

NATURAL RESOURCES

GOAL1: **Maintain the highest quality of groundwater in Hauser.**

POLICIES:

1. Preserve open space through conservation easements and any other mechanisms to protect groundwater.
2. Manage stormwater generation and disposal over groundwater sources and their recharge area consistent with best management practices to prevent degradation of water quality and natural resources.

GOAL2: **Reduce the use of sewage disposal systems over the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.**

POLICIES:

1. Utilize the most recent USGS Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer Study and participate in the development of CARA (Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas) management plans that will be used in making land use decisions,
2. Participate in the Rathdrum Prairie Wastewater Study and explore various sewage disposal options such as a regional wastewater system.
3. Participate in the planning of the Rathdrum Prairie with neighboring jurisdictions.
4. Encourage development on Rathdrum Prairie to have public water and wastewater systems
5. Research and pursue a public sewer system for lands in Hauser that are over the Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.

GOAL3: **Protect groundwater and aquifer resources from demands exceeding sustainable yields.**

POLICIES:

1. Promote the wise use and conservation of groundwater.
2. Enact development regulations which require development applicants to define approximate all groundwater requirements for each project. These groundwater requirements shall include, but are not limited to, source and quantity.
3. Enact development regulations which require development applications of greater than 5 ERUs (equivalent residential units) to provide an analysis of the impacts of the proposed groundwater usage and the effects on surrounding landowners or other components of the hydrologic system

GOAL4: Preserve, protect, and enhance the water quality and quantity of Hauser Lake, Hauser Creek and adjacent streams and wetlands.

POLICIES:

1. Develop and coordinate a shoreline management plan for Hauser Lake and Hauser Creek with other regulatory agencies.
2. Enforce erosion control and on-site stormwater treatment during and after construction.
3. Enact development regulations which direct land development to avoid the negative impacts that increased stormwater runoff can have on groundwater, surface water, and public and private property.
4. Minimize the impacts of collection and conveyance of untreated stormwater into groundwater sources or into surface bodies of water by requiring all land disturbances to comply with critical area regulations.
5. Enact development regulations which require mitigation of the impacts of point and non-point sources of ground and surface water associated with site disturbance or land use development
6. Adopt a graduated fee structure that increases penalties for repeated noncompliance violations of the City's development regulations.
7. Designate lake, stream, waterway corridors, riparian areas, flood plains and other wetland features as "environmentally sensitive," and require additional safeguards for these areas.
8. Enact development regulations which restrict development in areas that naturally enhance surface water quality and regulate flows/levels of surface waters (e.g., wetlands).
9. Enact development regulations which require native vegetation to act as a buffer for the protection of surface waters and wetlands.
10. Enact development regulations which require that all projects adjacent to wetlands minimize potential impacts to the function and value of the affected wetland as part of the application process.
11. Coordinate with and recommend to other agencies in efforts to establish no-wake zones to protect waterfowl and shoreline erosion.
12. Enact development regulations which require developments to provide detailed information on construction methods within the shoreline environment.

GOAL5: Preserve, protect, and enhance native vegetation.

POLICIES:

1. Include in development regulations open space that enhances native vegetation. Open space includes, but is not limited to, sensitive species habitat and other sensitive areas as defined by The US Forest Service, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, Idaho Department of Lands and NRCS

2. Enact development regulations which require adherence to Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control Department's efforts to educate landowners about eliminating the impacts of noxious weeds on native vegetation, waterways, and crops. Ensure penalties are enacted and fines collected for non-compliance. Fines shall be placed in a dedicated account for noxious weed mitigation.
3. Coordinate with Kootenai County Noxious Weed Control Department and the Department of Lands, Army Corps of Engineers, Fish and Game and U.S. Forest Services to Identify unique vegetation communities such as wetlands, riparian areas, native grasslands, and old-growth timber. Seek opportunities to preserve and protect these areas.

GOAL 6: Preserve, conserve, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife habitats.

POLICIES

1. Plan a strategy and implement the acquisition of open space in a variety of habitats (such as grasslands, woodlands, and wetlands) to provide adequate blocks of habitat for diverse species through direct purchase, zoning, conservation easements, donation, acquisition, or transfer of development rights.
2. Coordinate with wildlife management agencies to complete a wildlife habitat analysis to identify the connectivity of habitat and identify travel corridors for wildlife moving between habitat blocks or to areas of vital resources, such as food and water, and to protect these corridors within Forest and non-Forest land ownerships.
3. Enact development regulations which provide protective setbacks for roads and other facilities within wetlands, lakeshores, and riparian areas to protect fish and wildlife habitats.

GOAL 7: Preserve and protect viable agricultural, forestry, and mining land uses.

POLICIES:

1. Work cooperatively with state and federal agencies to identify and protect productive resource farm, timber, and mining lands.
2. Promote incentives and agreements with private landowners to encourage the retention of farm and timberland through the use of incentives, including, but not limited to, conservation easements through the transfer, donation, acquisition, or trade of development rights.
3. Explore financing mechanisms for purchasing farm and timberland in environmentally sensitive areas and for public park and recreation lands.
4. Enact development regulations which require mitigation of conflicts between agriculture and non-agriculture land uses in designated resource lands by

developing creative options of buffering with other uses, public open space, purchase, or easements.

5. Explore and develop conservation options for agriculture, forestry, and mineral extraction.
6. Enact development regulations which require buffering of mining operations from existing or potential developments within the vicinity of such sites.
7. Enact development regulations which require mitigation of conflicts between mining and other land uses in designated mineral resource lands by developing creative options of buffering with other uses, public open space, purchase, or easements.
8. Enact development regulations which require mitigation of impacts to both ground and surface waters from aggregate mining extraction and processing by requiring monitoring of water quality and compliance with mitigation plans.
9. Enact development regulations which require mitigation of conflicts between timber and non-timberland uses in designated resources lands by developing creative options of buffering with other uses, public open space, purchase, or easements.

GOAL 8: Minimize sprawl in the Hauser Planning Area.

POLICIES:

1. Enact development regulations which direct densities to designated planning areas.
2. Enact development regulations which require subdivision development in rural areas to be designed in such a way as to permanently preserve large tracts of open space, resource lands, and wildlife habitat.
3. Enact development regulations which as part of the development process, require applicants to provide connectivity to adjacent lands for open space, pedestrian trails, and wildlife corridors.
4. Enact development regulations which require proposed development in the wildland urban interface (area where structures and other human developments meet, or intermingle with, undeveloped wild lands) lands to consult with the U.S. Forest Service and other affected County, State or Federal agencies to obtain development or building permits and address:
 - a. Provision of public access easements where appropriate to interface with planned or existing authorized access routes on National Forest lands.
 - b. Reduce impacts to critical wildlife habitat areas, and maintain wildlife travel corridors and habitat connectivity.
 - c. Reduce the spread of invasive species.
 - d. Mitigate adverse effects to water quality and quality of streams and other water bodies with connectivity to adjacent National Forest lands and their associated beneficial uses.

- e. Reduce the impact to sensitive riparian areas and wetlands that connect to or influence similar features on National Forest lands.
- f. Survey and post boundaries between National Forest lands and other ownerships.
- g. Coordinate with the National Forest agency specific to planned land uses for adjacent National Forest lands.

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HAZARDOUS AREAS

An analysis of known hazards as may result from susceptibility to surface ruptures from faulting, ground shaking, ground failure, landslides or mudslides; avalanche hazards resulting from development in the known or probable path of snowslides and avalanches, and floodplain hazards.

The City of Hauser has no known hazards of earthquake faulting or avalanche hazards. The vast majority of the city is located surrounding Hauser Lake which does have susceptibility to flooding in certain areas. The City of Hauser has participated in the County All Hazard Mitigation Plan and has an analysis and implementation strategy for hazards within the Hauser Planning Area.

The purpose of this plan is to reduce the physical and economic impacts of natural and man-made disasters or emergency situations on the residents and businesses of Kootenai County and its participating jurisdictions, which includes the City of Hauser. The plan is a comprehensive initiative, drawing upon the knowledge, efforts and expertise of federal, state, and county agencies, as well as residents and representatives of the business community. It identifies hazards affecting Kootenai County, its vulnerabilities, and provides a county-wide strategy to reduce future disaster losses through sound, cost-effective mitigation projects.

Hazard Analysis: The City of Hauser assesses the following as the top five hazards facing its residents:

- 1. Floods.** Hauser Lake is the sole flooding source in the City of Hauser. The Lake freezes at its lower level during the winter. During spring, the lake rises to a relatively constant elevation and remains that way throughout the summer months. A major rainfall-snowmelt similar to the one experienced during January 1974 could produce an elevation of 2,191.8 feet. This flood event is what the community will use as the Base Flood Elevation (BFE) for future regulations.
- 2. Wildland Fires.** The City of Hauser is situated in the Wildland Urban Interface and can be subject to severe damages from wildland fires.

Firestorm 1991

A dry and warm summer and early fall helped set the stage for a fire in mid-October near Hauser Lake. By October 15, there had been no rain for 42 days (House 1996). Several small fires caused by downed power lines were fanned into a firestorm on the 16th. There was one fatality, five homes destroyed and thousands of acres burned in the firestorm.

3. **Severe Winter Storms.** Hauser is subject to severe winter weather. However its populace is experienced and both expectant and acclimated to such storms.
4. **Windstorms.** Windstorms are commonplace in winter months. Windstorms can become especially dangerous when coupled with wildland fires in the Hauser area.
5. **Hazardous Materials.** The City is situated just north of Highway 53 and railroad lines carrying hazardous materials every day.

GOAL: Ensure continued participation and implementation of the Kootenai County Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan

POLICIES: The City of Hauser has selected the following actions for implementation in the next five years:

Floods

1. Develop a community rated Base Flood Elevation of 2191.8 using the 1974 Flood Event.
2. Adopt a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance that will enable regulations for building in areas prone to flood.
3. Participate in the Flood Insurance Program.
4. Create a web page on the City web site regarding recommended actions in the event of a flood;

Winter Storms

5. Evaluate and implement regulations regarding snow load capacity on public and critical facilities;
6. Develop and implement plans for snow removal from roofs of public buildings and critical facilities;
7. Promote the flagging of fire hydrants for quick location in heavy snow; Evaluate snow load capacity on public buildings and critical facilities;
8. Promote the flagging of fire hydrants for quick location in heavy snows;
9. Provide public education about snow load capacities for citizens within Hauser.

Wildland Fires

10. Promote the reduction of hazardous fuel loads on both public and privately owned lands;
11. Support the creation of Firewise communities and structures that survive the effects of a wildland fire;
12. Promote the construction of Firewise structures and homes that incorporate defensible space around structures and utilizes fire resistant materials;
13. Implement road side vegetation management “best practices” to prevent fires;
14. Create a web page on the City web site regarding recommended actions to prevent wildfire and list evacuation instructions (persons and animals);

Windstorms

15. Inspect public facilities to ensure that they are built to withstand high winds and implement changes to protect public facilities.

Lightning

16. Install lightning protection devices on critical utilities, water, and waste water facilities;

Hazardous Materials

17. Create a web page on the City web site providing information to residents on procedures to Shelter-in-Place;

Landslides

18. Document and report all landslides, bank failures, washouts, and manmade embankment failures for use in updating hazard analysis, risk and vulnerability assessments, and identifying mitigation projects;
19. Restrict development in landslide prone areas;

Volcanic Ash Fall

20. Post a web page on the City’s web site regarding the dangers and recommended actions to take in the event of a volcanic ash fall;

Other Mitigation Actions:

21. Create Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) to provide continued government services during and following disasters;
22. Promote disaster preparedness by citizens of your municipality.

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SPECIAL AREAS OR SITES

GOAL 1: Encourage the preservation and protection of sites that are historically or culturally significant.

POLICIES:

1. Identify and maintain areas of interest in the community for education, history, and community pride. Encourage the development of a historical preservation committee.
2. Encourage the owners of these sites to recognize their significance to the community and to preserve them as much as possible.
3. Provide a procedure for the City to keep a historic record of each site for future generations.
4. Participate in the County and State Historical Society.

RECREATION AND TOURISM

Hauser has recreational opportunities available within the community, as well as numerous opportunities within the County. These include organized activities and programs, as well as opportunities for self-initiated recreation. Those found within the community and surrounding areas are identified below:

Hauser Lake is located at the southernmost edge of the Selkirk Mountains in northern Idaho. Like many lakes in the Panhandle area, Hauser Lake was formed by ancient floods that deposited massive amounts of glacial debris in and around the mountain valleys, damming streams and forming the crystal-clear lakes that boaters and anglers enjoy today. Just 15 miles northwest of the picturesque city of Coeur d'Alene, 625-acre Hauser Lake is cherished for its quiet beauty and recreational importance to boaters,

GOAL1: Develop additional recreational sites and community recreational opportunities for all residents to enjoy such as city parks, trail systems, and community and event centers

POLICIES:

1. Plan, prepare and implement a Park Plan. The Plan should include, but is not limited to: identifying the types of recreational opportunities currently available, including park equipment; determining what recreational activities are not available but that would be used by the community; proposing a plan of action on how to improve those areas that are lacking; setting forth a time frame for improvements to be in place; and estimating budget requirements.
2. Earmark City money in a dedicated account on an annual basis that would be used expressly for the purpose of meeting those recreational priorities outlined in the Park Plan.
3. Develop a future acquisitions plan for the purchase of land or access to state and federal lands. Earmark a dedicated fund for the purchase of land.
4. Explore funding options such as impact fees and grant opportunities to develop a trail system for access to state and federal lands.
5. Encourage the use of parks for additional and varied uses.
6. Develop a strategic plan for the implementation of trails, pedestrian and bike paths in Hauser.

7. Coordinate with the local transportation district to restrict parking areas around Hauser Lake Road and minimize turn-outs to strategic, safe locations on the Lake. Coordinate with the local transportation district to regulate and minimize parking within the right of way and on the pavement of Hauser Lake Road. Encourage additional traffic control and enforcement on Hauser Lake Road.
8. Coordinate with and assist local transportation district to provide solid waste receptacles in strategic locations around Hauser Lake Road to eliminate strewn garbage along public rights of ways and public and private beaches. Provide educational signage for the public to encourage “pack it in-pack it out”.
9. Develop Memorandums of Understanding with other agencies for trails across County, State and Federal lands.
10. Acquire additional public access to the Lake.
11. Plan, fund and improve the Lake Street public access to the Lake.
12. Plan, fund and develop a community center
13. Participate in community events.