

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov
(916) 653-8007



To: Resource Protection Committee
Chair Bruce Saito
Member Keith Gillless
Member Sue Husari

Date: October 27, 2014

Telephone: (916) 653-8007

Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov

From: Edith Hannigan, Board Consultant

Subject: Amador County Ordinance Code, Chapter 15 Updates

Dear Chair Saito, Member Gillless, and Member Husari,

On August 25, 2014, Amador County submitted to the Board of Forestry changes to their County Ordinance Code for your review. They are requesting certification to use these ordinances in lieu of the State's Fire Safe Regulations that implement provisions of Public Resources Code 4290. Board staff reviewed these ordinances in consultation with the Amador-EI Dorado Unit (AEU) and received further clarification from the Amador County Community Development Agency (CDA).

Board staff would like to bring to your attention several changes which we feel require discussion and further consideration. The full text of Amador County's proposed ordinances is enclosed.

15.30.090 Definitions – Common Driveway; Driveways; and Roads, Streets, Private Lanes Amador County created a new definition for a "common driveway" which does not exist in the State regulation (definitions are found in 1271.00). This is not inherently incompatible with the State regulation, but Amador County's definition for "common driveway" is unclear and does not correspond to any of the standards for roads, streets, and private lanes or driveways outlined later in the ordinance. As it written, access roads that meet the County's definition for "common driveway" do not have any minimum standard in Chapter 15, although some standards do exist in Chapter 12 (see enclosure). The County provides the following definitions and standards:

Driveways serve no more than 3 dwelling units on no more than 1 parcel; minimum driveway standards are in 15.30.220.

Roads, streets, and private lanes serve vehicular access to more than 4 parcels, any industrial or commercial occupancy, or vehicular access to a single parcel with 4 or more dwelling units; minimum standards are found in 15.30.130 through 15.30.210.

Common driveways serve private vehicular access to no more than 4 residential parcels on which no more than 4 residential units, or as determined by zoning, may be built. In addition to being unclear whether the 4 residential units are per parcel or total, or what a total unit count might look like due to parcel zoning, "residential unit" is not defined, and there is no corresponding minimum development standard for common driveways in the rest of the ordinance text. The definition for common driveway references Amador County Code 12.08.035, which provides standards for private roads, common, and single driveways (enclosed).

15.30.150 Roadway Grades This proposed ordinance provides alternative same practical effect options (called “deviations” by Amador County) for roadway grades that are above 16%. The State regulation (1273.03) does not allow grades past 16%, even with approved deviations. AEU staff believes the proposed deviations are appropriate as long as *all* of the standards are met. CDA said the Amador County Fire Protection District conducted field tests of these standards with loaded and empty fire equipment and found these standards allowed safe movement. After consultation with CDA, Board staff believes that at a minimum, the language in this proposed ordinance needs to be clarified to indicate how and when which deviations are required.

15.30.190 Roadway Structures This proposed ordinance outlines specific weight limits for roadway structures, whereas the State regulation references the California Vehicle Code. Board staff suggests Amador County add language such as “or current Vehicle Code requirements, whichever is more stringent,” to reduce future conflicts with the California Vehicle Code (CVC) and 1273.07, should the CVC change its weight limits. CDA is not opposed to this suggestion.

15.30.120 Dead End Roads This proposed ordinance takes into account fire hazard severity zones and parcel size when establishing dead end road length requirements. The State regulation for dead end roads (1273.09) only considers parcel size when determining dead end road length limits. This proposed ordinance uses the State’s maximum length for each zoned parcel size as the maximum length for parcels in very high fire hazard severity zones, allowing dead end roads in high or medium fire hazard severity zones to reach longer lengths (20% longer than very high and 10% longer than high, respectively).

These changes, Board staff believe, do not meet or exceed the relevant State regulations as the State regulations are written. However, there is limited data to support whether or not Amador County’s proposed changes would achieve the same practical effect as the state regulations, which is the basis of the ongoing research project with urban planning, fire/fuels specialists, and transportation planning specialists at Cal Poly. Because of the limited data that exists on dead-end road issue at this time, Board staff respectfully presents Amador County’s proposed ordinance to the Resource Protection Committee for consideration and discussion.

15.30.250 Driveways This proposed ordinance deviates from the State regulation in that it does not require turnouts on driveways less than 400 feet long. The State regulation (1273.10) requires turnouts at the midpoint of any driveway between 150 and 800 feet and every 400 feet for driveways over 800 feet. There is also the question of whether this standard would apply to access routes that fall under the definition of “common driveway” (see above).

15.30.400 Setbacks for Structure Defensible Space The State standard (1276.01) states two requirements: parcels one acre or larger provide a minimum 30 foot setback, and that the local jurisdiction shall provide for the same practical effect on smaller parcels. Amador County’s proposed ordinance meets the first requirement but does not identify a) what any same practical effect requirements might be or b) in lieu of outlining same practical effect options, who has the authority to determine what actions might qualify for same practical effect. The Amador County proposed local ordinance includes a definition for “Approving Authority” and Board staff suggests language referencing that authority be added to this section.

In addition to the above considerations, the new 1270 regulations are anticipated to go into effect on January 1, 2015. After an initial review of the County’s ordinances at the November 4 RPC meeting, the County will resubmit amended ordinances that respond to both RPC discussion points and the new State standards after they go into effect. Board staff is assisting Amador County as needed in addressing the new State standards.

Board staff respectfully requests a review of the changes to the Amador County Ordinance Code by the Resource Protection Committee and their opinion on the validity of the proposed changes. Representatives from Amador County and the Amador-El Dorado Unit will be present at the RPC meeting on Tuesday, November 4th, to provide additional information and clarification.

Thank you.

Enclosures: Amador County Ordinance Chapter 15 Submission Packet
Amador County Chapter 12.08.035
Title 14 California Code of Regulations 1270 Fire Safe Regulations
SRA Fire Safe Regulations, 2014 Final Rule Text

AMADOR COUNTY COUNSEL

County Administration Center
810 Court Street, Jackson, CA 95642
Telephone (209) 223-6366 ♦ FAX (209) 223-4286



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Edith.hanigan@bof.ca.gov

Gregory Gillott, County Counsel
Jennifer Magee, Deputy
Grace Pak, Deputy
Angela Creach, Paralegal
Julie Brown, Admin. Legal Secretary

August 25, 2014

Edith Hannigan
Board Consultant, SRA
Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

RE: Request for Review and Certification of Local Ordinance

Dear Ms. Hannigan:

The purpose of this letter is to request that the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection review Amador County's proposed amendments to its local SRA Fire Safe ordinance, and to certify Amador's local ordinance if it is determined to be equal to or more stringent than the State Regulations.

Thank you for letting me know about the Board's currently proposed changes. Despite the likelihood soon having to update the proposed local ordinance to conform to final changes adopted by the Board, I have been directed to request review of Amador's ordinance at this time. I will continue to follow the status of the Board's changes and will advise my client accordingly.

Again, thank you for your assistance and please let me know if there is any additional information you need. You may contact me by email or at the above telephone number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "GG", is written over a faint, circular stamp or watermark.

Greg Gillott
County Counsel

ORDINANCE NO. 1734

ORDINANCE AMENDING AMADOR COUNTY CODES CHAPTER 15.30 FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 12.08 COUNTY ROADS, CHAPTER 17.28 GENERAL DESIGN AND IMPROVEMENT STANDARDS, AND CHAPTER 17.90 STREET AND ROAD DESIGN AND IMPROVEMENT STANDARDS.

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Amador, State of California, ordain as follows:

SECTION I. Chapter 15.30 of the Amador County Code is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SECTION II. A new Chapter 15.30 Fire and Life Safety Regulations is hereby added to the Amador County Code as set forth as follows:

Chapter 15.30

FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY REGULATIONS

Sections:

- 15.30.010 Title.
- 15.30.015 Purpose.
- 15.30.020 Findings.
- 15.30.030 Scope.
- 15.30.040 Inspection Authority.
- 15.30.050 Inspections.
- 15.30.060 Deviation to Standards.
- 15.30.070 Requests for Deviations.
- 15.30.080 Appeals.
- 15.30.090 Definitions.
- 15.30.100 Distance Measurements.
- 15.30.110 Maintenance of Defensible Space Measures.
- 15.30.120 Emergency Access-- Intent.
- 15.30.130 Road Width.
- 15.30.140 Roadway Surface.
- 15.30.150 Roadway Grades.
- 15.30.160 Roadway Radius.
- 15.30.170 Roadway Turnarounds.
- 15.30.180 Roadway Turnouts.
- 15.30.190 Roadway Structures.
- 15.30.200 One-Way Roads.
- 15.30.210 Dead-End Roads.
- 15.30.220 Driveways.

- 15.30.230. Gate Entrances.
- 15.30.240. Signing and Building Numbering-- Intent.
- 15.30.250. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Road Signs.
- 15.30.260. Visibility and Legibility of Street and Road Signs.
- 15.30.270. Height of Street and Road Signs.
- 15.30.280. Names and Numbers on Street and Road Signs.
- 15.30.290. Intersecting Roads, Streets and Private Lanes.
- 15.30.300. Signs Identifying Traffic Access Limitations.
- 15.30.310. Installation of Road, Street, and Private Lane Signs.
- 15.30.320. Addresses for Buildings.
- 15.30.330. Size of Letters, Number and Symbols for Addresses.
- 15.30.340. Installation, Location and Visibility of Addresses.
- 15.30.350. Emergency Water Standards-- Intent.
- 15.30.360. General Standards.
- 15.30.370. Hydrant/Fire Valve.
- 15.30.380. Signing of Water Sources.
- 15.30.390. Fuel Modification Standards-- Intent.
- 15.30.400. Setbacks for Structure Defensible Space.
- 15.30.410. Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels.
- 15.30.420. Greenbelts.
- 15.30.430. Defensible Space.
- 15.30.440. Fire Management Plans.
- 15.30.450. Cal Fire Inspections not Precluded.
- 15.30.460. Fees.
- 15.30.470. Penalty of Violations.
- 15.30.480. Separate Violations.
- 15.30.490. Other Citations.
- 15.30.500. Civil Proceedings Not Preempted.

15.30.010. Title

This chapter shall be known and cited as the “Fire and Life Safety Chapter” of the Amador County Code.

15.30.015. Purpose

These regulations have been prepared and adopted for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction, and development in SRA. The future design and construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in State Responsibility Area (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures as specified in the following articles. These measures shall provide for emergency access; signing and building numbering; private water supply reserves for emergency fire use; and vegetation modification. The fire protection standards which follow shall specify the minimums for such measures.

15.30.020 Findings

This chapter is adopted to meet the requirements of California Public Resource Code Section 4290 and California Code of Regulations Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Articles 1 through 5, Sections 1270.0 through 1276.03.

15.30.030. Scope

These regulations shall apply as appropriate to all new construction within SRA approved after January 1, 1991. Affected activities include but are not limited to:

- A. Permitting or approval of new parcels;
- B. Application for a building permit for new construction, not relating to an existing structure;
- C. Application for a use permit, grading permit;
- D. The siting of manufactured homes (manufactured homes are as defined by the National Fire Protection Association, National Fire Code, Section 501A, Standard for Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites and Communities, Chapter 1, Section 1-2, Definitions, page 4, 1987 edition and Health and Safety Code Sections 18007, 18008 and 19971).
- E. New road construction, including construction of a road that does not currently exist, or extension of an existing road.

Exemption: These regulations do not apply to existing structures, roads, streets and private lanes or facilities; roads required as a condition of tentative parcel maps prior to January 1, 1991; roads for agricultural or mining use; or roads used solely for the management and harvesting of wood products; and certificates of compliance and lot line adjustments as specified in Government Code (GC) Section 66412(d).

15.30.040. Inspection Authority

- A. Inspection shall be made pursuant to Section 15.30.050 by the Director or his/her designee.
- B. Reports of violations should be provided to the Cal Fire Unit headquarters that administers SRA fire protection in that county.

15.30.050. Inspections.

The inspection authority may inspect for compliance with these regulations. When inspections are conducted, they should occur prior to: septic final, the issuance of the use permit; certificate of occupancy; the recordation of the parcel map or final map; the filing of a notice of completion; or the final inspection of any project or building permit.

15.30.060. Deviation to Standards

Upon request by the applicant, deviations to standards within this subchapter and mitigated practices may be allowed by the inspection authority, where the deviation provides the same overall practical effect as these regulations toward providing defensible space.

15.30.070. Requests for Deviations

Requests for a deviation shall be made in writing to the inspection authority by the applicant or the applicant's authorized representative. The request shall state the specific section(s) for which

a deviation is requested, material facts supporting the contention of the applicant, the details of the deviation or mitigation measure proposed, and a map showing the proposed location and siting of the deviation or mitigation measure.

A. The approving authority may approve or recommend the approval of minor deviations from standards set forth in this chapter where the mitigated practices proposed in the deviation request provide the same practical effect, and where reasonable access can be provided to assure adequate evacuation routes for the public and adequate access routes for emergency personnel and equipment. In determining whether the same practical effect can be achieved, the approving authority shall apply and make findings concerning the performance criteria as follows:

1. Deviations shall provide defensible space consistent with the "SRA Fire Safe Regulations" (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 1270 et seq.) and this chapter.
2. Deviations shall provide safe emergency access for fire equipment.
3. Deviations shall provide for unobstructed traffic circulation during an emergency.
4. Deviations shall provide for safe civilian evacuation during an emergency.
5. Deviations shall not cause delays in emergency response or interfere with the ability of emergency personnel to locate an incident.
6. Deviations shall provide a sufficient quantity of water for both wildfire and structural firefighting at a location where it is immediately available to emergency personnel.
7. Deviations shall not result in fuel modification that would adversely affect access or defensible space thereby jeopardizing civilian and fire fighter safety.

B. An application for a deviation shall be filed with the public works department. The application shall state the specific modification requested and the reason and justification for the requested modification. Pertinent maps and site plans and any additional information requested by the public works department shall be provided by the applicant.

C. The director, after consultation with appropriate departments such as fire protection providers, building department, and planning department, will render a decision as to whether the proposed modification provides the same practical effect as the applicable standards.

15.30.080. Appeals

A. The decision of the director may be appealed to the board of supervisors. An applicant desiring to appeal must file a written request for appeal of the decision of the director which sets forth the reasons for the appeal. The request for appeal must be filed with the clerk of the board of supervisors within fifteen days of receipt of written notice of the decision being appealed.

B. The board of supervisors shall hold a public hearing on the appeal and based thereon may affirm, reject or modify the decision of the director.

C. If a deviation from standards is granted, the approving authority (director or board of supervisors, as appropriate) shall make a written statement of findings as to the reason for the decision. A copy shall be provided to the applicant and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

15.30.090. Definitions

Accessory building: Any building used as an accessory to residential, commercial, recreational, industrial, or educational purpose defined in the California Building Code, 1989 Amendments, Chapter 11, Group M, Division 1, Occupancy that requires a building permit.

Agriculture: Land used for agricultural purposes as defined in Title 19 of the Amador County Municipal Code.

Approving Authority: The County of Amador through its Community Development Agency Director or Board of Supervisors on requests of deviations from standards.

Building: Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy that is defined in the California Building Code, 1989 Amendments, Chapter 11, except Group M, Division 1, Occupancy. For the purposes of this subchapter, building includes mobile homes and manufactured homes, churches, and day care facilities.

Cal Fire: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Combustible Waste Material: All refuse that will ignite through contact with flames, including but not limited to trimmings from lawns, trees and gardens; rags, paper, straw, sawdust, packing material, shavings and boxes, living flammable vegetation; dead or dying vegetation, pine needles and duff; and any other such materials or fuels which might contribute to the spread of flames or emit sparks and embers if burning.

Common Driveway: Private vehicular access to no more than four (4) residential parcels on which no more than four (4) residential units have been built or, as determined by the zoning of the parcels, may be built. Refer to Amador County Code Chapter 12.08.035.

Dead-end road: A road that has only one point of vehicular ingress/egress, including cul-de-sacs, and looped roads.

Defensible space: The area within the perimeter of a parcel, development, neighborhood or community where basic wildland fire protection practices and measures are implemented, providing the key point of defense from an approaching wildfire or defense against encroaching wildfires or escaping structure fires. The perimeter as used in this regulation is the area encompassing the parcel or parcels proposed for construction and/or development, excluding the physical structure itself. The area is characterized by the establishment and maintenance of emergency vehicle access, emergency water reserves, street names and building identification, and fuel modification measures.

Development: As defined in Section 66418.1 of the California Government Code. **Deviation:** An alternative to the specified standard requested by the applicant that may be necessary due to health, safety, environmental conditions, physical site limitations, costs or other limiting conditions.

Director: The Community Development Agency Director, who has been granted authority by the Board of Supervisors.

Driveway: Vehicular access that serves a single parcel that contains no more than three dwelling units and any number of accessory buildings.

Dwelling unit: Any building or portion thereof which contains living facilities, including provisions for sleeping, eating, cooking and/or sanitation for not more than one family.

Fire Flow: The flow rate, measured in gallons per minute at twenty (20) psi residual pressure, that is available for firefighting. Refer to the California Fire Code for building specific fire flow(s).

Fire Management Plan: A plan which addresses the fire protection needs of a subdivision or other project so as to achieve the standards of this chapter or the same practical effect.

Fire valve: see hydrant.

Fuel modification area: An area, within the defensible space, where the volume of flammable vegetation has been reduced, providing reduced fire intensity and duration.

Greenbelts: A facility or land-use, designed for a use other than fire protection, which will slow or resist the spread of a wildfire. Includes parking lots, irrigated or landscaped areas, golf courses, parks, playgrounds, maintained vineyards, orchards or annual crops that do not cure in the field.

Ground Fuels: Vegetation such as grass, sage and other perennials; any low brush growth that does not allow for the easy movement of air through the foliage, including small conifer reproduction; and nonliving material such as felled logs, heavy limbs and smaller twigs, leaves, needles, bark and cones.

Hammerhead/T: A roadway that provides a "T" shaped, three-point turnabout space for emergency equipment, being no narrower than the road that serves it.

High Fire Hazard Area: Areas designated and mapped as "High Fire Hazard Areas" by Cal Fire in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 4291.5.

Hydrant: A valved connection on a water supply/storage system, having at least one 2 1/2 inch outlet, with male American National Fire Hose Screw Threads (NH) used to supply fire apparatus and hoses with water.

Local Jurisdiction: Department(s) that issues or approves building permits, use permits, tentative maps or tentative parcel maps, or has authority to regulate development and construction activity.

Occupancy: The purpose for which a building, or part thereof, is used or intended to be used.

One-way road: A minimum of one traffic lane width designed for traffic flow in one direction only.

Perimeter: The area encompassing a parcel, excluding the physical structure itself.

Roads, streets, private lanes: Vehicular access to more than four parcels; access to any industrial or commercial occupancy; or vehicular access to a single parcel with four or more dwelling units.

Roadway: Any surface designed, improved, or ordinarily used for vehicle travel.

Roadway structures: Bridges, culverts, and other appurtenant structures which supplement the roadway bed or shoulders.

Same Practical Effect: An exception or alternative with the capability of applying accepted wildland fire suppression strategies and tactics, and provisions for fire fighter safety, including: (a) access for emergency wildland fire equipment, (b) safe civilian evacuation, (c) signing that avoids delays in emergency equipment response, (d) available and accessible water to effectively attack wildfire or defend a structure from wildfire, and (e) fuel modification sufficient for civilian and fire fighter safety.

Shoulder: Roadbed or surface adjacent to the traffic lane.

State Responsibility Area (SRA): As defined in Public Resources Code Sections 4126-4127; and the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Article 1, Sections 1220-1220.5.

Structure: That which is built or constructed, an edifice or building of any kind, or any piece of work artificially built up or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner.

Subdivision: As defined in Section 66424 of the Government Code.

Traffic lane: The portion of a roadway that provides a single line of vehicle travel.

Temporary: A time period of not more than one year.

Turnaround: A roadway, unobstructed by parking, which allows for a safe opposite change in direction for emergency equipment. Design of such area may be a hammerhead/T or terminus bulb.

Turnouts: A widening in a roadway to allow vehicles to pass.

Vertical clearance: The minimum specified height of a bridge or overhead projection above the roadway, 15 ft.

Wildfire: As defined in Public Resources Code Sections 4103 and 4104.

15.30.100. Distance Measurements.

All specified or referenced distances are measured along the ground, unless otherwise stated.

15.30.110. Maintenance of Defensible Space Measures.

To ensure continued maintenance of properties in conformance with these standards and measures and to assure continued availability, access, and utilization of the defensible space provided for in these standards during a wildfire, provisions for annual maintenance shall be included in the development plans and/or shall be provided as a condition of the permit, parcel or map approval.

15.30.120. Emergency Access-- Intent.

When a building permit or grading permit for new construction is the only approval or permit sought for a parcel, improvements required by this section shall not be imposed on any existing driveway, road, right-of-way, easement, or real property other than on the parcel for which the building permit is sought.

However, off-site improvements may be required for subdivision maps, parcel maps, use permits, general plan changes and zone changes at the discretion of the Director and in accordance with this chapter.

Road and street networks, whether public or private, unless exempted shall provide for safe access for emergency wild land fire equipment and civilian evacuation concurrently, and shall provide unobstructed traffic circulation during a wildfire emergency.

15.30.130. Road Width.

All roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum of two nine-foot traffic lanes providing two-way traffic flow, and shall meet the County Road System Requirements of the Design and Improvement Standards found in sections 12.08 and 17.90 of the Municipal Code.

15.30.140. Roadway Surface.

The surface shall provide unobstructed access to conventional drive vehicles, including sedans and fire engines. Surfaces should be established in conformance with county road standards, and be capable of supporting a 40,000 pound load.

15.30.150. Roadway Grades

The grade for all roads, streets, private lanes and driveways shall not exceed 16 percent.

Application for Deviation shall be required for all driveways that exceed 16 percent. Driveways above elevation of 3000FT shall not exceed 20%.

Driveways below elevation of 3000FT shall not exceed 24%.

Requirements for Deviation Requests may include any or all of the following:

- A. A driveway plan is required. Plans shall show travel surface grades, elevations and locations of driveway and or slope easements. Driveways that exceed 20% shall be designed by a licensed engineer.
- B. Driveway/Road travel surface grades shall be certified by a licensed engineer or surveyor prior to final approval.
- C. Driveway sections that exceed 16 percent grade shall have a minimum width of 18 feet and include a paved surface. If topographical conditions do not allow the minimum 18 foot width, paved turnouts shall be provided with a maximum spacing of 400 feet and where ever sight distance is restricted.
- D. A fire management plan for the parcel may be required pursuant to the requirements set forth in section 15.30.080.
- E. Minimum driveway paving Specifications include 2 inches of asphalt concrete over 4 inches of class II aggregate base compacted to 95% over 6 inches of subgrade compacted to 95%. Or 5 inches of concrete (2500psi) with either #10 wire mesh in the upper 1/3 of slab over 2 inches of class II aggregate base compacted to 95% over 6 inches of subgrade compacted to 95%.

15.30.160. Roadway Radius.

A. No roadway shall have a horizontal inside radius of curvature of less than 50 feet and additional surface width of 4 feet shall be added to curves of 50-100 feet radius; 2 feet to those from 100-200 feet.

B. The length of vertical curves in roadways, exclusive of gutters, ditches, and drainage structures designed to hold or divert water, shall be not less than 100 feet.

15.30.170. Roadway Turnarounds.

Turnarounds are required on driveways and dead-end roads as specified in this article. The minimum turning radius for a turnaround shall be 40 feet from the center line of the road. If a hammerhead/T is used, the top of the "T" shall be a minimum of 60 feet in length.

15.30.180. Roadway Turnouts.

Turnouts shall be a minimum of 10 feet wide and 30 feet long with a minimum 25 foot taper on each end.

15.30.190. Roadway Structures.

A. All driveway, road, street, and private lane roadway structures shall be constructed to carry the loads in the table below, and provide minimum vertical clearance of 15 feet.

Axle Configuration	Max. Allowable Weight Per Axle
Single steering axle (front and rear)	24,000 pounds
Single drive axle	31,000 pounds
Tandem axles	48,000 pounds

Tandem rear drive steer axles	48,000 pounds
Tridem axles	54,000 pounds

B. Appropriate signing, including, but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, one-way road or single lane conditions, shall reflect the capability of each bridge.

C. A bridge with only one traffic lane may be authorized by the Director; however, it shall provide for unobstructed visibility from one end to the other and turnouts at both ends.

15.30.200. One-Way Roads.

All one-way roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum of one 10-foot traffic lane. The Director may approve one-way roads. All one-way roads shall connect to a two-lane roadway at both ends, and shall provide access to an area currently zoned for no more than 10 dwelling units. In no case shall it exceed 2640 feet in length. A turnout shall be placed and constructed at approximately the midpoint of each one-way road.

15.30.210 Dead-End Roads.

Cal Fire Hazard Severity Zones	Very High	High	Moderate
A. The maximum length of a dead-end road, including all dead-end roads accessed from that dead-end road, shall not exceed the following cumulative lengths, regardless of the number of parcels served: parcels zoned for less than one acre	800 Ft	960 Ft	1040 Ft
parcels zoned for 1 acre to 4.99 acres	1320 Ft	1584 Ft	1716 Ft
parcels zoned for 5 acres to 19.99 acres	2640 Ft	3168 Ft	3232 Ft
parcels zoned for 20 acres or larger	5280 Ft	6336 Ft	6884 Ft

All lengths shall be measured from the edge of the roadway surface at the intersection that begins the road to the end of the road surface at its farthest point serving the applicant. Where a dead-end road crosses areas of differing zoned parcel sizes, requiring length limits, the shortest allowable length shall apply.

B. Where parcels are zoned 5 acres or larger, turnarounds shall be provided at a maximum of 1320 foot intervals.

C. Each dead-end road shall have a turnaround constructed at its terminus.

15.30.220. Driveways.

All driveways shall provide a minimum 10 foot traffic lane and unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet along its entire length.

A. Driveways exceeding 400 feet in length, but less than 800 feet in length, shall provide a turnout near the midpoint of the driveway. Where the driveway exceeds 800 feet, turnouts shall be provided no more than 400 feet apart.

B. A turnaround shall be provided at all building sites on driveways over 300 feet in length, and shall be within 50 feet of the building.

15.30.230. Gate Entrances.

A. Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider than the width of the traffic lane(s) serving that gate, with a minimum width of 12 feet.

B. All gates providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on that road.

C. Where a one lane road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gated entrance, a turnaround with a 40 foot turning radius shall be provided near the gate.

D. Gates shall be equipped with a Knox Rapid Entry System, as approved by the fire jurisdiction having authority for emergency responder access.

E. Private gates are prohibited on county-maintained roads, and private roads that have been dedicated or designed for public use.

15.30.240. Signing and Building Numbering-- Intent.

To facilitate locating a fire and to avoid delays in response, all newly constructed or approved roads, streets, and buildings shall be designated by names or numbers, posted on signs clearly visible and legible from the roadway. This section shall not restrict the size of letters or numbers appearing on street signs for other purposes.

15.30.250. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Road Signs.

Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for street and road signs shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

15.30.260. Visibility and Legibility of Street and Road Signs.

Street and road signs shall be visible and legible from both directions of vehicle travel for a distance of at least 100 feet.

15.30.270. Height of Street and Road Signs.

Height of street and road signs shall be uniform county-wide, and meet the visibility and legibility standards of this article.

15.30.280. Names and Numbers on Street and Road Signs.

Newly constructed or approved public and private roads and streets must be identified by a name or number through a consistent countywide system that provides for sequenced or patterned numbering and/or non-duplicating naming within each county. All signs shall be mounted and oriented in a uniform manner. This section does not require any entity to rename or renumber existing roads or streets, nor shall a roadway providing access only to a single commercial or industrial occupancy require naming or numbering.

15.30.290 Intersecting Roads, Streets and Private Lanes.

Signs required by this article identifying intersecting roads, streets and private lanes shall be placed at the intersection of those roads, streets and/or private lanes.

15.30.300. Signs Identifying Traffic Access Limitations.

A sign identifying traffic access or flow limitations, including, but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, dead-end road, one-way road (or single lane conditions) shall be

placed: A. at the intersection preceding the traffic access limitation, and B no more than 100 feet before such traffic access limitation.

15.30.310. Installation of Road, Street, and Private Lane Signs.

Road, street and private land signs required by this article shall be installed prior to final acceptance by the local jurisdiction of road improvements.

15.30.320. Addresses for Buildings.

All buildings shall be issued an address by the local jurisdiction which conforms to that jurisdiction's overall address system. Accessory buildings will not be required to have a separate address; however, each dwelling unit within a building shall be separately identified.

15.30.330. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses.

Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

15.30.340. Installation, Location and Visibility of Addresses.

A. All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed at each driveway entrance and visible from both directions of travel along the road. In all cases, the address shall be posted at the beginning of construction and shall be maintained thereafter, and the address shall be visible and legible from the road on which the address is located.

B. Address signs along one-way roads shall be visible from both the intended direction of travel and the opposite direction.

C. Where multiple addresses are required at a single driveway, they shall be mounted on a single post.

D. Where a roadway provides access solely to a single commercial or industrial business, the address sign shall be placed at the nearest road intersection providing access to that site.

15.30.350. Emergency Water Standards—Intent.

Emergency water for wildfire protection shall be available and accessible in quantities and locations specified in the Public Resources Code Section 4290 et seq. and this chapter, in order to attack a wildfire or defend property from a wildfire. Such emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or manmade containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately available. Nothing in this section prohibits the combined storage of emergency wildfire and structural firefighting water supplies unless so prohibited by local ordinance or specified by the local fire district.

15.30.360. General Standards.

A. Water systems shall meet or exceed the standards specified in the Public Utilities Commission of California General Order No. 103, as amended March 9, 1994, Section VIII Fire Protection Standards, and other applicable sections relating to fire protection water delivery systems. Static water systems shall equal or exceed the National Fire Protection Association, Standard 1142, Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting, 2001 Edition. Mobile water systems shall meet or exceed the Insurance Services Offices Rural Class 8, February 2003 publication.

B. The quantity of emergency water storage required for a single-family dwelling shall be at least two thousand five hundred gallons. The minimum quantity of emergency water required for multiple-family dwellings and commercial properties shall be established by the appropriate local fire district. For single-family dwellings, a fire impact fee of nine hundred dollars per dwelling unit may be paid to the appropriate local fire district in lieu of on-site storage of the required emergency water. The appropriate local fire district may set other reasonable in-lieu fees for uses other than single-family dwellings.

C. The fire protection water system shall be installed and approved prior to completion of roadway construction where a community water system is provided, or before construction of any building where an individual system is provided.

15.30.370. Hydrant/Fire Valve.

A. The hydrant or fire valve shall be eighteen inches above grade, at least eight feet from flammable vegetation, no closer than four feet nor farther than twelve feet from a roadway, and in a location where fire apparatus using it will not block the roadway. A three-foot clearance around the hydrant must be maintained at all times.

B. The hydrant head shall be brass with a minimum of one two-and-one-half-inch NHT male outlet with cap for pressure systems and a four-and-one-half-inch NHT male outlet with cap for draft systems. Such hydrants shall be wet or dry barrel, as required by the delivery system. Guard posts shall be installed where necessary to protect exposed hydrants from vehicular damage.

C. The hydrant serving any building shall be not less than fifty feet nor more than one-half mile by roadway from the building it is to serve, and be located at a turnout or turnaround along the roadway to that building.

15.30.380. Signing of Water Sources.

Each hydrant or fire valve or access to water shall be identified as follows:

A. If located along a road or driveway, a reflective blue marker, with a minimum dimension of three inches, shall be mounted on a fire retardant post. The post shall be within three feet of said hydrant/fire valve, with the marker no less than three feet or greater than five feet above the ground and visible from the road; or

B. As specified in the State Fire Marshal's Guidelines for Fire Hydrant Markings Along State Highways and Freeways, May 1988 (California Department of Transportation, Traffic Manual, Chapter 6-03.4 "Location Markers--Fire Hydrants").

15.30.390. Fuel Modification Standards—Intent.

To reduce the intensity of a wildfire by reducing the volume and density of flammable vegetation, the strategic siting of fuel modification and greenbelts shall provide (1) increased safety for emergency fire equipment and evacuating civilians; and (2) a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

15.30.400. Setbacks for Structure Defensible Space.

A. All parcels 1 acre and larger shall provide a minimum 30 foot setback for buildings and accessory buildings from all property lines and/or the center of a road.

B. For parcels less than 1 acre, provide for the same practical effect.

15.30.410. Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels.

Disposal, including chipping, burying, burning or removal to a landfill site approved by the local jurisdiction, of flammable vegetation and fuels caused by site development and construction, road and driveway construction, and fuel modification shall be completed prior to completion of road construction or final inspection of a building permit.

15.30.420. Greenbelts.

Subdivisions and other developments, which propose greenbelts as a part of the development plan, shall locate said greenbelts strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspection authority.

15.30.430. Defensible Space.

The intent of this regulation is to provide guidance for implementation of Public Resources Code 4291(a) and (b), and minimize the spread of fire within a 100 foot zone around a building or structure.

A. A person that owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining any mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or any land that is covered with flammable material, and is within State Responsibility Area, shall do the following:

1. Within 30 feet from each building or structure maintain a firebreak by removing and clearing away all flammable vegetation and other combustible growth pursuant to PRC § 4291(a). Single specimens of trees or other vegetation may be retained provided they are well spaced, well-pruned, and create a condition that avoids spread of fire to other vegetation or to a building or structure.

2. Within the 30 feet to 100 feet zone (Reduced Fuel Zone) from each building or structure (or to the property line, whichever is nearer to the structure), provide a fuel break by disrupting the vertical and/or horizontal continuity of flammable and combustible vegetation with the goal of reducing fire intensity, inhibiting fire in the crowns of trees, reducing the rate of fire spread, and providing a safer environment for firefighters to suppress wildfire pursuant to PRC § 4291(b).

B. Any vegetative fuels identified as a fire hazard by the fire inspection official of the authority having jurisdiction shall be removed or modified provided it is required by subsection (a)(1) & (a)(2).

C. Within the intent of the regulations, the fire inspection official of the authority having jurisdiction may approve alternative practices which provide for the same practical effects as the stated guidelines.

D. Guidance for implementation of this regulation is contained in the publication: "General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space" as published by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection by resolution adopted on February 8, 2006

E. Fuel modification shall be required to a width of ten feet on each side of a road by reducing ground fuels to less than 18 inches in height and by maintaining tree and shrub separations necessary to reduce fuel loading.

15.30.440. Fire Management Plans.

A. A fire management plan may be required for any project if the project will have a significant effect on the provisions of fire protection services or when such a plan is necessary to achieve the same practical effect as the requirements of this chapter.

B. A fire management plan shall address the following:

1. Impact on the pertinent fire protection agency's ability to provide service;
2. Availability of fire protection water to the site;
3. Ingress/egress and circulation, ability for vehicles to access two lane roadways;
4. Fire hazards existing within the project, including a fuel modification plan prepared by a registered professional forester when deemed necessary by the director;
5. Requirements of this chapter that cannot be met due to project design or other constraints;
6. Fire protection measures that are consistent with the provisions of this chapter or recognized fire protection standards; and
7. Provisions for annual maintenance, which shall be included in development plans and road maintenance agreements, or as a condition of the permit of map approval.

15.30.450 Cal Fire inspections not precluded.

Nothing in this chapter precludes Cal Fire from performing inspections or cursory audits to ensure compliance with the regulations.

15.30.460 Fees.

Fees for (i) inspections for compliance with this chapter, (ii) filing and evaluation of deviation requests, and (iii) appeals of deviation denials shall be adopted by resolution of the board of supervisors.

15.30.470 Penalty for violations.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of an infraction and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars for the first violation and a fine not exceeding two hundred dollars for a second violation within a year. The third and each successive violation of this chapter in the period of one year shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment not to exceed six months, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

15.30.480 Separate Violations.

Each and every day on which any violation of this chapter is committed, continued or permitted by any person shall constitute a separate violation hereof.

15.30.490 Other Citations.

Any officer authorized by law to issue citations may issue citations pursuant to Penal Code 836.5, 853.5 and 853.6 for violations of this chapter.

15.30.500 Civil Proceedings Not Preempted.

Criminal proceedings against persons for violations of this chapter shall not bar civil enforcement or abatement proceedings.

SECTION III. Chapter 12.08 County Road System is hereby amended as follows:

12.08.030 Minimum construction requirements.

All roads submitted for acceptance into the county road system shall meet the minimum requirements set forth in the following tabulation:

Design Feature	Topography	Traffic Per Day under 100		Traffic Per Day 100 to 400		Traffic Per Day 400 to 1000		Traffic Per Day 1000 to 4000		Traffic Per Day 4000 to 5000		Traffic Per Day over 5000	
		Mini mum*	Desi rable	Mini mum*	Desi rable	Mini mum*	Desi rable	Mini mum*	Desi rable	Mini mum*	Desi rable	Mini mum*	Desi rable
Design Speed	Flat	40	50	45	55	50	60	70	60	60	70	60	70
	Rolling	30	30	35	45	40	50	50	60	50	60	50	60
	Mountainous	20	25	25	35	30	40	40	50	40	50	40	50
Radii (ft.)(Min. & Desirable Min.)	Flat	400	650	500	850	650	1000	1000	1500	1000	1500	1000	1500
	Rolling	275	400	350	525	400	650	650	1000	700	1000	800	1000
	Mountainous	100	250	150	325	250	400	400	650	500	650	600	700
Grade % Below 2000 feet (Max & desirable Max.)		12	6	10	5	6	4	4	3	3	3	3	2
	Above 2000 feet	10	8	10	8	8	7	7	6	7	6	6	5
Non-passing	Flat	275	350	315	415	350	475	475	600	475	600	475	600
Sight distance (feet)	Rolling	250	275	240	315	275	350	350	475	350	475	350	475
	Mountainous	125	200	165	240	200	275	275	350	275	350	275	350
R/W width (ft.)		50	60	50	60	60	80	60	80	80	100	80	100
Roadbed width (ft.)		26.5	28.5	26.5	30.5	30.5	34.5	34.5	38.5	44.5	52.5	64	70
Surface width (ft.)		20	22	20	24	24	24	28	28	28	34	46	48
Thickness base & surface	Design based on engineering analysis of traffic and soil												
Bridges clear width (ft.)		26.5	28.5	26.5	30.5	30.5	34.5	34.5	38.5	44.5	52.5	64	70
Vertical Clearance (ft.)		14.5	15	14.5	15	14.5	15	14.5	15	14.5	15	15.5	15
Design lead (A.A.S.H.C)	H-15												
(*Maximum for % grade)													

12.08.035 Private road construction.

Design Feature	Topography	Private Roads	Driveway	
			Common	Single
Design Speed	Flat	40	20	20
	Rolling	30	20	20
	Mountainous	20	20	20
Inside Radii (Ft) (Min. & Desirable min.)	Flat	400	50	50
	Rolling	275	50	50

	Mountainous	100	50	50	
Grade % Below 2000 feet ¹		16	16	16	
Grade % Above 2000 feet ¹		10	10	10	
R/W Width (Ft) ²		40	30	Na	
Roadbed Width (FT)		20	18	10	
Surface Width (ft) ³		18	12	9	
Thickness Base & Surface		See Below ⁴	See Below ⁴	2"/4"	
Bridges Clear Width (ft)		22	10 ⁵	10	
Vertical Clearance (ft)		14.5	14.5	14.5	
Design Load (AASHTO)		H-15	H-15	H-15	
¹ Maximum for % grade					
² Easement Width for Common Driveways					
³ Private Roads may use all weather surface such as aggregate base and gravel as a substitute to AC					
⁴ Design based on engineering analysis of character of traffic and soil					
⁵ Bridge design loads for single driveway shall be H-15					
⁶ Bridges on common driveways must have clear sight across bridge and turn out on both sides.					

SECTION IV. Except as set forth above, the remainder of Chapter 12.08 is unaffected by this ordinance and is deemed reenacted without amendment.

SECTION V. Chapter 17.28 General Design and Improvement Standards, is hereby amended as follows:

17.28.190 Street connections.

Streets or roads in any proposed subdivision shall connect to a state highway, to a maintained county road, or to a road or right-of-way which meets the standards of this title as to design and improvement.

SECTION VI. Except as set forth above, the remainder of Chapter 17.28 is unaffected by this ordinance and is deemed reenacted without amendment.

SECTION VII. Chapter 17.90 Street and Road Standards is hereby amended as follows:

17.90.040 Minimum widths of right-of-way, graded portion and paved surface.

The minimum widths of right-of-way, graded portion, road base and road surfacing are shown in Table 12.08.030 for publically maintained roads and Table 12.08.035 for privately maintained

roads and driveways. The tabulation of minimum road requirements as set forth in Section 12.08.030 is amended.

17.90.050 Minimum widths of right-of-way, graded portion, base and paved surface.

As specified in minimum construction requirements table in Chapter 12.08.030 and private roads construction table in Chapter 12.08.035.

17.90.080 Materials.

A. The mineral aggregate shall be free from vegetable matter and other deleterious substances and shall be of such character that it can be compacted readily under watering and rolling to form a firm and stable base.

SECTION VIII. Except as set forth above, the remainder of Chapter 17.90 is unaffected by this ordinance and is deemed reenacted without amendment.

SECTION IX. This ordinance or a summary thereof shall be published in the manner prescribed in Government Code Section 25124 and shall become effective thirty (30) days after the date of adoption.

The foregoing ordinance was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Amador at a regular meeting thereof, held on the 25th day of March, 2014 by the following vote:

AYES: Theodore F. Novelli, Brian Oneto, John Plasse, Louis D. Boitano and Richard M. Forster

NOES: None

ABSENT: None



Theodore F. Novelli, Chairman

ATTEST:
JENNIFER BURNS, Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors, Amador County,
California



Deputy

Amador County Code 12.08.035

12.08.035 Private road construction.

Design Feature	Topography	Private Roads	Driveway	
			Common	Single
Design Speed	Flat	40	20	20
	Rolling	30	20	20
	Mountainous	20	20	20
Inside Radii (ft) (Min. & Desirable Min.)	Flat	400	50	50
	Rolling	275	50	50
	Mountainous	100	50	50
Grade % Below 2,000 Feet ¹		16	16	16
Grade % Above 2,000 Feet ¹		10	10	10
R/W Width (ft) ²		40	30	Na
Roadbed Width (ft)		20	18	10
Surface Width (ft) ³		18	12	9
Thickness Base & Surface		See Below ⁴	See Below ⁴	2"/4"
Bridges Clear Width (ft)		22	10 ⁵	10
Vertical Clearance (ft)		14.5	14.5	14.5
Design Load (AASHTO)		H-15	H-15	H-15
¹ Maximum for % grade				
² Easement Width for Common Driveways				
³ Private roads may use all-weather surface such as aggregate base and gravel as a substitute to AC				
⁴ Design based on engineering analysis of character of traffic and soil				
⁵ Bridge design loads for single driveway shall be H-15				
⁶ Bridges on common driveways must have clear sight across bridge and turn out on both sides.				

FIRE SAFE REGULATIONS

Title 14 Natural Resources

Division 1.5 Department of Forestry

Chapter 7 - Fire Protection

Subchapter 2 SRA Fire Safe Regulations

[Article 1](#) | [Article 2](#) | [Article 3](#) | [Article 4](#) | [Article 5](#) | [Index](#)

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Authority cited

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

History

1. New section filed 5/30/91; operative 5/30/91 pursuant to Government Code section 11346.2(d) (Register 91, No.27)

ARTICLE 1. ADMINISTRATION

- 1270.00. Title
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- 1270.08. Request for Exceptions
- 1270.09. Appeals
- 1271.00. Definitions
- 1271.05. Distance Measurements
- 1272.00. Maintenance of Defensible Space Measures.

1270.00. Title

These regulations shall be known as “SRA Fire Safe Regulations”, and shall constitute the basic wildland fire protection standards of the California Board of Forestry.

1270.01. Purpose

These regulations have been prepared and adopted for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction and development in SRA. A local jurisdiction may petition the Board for certification pursuant to Section 1270.03. Where Board certification has not been granted, these regulations shall become effective September 1, 1991. The future design and construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in State Responsibility Area (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures as specified in the following articles. These measures shall provide for emergency access; signing and building numbering; private water supply reserves for emergency fire use; and vegetation modification. The fire protection standards which follow shall specify the minimums for such measures.

1270.02. Scope

These regulations do not apply to existing structures, roads, streets, and private lanes or facilities. These regulations shall apply as appropriate to all construction within SRA approved after January 1, 1991. Affected activities include but are not limited to:

- (a) Permitting or approval of new parcels, excluding lot line adjustments as specified in Government Code(GC) Section 66412(d),
- (b) application for a building permit for new construction, not relating to an existing structure,
- (c) applications for a use permit,
- (d) the siting of manufactured homes (manufactured homes are as defined by the National Fire Protection Association, National Fire Code, Section 501 A, Standard for Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home installations, Sites and Communities, Chapter 1, Section 1-2, Definitions, page 4, 1987 edition and Health and Safety Code Sections 18007, 18008 and 19971),
- (e) road construction, including construction of a road that does not currently exist, or extension of an existing road.

Exemption: Roads required as a condition of tentative parcel maps prior to the effective date of these regulations; roads for agricultural or mining use solely on one ownership; and roads used solely for the management and harvesting of wood products.

1270.03. Local Ordinances

Nothing contained in these regulations shall be considered as abrogating the provisions of any ordinance, rule or regulation of any state or local jurisdiction providing such ordinance, rule regulation or general plan element is equal to or more stringent than these minimum standards. The Board may certify local ordinances as equaling or exceeding these regulations when they provide the same practical effect.

1270.04. Provisions for Application of these Regulations

This subchapter shall be applied as follows:

- (a) local jurisdictions shall provide the Director with notice of applications for building permits, tentative parcel maps, tentative maps, and use permits for construction or development within SRA.
- (b) the Director shall review and make fire protection recommendations on applicable construction or development or maps provided by the local jurisdiction.
- (c) the local jurisdiction shall ensure that the applicable sections of this subchapter become a condition of approval of any applicable construction of development permit or map.

1270.05. Inspection Authority

- (a) Inspection shall be made pursuant to Section 1270.06 by:
 - (1) the Director, or
 - (2) local jurisdictions that have assumed state fire protection responsibility on SRA land, or

(3) local jurisdictions where these regulations have been implemented through that jurisdiction's building permit or subdivision approval process.

(b) Reports of violations shall be provided to the CDF Ranger Unit headquarters that administers SRA fire protection in that county .

1270.06. Inspections.

The inspection authority may inspect for compliance with these regulations. When inspections are conducted, they should occur prior to: the issuance of the use permit; certificate of occupancy; the recordation of the parcel map or final map; the filing of a notice of completion; or the final inspection of any project or building permit.

1270.07. Exceptions to Standards

Upon request by the applicant, exceptions to standards within this subchapter and mitigated practices may be allowed by the inspection authority, where the exception provide the same overall practical effect as these regulations towards providing defensible space.

1270.08. Request for Exceptions

Requests for an exception shall be made in writing to the inspection authority by the applicant or the applicant's authorized representative. The request shall state the specific section(s) for which an exception is requested, material facts supporting the contention of the applicant, the details of the exception or mitigating measure proposed, and a map showing the proposed location and siting of the exception or mitigation measure.

1270.09. Appeals

Where an exception is not granted by the inspection authority, the applicant may appeal such denial to the local jurisdiction. The local jurisdiction may establish or utilize an appeal process consistent with existing local building or planning department appeal processes. Before the local jurisdiction makes a determination on an appeal, the inspection authority shall be consulted and shall provide to that local jurisdiction documentation outlining the effects of the requested exception on wildland fire protection.

If an appeal is granted, the local jurisdiction shall make findings that the decision meets the intent of providing defensible space consistent with these regulations. Such findings shall include a statement of reasons for the decision. A written copy of these findings shall be provided to the CDF Ranger Unit headquarters that administers SRA fire protection in that county.

1271.00. Definitions

Accessory building: Any building used as an accessory to residential, commercial, recreational, industrial, or educational purposes as defined in the California Building Code, 1989 Amendments, Chapter 11, Group M, Division 1 Occupancy that requires a building permit.

Agriculture: Land used for agricultural purposes as defined in a local jurisdiction's zoning ordinances.

Building: Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use of occupancy that is defined in the California Building Code, 1989 Amendments, Chapter 11, except Group M,

Division 1 , Occupancy. For the purposes of this subchapter, building includes mobile homes and manufactured homes, churches, and day care facilities.

CDF: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Dead-end road: A road that has only one point of vehicular ingress/egress, including cul-de-sacs and looped roads.

Defensible space: The area within the perimeter of a parcel, development, neighborhood or community where basic wildland fire protection practices and measures are implemented, providing the key point of defense from an approaching wildfire or defense against encroaching wildfires or escaping structure fires. The perimeter as used in this regulation is the area encompassing the parcel or parcels proposed for construction and/or development, excluding the physical structure itself. The area is characterized by the establishment and maintenance of emergency vehicle access, emergency water reserves, street names and building identification, and fuel modification measures.

Development: As defined in Section 66418.1 of the California Government Code.

Director: Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or his/her designee.

Driveway: A vehicular access that serves no more than two buildings, with no more than three dwelling units on a single parcel, and any number of accessory buildings.

Dwelling unit: Any building or portion thereof which contains living facilities, including provisions for sleeping, eating, cooking and/or sanitation for not more than one family.

Exception: An alternative to the specified standard requested by the applicant that may be necessary due to health, safety, environmental conditions, physical site limitations or other limiting conditions such as recorded historical sites, that provide mitigation of the problem.

Fire valve: See hydrant.

Fuel modification area: An area where the volume of flammable vegetation has been reduced, providing reduced fire intensity and duration.

Greenbelts: A facility or land-use, designed for a use other than fire protection, which will slow or resist the spread of a wildfire. Includes parking lots, irrigated or landscaped areas, golf courses, parks, playgrounds, maintained vineyards, orchards or annual crops that do not cure in the field.

Hammerhead/T: A roadway that provides a "T" shaped, three-point turnaround space for emergency equipment, being no narrower than the road that serves it.

Hydrant: A valved connection on a water supply/storage system, having at least one 2 1/2 inch outlet, with male American National Fire Hose Screw Threads(NH) used to supply fire apparatus and hoses with water .

Local jurisdiction: Any county, city/county agency or department, or any locally authorized district that issues or approves building permits, use permits, tentative maps or tentative parcel maps, or has authority to regulate development and construction activity.

Occupancy: The purpose for which a building, or part thereof, is used or intended to be used.

One-way road: A minimum of one traffic lane width designed for traffic flow in one direction only.

Roads, streets, private lanes: Vehicular access to more than one parcel; access to any industrial or commercial occupancy; or vehicular access to a single parcel with more than two buildings or four or more dwelling units.

Roadway: Any surface designed, improved, or ordinarily used for vehicle travel.

Roadway structures: Bridges, culverts, and other appurtenant structures which supplement the roadway bed or shoulders.

Same practical effect: As used in this subchapter means an exception or alternative with the capability of applying accepted wildland fire suppression strategies and tactics, and provisions for fire fighter safety, including:

- (a) access for emergency wildland fire equipment,
- (b) safe civilian evacuation,
- (c) signing that avoids delays in emergency equipment response,
- (d) available and accessible water to effectively attack wildfire or defend a structure from wildfire, and
- (e) fuel modification sufficient for civilian and fire fighter safety.

Shoulder: Roadbed or surface adjacent to the traffic lane.

State Board of Forestry (SBOF): A nine member board, appointed by the Governor, which is responsible for developing the general forest policy of the state, for determining the guidance policies of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and for representing the state's interest in federal land in California.

State Responsibility Area (SRA): As defined in the Public Resources Code Section 4126-4127; and the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Article 1, Sections 1220-1220.5.

Structure: That which is built or constructed, an edifice or building of any kind, or any piece of work artificially built up or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner .

Subdivision: As defined in Section 66424 of the Government Code.

Traffic lane: The portion of a roadway that provides a single line of vehicle travel.

Turnaround: A roadway, unobstructed by parking, which allows for a safe opposite change of direction for emergency equipment. Design of such area may be a hammerhead/T or terminus bulb.

Turnouts: A widening in a roadway to allow vehicles to pass.

Vertical clearance: The minimum specified height of a bridge or overhead projection above the roadway.

Wildfire: As defined in Public Resources Code Section 4103 and 4104.

1271.05. Distance Measurements

All specified or referenced distances are measured along the ground, unless otherwise stated.

1272.00. Maintenance of Defensible Space Measures.

To ensure continued maintenance of properties in conformance with these standards and measures and to assure continue availability, access, and utilization of the defensible space provided for these standards during a wildfire, provisions for annual maintenance shall be included in the development plans and/or shall be provided as a condition of the permit, parcel or map approval.

ARTICLE 2. EMERGENCY ACCESS

- 1273.00. Intent
- 1273.01. Road Width
- 1273.02. Roadway Surface
- 1273.03. Roadway Grades
- 1273.04. Roadway Radius
- 1273.05. Roadway Turnarounds
- 1273.06. Roadway Turnouts
- 1273.07. Roadway Structures
- 1273.08. One-Way Roads
- 1273.09. Dead-End Roads
- 1273.10. Driveways
- 1273.11. Gate Entrances

1273.00. Intent

Road and street networks, whether public or private, unless exempted under Section 1270.02(e), shall provide for safe access for emergency wildland fire equipment and civilian evacuation concurrently, and shall provide unobstructed traffic circulation during a wildfire emergency consistent with Sections 1273.00 through 1273.11.

1273.01. Road Width

All roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum of two nine-foot traffic lanes providing two-way traffic flow, unless other standards are provided in this article, or additional requirements are mandated by local jurisdictions or local subdivision requirements.

1273.02. Roadway Surface

The surface shall provide unobstructed access to conventional drive vehicles, including sedans and fire engines. Surfaces should be established in conformance with local ordinances, and be capable of supporting a 40,000 pound load.

1273.03. Roadway Grades

The grade for all roads, streets, private lanes and driveways shall not exceed 16 percent.

1273.04. Roadway Radius

(a) No roadway shall have a horizontal inside radius of curvature of less than 50 feet and additional surface width of 4 feet shall be added to curves of 50-100 feet radius; 2 feet to those from 100-200 feet.

(b) The length of vertical curves in roadways, exclusive of gutters, ditches, and drainage structures designed to hold or divert water, shall be not less than 100 feet.

1273.05. Roadway Turnarounds

Turnarounds are required on driveways and dead-end roads as specified in this article. The minimum turning radius for a turnaround shall be 40 feet from the center line of the road. If a hammerhead-T is used, the top of the "T" shall be a minimum of 60 feet in length.

1273.06. Roadway Turnouts

Turnouts shall be a minimum of 10 feet wide and 30 feet long with a minimum 25 foot taper on each end.

1273.07. Roadway Structures

(a) All driveway, road, street, and private lane roadway structures shall be constructed to carry at least the maximum load and provide the minimum vertical clearance as required by Vehicle Code Sections 35550, 35750 and 35250.

(b) Appropriate signing, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, one-way road or single lane conditions, shall reflect the capability of each bridge.

(c) A bridge with only one traffic lane may be authorized by the local jurisdiction; however, it shall provide for unobstructed visibility from one end to the other and turnouts at both ends.

1273.08. One-Way Roads

All one-way roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum of one 10-foot traffic lane. The local jurisdiction may approve one-way roads. All one-way roads shall connect to a two-lane roadway at both ends, and shall provide access to an area currently zoned for no more than 10 dwelling units. In no case shall it exceed 2640 feet in length. A turnout shall be placed and constructed at approximately the midpoint of each one-way road.

1273.09. Dead-End Roads

(a) The maximum length of a dead-end road, including all dead-end roads accessed from the dead-end road, shall not exceed the following cumulative lengths, regardless of the numbers of parcels served:

parcels zoned for less than one acre-----800 feet

parcels zoned for 1 acre to 4.99 acres-----1320 feet

parcels zoned for 5 acres to 19.99 acres -----2640 feet

parcels zoned for 20 acres or larger -----5280 feet

All lengths shall be measured from the edge of the roadway surface at the intersection that begins the road to the end of the road surface at the intersection that begins the road to the end of the road surface at its farthest point. Where a dead-end road crosses areas of differing zoned parcel sizes, requiring different length limits, the shortest allowable length shall apply.

(b) Where parcels are zoned 5 acres or larger, turnarounds shall be provided at a maximum of 1320 foot intervals.

(c) Each dead-end road shall have a turnaround constructed at its terminus.

1273.10. Driveways

All driveways shall provide a minimum 10 foot traffic lane and unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet along its entire length,

(a) Driveways exceeding 150 feet in length, but less than 800 feet in length, shall provide a turnout near the midpoint of the driveway. Where the driveway exceeds 800 feet, turnouts shall be provided no more than 400 feet apart.

(b) A turnaround shall be provided to all building sites on driveways over 300 feet in length, and shall be within 50 feet of the building.

1273.11. Gate Entrance

(a) Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider than the width of the traffic lane(s) serving that gate.

(b) All gates providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on that road.

(c) Where a one-way road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gated entrance, a 40 foot turning radius shall be used.

ARTICLE 3. SIGNING AND BUILDING NUMBERING

- 1274.00 Intent
- 1274.01. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Roads Signs
- 1274.02. Visibility and Legibility of Street and Road Signs
- 1274.03. Height of Street and Road Signs
- 1274.04. Names and Numbers on Street and Road Signs
- 1274.05. Intersecting Roads, Streets and Private Lanes
- 1274.06. Signs Identifying Traffic Access limitations
- 1274.07. Installation of Road, Street and Private Lane Signs
- 1274.08. Addresses for Buildings
- 1274.09. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses
- 1274.10. Installation, Location and Visibility of Addresses

1274.00. Intent

To facilitate locating a fire and to avoid delays in response, all newly constructed or approved roads, street, and buildings shall be designated by names or numbers, posted on signs clearly visible and legible from the roadway. This section shall not restrict the size of letters of numbers appearing on street signs for other purposes.

1274.01. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Roads Signs

Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for street and road signs shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

1274.02. Visibility and Legibility of Street and Road Signs

Street and road signs shall be visible and legible from both directions of vehicle travel for a distance of at least 100 feet.

1274.03. Height of Street and Road Signs

Height of street and road signs shall be uniform county wide, and meet the visibility and legibility standards of this article.

1274.04. Names and Numbers on Street and Road Signs

Newly constructed or approved public and private roads and streets must be identified by a name or number through a consistent countywide system that provides for sequenced or patterned numbering and/or non-duplicating naming within each county. All signs shall be mounted and oriented in a uniform manner. This section does not require any entity to rename or renumber existing roads or streets, nor shall a roadway providing access only to a single commercial or industrial occupancy require naming or numbering.

1274.05. Intersecting Roads, Streets and Private Lanes

Signs required by this article identifying intersecting roads, streets and private lanes shall be placed at the intersection of those roads, streets, and/or private lanes.

1274.06. Signs Identifying Traffic Access limitations

A sign identifying traffic access or flow limitations, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, dead-end road, one-way road or single lane conditions, shall be placed:

- (a) at the intersection preceding the traffic access limitation, and
- (b) no more than 100 feet before such traffic access limitation.

1274.07. Installation of Road, Street and Private Lane Signs

Road, street and private lane signs required by this article shall be installed. prior to final acceptance by the local jurisdiction of road improvements.

1274.08. Addresses for Buildings

All buildings shall be issued an address by the local jurisdiction which conforms to that jurisdiction's overall address system. Accessory buildings will not be required to have a separate address; however, each dwelling unit within a building shall be separately identified.

1274.09. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses

Size of letters, numbers and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inc stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

1274.10. Installation, Location and Visibility of Addresses

(a) All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed at each driveway entrance and visible from both directions of travel along the road. In all cases, the address shall be posted at the beginning of construction and shall be maintained thereafter, and the address shall be visible and legible from the road on which the address is located.

(b) Address signs along one-way roads shall be visible from both the intended direction of travel and the opposite direction.

(c) Where multiple addresses are required at a single driveway, they shall be mounted on a single post.

(d) Where a roadway provides access solely to a single commercial or industrial business, the address sign shall be placed at the nearest road intersection providing access to that site.

ARTICLE 4. EMERGENCY WATER STANDARDS

- 1275.00. Intent
- 1275.01. Application
- 1275.10. General Standards
- 1275.15. Hydrant/fire Valve
- 1275.20 Signing of Water Sources

1275.00. Intent

Emergency water for wildfire protection shall be available and accessible in quantities and locations specified in the statute and these regulations, in order to attack a wildfire or defend property from a wildfire. Such emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or man made containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately available.

1275.01. Application

The provisions of this article shall apply when new parcels are approved by a local jurisdiction. The emergency water system shall be available on-site prior to the completion of road construction, where a community water system is approved, or prior to the completion of building construction, where an individual system is approved.

1275.10. General Standards

Water systems that meet or exceed the standards specified in Public Utilities Commission of California (PUC) revised General Order #103, Adopted June 12, 1956 (Corrected September 7,

1983, Decision 83-09-001), Section VIII Fire Protection Standards and other applicable sections relating to fire protection water delivery systems, static water systems equaling or exceeding the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1231, "Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting", 1989 Edition, or mobile water systems that meet the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rural Class 8, 2nd Edition 3-80, standard shall be accepted as meeting the requirements of this article. These documents are available at CDF Ranger Unit Headquarters.

Nothing in this article prohibits the combined storage of emergency wildfire and structural firefighting water supplies unless so prohibited by local ordinance or specified by the local fire agency.

Where freeze protection is required by local jurisdictions, such protection measures shall be provided. .

1275.15. Hydrant/fire Valve

(a) The hydrant or fire valve shall be 18 inches above grade, 8 feet from flammable vegetation, no closer than 4 feet nor farther than 12 feet from a roadway, and in a location where fire apparatus using it will not block the roadway.

The hydrant serving any building shall:

(1) be not less than 50 feet nor more than 1/2 mile by road from the building it is to serve, and

(2) be located at a turnout or turnaround, along the driveway to that building or along the road that intersects with that driveway.

(b) The hydrant head shall be brass with 2 1/2 inch National Hose male thread with cap for pressure and gravity flow systems and 4 1/2 inch draft systems. Such hydrants shall be wet or dry barrel as required by the delivery system. They shall have suitable crash protection as required by the local jurisdiction.

1275.20 Signing of Water Sources

Each hydrant/fire valve or access to water shall be identified as follows:

(a) If located along a driveway, a reflectorized blue marker, with a minimum dimension of 3 inches shall be located on the driveway address sign and mounted on a fire retardant post, or

(b) if located along a street or road,

(1) a reflectorized blue marker, with a minimum dimension of 3 inches, shall be mounted on a fire retardant post. The sign post shall be within 3 feet of said hydrant/fire valve, with the sign no less than 3 feet nor greater than 5 feet above ground, in a horizontal position and visible from the driveway, or

(2) as specified in the State Fire Marshal's Guidelines for Fire Hydrant Markings Along State Highways and Freeways, May 1988.

ARTICLE 5. FUEL MODIFICATION STANDARDS

- 1276.00 Intent
- 1276.01 Setback for Structure Defensible Space
- 1276.02 Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels
- 1276.03 Greenbelt

1276.00 Intent

To reduce the intensity of a wildfire by reducing the volume and density of flammable vegetation, the strategic siting of fuel modification and greenbelt shall provide

- (1) increased safety for emergency fire equipment and evacuating civilians;
- (2) a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

1276.01 Setback for Structure Defensible Space

(a) All parcels 1 acre and larger shall provide a minimum 30 foot setback for buildings and accessory buildings from all property lines and/or the center of the road.

(b) For parcels less than 1 acre, the local jurisdiction shall provide for the same practical effect.

1276.02 Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels

Disposal, including chipping, burying, burning or removal to a landfill site approved by the local jurisdiction, of flammable vegetation and fuels caused by site development and construction, road and driveway construction, and fuel modification shall be completed prior to completion of road construction or final inspection of a building permit.

1276.03 Greenbelt

Subdivision and other developments, which propose greenbelt as a part of the development plan, shall locate said greenbelt strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspection.

1 **SRA FIRE SAFE REGULATIONS, 2014**

2 **14 CCR, Division 1.5, Chapter 7 Fire Protection, Subchapter 2, Articles 2-5. SRA Fire Safe**
3 **Regulations**

4
5 **Article 2. Emergency Access and Egress.**

6
7 **1273.01. Road Width**

8 All roads shall be constructed to provide ~~a minimum of two nine-foot traffic lanes providing two-~~
9 ~~way traffic flow~~ a minimum driving surface of two ten-foot lanes, not including shoulder and
10 striping. These lanes should provide for two-way traffic flow to support emergency vehicle and
11 civilian egress, unless other standards are provided in this article, or additional requirements are
12 mandated by local jurisdictions or local subdivision requirements.

13 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
14 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

15 **1273.02. Roadway Surface**

16 ~~The surface shall provide unobstructed access to conventional drive vehicles, including sedans~~
17 ~~and fire engines. Surfaces should be established in conformance with local ordinances, and be~~
18 ~~capable of supporting a 40,000 pound load.~~ Roadways shall be designed and maintained to
19 support the imposed load of fire apparatus weighing at least 75,000 pounds and provide an all-
20 weather aggregate road base. Project proponent shall provide engineering specifications to
21 support design, if requested.

22 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
23 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

24
25 **1273.05. Roadway Turnarounds**

1 Turnarounds are required on driveways and dead-end roads as specified in this article. The
2 minimum turning radius for a turnaround shall be 40 feet from the center line of the road, not
3 including parking and the encroachment of the driving surface, from the roadway into and out of
4 the terminus bulb shall not be less than 38'. The driving surface shall be evenly tapered on both
5 sides of the driving surface from the encroachment, 15' back along the roadway. The radius of
6 the taper shall not exceed 40'. If a hammerhead/T is used instead, the top of the "T" shall be a
7 minimum of 60 feet in length.

8 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
9 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

10 **1273.06. Roadway Turnouts**

11 Turnouts shall be a minimum of ~~40~~ 12 feet wide and 30 feet long with a minimum 25 foot taper
12 on each end.

13 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
14 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

15 **1273.07. Roadway Structures**

16 (a) All driveway, road, street, and private lane roadway structures shall be constructed to carry
17 at least the maximum load and provide the minimum vertical clearance as required by Vehicle
18 Code Sections 35250, 35550, and 35750 ~~and 35250~~.

19 (b) Appropriate signing, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, one-
20 way road or single lane conditions, shall reflect the capability of each bridge.

21 (c) Where a bridge or an elevated surface is part of a fire apparatus access road, the bridge
22 shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the American Association of State and
23 Highway Transportation Officials Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges, 17th Edition,
24 published 2002 (known as AASHTO HB-17), hereby incorporated by reference. Bridges and
25

1 elevated surfaces shall be designed for a live load sufficient to carry the imposed loads of fire
2 apparatus. Vehicle load limits shall be posted at both entrances to bridges when required.

3 Where elevated surfaces designed for emergency vehicle use are adjacent to surfaces which
4 are not designed for such use, approved barriers, approved signs or both shall be installed and
5 maintained. A bridge with only one traffic lane may be authorized by the local jurisdiction;
6 however, it shall provide for unobstructed visibility from one end to the other and turnouts at
7 both ends.

8 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
9 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

10 **1273.08. One-Way Roads**

11 All one-way roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum, not including shoulders, of one
12 ~~10~~12-foot traffic lane. The local jurisdiction may approve one-way roads. All one-way roads shall
13 connect to a two-lane roadway at both ends, and shall provide access to an area currently
14 zoned for no more than 10 dwelling units. In no case shall it exceed 2640 feet in length. A
15 turnout shall be placed and constructed at approximately the midpoint of each one-way road.

16 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
17 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

18 **1273.10. Driveways**

19 All driveways shall provide a minimum driving surface of a 10 foot width with a minimum width of
20 14 feet unobstructed horizontal clearance and vertical clearance of 15 feet. ~~10-foot traffic lane~~
21 ~~and unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet along its entire length,~~

22 (a) Driveways exceeding 150 feet in length, but less than 800 feet in length, shall provide a
23 turnout near the midpoint of the driveway. Where the driveway exceeds 800 feet, turnouts shall
24 be provided no more than 400 feet apart.
25

1 (b) A turnaround shall be provided to all building sites on driveways over 300 feet in length, and
2 shall be within 50 feet of the building.

3 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
4 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

5
6 **1273.11. Gate Entrance**

7 (a) Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider than the width of the traffic lane(s) serving
8 that gate and a minimum width of 14 feet unobstructed horizontal clearance and vertical
9 clearance of 15 feet.

10 (b) All gates providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from
11 the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on that road.

12 (c) Security gates shall not be installed without approval. Where security gates are installed,
13 they shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the
14 emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times.

15 (d) Where a one-way road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gated entrance, a 40
16 foot turning radius shall be used.

17 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
18 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

19 **1274.01. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Roads Signs**

20 ~~Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for street and road signs shall be a minimum 3 inch letter~~
21 ~~height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.~~

22 Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (101.6 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5
23 inch (12.7 mm). Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed
24 from the *public way*, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the
25 structure.

1 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
2 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

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4 **1274.09. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses**

5 ~~Size of letters, numbers and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8~~
6 ~~inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.~~

7 New and existing buildings shall have approved address numbers, building numbers or
8 approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the
9 street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background.

10 Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall be a minimum
11 of 4 inches (101.6 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm). Where access
12 is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a
13 monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure.

14 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
15 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

16 **1275.00. Intent**

17 Emergency water for wildfire protection shall be available, ~~and accessible, and maintained~~ in
18 quantities and locations specified in the statute and these regulations, in order to attack a
19 wildfire or defend property from a wildfire. ~~Such emergency water may be provided in a fire~~
20 ~~agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or man made containment structure, as long~~
21 ~~as the specified quantity is immediately available.~~

22 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
23 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

24
25 **1275.01. Application**

1 The provisions of this article shall apply in the tentative and parcel map process when new
2 parcels are approved by a local jurisdiction. ~~The emergency water system shall be available on-~~
3 ~~site prior to the completion of road construction, where a community water system is approved,~~
4 ~~or prior to the completion of building construction, where an individual system is approved.~~

5 When a water supply for structure defense is required to be installed, such protection shall be
6 installed and made serviceable prior to and during the time of construction except when
7 approved alternative methods of protection are provided.

8 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
9 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

10 **1275.10. General Standards**

11 Water systems that comply with the below standard or standards ~~meets or exceeds~~ the
12 ~~standards specified in Public Utilities Commission of California (PUC) revised General Order~~
13 ~~#103, Adopted June 12, 1956 (Corrected September 7, 1983, Decision 83-09-001), Section VIII~~
14 ~~Fire Protection Standards and other applicable sections relating to fire protection water delivery~~
15 ~~systems, static water systems equaling or exceeding the National Fire Protection Association~~
16 ~~(NFPA) intent of these regulations.~~

17 Water systems equaling or exceeding the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard
18 1231, "Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting", 1989 Edition, or
19 mobile water systems that meet the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rural Class 8, 2nd Edition
20 3-80, 1142, "Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting," 2012 Edition,
21 hereby incorporated by reference, and California Fire Code 2010, California Code of
22 Regulations Title 24, Part 9, Fire Flow requirements, standard shall be accepted as meeting
23 the requirements of this article. ~~These documents are available at CDF Ranger Unit~~
24 ~~Headquarters.~~

1 Such emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally
2 occurring or man made containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately
3 available. Nothing in this article prohibits the combined storage of emergency wildfire and
4 structural firefighting water supplies unless so prohibited by local ordinance or specified by the
5 local fire agency.

6 Where freeze protection is required by local jurisdictions, such protection measures shall be
7 provided.

8 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
9 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

10 **1275.15. Hydrant/Fire Valve**

11 (a) The hydrant or fire valve shall be 18 inches above grade, 8 feet from flammable vegetation,
12 no closer than 4 feet nor farther than 12 feet from a roadway, and in a location where fire
13 apparatus using it will not block the roadway.

14 The hydrant serving any building shall:

15 (1) be not less than 50 feet nor more than 1/2 mile by road from the building it is to
16 serve, and

17 (2) be located at a turnout or turnaround, along the driveway to that building or along the
18 road that intersects with that driveway.

19 (b) The hydrant head shall be ~~brass with~~ 2 1/2 inch National Hose male thread with cap for
20 pressure and gravity flow systems and 4 1/2 inch draft systems. Such hydrants shall be wet or
21 dry barrel as required by the delivery system. They shall have suitable crash protection as
22 required by the local jurisdiction.

23 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
24 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1 **1276.00 Intent**

2 To reduce the intensity of a wildfire by reducing the volume and density of flammable
3 vegetation, the strategic siting of fuel modification and greenbelt shall provide

4 (1) increased safety for emergency fire equipment and evacuating civilians by its utilization
5 around structures and roads, including driveways; and

6 (2) a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

7 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
8 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

9
10 **1276.03 Greenbelts**

11 Subdivision and other developments, which propose greenbelts as a part of the development
12 plan, shall locate said greenbelts strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and
13 structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspection authority. Selected locations
14 should be consistent with the Unit Fire Plan.

15 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
16 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

17 **1276.04. Driveways.**

18 Driveways shall have minimum of ten feet horizontal fuel reduction, which includes the required
19 clearance in 1273.10, from the traveled surface on both sides of the driveway fuel reduction
20 zone, from the point at which the driveway meets the road to the defensible space of the
21 structure, to support civilian evacuation and fire equipment access. The fuel reduction is such
22 that it reflects CCR title 14, 1299 Defensible Space Zone Two. These shall include turnouts and
23 turnarounds.

24 Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections
25 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

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