



Prospective Applicant's Checklist for Determining Eligibility for an Open Space/Wildlife Habitat LCA Contract

County of Ventura • Resource Management Agency • Planning Division

800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009-1740 • (805) 654-2478 • ventura.org/rma/planning

The purpose of this checklist is to assist prospective applicants in determining if their property is eligible for an Open Space/Wildlife Habitat LCA contract. For your use in working through this checklist, please refer to the LCA Guidelines, available online at <http://www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/programs/lca/LCA-Guidelines-2-13-1.pdf>. Note that a property that meets the eligibility requirements is a good candidate for an LCA contract, but that the Board of Supervisors will decide whether or not to approve the LCA contract request.

- The property is designated either “Open Space” or “Agricultural” under the County General Plan.**

See page 12, Section VI.A of the LCA Guidelines

Tip: Please see Figure 3.1(a) [North Half] or Figure 3.2(b) [South Half] of the Ventura County General Plan *Goals, Policies and Programs*, which is available on the Planning Division's website (<http://www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/plans/Goals-Policies-and-Programs-6-28-11.pdf>) and use the zoom tool to determine if the property is within the “Agricultural” or “Open Space” General Plan designation.

- The property is located within an Agricultural Preserve.**

See page 12, Section VI.A of the LCA Guidelines

Tip: Please see the Agricultural Preserves map on the LCA webpage of the Planning Division website (http://www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/programs/lca/Agricultural_Preserves.pdf) and use the zoom tool to determine if the property is within an Agricultural Preserve.

- The property must either have, or be capable of being restored to have significant biological resources which include, but are not limited, to the following:**

- 1. Habitats of endangered, threatened or rare species;**
- 2. Sensitive Plant Communities;**
- 3. Waters and Wetlands;**
- 4. Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA); and**
- 5. Wildlife Movement Corridor.**

See pages 12-13, Section VI.B of the LCA Guidelines

Tip: Information regarding biological resources is in the County's Initial Study Assessment Guidelines, available online at

http://www.ventura.org/rma/planning/pdf/ceqa/current_ISAG.pdf (Item 4 - Biological Resources).

- The property's minimum lot size requirement shall be determined on a case-by-case basis:**

See pages 13-14, Section VI.C of the LCA Guidelines

Tip: Factors considered in determining the appropriate Contract area include the nature of the habitat, and the presence of adjacent open space areas.

- The primary use of the property shall be the preservation of natural habitats and systems, such as wetlands, native grass lands, native woodlands, individual species, and wildlife corridors. The property owner shall use appropriate management practices that enhance the natural attributes of the land.**

See pages 14-15, Section VI.D of the LCA Guidelines

Tip: Consider the discussion of Compatible Uses and Prohibited Uses discussed on page 14, *Section VI.D of the LCA Guidelines*.