OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

This element combines two state-mandated General Plan requirements: the Open Space Element and the Conservation Element. State law requires that local governments regulate the use of "open space lands" by setting aside areas and developing specific open space management and use plans. Open Space refers to unimproved lands or waters that are set aside for the following purposes: natural resource land; recreation land; scenic land; watershed or groundwater recharge land; and wildlife habitat land. Open space designations can also minimize public health and safety concerns associated with natural hazard zones. The Conservation Element, on the other hand, provides for "the conservation, development, and utilization of natural resources." State law mandates that impacts to waters, forests, soils, wildlife and their habitats, air quality, mineral resources and other natural resources be addressed in this element.

II. ISSUES

WILDLIFE AND HABITAT RESOURCES

1) Natural vegetation defines and supports several important resource values. Wildlife, water supply and quality, and scenic vistas, among others, depend upon the natural vegetation.

Natural vegetation supports important resource values.

2) Higher recreational usage makes lakeshore and stream-bank vegetation more susceptible to human disturbance and damage.

3) The protection and enhancement of natural habitats is a critical element in preserving and restoring the long-term existence of local wildlife. Riparian woodlands, wet meadows, marshlands, migration corridors and summering grounds are recognized as critical, highly localized wildlife habitat.

Undisturbed natural habitats are important to the long-term survival of wildlife.

4) Resource management agencies have given special status to 11 species of mammals and 36 species of birds known to occupy the planning area (see June Lake MEA, P. II-17 to 20).

5) Trout fishing, one of the June Lake Loop's most popular and economically important recreational activities, has been negatively impacted by livestock grazing, water diversions and improperly or inadequately applied erosion control measures (see June Lake MEA, P. II-11 to 13).

WATER SUPPLY

6) The June Lake Public Utility District (JLPUD) is the principal water supply agency. Local surface water sources, with the exception of a few well sites, provide most of the water (see June Lake MEA, P. II-125 to 139).

7) Water rights held by and applied for by the JLPUD should be adequate to meet near future demands, but may be inadequate to meet demands at full buildout. The high cost of expanding water distribution and storage facilities rather than shortfalls in water rights limits the ability of the JLPUD to additionally supply water.

The JLPUD has adequate water supplies for near future demands, however supplies may be inadequate to meet buildout demands.

8) Additional domestic water diversions from developed surface water sources will reduce flow rates in downstream channels. Removal of significant volumes could be detrimental to plants and animals that directly or indirectly depend on the effected environment. Loss of the strikingly beautiful riparian vegetation that grows along these watercourses would be detrimental to the area's natural qualities.

9) Insufficient data on the potential to expand existing surface water sources and to utilize groundwater resources hinders projections on meeting future demand.

10) Projected domestic and fire protection water demands require the expansion of reservoir and distribution facilities by the JLPUD.

STORM WATER RUNOFF

11) Disturbances to existing vegetation and land coverage by impervious surfaces will increase as future development permitted under the draft Area Plan Update occurs. Runoff from these surfaces, during spring snowmelt and summer rainstorm periods, will aggravate existing storm drainage problems and result in increased ponding and flooding in the community's low-lying areas. It may also negatively impact water resources by increasing levels of silt, sediment and nutrients in surface waters.

Future development will disturb existing vegetation and increase impervious surfaces. Changes could lead to additional runoff and a decrease in water quality.

12) A significant increase in direct runoff to Reversed and Rush creeks may result in unnaturally high stream flows. Under certain conditions, these higher-than-normal flows will cause stream-bank erosions, re-suspension of settled solids and loss of habitat for resident populations of trout and insects.

13) An increase in runoff over the surface and shoulders of unimproved dirt roads in the Down Canyon residential areas may result in the deposition of significant amounts of silt and other earthen materials in Reversed Creek, Rush Creek and Silver Lake.

14) Where runoff from developed areas is by sheet flow over unprotected and unimproved road sections excessive damage may occur to both road shoulders and road surfaces. Uncontrolled runoff over paved sections will cause premature degradation or failure of improved sections.

15) Discharge of oil, grease and other petroleum products from developed lands, paved roads, parking areas and driveways would contribute to the degradation of surface and groundwater quality. Negative impacts on water resources may harm the Loop's water-based recreational activities and the summer economy.

Contaminant level increases from new development may impact the Loop's water resources.

16) Integrated storm drain facilities in the Village and Down Canyon have not been developed. 1982 estimates by the Mono County Department of Public Works indicate that costs associated with upgrading drainage deficiencies in the June Lake Village range from $250,000 to $1 million.

AIR RESOURCES

17) Rapid rates of dispersion and ventilation along with low levels of emissions combine to maintain a high level of air quality in the June Lake Loop. However, winter temperature inversions trap automobile emissions and emissions from wood fires and heating devices, creating an unhealthful level of air quality.

Winter temperature inversions and additional emissions may degrade air quality.

SOLID WASTE

18) The relatively low volume of solid waste generated does not present a disposal problem, although anticipated growth may change the situation.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

19) A number of prehistoric Indian sites and artifacts have been identified and located in the June Lake area. Future development increases the potential for disturbing additional sites and artifacts.

FOREST RESOURCES

20) The 1988 Inyo National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, which prescribes various uses and establishes management standards within the Inyo National Forest, allows uneven timber harvesting, grazing, and deer habitat management, among others, in areas surrounding the June Lake Loop.

RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

21) In addition, the Inyo National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan designates the June Lake Loop as concentrated recreational area. This designation outlines measures for recreational open spaces as well as calling for the expansion of recreational facilities. These are addressed in the Tourism Element.

III. POLICIES

A. GENERAL

GOAL

Conserve and enhance the quality of the June Lake Loop's natural, scenic and cultural resources.

OBJECTIVE A

Protect the Loop's natural environment by controlling new development in environmentally sensitive areas and by mitigating the impacts of development to the greatest extent practical (1,3,4,5,11,15,20).

Protect the Loop's environment by controlling development and mitigating impacts.

Policy 1: Mitigate impacts or limit development to an appropriate level in environmentally and visually sensitive areas. Environmentally sensitive areas include: stream-side zones, potential high groundwater table zones, and steep hill slopes (1,2,3,4,5).

Action 1.1: Discourage the division of lands designated for natural habitat protection or located in environmentally sensitive zones, into ownership patterns that would inhibit the preparation of a site plan capable of adequately considering and protecting areas of high natural resource value (1,3,4).

Action 1.2: Discourage, where feasible, the filling or dredging of wetlands, related springs or high water table areas and creek ways (1,3,4).

Action 1.3: Where feasible, limit uses or developments that have the potential to disturb, reduce or eliminate, the nutrient filter value function, water temperature modulation effects, soil stability effects, and habitat functions of vegetation within natural habitat protection districts and on environmentally sensitive zones (1,3).

Action 1.4: Where feasible, limit cutting, filling, grading or excavation that has the potential to disrupt the natural water regimen, vegetation stability, land form or stream morphology (1,3).

Action 1.5: Work with local, state and federal agencies to identify environmentally sensitive areas and to develop measures for their protection. Should conflicts occur over the designation of sensitive areas, expert studies, provided by the project proponent, will be required to prove that the area in question does not qualify as an environmentally sensitive area (1,3,4).

Action 1.6: Work with state and federal lead agencies in resolving conflicts over the delineation of environmentally sensitive areas (2,3,4).

Policy 2: Promote USFS land exchanges and/or purchases by land conservation groups of sensitive areas; where such exchange or purchase is infeasible, control development to protect environmentally sensitive areas (1,2,3,4,5).

Action 2.1: Use USFS land exchanges and controls on development to protect environmentally sensitive private lands. Two areas, the Silver Lake Meadow and the hill-slope lands overlooking the June Lake Village, are recommended for land exchange (See Figure 3). If trades are not possible, limited compatible development should be allowed. Larger parcels contained in environmentally sensitive areas would be subject to specific development controls designed to minimize impacts on sensitive areas (1,2,3,4,5).

Action 2.2: Where feasible, work with land conservation groups that specialize in purchasing environmentally sensitive private lands and holding them as natural preserves or eventually turning them over into public ownership (1,3,4).

Action 2.3: Work with the USFS to facilitate land exchanges within the June Lake Loop involving federal lands not possessing high habitat or visual resource values. Federal lands traded into private ownership should be located near established, developing or Area Plan designated community areas. Reverse land exchanges, or trading highly sensitive private lands for less sensitive National Forest lands, should also receive priority consideration. Due to the limited private land available within the Loop, lands exchanged into federal ownership should be traded for developable lands in the June Lake Loop, if feasible (1,3,4).

Policy 3: Project-specific geotechnical and/or soils engineering studies should be used to determine and mitigate potential hazardous situations due to unstable soils overlying potential high groundwater table areas (3).

Action 3.1: Projects in identified areas of high groundwater should prepare site-specific geotechnical and/or soils engineering studies to determine site stability. Project-specific design/engineering measures should mitigate possible effects of unstable soils (3).

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS

In addition to the policies and actions above, the following measures shall apply to the lands identified in natural habitat protection district (See Figure 6.E) and potential high groundwater table areas (See Master Environmental Assessment, Figure 3).

Natural Habitat Protection District

Policy 1: Preserve natural habitat areas by limiting development and curtailing harmful uses. Assign top priority to these lands for land exchanges (5).

Promote lands trades in the Natural Habitat Protection District.

Action 1.1: Prohibit the grazing of horses or other livestock on wetland areas such as the meadow and marshes in the Natural Habitat Protection District. The Silver Lake Meadow is the only area falling under this designation (5).

Action 1.2: Limit development in natural habitat zones to retain sensitive environments while allowing for compatible development. Uses such as commercial lodging, community assembly, educational, residential, recreation and recreation-related retail or sales are allowed, if complementary and compatible with natural habitat areas. The extent of development in the natural habitat protection district will depend upon the amount of land within the district not covered by wetlands (non-conflict areas). Three scenarios can occur:

1) If the entire parcel is covered by wetlands, then a maximum of 2 percent of the parcel may be altered.

2) If between 1 percent and 3 percent of the parcel is covered by non-wetland areas, then the total non-wetland area and wetland area, not to exceed 3 percent in combination, may be altered.

3) If more than 3 percent of the parcel contains non-wetland habitat, development will be limited to a maximum of 3 percent of the total parcel area or 15 percent of non-wetland areas, whichever is greater.

Land alteration limits shall apply to the placement and design of structures, roads, utilities, parking, buildings, walkways, and attendant facilities. In wetland areas, these facilities must be designed and constructed to cause minimum physical disturbance to natural site conditions and be approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corp) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) (1,3).

Action 1.3: Where feasible, locate development on lands devoid of environmentally sensitive habitats (1,3).

Policy 2: Identify and map wetland areas according to federally approved criteria and develop appropriate mitigation measures (1,3,4).

Action 2.1: Encourage the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to identify and map wetland areas contained in the natural habitat protection district, and to establish appropriate mitigation measures for future development projects (1,3,4).

Action 2.2: Pursue grant moneys to fund a wetlands identification, mapping and mitigation study for the natural habitat protection area. Any such study should be conducted in accordance with the technical criteria, field indicators, and identification methods cooperatively established by the Corp, EPA, Soil Conservation Service, and Service (1,3,4).

Stream-side Zones

Policy 1: Protect riparian vegetation, water quality and fish habitat by minimizing encroachments into stream-side zones (1,2,3).

Action 1.1: Require applicants of projects located near or adjacent to Rush, Reversed (starting at Gull Lake), Fern, Yost, Alger and Snow creeks to show indicated creeks and/or adjacent stream-side parcels on planning permit application maps filed for County review (1,2,3).

Action 1.2: Applicants on lots near or adjacent to Rush, Reversed (starting at Gull Lake), Fern, Yost, Alger and Snow creeks will be encouraged to design facilities that do not encroach upon waterways. After demonstrating that all reasonable measures have been taken to prevent development in stream-side zones, applicants will be able to pursue setback deviations. In no case shall foundations be located closer than 20 feet from the bank of these creeks (1,3).

Action 1.3: New subdivisions and parcel maps proposed in stream-side zones shall provide stream setbacks of 50 feet from the bank (1,2,3).

Potential High Groundwater Table Areas

Policy 1: Discretionary projects located in potential wetland areas should be reviewed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (Corp) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) (1,2,3,4).

Action 1.1: Discretionary projects with the potential to disturb wetlands should be reviewed by the Corp and Service prior to submitting development applications to the County. If the Corp and/or Service determines that the project will require a 404 Permit, the County will coordinate the project and environmental review with the agencies. Projects of less than one acre not containing endangered species or cultural resources may be exempt from the 404 Permit process (1,2,3,4).

Policy 2: Limit the intensity of development in identified wetland areas (3).

Action 2.1: Structures and attendant facilities shall, to the extent feasible, be located in non-wetland areas. Projects subject to discretionary permits will be encouraged to use alternative site designs such as clustering or zero lot line developments to avoid constructing on wetland areas. Variances may be obtained for height, setback, or other restrictions to promote construction on non-wetland areas (1,3).

Action 2.2: Limit the intensity of development in identified wetland areas and encourage designs that cause minimal physical disturbances to natural site conditions. Designs should minimize impacts on existing vegetation, soils, and drainage patterns. Disturbed areas should be revegetated prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy (1,3).

Policy 3: Protect the water quality of groundwater basins by preventing the introduction of surface contaminants and minimizing changes to existing surface coverings in recharge zones (1,11,15).

Action 3.1: Projects subject to discretionary permits should be designed to minimize the alteration of lands overlying shallow groundwater tables and in recharge zones (1,11).

Action 3.2: Ensure that surface waters released from projects near areas of shallow groundwater and recharge zones meet the pollutant discharge standards of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (1,15).

B. WATER RESOURCES

OBJECTIVE B

Promote the development of local water resources to meet future domestic needs in a manner that maintains and protects the natural environment (1,5,8).

Promote water resource development that protects the environment.

Policy 1: New water resource projects in the June Lake Loop should not impact natural resources and recreation (1,3,5,21).

Action 1.1: Coordinate efforts with the USFS and June Lake Public Utility District to develop water supplies in an environmentally sound manner. Oppose water developments that will compromise the integrity of the Loop's recreational and environmental resources (1,3,5,6,8,9,10,21).

Policy 2: Promote the development of a diversified water system to withstand periods of drought without causing undue impacts on the environment (1,5,6,7,8,9,10).

Action 2.1: Encourage the June Lake Public Utility District to investigate using groundwater for domestic needs (9).

Action 2.2: Work with the JLPUD to ensure that adequate water supplies exist to meet the water needs of the community at planned buildout during drought years. Require new developments in specific plan areas to develop additional water sources if needed to meet the development's water demand at buildout (5,7,8).

Policy 3: Use comprehensive water management plans to guide water use, the construction of new water supply facilities and the protection of natural resources (1,5,7,8,9,10).

Action 3.1: Promote the development of a comprehensive water management plan by local entities which plan for the present and expected water needs in the Loop. This plan should consider the effects of upstream water diversions on Mono Lake, the visual effects of fluctuating water levels in lakes and streams, and the potential effects of future water diversions on spawning fish or other wildlife (1,5,8).

Policy 4: Promote water conservation to avoid or delay construction of new water facilities and to preserve the natural environment (1,5,7,8).

Action 4.1: Work with local water agencies to develop and implement policies that promote water conservation. Policies could include measures to encourage planting of native plant species, measures to reduce the water requirements of landscaping, and changes in the Building Code to require the usage of water conserving fixtures (1,5,7,8).

Action 4.2: Work with local water districts to provide residents with literature on water conservation and, if feasible, kits containing water-conserving modification devices (1,5,7,8).

Policy 5: Recognize in-stream flows as a beneficial use of water (1,5,8,21).

Action 5.1: Work with water and wildlife management agencies to ensure that stream diversions will not harm existing wildlife (1,4,5,8).

Action 5.2: Promote studies that establish minimum in-stream flows and lake levels. These levels must protect existing aquatic communities and associated vegetation. Coordinate efforts with local water districts and land and wildlife management agencies (1,5,8).

Action 5.3: Use the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process to identify mitigation measures and alternatives to water-diversion projects that may have significant environmental impacts (1,5,8).

Action 5.4: Discourage construction activities (e.g., bridges and stream realignments) that alter stream channels near fish spawning habitat and during periods when fish are spawning or when eggs are incubating in the stream gravel (5).

Action 5.5: Discourage developments that alter the configuration or flow of minor creeks or drainage channels tributary to major creeks. Also discourage activities that increase water turbidity, sedimentation and silting of water bodies and streams (5).

Action 5.6: Coordinate efforts with the DFG on projects requiring stream alteration permits (5).

Action 5.7: Prohibit direct and indirect discharges of spoil, debris, or other material into waterways. Indirect discharges shall be controlled by minimizing the possibility of substances washing into a water body (5,15).

Action 5.8: Construction operations requiring repeated stream crossings shall install temporary bridges (5,15).

OBJECTIVE C

Protect the water quality and clarity of the June Lake Loop by reducing or eliminating sources of contamination to lakes, streams and sub-surface water supplies (11,12,13,14,15,16).

Reduce sources of water contaminants.

Policy 1: Minimize impacts on surface and groundwater resources by limiting erosion and uncontrolled storm water discharges (5,11,12,13,14,15).

Action 1.1: Encourage developers to incorporate erosion control measures that create a zero off-site net increase in runoff into project designs. These measures could include revegetation programs, rip-rapping, side drains, blankets or erosion nets, among others (11,12,13,14,15).

Action 1.2: Require developments, including single-family homes on soils highly susceptible to erosion or on steep slopes, to submit erosion control plans as part of the planning permit process. Consider adopting erosion control and revegetation guidelines for single-family homes in all areas (11,12,13).

Action 1.3: Work with other agencies such as the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and June Lake Public Utility District to ensure that erosion and drainage control measures are adequate to protect water resources (11,12,13).

Action 1.4: Mitigate siltation on Rush Creek and at the inlet to Silver Lake (11,13).

Action 1.5: The County shall work with the USFS to encourage the June Mountain Ski Area to continue to develop and implement comprehensive erosion control measures. These measures should strive to meet the County's zero net discharge policy (11,12).

Policy 2: Minimize the possibility of erosion and off-site discharge of storm waters by retaining the existing vegetative cover (11).

Action 2.1: Promote the preservation of trees and other vegetation by limiting removal to areas necessary for primary access ways, building footprints and parking areas. During the planning permit process work with the applicant to minimize the removal of vegetation (11).

Action 2.2: A Timberland Conversion Permit from the California Department of Forestry shall be obtained during the planning process for projects three (3) acres or larger, planning on selling, or bartering for other services, trees removed prior to construction.

Policy 3: Limit or control development on steep slopes to minimize impacts on watersheds (11).

Action 3.1: Minimize development on hillsides by promoting development on flatter sections of parcels and larger minimum lot sizes (11).

Action 3.2: Discourage uniform geometrically terraced building sites that are contrary to the natural land forms, that substantially detract from the scenic and visual quality of the natural setting, and that substantially alter natural drainage patterns, vegetative cover, and significant wildlife habitat (11).

Action 3.3: Require geotechnical reports, provided by the project proponent, to demonstrate that the hillside is geologically stable and adequate for alteration, prior to substantially altering hillsides with slopes greater than twenty (20) percent (11).

Action 3.4: The subdivision of any lands that would inhibit preparation of a site plan capable of adequately considering slope conditions and complying with the standards set forth herein is prohibited (11).

Policy 4: Protect surface and groundwater by reducing the amounts of contaminants introduced by storm-water runoff (15).

Action 4.1: The County should work with Caltrans, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, USFS, June Lake Public Utility District and the Community to initiate and/or facilitate programs designed to reduce the amounts of contaminants in storm water. Street sweeping and other litter cleanup programs should be included in this approach (15).

Policy 5: Protect the water quality of June and Gull lakes and other down-stream water bodies by improving the June Lake Village's drainage system and eliminating other sources of pollution (15,16).

Action 5.1: The County should coordinate efforts with Caltrans, the JLPUD, the USFS and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board to develop and implement a master drainage control plan for the June Lake Village. This effort should examine alternatives to control runoff into Gull and June lakes, including on-site ponding/retention, undergrounding the drainage ditch between June and Gull lakes; project funding mechanisms such as redevelopment, bond issues and zone of benefit charges, among others, also should be considered (16).

Action 5.2: Encourage the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board to conduct a eutrophication study on Gull Lake and, where feasible, adopt the study's recommendations (11).

C. AIR QUALITY

OBJECTIVE D

Maintain a high level of air quality that protects human health and wildlife, and prevents the degradation of scenic views (1,17).

Maintain a high level of air quality.

Policy 1: Discourage automobile usage by promoting the development of pedestrian-oriented villages that include convenient, centrally located off-street parking, pedestrian walkways, transit service, direct ski access, and bicycle/cross-county trails (17).

Action 1.1: Promote the development of paths for non-motorized modes of transit (e.g., pedestrians, cross county skiers or bicyclists). These paths should link major lodging and parking facilities with recreational and commercial centers and should be maintained year round. Bond issues or Quimby Act moneys, among others, could be used to fund construction (17).

Action 1.2: Work with the June Mountain Ski Area to develop ski-back trails from the ski area to concentrated use areas (1,2,9).

Action 1.3: Investigate the feasibility of developing an overhead lift into the Village from the Mountain. If such a lift is developed, ensure that it will: A) operate during the summer months and complement the summer recreation attractions of the Village area; B) minimize the visual impacts to the Village, June Lake and Gull Lake; C) and be architecturally compatible with other village developments. If a lift proves infeasible, work with the Ski Area to develop a transit system from the Village and West Village/Rodeo Grounds to the ski area (17).

Action 1.4: Promote the development of crosswalks in the Village that enhance safety, complement the non-motorized vehicle trails, and promote the Village's pedestrian atmosphere (17).

Action 1.5: If feasible, use the redevelopment or specific plan processes in the Village to coordinate the development of facilities conducive to the pedestrian-oriented concept (17).

Policy 2: Reduce emissions from wood-burning fires and other heating devices such as kerosene stoves, by limiting the number and type used in new construction and requiring the installation of clean burning heating devices (i.e., central heating, solar applications) (17).

Action 2.1: If necessary, modify the county Building Code to include measures requiring new construction to install clean-burning wood stoves and other heating devices (17).

Action 2.2: The County should promote the usage of heating devices, including wood-burning stoves, that meet the air emissions standards of the Environmental Protection Agency (17).

Action 2.3: Work with the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District to sponsor public information programs regarding wood-burning facilities (17).

Action 2.4: Where feasible, work with developers of multi-family and commercial lodging units to limit projects to one approved wood-burning device per unit. Also, promote the use of decorative propane or other clean-burning fuel fireplaces instead of wood-burning devices (17).

Policy 3: Promote the use of solar applications, where feasible, for residential and commercial space heating (17).

Action 3.1: Implement the June Lake Design Guideline's solar design directives during the planning permit process (15).

Action 3.2: Promote the use of both passive (building orientation) and active (photovoltaic cells) solar applications in the West Village/Rodeo Grounds and other specific plans (15).

D. SOLID WASTE

OBJECTIVE E

Reduce the quantity of solid waste generated to delay or avoid the need to construct new solid waste disposal facilities and to minimize litter in the June Lake Loop (18).

Policy 1: Promote the recycling of materials in the solid waste stream (18).

Action 1.1: Encourage new developments to provide recycling bins for the separate collection of newspapers, glass and cans (18).

Action 1.2: Establish a public education program that encourages recycling and also provides information on where recyclable materials can be deposited (18).

Action 1.3: Encourage the Board of Supervisors to support statewide legislation that would raise the redemption value of recyclable cans and bottles. Also, if feasible and in the absence of statewide action, encourage the Board to support a countywide program that would raise the redemption value of recyclable cans and bottles (18).

Policy 2: Work with local businesses, the community and others to establish programs designed to reduce litter and to phase out the use of non-biodegradable products (18).

Action 2.1: Where feasible, encourage local businesses to promote the collection and disposal of empty glass containers (18).

Action 2.2: Where feasible, work with local food service establishments to phase out the use of non-biodegradable products (Styrofoam) in favor of biodegradable ones (18).

E. CULTURAL RESOURCES

OBJECTIVE F

Identify and preserve significant cultural resource sites or artifacts and, where feasible, provide displays or interpretive tours (19).

Identify and preserve cultural resources.

Policy 1: Prevent the disruption or destruction of cultural resource sites (19).

Action 1.1: Utilize the CEQA process to mitigate any impacts to cultural resources. Environmental Impact Reports for project areas suspected of containing cultural deposits shall contain an archaeological survey and identify appropriate mitigation (19).

Action 1.2: Promote comprehensive studies designed to identify and catalog cultural resource sites within the June Lake Planning Area. In cases where significant cultural resource sites are discovered, the County, in coordination with other agencies, should explore ways to preserve the sites (19).

Action 1.3: If archaeological or historic deposits are uncovered or become apparent during construction excavations, all work in the immediate area shall cease until an expert determines the significance of the find and/or prescribes actions to mitigate impacts (19).

Action 1.4: Where feasible, cultural resource deposits shall be preserved and interpreted for residents and visitors (19).

Action 1.5: Follow accepted archaeological and cultural resource standards for preservation and restoration of significant sites (see Appendix K of CEQA Guidelines) (19).