

# County of El Dorado

## Agriculture, Weights & Measures



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## Agricultural Grading Policies

### Relevant General Plan Policies:

- GP Policy 7.1.2.1: “The County may consider and allow development or disturbance on slopes 30 percent and greater when: The use is a horticultural or grazing use that utilizes “best management practices (BMP’s)” recommended by the County Agricultural Commission and adopted by the Board of Supervisors.”
- GP Policy 7.1.2.7: “The County shall require agricultural grading activities that convert one acre or more of undisturbed vegetation to agricultural cropland to obtain an agricultural permit through the Agricultural Commissioner’s office...All erosion control measures included in the agricultural permit would be implemented. All agricultural practices, including fuel reduction and fire protection, that do not change the natural contour of the land and that use “best management practices” as recommended by the County Agricultural Commission and adopted by the Board of Supervisors shall be exempt from this policy.”

### Relevant Grading Ordinance Sections:

- Section 15.14.130: “Applicability: A grading permit issued by the Director is required for all grading activities in the unincorporated area of El Dorado County...and agricultural grading activities that convert undisturbed vegetation to agricultural cropland, unless the proposed activities are exempt from this requirement pursuant to Section 15.14.140 of this chapter.”
- Section 15.14.140: “Exemptions: ...O.) Agricultural grading activities that convert less than one acre of undisturbed vegetation to agricultural cropland. P.) Agricultural grading or other practices, including fuel reduction and fire protection, that do not substantially change the natural contour of the land and that use “best management practices” as recommended by the County Agricultural Commission and adopted by the Board of Supervisors.”

### Relevant definitions from the Grading Design Manual:

- “Agricultural operation means an activity involving the use of land for farming, dairying, pasturage agriculture, horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, animal and poultry husbandry when conducted on agriculturally zoned or designated lands.”
- “Director means the Director of the Department of Transportation, the Director of the Development Services Department, **or the Agricultural Commissioner**, or their designees, for enforcement of their designated areas of responsibility as defined in Section 15.14.120 of the El Dorado County Grading, Erosion and Sediment Control Ordinance.”