

MERCED

Protections in place:

	Oak Tree Retention/ Replacement Provisions	Oak Protection During Construction	Heritage Tree Protection	Riparian Vegetation Protections	Oak Canopy Retention Requirement	Oak Woodland Conservation Program
General Plan Language	The Conservation Element directs that removal of vegetation that stabilizes slopes should be minimized	None	None	The Conservation Element states that stream corridors should be maintained in a natural condition	None	None
Specific Ordinance	The Subdivision Ordinance states that subdivision design should minimize cutting of existing trees.	None	None	None	None	None
Voluntary Guidelines	None	None	None	None	None	None

Documents reviewed:

Date of Review: August 2003

- Open Space Element
- Conservation Element
- Land Use Element
- Zoning Ordinance
- Subdivision Ordinance

- Grading and Erosion Ordinance
- Roads/Sidewalk Tree Ordinance
- Tree Removal Ordinance
- Voluntary Guidelines
- Other County Codes

Summary of Oak Protection Policies:

Land Use Element, 1990	An objective of the Land Use Element is to designate rural areas to meet the agricultural, grazing, wildlife habitat, recreational, natural resource and other open space needs of the County (8-A). Zones include "Agricultural" for non-urban lands with agricultural productivity and recreation and wildlife values and "Foothill Pasture" for non-urban lands recognized for open space value as hilly grazing and cropland or as wildlife habitat or recreational areas.
Open Space / Conservation,	WILDLIFE HABITAT: The Open Space Element protects rare, endangered or threatened species from urban development by regulation of the location, density and design of development to minimize adverse impacts.

1990	<p>Redesignation of land from a rural to urban must consider potential impacts on significant habitats. Urban uses that could result in significant loss of sensitive habitat should be directed to less sensitive vegetation habitat areas.</p> <p>VEGETATION: Removal of vegetative resources which stabilize slopes, reduce surface water runoff, erosion and sedimentation should be minimized.</p> <p>RIPARIAN VEGETATION: Flood control alterations to existing waterways should avoid significant vegetation impacts. Stream corridors should be maintained in a natural condition.</p> <p>OPEN SPACE: The County shall maintain an open space and conservation inventory to delineate areas that have significant conservation value including vegetation.</p>
Subdivision Ordinance, 17.04	Subdivision design should minimize cutting of existing trees.

Contact Information:

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County Contacts:

- No contacts
- Policies provided by county staff
- Policies discussed with county staff
- Policy inventory reviewed by county staff