



California
**Department of
Conservation**
California Geological Survey

Gov. Gavin Newsom, Governor
David Shabazian, Director

715 P Street, MS 1901, Sacramento, CA 95814
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conservation.ca.gov

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 23, 2022

To: Nancy McAllister
Planner

FROM: Cheryl Hayhurst
Senior Engineering Geologist

SUBJECT: Lassen County Safety Element Update – SCH# 2022110358



Dear Ms. McAllister,

The California Department of Conservation, California Geological Survey (CGS) has reviewed the Draft Lassen County Safety Element Update. We offer the following comments and recommendations with respect to wildfire.

Project Description:

The proposed project is an update to the Safety Element of the Lassen County General Plan. The Safety Element identifies hazards and hazard abatement provisions to guide land use decisions related to zoning, subdivisions, and entitlement permits.

CGS Comments:

The Draft Lassen County Safety Element Update discusses wildfire hazard and includes discussion of community and critical asset locations within Fire Hazard Severity Zones, historic fire history, and whether communities are a certified Firewise Community. It also discusses Goals and Policies which include such items as defensible development, fuels management, and public education. These discussions generally seem from a largely pre-wildfire prevention and mitigation planning perspective. Post-wildfire impacts can be life threatening and devastating to property and critical assets. CGS recommends expanding the wildfire hazard discussion to include potential post-wildfire impacts such as flooding and debris flow hazards. The following resources from the recent Governor's Office of Planning and Research Flood-After Fire Resilience Plan Alignment Guide can be reviewed for additional guidance: <https://opr.ca.gov/news/2022/11-16.html> and <https://resilientca.org/plan-alignment/>.



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Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the Draft Lassen County Safety Element Update. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the comments in this letter, please contact Cheryl Hayhurst, Senior Engineering Geologist, at 715 P Street, MS 1901, Sacramento, California 95814, (916) 445-1825, Cheryl.Hayhurst@conservation.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Cheryl Hayhurst
9CC5DD4A37CD434

December 23, 2022

Cheryl A. Hayhurst, CEG 2639
Senior Engineering Geologist
Sacramento, California

