



January 11, 2018

Board of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Attn: Edith Hannigan, Board Analyst

The Association of Contract Counties (ACC), which consists of the Fire Departments of Los Angeles, Ventura, Orange, Santa Barbara, Kern and Marin Counties supports the VTP PEIR preferred alternative for its emphasis on vegetation treatment options to modify fire behavior to help reduce losses to life, property and natural resources.

Treatments described in the VTP are consistent with the CWPPs in all six contract counties and would be implemented on privately owned land within the SRA. Additionally, the VTP would provide a streamlined CEQA analysis significantly reducing the need for repetitive process of multiple CEQA documents, reducing cost and time to all of the ACC agencies and their respective land owners, all who have limited resources.

The recent catastrophic fires in Northern and Southern California have demonstrated the continuing need for management of hazardous vegetation through prescribed fire and other treatments. The proposed VTP is an incredibly important component for success in reducing the risk of wildland fires.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this vital program.

Sincerely,

Mark Lorenzen  
Chair  
Association of Contract Counties