

**General Plan Implementation Workshop
Biological Resources**

**Attachment 1
Applicable Implementation Measures**

MEASURE CO-K

Work cooperatively with the State Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management to implement the gabbro soils rare plant ecological preserve and recovery program and to develop a long-term preserve strategy. Develop implementation measures to incorporate in County development standards for ministerial and discretionary projects, which may include:

- Identification of compatible land uses within preserve sites, which may include passive recreation, research and scientific study, and interpretive education; and
- Fuels management and fire protection plans to reduce fire hazards at the interface between rare plant preserve sites and residential land uses; and

[Policies 7.4.1.1, 7.4.1.2, and 7.4.1.3 and Objective 7.4.3]

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department |
| Time Frame: | Ongoing implementation to continue immediately upon General Plan adoption. Development standards to be incorporated into updated Zoning Ordinance and design standards programs. |

MEASURE CO-L

Develop guidelines for the preparation of biological study reports. [Policy 7.4.1.6]

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department and Department of Transportation |
| Time Frame: | Develop guidelines within five years of General Plan adoption. |

MEASURE CO-M

Develop and implement an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan consistent with Policy 7.4.2.8.

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department |
| Time Frame: | Develop initial habitat protection strategy; develop and implement mitigation assistance program; and develop and implement conservation fund within two years of General Plan adoption. Develop framework for acquisition strategy and monitoring program within three years of General Plan adoption. Begin actual acquisition after completion of the initial inventory and mapping; develop management strategies as properties are acquired. Adaptive management of the entire program will be ongoing. |

MEASURE CO-N

Review and update an Important Biological Corridor (-IBC) Overlay land use designation consistent with Policy 7.4.2.9.

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department |
| Time Frame: | Within two years of General Plan adoption. |

MEASURE CO-O

Prepare and adopt a riparian setback ordinance. The ordinance, which shall be incorporated into the Zoning Code, should address mitigation standards, including permanent protection mechanisms for protected areas, and exceptions to the setback requirements. The ordinance shall be applied to riparian areas associated with any surface water feature (i.e., rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, and wetlands) and should be prepared in coordination with Measure CO-B. [Policy 7.4.2.5]

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department |
| Time Frame: | Within three years of General Plan adoption. |

MEASURE CO-P

Develop and adopt an Oak Resources Management Plan. The plan shall address the following:

- Mitigation standards outlined in Policy 7.4.4.4;
- Thresholds of significance for the loss of oak woodlands;
- Requirements for tree surveys and mitigation plans for discretionary projects;
- Replanting and replacement standards;
- Heritage/landmark tree protection standards; and
- An Oak Tree Preservation Ordinance as outlined in Policy 7.4.5.1.

[Policies 7.4.4.4 and 7.4.5.1]

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department |
| Time Frame: | Within two years of General Plan adoption. |

MEASURE CO-U

Mitigation under Policy 7.4.1.6 shall include providing sufficient funding to the County's conservation fund to acquire and protect important habitat at a minimum 2:1 ratio. The cost associated with acquisition, restoration, and management of the habitat protected shall be included in the mitigation fee. For larger development projects (i.e., those that exceed a total of 10 acres), in addition to contributing to the conservation fund at a minimum 2:1 ratio, onsite preservation and/or restoration of important habitat shall be required at a 1:1 ratio. Impacts on important habitat and mitigation requirements shall be addressed in a Biological Resources Study and an Important Habitat Mitigation Program (described below).

- A. **Biological Resources Study.** The County shall adopt biological resource assessment standards that apply to all discretionary projects that would result in disturbance of soil and native vegetation in areas that include important habitat as defined in the INRMP. The assessment of the project site must be in the form of an independent Biological Resources Study, and must be completed by a qualified biologist. The evaluation shall quantify the amount of important habitat, by habitat type, as defined in the General Plan and delineated on maps included in the INRMP. The Biological Resources Study shall also address the potential for the project to adversely affect important habitat through conversion or fragmentation. This requirement shall not apply to projects that are on lands that either (1) have already been the subject of a study and for which all mitigation requirements are being implemented or (2) have been evaluated by the County and found to not possess any important habitat resources.
- B. **Important Habitat Mitigation Program.** The Biological Resource Study shall include an Important Habitat Mitigation Program that identifies options that would avoid, minimize, or compensate for impacts on important habitats in compliance with the standards of the INRMP and the General Plan. All mitigation programs shall include a monitoring and reporting component requiring reports to the County not less than once each year for a period of not less than 10 years. The report will include a description of the lands included in the mitigation program (including location and size), a summary of the evaluation criteria established at the time the mitigation program was approved, an evaluation of the mitigation program based on those criteria, and recommendations for action during the following year. The County shall adopt standards for evaluating mitigation programs proposed as part of the Biological Resources Study described above. The standards shall ensure that the mitigation

reduces direct and cumulative impacts of proposed development on important habitats to less than significant levels in accordance with CEQA thresholds.

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| Responsibility: | Planning Department |
| Time Frame: | Refer to Measures CO-L and CO-M as applicable. |