

# Plumas County General Plan Update

*July 2013*



*Photograph: Kristi Jameson*

## FINAL Environmental Impact Report

State Clearinghouse No. 2012012016



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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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## Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that all state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of programs and projects over which they have discretionary authority before taking action on those projects or programs. Where there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, the agency shall prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15164[a]). An EIR is an informational document that will inform public agency decision makers and the general public of the significant environmental effects of a project, identify possible ways to minimize the significant effects, and describe reasonable alternatives to the project.

CEQA requires that a draft EIR be prepared and circulated for public review. Following the close of the public review period, the lead agency prepares a final EIR, which includes the comments received during the review period (either verbatim or in summary), and responses to the significant environmental issues raised in those comments. Prior to taking action on a proposed project, the lead agency must certify the EIR and make certain findings.

This document and the Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) that was circulated for public review on November 19, 2012 through January 2, 2013 (45-day public review period) and extended to January 11, 2013 are intended to constitute the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the County of Plumas (County) 2035 Plumas County General Plan Update (proposed project). However, certification of the Final EIR rests with the Board of Supervisors; therefore additional materials may be added or modified by the County prior to the time of certification. (CEQA Guidelines §15090.) The information presented in this Final EIR is being provided in accordance with the requirements of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and includes the following chapters:

- **Chapter 1, “Introduction”**, discusses the purpose of this document, public review process, CEQA requirements, and use of this document.
- **Chapter 2, “Comments on the Draft EIR”**, includes a copy of each of the comment letters received during the review period from November 19, 2012 to January 11, 2013. The individual comment letter numbers correspond to those responses provided in Chapter 3.
- **Chapter 3, “Responses to Comments on the Draft EIR”**, contains the written responses to the individual comments received during the public review period for the Draft EIR along with written responses to those comments.

- **Chapter 4, “Minor Revisions to the Draft EIR”**, contains minor changes and edits to the text of the Draft EIR made in response to the comments. These changes correct minor errors and provide clarifications and amplifications to the information previously provided; the changes do not constitute significant new information or result in any new significant impacts.
- **Chapter 5, “Report Preparation”**, identifies the persons, firm, and/or agencies that contributed to preparation of the Final EIR.

It should be noted that throughout the Final EIR, the terms “General Plan Update” and “proposed project” are used interchangeably to describe the 2035 Plumas County General Plan Update that will be considered by County decision makers.

## Project Location

The County of Plumas is located in northern California. The County is bordered on the north by Lassen and Shasta Counties, on the west by Tehama and Butte Counties, on the south by Sierra and Yuba Counties, and on the east by Lassen County. The County is approximately 2,610 square miles in area. The County is located in the northernmost portion of the Sierra Nevada mountain range and the southernmost portion of the Cascade mountain range. Thus, most of the County is characterized as mountainous terrain, interspersed with valleys. Approximately 65 percent of the land in Plumas County is National Forest land owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service. The remainder of the County land is mostly in private ownership. The County includes one incorporated City, the City of Portola. The primary geographic extent (Study Area) of the environmental analysis included in this Draft EIR for the proposed project is the entire County, excluding the City of Portola.

## Project Overview

The County is in the process of amending and updating its existing general plan. The name used for the proposed update is the 2035 Plumas County General Plan Update. The proposed project will reorganize, update, and modernize the County’s general plan policies and documents. This Final EIR for the proposed project was prepared in compliance with CEQA (Pub. Res. Code §§21000 et. seq.) and the CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14). The County is the Lead Agency for the environmental review of the proposed project and has the principal responsibility preparing the EIR and for approving the General Plan Update. As described in the CEQA Guidelines §15121(a), an EIR is a public information document used to inform public agency decision makers and the public generally of the significant environmental effects of a proposed project, as well as mitigation measures and alternatives to the project that would reduce or avoid adverse environmental impacts.<sup>1</sup> CEQA requires that state and local government agencies consider the environmental consequences of plans and projects over which they have discretionary authority. The EIR is an

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<sup>1</sup> The term “project” in CEQA includes any activity which may cause either a direct physical change or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and is undertaken by any public agency. (Pub. Res. Code §21065.) The proposed 2035 Plumas County General Plan Update is therefore the “project” for purposes of CEQA review.

informational document used in the planning and decision-making process. It is not the purpose of an EIR to recommend either approval or denial of a project.

The lead agency must “certify” the Final EIR. According to the CEQA Guidelines, “certification” consists of three separate steps. Prior to approving a project, the lead agency shall certify that (1) the Final EIR has been completed in compliance with CEQA; (2) the Final EIR was presented to the decision-making body of the lead agency and that the body has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR prior to approving the project; and (3) the Final EIR reflects the lead agency’s independent judgment and analysis (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15090(a); see also Public Resources Code, Section 21082.1(c)(3)).

Before approving a project for which a certified Final EIR has identified significant environmental effects, the lead agency must make one or more specific written findings for each of the identified significant impacts. These findings include and are limited to the following:

1. Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project that avoid or substantially lessen the significant environmental effect as identified in the Final EIR.
2. Such changes or alternations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and not the agency making the finding. Such changes have been adopted by such other agency or can and should be adopted by such other agency.
3. Specific economic, legal, social, technological or other considerations, including provision of employment opportunities for highly trained workers, make infeasible the mitigation measures or project alternatives identified in the Final EIR (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15091(a)).

If there remain significant environmental effects even with the adoption of all feasible mitigation measures or alternatives, the agency must adopt a “statement of overriding considerations” before it can proceed with the project. The statement of overriding consideration must be supported by substantial evidence in the record (CEQA Guidelines, Sections 15092 and 15093).

These overriding considerations include the economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits of the proposed project. The lead agency must balance these potential benefits against the project’s unavoidable environmental risks when determining whether to approve the project. If the specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits of a proposed project outweigh the unavoidable adverse environmental effects, the lead agency may consider the adverse environmental impacts to be “acceptable” (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15093(a)). These benefits should be set forth in the statement of overriding considerations, and may be based on the Final EIR and/or other information in the record of proceedings (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15093(b)).

Notably, the California Supreme Court, reflecting on this multi-step process for considering project impacts and benefits, has stated that, “[t]he wisdom of approving any development project, a delicate task which requires a balancing of interests, is necessarily left to the sound discretion of the local officials and their constituents who are responsible for such decisions. The law as we interpret and apply it simply requires that those decisions be informed, and therefore balanced” (see *Citizens of Goleta Valley v. Board of Supervisors* (1990) 52 Cal.3d 553, 576).

## Program EIR and Final EIR Process

This Final EIR is prepared as a program EIR pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15168. A program EIR assesses the broad environmental impacts of a program (a series of related projects) with the understanding that a more detailed site-specific review may be required to assess future projects implemented under the program. Please refer to Chapters 1 and 2 of the Draft EIR for additional discussion of the program EIR and subsequent environmental review.

The Draft EIR for the proposed project was submitted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH# 2012012016) and released for public and agency review on November 19, 2012. This 54-day public review and comment period concluded on January 11, 2013. During the review period, thirty-one (31) agency/public comment letters were received. These letters with comments pertaining to the Draft EIR are included in Chapter 2 of this Final EIR.

This document includes comments and responses to comments on the Draft EIR and, along with the Draft EIR, comprises the Final EIR for the proposed project. The County Board of Supervisors will certify the Final EIR at a public hearing.

Consistent with CEQA Guidelines (§15132) this Final EIR consists of:

- a. The Draft EIR.
- b. Comment letters and recommendations received on the Draft EIR.
- c. A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the Draft EIR.
- d. The responses of the lead agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.
- e. Any other information added by the lead agency prior to certification of the Final EIR.

Items (c) through (d) are included in this document (see chapters 2-4 of this Final EIR). Item (a) and Item (b) are each bound separately. Revisions to the Draft EIR including minor edits and corrections, revisions made as result of comments received and clarifications and modifications are presented in Chapter 4 of this Final EIR. Consequently, this Final EIR document and the Draft EIR together shall comprise the Final EIR.

## Summary of Environmental Impacts

All of the impacts analyzed in the draft and Final EIR, including those considered to be less-than-significant, are summarized in **Table ES-1**. The impact statements provided in the table incorporate the revised impact conclusions from the Draft EIR.

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>4.1 Land Use and Aesthetics</b>			
<b>Impact 4.1-1:</b> The proposed project could divide the physical arrangement of an established community.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.1-2:</b> The proposed project could conflict with other applicable adopted land use plans.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.1-3:</b> The proposed project could substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.1-4:</b> The proposed project could have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista or substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.1-5:</b> The proposed project could substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of Plumas County.	PS	The new policy identified below is to be incorporated into the Conservation and Open Space Element (Goal 7.6 "Scenic Resources") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COS-7.6.6 Lighting and Night Sky Protection.</b> The County shall require that new lighting be designed and configured to reduce light pollution, glare, and spillage.</li> </ul>	SU
<b>Impact 4.1-6:</b> The proposed project could create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the County.	PS	The new policy identified below is to be incorporated into the Conservation and Open Space Element (Goal 7.6 "Scenic Resources") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COS-7.6.6 Lighting and Night Sky Protection.</b> The County shall require that new lighting be designed and configured to reduce light pollution, glare, and spillage.</li> </ul>	SU
<b>4.2 Traffic and Circulation</b>			
<b>Impact 4.2-1:</b> The proposed project could result in a substantial increase in vehicular traffic. This would result in a significant impact to SR 36 west of Chester. (Existing Plus Proposed Project)	PS	The modified existing policy (CIR-4.1.1), a new policy (CIR-4.1.8), and two new implementation measures (#11 and #12) identified below are to be incorporated into the Circulation Element (Goal 4.1 "Adequate Roadway System") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CIR-4.1.1 Roadway Classification System.</b> The County shall maintain and annually update a road classification and condition status report which identifies road standard class, existing deficiencies, and incorporates modern transportation engineering practices.</li> <li>• <b>CIR-4.1.8 Traffic Impact Fee Program for the Lake Almanor Area.</b> The County shall require that future development proposals in the Lake Almanor area pay their "fair share" of circulation fees established through a Traffic Impact Fee District. Determination of these fees shall consider a variety of applicable data sources including those prepared for the Almanor Regional Transportation Assessment (ARTA) and previous traffic studies prepared for the local area (i.e., Lake Front Development).</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #11.</b> Develop and periodically update a Traffic Impact Fee Program to</li> </ul>	SU

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
		<p>ensure that new development contributes toward necessary transportation infrastructure improvements. The Program shall include provisions to examine and develop specific fee programs for unique areas of the County, as appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #12.</b> Evaluate LOS and roadway classification standards for County roadways on a periodic basis to coincide with annual review of the General Plan.</li> </ul>	
<b>Impact 4.2-2:</b> The proposed project could result in increased conflicts between vehicles/pedestrians and vehicles/bicycles which could result in unsafe conditions. (Existing Plus Proposed Project)	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.2-3:</b> The proposed project could result in increased conflicts between trains and vehicles, pedestrians, and bicycles which could result in unsafe conditions. (Existing Plus Proposed Project)	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.2-4:</b> The proposed project could result in a substantial increase in vehicular traffic. This would result in a significant impact to SR 36 west of Chester and to SR 36 east of Chester. (Cumulative Plus Proposed Project)	PS	<p>The modified existing policy (CIR-4.1.1), a new policy (CIR-4.1.8), and two new implementation measures (#11 and #12) identified below are to be incorporated into the Circulation Element (Goal 4.1 "Adequate Roadway System") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>CIR-4.1.1 Roadway Classification System.</b> The County shall maintain and annually update a road classification and condition status report which identifies road standard class, existing deficiencies, and incorporates modern transportation engineering practices.</li> <li>• <b>CIR-4.1.8 Traffic Impact Fee Program for the Lake Almanor Area.</b> The County shall require that future development proposals in the Lake Almanor area pay their "fair share" of circulation fees established through a Traffic Impact Fee District. Determination of these fees shall consider a variety of applicable data sources including those prepared for the Almanor Regional Transportation Assessment (ARTA) and previous traffic studies prepared for the local area (i.e., Lake Front Development).</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #11.</b> Develop and periodically update a Traffic Impact Fee Program to ensure that new development contributes toward necessary transportation infrastructure improvements. The Program shall include provisions to examine and develop specific fee programs for unique areas of the County, as appropriate.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #12.</b> Evaluate LOS and roadway classification standards for County roadways on a periodic basis to coincide with annual review of the General Plan.</li> </ul>	SU
<b>Impact 4.2-5:</b> The proposed project could result in increased conflicts between vehicles/pedestrians and vehicles/bicycles which could result in unsafe conditions. (Cumulative Plus Proposed Project)	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.2-6:</b> The proposed project could result in increased conflicts between trains and vehicles,	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
pedestrians, and bicycles which could result in unsafe conditions. (Cumulative Plus Proposed Project)			
<b>4.3 Air Quality</b>			
<b>Impact 4.3-1:</b> The proposed project could expose a variety of sensitive land uses to construction-related air quality emissions.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.3-2:</b> The proposed project could result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of criteria air pollutants that result in a violation of an air quality standard.	PS	None Feasible	SU
<b>Impact 4.3-3:</b> The proposed project could result in conflicts with applicable Air Quality Management Plans and Standards.	PS	None Feasible	SU
<b>Impact 4.3-4:</b> The proposed project could expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations that could affect public health.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.3-5:</b> The proposed project could result in the emission of objectionable odors.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>4.4 Energy and Climate Change</b>			
<b>Impact 4.4-1:</b> The proposed project could contribute considerably to cumulative GHG emissions and global climate change.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.4-2:</b> The proposed project could result in subject property or persons to otherwise avoidable physical harm in light of inevitable climate change.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.4-3:</b> The proposed project could result in the wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy by residential, commercial, industrial, or public uses associated with increased demand due to anticipated development in the County.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>4.5 Noise</b>			
<b>Impact 4.5-1:</b> The proposed project could result in exposure of noise sensitive land uses (persons) to traffic noise in excess of County noise standards, or	PS	None Feasible	SU

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
substantial increases in traffic noise.			
<b>Impact 4.5-2:</b> The proposed project could result in temporary, short-term noise impacts during associated construction activities.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.5-3:</b> The proposed project could result in the exposure of persons to excessive ground-borne vibration.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.5-4:</b> The proposed project could involve the potential exposure of people residing or working near an airport to excessive noise levels.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.5-5:</b> The proposed project could expose people residing or working near industrial/agricultural land uses and recreational venues to excessive noise levels.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>4.6 Hydrology, Water Quality, and Drainage</b>			
<b>Impact 4.6-1:</b> The proposed project could violate water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.6-2:</b> The proposed project could result in increased soil erosion and sedimentation during construction activities, substantially degrading water quality in downstream waterways.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.6-3:</b> The proposed project could result in sewer- and septic-related water quality impacts, including those associated with reuse of treated water and migration of septic tank leach field wastewater effluent to groundwater that could violate water quality standards.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.6-4:</b> The proposed project could deplete groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge.	PS	<p>The modified existing policies (W-9.1.1 and W-9.1.2) identified below are to be incorporated into the Water Resources Element (Goal 9.1 “Groundwater Management”) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>W-9.1.1 Groundwater Management.</b> 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:</li> </ul>	SU

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computer models of groundwater recharge, storage, flows, usage and sustainable yield for appropriate water years (both wet and dry years) and growth scenarios (existing and future year);</li> <li>• Assessment of water quality contaminants;</li> <li>• Analysis of resource limitations and relationships to other users for wells serving public supply systems and other large users;</li> <li>• Opportunities for changing the sources of water used for various activities to better match the available resources and protect groundwater;</li> <li>• Possible funding sources for monitoring, research, modeling and development of management options;</li> <li>• Provisions for applicant fees and other funding of County costs;</li> <li>• Groundwater elevation monitoring to address the requirements of the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program (CASGEM); and</li> <li>• Groundwater quality monitoring to address the requirement of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.</li> <li>• <b>W-9.1.2 Groundwater Recharge Area Protection.</b> The County shall require that all projects be designed to maintain or increase the site's pre-development absorption of rainfall (minimize runoff), and to recharge groundwater where appropriate. Implementation would include standards that could regulate impervious surfaces, provide for water impoundments (retention/detention structures), protecting and planting vegetation, use of permeable paving materials, bioswales, water gardens, and cisterns, and other measures to increase runoff retention, protect water quality, and enhance groundwater recharge.</li> </ul>	
<b>Impact 4.6-5:</b> The proposed project could alter existing drainage patterns resulting in increased erosion or siltation, or could increase surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on or off site.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.6-6:</b> The proposed project could result in the construction of housing within areas that are subject to 100-year flooding.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.6-7:</b> The proposed project could result in the construction of facilities within areas that are subject to flooding, which could redirect or impede flood flows.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.6-8:</b> The proposed project could result in the development of areas that are located within an existing dam failure inundation zone.	PS	None Feasible	SU

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>4.7 Geology, Soils, Seismicity, and Mineral Resources</b>			
<b>Impact 4.7-1:</b> The proposed project could result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.7-2:</b> The proposed project could expose people to injury or structures to damage from potential rupture of a known earthquake fault, strong groundshaking, seismic-related ground failure, or landslide.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.7-3:</b> The proposed project could result in potential structural damage from development on a potentially unstable geologic unit or soil.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.7-4:</b> The proposed project could increase the potential for structural damage from development on expansive soil.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.7-5:</b> The proposed project could result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource, or a locally important mineral resource recovery site that would be of value to the region and residents of the State.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.7-6:</b> The proposed project could expose persons and property to seiche or mudflow hazards.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>4.8 Hazardous Materials and Public Safety</b>			
<b>Impact 4.8-1:</b> The proposed project could expose persons to hazardous materials from routine use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials or the release of hazardous materials.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.8-2:</b> The proposed project could establish new land uses that would potentially create aviation safety hazards.	LTS	<p>Although this impact is considered less than significant, the Final EIR also identifies an additional new policy (PHS-6.6.2) to ensure this impact remains less than significant. The new policy identified below is to be incorporated into the Public Health and Safety Element (Goal 6.6 "Airport Safety") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PHS-6.6.3 Private Airfields and Land Use Compatibility.</b> The County shall ensure that the development of future private airstrips and helipads address land use compatibility issues. As part of the approval process of these private facilities, the County shall consult and coordinate with the Plumas County ALUC to address any setback, height, or land use restrictions associated with operation of the private airfield/helipad.</li> </ul>	LTS

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>Impact 4.8-3:</b> The proposed project could establish new land uses increasing their exposure to wildland fires.	PS	None Feasible	SU
<b>Impact 4.8-4:</b> The proposed project could establish new land uses that would interfere with the implementation of an emergency response or evacuation plan.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>4.9 Public Services, Recreation Resources, and Utilities</b>			
<b>Impact 4.9-1:</b> The proposed project could result in the need for new or expanded fire facilities.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	LTS
<b>Impact 4.9-2:</b> The proposed project could result in the need for new or expanded law enforcement facilities.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	LTS

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>Impact 4.9-3:</b> The proposed project could result in the need for new or expanded public education services or facilities.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.9-4:</b> The proposed project could result in the need for new or expanded libraries or other County services.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.8 Library Services, Facilities, and Programs.</b> The County shall strive to support the Plumas County Library system and continue to encourage the use of libraries as multi-functional facilities, acting as gathering places, cultural centers, and venues for community events and programs.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.9 Diverse Health Care Facilities.</b> The County shall continue to encourage development of a full range of health care-related facilities to meet regional and community needs.</li> </ul>	LTS
<b>Impact 4.9-5:</b> The proposed project could result in the creation of additional demands on water supply, resulting in a need for new or expanded water treatment facilities.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	LTS

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>Impact 4.9-6:</b> The proposed project could result in the creation of additional demands for wastewater collection and treatment, resulting in a need for new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	LTS
<b>Impact 4.9-7:</b> The proposed project could result in the need for new or expanded stormwater drainage facilities.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	LTS
<b>Impact 4.9-8:</b> The proposed project could result in a need for new solid waste facilities or non-compliance with waste diversion requirements.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> </ul>	LTS

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SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	
<b>Impact 4.9-9:</b> The proposed project could result in the need for new or expanded parks, trails, and recreational facilities, which were not contemplated in the general plan.	PS	<p>The new policies identified below are to be incorporated into the Land Use Element (Goal 1.5 Maximize Existing Infrastructure) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.4. Maintain Existing Levels of Services.</b> The County shall ensure new growth and developments do not create significant adverse impacts on existing County-owned and operated facilities.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.5. Fair Share Funding for Public Services and Facilities.</b> The County shall review development proposals for their impacts on infrastructure (for example, sewer, water, fire stations, libraries, streets, etc). New development shall be required to pay its proportionate share of the costs of infrastructure improvements required to serve the project to the extent permitted by State law.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.6. Coordination with Service Providers.</b> The County shall work with special districts, community service districts, public utility districts, mutual water companies, private water purveyors, sanitary districts, and sewer maintenance districts to provide adequate levels of public facilities and services.</li> <li>• <b>LU-1.5.7. Municipal Service Reviews (MSRs).</b> The County shall use MSRs adopted by LAFCo, as tools to assess the capacity, condition, and financing of various public utility services provided by special districts and cities, most commonly, domestic water and sanitary sewer.</li> </ul>	LTS
<b>4.10 Agricultural and Timber Resources</b>			
<b>Impact 4.10-1:</b> The proposed project could result in the conversion of Important Farmland or Timber Resource Lands to non-agricultural use.	PS	<p>The revised existing policies (AG/FOR-8.9.1 and AG/FOR-8.9.2) implementation measure (#17) identified below are to be incorporated into the Agriculture and Forestry Element (Goal 8.9 “Protection of Timber Resource Land for Commercial and Resource Values”) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AG/FOR-8.9.1 Minimal Parcel Size for Timber Resource Lands.</b> The minimum parcel size for Timber Resource lands shall be 40 acres. Timber Resource Lands include those lands identified as General Forest and as Timberland Production Zone. Limitations provided by the zoning include a restriction of the allowable density of dwelling units in the Timberland Production Zone. Only parcels 160 acres in size or greater are allowed a residence or structure as necessary for the management of the timber resource.</li> <li>• <b>AG/FOR-8.9.2 Compatible Uses for Timber Resource Lands.</b> Timber Resource lands shall only be used for purposes that are compatible with timber production such as the production of other wood products, bio-mass, mineral resource extraction, grazing, recreation, carbon sequestration and wildlife habitat/migratory corridors.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #17.</b> Amend the Zoning Code to address the use of ministerial permitting of agricultural and forestry support uses.</li> </ul>	SU

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>Impact 4.10-2:</b> The proposed project could result in conflicts with existing zoning for agricultural use, Williamson Act contracts, or Timberland Production Zones.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.10-3:</b> The proposed project could involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, would result in the conversion of farmland to nonagricultural use.	PS	<p>The revised existing policies (AG/FOR-8.9.1 and AG/FOR-8.9.2) implementation measure (#17) identified below are to be incorporated into the Agriculture and Forestry Element (Goal 8.9 “Protection of Timber Resource Land for Commercial and Resource Values”) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>AG/FOR-8.9.1 Minimal Parcel Size for Timber Resource Lands.</b> The minimum parcel size for Timber Resource lands shall be 40 acres. Timber Resource Lands include those lands identified as General Forest and as Timberland Production Zone. Limitations provided by the zoning include a restriction of the allowable density of dwelling units in the Timberland Production Zone. Only parcels 160 acres in size or greater are allowed a residence or structure as necessary for the management of the timber resource.</li> <li>• <b>AG/FOR-8.9.2 Compatible Uses for Timber Resource Lands.</b> Timber Resource lands shall only be used for purposes that are compatible with timber production such as the production of other wood products, bio-mass, mineral resource extraction, grazing, recreation, carbon sequestration and wildlife habitat/migratory corridors.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #17.</b> Amend the Zoning Code to address the use of ministerial permitting of agricultural and forestry support uses.</li> </ul>	SU
<b>4.11 Biological Resources</b>			
<b>Impact 4.11-1:</b> The proposed project could have an adverse impact on special status species.	PS	<p>The revised existing policies (COS-7.2.7, COS-7.2.9, COS-7.2.10, and COS-7.2.13) and new implementation measures (#23 and #24) identified below are to be incorporated into the Conservation and Open Space Element (Goal 7.2 “Biological Resources”) prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.7 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Buffers.</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.9 Wildlife Fencing.</b> The County shall discourage the use of fencing in rural areas that is exclusionary or dangerous to wildlife, except when necessary for property protection, human safety, crop protection, or domestic animal containment through its discretionary project review and implementation process. Where fencing is necessary, wildlife friendly standards will be considered to the extent feasible.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.10 Lake Davis Area.</b> Within the Lake Davis Deer Fawning Area, the County shall establish a 20-acre minimum parcel size until a compensating area is provided, whether naturally or artificially, within the Lake Davis subunit range. Development of a future compensating area shall be developed in coordination with DFW and other appropriate agencies. Any designated compensating areas shall be clearly mapped and designated in the County's mapping system.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.13 Biological Resource Maps and Surveys.</b> The County shall maintain and consult biological</li> </ul>	LTS

**TABLE ES-1  
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<p><b>Impact 4.11-2:</b> The proposed project could have potential adverse effects on sensitive riparian habitat, other sensitive natural communities and on Federal and State jurisdictional waters and wetlands.</p>	PS	<p>resource maps during the discretionary permit review process in order to identify habitat concerns and guide mitigations that will reduce biological resource impacts. Additionally, the County shall require that any development project that could potentially impact a special status species or sensitive natural community shall be required to conduct a biological survey of the site. If special-status species or sensitive natural communities are found on the site, the project biologist shall recommend measures necessary to avoid, minimize, and/or compensate for identified impacts to special-status species and sensitive natural communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #23.</b> The County shall maintain best available data in the form of GIS maps for the location and extent of wetlands, critical habitats, streamside management areas, rookeries, and ranges of species identified in the California Natural Diversity Database and in consultation, through data sharing, with other resource management agencies including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Fish and Wildlife, and the United States Forest Service.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #24.</b> The County shall maintain efficient and timely procedures for project referral to state and federal agencies for biological review and consultation.</li> </ul> <p>The revised existing policies (COS-7.2.7, COS-7.2.9, COS-7.2.10, and COS-7.2.13) and new implementation measures (#23 and #24) identified below are to be incorporated into the Conservation and Open Space Element (Goal 7.2 "Biological Resources") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.7 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Buffers.</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.9 Wildlife Fencing.</b> The County shall discourage the use of fencing in rural areas that is exclusionary or dangerous to wildlife, except when necessary for property protection, human safety, crop protection, or domestic animal containment through its discretionary project review and implementation process. Where fencing is necessary, wildlife friendly standards will be considered to the extent feasible.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.10 Lake Davis Area.</b> Within the Lake Davis Deer Fawning Area, the County shall establish a 20-acre minimum parcel size until a compensating area is provided, whether naturally or artificially, within the Lake Davis subunit range. Development of a future compensating area shall be developed in coordination with DFW and other appropriate agencies. Any designated compensating areas shall be clearly mapped and designated in the County's mapping system.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.13 Biological Resource Maps and Surveys.</b> 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. Additionally, the County shall require that any development project that could potentially impact a special status species or sensitive natural community shall be required to conduct a biological survey of the site. If special-status species or sensitive natural communities are found on the site, the project biologist shall recommend measures necessary to avoid, minimize, and/or compensate for identified impacts to special-status species and sensitive natural communities.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #23.</b> The County shall maintain best available data in the form of GIS maps for</li> </ul>	LTS

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SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
		<p>the location and extent of wetlands, critical habitats, streamside management areas, rookeries, and ranges of species identified in the California Natural Diversity Database and in consultation, through data sharing, with other resource management agencies including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Fish and Wildlife, and the United States Forest Service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #24.</b> The County shall maintain efficient and timely procedures for project referral to state and federal agencies for biological review and consultation.</li> </ul>	
<b>Impact 4.11-3:</b> The proposed project could result in the potential disturbance and loss of native fish and wildlife species movement corridors.	PS	<p>The revised existing policies (COS-7.2.7, COS-7.2.9, COS-7.2.10, and COS-7.2.13) and new implementation measures (#23 and #24) identified below are to be incorporated into the Conservation and Open Space Element (Goal 7.2 "Biological Resources") prior to approval of the Final Goals and Policies Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.7 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Buffers.</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.9 Wildlife Fencing.</b> The County shall discourage the use of fencing in rural areas that is exclusionary or dangerous to wildlife, except when necessary for property protection, human safety, crop protection, or domestic animal containment through its discretionary project review and implementation process. Where fencing is necessary, wildlife friendly standards will be considered to the extent feasible.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.10 Lake Davis Area.</b> Within the Lake Davis Deer Fawning Area, the County shall establish a 20-acre minimum parcel size until a compensating area is provided, whether naturally or artificially, within the Lake Davis subunit range. Development of a future compensating area shall be developed in coordination with DFW and other appropriate agencies. Any designated compensating areas shall be clearly mapped and designated in the County's mapping system.</li> <li>• <b>COS-7.2.13 Biological Resource Maps and Surveys.</b> 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. Additionally, the County shall require that any development project that could potentially impact a special status species or sensitive natural community shall be required to conduct a biological survey of the site. If special-status species or sensitive natural communities are found on the site, the project biologist shall recommend measures necessary to avoid, minimize, and/or compensate for identified impacts to special-status species and sensitive natural communities.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #23.</b> The County shall maintain best available data in the form of GIS maps for the location and extent of wetlands, critical habitats, streamside management areas, rookeries, and ranges of species identified in the California Natural Diversity Database and in consultation, through data sharing, with other resource management agencies including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Fish and Wildlife, and the United States Forest Service.</li> <li>• <b>Implementation Measure #24.</b> The County shall maintain efficient and timely procedures for project referral to state and federal agencies for biological review and consultation.</li> </ul>	LTS

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SUMMARY OF IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

Impact	Level of Significance Before Mitigation	Mitigation Measures	Level of Significance after Mitigation
<b>Impact 4.11-4:</b> The proposed project would not result in a potential Inconsistency with an adopted conservation plan.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>4.12 Cultural Resources</b>			
<b>Impact 4.12-1:</b> The proposed project could potentially damage or destroy historic resources.	PS	None Feasible	SU
<b>Impact 4.12-2:</b> The proposed project could potentially damage or destroy archaeological resources.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.12-3:</b> The proposed project could result in damage or destruction of paleontological resources.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS
<b>Impact 4.12-4:</b> The proposed project could damage or destroy burial sites.	LTS	None Required (Beyond Currently Proposed General Plan Policies and Implementation Measures)	LTS

The true amount of fertilizer N put on fields is unknown, but these estimates are closer to real numbers than 140 lbs N/ac figure from the Sacramento County GHG Inventory that consultants used for Plumas and Sierra Counties. I worked with UCCE colleagues to come up with figures then consulted with a few local growers as well as two major fertilizer salesmen who have serviced the area for years. It is important that nitrogen use efficiency be looked at, not just rate. –Holly George, University of California Cooperative Extension, Plumas-Sierra Counties, April 2013.

### Agriculture Sector Notes for Plumas and Sierra County 2005 Community-Wide GHG Inventory Reports

CROP	# AC in Plumas County *	# AC in Sierra County*	Estimated Average #/ac N fertilizer **	Notes
Alfalfa Hay	6,000	1,200	10	N amount from fertilizers is estimate of the annual application of P fertilizers (across all fields) with 11-52-0 being applied. Not applied every year to all fields, with many fields receiving zero for many years. (Range 0-25 #N/ac/yr)
Meadow Hay	3,000	1,600	10	Most (~90%) of this acreage isn't fertilized as it is low quality forage; estimate ~10% of acreage receives 100#N/ac (Range 0-100#N/ac/yr)
Grain Hay	1,000	700	70	Range 0-150#N/ac/yr
Irrigated Pasture	35,000	11,445	25	Some improved irrigated pastures (~10%) are fertilized; but much of the acreage is a grass/sedge/rush mixture with the majority of the acreage (~90%) not being fertilized. (Range 0-80#N/ac/yr)

\*Source of figures is 2005 Crop & Livestock Report prepared by Plumas-Sierra County Department of Agriculture

\*\* Source of Estimated fertilizer application, UCCE Intermountain Farm Advisors (Holly George-Plumas-Sierra Counties, Steve Orloff-Siskiyou County, Rob Wilson-Intermountain Research and Extension Center-Tulelake) and Dan Putnam, Statewide Alfalfa-Forage Specialist, UC Davis.

#### Footnotes

1. These estimates may be high due to the widespread lack of inputs on some of these more marginal grounds, common practice for economic reasons.
2. Rate is only one of the factors when it comes to either water quality impacts or atmospheric gas emissions. Timing (single vs multiple), method of application (surface, knifing in, etc.), and source of fertilizer, plus use of nitrification inhibitors are at least as important if not more important. **This is an important message for the water regulators as well as the air boards.**