

GOAL 1.2: TO CREATE A HEALTHY, STABLE, AND COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS.

OBJECTIVE 1.2.1: PROVIDE FOR AN ADEQUATE, LONG-TERM SUPPLY OF WATER TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL USES WITHIN THE COUNTY.

Policy 1.2.1.1 The County shall support water and wastewater agencies and districts in the development and acquisition of short term and long term water supplies and the use of reclaimed and untreated water for the irrigation of Agricultural Lands.

Implementation Measure 1.2.1.1: Establish procedures and mechanisms with water and wastewater agencies and districts to facilitate development of water supplies, including untreated and reclaimed water, to meet the existing and future water requirements of agriculture in a manner that would make the use of the water economically feasible.

Policy 1.2.1.2 Current agricultural water shall be protected from allocation to residential uses and discretionary projects establishing new residential uses. Water from increased irrigation efficiencies shall be allocated to expanding agriculturally related or compatible employment based uses.

Implementation Measure 1.2.1.2: When reviewing discretionary land use development, the County shall adopt standards that will be used in evaluating the impacts of a project's water requirements and the project's impacts on availability of water for existing Agricultural Lands.

Policy 1.2.1.3 The County shall support public agencies and private entities within Calaveras County in their efforts to protect their water rights and water supply contracts.

OBJECTIVE 1.2.2: TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATORS TO CONTINUE AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS ON ALL AGRICULTURAL LANDS AND EXPAND THE AGRICULTURALLY RELATED USES OF SUCH LANDS.

Policy 1.2.2.1 Agricultural Operations (Section 17.06.0132) allowed by right on Agricultural Lands whether or not for the purpose of producing income shall include, but not be limited to:
A. The preparation of land for agricultural use, including land leveling and clearing;

- B. Range Management Practices. Utilization of techniques to improve grazing potential and wildlife habitat, reduce erosion, protect watershed and minimize the risk of wildfire. These techniques include, but are not limited to, brush removal, tree thinning, control burns, re-seeding, pond and spring development, application of herbicides, and fencing;
- C. The cultivation and tillage of the soil, irrigation, pruning, protection against frost, control of bird or animal damage, lawful and proper use of agricultural chemicals, pesticides and fertilizers, and the burning of agricultural waste, growing and harvesting and sale of any agricultural commodity, including timber, trees, shrubs, vines, berries, flowers, herbs, vegetables, hay, grains, and all other plants, food and fiber crops. Includes viticulture, horticulture, apiculture, and aquaculture;
- D. The raising, production and sale of livestock, including cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, horses, llamas, rabbits, fur-producing animals, poultry, fowl, fish, and all other kinds of animal husbandry; includes dairying and ranching;
- E. The production and sale of wine, cider, juices, vinegar, olive oil products and other similar products;
- F. Commercial practices performed, uses customarily associated with structures and appurtenant facilities incidental to or used in conjunction with such agricultural operations, including curing, processing, packing, packaging, bottling, canning, tasting, preparation for market, storage, direct on-site sales and delivery to market or to carriers for transportation to market;
- G. Customary uses clearly incidental and secondary to the agricultural operation. The foregoing definition of agricultural operation shall be broadly construed unless limited by the strict provisions of the specific uses listed as permitted uses.

Policy 1.2.2.2 Mining and associated mining activities, when carry out in compliance with the State's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 and other applicable laws, shall be deemed a compatible use upon Agricultural Lands, including those structures and infrastructure improvements that are not required to be removed as part of a reclamation plan.

Policy 1.2.2.3 Water projects that are, when constructed and maintained in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws, will be deemed a compatible use upon Agricultural Lands.