

9

HISTORICAL AND ARCHEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION



CONTENTS

Introduction 1

Goals and Policies..... 2

ELEMENT 9. HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION

The San Juan County 2045 Vision states:

"Our community is enriched by a strong sense of identity, tradition, legacy, and continuity, where past and present freely mingle. We recognize the contributions to our rural and maritime heritage made by indigenous peoples, explorers, and island pioneers, and we encourage the preservation of that heritage. We encourage preservation of historic sites, structures, and traditions for the enjoyment of all."

Introduction

San Juan County is home to rich and unique cultural heritage. Historical and archaeological sites and structures remain, representing the presence of indigenous peoples from time immemorial, the settlement of 19th century pioneers, and a heritage of agriculture, fishing, limestone mining, and lumber economies of regional stature and importance. Preserving historical resources first requires an evaluation to determine which structures and sites meet the criteria of historic properties. Then, to protect them, it is necessary to encourage preservation and to regulate the demolition of historic structures and or degradation of historic sites. This element sets out goals and policies to support effective historic preservation in San Juan County.

GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal HAP 1

Protect, preserve, and enhance the rich history and cultural resources of San Juan County; more particularly its significant places, traditions, artifacts, stories, family histories, and other important historical and archaeological items.

Policy HAP 1.1

Work with local historical societies to prepare a comprehensive inventory of San Juan County historic sites, resources, buildings, and structures. The inventory should include the location, quantity, quality and significance of these resources using state, federal, and locally defined criteria.

Policy HAP 1.2

To encourage the preservation of historic and archaeological resources and minimize conflicts with competing land uses, support policies and programs such as:

- a. Pursue private and public sources of funding for use by property owners in the renovation and maintenance of significant historic properties;
- b. Coordinate and integrate preservation efforts for lands adjacent to significant historic properties;
- c. Pursue options and incentives to allow productive, reasonable use, and adaptive re-use of historic properties;
- d. Special valuation and open space taxation programs for rehabilitation and current use assessment.

Policy HAP 1.3

Coordinate with permit applicants, the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and tribal partners to protect cultural resources and provide an expedient permit process.

- a. Provide an early review service to the public that determines if a cultural resource report is required to be submitted with a permit application.
- b. Provide cursory review of permit applications to ensure that the proper cultural resources reports are submitted when necessary.
- c. Require cultural resource reports to be prepared by a professional archaeologist who meets the Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards and State Law.

- d. Require cultural resource reports, when required, to be prepared in accordance with the Washington State Standards for Cultural Resource Reporting.

Policy HAP 1.4

Ensure that the County is in compliance with the laws set forth in the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

Policy HAP 1.5

Assess and address climate impacts on historic and archaeological resources. Implement measures to evaluate climate risks such as inundation and/or shoreline erosion on cultural resources. Ensure preservation efforts account for these climate-related hazards to minimize conflicts with competing land uses.

