

**APPENDIX B**  
**COUNTY GENERAL PLAN GOALS & POLICIES**

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**Table B-1.** Applicable Goals and Policies in County General Plans within the Central Coast Region

General Plan	Goals and Policies
<b><i>Agricultural Resources</i></b>	
Kern County	<p>Goal – Resource: (2) Protect areas of important mineral, petroleum, and agricultural resource potential for future use. (5) Conserve prime agriculture lands from premature conversion.</p> <p>Policies – Resource: (1) The County will support programs and policies that provide tax and economic incentives to ensure the long-term retention of agriculture, timber, and other resource lands. (21) The County shall encourage qualifying agricultural lands to participate in the Williamson Act program or Farmland Security Zone program.</p>
Monterey County	<p>Goal AG-1: Promote the long-term protection, conservation, and enhancement of productive and potentially productive agricultural land.</p> <p>Policy AG-1.1: Land uses that would interfere with routine and ongoing agricultural operations on viable farmlands designated as Prime, of Statewide Importance, Unique, or of Local Importance shall be prohibited.</p> <p>Policy AG-1.4: Viable agricultural land uses, including ancillary and support uses and facilities on farmland designated as Prime, of Statewide Importance, Unique, or of Local Importance shall be conserved, enhanced and expanded through agricultural land use designations and encouragement of large lot agricultural zoning, except as provided in a Community Plan. Agriculture shall be established as the top land use priority for guiding further economic development on agricultural lands.</p> <p>Goal AG-5: Ensure compatibility between the county’s agricultural uses and environmental resources.</p> <p>Policy AG-5.1: Programs that reduce soil erosion and increase soil productivity shall be supported.</p> <p>Policy AG-5.2: Policies and programs to protect and enhance surface water and groundwater resources shall be promoted but shall not be inconsistent with State and federal regulations.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal LU-3: To ensure the long-term preservation of the agricultural industry, agricultural support services, and rangeland resources by protecting these areas from incompatible urban uses and allowing farmers to manage their land and operations in an efficient, economically viable manner.</p> <p>Policy LU-3.2, Agricultural Integrity and Flexibility: The County shall protect the integrity of existing agricultural resources and provide for flexibility and economic viability of farming and ranching operations.</p> <p>Policy LU-3.3 Increased Agricultural Sustainability and Energy Efficiency: The County shall encourage and support farms, vineyards, and ranches that seek to implement programs that increase the sustainability of resources, conserve energy, and protect water and soil in order to bolster the local food economy, increase the viability of diverse family farms and improve the opportunities for farm workers.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	<p>Policy LU-3.4 Lower-Impact Agricultural Practices: The County shall encourage and support farms, vineyards, and ranches that use lower-impact agricultural and/or organic practices and shall recognize the benefits that a flourishing organic sector industry can provide.</p>
<p>San Luis Obispo County</p>	<p>Goal AG1: Support County Agricultural Production. (c) Support ongoing efforts by the agricultural community to develop new techniques and new practices.</p> <p>Goal AG2: Conserve Agricultural Resources. (a) Maintain the agricultural land base of the county by clearly defining and identifying productive agricultural lands for long-term protection. (b) Conserve the soil and water that are the vital components necessary for a successful agricultural industry in this county.</p> <p>Policy AGP9: Soil Conservation. (a) Encourage landowners to participate in programs that reduce soil erosion and increase soil productivity. (b) Emphasize the long-range benefits of proper drainage control and tillage, cropping, soil amendment, and grazing techniques to minimize soil erosion. (c) Assure that roads and drainage systems on county-controlled properties and facilities do not negatively impact agricultural lands and that the roads and systems are properly maintained.</p> <p>Policy AGP10: Water Conservation. (a) Encourage water conservation through feasible and appropriate “best management practices.” Emphasize efficient water application techniques; the use of properly designed irrigation systems; and the control of runoff from croplands, rangelands, and agricultural roads. (b) Encourage the U.C. Cooperative Extension to continue its public information and research program describing water conservation techniques that may be appropriate for agricultural practices in this county. Encourage landowners to participate in programs that conserve water.</p>
<p>San Mateo County</p>	<p>Goal 2.5, Minimize Depletion of Productive Soil Resources in Agricultural Areas: Minimize depletion of productive soil resources in agricultural areas through application of appropriate management practices.</p> <p>Policy 2.23, Regulate Excavation, Grading, Filling, and Land Clearing Activities Against Accelerated Soil Erosion: Regulate excavation, grading, filling, and land clearing activities to protect against accelerated soil erosion and sedimentation.</p> <p>Policy 2.27, Regulate Development and Agriculture Against Soil Contamination: Regulate development and agriculture to protect against soil contamination through measures which ensure proper use, storage, and disposal of toxic chemicals and pesticides.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	<p>Policy 2.28, Regulate Agricultural Activities Against Soil Depletion in Agricultural Areas: Regulate agricultural activities to minimize against soil depletion.</p> <p>Policy 9.28, Encourage Existing and Potential Agricultural Activities: (a) Encourage the continuance of existing agricultural and agriculturally-related activities.</p> <p>Policy 9.30, Development Standards to Minimize Land Use Conflicts with Agriculture: (a) Avoid to the greatest extent possible locating non-agricultural activities on soils with agricultural capability or lands in agricultural production. Regulations should place priorities according to the relative productive characteristics of the resource.</p> <p>Policy 9.31, Protection of Agricultural Lands: (a) Apply methods which assist in the retention and expansion of lands with agricultural activities such as density bonuses, enforceable restrictions (e.g., easements, contracts or deed restrictions), lease back of agricultural lands owned by public agencies, transfer of development rights, or other appropriate methods.</p>
<p>Santa Barbara County</p>	<p>Goal I: Santa Barbara County shall assure and enhance the continuation of agriculture as a major viable production industry in Santa Barbara Country. Agriculture shall be encouraged. Where conditions allow, (taking into account environmental impacts) expansion and intensification shall be supported.</p> <p>Policy I.F. The quality and availability of water, air, and soil resources shall be protected through provisions including but not limited to, the stability of Urban/Rural Boundary Lines, maintenance of buffer areas around agricultural areas, and the promotion of conservation practices.</p> <p>Policy I.G. Sustainable agricultural practices on agriculturally designated land should be encouraged in order to preserve the long-term health and viability of the soil.</p> <p>Goal IV: Recognizing that agriculture can enhance and protect natural resources, agricultural operations should be encouraged to incorporate such techniques as soil conservation and sound fire risk reduction practices.</p> <p>Policy IV.C. Grading and brush clearing for new agricultural improvements on hillsides shall not cause excessive erosion or downslope damage.</p>
<p>Santa Clara County</p>	<p>Policy C-RC 37: Agriculture should be encouraged and agricultural lands retained for their vital contributions to the overall economy, quality of life, and for their functional importance to Santa Clara County, in particular: (a) local food production capability; (b) productive use land not intended for urban development; and (c) protection of public health and safety.</p> <p>Policy C-RC 41: In addition to general land use and development controls, agricultural areas of greatest potential long-term viability should be identified and formally designated for permanent preservation.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
Santa Cruz County	<p>Goal 5.13, Commercial Agricultural Land: To maintain for exclusive agricultural use those lands identified on the County Agricultural Resources Map as best suited to the commercial production of food, fiber and ornamental crops and livestock and to prevent conversion of commercial agricultural land to non-agricultural uses. To recognize that agriculture is a priority land use and to resolve policy conflicts in favor of preserving and promoting agriculture on designated commercial agricultural lands.</p> <p>Policy 5.13.12, Energy Efficiency and Resource Protection: Encourage energy-efficient and resource protection agricultural practices such as organic farming, integrated pest management, biodynamic cultivation and utilization of agricultural wastes for on-site energy production.</p> <p>Policy 5.13.13, Composting Agricultural Wastes: Encourage the composting of agricultural wastes and the use of composts in agriculture production, as a means of reducing irrigation water demand and reducing solid waste disposal requirements. Allow the commercial composting of source separated organic material such as yard waste on agricultural land with an approved development permit, including coastal development permits, subject to health and water quality requirements.</p>
Ventura County	<p>Goal 3.2.1 – Agricultural: (1) Recognize the farmlands within the County that are critical to the maintenance of the local agricultural economy and which are important to the State and Nation for the production of food, fiber and ornamentals. (2) Preserve and protect agricultural lands as a nonrenewable resource to assure their continued availability for the production of food, fiber and ornamentals. (6) Establish policies and regulations which encourage agricultural land to remain in farming and related uses.</p> <p>Policy 1.6.2: (2) Hillside agricultural grading shall be regulated by the Public Works Agency through the Hillside Erosion Control Ordinance.</p>
<b>Air Quality</b>	
Kern County	<p>Policy 1.10.2, Air Quality: In considering discretionary projects for which an Environmental Impact Report must be prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, the appropriate decision-making body, as part of its deliberations, will ensure that: (20) The County shall include fugitive dust control measures as a requirement for discretionary projects and as required by the adopted rules and regulations of the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District and the Kern County Air Pollution Control District on ministerial permits. (21) The County shall support air districts’ efforts to reduce PM10 and PM2.5 emissions. (22) Kern County shall continue to work with the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District and the Kern County Air Pollution Control District toward air quality attainment with federal, State, and local standards.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
Monterey County	<p>Goal OS-10: Provide for the protection and enhancement of Monterey County’s air quality without constraining routine and ongoing agricultural activities.</p> <p>Policy OS-10.3: Monterey County shall promote conservation of naturally vegetated and forested areas for their air purifying functions.</p> <p>Policy OS-10.7: Use of the best available technology for reducing air pollution emissions shall be encouraged.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal HS-5: To improve local and regional air quality to protect residents from the adverse effects of poor air quality.</p> <p>Policy HS-5.4, PM10 Emissions from Construction: The County shall require developers to reduce particulate matter emissions from construction (e.g., grading, excavation, and demolition) consistent with standards established by the Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District</p>
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal AQ 2: The County will be a leader in implementing air quality programs and innovations.</p> <p>Goal AQ 3: State and federal ambient air quality standards will, at a minimum, be attained and maintained.</p> <p>Policy AQ 3.2, Attain air quality standards: Attain or exceed federal or state ambient air quality standards (the more stringent if not the same) for measured criteria pollutants.</p> <p>Policy AQ 3.7, Reduce vehicle idling: Encourage the reduction of heavy-vehicle idling throughout the county, particularly near schools, hospitals, senior care facilities, and areas prone to concentrations of people, including residential areas.</p> <p>Policy AQ 3.8, Reduce dust emissions: Reduce PM10 and PM2.5 emissions from unpaved and paved County roads to the maximum extent feasible.</p> <p>Policy AQ 4.5, Carbon Sequestration: Reduce net carbon emissions through the preservation, protection, and enhancement, as appropriate, of the county’s terrestrial and aquatic carbon sequestration resources, including the county’s lakes, soils, and native forests, trees, and plants.</p>
San Mateo County	<p>Goal 5: Encourage the use of clean, low-emissions vehicles and equipment.</p>
Santa Barbara County	<p>None.</p>
Santa Clara County	<p>None.</p>

<b>General Plan</b>	<b>Goals and Policies</b>
Santa Cruz County	Goal 5.18, Air Resources: To improve the all- quality of Santa Cruz County by meeting or exceeding state and federal ambient air quality standards, protect County residents from the health hazards of air pollution, protect agriculture from air pollution induced crop losses and prevent degradation of the scenic character of the area.
Ventura County	Goal 1.2.1: (1) Diligently seek and promote a level of air quality that protects public health, safety, and welfare, and seek to attain and maintain the State and Federal Ambient Air Quality standards.
<b>Biological Resources</b>	
Kern County	<p>Policy 1.10.5, Threatened and Endangered Species: (27) Threatened or endangered plant and wildlife species should be protected in accordance with State and federal laws. (31) The County will seek cooperative efforts with local, State, and federal agencies to protect listed threatened and endangered plant and wildlife species through the use of conservation plans and other methods promoting management and conservation of habitat lands.</p> <p>Policy 1.10.10, Oak Tree Conservation: (66) Promote the conservation of oak tree woodlands for their environmental value and scenic beauty.</p>
Monterey County	<p>Goal OS-5: Conserve listed species, critical habitat, habitat and species protected in area plans; avoid, minimize and mitigate significant impacts to biological resources.</p> <p>Policy OS-5.11: Conservation of large, continuous expanses of native trees and vegetation shall be promoted as the most suitable habitat for maintaining abundant and diverse wildlife.</p> <p>Policy OS-5.22: In order to preserve riparian habitat, conserve the value of streams and rivers as wildlife corridors and reduce sediment and other water quality impacts of new development, the county shall develop and adopt a Stream Setback Ordinance.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal NCR-2: To protect and enhance wildlife communities through a comprehensive approach that conserves, maintains, and restores important habitat areas.</p> <p>Policy NCR-2.1, Coordination for Habitat Preservation: The County shall work with property owners and Federal and State agencies to identify feasible and economically-viable methods of protecting and enhancing natural habitats and biological resources in the county.</p> <p>Policy NCR-2.5, Mitigation for Wetland Disturbance or Removal: The County shall encourage the protection of the habitat value and biological functions of oak woodlands, native grasslands, riparian and aquatic resources, and vernal pools and wetlands. The County shall require that development avoid encroachment and require buffers around these habitats to the extent practicable. The County shall further require mitigation for any development proposals that have the potential to reduce these habitats.</p>



General Plan	Goals and Policies
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal BR 1: Native habitat and biodiversity will be protected, restored, and enhanced.</p> <p>Policy BR 1.8, Effects of Major Ecosystems: Designation and management of a Major Ecosystem Network will be coordinated with agricultural uses on private lands that are either within or adjacent to the network.</p> <p>Policy BR 1.11, Protect Wildlife Nursery Areas and Movement Corridors: Identify, protect, and enable the management of connected habitat areas for wildlife movement. Features of particular importance to wildlife for movement may include, but are not limited to, riparian corridors, shorelines of the coast and bay, and ridgelines. Identification and designation of wildlife corridors will not interfere with agricultural uses on private lands.</p> <p>Goal BR 2: Threatened, rare, endangered, and sensitive species will be protected.</p> <p>Policy BR 2.10, Integrated Pest Management: Encourage the use of integrated pest management practices.</p> <p>Goal BR 4: The natural structure and function of streams and riparian habitat will be protected and restored.</p> <p>Policy BR 4.4, Vegetated Treatment Systems (Low Impact Development Techniques): Promote use and maintenance of engineered, vegetated treatment systems such as constructed wetlands, vegetated swales, or vegetated filter strips where they will reduce nonpoint source pollution from private and public development.</p> <p>Policy BR 4.5, Encourage Stream Preservation on Private Lands: Encourage private landowners to protect and preserve stream corridors in their natural state and to restore stream corridors that have been degraded.</p> <p>Goal BR 5: Wetlands will be preserved, enhanced, and restored.</p> <p>Policy BR 5.4, Wetlands on Agricultural Lands: Support use of best management practices and proper range use to minimize impacts to wetlands on agricultural lands.</p> <p>Goal BR 6: The County's fisheries and aquatic habitats will be preserved and improved.</p> <p>Policy BR 7.4, Sedimentation: Support efforts on public and private lands to keep Chorro Creek, Los Osos Creek, and other watercourses free of excessive sediment and other pollutants to maintain freshwater flow into the Morro Bay National Estuary and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, nurture steelhead trout, and support other plant and animal species. On County-owned lands, implement Best Management Practices in order to reduce sediment transport to coastal waters.</p>
San Mateo County	<p>Goal 1.1, Conserve, Enhance, Protect, Maintain and Manage Vegetative, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources: Promote the conservation, enhancement, protection, maintenance and managed use of the County's Vegetative, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources.</p> <p>Goal 1.2, Protect Sensitive Habitats: Protect sensitive habitats from reduction in size or degradation of the conditions necessary for their maintenance.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	<p>Policy 1.25, Protect Vegetative Resources: Ensure that development will: (1) minimize the removal of vegetative resources and/or; (2) protect vegetation which enhances microclimate, stabilizes slopes or reduces surface water runoff, erosion or sedimentation; and/or (3) protect historic and scenic trees.</p> <p>Policy 1.26, Protect Water Resources: Ensure that development will: (1) minimize the alteration of natural water bodies, (2) maintain adequate stream flows and water quality for vegetative, fish and wildlife habitats; (3) maintain and improve, if possible, the quality of groundwater basins and recharge areas; and (4) prevent to the greatest extent possible the depletion of groundwater resources.</p>
Santa Barbara County	None.
Santa Clara County	<p>Habitat and Biodiversity Goals: (2) Protect the Biological Integrity of Critical Habitat Areas; (3) Encourage Habitat Restoration.</p> <p>Policy C-RC 27: Habitat types and biodiversity within Santa Clara County and the region should be maintained and enhanced for their ecological, functional, aesthetic, and recreational importance.</p>
Santa Cruz County	Goal 5.2, Riparian Corridors and Wetlands: To preserve, protect and restore all riparian corridors and wetlands for the protection of wildlife and aquatic habitat, water quality, erosion control, open space, aesthetic and recreational values and the conveyance and storage of flood waters.
Ventura County	Goal 1.5.1: Identify, preserve and protect significant biological resources in Ventura County from incompatible land uses and development. Significant biological resources include endangered, threatened or rare species and their habitats, wetland habitats, coastal habitats, wildlife migration corridors that facilitate habitat connectivity and wildlife movement, and locally important species/communities.
<b>Cultural Resources</b>	
Kern County	Policy 1.10.3, Archaeological, Paleontological, Cultural, and Historical Preservation: (25) The County will promote the preservation of cultural and historic resources which provide ties with the past and constitute a heritage value to residents and visitors.
Monterey County	Goal OS-6: Encourage the conservation and identification of the county’s archaeological resources.
San Benito County	Goal NCR-7: To protect, preserve, and enhance the unique cultural and historic resources in the county.

General Plan	Goals and Policies
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal CR 3: The county’s historical resources will be preserved and protected.</p> <p>Goal CR 4: The county’s known and potential Native American, archaeological, and paleontological resources will be preserved and protected.</p> <p>Policy CR 2.3, “Living Resources”: Preserve historic sites and buildings and recognize cultural and archaeological resources as “living resources” that are part of a continuing culture.</p> <p>Policy CR 3.1, Historic Preservation: The County will provide for the identification, protection, enhancement, perpetuation, and use of features that reflect the County's historical, architectural, Native American, archaeological, cultural, and aesthetic heritage.</p> <p>Policy CR 4.4, Development Activities and Archaeological Sites: Protect archaeological and culturally sensitive sites from the effects of development by avoiding disturbance where feasible. Avoid archaeological resources as the primary method of protection.</p>
San Mateo County	<p>Goal 5.1, Historic Resource Protection: Protect historic resources for their historic, cultural, social and educational values and the enjoyment of future generations.</p> <p>Goal 5.3, Protection of Archaeological/Paleontological Sites: Protect archaeological/paleontological sites from destruction in order to preserve and interpret them for future scientific research, and public educational programs.</p>
Santa Barbara County	None.
Santa Clara County	<p>Heritage Resource Goals: (2) Prevent or Minimize Adverse Impacts on Heritage Resources; (3) Restore, Enhance and Commemorate Resources.</p> <p>Policy C-RC 49: Cultural heritage resources within Santa Clara County should be preserved, restored wherever possible, and commemorated as appropriate for their scientific, cultural, historic and place values.</p>
Santa Cruz County	<p>Goal 5.19: To protect and preserve archaeological resources for their scientific, educational and cultural values, and for their value as local heritage.</p> <p>Policy 5.19.3, Development Around Archaeological Resources: Protect archaeological resources from development by restricting improvements and grading activities to portions of the property not containing these resources, where feasible, or by preservation of the site through project design and/or use restrictions, such as covering the site with earth fill to a depth that ensures the site will not be disturbed by development, as determined by a professional archaeologist.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
Ventura County	<p>Goals 1.8.1: (1) Identify, inventory, preserve and protect the paleontological and cultural resources of Ventura County (including archaeological, historical and Native American resources) for their scientific, educational and cultural value.</p> <p>Policy 3: Mitigation of significant impacts on cultural or paleontological resources shall follow the Guidelines of the State Office of Historic Preservation, the State Native American Heritage Commission, and shall be performed in consultation with professionals in their respective areas of expertise.</p>
<b>Economics</b>	
Kern County	<p>Policy 1.10.9, Economic Development: (50) Employ land use policies that protect the County’s businesses from physical degradation and ensure orderly growth, thereby, sustaining opportunities for current and future generations to enjoy economic vitality. (59) Support efforts to promote the County and its cities as an area with a positive business climate for commerce and industry. (64) Provide infrastructure and coordinate local land use, regulatory practices and job training to foster and maintain a robust economy.</p>
Monterey County	<p>Goal ED-1: Support the development of jobs and business opportunities in Monterey County.</p> <p>Policy ED-1.3: The County shall encourage the growth of key industries and targeted clusters that result in the creation of career ladder jobs to increase the County’s average wage level shall be supported. Linkage among identified clusters shall be encouraged.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal ED-1: To sustain the long-term economic wellbeing of the county by promoting economic sustainability and diversification.</p> <p>Policy ED-1.6, Agricultural Base Diversification: The County shall diversify the existing agricultural base by encouraging strong relationships between traditional agricultural industries and emerging agricultural-related industries, and emphasizing the expansion of value-added agricultural products in the county.</p> <p>Goal ED-2: To support and promote the retention and expansion of existing businesses within the county.</p> <p>Policy ED-4.3, Sustainable Wineries: The County shall encourage the wine industry to adopt sustainable winemaking practices.</p>
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal EE 1: Promote a strong and viable local economy by pursuing policies that balance economic, environmental, and social needs of the county.</p> <p>Goal EE 2: Retain and enhance a diverse economy.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	Policy EE 2.2: Consider strategies to enable agriculture to remain economically viable such as continuing to allow non-agricultural activities and uses in rural areas where supportive of agricultural uses, avoiding land use conflicts and consistent with the General Plan.
San Mateo County	None.
Santa Barbara County	Agricultural Element Goal: (1) Santa Barbara County shall assure and enhance the continuation of agriculture as a major viable production industry in Santa Barbara Country. Agriculture shall be encouraged. Where conditions allow, (taking into account environmental impacts) expansion and intensification shall be supported.
Santa Clara County	Policy C-RC 43: Long term economic viability of agricultural activities shall be maintained and enhanced by providing: (a) improved markets for locally grown products; (b) property tax relief; (c) appropriate application of “renewable,” organic agriculture and other innovative, cost-efficient growing techniques; and (d) adequate agricultural worker housing supply.
Santa Cruz County	Goal 5.1.3: To maintain for exclusive agricultural use those lands identified on the County Agricultural Resources Map as best suited to the commercial production of food, fiber and ornamental crops and livestock and to prevent conversion of commercial agricultural land to non-agricultural uses. To recognize that agriculture is a priority land use and to resolve policy conflicts in favor of preserving and promoting agriculture on designated commercial agricultural lands.
Ventura County	Goals 3.2.1: (1) Promote the economic viability of agricultural lands by assisting agricultural producers and establishing zoning policies that support long term investments in agriculture. (6) Establish policies and regulations which encourage agricultural land to remain in farming and related uses.
<b>Energy</b>	
Kern County	None.
Monterey County	Goal OS-9: Promote efficient energy use. Policy OS-9.1: The use of solar, wind and other renewable resources for agricultural, residential, commercial, industrial, and public building applications shall be encouraged.
San Benito County	Goal NCR-6: To increase energy independence and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the use of renewable energy sources and improved energy conservation and efficiency.

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	<p>Policy NCR-6.1, Local Renewable Energy: The County shall strive to increase the supply of locally produced, renewable energy (e.g., solar, wind, geothermal, and biomass) in order to promote energy independence and efficiency.</p>
<p>San Luis Obispo County</p>	<p>Goal E 3: Energy efficiency and conservation will be promoted in both new and existing development.</p> <p>Goal E 6: The use of renewable energy resources will be increased.</p> <p>Policy E 3.6, Energy conservation in agriculture: Promote state-of-the-art energy conservation and efficiency in agriculture.</p> <p>Policy E 6.3, Small-scale renewable energy resources: Develop renewable energy resources in the county, including the safe, effective, and efficient use of small wind energy systems, solar power systems, passive solar buildings, and other renewable energy systems designed for onsite home, farm, and commercial use.</p>
<p>San Mateo County</p>	<p>Goal 2: Maximize energy efficiency in new and existing development.</p> <p>Goal 3: Promote the expansion of the use of renewable energy supplies.</p> <p>Policy 3.2: Promote the production of appropriate off-site renewable energy for use in the unincorporated county.</p>
<p>Santa Barbara County</p>	<p>Goal 4, Water Use and Solid Waste: Increase the efficiency of water and resource use to reduce energy consumption associated with various phases of using resources (pumping, distribution, treatment, heating, etc.).</p> <p>Policy 4.6, Water/Energy-Efficient Irrigation: The County shall continue to support the programs of the Soil Conservation Service, Resource Conservation District, U.C. Cooperative Extension/Farm Advisor, utility companies, and others that address efficient irrigation because of their associated energy benefits.</p> <p>Goal 5, Alternative Energy: Encourage the use of alternative energy for environmental and economic benefits, and encourage opportunities for businesses that develop or market alternative energy technologies</p>
<p>Santa Clara County</p>	<p>Goal 2: Conserve Energy in Residential and Other Sectors.</p> <p>Policy C-RC 77: Energy efficiency and conservation efforts in the transportation, industrial, commercial, residential, agricultural and public sectors shall be encouraged at the local, county (sub-regional), and regional level.</p> <p>Policy C-RC 83: Industrial and agricultural processes should be modified wherever feasible to take advantage of energy savings, to reduce operational costs, and to enhance competitiveness.</p>
<p>Santa Cruz County</p>	<p>Policy 5.13.12, Energy Efficiency and Resource Protection: Encourage energy-efficient and resource protection agricultural practices such as organic farming, integrated pest management, biodynamic cultivation and utilization of agricultural wastes for on-site energy production.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	Policy 5.15.5, Maximum Energy Efficiency: Encourage the use of alternative energy sources such as passive solar design techniques to maximize energy efficiency, when feasible.
Ventura County	Goal 1.9.1: (2) Encourage the use of renewable sources of energy and energy conservation techniques in new development; (4) Encourage increased fuel efficiency of vehicles and decreased number and length of vehicle trips.
<b>Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>	
Kern County	None.
Monterey County	Policy OS-10.10: Within 24 months of the adoption of the General Plan, Monterey County shall develop and adopt a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Plan with a target to reduce emissions by 2020 to a level that is 15% less than 2005 emission levels.
San Benito County	<p>Goal NCR-6: To increase energy independence and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the use of renewable energy sources and improved energy conservation and efficiency.</p> <p>Policy HS-5.7, Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions: The County shall promote greenhouse gas emission reductions by supporting carbon efficient farming methods (e.g., methane capture systems, no-till farming, crop rotation, cover cropping); supporting the installation of renewable energy technologies; and protecting grasslands, open space, oak woodlands, riparian forest and farmlands from conversion to urban uses.</p> <p>Policy HS-5.8, GHG Reduction Targets: The County acknowledges that the state endeavors to achieve 1990 greenhouse gas (GHG) emission levels, and establish a long-term goal to reduce GHG emissions by 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. The County will encourage projects that support these goals, recognizing that these goals can be met only if the state succeeds in decarbonizing its fuel supply.</p>
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal AQ-4: Greenhouse gas emissions from county operations and communitywide sources will be reduced from baseline levels by a minimum of 15% by 2020.</p> <p>Policy AQ 4.1, Reduce greenhouse gas emissions: Implement and enforce State legislative or regulatory standards, policies, and programs designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Policy AQ 4.2, Identify greenhouse gas emissions: Quantify, reduce, and mitigate greenhouse gas emissions</p>
San Mateo County	<p>Goal 1: Promote and implement policies and programs to reduce county-wide greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Goal 7: Support sustainable agricultural practices.</p> <p>Policy 7.1: Collaborate with partners to encourage voluntary sustainable agricultural practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.</p>

<b>General Plan</b>	<b>Goals and Policies</b>
Santa Barbara County	<p>Policy 5.2, Alternative Energy Technologies: The County shall encourage the use of alternative energy technology in appropriate new and existing development.</p> <p>Policy 8.3, ECAP Implementation: The County shall implement the Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from community-wide sources by a minimum of 15% from the 2007 baseline emissions by 2020.</p>
Santa Clara County	None.
Santa Cruz County	Policy 5.18.9, Greenhouse Gas Reduction: Implement state and federal legislation promoting the national goal of 35% reduction of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases by 2000.
Ventura County	None.
<b><i>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</i></b>	
Kern County	<p>Goal 2.5.4, Transportation of Hazardous Materials: Reduce risk to public health from transportation of hazardous materials.</p> <p>Goal 4.8: Reduce the public’s exposure to fire, explosion, blowout, and other hazards associated with the accidental release of crude oil, natural gas, and hydrogen sulfide gas.</p>
Monterey County	<p>Goal S-3: Ensure effective storm drainage and flood control to protect life, property and the environment.</p> <p>Goal S-4: Minimize the risks from fire.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal HS-2: To minimize the loss of life, injury, or damage to property as a result of floods in the county.</p> <p>Goal HS-4: To minimize the risk of wildland and urban fire hazards.</p> <p>Goal HS-6: To safeguard and protect the health and safety of people, the environment, and personal property from the potential dangers associated with a hazardous materials release.</p> <p>Policy HS-6.1, Hazardous Materials Storage and Disposal: The County shall require proper storage and disposal of hazardous materials to prevent leakage, potential explosions, fires, or the escape of harmful gases, and to prevent individually innocuous materials from combining to form hazardous substances, especially at the time of disposal.</p> <p>Policy HS-6.5, Transportation Routes: The County shall restrict transport of hazardous materials within San Benito County to designated routes.</p>



General Plan	Goals and Policies
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal S-3: Reduce damage to structures and the danger to life caused by flooding, dam inundation and tsunami.</p> <p>Goal S-4: Reduce the threat to life, structures and the environment caused by fire.</p> <p>Policy S-26, Hazardous Materials: Reduce the potential for exposure to humans and the environment by hazardous substances.</p> <p>Policy S-27, Pesticide Hazards: Reduce the potential for pesticide exposure to humans and the environment.</p>
San Mateo County	<p>Goal 16.47, Strive to Protect Life, Property, and the Environment from Hazardous Material Exposure: Strive to protect public health and safety, environmental quality, and property from the adverse effects of hazardous materials through adequate and responsible management practices.</p> <p>Goal 16.48, Strive to Ensure Responsible Hazardous Waste Management: Strive to ensure that hazardous waste generated within San Mateo County is stored, treated, transported and disposed of in a legal and environmentally safe manner so as to prevent human health hazard and/or ecological disruption.</p> <p>Goal 16.49, Strive to Reduce Public Exposure to Hazardous Materials: Strive to reduce public exposure to hazardous materials through programs which: (1) promote safe transportation, (2) prevent accidental discharge, and (3) promote effective incident response, utilizing extensive inventory and monitoring techniques.</p>
Santa Barbara County	<p>Goals 1.6: (1-1) To protect the health and welfare of the public, the environment, and the economy of Santa Barbara County through a comprehensive program that ensures safe and efficient management of hazardous wastes. (1-2) To prevent hazardous waste from being permanently disposed into land or emitted into the air or water without being processed by an economically and technically feasible technology so as to protect public health and safety and the environment.</p>
Santa Clara County	<p>Goal 1: Manage Hazardous Materials Safely and Efficiently.</p> <p>Policy C-HS 14: All feasible measures to safely and effectively manage hazardous materials and site hazardous materials treatment facilities should be used, including complying with all federal and state mandates.</p>
Santa Cruz County	<p>Goal 6.6, Hazardous and Toxic Materials: To eliminate, to the greatest degree possible, the use of hazardous and toxic materials, and where it is not feasible completely to eliminate the use of such materials, then to minimize the reduction in the use of such materials, so as to ensure that such materials will not contaminate any portion of the County's environment, including the land, water, and air resources of the County.</p>
Ventura County	<p>Goals 2.1.1: (2) Protect public health, safety and general welfare from identified hazards and potential disasters. (3) Shield public and private property and essential facilities from identified hazards and potential disasters.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
<b><i>Hydrology and Water Quality</i></b>	
Kern County	Policy 1.10.6, Surface Water and Groundwater: (34) Ensure that water quality standards are met for existing users and future development.
Monterey County	<p>Policy AG-5.2: Policies and programs to protect and enhance surface water and groundwater resources shall be promoted, but shall not be inconsistent with State and federal regulations.</p> <p>Goal OS-3: Prevent soil erosion to conserve soils and enhance water quality.</p> <p>Goal OS-4: Protect and conserve the quality of coastal, marine, and river environments, as applied in areas not in the coastal zone.</p> <p>Policy OS-4.2: Direct and indirect discharges of harmful substances into marine waters, rivers or streams shall not exceed state or federal standards.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal PFS-6: To manage stormwater from existing and future development using methods that reduce potential flooding, maintain natural water quality, enhance percolation for groundwater recharge, and provide opportunities for reuse.</p> <p>Policy PFS-6.8, Reduce Erosion and Sedimentation: The County shall ensure that drainage systems are designed and maintained to minimize soil erosion and sedimentation and maintain natural watershed functions.</p> <p>Goal NCR-4: To protect water quantity and quality in natural water bodies and groundwater basins and avoid overdraft of groundwater resources.</p> <p>Policy NCR-4.4, Open Space Conservation: The County shall encourage conservation and, where feasible, creation or restoration of open space areas that serve to protect water quality such as riparian corridors, buffer zones, wetlands, undeveloped open space areas, and drainage canals.</p>
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal WR 3: Excellent water quality will be maintained for the health of people and natural communities.</p> <p>Policy WR 3.1, Prevent water pollution: Take actions to prevent water pollution, consistent with federal and state water policies and standards, including but not limited to the federal Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES).</p> <p>Policy WR 3.3, Improve groundwater quality: Protect and improve groundwater quality from point and non-point source pollution, including nitrate contamination; MTBE and other industrial, agricultural, and commercial sources of contamination; naturally occurring mineralization, boron, radionuclides, geothermal contamination; and seawater intrusion and salts.</p> <p>Policy WR 3.4, Water quality restoration: Pursue opportunities to participate in programs or projects for water quality restoration and remediation with agencies and organizations such as the Regional Water Quality Control Board</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
	<p>(RWQCB), California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs) in areas where water quality is impaired.</p> <p>Policy WR 4.8, Efficient irrigation: Support efforts of the resource conservation districts, California Polytechnic State University (CalPoly), the University of California Cooperative Extension, and others to research, develop, and implement more efficient irrigation techniques.</p>
<p>San Mateo County</p>	<p>Goal: 1.1, Conserve, Enhance, Protect, Maintain and Manage Vegetative, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources: Promote the conservation, enhancement, protection, maintenance and managed use of the County’s Vegetative, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources.</p> <p>Policy 1.26, Protect Water Resources: Ensure that development will: (1) minimize the alteration of natural water bodies, (2) maintain adequate stream flows and water quality for vegetative, fish and wildlife habitats; (3) maintain and improve, if possible, the quality of groundwater basins and recharge areas; and (4) prevent to the greatest extent possible the depletion of groundwater resources.</p> <p>Policy 1.37, Protect the Productive Use of Water Resources: Ensure that land uses and development on or near water resources will not impair the quality or productive capacity of these resources.</p>
<p>Santa Barbara County</p>	<p>Water Resources Policies: (1) The County and the cities should support the Regional Water Quality Control Board in its establishment of discharge requirements for point source waste discharges, in order to protect surface and groundwater supplies; (3) Land use and development upstream from surface reservoirs should be regulated and monitored by the County Department of Public Works and the County Planning Department in order to minimize the production of water polluting wastes.</p>
<p>Santa Clara County</p>	<p>Goal 1: Reduce Non-Point Source Pollution.</p> <p>Goal 2: Restore Wetlands, Riparian Areas, and Other Habitats That Improve Bay Water Quality.</p> <p>Policy C-RC 19: The strategies for maintaining and improving water quality on a countywide basis, in addition to ongoing point source regulation, should include: (a) effective non-point source pollution control; (b) restoration of wetlands, riparian areas, and other habitats which serve to improve Bay water quality; and (c) comprehensive Watershed Management Plans and “best management practices” (BMPs).</p> <p>Policy C-RC 20: Adequate safeguards for water resources and habitats should be developed and enforced to avoid or minimize water pollution of various kinds, including: (a) erosion and sedimentation; (b) organic matter and wastes; (c) pesticides and herbicides; (d) hazardous wastes; and (e) non-point source pollution.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
Santa Cruz County	<p>Goal 5.7, Maintaining Surface Water Quality: To protect and enhance surface water quality in the County's streams, coastal lagoons, and marshes by establishing best management practices on adjacent land uses.</p> <p>Goal 5.8a, Groundwater Protection: To protect the quantity and quality of the County's groundwater resources through an integrated program of land use regulation and runoff management in groundwater recharge areas, careful water quality monitoring and management of extractions consistent with long-term sustainable water supply yields.</p> <p>Policy 5.7.3, Erosion Control for Stream and Lagoon Protection: For all new and existing development and land disturbances, require the installation and maintenance of sediment basins, and/or other strict erosion control measures, as needed to prevent siltation of streams and coastal lagoons. (Also see Erosion policies in section 6.3.)</p>
Ventura County	<p>Goals 1.3.1: (3) Maintain and, where feasible, restore the chemical, physical and biological integrity of surface and groundwater resources. (5) Protect and, where feasible, enhance watersheds and aquifer recharge areas.</p>
<b>Noise</b>	
Kern County	<p>Goal 3.2, Noise Sensitive Areas: (1) Ensure that residents of Kern County are protected from excessive noise and that moderate levels of noise are maintained.</p>
Monterey County	<p>Goal S-7: Maintain a healthy and quiet environment free from annoying and harmful sounds.</p> <p>Policy S-7.2: Proposed development shall incorporate design elements necessary to minimize noise impacts on surrounding land uses and to reduce noise in indoor spaces to an acceptable level.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal HS-8: To protect the health, safety, and welfare of county residents through the elimination of annoying or harmful noise levels.</p>
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goals 3.1: (1) To protect the residents of San Luis Obispo County from the harmful and annoying effects of exposure to excessive noise.</p>
San Mateo County	<p>Goal 16.1, Strive Toward a Livable Noise Environment: Strive toward an environment for all residents of San Mateo County which is free from unnecessary, annoying, and injurious noise.</p> <p>Goal 16.2, Reduce Noise Impacts Through Noise/Land Use Compatibility and Noise Mitigation: Reduce noise impacts within San Mateo County through measures which promote noise/land use compatibility and noise mitigation.</p>
Santa Barbara County	<p>Noise Policies: (1) In the planning of land use, 65 dB Day-Night Average Sound Level should be regarded as the maximum exterior noise exposure compatible with noise-sensitive uses unless noise mitigation features are included in project designs.</p>

<b>General Plan</b>	<b>Goals and Policies</b>
Santa Clara County	<p>Goal 1: Prevent or Minimize Noise Conflicts.</p> <p>Policy C-HS 24: Environments for all residents of Santa Clara County free from noises that jeopardize their health and well-being should be provided through measures which promote noise and land use compatibility.</p>
Santa Cruz County	<p>Goal 6.9a, Noise Environment: To promote land uses which are compatible with each other and with the existing and future noise environment. Prevent new noise sources from increasing the existing noise levels above acceptable standards and eliminate or reduce noise from existing objectionable noise sources.</p>
Ventura County	<p>Goal 2.16.1: To protect the health, safety and general welfare of County residents by elimination or avoidance of adverse noise impacts on existing and future noise sensitive uses.</p>
<b><i>Tribal Cultural Resources</i></b>	
Kern County	None.
Monterey County	<p>Goal OS-8: Encourage the conservation and identification of the County’s Native Californian cultural sites, sacred places and burial sites.</p> <p>Policy OS-8.1: Unique burial sites shall be identified and protected. All Native Californian cemeteries, burials, shrine sites, and sacred place locations shall be preserved in place to the greatest extent possible and as permitted by law. In cases where such sites and locations cannot be retained in place without modification, governing requirements in the Government Code, Health and Safety Code, California Environmental Quality Act and Native American Religious Freedom Act shall be taken into account in consulting with local Native Californian Tribal Groups with documented aboriginal ties to the study area and shall be carried out, as necessary, with the assistance and input of the California Native American Heritage Commission. Documentation of descent shall be based on Genealogical Proof Standards.</p>
San Benito County	<p>Goal NCR-1: To preserve and enhance valuable open space lands that provide wildlife habitat and conserve natural, historical, archaeological, paleontological, tribal, and visual resources of San Benito County.</p> <p>Goal NCR-7: To protect, preserve, and enhance the unique cultural and historic resources in the county.</p> <p>Policy NCR-7.9, Tribal Consultation: The County shall consult with Native American tribes regarding proposed development projects and land use policy changes consistent with the State’s Local and Tribal Intergovernmental Consultation requirements.</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
San Luis Obispo County	<p>Goal CR 4: The county’s known and potential Native American, archaeological, and paleontological resources will be preserved and protected.</p> <p>Policy CR 4.2, Protection of Native American Cultural Sites: Ensure protection of archaeological sites that are culturally significant to Native Americans, even if they have lost their scientific or archaeological integrity through previous disturbance. Protect sites that have religious or spiritual value, even if no artifacts are present. Protect sites that contain artifacts, which may have intrinsic value, even though their archaeological context has been disturbed.</p>
San Mateo County	None.
Santa Barbara County	<p>Historical and Archaeological Sites Policies: (3) When sufficient planning flexibility does not permit avoiding construction on archaeological or other types of cultural sites, adequate mitigation shall be required. Mitigation shall be designed in accord with guidelines of the State Office of Historic Preservation and the State of California Native American Heritage Commission. (4) Native Americans shall be consulted when development proposals are submitted which impact significant archaeological or cultural sites.</p>
Santa Clara County	None.
Santa Cruz County	<p>Policy 5.19.1, Evaluation of Native American Cultural Sites: Protect all archaeological resources until they can be evaluated. Prohibit any disturbance of Native American Cultural Sites without an appropriate permit. Maintain the Native American Cultural Sites ordinance.</p>
Ventura County	<p>Goal 1.8.1: (1) Identify, inventory, preserve and protect the paleontological and cultural resources of Ventura County (including archaeological, historical and Native American resources) for their scientific, educational and cultural value.</p> <p>Policies 1.8.2: (1) Discretionary development shall be designed or re-designed to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological or cultural resources whenever possible. Unavoidable impacts, whenever possible, shall be reduced to a less than significant level and/or shall be mitigated by extracting maximum recoverable data. Determinations of impacts, significance and mitigation shall be made by qualified archaeological (in consultation with recognized local Native American groups), historical or paleontological consultants, depending on the type of resource in question. (2) Mitigation of significant impacts on cultural or paleontological resources shall follow the Guidelines of the State Office of Historic Preservation, the State Native American Heritage Commission, and shall be performed in consultation with professionals in their respective areas of expertise</p>

General Plan	Goals and Policies
<b>Wildfire</b>	
Kern County	Policy 4.6, Wildland and Urban Fire: (3) The County will encourage the promotion of fire prevention methods to reduce service protection costs and costs to taxpayers; (4) Ensure that new development of properties have sufficient access for emergency vehicles and for the evacuation of residents.
Monterey County	Goal S-4: Minimize the risks from fire. Policy 4.32: Property owners in high, very high, and extreme fire hazard areas shall prepare an overall Fuel Modification Zone plan in conjunction with permits for new structures, subject to approval and to be performed in conjunction with the CDFFP and/or other fire protection agencies in compliance with State Law.
San Benito County	Goal HS-4: To minimize the risk of wildland and urban fire hazards. Policy HS-4.4, Development in Fire Hazard Zones: The County shall require development in high fire-hazard areas to be designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes the risk from fire hazards and meets all applicable State and County fire standards. Policy HS-4.5, Fire-Resistant Vegetation: The County shall require development in high fire-hazard areas to have fire-resistant vegetation, cleared fire breaks separating communities or clusters of structures from native vegetation, or a long-term comprehensive vegetation and fuel management program consistent with State codes 4290 and 4291 for wildland fire interface and vegetation management.
San Luis Obispo County	Goal S-4. Reduce the threat to life, structures and the environment caused by fire. Policy BR 2.7, Fire Suppression and Sensitive Plants and Habitats: Balance the need for fire suppression and/or vegetation (fuel) management with the need to protect sensitive biological resources. Where possible, design land divisions and development so that fuel-breaks, vegetation, or fuel modification areas that are needed to reduce fire hazards do not disrupt special-status plant communities or critical habitat for special status animal species. Fuel-breaks and vegetation or fuel modification areas shall be located on the development side of required setbacks from sensitive features, and shall be in addition to the required setbacks.
San Mateo County	Policy 15.37, Support Efforts to Reduce the Extent of the Fire Hazards: Support public and private efforts to reduce the potential of fire hazards through methods including but not limited to controlled burning programs reduction of fuel loading, construction and maintenance of fire breaks and other appropriate methods.
Santa Barbara County	Hillside and Watershed Protection Policies: (8) On any lands not Comprehensive Planned and zoned for agriculture, grading and “brushing” shall require a permit. Exceptions shall be grading of 50 cubic yards or less and “brushing” within a radius of 100 yards of a residential structure for fire purposes.

<b>General Plan</b>	<b>Goals and Policies</b>
Santa Clara County	Goal, Safety from Natural and Other Hazards: (7.1) Human life and property protected from the dangers of natural hazards, such as flood, seismic, geologic, and fire hazards.
Santa Cruz County	<p>Overall Public Health and Safety Goal: To protect human life, private property and the environment, and to minimize public expenses by preventing inappropriate use and development or location of public facilities and infrastructure in those areas which, by virtue of natural dynamic processes or proximity to other activities, present a potential threat to the public health, safety and general welfare.</p> <p>Objective 4.5, Fire Hazards: To protect the public from the hazards of fire through citizen awareness, mitigating the risks of fire, responsible fire protection planning and built-in systems for fire detection and suppression.</p>
Ventura County	Goals 2.13.1: (1) Minimize the risk of loss of life injury, damage to structures, and economic and social dislocations resulting from fire hazards. (2) Ensure that development in high fire hazard areas is designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes the risk from fire hazards.