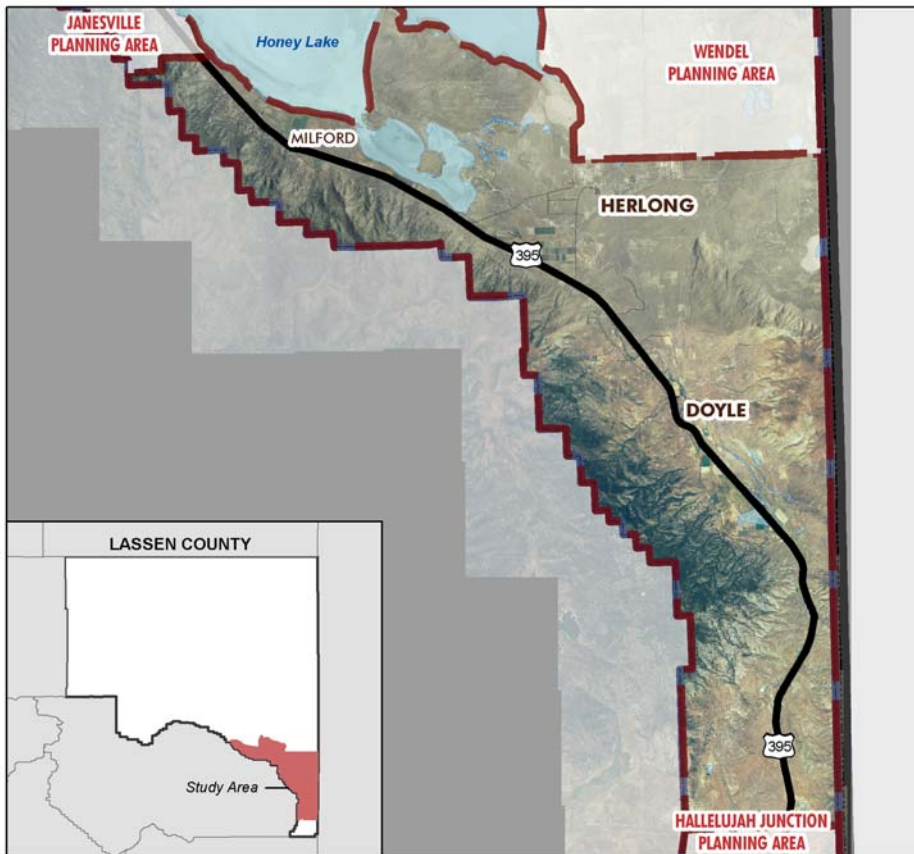


# LASSEN SOUTHEAST PLANNING AREA

## PLANNING AREA AT A GLANCE



### KEY FACTS AND FIGURES:

#### Population

- In 2000, the planning area was home to approximately 2,529 residents.

#### Major Employers

- The Federal Corrections Institute employs approximately 350 people.
- The Sierra Army Depot employs approximately 570 people.

### AREA TRENDS AND ISSUES:

#### Infrastructure and Services

- Future growth is limited in Milford and Doyle by the lack of a centralized water and sewer system.
- Residents in the Lassen Southeast Planning Area must drive significant distances to obtain many basic commercial services.

## Location and Communities

The Lassen Southeast Planning Area covers nearly 300 square miles of southeastern Lassen County. Much of the western edge of the planning area is located within the Plumas National Forest, and the northern edge of the planning area borders Honey Lake. US Highway 395 runs through the center of the planning area's southern and central portions, then extends north on the western side of Honey Lake.

The Lassen Southeast Planning Area falls within the large Honey Lake Valley which was once settled with aboriginal villages. Because of its historic past and sites, much of the area is considered archaeologically sensitive.

Major water resources in the planning area include Honey Lake and Long Valley Creek. Underneath the Honey Lake Valley is a large groundwater basin. Nearby, Nevada's growth and interest in the area's water resources has become a point of discussion in recent years.

### Sources:

2000 US Census data



## AREA TRENDS AND ISSUES:

### Community Character

- Residents have expressed a desire for stronger code enforcement and increased property maintenance in and around the planning area's communities to preserve the scenic quality of the planning area.

### Herlong

- Many prison and Sierra Army Depot employees live in surrounding communities and commute significant distances.
- Opportunity for growth within the Redevelopment Project Area and surrounding community in conjunction with centralized sewer system.

### Doyle

- The division of larger agricultural parcels for rural residential use has led to concerns about the protection of deer and other wildlife corridors that pass through the area.

Communities located in the Lassen Southeast Planning area include Milford, Herlong, and Doyle, all of which are unincorporated.

### MILFORD

Adjacent to US Highway 395, Milford is a primarily residential town surrounded by agriculture. The community's name comes from several mills which operated in the area in the late 1800's. Milford is identified as a point of historical interest in California Inventory of Historic Resources.

### HERLONG

Herlong is located several miles east of US Highway 395 and southeast of Honey Lake. Herlong was originally built as a community to house civilian workers at the nearby Sierra Army Depot. In addition to the Sierra Army Depot, one of the other primary employers in the Herlong area is the Federal Correctional Institute Herlong, which opened in 2005.

### DOYLE

Doyle developed as railroad town along the Nevada California Oregon Railroad. Doyle now functions as a service center for the southern portion of the planning area.

## Land Use Characteristics

- The predominant land use in the Southeast Lassen Planning Area is agriculture, which occupies approximately 74,844 acres, or 41 percent of the total planning area acreage. Agricultural lands are concentrated on the valley floor along the US Highway 395 corridor.
- Approximately 2,448 acres of low density and rural residential development are concentrated in and around the communities of Doyle, Milford, and Herlong.
- Some commercial development exists in Doyle, Herlong, and Milford (30 acres); however commercial services for residents are limited.
- The planning area also features a few small industrial and mining land uses, which occupy approximately 43 acres.
- 55 percent (100,456 acres) land in the Southeast Lassen Planning Area is under public ownership (BLM National Resource Lands and National Forest). Much of this land is located on the slopes that define the valley floor.
- The California Department of Fish and Game also has significant land holdings between Doyle and Herlong, which are operated as the Doyle Wildlife Area.
- The Sierra Army Depot (SIAD) constructed in 1942, is a significant land use in the planning area. When the Depot was scaled back in 1995 the excess acreage was transferred to the county's Local Reuse Authority. The Reuse Authority formed a Redevelopment Project Area for commercial, residential, and industrial projects. Plans for the area are still underway, with actual timing of development to be driven by market demand and the

# LASSEN SOUTHEAST PLANNING AREA

availability of services. Much of the SIAD area is located north of Herlong within the Wendel Planning Area.

## Area Services

- **Fire protection**—The Lassen Southeast Planning Area is served by several fire protection districts including the Doyle Fire District, the Milford Fire District and West Patton Village Community Services District in Herlong. Wildland fire protection is provided by the Bureau of Land Management and the National Forest System.
- **Schools**—The planning area is served by several school districts: the Fort Sage Unified School District, Janesville School District, and the Long Valley Charter District. Area schools include Herlong Junior and High School, Sierra Primary School, Janesville School, and Long Valley Charter School.
- **Water and Wastewater**—Most properties in the planning area utilize private wells and individual septic systems. The Sierra Army Depot historically featured a private water system and two wastewater disposal systems. The West Patton Village Community Services District provides local water service (from the Sierra Army Depot) and wastewater service to the West Patton Village subdivision. The new Herlong Public Utility District will provide water and wastewater service for growth in the Herlong area.
- **Health care** in the planning area is provided in Doyle by Northeastern Rural Health.
- **Airport**—The Herlong Airport is an airstrip owned and operated by Lassen County.



### RELATED PLANNING DOCUMENTS:

- Lassen Southeast Planning Area Master Environmental Assessment (1990)
- Lassen County Community Action Plans (1999)