

GAVIOTA COAST CULTURAL RESOURCES

Gaviota Coast Planning Advisory Committee
December 15, 2010



Overview

- Sites found over 10,000 years old
- Abundant resources supported dense population

Sites and Artifacts

- Site types: hunting stands to large villages with cemeteries
- Likely locations:
 - Riparian corridors, especially at ocean
 - Ridgelines
 - Level coastal plains
- Artifacts: chipped stone, shell, ground stone, darker soil – one or all; rock art

CEQA (State Law)

- Lead agency must determine:
 - (1) if important resources are present
 - (2) If the project will harm them
- If so, then (in order of preference):
 - (1) AVOID
 - (2) Deed into permanent conservation easement
 - (3) Bury, then build (cap with sterile soil)
 - (4) Use for park or open space

CEQA (continued)

- Mitigation through excavation is a last resort
- Discovery of suspected human bone
 - Relocate work
 - Call Coroner immediately

County Ordinance

LUDC Section 35.60.040

- A. Coastal Zone and Inland area requirements.
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- **AVOID** sites if possible.
- If avoidance is not possible, mitigate per SHPO and NAHC standards.
- Consult Native Americans when proposed project impacts a significant resource.

Thresholds and Guidelines

- Thresholds mirror CEQA and must be adopted by the Board
- Guidelines are detailed technical direction for professionals and provide a way to measure adequacy of work
- Revisions to both are currently in progress

Comprehensive Plan Policies

- **ALL AVAILABLE MEASURES** shall be explored to **avoid** development on significant sites
- Proposed projects on parcels with archaeological sites require **project design** to avoid sites
- If site cannot be avoided, project **mitigation** is required per OHP and NAHC standards
- **Off-road vehicle use, artifact collection, etc.** that could affect sites **is prohibited**

Coastal Plan

- Same as Comprehensive Plan
 - Policy 10-1 Avoid (by ALL available measures)
 - Policy 10-2 Redesign
 - Policy 10-3 Mitigate
 - Policy 10-4 Prohibits off-road, collecting etc
- Adds :
 - **Policy 10-5:** Native Americans shall be consulted when development proposals are submitted which impact significant archaeological or cultural sites.

Other Area Plan Policies

- Summerland, Los Alamos
 - Protect and preserve
- Montecito, Orcutt, Toro Canyon, Mission
 - Protect and preserve to **MAXIMUM EXTENT FEASIBLE**

Santa Ynez Plan Area

Policy HA-SYV-4:

Traditional cultural, historical, and spiritual properties of concern Ynez Tribal Elders Council should be protected and preserved to the maximum extent feasible.

Policy HA-SYV-3:

The County shall encourage and support measures to educate residents and visitors about the Valley's historical resources.

Example Development Standards

- **Policy HA-SYV-1: Archaeological resources shall be protected and preserved to the maximum extent feasible.**
- **DevStd HA-SYV-1.1: A Phase 1 archaeological survey shall be performed when identified as necessary by a County archaeologist or contract archaeologist using the best available resources. The content, format, and length of the Phase 1 survey report shall be consistent with the size of the project and findings of the study.**

Example Development Standards, Continued

- DevStd HA-SYV-1.2: If archaeological remains are identified and cannot be avoided through project redesign, the proponent shall fund a Phase 2 study to determine the significance of the resource prior to issuance of any permit for development. All proposed mitigation recommendations resulting from the Phase 1 or Phase 2 study, including completion of additional archaeological analysis (Phase 3) and/or project redesign shall be incorporated into any permit issued for development.

Summary

- Planning area contains many, varied and significant resources
- Existing laws and policies provide strong protection
- Development standards can add fine-tuning

Questions?

