

17.18.040: GUIDELINES FOR SENSITIVE SITES:

- A. Construction Practices For Sensitive Sites: Disturbance fencing limits should be implemented to minimize construction impacts. Construction limits should be as small as practical to construct the trail. Significant vegetation root zones should be considered when locating the trail and establishing construction limits.
- B. Erosion Control: Methods should be employed to protect areas adjacent to the trail from impacts both during and after construction. (See Drainage Planning and Slope Management Guidelines sections.)
- C. Indigenous Materials: Indigenous construction materials should be used for retaining walls, bridges, and barriers wherever possible.
- D. Existing Vegetation: Existing significant vegetation should be preserved wherever possible. Trees, riparian vegetation, scrub oak, and rare plants are considered significant. Root zones, as well as aboveground vegetation require protection when preserving plants. In general, the area within the drip line of trees, especially on the down slope side of the vegetation, is sensitive to disturbance. If root zones are impacted or grades are changed significantly, temporary irrigation may be necessary.
- E. Revegetation: Native and/or self-sustaining plant materials should be used for revegetation of all disturbed areas where trails pass through native or nonirrigated sites. Revegetation can be used to provide screening. Construction techniques to preserve vegetation and trail routing techniques should be used to minimize visual intrusion.
- F. Natural Considerations: Where significant wildlife or other natural features exist, special trail routing, construction methods and trail use should be considered.
- G. Visually Sensitive Areas: Locations that are visually sensitive, such as tallus slopes, may require reduced cut and fill slopes, hand construction, and low retaining walls to minimize site disturbance and visual intrusion.
- H. Environmentally Hazardous Areas: Where environmental hazards are present, special trail construction techniques or locations should be used to mitigate the hazard. Hazardous areas can be abandoned mine sites, where mine tailings should be stabilized, top soiled and revegetated. Other hazardous locations, such as lightning prone areas, rockslide and avalanche areas should either be avoided or be closed seasonally when hazardous conditions are a problem.
- I. Microclimatic Trail Use Opportunities: Locate the trails for both summer and winter activities, where possible, given the terrain and climatic considerations. Identify snow retention areas for possible cross country ski trails. In open areas, place trail alignment to take advantage of wind protection and shaded canyon areas. (Ord. 2002-04, 3-20-2002)