



January 12, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

In review of the City of Chico Vegetative Fuels Management Plan (VFMP) included in the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), (SCH# 2020090170), dated December 2020, the California Geological Survey has the following comment and recommendation.

Comment

Page 53 of the VFMP, *Heavy Equipment Use*, item 11, states: "Avoid heavy equipment use on unstable slope areas, slopes with gradients exceeding 65%, slopes with gradients between 50% and 65% where the erosion hazard rating is high or extreme, or slopes with gradients over 50% that lead without flattening to sufficiently dissipate water flow and trap sediment before reaching a stream or other water resource."

However, according to page 86 and Appendix C of the PEIR, *Geology and Soils*, *SPR SOIL-1: Slope restrictions for mechanical equipment* "Ground-based equipment (e.g., masticators, feller-bunchers) will be restricted to slopes less than 30%." Soil types and percent slope are shown on Soils Maps 1-4 in Appendix D of the PEIR.

Recommendation

Due to the ambiguity in equipment limitations described above, we request the proposed slope restrictions for heavy equipment use be clarified.

Please feel free to contact Chris Gryszan at Christopher.Gryszan@conservation.ca.gov with any question you may have.

Regards,