



INTRODUCTION

Conservation of natural resources, open space, parks, and trails provides lands and facilities that offer enjoyment and beauty to the residents of the community. Incorporating each of these elements throughout the City will provide a place for active and passive recreation, help to preserve natural resources, and improve air quality. Planning within the City of Ione aims to preserve natural resources and open spaces including waterways, air quality, agricultural areas, wildlife and plant species and habitats, as well as areas used for recreation.

Topics included in this Element include agriculture, air quality, flooding, land reclamation, land use, minerals, recreation, scenic resources, soil conservation, trails system, water supply, and wildlife. Refer to page 5-2 for a listing of contents covered in this Element.

Natural resources support urban life by providing necessary biological, mineral, and water resources and high quality lands for agricultural and recreational uses. Ensuring quality management and protection of the City's numerous natural resources will contribute to Ione's environmental health as well as to quality of life for residents. The City wishes to ensure long-term sustainability while evaluating new opportunities and techniques in conservation and the preservation of open space.



CONSERVATION & OPEN SPACE

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VISION

Conservation of air and water quality, wildlife and plant habitat, natural resources, recreational areas, and agricultural lands is a priority in planning within and around Ione. The City is surrounded by natural areas and exists on the boundary between the Central Valley of California and the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Planning and development in Ione will be well-coordinated to preserve and protect the highest level of environmental and natural resource quality and quantity for current and future generations. Human use and enjoyment of natural resources is incorporated through the preservation of agricultural lands, the development of parks, trails and other active and passive recreational opportunities, and the preservation of resources such as water.

Ione maintains a rural atmosphere through visual corridors that include rangeland, farmland, and recreational open space. Open space serves multiple purposes, including visual enhancement, water protection and flood control, recreation, non-motorized vehicle trails, wildlife through ways, and neighborhood definition. Planning and design for open space is done in conjunction with planning for development and with an eye to cohesive land use in City and the region. Since much of the open space within the area is outside of the City limits, coordination with Amador County, property owners, and residents is essential in preserving these lands. Open space is retained and, in select, appropriate locations, developed with amenities (such as trails and water access) to increase value for the community. In some areas commercial uses such as rangeland and farmland operations allow the land to remain economically productive while serving open space needs.

PURPOSE

This Element identifies the need for and ways to protect, maintain, and enhance existing natural resources, open space and natural recreational areas, as well as to create additional areas for the enjoyment of residents and the protection of the environment. This Element fulfills the conservation and open space element requirements for the General Plan. The goals, policies, and actions provided are intended to achieve the City's vision to provide open space areas that are accessible to all members of the community, while fostering the preservation of Ione's many valuable natural resources, including wildlife habitat, water resources, soils, and mineral resources. It



also attempts to balance the present needs of resource users with the need for resource conservation for the common good. This Element establishes a policy framework and action program for the improvement, expansion, and maintenance of the City's open space, recreation, and natural resources.

RELATED PLANS AND PROGRAMS

The Conservation Element relates to several other plans and programs, including the following:

National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a federal environmental review process for projects that have a federal nexus (e.g., impact federal resources or lands, receive federal funding, or require federal approval or permits). NEPA requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision-making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

Federal Endangered Species Act

The Federal Endangered Species Act (FESA) is a federal law that protects species that are endangered or threatened with extinction. FESA prohibits the "take" of endangered or threatened wildlife species. "Take" is defined as harassing, harming (including significantly modifying or degrading habitat), pursuing, hunting, shooting, wounding, killing, trapping, capturing, or collecting wildlife species or any attempt to engage in such conduct (16 USC 1532, 50 CFR 17.3).

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (404 Permits)

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States (waters of the U.S.), including wetlands and vernal pools. Activities in waters of the U.S. that are regulated under this program include fill for development, water resource projects (such as dams and levees), infrastructure development (such as highways and airports) and mining projects.

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Water Quality Certification)

Section 401 of the Clean Water Act requires a State Water Quality Certification for all federal permit or license applications for any activity that may result in a discharge into a water body in order to ensure compliance with state water quality standards. Most Certifications are issued in connection with section 404 permits for dredge and fill discharges. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board issues Section 401 water quality certifications for projects in Ione.

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act (NPDES Permits)

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act establishes permit programs to authorize discharge of storm water and treated wastewater to surface water(s) of the United States, referred to as the National



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Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, issues and administers NPDES permits.

City of Ione Wastewater Master Plan

The City is pursuing a Wastewater Master Plan, which will include proposals for wastewater service provision in the City. The Master Plan will address wastewater treatment, disposal, and reuse facility needs. The Plan will include steps to meet treatment requirements, determine repair and replacement needs, and improve reliability and performance of wastewater facilities.

Amador Water Agency Urban Water Management Plan

The Amador Water Agency was formed for the purpose of providing water and wastewater services to the residents of Amador County. While the Agency provides both services, only water service is provided to residents of Ione. Surface water from the Mokelumne River, located in the California Sierra Nevada Mountains, is the primary source of water for Ione. The Urban Water Management Plan addresses the Agency's water supplies and water demands over a range of normal and emergency conditions.

Mokelumne/ Amador/ Calaveras Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)

The IRWMP reflects the Mokelumne, Amador, and Calaveras region's goals for ensuring a reliable water supply, reduction in flood-related impacts, and preservation of water quality and the environment. Completed in 2006, it takes a regional approach to resource management and spans several watersheds.

California Environmental Quality Act

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is the State's environmental review process that requires public agencies to identify the significant environmental effects of a project and either avoid or mitigate the significant environmental effects, where feasible. **California Endangered Species Act**

The California Endangered Species Act is the State's listing of endangered and threatened species. It requires state agencies to consult with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) when preparing CEQA documents to ensure that the state lead agency actions do not jeopardize the existence of listed species.

California Fish and Game Code

The California Fish and Game Code contains laws and regulations relating to California's fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats. The Code is administered by the California Department of Fish and Game.



Surface Mining and Reclamation Act

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) addresses the need for a continuing supply of mineral resources and to prevent or minimize the negative impacts of surface mining to public health, property and the environment. SMARA's requirements apply to all surface mining operations in California that disturb more than one acre or remove more than 1,000 cubic yards of material including prospecting and exploratory activities, dredging and quarrying, streambed skimming, borrow pitting, and the stockpiling of mined materials.

Quimby Act

State legislation allows local jurisdictions to require the dedication of land for park and recreation purposes. This Element establishes the City's parkland dedication requirement.

Amador County Park and Recreation Master Plan

The Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA) is a joint powers authority consisting of Amador County; the Amador County Unified School District; the cities of Amador, Ione, Jackson, Plymouth, and Sutter Creek; and the Community Services Districts for Volcano and Camanche. ACRA provides park and recreation services in the County. The Master Plan helps identify parks and recreation opportunities and create an overall vision for meeting recreation needs.

City of Ione Parks and Recreation Commission

The City has a Parks and Recreation Commission that oversees matters regarding park and recreation facilities in the City. The Commission is responsible for planning, establishing parks standards, review and creation of recreational programs, and other aspects of management of parks and recreation services in the City.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GENERAL PLAN ELEMENTS

The Conservation and Open Space Element of the Ione General Plan is related to several other elements. The Circulation Element identifies routes for all modes of circulation including pedestrians and bicyclists. These routes will connect to recreational trails discussed in this Element. The Land Use Element aims to identify the appropriate mix and dispersion of land uses, including agricultural and recreational uses. Where possible, facilities such as schools will provide recreational uses for the entire community. Preservation of Ione's historical resources is addressed in the Economic Development Element.



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SETTING, ISSUES, AND CONSIDERATIONS

PARKS AND RECREATION

Recreational opportunities are provided throughout Ione; planned trailways will serve equestrians, bicyclists, walkers, runners and others. Greenbelts among developed areas will contain connecting trails and paths. Small parks provide play areas and gathering spaces for neighborhoods, while larger parks provide opportunities for swimming, tennis, sports fields and activities. Additional year-round recreation options are available through organized activities, indoor recreation facilities and community centers.



Additional recreational opportunities for residents and visitors include the Castle Oaks Golf Course. The course is a public, 18-hole championship golf course. The course is situated on the historic Preston Farmlands, and overlooked by Preston Castle.

**TABLE 5-1:
SUMMARY OF PARKS AND FACILITIES IN THE CITY OF IONE**

Park Site	Acres	Park Type
Grover Park (Pioneer Park)	2.0	Neighborhood Park
Heath Knoll	0.2	Landscape Area
Perry Earl Park	1.0	Neighborhood Park
Howard Park	89.7	Community Park
Train Park	0.3	Neighborhood Park
Oakridge Park	0.3	Neighborhood Park

Source: ACRA, 2006.

AGRICULTURE AND SOILS

The City of Ione does not contain a substantial amount of agricultural resources, or lands used for agriculture, within the City limits. Agriculture in the City's Sphere of Influence and Planning Area is typically limited to native pasture (dry), irrigated pasture, small grains (wheat and barley) and field crops (such as sugar beets, alfalfa, safflower, beans, and corn). Additional vineyards and orchards are located nearby as well. However, large areas throughout the planning area contain Prime Farmland and other valuable farmlands, as designated by the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. Refer to **Figure 5-1** for the locations of agricultural lands within the planning area.

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A total of 55 different soils types occur within the Planning Area. In general, soils in the City and surrounding Planning Area do not possess characteristics that are favorable to agricultural purposes, however; there are areas of valuable farmlands and high quality soils in some portions of the Planning Area. Generally, the majority of soils in the Planning Area are classified as severe (limited capability) relative to septic tank and leach field capability. Qualities which limit soils for agricultural uses and development purposes include steep slopes, nearness of bedrock to the surface, high erosion potential, poor drainage, stones and rocks in the soil, low water holding capacity, low fertility, poor soil structure, and damage caused by flooding.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND WATERWAYS

Natural resources within the planning area include waterways and wetlands, forested and wooded areas, and can also include croplands or agricultural areas that support wildlife. Vegetation types within the Planning Area include cropland, forests and woodlands, shrublands and grasslands. The predominant woodland within the Planning Area is blue oak series.

According to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, several dozen special-status plant and animal species have the potential to occur within Amador County. This includes species listed as Endangered, Threatened, and Species of Concern. Some special-status species which may occur in the Planning Area are vernal pool fairy shrimp, Central Valley steelhead and Chinook salmon, California tiger salamander, California red-legged frog, northwestern pond turtle, Swainson's hawk, golden and bald eagles, western burrowing owl, and other species.

Special habitats, including vernal pools and other seasonal wetlands also have the potential to occur in annual grassland habitat, found in the Planning Area. Wetlands are present within the City and greater Planning Area and provide a variety of functions to the community. Wetlands in the Planning Area have important ecological functions in that they support unique assemblages of specially adapted plant and animal species. In addition to their ecological functions, wetlands provide important water filtration, storage and recreational functions.

Major streams and flood corridors in the Ione area offering riparian habitat include Sutter Creek and Mule Creek, which flow into Dry Creek west of the City (see **Figure 5-2**). Creeks provide important ecosystem functions including habitat for diverse and abundant plant and animal life and are considered movement corridors for animals. Additionally, creeks and streams invite hiking, exploring and even gold panning.



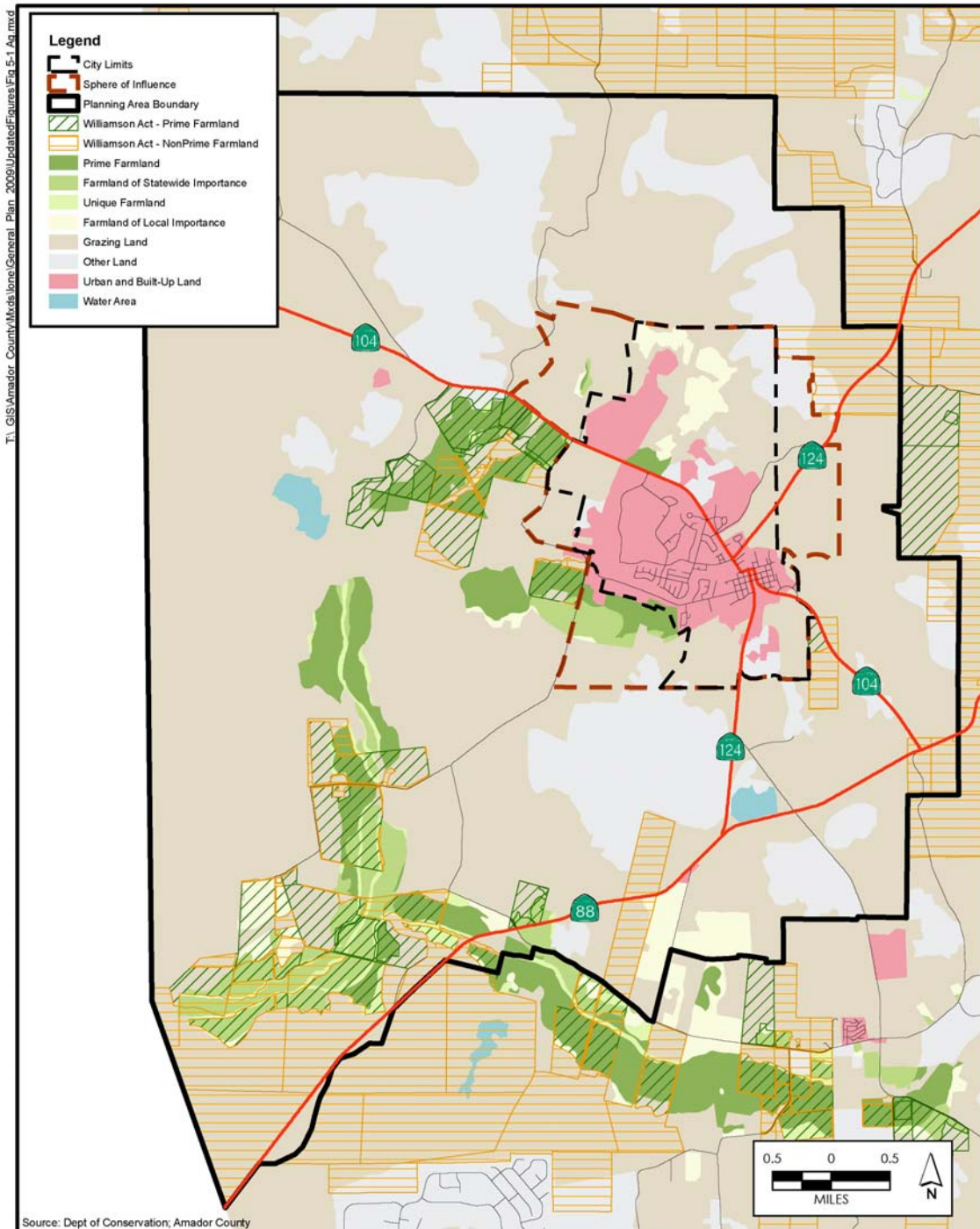
Sutter Creek

Surface water from the Mokelumne River, located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, is the primary source of water for Amador County. The Amador Water Agency (AWA) provides wholesale, retail, raw, and treated domestic water to the area. For Ione, water is stored at the Ione Reservoir before being piped to the Ione Water Treatment Plant.



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FIGURE 5-1: AGRICULTURAL LANDS

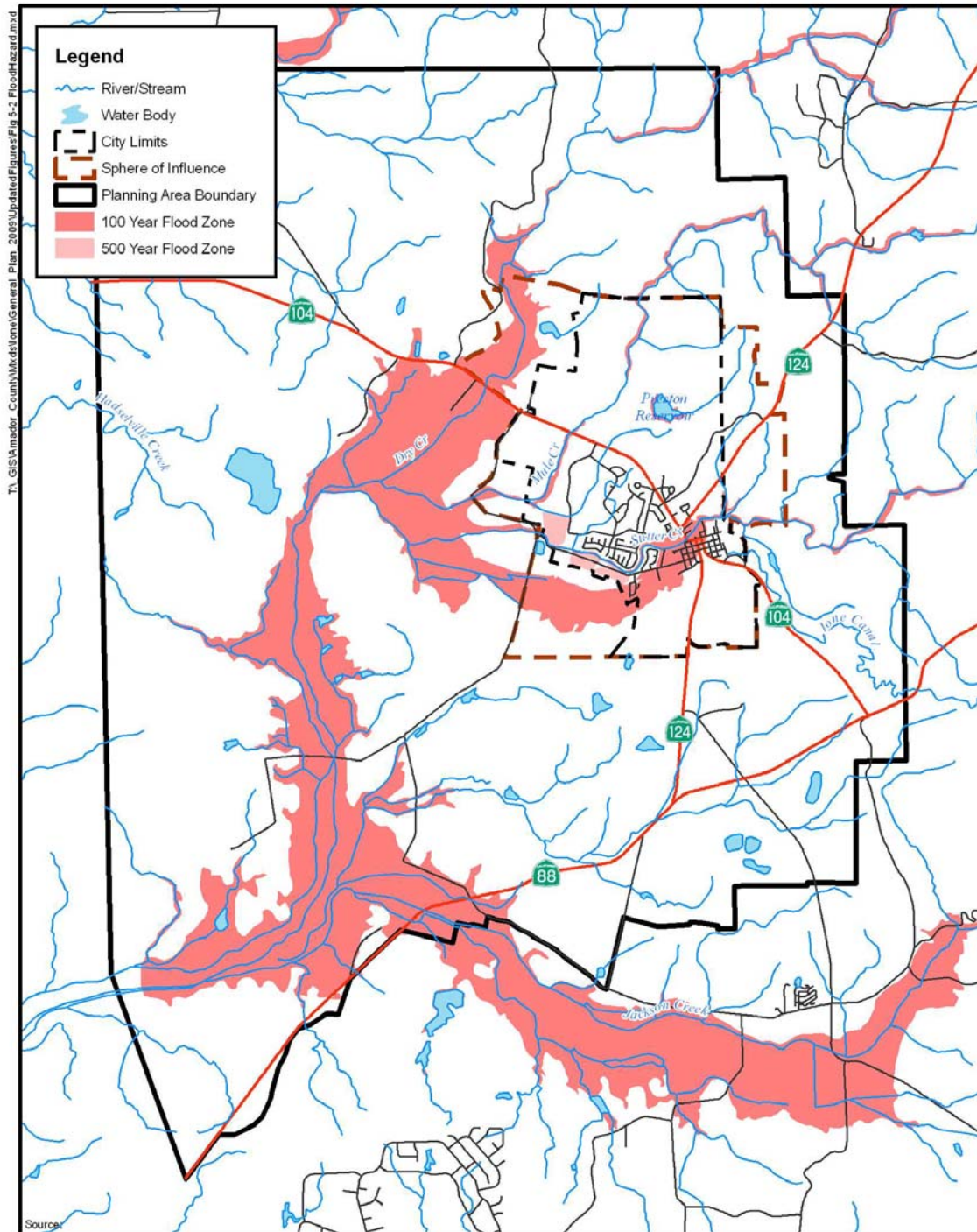


City of Ione
Planning Department

Agricultural Lands
July 2008



FIGURE 5-2: WATERWAYS AND FLOOD PLAINS



City of Ione
Planning Department

Waterways and Flood Plains



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ISSUES THIS ELEMENT ATTEMPTS TO SOLVE

This Element identifies several issues related to achieving the City's conservation, agriculture, open space, parks and trails vision. The following issues are addressed by the objectives, goals, and policies found in this element of the General Plan:

- Protecting wildlife and wetlands areas, including waterways and reservoirs intended for human use.
- Encouraging the City and various public agencies to work together to establish natural resource protection areas both inside and outside of the City.
- Reducing the impacts of new development on the use of water and aggregate resources.
- Maintaining continuous and uninterrupted habitat areas where possible in order to allow species migration and minimize habitat and species isolation.
- Establishing additional open space for outdoor recreation, especially in currently undeveloped areas.
- Enhancing existing parks and trails to provide a premier park system with a variety of facilities, landscaping types, natural resource areas and recreational uses – dispersed throughout the community.
- Preserving agricultural lands for agricultural uses within the Planning Area.
- Maintaining high air quality within the City and reducing Ione's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions.

GOALS, POLICIES, AND ACTIONS

The goals of this Element are as follows and are listed subsequently with corresponding policies.

GOAL CO-1:	Protect and preserve diverse wildlife and plant habitats, including habitat for special-status species
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Policy CO-1.1: Protect rare, threatened, and endangered species and their habitats in accordance with State and federal law.

Action CO-1.1.1: As appropriate to the characteristics of the proposed development, project location, and environmental conditions, incorporate

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significant habitat preserves and interconnected wildlife corridors in new development areas to provide ample space for animal movement.

Action CO-1.1.2: Review projects through the entitlement process and CEQA analysis to ensure that they comply with State and federal policy for biological resources.

Action CO-1.1.3: For areas planned to be preserved, the City shall require that preserved habitats have interconnections with other habitat areas, to the extent feasible, in order to maintain the viability of the preserved habitat to support the special-status species identified. The determination of the design and size of the “interconnections” shall be made by the City, as recommended by a qualified professional, and will include consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Action CO-1.1.4: For proposed private and public projects in which special-status species are found, likely to occur, or where the presence of species can be reasonably inferred, the City shall require feasible mitigation of impacts to ensure that the project does not contribute to the decline or viability of the species. Such mitigation measures may include providing and permanently maintaining similar quality and quantity of replacement habitat, enhancing existing habitat areas, or paying in-lieu fees towards to an approved habitat mitigation bank. Replacement habitat may occur either on-site or at approved off-site locations. Feasible mitigation shall be determined by the City after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) are provided an opportunity to comment. Mitigation shall emphasize a multi-species approach to the maximum extent feasible. This may include development or participation in a habitat conservation plan (HCP).

Action CO-1.1.5: The City shall require a biological resources evaluation for private and public development projects in areas identified to contain or possibly contain listed plant and/or wildlife species based upon the City's biological resource mapping provided in the General Plan EIR or other technical materials. This evaluation shall be conducted prior to the authorization of any ground disturbance.

Action CO-1.1.6: Coordinate with Amador County and adjoining jurisdictions, as well as with federal and state agencies such as Caltrans, to assure regional connectivity of open space and wildlife corridors.

Policy CO-1.2: Promote educational programs that inform the public about natural resources.

Action CO-1.2.1: Consult with non-profit groups, educational institutions, and other agencies as available to provide environmental education programs that inform the public about the City's natural resources.



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Action CO-1.2.2: Establish a network of interactive signs and other permanent educational features in preserved natural areas and open space areas, where feasible and public access is provided. Educational features should include pertinent natural history information and development of these features may be conducted with input from non-profit groups, educational institutions and other agencies.

GOAL CO-2:

Preserve and maintain creek corridors and wetland preserves with useable buffer zones throughout new development areas.

Policy CO-2.1: Consult with relevant State and local agencies, property owners, and local interest groups to restore, enhance, and preserve creeks in and around the City of Ione. Public and private projects shall be required to avoid impacts to wetlands if feasible. If avoidance is not feasible, projects shall achieve no net loss of wetlands, consistent with State and federal regulations.

Action CO-2.1.1: Restrict or modify as part of the project approval and environmental review process proposed development in areas that contain wetlands, as defined by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approved delineations as necessary to ensure the continued health and survival of special-status species and sensitive areas.

Action CO-2.1.2: Require setbacks and buffers for all development within areas containing wetlands or for development which will occur adjacent to wetlands or waterways. (*Cross reference LU 1.8, 1.13, 1.14, 1.15, 1.16*)

Action CO-2.1.3: Consult with non-profit groups, educational institutions, and other agencies as available to provide environmental education programs that inform the public about the City's creeks, wetlands and other special habitat areas.

Policy CO-2.2: The City shall require that drainage improvements discharging into areas of wetlands to be preserved are, to the maximum extent feasible, designed to mimic the undeveloped surface water flow conditions of the area in terms of seasonality, volume, flow velocity, and water quality. (*Cross reference PF 3.1.4*)

Policy CO-2.3: Applications for new development projects shall have been coordinated with local, state, and federal agencies in order to determine when natural creek corridors can handle projected storm flows and when separate stormwater facilities should be constructed. Applicants shall demonstrate that agency consultations have been undertaken that projects will take into account issues including flow velocity, sediment load, and volume.

Policy CO-2.4: Require the preservation of existing creek locations, topography, and meandering alignment. Minor adjustments to creek alignments may be approved on a case by

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case basis, provided the quality and integrity of the habitat are maintained. (*Cross reference LU 1.8, LU 1.9, LU 1.13, LU 1.14, LU 1.15, LU 1.16*)

Action CO-2.4.1: Encourage projects that contain creeks, or are located adjacent to creeks, to be designed for visibility and, as appropriate, access. Utilize low-impact trails, such as raised walkways, wherever access to wetlands, creeks and waterways is planned.

Action CO-2.4.2: Ensure that direct and indirect adverse impacts to wetland habitats are minimized by environmentally sensitive project siting and design.

Action CO-2.4.3: Establish standards for private projects allowing public access in the floodplain and buffers along creek corridors and preserves, where not precluded by habitat preservation requirements. Require open-view fencing for all residential development adjacent to creeks and wetlands.

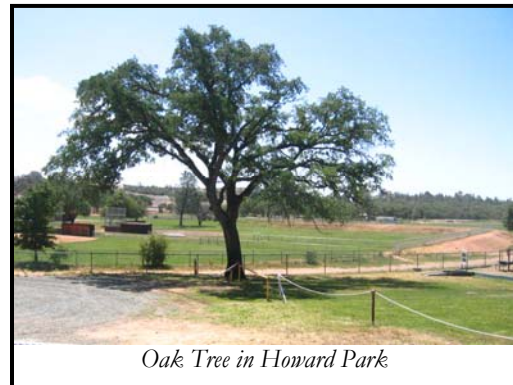
GOAL CO-3: **Preserve high-quality trees throughout the City.**

Policy CO-3.1: Conserve existing native and non-invasive trees for their historic, economic, aesthetic, educational, and environmental value. (*Cross reference LU 1.10, LU 1.11, LU 1.13, LU 1.14, LU 1.15, LU 1.16, LU 1.17*)

Policy CO-3.2: The City shall require preservation of all trees of 36" dbh or greater on development sites, unless health, safety, or access requirements do not allow for preservation of such trees. All development is required to fully mitigate the removal of any trees by replanting.

Policy CO-3.3: Promote trees as economic and environmental resources for the use, education, and enjoyment of current and future generations. Encourage property owners to plant and maintain healthy stands of trees.

Policy CO-3.4: Improve overall landscaping quality and sustainability in all areas visible to the public through the creation of development guidelines and/or standards that establish minimum planting provisions for landscaped areas within new developments.



Oak Tree in Howard Park



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Action CO-3.4.1: Create landscaping guidelines which address the appropriate species to be utilized, spacing and location of plantings and reduction of water required for irrigation and to ensure the long-term viability of planted areas.

Action CO-3.4.2: Work with local agencies, non-profits, and interest groups to develop a local tree list, identifying species which should be used for replacements and other landscaping to be used as a guideline for all tree plantings within the City.

GOAL CO-4: **Protect the quantity and quality of the City's water resources**

Policy CO-4.1: Promote water conservation within existing and future urban uses.

Action CO-4.1.1: Implement standards that require water conserving appliances and fixtures in all new development.

Action CO-4.1.2: Work with the local water provider to encourage the preservation of water for local residences and businesses (e.g., educational materials). (*Cross reference PF 4.1.4*)

Action CO-4.1.3: Require planting of drought-tolerant and native vegetation as part of new development projects.

Policy CO-4.2: Encourage the use of treated wastewater to irrigate parks, golf courses, and landscaping. In new development areas, the use of treated wastewater for irrigation may be applied as a condition of approval subject to State permitting. (*Cross reference PF 3.1.2*)

Policy CO-4.3: Protect surface and ground water from major sources of pollution, including hazardous materials contamination and urban runoff.

Action CO-4.3.1: Restrict hazardous materials storage in the 100-year floodplain to prevent surface water contamination. (*Cross reference NS 5.3*)

Action CO-4.3.2: Educate the community on laws governing the proper handling of hazardous materials, especially those laws that pertain to discharging materials into creeks.

Action CO-4.3.3: Install appropriate signage to deter the discharge of hazardous materials into storm drains.

Action CO-4.3.4: Future land uses anticipated to utilize hazardous materials or waste shall be required to provide adequate containment facilities to ensure that

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surface water and groundwater resources are protected from accidental releases. (*Cross reference NS 5.3.1*)

Policy CO-4.4: Minimize erosion into stream channels resulting from new development in urban areas, consistent with State law. (*Cross reference PF 3.1.4*)

Action CO-4.4.1: Require development projects to contain urban runoff control strategies and requirements that are consistent with Drainage Master Plans and the City's urban runoff management program.

Action CO-4.4.2: Require development within newly urbanizing areas to incorporate runoff control measures into their site design or to participate in an area-wide runoff control management effort, consistent with standards developed by the City.

Action CO-4.4.3: Encourage new development to incorporate features such as grassy swales, multi-use retention or detention basins, and integrated drainage systems to enhance water quality. (*Cross reference PF 3.1.5*)

Action CO-4.4.4: New development projects shall be required to incorporate the use of best management practices (BMPs) in order to protect receiving waters from the adverse effects of construction activities, sediment and urban runoff. BMPs shall be developed and incorporated in the project prior to approval by the City.

Policy CO-4.5: The City shall incorporate Storm Water, Urban Runoff, and Wetland Mosquito Management Guidelines and Best Management Practices into the design of water retention structures, drainage ditches, swales, and the construction of mitigated wetlands in order to reduce the potential for mosquito-borne disease transmission.

Policy CO-4.6: The City shall continue to cooperate and participate with the County, other cities, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding compliance with the joint National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit or any subsequent permit and support water quality improvement projects in order to maintain compliance with regional, state and federal water quality requirements.



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GOAL CO-5: Support the environmentally sensitive extraction of minerals and the subsequent reclamation of mined areas.

Policy CO-5.1: Ensure that the environmental effects of mining and reclamation on aquifers, streams, scenic views, and surrounding residential uses are prevented or minimized.

Action CO-5.1.1: Regulate surface mining operations within the City limits as required by California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA), Public Resources Code Section 2207 (relating to annual reporting requirements), and State Mining and Geology Board regulations for surface mining and reclamation practice.



Surface Mining

Action CO-5.1.2: Coordinate mining operations and urban development to minimize conflicts between residents and mining, particularly where mining is conducted before urbanization. (*Cross reference LU 1.10, LU 1.11*)

Policy CO-5.2: Eliminate residual hazards to the public health and safety. (*Cross reference LU 1.10, LU 1.11, LU 1.13, NS 8.1*)

Action CO-5.2.1: Establish and require minimum setbacks of future and reauthorized surface mining from adjoining residential land uses.

Action CO-5.2.2: Review proposed residential and sensitive land uses adjacent to existing or proposed mining operations for adequate buffering and establish setbacks where necessary to ensure public safety from such uses.

GOAL CO-6: Conserve the natural resources and quality of life within the community by reducing local and global air quality impacts.

Policy CO-6.1: Promote infill development as a means to limit vehicle trips and reduce the environmental impacts of new development and land use patterns.

Policy CO-6.2: Increase energy conservation Citywide. (*Cross reference H 7.1*)

Action CO-6.2.1: Develop educational programs to increase energy conservation at the household and business levels.

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Action CO-6.2.2: Develop programs to conserve energy resources at City-operated facilities.

Action CO-6.2.3: Encourage the development of energy efficient buildings and subdivisions.

Action CO-6.2.4: Work with local utility providers to make the public aware of energy rebate programs.

Action CO-6.2.5: Work with community organizations to encourage the inclusion of energy efficient systems in remodels and retrofits of existing development.

Policy CO-6.3: Promote the development and use of advanced energy technology and building materials in Ione. (*Cross reference H 7.1.2, PF 11.3*)

Policy CO-6.4: Promote energy rebate programs offered by local energy providers as a way to bring energy efficiency into older neighborhoods and developments. (*Cross reference H 7.1.3*)

Policy CO-6.5: The City supports local, regional, and statewide efforts to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases linked to climate change.

Action CO-6.5.1: The City will complete a Greenhouse Gas Inventory that provides an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions from manmade sources in the City.

Action CO-6.5.2: The City will prepare a Climate Action Plan (CAP) that identifies desired goals for reducing manmade greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, establishes resiliency and adaptation programs to prepare for potential impacts of climate change, and provides a phased implementation plan to achieve these goals. The CAP will establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target of 15% percent below 2007 levels by 2020, consistent with California Assembly Bill 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB32) and the guidance provided in the associated California Air Resources Board Climate Change Scoping Plan approved in December 2008. The CAP will also outline a strategy to achieve 1990 GHG levels by 2020 and an 80% reduction from 1990 GHG levels by 2050 in accordance with California State Executive Order S-3-05.

Policy CO-6.6: The City shall collaborate and consult with regional organizations and local jurisdictions within the City to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



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GOAL CO-7: Promote waste reduction, reuse, recycling, and composting

Policy CO-7.1: Support recycling efforts by developing a set of programs to educate residents on recycling and provide recycling services. (*Cross reference PF 7.1*)

Action CO-7.1.1: Work with local waste service providers to ensure that all residents receiving services are aware of waste disposal programs, recycling programs and green waste services.

Action CO-7.1.2: Continue to provide curbside recycling and green waste service to all residential properties in Ione. Where this service is not provided, ensure franchise agreements with local providers (ACES Waste Inc. and Amador Disposal Service) include these services to all areas within the City boundaries.

Action CO-7.1.3: Encourage all office, commercial, and multi-family complexes to provide recycling bins and collection service for paper, plastic, glass, and metal.

Action CO-7.1.4: Provide recycling centers at City facilities (e.g., City Hall, libraries) that are available to the public free-of-charge.

Action CO-7.1.5: Provide locations for household hazardous wastes to be recycled.

Action CO-7.1.6: Ensure that all construction projects include plans for the disposal of unused materials, the maximum amounts of source reduction, and encourage the utilization of recycled materials to the maximum extent feasible

Action CO-7.1.7: Work with the Amador County Unified School District to support recycling at school sites by placing easily accessible recycling bins, providing educational programs on recycling, and using recycled products.

Action CO-7.1.8: Ensure that as much of the City's office supply purchases are comprised of recycled or reusable products as possible. Encourage public agencies and local businesses to recycle as much as possible.

Policy CO-7.2: Meet state mandates for solid waste reduction and recycling.

Action CO-7.2.1: Implement the State's source reduction and recycling element (required by the California Integrated Waste Management Act) and the household hazardous waste element (required by PRC 41500-41510).

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GOAL CO-8: Create a system of public parks and recreation facilities and programs including a network of trails that meets the needs of all residents

Policy CO-8.1: Review all proposals for new residential development to ensure each project complies with the City's standards for parkland dedication. All park lands designated for parks or recreational use shall be reviewed by the City to determine adequacy for parks use.

Action CO-8.1.1: Require developers of all new residential development to dedicate parkland at a rate of at least five acres of land per 1,000 population. When necessary, provide an in-lieu payment option, which allows the developer to fund the acquisition of acceptable land equal to the dedication requirement. Calculate required parkland dedication exclusive of required open space.



Park Facilities

Action CO-8.1.2: Encourage the development of parks adjacent to school sites and other quasi-public and public facilities. (*Cross reference PF 2.2, PF 8.3*)

Action CO-8.1.3: Establish a procedure for determining an appropriate in lieu fee amount that ensures adequate funds to purchase required parkland for which in lieu fees are paid.

Action CO-8.1.4: Adopt and maintain a Noxious Weed Ordinance. The Noxious Weed Ordinance shall include regulatory standards for construction activities that occur adjacent to natural areas to inhibit the establishment of noxious weeds through accidental seed import.

Policy CO-8.2: Ensure that adequate and reliable funding sources are established for the long-term maintenance of parks and trails.

Action CO-8.2.1: Ensure that sufficient funding for maintenance of parks is assured prior to approval of any Final Subdivision Map that includes public parks and/or related facilities.

Action CO-8.2.2: If required to meet necessary parks and recreation funding needs of the City, the City shall create a fee and assessment program to provide increased funding for existing and planned parks. This could include local or regional bond measures or assessment districts, public or private grants or



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partnerships, homeowners associations, or other methods deemed appropriate by the City.

Policy CO-8.3: Work towards the creation of a complete network of trails and pathways connecting major areas of the city, which is accessible for all residents. (*Cross reference CIR 2.1, LU 1.8, LU 1.9, LU 1.10, LU 1.11, LU 1.13, LU 1.14, LU 1.16, LU 1.17*)

Action CO-8.3.1: Wherever feasible, provide pedestrian and bicycle linkages between existing and future park facilities. (*Cross reference CIR 2.3*)

Action CO-8.3.2: Support the development of trails in open space areas, and natural areas used for passive recreation.

Action CO-8.3.3: Work with property owners of open space and agricultural areas in the Planning Area to establish a mechanism to allow for public access to such open space areas, in coordination with planned trails systems in the area.

GOAL CO-9: **Protect open space areas, including preservation of scenic views.**

Policy CO-9.1: Create a City-wide standard for the dedication of open space for all development projects and maintaining open space.

Action CO-9.1.1: Review all proposals for new development to ensure compliance with the City's standards for open space. (*Cross reference LU 1.10, LU 1.11, LU 1.13, LU 1.14, LU 1.16*)

Action CO-9.1.2: Although some recreational uses are allowed in open space areas, the parkland dedication requirements are separate from and in addition to open space dedication requirements.

Action CO-9.1.3: Open space can include turf areas, agricultural uses, greens, dog parks, some drainage areas, community gardens and other uses, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the City.

Policy CO-9.2: Maximize the potential benefits of natural resource mitigation lands within urban development. (*Cross reference LU 1.8, LU 1.10, LU 1.11, LU 1.13, LU 1.14, LU 1.16*)

Action CO-9.2.1: As part of the tentative subdivision map, Planned Development, or Specific Plan process in newly developing areas, encourage projects to accomplish the following:

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- i. Align roads, trails, and public spaces to take advantage of vistas over open space; and locate trails through open spaces where possible, to maximize these areas as passive recreational uses, and to minimize the destruction of open space areas.
- ii. Locate public parks adjacent to open space lands to create a greater sense of open space and to take advantage of opportunities for scenic vistas and trail connections.

Action CO-9.2.2: Through the development review process, incorporate design features that increase visual access to natural resources. (*Cross reference LU 1.13*)

Policy CO-9.3: Where land designated or proposed to be designated for parks or open space contains Native American, historical, cultural and sacred sites, the City shall consult with the tribe as to the level of confidentiality required to protect the site and as to appropriate dignity to afford the site in any management plan.

GOAL CO-10: Conserve agricultural resources within and around the City and promote development which does not interfere with ongoing agricultural operations.

- Policy CO-10.1: Ensure minimal loss of agricultural lands within the Ione Planning Area through preservation of existing lands and through mitigation measures where necessary.
- Policy CO-10.2: The City shall not approve projects resulting in the loss of prime agricultural lands unless it makes findings that the benefits of the project outweigh the impacts associated with the loss of such agricultural lands.
- Policy CO-10.3: Support infill development, wherever possible, in order to minimize the conversion of agricultural lands when there are usable lands within already urbanizing areas.
- Policy CO-10.4: Limit leapfrog development and support development in areas where a logical extension of public facilities is possible.
- Policy CO-10.5: The City shall not support the development or conversion of any parcel subject to a Williamson Act contract until said contract has been terminated through the nonrenewal method pursuant to Government Code Section 51245.