

## PART 3 – GOALS AND POLICIES

### 3.4 NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES ELEMENT

# Natural and Cultural Resources

#### **Introduction**

Natural and cultural resources play a defining role in San Joaquin County's identity. These resources enrich the lives of residents and draw visitors who enjoy unmatched recreational opportunities. The County values and protects its natural and cultural resources with expanded opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy the County's heritage and natural setting. Recreation opportunities, such as the Delta, waterways, and regional parks are available and accessible to all County residents and visitors. The County is committed to protecting and preserving these resources, which contribute to the local economy and are a key element in the quality of life for San Joaquin County residents.

However, San Joaquin County faces a significant challenge in protecting these resources. Decreasing water supplies for urban, agricultural, and environmental uses, groundwater overdraft, loss of habitat, and rising energy costs are major concerns for the long-term viability of County resources. Water conservation and reuse, groundwater recharge techniques, habitat protection, and alternative energy technologies provide opportunities for San Joaquin County to overcome these challenges. This section supports the balanced management and conservation of the County's open space, wildlife, water, minerals, energy, scenic amenities, recreational resources, and cultural and historic heritage.

### **Relationship to Other General Plan Elements**

The goals and policies of this section overlap with those of some other Elements of the General Plan. Natural and cultural resources are considered in the designation of land uses in the Land Use section of the Community Development Element. Many environmental hazards, such as water quality and flooding hazards, are closely related to environmental resource policies in the Natural and Cultural Resources Element. Hazardous materials can directly and indirectly affect environmental resources such as air, water, and wildlife. Many of the policies in this section are supplemented by policies in other Elements in an effort to provide comprehensive solutions to multifaceted planning issues.

## Open Space

Nearly 86 percent of San Joaquin County is “open space” of some type. Open space lands consist of farmland, grazing lands, and relatively natural watershed areas that include a variety of low-intensity uses such as rural residences and recreational facilities (e.g., the Delta). Other land has been dedicated as open space through conservation easements or by agencies and organizations for habitat conservation. The focus of this goal section is to provide the basis for open space preservation and the responsible use of open space resources in the County. This includes protecting and preserving important habitat for plant and wildlife species, protecting open space critical for percolation of rainfall for natural recharge of the underlying groundwater basin, and ensuring the development and maintenance of open space and recreation areas.

### GOAL NCR-1

**To conserve and enhance the County’s open space resources.**

#### **NCR-1.1 Preserve Natural Areas**

The County shall protect, preserve, and enhance important natural resource habitat, biological diversity, and the ecological integrity of natural systems in the County. (RDR/PSP)

#### **NCR-1.2 Open Space in Urban Communities**

The County shall ensure that open space within urban communities is provided through the development and maintenance of open space and recreation areas. (PSP)

#### **NCR-1.3 Open Space Opportunities**

The County shall support efforts to create opportunities for the public to experience and appreciate open space resources. (PSP)

## Wildlife Habitat

San Joaquin County’s biological resources include habitat for several special status plants and animals, important fish and waterfowl migration corridors, and the Delta at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers. In addition to special status species and other sensitive species of fish and wildlife, San Joaquin County also provides habitat to other significant wildlife resources including migratory birds and fish. Wildlife habitats provide food, shelter, migration corridors, and breeding opportunities for wildlife species.

The County has a number of special natural habitats, which are of greatest ecological value to San Joaquin County, including: the San Joaquin Delta, the San Joaquin River, riparian habitats, wetlands, and vernal pools. Annual grassland is one of the most common plant communities in San Joaquin County, particularly in the eastern and southwestern areas, and accounts for about 170,000 acres. These areas support a variety of special-status species, including the San Joaquin kit fox, California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and golden eagle. The focus of this goal section is to protect and enhance wildlife areas that provide important habitat for the County’s plant and wildlife communities.

**GOAL NCR-2**

**To preserve and protect wildlife habitat areas for the maintenance and enhancement of biological diversity and ecological integrity.**

**NCR-2.1 Protect Significant Biological and Ecological Resources**

The County shall protect significant biological and ecological resources including: wetlands; riparian areas; vernal pools; significant oak woodlands and heritage trees; and rare, threatened, and endangered species and their habitats. (RDR/PSP)

**NCR-2.2 Collaboration for Species Protection**

The County shall collaborate with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife during the review of new development proposals to identify methods to protect listed species. (RDR/IGC)

**NCR-2.3 San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan**

The County shall continue to implement the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan to mitigate biological impacts resulting from open space land conversion. (RDR/PSP/IGC)

**NCR-2.4 Preservation of Significant Oak Groves**

The County shall require new development in the vicinity of significant oak groves to be designed and sited to maximize the long-term preservation of the trees and the integrity of their natural setting. (RDR)

**NCR-2.5 No Net Loss of Wetlands**

The County shall not allow development to result in a net loss of riparian or wetland habitat. (RDR)

**NCR-2.6 Criteria for Development Impacts to Wetlands**

The County shall not approve new development projects that have the potential to fill wetlands, unless:

- no suitable alternative site exists for the land use, and the use is considered necessary to the public;
- there is no degradation of the habitat or numbers of any rare, threatened, or endangered plant or animal species as a result of the project; and
- habitat of greater quantity and superior or comparable quality will be created or restored to compensate for the loss. (RDR)

**NCR-2.7 Protect Waterfowl Habitat**

The County shall strive to preserve, protect, and enhance feeding areas and winter habitat for migratory waterfowl. (PSP)

**NCR-2.8 Natural Open Space Buffer**

The County shall require a natural open space buffer to be maintained along any natural waterway to provide nesting and foraging habitat and to protect waterway quality. (RDR)

**NCR-2.9 Protect Fisheries**

The County shall encourage and support efforts to protect fisheries, including:

- reducing the level of pesticides and fertilizers and other harmful substances in agricultural and urban runoff;
- designing and timing waterway projects to protect fish populations; and
- operating water projects to provide adequate flows for spawning of anadromous fish. (PSP)

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**NCR-2.10 Support Fishery Restoration Plans**

The County shall work with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and other agencies or organizations to support development and implementation of feasible restoration plans for anadromous fisheries. (PSP/IGC)

**NCR-2.11 Ecological Information Programs**

The County shall support programs that encourage and teach respect for the environment. (PSP/PI)

**NCR-2.12 Encourage Native Landscaping**

The County shall encourage the use of native plants for landscaping to provide suitable habitat for native wildlife. (RDR)

**NCR-2.13 Project Referral to Environmental Organizations**

The County shall encourage private resource and conservation organizations to review and comment on projects that could affect the County's biological resources. (RDR/JP)

**Water Resources and Water Quality**

The quantity, quality, and availability of water are vital to both natural processes and human activities. The hydrology within San Joaquin County consists of a distinct network of rivers and streams and tributaries to the San Joaquin River and the Delta. The immense size and diversity of the network provides a significant asset for the County by providing for the development of water supply systems, recreation opportunities, and farming operations. Like much of California, areas of San Joaquin County have experienced problems with water supply and quality. The County's water resources include both surface water and groundwater sources. Water supplies are

affected when overdraft of the groundwater basin occurs, and wells need to be deepened in areas with preferred hydrogeology depths and water quality when the groundwater level drops.

Ground water recharge and prevention of overdraft are increasingly important strategies to protect the County's water resources. The policies in this section also seek to protect the quality of both surface and groundwater as well as to maintain river conditions for fish and other wildlife.

**GOAL NCR-3**

**To ensure the quality of water for municipal and industrial uses, agriculture, recreation, and fish and wildlife.**

**NCR-3.1 Preserve Groundwater Recharge Areas** 

The County shall strive to ensure that substantial groundwater recharge areas are maintained as open space. (PSP)

**NCR-3.2 Groundwater Recharge Projects**

The County shall encourage the development of groundwater recharge projects of all scales within the County and cities to increase groundwater supplies. (PSP)

**NCR-3.3 Multi-Jurisdictional Groundwater Management Evaluation**

The County shall support multi-jurisdictional groundwater management that involves adjacent groundwater basins. (IGC)

**NCR-3.4 Eliminate Pollution**

The County shall support efforts to eliminate sources of pollution and clean up the County's waterways and groundwater. (PSP)

**NCR-3.5 Low Impact Development** 

The County shall require new development to minimize or eliminate stormwater quality and hydro-modification impacts through site design, source controls, runoff reduction measures, best management practices (BMPs), and Low Impact Development (LID). (RDR)

**NCR-3.6 Prohibit Discharge of Sewage Sludge**

The County shall prohibit the discharge of sewage sludge or septage to surface waters or surface water drainage sources, including wetlands and waterways. (RDR)

**NCR-3.7 Septic Tank Regulation**

The County shall enforce its septic tank and onsite system regulations consistent with Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board policy that recognizes the County as the responsible agency to protect the water quality of surface water and groundwater. (RDR)

**NCR-3.8 Support Sufficient River Flows**

The County support properly timed flows of sufficient quality in local waterways necessary to sustain healthy fisheries. (PSP)

**NCR-3.9 Require Water Projects to Mitigate Impacts**

The County shall require water projects to incorporate safeguards for fish and wildlife and mitigate erosion and seepage to adjacent lands. (RDR)

**NCR-3.10 Coordination for Waterway Protection**

The County shall coordinate with city, State, and Federal agencies to implement policies regarding protection and enhancement of waterways and levees. (IGC)

**Mineral Resources**

Mineral resources within San Joaquin County consist primarily of sand and gravel aggregate, with limited mining of peat, gold, and silver. In the past placer gold deposits have been found in many San Joaquin County rivers and creeks. These deposits were dredged for gold by independent operators in the years following the 1849 gold rush. Peat soil removal occurred during the 1970s and 1980s. Mining operations existing within the County are related to sand and gravel aggregate operations. Recognizing and documenting mineral resources is imperative to guarantee further economic development of County assets. The focus of this goal section is to encourage the efficient use of economically important mineral and aggregate extraction, while also protecting the community from the adverse effects of mining.

**GOAL NCR-4**

**To provide for the production of mineral resources while protecting people, property, and the environment from hazards caused by resource extraction.**

**NCR-4.1 Mineral Resource Protection**

The County shall require mineral deposits of significant quantity, value, or quality, as identified and updated by the State Division of Mines and Geology reports as MRZ-2 Mineral Resource Zones, to remain in agricultural or open space uses until the extraction of the resources, unless the immediate area has been committed to other uses. (RDR)

**NCR-4.2 Discretionary Permit to Protect Mineral Resources**

The County shall require all new development in areas of significant sand and gravel deposits, as identified by the State Division of Mines and Geology, to obtain a discretionary permit, conditioned to protect the resources. (RDR)

### **NCR-4.3 Land Use Compatibility**

The County shall ensure that mineral extraction and reclamation operations are compatible with land uses both on-site and within the surrounding area, and are performed in a manner that does not adversely affect the environment. (RDR)

### **NCR-4.4 Concurrent Reclamation**

The County shall encourage reclamation of mining sites concurrent with extraction activities rather than after extraction has been completed. (PSP)

### **NCR-4.5 Reclamation Plan**

The County shall require a reclamation plan, in accordance with the State Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, to accompany all applications for mining or mineral extraction permits. (RDR/PSP)

## **Energy Resources**

Despite historically high gas prices, concerns over energy security, air quality, and climate change, energy demand continues to increase in California. In order to avoid the need to construct new, large-scale electricity generation facilities, both the State and regional energy purveyors have focused on reducing growth in energy demand through energy conservation and efficiency over the past decade. As such, there has been an increasing investment in a range of energy efficiency and conservation programs.

As traditional sources of energy are depleted, there is also a need to develop alternate methods of power generation. The focus of this goal section is to promote energy conservation and support a diversity of energy resource development in the County.

The policies in this section can stimulate local businesses and the economy and help the

County meet greenhouse gas emission reduction targets by supporting new renewable energy facilities.

## **GOAL NCR-5**

**To increase energy independence through the use of renewable energy sources and improved energy conservation and efficiency.**

### **NCR-5.1 Nonrenewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

The County shall support the efforts of residents, businesses, and energy providers to reduce the consumption of nonrenewable energy and shall promote energy providers' programs to increase energy efficiency and implement demand response programs. (PSP)

### **NCR-5.2 Alternative Energy**

The County shall encourage residents, businesses, and energy providers to develop and use alternative, renewable energy sources, including but not limited to, biomass, solar, wind, and geothermal. (RDR/PSP)

### **NCR-5.3 Solar Facility Ordinance**

The County shall prepare and maintain an ordinance that guides the permitting, construction, operation, and decommissioning of large-scale solar energy facilities. (RDR)

### **NCR-5.4 Biomass-to-Energy Production**

The County shall encourage the use of biomass facilities to capture untapped local energy sources from dairies, farmland, and other industrial sources. (PSP)

### **NCR-5.5 Environmental Protection**

The County shall strive to balance the development of energy facilities with environmental protection and the preservation of other natural resources. (RDR)



**NCR-5.6 Energy Facilities on Prime Farmland**

The County shall discourage the placement of energy facilities on Prime Farmland. (RDR)

**NCR-5.7 Passive Solar Energy**

The County shall encourage new residential subdivisions to provide maximum opportunities for passive heating and cooling. (RDR)

**NCR-5.8 Clustered Residential Development**

The County shall encourage clustered developments and common walls to reduce energy demand in residential development. (RDR)

**NCR-5.9 Shaded Parking Lots**

The County shall require parking lots to be shaded in the summertime but allow winter solar access to adjacent buildings and sidewalks. (RDR)

**NCR-5.10 Energy Conservation in Existing Residential Structures**

The County shall encourage energy conservation measures, such as insulation and weather-stripping, in existing residential structures. (RDR)

**NCR-5.11 Green Building Practices**

The County shall encourage green building practices in new construction. (RDR)

**NCR-5.12 Energy Efficient Industry**

The County shall support energy efficiency of industrial processes. (PSP)

**NCR-5.13 Solar Heating in Industrial Operations**

The County shall encourage Industrial operations that require large amounts of hot water to incorporate active solar systems in the design of buildings. (RDR)

**NCR-5.14 Natural Daylighting in Commercial Operations**

The County shall encourage commercial and employment operations to incorporate natural daylighting by the use of windows and skylights to reduce energy demand for lighting. (RDR)

**NCR-5.15 Permitting Oil and Natural Gas Resources**

The County shall permit the development of its oil and natural gas resources, consistent with State requirements, provided that such development ensures adequate environmental, public health, and safety protection, and is compatible with the current and projected uses of the land. (RDR)

## Cultural and Historic Resources

As of June 2008 approximately 96,788 acres (11 percent of the County) in San Joaquin County have been surveyed for cultural resources. The County's cultural sites include 262 prehistoric archeological sites, 239 historic archeological sites, 14 multi-component archeological sites, and 4,338 historic buildings or structures that need to be preserved to share significance of cultural resources through interpretive education opportunities with the community and visitors. The County's many historical resources showcase the area's rich history and provide significant attractions for residents and visitors. Preserving these resources is important and their protection needs to be considered during the planning, permitting, and construction of any new development.

The focus of this goal section is to identify ways to protect, preserve, and enhance the valuable cultural and historic resources that are vital to the character of the County.



## **GOAL NCR-6**

**To protect San Joaquin County's valuable architectural, historical, archeological, and cultural resources.**

### **NCR-6.1 Protect Historical and Cultural Resources**

The County shall protect historical and cultural resources and promote expanded cultural opportunities for residents to enhance the region's quality of life and economy. (RDR)

### **NCR-6.2 No Destruction of Resources**

The County shall ensure that no significant architectural, historical, archeological, or cultural resources are knowingly destroyed through County action. (RDR)

### **NCR-6.3 Encourage Public and Private Preservation Efforts**

The County shall continue to encourage efforts, both public and private, to preserve the historical and cultural heritage of San Joaquin County and its communities and residents. (PSP)

### **NCR-6.4 Registration of Historic Properties**

The County shall encourage owners of eligible historic properties to apply for State and Federal registration, to participate in tax incentive programs for historical restoration, and to enter into Mills Act Contracts. (PSP)

### **NCR-6.5 Protect Archeological and Historical Resources**

The County shall protect significant archeological and historical resources by requiring an archeological report be prepared by a qualified cultural resource specialist prior to the issuance of any discretionary permit or approval in areas determined to contain significant historic or prehistoric archeological artifacts that could be disturbed by project construction. (RDR/PSR)

### **NCR-6.6 Tribal Consultation**

The County shall consult with Native American tribes regarding proposed development projects and land use policy changes consistent with the State's Local and Tribal Intergovernmental Consultation requirements. (RDR/IGC)

### **NCR-6.7 Adaptive Reuse of Historic Structures**

The County shall encourage the adaptive reuse of architecturally significant or historic buildings if the original use of the structure is no longer feasible and the new use is allowed by the underlying land use designation and zoning district. (RDR)

### **NCR-6.8 Land Use and Development**

The County shall encourage land uses and development that retain and enhance significant historic properties and sustain historical community character. (RDR)

### **NCR-6.9 Educational Programs**

The County shall support educational and outreach programs that promote public awareness of and support preservation of historical and cultural resources. (IGC/PI)

## **Scenic Resources**

The natural scenic beauty and rural agrarian charm of the County has attracted residents and visitors to the area for decades. The natural, rural, and agricultural aspects of the County, as experienced through views of the Delta and the agriculturally rich valley floor, as well as panoramic views of the Coastal ranges and the Sierra, when visibility conditions permit, form the primary scenic resources within San Joaquin County. Because of the flatness of most of the County's terrain and often poor air quality, most scenic views are limited to near- and medium-range as provided by viewpoints such as public recreation areas and roadways. San Joaquin County has designated 26 local

roadways within the County as local scenic routes. Interstate 5 and State Routes (SR) 4 and 99 are all County-designated scenic roadways. Interstates 5 and 580 are designated as State scenic highways.

The focus of this goal section is to protect and preserve scenic resources in the County.

### GOAL NCR-7

**To protect and enhance the unique scenic features of San Joaquin County.**

#### **NCR-7.1 Scenic Roadways**

The County shall protect the visual character of designated scenic roadways. (RDR)

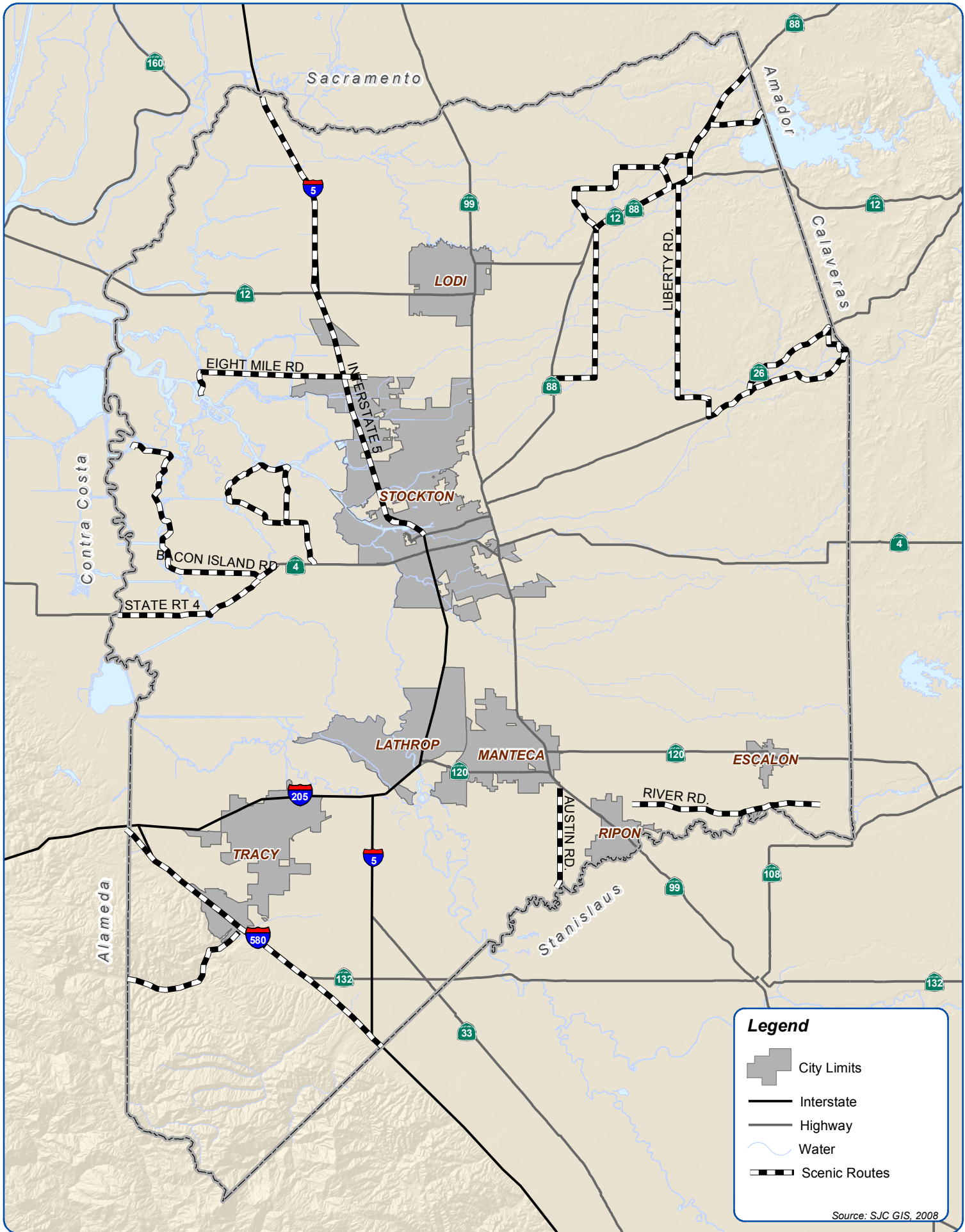
#### **NCR-7.2 Views from Public Lands and Roadways**

The County shall ensure that views of waterways, hilltops, and oak groves from public land and public roadways are protected and public access is provided to them whenever possible. (RDR)






#### **NCR-7.3 Designate Scenic Routes**

The County shall preserve scenic views from roadways by designating scenic routes based on the following criteria:

- leads to a recreational area;
- provides a representative sampling of the scenic diversity within the County;
- exhibits unusual natural or man-made features of interest;
- provides opportunities to view activities outside the normal routine of most people;
- provides a route for people to view the Delta waterways; and
- links two scenic routes or connects with scenic routes of cities or other counties. (PSP)



**Legend**

-  City Limits
-  Interstate
-  Highway
-  Water
-  Scenic Routes

*Source: SJC GIS, 2008*



**Figure NCR-1**  
**State and Local Scenic Routes**

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**NCR-7.4 Visually Complementary Development**

The County shall require new development adjacent to scenic resources to be sited and designed to visually complement those resources, except in MR-Z designated areas. (RDR)

**NCR-7.5 Require Landscape Plans**

The County shall require landscape plans for new development along State- or County-designated scenic routes. (RDR/PSP)

**NCR-7.6 Preservation of Ridgelines and Hill Tops**

The County shall ensure that ridgelines and major hill tops remain undeveloped. (RDR/PSP)

**NCR-7.7 Reducing Light Pollution**

The County shall encourage project designs, lighting configurations, and operational practices that reduce light pollution and preserve views of the night sky. (RDR)

**NCR-7.8 Underground Utility Lines**

The County shall require all new electric and communication distribution facilities adjacent to scenic routes to be placed underground, whenever feasible. Where overhead utility lines are unavoidable, every effort should be made to reduce the visual impact through elements of design. (RDR)

**Recreation**

San Joaquin County is rich in recreational opportunities and open space areas; and recreation is an important aspect of the County's economy. The County's many recreational and open space resources and facilities are made available to its residents and are centrally located with easy access to the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the California coastline. Recreation and open space resources and facilities include: Federal, State, and County recreation and wildlife areas; County maintained regional, community, and

local parks; other recreational facilities (e.g., city parks, school playgrounds, golf courses); and other recreation resources (e.g., waterways, the Delta, habitat areas, and wildlife areas).

The focus of this goal section is to support and protect existing parkland and recreational areas, and increase active parkland and comprehensive recreation programs in order to enhance the outdoor experience of residents and visitors of San Joaquin County.

**GOAL NCR-8**

**To develop and maintain a comprehensive system of parklands and protected public recreational areas that achieve County park ratio standards and meet the active and passive recreation needs of San Joaquin County residents and visitors.**

**NCR-8.1 Comprehensive Park System**

The County shall continue to acquire, develop, maintain, and operate, based on available funding, a comprehensive system of parkland and recreational facilities that include active and passive recreation for a wide range of users. (PSP)

**NCR-8.2 Park Ratio Standard**

The County shall encourage and support the development of recreational facilities to serve unincorporated communities at a ratio of 10 acres of regional parks and three acres of local parks per 1,000 residents, except for Mountain House, which has an approved park ratio of not less than five acres of parks per 1,000 population. The County shall consider increasing its park ratio standards to address unmet park needs. (PSP)

**NCR-8.3 Interagency Coordination**

The County shall coordinate the development of regional parks in cooperation with local, regional, State, and Federal agencies and the private sector and shall seek to establish new partnerships to enhance recreation opportunities in the County. (IGC)

**NCR-8.4 Support Recreation Programs**

The County shall continue to encourage and support the efforts of private, non-profit, and community-based organizations in providing recreation programs in the County. (IGC/JP)

**NCR-8.5 Publicize Recreation Programs**

The County shall continue to promote parks and recreation systems through public information programs. (PI)

**NCR-8.6 Public Amenities Adjacent to Private Recreation Facilities**

The County shall consider providing public amenities (e.g., fishing, picnic areas) in or adjacent to private recreation facilities, particularly if the owner or operator of the private facility agrees to supervise and manage the public amenity. (PSP)

**NCR-8.7 Protect Resources**

The County shall strive to protect the diverse resources upon which recreation is based, such as waterways, marsh lands, wildlife habitats, unique land and scenic features, and historical and cultural sites. (RDR)

**NCR-8.8 County Role in Developing Parks**

The County shall continue to be a major developer and operator of regional parks and shall facilitate the development and operation of local parks. The County's involvement in developing and maintaining parks shall be congruent with available funding and County staff resources. The County will strive to develop regional parks at a minimum size of 100 acres. (PSP)

**NCR-8.9 Park Development Criteria**

The County shall require parks to be developed using the criteria outlined in Table R-1. (RDR)



**TABLE R-1  
 CRITERIA FOR PARK DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Park Type</b>	<b>Approximate Size (Acres)</b>	<b>Recreational Use</b>	<b>Service Area Radius</b>	<b>Access Requirements</b>
Regional Park	15-200	Nature-oriented outdoor recreation, picnicking, boating, fishing, camping, trail uses and play areas	1-hour drive time; serving several communities	Arterial and bicycle access
Community Park	15+	Intense recreation facilities, athletic fields & complex, swimming pools, picnicking, and play areas	1 mile	Arterials or Collector, and bike and pedestrian access
Neighborhood Park	Less than 15	Intense recreation activities, field games, court games, crafts, playground apparatus, picnicking, etc.	0.5 mile	Any roadway, and bicycle and pedestrian access
Mini Park	1 or less	Specialized use facilities for special user groups (tots, seniors,) nature or historic information marker, etc.	0.25 mile or less	Any roadway, and bicycle and pedestrian access

Notes: For Mountain House park standards, refer to Chapter 7 of the Mountain House Master Plan.



**NCR-8.10 Local Parks in Urban Communities**

The County shall require an operational authority be designated and funding for operations and maintenance be established before a local park is developed within an Urban Community. (RDR)

**NCR-8.11 Recreation Needs and Site Accessibility**

The County shall ensure that recreation needs and site accessibility by the target service population are considered in the acquisition and development of new parks and recreation areas. (RDR)

**NCR-8.12 Consideration of Special Needs Groups**

The County shall give special consideration to the recreational needs of the elderly, persons with disabilities, youth, and people of low and moderate incomes in designing the layout, features, and programs for a park. (RDR)

**NCR-8.13 Preserve Natural Features**

The County shall encourage natural features to be preserved in recreation areas to increase opportunities for users to experience natural settings. (RDR)

**NCR-8.14 Joint Use Facilities**

The County shall cooperate and coordinate with school districts in the joint planning, acquisition of land, and use of school buildings and facilities for park and recreational opportunities. (IGC)

**NCR-8.15 Prevent Misuse of Recreation Areas**

The County shall strive to prevent the overuse and misuse of recreation areas. (PSP)

**NCR-8.16 Recreation Opportunities Along Waterways**

The County shall encourage areas for the following recreational opportunities to be provided along the County's waterways:

- bank fishing;
- boating;
- water skiing;
- hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding;
- picnicking; and
- nature study. (PSP)

**NCR-8.17 Public Access to Waterways**

The County shall ensure adequate public access to waterways at selected appropriate locations. (RDR/PSP)

**NCR-8.18 Protect Water-Related Resources**

The County shall protect water-related resources, especially the Delta, Moklumne River, and Stanislaus River, for their importance to recreational uses. (RDR/PSP)

**NCR-8.19 Waterway Navigability**

The County shall encourage the Corps of Engineers or other appropriate agencies to maintain navigability of the County's waterways. (IGC)

**NCR-8.20 Promote Land Donations**

The County shall promote donations of land for recreation. (PSP/FB)

**NCR-8.21 Abandoned Publicly-Owned Land for Recreation**

Prior to abandonment of any publicly-owned land, the County shall review the site for its recreational potential. (PSP)

**NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES****NCR-8.22 Park Dedication and In-lieu Fees**

The County shall require dedication of parkland or in-lieu fees for local parks until other methods of sufficient financing are established. In-lieu fees shall:

- be collected for new developments proposed in the county;
- include land acquisition and site development costs, such as grading, access, drainage, and fencing; and
- be given to the agency providing local recreation facilities. (RDR/FB)

**NCR-8.23 Marina Facilities**

The County shall require new or expanded marinas to include the following facilities: adequate restrooms, pumpout facilities, trash containers, and oil waste disposal facilities. (RDR)

**NCR-8.24 Waterways, Levees, and Utility Corridors**

The County shall consider waterways, levees, and utility corridors as major elements of the open space network and shall encourage their use for recreation and trails in appropriate areas. (PSP)

**NCR-8.25 Levee Rehabilitation**

The County shall advocate for inclusion of recreation sites and trails in State/Federal Delta levee rehabilitation plans and programs. (PSP/IGC)

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