



SECTION B

ELEMENT 9

HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION

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ELEMENT 9. HISTORIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVATION

"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."

9.1 Introduction

San Juan County has a rich and unique heritage from its founding through its development over time. 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 provides goals and policies to achieve this effective historic preservation.

9.2 Goals and Policies

Goal

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.

Policies

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.
2. Develop policies and programs to encourage the preservation of historic and archaeological resources and minimize conflicts with competing land uses. The following programs should be considered:
 - 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;
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*.