforce Water Code Section 10910 (Senate Bill 610) and Government Code Section 66473.7 (Senate Bill 221), or more current state code requirements. Where these codes do not apply, the County shall impose conditions similar to Water Code Section 10910 (Senate Bill 610) and Government Code Section 66473.7 (Senate Bill 221), or more current state code requirements, and suitable for the size and scale of the development.
disc	9.5.5 Water Rights Protection	The County shall support public agencies and private entities within Plumas County in their efforts to protect their water rights and water supply contracts.
✓	9.5.7 Community Water Systems	The County shall require any new community water system, in the unincorporated area of the county, serving residential, industrial or commercial development to be owned and operated by a public or private entity that can demonstrate to the County adequate financial, managerial and operational resources.
✓	9.5.8 Level of Service Impacts	The County shall ensure that any new development projects do not create significant adverse impacts on existing water and wastewater infrastructure.
✓	9.5.9 Funding for Water Supply Improvements	The County shall support water/wastewater purveyors use of all appropriate and equitable financing methods (e.g., grant funding, assessment districts and development fees) to finance public facility design, construction, operation and maintenance.
✓	GOAL 9.6 Wastewater Management To ensure that wastewater is managed to provide for the long-term protection of public health, safety and welfare of the environment, including support of the logical and progressive expansion of community wastewater systems within the County.	
✓	9.6.1 Adequate Facilities and Services	The County shall ensure, through the development review process, that wastewater facilities and services will be adequate and operational to serve new development and meet capacity.
✓	9.6.2 Alternative Wastewater System Approval	The County may approve new development that can demonstrate to the County that sewer service will be provided from an alternative wastewater system with adequate financial, managerial and operational resources, where connection to an approved sewer system is not feasible.
✓	GOAL 9.7 Stormwater Management To manage stormwater from existing and future development in an efficient manner through methods that maintain natural water quality,	

		enhance percolation for groundwater recharge, reduce potential flooding, support natural wetlands and provide opportunities for reuse.
✓	9.7.1 Natural Stormwater Drainage Courses	The County shall require that natural drainage courses, including ephemeral streams, be retained and protected from development impacts which would alter the natural drainage courses, increase erosion or sedimentation or have a significant adverse effect on flow rates or water quality. Natural vegetation within riparian and wetland protection zones shall be maintained to preserve natural drainage characteristics consistent with the policies provided in the Conservation Element. Storm-water discharges from outfalls, culverts, gutters and other drainage control facilities that discharge into natural drainage courses shall be dissipated so that they make no contribution to additional erosion and, where feasible, are filtered and cleaned of pollutants.
✓	9.7.2 Downstream Peak Flows	For new development, the County shall require that peak stormwater discharge not exceed the capacity limits of off-site drainage systems or cause downstream erosion, flooding, habitat destruction or impacts to wetlands and riparian areas.
✓	9.7.3 Maintenance of Stormwater Runoff Systems	The County shall maintain its existing stormwater runoff systems to the extent possible, to assure that these systems do not fall into a state of disrepair such that they are causing water quality degradation inconsistent with their original design function.
✓	9.7.4 Runoff Quality	The County shall require all drainage systems in new development and redevelopment to comply with applicable state and federal non-point source pollutant discharge requirements.
✓	9.7.5 Best Management Practices	The County shall require best management practices in new development and redevelopment to reduce pollutants from entering natural water bodies while allowing stormwater reuse.
✓	9.7.6 Interagency Cooperation	The County shall work with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and local, other state and Federal flood control and water resources management agencies to adopt effective stormwater management measures.
✓	GOAL 9.8 Water-Use Efficiency and Conservation To increase the role of conservation and water-use efficiency to help meet domestic or municipal water supply needs.	
✓	9.8.1 Water Conservation	The County shall work with local water purveyors and managers to implement a variety of water conservation measures appropriate for existing and future needs that comply with state and federal legislation and the California Urban Water Conservation Council. General water conservation measures may consist of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing water conserving design and equipment in new construction, including the use of design and technologies based on green building principles; • Educating water users on water conserving landscaping and other conservation measures; • Encouraging retrofitting with water conserving devices; • Designing wastewater collection systems to minimize inflow and infiltration; and • Reducing impervious surfaces to minimize runoff and increase groundwater recharge.
✓	9.8.2 Recycled Water Use	The County shall encourage new development, redevelopment, and landscape and agricultural irrigators to use recycled water wherever practical and available; this includes striving for the highest possible quality of wastewater treatment to increase the potential use of recycled water for existing and future needs of the county.
✓	9.8.3 Compact	The County shall support and encourage compact forms of development and shall focus new growth within existing

	Development	community plan areas to help reduce water demands, reduce landscape areas and reduce the costs of water and wastewater infrastructure.
✓	9.8.4 Existing Development	The County shall promote programs for retrofitting plumbing, providing cost rebates, identifying leaks, changing landscaping, irrigating efficiently and other methods of reducing water consumption by existing users. As appropriate, the County will assist existing users seeking grants or other funding opportunities for such water conservation projects.
✓	9.8.5 County Buildings	The County shall assess its water use in County buildings and facilities and reduce water consumption to the maximum extent possible.
✓	9.8.6 Agricultural Water Use	The County shall encourage and support water conservation for agricultural activities that increase the efficiency of water use for crop irrigation and livestock maintenance.
✓	9.8.7 Sustainable Water Practices	The County shall encourage the use of sustainable, affordable water management practices that meet state and local standards, such as greywater reuse, rainwater capture/harvest, watershed management and stormwater infiltration to reduce demands on potable supply.
✓	9.8.8 County Codes	The County shall establish a program to revise County Codes to increase, as appropriate, the use of recycled water for new commercial, residential, industrial and agricultural development.
✓	GOAL 9.9 Interagency Coordination	To promote interagency communication and cooperation between land use and water, wastewater, and flood control entities, so that they may optimize utilization of their resources and provide the highest level of dependable, yet affordable, service, while respecting individual entities' water rights and interests.
✓	9.9.1 Coordinated Infrastructure Planning	The County shall work with water/wastewater purveyors in the planning and development of future water, wastewater and flood control facilities needed to transmit, treat, store and distribute potable water supplies and to collect, convey, treat and dispose of wastewater pursuant to adopted General Plan policies, urban water management plans, water supply agreements and facility plans.
✓	9.9.2 Interagency Coordination	The County shall support cooperative interregional planning efforts that prioritize the protection of existing water rights of local agencies and water users.
✓	9.9.3 Funding Source Procurement	The County shall support and work with local agencies and water/wastewater purveyors to pursue alternative funding sources that can be used for projects that improve water reliability and regional watershed opportunities.
✓	9.9.4 Information Sharing	The County shall share relevant data and encourage water/wastewater purveyors and flood-control agencies to share data that assist in planning activities.
✓	GOAL 9.10 Public Education	To increase public awareness of water resources and wastewater planning, water quality and water conservation through education and outreach.
✓	9.10.1 Public Education Materials	The County shall encourage water/wastewater purveyors, flood control districts and other local organizations or individuals to develop and distribute educational material regarding water conservation and water quality protection measures and programs.
✓	9.10.2 Water Planning and Public	The County shall encourage water/wastewater purveyors to involve the public in their water resource and wastewater planning activities.

Involvement

2012 SIERRA COUNTY GENERAL PLAN (OCTOBER 1996)

Land Use Element

✓ **Goal 1:** It is the goal of the County to promote and encourage residential and commercial growth in Community Core Areas and confine the extension of public facilities to these areas.

✓ **Goal 2:** It is the goal of the County to provide that areas outside of Community Influence Areas be maintained for natural resource industry growth and enhancement, for protection of the County's rural lifestyle, and for protection of environmental quality.

Housing Element (updated 2006)

✓ Policy 3 The County shall provide adequate sites and services for development of housing units by rezoning additional land for residential land use, and assist in the expansion of water and sewer facilities.

Public Services and Utilities Element

✓ **Goal:** It is the goal of the County to provide for essential public facilities and services and allow for the provisions of quasi-public facilities and services which are in keeping with the customs, culture and heritage of Sierra County Priority for public facilities is directed to community core areas.

✓ Policy 5 Ensure that adequate and safe water supply is available to all users.

✓ Policy 5b Encourage community water systems where economically feasible and assure a legally enforceable mechanism is in place for long term financing and maintenance of a water or sewage disposal system.

Parks and Recreation Element

✓ **Goal 1:** Provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities in the County that direct priority to County needs.

✓ **Goal 2:** Provide a level of public and private recreation and tourism that does not destroy the quality of life or environmental quality of the County.

✓ Policy 1 Strive for the provision of developed recreational facilities geared to the needs of local residents.

✓ Policy 3 Work with the Forest Service and federal government to ensure provision of ample, high quality recreation facilities and services which are compatible with the character of Sierra County.

✓ Policy 4a Work towards alleviation of conflicts between differing recreational uses.

✓ Policy 4b Coordinate future and existing recreational uses with other responsible agencies.

✓ Policy 5a Ensure adequate access to public waterways.

✓ Policy 5b Recognize North Yuba River as a key recreational resource.

✓ Policy 6 Provide for an encourage use of methods to ensure protection of unique recreational areas in the County.

✓ Policy 7 Decrease dependence on federal lands for improved recreation.

✓ Policy 8a Ensure adequate access to public lakes and reservoirs.

✓ Policy 8b Assure that boating access facilities do not encourage over-use of smaller, fragile lakes in the County.

✓ Policy 8c Prevent location of intense use areas, including but not limited to campgrounds and equestrian areas, within close proximity of lakes and reservoirs.

✓ Policy 8d Assure that adequate sanitation and maintenance is in existence for all lake users and visitors.

✓	Policy 8e	Work toward alleviation of conflicts between lake users.
✓	Policy 11	Preserve and maintain high levels of forest health, including but not limited to water quality, fire protection, etc., to preserve high quality outdoor recreation experiences.
Water Resources Element		
✓	Goal 1: It is the County's goal to protect and maintain its water resources for the benefit of County residents and natural habitats and to assure protection of its watersheds as a primary land use constraint.	
disc	Policy 1	Encourage local water suppliers to file for water rights if they have not already done so.
disc	Policy 2	Request information from the Water Resources Control Board (WRCB) on the availability of new water rights and seek to obtain them if feasible.
disc	Policy 3	Support adjudication of surface water rights if potential growth induced as a result is compatible with existing land uses (eg North Yuba Hydrographic Unit).
✓	Policy 4	Investigate the potential to establish additional water rights for fish and wildlife: work with the California Department of Fish and Game if that potential exists and can be balanced with other traditional local uses.
✓	Policy 5	Oppose new diversions of water outside of watersheds and transfers of water rights to any other jurisdiction.
✓	Policy 6	Encourage quiet and non-polluting recreational use of water.
✓	Policy 7	Encourage water conservation, require water-saving fixtures, and encourage water suppliers to require water meters.
✓	Policy 8	Oppose any weather modification efforts which may adversely affect the County.
✓	Policy 9	Discourage the establishment of new water rights to water in natural lakes which would permit major new land uses around lakes.
✓	Policy 10	Encourage further efforts to find a low impact use of the low temperature County geothermal waters so long as any associated uses do not encroach upon agricultural or other important resource areas.
disc	Policy 11	Encourage ranchers to continue irrigation which contributes to marshes.
✓	Policy 12	Encourage reasonable access to marshes, lakes, rivers, and streams.
✓	Policy 13	Restrict large developments with impervious surfaces, and those with septic systems, in groundwater recharge areas.
✓	Policy 14	Cooperate with State and federal agencies in the control of water pollution, require sufficient performance bonds of mining projects to allow for revegetation and water quality restoration efforts, and pursue funding sources to repair abandoned mining sites which continue to pollute.
✓	Policy 15	Cooperate with State and federal agencies in the control of water pollution and seek grants to repair abandoned landfills.
✓	Policy 16	Encourage dredging techniques that have the least effect on water quality of those available.
✓	Policy 17	Cooperate with State and federal agencies to address water quality and require: Retrofits of failing systems with alternative systems where appropriate when any related permit is sought, and proper sealing of wells when any related permit is sought.
✓	Policy 18	Pursue funding sources for septic system and well retrofitting and centralized sewage treatment systems.
✓	Policy 19	Request regulations to allow for County input on setbacks, post-project road closure, and other water quality protection measures with an eye toward avoiding cumulative impacts on water quality.
✓	Policy 20	Oppose the long-term storage, use or transport of hazardous materials through the County.
✓	Policy 21	Cooperate with State and federal agencies in the requirement for Best Management Practices (BMPs).

✓	Policy 22	Protect natural swales and wetlands, plus a buffer from those features, for water quality protection.
disc	Policy 23	Actively oppose major new diversions or impoundments which have significant environmental effects or limit the County's use of the water. Seek mitigation of effects created by small diversions and impoundments.
✓	Policy 24	Organize an interagency and interdisciplinary Water Resources Task Force for the purpose of assisting in project review.
✓	Policy 25	Maintain strong management policies in the Sierra Valley and Long Valley to protect groundwater resources.
✓	Policy 26	Identify other groundwater basins in the County that require management direction.
✓	Policy 27	Identify surface water management policies and water rights in existence to determine potential uses, transferability and other options.
✓	Policy 28	Identify surface water resources that could be at risk to be sold, used, and/or transferred to other basins.
✓	Policy 29	Organize a task force to continue monitoring all negotiations associated with ground and surface water resources of the Truckee River Basin.
✓	Policy 30	Actively oppose any effort of water purveyors, water utilities, and other public or private entities from purchasing, transferring, developing, diverting, or otherwise attempting to use ground and/or surface water resources for use in the State of Nevada.
✓	Policy 30a	Work with local water purveyors to minimize degradation of drinking water.
✓	Policy 30b	Encourage industrial land use proposals which are consistent with this General Plan and which use a minimum of polluting materials or which employ proven technologies to contain hazardous materials.
✓	Policy 31	Preserve the integrity of water courses throughout the County.
Timber Resources Element		
✓	Goal 1: It is the goal of the County to support the prudent management of timber and to maintain the timber industry as a viable part of the County economy.	
✓	Goal 2: It is the goal of the County to bring back and maintain the forest, lake, and stream environment in Sierra County to a healthy, fire resistant and productive system that will be a strong asset to the quality of life and citizens of Sierra County.	
✓	Policy 1	Continue to support concept of selective harvest, or other methods of low visual impact in State and locally designated Scenic Corridor overlay areas and Special Treatment areas.
✓	Policy 6	Actively strive to maintain the timber industry and related individuals as a main economic force in the County. Discourage annually fluctuating USFS and CDF staff.
✓	Policy 13	Encourage retention of timber lands for that use through land use decisions; seek to avoid the pressure to convert timber lands to urban uses that arises when residences or related uses are approved amid timber producing lands.
✓	Policy 19	Seek to reduce the environmental impacts of the THPs for Sierra County through sensitive watershed regulations.
✓	Policy 20	Promote and accept use of wildlife/riparian easements on private timber lands.
✓	Policy 21	Discourage excessive road construction for timber harvests.
✓	Policy 25	Support responsible fuel modification.
✓	Policy 26	Promote a land use pattern which reduces fire hazard.
✓	Policy 27	Establish and maintain an aggressive and continuing management plan for healthy, fire-resistant and productive forest within Sierra County.
✓	Policy 28	Promote and provide for the continued diversity and sustainability of forest resources, including timber, watershed,

wildlife habitat, recreation and aesthetics.

Agricultural Resources Element		
✓	Goal 1:	Protect and defend agriculture as a priority land use, one of those which give the County its essential character.
✓	Goal 2:	Provide a strong, local agricultural economy.
✓	Goal 3:	Provide for and protect agricultural water supplies.
✓	Policy 2	Focus development in Community Areas and ensure contiguous urban development.
✓	Policy 14	Maintain a strong groundwater management policy in the County.
✓	Policy 14b	Prevent the conversion of surface or groundwater supplies historically used for agriculture to municipal or industrial uses.
✓	Policy 15	Support the ongoing efforts to conserve and restore soil.
Mineral Resources Element		
✓	Policy 6b	Exploration shall not include: off-site sedimentation degradation of visual or air resources degradation of surface or ground waters.
✓	Policy 7	Surface mining is conditionally permitted outside Community Core and Influence Areas, or on parcels more specifically designated ME. Surface mining shall be allowed only after impacts on the environment and nearby land uses have been adequately reviewed and found to be in compliance with CEQA, SMARA, and the goals and policies of this Element, and that proven resources reports have been submitted, and that third party studies have been conducted ensuring the adequacy of water quality and quantity conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requiring the conservation of on-site water during mining operations - Requiring that off-site water discharge complies with State water quality standards - Requiring that any increase or decrease of off-site discharge is not detrimental to the downstream environment or downstream water users.
✓	Policy 8	Subsurface mining and surface access shall be conditionally permitted throughout the County. Surface plants for underground mines differ greatly in complexity and extent a case by case evaluation is needed. Subsurface shall be allowed only after impacts on the environment and affected surface land uses have been adequately reviewed and found to be in compliance with CEQA, SMARA, the goals and policies of this Element, and that third party studies have been conducted ensuring the adequacy of water quality/quantity conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requiring the conservation of on-site water during mining operations - Requiring that off-site water discharge complies with State water quality standards - Requiring that any increase or decrease of off-site discharge is not detrimental to the downstream environment or downstream water users.
✓	Policy 9	Aggregate extraction may be conditionally allowed in rivers and floodplains outside of Community Areas and within Community Influence Areas but not within Community Cores provided associated environmental impacts are addressed through the CEQA process and SMARA.
✓	Policy 10	Permits shall be issued only after meeting the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No degradation of surface water - Adherence to County Noise standards

		- Adherence to health regulations
Plants & Wildlife Element		
	Goal 2	It is the County's goal to defend its important natural features and functions; these have included and always will include, scenic beauty, pristine lakes and rivers, tall mountain peaks and rugged forested canyons, abundant and diverse plants and animals, dean air, water and watershed values.
	Stream Zones: Building Setbacks	<p>Within Community Core areas, enforce the following setbacks for septic systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 foot horizontal distance from intermittent streams and wetlands - 100 foot horizontal distance from the high water line of perennial streams <p>Within Community Core areas, except those of Downieville and Sierraville, enforce the following setbacks for structures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 foot horizontal distance from the high water line of water courses. <p>Establish Downieville and Sierraville structural setbacks Special Treatment review procedures based on the maximum feasible avoidance possible given the existing physical constraint of those communities. Outside of Community Core areas, the setbacks shall apply to structures and septic systems and shall be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 foot horizontal distance from intermittent streams and wetlands - 150 foot horizontal distance from the high water line of perennial streams <p>These building setbacks may be reduced by as much as 50% (but in no case to less than 50 feet) if the Planning Commission finds that a narrower setback:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. would not increase the potential for erosion, due to substantial existing vegetation cover and soil and slope stability, and b. would not fall within the 100-year floodplain, and c. would fully protect existing riparian vegetation at the site.
✓	Policy 2	Within stream zones, control uses over which the County has jurisdiction to the extent necessary to prevent significant impacts on riparian and aquatic habitat.
✓	Policy 3	Prohibit removal of native vegetation in lake and stream zones except when done in conjunction with the permitted uses as described under #2, above.
✓	Policy 4	Protect bodies of water and their watersheds to prevent water degradation.
✓	Policy 5	Discourage future surface water diversions and impoundments which could have a major adverse effect on fisheries and riparian areas. In general this policy will apply when water is proposed to be diverted from or impounded upon natural water courses rather than existing diversion ditches. Where diversion is permitted, require at a minimum, releases higher than or at least as high as existing late summer minimum flows.
✓	Policy 6	Prohibit land uses which require major new groundwater withdrawals which may impact meadows or other water-influenced habitats.
✓	Policy 7	Prohibit development in meadows.
Safety Element		

✓	Policy 1	Support the efforts of OES and local flood control organizations such as the Downieville Flood Control District and the Smithneck Creek Coordinated Resources Management Plan Group; cooperate with the City of Loyaltan in its efforts to reduce the effects of flood flows
✓	Policy 2	Encourage open space uses and restrict dwelling in floodplains outside of Community areas.
✓	Policy 3	Continue to require special flood design for new structures built within the floodplain of Community areas.
✓	Policy 4	Maintain accurate and current floodplain information. Avoid downstream flooding potential by protecting natural drainage and vegetative patterns through project site plan review.
Energy Element		
✓	Policy 3	Sierra County shall cooperate with the California Department of Fish and Game, State Water Resources Board, the BLM, the Forest Service, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, in assessing impacts to streams from existing and proposed hydroelectric power generation, diversion for consumptive use, or other uses.
✓	Policy 4	The County shall provide input to those federal and state decision-making bodies having the authority to grant permits for hydroelectric plants regarding criteria to be evaluated prior to issuing or denying permission to develop further the hydroelectric potential of already impacted streams and watersheds.
✓	Policy 5	The County shall actively oppose major new diversions or impoundments which have significant environmental effects or limit the County's use of the water.
✓	Policy 6	Water shall not be diverted from a stream that provides habitat for listed or candidate species of threatened or endangered status, or that is an important spawning stream or other fishery resource, unless it can be returned without significant adverse effect to habitat.
✓	Policy 7	Hydroelectric facilities shall be designed in such a way as to maintain stream flows essential for aquatic life.
✓	Policy 14	Geothermal exploration and development projects shall be sited, carried out and maintained by the permit holder in a manner which best protects hydrologic resources and water quality and quantity.
Visual Resources Element		
✓	Policy 9	Promote the protection of the visual integrity of streams and rivers.