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Public Resource Code

4291.

(a) A person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining a mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or land that is covered with flammable material, shall at all times do all of the following:

(1) Maintain defensible space of 100 feet from each side and from the front and rear of the structure, but not beyond the property line except as provided in paragraph (2). The amount of fuel modification necessary shall take into account the flammability of the structure as affected by building material, building standards, location, and type of vegetation. Fuels shall be maintained in a condition so that a wildfire burning under average weather conditions would be unlikely to ignite the structure. This paragraph does not apply to single specimens of trees or other vegetation that are well-pruned and maintained so as to effectively manage fuels and not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from other nearby vegetation to a structure or from a structure to other nearby vegetation. The intensity of fuels management may vary within the 100-foot perimeter of the structure, the most intense being within the first 30 feet around the structure. Consistent with fuels management objectives, steps should be taken to minimize erosion. For the purposes of this paragraph, "fuel" means any combustible material, including petroleum-based products and wildland fuels.

(2) A greater distance than that required under paragraph (1) may be required by state law, local ordinance, rule, or regulation. Clearance beyond the property line may only be required if the state law, local ordinance, rule, or regulation includes findings that the clearing is necessary to significantly reduce the risk of transmission of flame or heat sufficient to ignite the structure, and there is no other feasible mitigation measure possible to reduce the risk of ignition or spread of wildfire to the structure. Clearance on adjacent property shall only be conducted following written consent by the adjacent landowner.

(4) Remove that portion of a tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe.

(5) Maintain a tree, shrub, or other plant adjacent to or overhanging a building free of dead or dying wood.

(6) Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles, or other vegetative materials.

(b) A person is not required under this section to manage fuels on land if that person does not have the legal right to manage fuels, nor is a person required to enter upon or to alter property that is owned by any other person without the consent of the owner of the property.

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(e) The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection shall develop, periodically update, and post on its Internet Web site a guidance document on fuels management pursuant to this chapter. Guidance shall include, but not be limited to, regionally appropriate vegetation management suggestions that preserve and restore native species, minimize erosion, minimize water consumption, and permit trees near homes for shade, aesthetics, and habitat; and suggestions to minimize or eliminate the risk of flammability of nonvegetative sources of combustion such as woodpiles, propane tanks, decks, and outdoor lawn furniture.

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4584. Exempt activities.

Upon determining that the exemption is consistent with the purposes of this chapter, the board may exempt from this chapter, or portions of this chapter, a person engaged in forest management whose activities are limited to any of the following:

(i)

(1) The cutting or removal of trees in compliance with Sections 4290 and 4291 that eliminates the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns for the purpose of reducing flammable materials and maintaining a fuel break for a distance of not more than 150 feet on each side from an approved and legally permitted structure that complies with the California Building Standards Code, when that cutting or removal is conducted in compliance with this subdivision. For purposes of this subdivision, an "approved and legally permitted structure" includes only structures that are designed for human occupancy and garages, barns, stables, and structures used to enclose fuel tanks.

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(3)

(A) Surface fuels, including logging slash and debris, low brush, and deadwood, that could promote the spread of wildfire shall be chipped, burned, or otherwise removed from all areas of timber operations within 45 days from the date of commencement of timber operations pursuant to this subdivision.

(B)

(i) All surface fuels that are not chipped, burned, or otherwise removed from all areas of timber operations within 45 days from the date of commencement of timber operations may be determined to be a nuisance and subject to abatement by the department or the city or county having jurisdiction.

(ii) The costs incurred by the department, city, or county, as the case may be, to abate the nuisance upon a parcel of land subject to the timber operations, including, but not limited to, investigation, boundary determination, measurement, and other related costs,

may be recovered by special assessment and lien against the parcel of land by the department, city, or county. The assessment may be collected at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary ad valorem taxes, and shall be subject to the same penalties and the same procedure and sale in case of delinquency as is provided for ad valorem taxes.

(j)

(1) The harvesting of trees, limited to those trees that eliminate the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, duration and intensity, fuel ignitability, or ignition of tree crowns.

(2) The board may authorize an exemption pursuant to paragraph (1) only if the tree harvesting will decrease fuel continuity and increase the quadratic mean diameter of the stand, and the tree harvesting area will not exceed 300 acres.

(6)

(A) The registered professional forester who submits the notice shall include selection criteria for the trees to be harvested or the trees to be retained. In the development of fuel reduction prescriptions, the registered professional forester should consider retaining habitat elements, where feasible, including, but not limited to, ground level cover necessary for the long-term management of local wildlife populations.

(B) All trees that are harvested or all trees that are retained shall be marked or sample marked by or under the supervision of a registered professional forester before felling operations begin. The board shall adopt regulations for sample marking for this section in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. Sample marking shall be limited to homogenous forest stand conditions typical of plantations.

(8) Only trees less than 18 inches in stump diameter, measured at eight inches above ground level, may be removed. However, within 500 feet of a legally permitted structure, or in an area prioritized as a shaded fuel break in a community wildfire protection plan approved by a public fire agency, if the goal of fuel reduction cannot be achieved by removing trees less than 18 inches in stump diameter, trees less than 24 inches in stump diameter may be removed if that removal complies with this section and is necessary to achieve the goal of fuel reduction. A fuel reduction effort shall not violate the canopy closure regulations adopted by the board on June 10, 2004, and as those regulations may be amended.

(9)

(A) This subparagraph applies to areas within 500 feet of a legally permitted structure and in areas prioritized as a shaded fuel break in a community wildfire protection plan approved by a public fire agency. The board shall adopt regulations for the treatment of surface and ladder fuels in the harvest area, including logging slash and debris, low brush, small trees, and deadwood, that could promote the spread of wildfire. The regulations adopted by the board shall be consistent with the standards in the board's "General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space" described in Section 1299.03 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations. Postharvest standards shall include vertical spacing between fuels, horizontal spacing between

fuels, maximum depth of dead ground surface fuels, and treatment of standing dead fuels, as follows:

(i) Ladder and surface fuels shall be spaced to achieve a vertical clearance distance of eight feet or three times the height of the postharvest fuels, whichever is the greater distance, measured from the base of the live crown of the postharvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the surface fuels.

(ii) Horizontal spacing shall achieve a minimum separation of two to six times the height of the postharvest fuels, increasing spacing with increasing slope, measured from the outside branch edges of the fuels.

(iii) Dead surface fuel depth shall be less than nine inches.

(iv) Standing dead or dying trees and brush generally shall be removed. That material, along with live vegetation associated with the dead vegetation, may be retained for wildlife habitat when isolated from other vegetation.

(B) This subparagraph applies to all areas not described in subparagraph (A).

(i) The postharvest stand shall not contain more than 200 trees over three inches in diameter per acre.

(ii) Vertical spacing shall be achieved by treating dead fuels to a minimum clearance distance of eight feet measured from the base of the live crown of the postharvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the dead surface fuels.

(iii) All logging slash created by the timber operations shall be treated to achieve a maximum postharvest depth of nine inches above the ground.

(C) The standards required by subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be achieved on approximately 80 percent of the treated area. The treatment shall include chipping, removing, or other methods necessary to achieve the standards. Ladder and surface fuel treatments, for any portion of the exemption area where timber operations have occurred, shall be done within 120 days from the start of timber operations on that portion of the exemption area or by April 1 of the year following surface fuel creation on that portion of the exemption area if the surface fuels are burned.

California Code of Regulation (Title 14)

895.1

Community Fuelbreak Area means a shaded fuelbreak approved by a public fire agency as part of a fire prevention plan for fire protection, ignition management, prefire management or other fire defense improvements. Within a shaded fuelbreak, vegetation is managed to reduce the potential for wildfire damage and provides a direct benefit to defensible space as defined in 14 CCR 1271. Community fuelbreak areas include defensible space areas within 200 feet of approved and legally permitted structures, as defined in 14 CCR 895.1, and those areas comprising systems of fuelbreaks that are designed or approved by a public fire agency as part of a fire prevention plan.

Concentration means an accumulation of slash, limbs, tops, slabs or other logging debris that exceeds 30 inches (76.2 cm) in height above the ground and covers more than 100 square feet (9.29 m/sq) of surface area except that individual logs not associated with other logging debris which exceed these dimensions shall not be considered a concentration of slash or logging debris.

Fuelbreak, pursuant to PRC § 4528(e), means a strip of modified fuel to provide a line from which to work in the control of fire.

Ladder Fuels means vegetative fuels that can spread a fire vertically between or within a fuel type.

Lopping: (For the Coast and Northern Forest Districts:) Severing and spreading of slash so that no part of it remains more than 30 in. (76.2 cm) above the ground (Ref. Sec. 4551.5, PRC).

Lopping: (For the Southern Forest District:) Severing limbs from the exposed sides of the unutilized portions of trees so that portions of the severed limbs are in contact with the ground (Ref. Sec. 4551.5, PRC).

Lopping for Fire Hazard Reduction means severing and spreading slash so that no part of it generally remains more than 30 inches above the ground except where a specific rule provides another standard.

Slash, pursuant to PRC § 4525.7, means branches or limbs less than four inches in diameter, and bark and split products debris left on the ground as a result of timber operations.

Surface Cover means the cover of litter, downed woody material (including slash, living vegetation in contact with the ground, and loose rocks (excluding rock outcrops) that resist erosion by raindrop impact and surface flow.

Surface Fuel means loose surface litter on the soil surface normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones and small branches that have not yet decayed enough to lose their identity.

Understory means, generally, trees and woody species growing under an overstory.

Woody debris means woody material four inches and greater in diameter and no less than two feet long left on the ground as the result of timber operations.

913.4, 933.4, 953.4 Special Prescriptions

The following special harvesting methods are appropriate under certain conditions:

(c) Fuelbreak/Defensible Space. Where some trees and other vegetation and fuels are removed to create a shaded fuel break or defensible space in an area to reduce the potential for wildfires and the damage they might cause. Minimum stocking standards within the timber operating area shall be met immediately after harvest and shall be those found in 14 CCR 912.7 [932.7, 952.7]. The RPF shall describe in the plan specific vegetation and fuels treatment, including timing, to reduce fuels to meet the objectives of the Community Fuelbreak area.

914.2, 934.2, 954.2 Tractor Operations [All Districts]

(e) Slash and debris from timber operations shall not be bunched adjacent to residual trees required for silvicultural or wildlife purposes, or placed in locations where they could be discharged into a Class I or II watercourse, or lake.

915, 935, 955 Purposes [All Districts]

Site preparation shall be planned and conducted in a manner which encourages maximum timber productivity, minimizes fire hazards, prevents substantial adverse effects to soil resources and to fish and wildlife habitat, and prevents degradation of the quality and beneficial uses of water. The following provisions shall be applied in a manner which complies with this standard.

915.2, 935.2, 955.2 Treatment of Vegetative Matter [All Districts]

(a) Piling, burning, and other treatment of snags, slash and vegetative matter and protection of desirable residual trees during site preparation shall comply with 14 CCR 917 [937, 957] through 917.7 [937.7, 957.7].

(b) Broadcast burning shall not fully consume the larger organic debris which retains soil on slopes and stabilizes watercourse banks. The Director may approve exceptions to this requirement when such exceptions are explained and justified in the THP and the exceptions would provide for the protection of the beneficial uses of water or control erosion to a standard at least equal to that which would result from application of the standard rule.

916.9 ASP Rules (v)

(v) Site-specific measures or nonstandard operational provisions

(6) Guidance is provided below for site specific plans for fire hazard reduction:

(A) For site specific plans that address WLPZs having conditions where catastrophic, stand replacing wildfire will result in significant adverse effects to salmonid species, riparian habitat or other wildlife species, the site specific plan shall address measure(s) or provision(s) that create fire resilient forests, promote reduced fire intensities, and retain functional habitat following a wildfire. Site specific plans proposed for fuel hazard reduction shall contain information demonstrating the potential for severe fire behavior and likelihood of stand replacing fires. Fuel reduction measure(s) or provision(s) shall be designed to reduce fire behavior to levels appropriate for the region and riparian area. Measure(s) or provision(s) include, but are not limited to, activities that eliminate the vertical and horizontal continuity among all vegetative fuel layers (surface fuels, ladder fuels and crown fuels), focus on reducing surface and ladder fuel hazards, and simultaneously meet goals and objectives of 14 CCR § 916.9 [936.9, 956.9] subsections (a) and (c).

917, 937 Hazard Reduction [Coast, Northern]

This article shall provide standards for the treatment of snags and logging slash in order to reduce fire and pest safety hazards in the logging area, to protect such area from potential insect and disease attack, and to prepare the area for natural or artificial reforestation while retaining wildlife habitat.

957 Hazard Reduction [Southern]

This article shall provide standards for the treatment of snags and logging slash in order to reduce the fire and pest safety hazards in the logging area, to protect such area from potential insect and disease attack, and to prepare the area for natural or artificial reforestation while retaining wildlife habitat.

917.2, 937.2, 957.2 Treatment of Slash to Reduce Fire Hazard [All Districts]

Except in the *[High-Use Subdistrict of the Southern Forest District,]* Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District and Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas of the Coast Forest District, the following standards shall apply to the treatment of slash created by timber operations within the plan area and on roads adjacent to the plan area, but excluding appurtenant roads. Lopping for fire hazard reduction is defined in 14 CCR 895.1.

(a) Slash to be treated by piling and burning shall be treated as follows:

(1) Piles created prior to September 1 shall be treated not later than April 1 of the year following its creation, or within 30 days following climatic access after April 1 of the year following its creation.

(2) Piles created on or after September 1 shall be treated not later than April 1 of the second year following its creation, or within 30 days following climatic access after April 1 of the second year following its creation.

(3) Alternatives to (1) and/or (2) shall be justified in the plan by the RPF and may be approved by the Director.

(b) Within 100 feet of the edge of the traveled surface of public roads, and within 50 feet of the edge of the traveled surface of permanent [and seasonal; **Southern**] private roads open for public use where permission to pass is not required, slash created and trees knocked down by road construction or timber operations shall be treated by lopping for fire hazard reduction, piling and burning, chipping, burying or removal from the zone.

(c) All woody debris created by timber operations greater than one inch but less than eight inches in diameter within 100 feet of permanently located structures maintained for human habitation shall be removed or piled and burned; all slash created between 100-200 feet of permanently located structures maintained for human habitation shall be lopped for fire hazard reduction, removed, chipped or piled and burned; lopping may be required between 200-500 feet where unusual fire risk or hazard exist as determined by the Director or the RPF.

(d) An alternative to treating slash along roads and within 200 feet of structures may be approved by the Director when the RPF explains and justifies in the plan how equal fire protection will be provided. The alternative shall include a description of the alternate treatment(s) and the portion(s) of the plan area in which they will be utilized. In proposing alternate slash treatments, the RPF shall consider the estimated amount and distribution of slash to be created by the operation, type of remaining vegetation, topography, climate, and degree of public exposure fire history.

917.3 Prescribed Broadcast Burning of Slash [Coast]

Outside the Southern Subdistrict, broadcast burning may be prescribed for slash treatment subject to the following conditions:

- (a) It may occur in Zone A, as described in PRC 4423, subject to a project-type burning permit;
- (b) It may occur in Zone B, as described in PRC 4423, without a burning permit from December 1 through March 31, unless a permit is required pursuant to paragraph (e), or subject to the provisions of a project-type burning permit between April 1 and December 1;
- (c) It may occur within cleared firebreaks of not less than 10 ft. (3.05 m) in width;
- (d) Use of the broadcast burning prescription in the Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone for Class I, and II waters, is prohibited. Where necessary to protect downstream beneficial uses, the Director may prohibit burning prescriptions in Class III watercourses.
- (e) Exceptions to requirements (b), (c), and (d) above may be granted to any time of year provided a project-type burning permit is obtained prior to burning and the terms of the permit are adhered to while burning.

937.3 Prescribed Broadcast Burning of Slash [Northern]

Broadcast burning may be prescribed for slash treatment subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Such burning shall be done only after the first heavy fall rains and shall be completed before April 1;
- (b) It may occur within cleared firebreaks of not less than 10 ft. (3.05 m) in width;
- (c) Use of the broadcast burning prescription of the Stream and Lake Protection Zone for Class I, and Class II, is prohibited. Where necessary to protect downstream beneficial uses, the Director may prohibit burning prescriptions in Class III watercourses;
- (d) Exceptions to requirements (a), (b) and (c) above may be granted provided a project-type burning permit is obtained prior to burning and the terms of the permit are adhered to while burning.

957.3 Prescribed Broadcast Burning of Slash [Southern]

Outside the High Use Subdistrict, broadcast burning may be prescribed for slash treatment subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Such burning shall be done only after the first heavy fall rains and shall be completed before April 1;
- (b) It may occur within cleared firebreaks of not less than 10 ft. (3.05 m) in width;
- (c) Use of the broadcast burning prescription of the Stream and Lake Protection Zone for Class I, and Class II, is prohibited. Where necessary to protect downstream beneficial uses, the Director may prohibit burning prescriptions in Class III watercourses;
- (d) Exceptions to requirements (a), (b) and (c) above may be granted provided a project-type burning permit is obtained prior to burning and the terms of the permit are adhered to while burning.

917.4 Treatment of Logging Slash in the Southern Subdistrict [Coast]

To reduce fire hazards within the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District, treatment of slash created by timber operations shall be done in addition to requirements of 14 CCR 917.2 as follows:

(a) To provide more efficient firebreaks the areas within 50 feet (15.24 m) of the edge of an public roads shall be kept free of slash greater than 1 in. (2.5 cm) in diameter. Slash between 50 ft. (15.24 m) and 100 ft. (30.48 m) of the edge of said roads and slash within 200 ft. (60.96 m) of all permanently located structures currently maintained for human habitation shall be treated by piling and burning, chipping, burying, removal, or lopping to within 12 in. (30.5 cm) above the ground not later than April 1 of the year following its creation. Distances shall be measured along the surface of the ground. Timber operations shall not cause a violation of PRC 4291.

(b) Concentrations of slash created by the current operation around logging landings or located within the logging area excluding those areas substantially covered with logs on the ground, shall be crushed, chipped, spread, piled and burned, or otherwise treated no later than April 1st of the following year following their creation.

(c) Slash created by the current timber operation within and adjacent to the logging area, excluding those areas substantially covered with logs on the ground, shall be lopped over the entire logging area by April 1st of the year following the creation of the slash. Slash created by the current operations along roads not in the logging area shall be lopped concurrently with its creation.

(d) Use of the broadcast burning prescription for slash is prohibited in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District.

957.4 Treatment of Logging Slash in the High Use Subdistrict [Southern]

Slash in the High Use Subdistrict shall be treated as follows:

(a) Throughout the logging area, all limbs shall be lopped from the unutilized portions of felled trees and all other trees felled or pushed over during timber operations. This lopping shall be done concurrently with the timber operations and scattered so that no limb or stem larger than 4 in. (10.2 cm) in diameter will be covered with slash and no slash shall generally be more than 24 in. (61.0 cm) above the ground.

(b) Slash shall be treated by chipping, piling and burning, burying, or removal on the following areas within all distances measured along the surface to the ground.

(1) Within a distance of 200 feet (60.96 m) of structures used for habitation;

(2) Within 200 feet (60.96 m) of the edge of any road accessible to the public;

(3) Within 100 feet (30.48 m) of trails established for and used by the public;

(4) Within a distance of 200 feet (60.96 m) of areas established for and used by the public for picnicking or camping.

(c) Slash treatment must be done concurrently with logging or road construction. On areas logged between April 1st and October 1st, if the slash is not disposed of in some other manner, it shall be piled progressively for burning. Piling shall not take place earlier than the 15th day nor later than the 45th day following cutting. Between October 1st and April 1st of the following year, the slash to be burned shall be progressively piled and

burned not later than 30 days following cutting.

(d) Prescribed broadcast burning of slash is allowed in the High Use Subdistrict when a permit is obtained from the Director or his representative.

917.5, 937.5, 957.5 Burning of Piles and Concentrations of Slash [All Districts with minor variances]

When the option of burning piles or concentrations of slash is chosen to meet the slash treatment requirements as specified in these rules, such burning shall be done as follows:

(a) Piles and concentrations shall be sufficiently free of soil and other noncombustible material for effective burning.

(b) The piles and concentrations shall be burned at a safe time during the first wet fall or winter weather or other safe period following piling and according to laws and regulations. Piles and concentrations that fail to burn sufficiently to remove the fire hazard shall be further treated to eliminate that hazard. All necessary precautions shall be taken to confine such burning to the piled slash.

917.6, 937.6, 957.6 Notification of Burning [All Districts]

The local representative of the Director shall be notified in advance of the time and place of any burning of logging slash. Any burning shall be done in the manner provided by Law.

917.7, 937.7, 957.7 Protection of Residual Trees [All Districts]

Slash burning operations and fire hazard abatement operations shall be conducted in a manner which will not damage residual trees and reproduction to the extent that they will not qualify to meet the silvicultural and stocking requirements of the rules.

917.9, 937.9, 957.9 Prevention Practices. [All Districts]

Timber operations shall be conducted so as to minimize the build-up of destructive insect populations or the spread of forest diseases. To achieve this goal the following shall occur:

(a) Where THPs are in areas where the Board of Forestry has declared a zone of infestation or infection pursuant to PRC sections 4712 - 4718, the RPF shall identify feasible measures being taken to mitigate adverse infestation or infection impacts from the timber operation.

(b) Where significant adverse insect or disease build-ups are identified by the RPF preparing the plan or the Director on an area to be harvested under a THP, the plan shall include feasible measures to address the problem.

(c) The Board of Forestry has determined that insects breeding in pine logging slash can be a significant problem if they are not managed. Board of Forestry Technical Rule Addendum Number 3 describes the considerations that the RPF preparing a THP shall use in developing alternatives for treating pine brood material. The addendum also describes methods of treating pine brood material that may be used to meet the objectives of this rule. The RPF may propose or the Director may require hazard reduction treatments to mitigate significant adverse impacts of insects breeding in pine brood material at any time during the life of a THP.

BOARD OF FORESTRY TECHNICAL RULE ADDENDUM NO. 3 BROOD MATERIAL

A. Hazard Determination -

- Tree mortality and top killing result when Ips beetle populations reproduce and increase in pine brood material 1/ and then leave this material and attack pines in the residual stand. Hazard increases with the amount of pine brood material present.

- Any suitable breeding material, including pine logs from recently felled trees, represents a hazard as long as it remains on site long enough for the beetles to complete a life cycle in it. During suitable weather, the life cycle may be as short as five weeks. Piling of brood material is more hazardous than leaving it spread-out on the ground.

- Timing of brood material production may influence hazard. Hazard is presumed to be highest when pine brood material is produced from February through June and moderate when produced at other times of the year. At no time is hazard presumed to be low. In some parts of the Southern Forest District, hazard is presumed to be high year round, regardless of when the brood material was produced.

- Age, size, and species of residual trees influence hazard. Young pole size stands of pine are most susceptible to damage. Tree species other than pine are not damaged by insects that breed in pine brood material. Brood material from tree species other than pine generally does not contribute to the build-up of damaging beetle populations.

- Low vigor residual trees are at greatest risk. Historically, drought stressed, suppressed, and overstocked stands have been identified as high risk. Off-site, diseased, damaged, and overmature trees are also at risk.

- If damaging insect populations are high, hazard will be greater. High beetle populations have the potential to damage more than just low vigor trees. Chronic pine mortality in the area should be evaluated to determine if high beetle populations are present. An established Zone of Infestation for pine bark beetles implies that conditions are appropriate for the build-up of beetle populations.

- Potential for the spread of damaging insects to adjacent ownerships should be considered. The closer the ownership, the greater the risk. Generally, ownerships beyond one quarter of a mile will have little or no risk.

- Value of residual trees should be considered. How much loss to residuals is acceptable?

B. Hazard Reduction Treatment Alternatives -

Any treatment to reduce hazard should apply to the entire area where a hazard has been determined to exist, including the area where lopping for fire hazard reduction has been used. Treatment alternatives include modification of the brood material so that it is less suitable as a breeding site for beetles or methods to reduce beetle populations that have developed. Specific Treatment Alternatives applied to pine brood material are as follows:

(1) The following treatments are acceptable provided they are completed before insect broods emerge from infested material. During weather that is suitable for brood development, a five week window is the maximum time that should elapse between creation of brood material and its treatment by one of the following methods:

brood material can be removed from the site for processing or disposal; if left on-site, it can be piled and burned, chipped, debarked, treated with an appropriate pesticide, or piled and covered with clear plastic. If brood material is piled and covered, the plastic used must be a minimum of 6 mil thick; piles must be completely sealed by the plastic so that there are no openings to the outside and remain covered for 6 months (or 4 months if at least 2 summer months are included).

(2) The following treatment is acceptable, provided it is completed as soon after brood material creation as is practical, but not later than one week. Lop all branches from the sides and tops of those portions of main stems which are 3" or more in diameter. Branches shall be scattered so that stems have maximum exposure to solar radiation. Do not pile brood material. Lopped stems could also be cut into short segments to decrease drying time and further reduce hazard.

(3) Burying brood material will prevent it from being colonized by beetles, but may not prevent emergence of the beetles. Therefore, it must be buried before becoming infested. During suitable weather, brood material must be buried concurrent with its creation. "Suitable" weather depends upon location. In areas that receive snowfall, suitable weather generally exists from April 15-October 15. In other areas, suitable weather exists from March 1-November 30.

919.1, 939.1, 959.1 Snag Retention [All Districts]

Within the logging area all snags shall be retained to provide wildlife habitat except as follows:

(a) If required by the Director during the review of a THP, snags over 20 ft. in height and 16 in. dbh shall be felled in the following locations:

(1) Within 100 feet of main ridge tops that are suitable for fire suppression and delineated on a THP map.

(2) For hazard reduction within 100 feet of all public roads, permanent roads, seasonal roads, landings, and railroads.

(b) Where federal and state safety laws and regulations require the felling of snags.

(c) Within 100 feet of structures maintained for human habitation.

(d) Merchantable snags in any location as provided for in the plan, or

(e) Snags whose falling is required for insect or disease control.

(f) When proposed by the RPF; where it is explained and justified that there will not be a significant impact to wildlife habitat needs or there is a threat to human health or safety, including fire where the Director determines a high hazard exists.

921.6 Hazard Reduction [Coast, Special Treatment Area]

(a) Lopping: Except in the southern subdistrict, to reduce fire hazards, maintain soil fertility, reduce erosion, and improve visual appearance, all slash and debris created by the current operations and within 300 ft. of public roads and watercourses open to the public shall be lopped and scattered, chipped, or crushed, prior to April 1st of the year following its creation, so that no material generally remains more than 30 in. (762 cm) above the ground.

As an exception to the above requirements after creation of slash and debris, the RPF may propose and, with

the concurrence of the Director's representative, delete those areas within 300 ft. not visible from roads or watercourses when such requirements are not necessary to reduce fire hazards, to maintain soil fertility, to reduce erosion and to improve visual appearance.

(b) Burning: Broadcast burning shall be prohibited on lands harvested under the commercial thinning and selection silvicultural methods in Coastal Zone Special Treatment Areas. Broadcast burning may be allowed for site preparation purposes in accordance with 14 CCR 917.4 on lands harvested under the clearcut, rehabilitation or sanitation-salvage methods when a prescribed burning plan is submitted as part of the Timber Harvesting Plan which explains and justifies broadcast burning in the Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas. A determined effort shall be made to protect the surface organic horizon of the soil during the course of any permitted broadcast burning operations.

(c) Snags: All snags within the Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone and within 100 feet (30.48 m) of meadow edges shall be left standing with the following exceptions:

(1) When felling is required for fire or safety reasons, as specified by the rules or CAL OSHA regulations, or when necessary in sanitation-salvage operations.

(2) When a snag of commercial value is marked for felling by an RPF or supervised designee after an initial preharvest inspection and consultation with DFG and the timber owner.

923.4 [943.4, 963.4]. Construction and Reconstruction of Logging Roads and Landings.

(i) Slash and other debris from road construction shall not be bunched against residual trees, which are required for silvicultural or wildlife purposes, nor shall it be placed in locations where it could be discharged into Class I or II watercourses or lakes.

961.6 Hazard Reduction [C.C. Special Treatment Area]

There shall be no broadcast burning within Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas. Piles surrounded by a firebreak may be burned, provided the burning is confined to the individual pile, and is in a location and conducted in a manner that will not damage the residual trees or reproduction. An exception may be approved by the Director when a prescribed burning plan is submitted as part of the plan which explains and justifies broadcast burning in the Coastal Commission Special Treatment Areas.

1038 Exemption

(c) The cutting or removal of trees in compliance with sections 4290 and 4291 which eliminates the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns for the purpose of reducing flammable materials and maintaining a fuelbreak to reduce fire spread, duration, and intensity.

(3) All surface fuels created by timber operations under the exemption which could promote the spread of wildfire, including logging slash and debris, deadwood, branches exceeding 1 inch in diameter, and brush, shall be chipped, burned, or removed within 45 days from the start of timber operations.

(4) In addition to the slash treatment described in [14] CCR 1038(c)(3), the areas of timber operations must meet the vegetation treatment standards in PRC 4584(j)(1) to (2)(A) illustrated in Technical Rule Addendum No.4 within one year from the receipt of issuance of Notice of Acceptance.

(g) The removal of woody debris and slash that is: (1) located outside the standard width WLPZ; (2) within the reach of loading equipment operating on existing logging roads, and landings; (3) developed during timber

operations; and (4) delivered as combustion fuel for the production of energy. Timber operations under this subsection shall comply with the conditions of section 1038 (b) (3), (4), (6), (7), (8), and (10).

(i) The harvesting of trees in compliance with PRC § 4584(j), Forest Fire Prevention Exemption, limited to those trees that eliminate the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, duration and intensity, fuel ignitability, or ignition of tree crowns, when the following conditions are met:

(2) The tree harvesting will decrease fuel continuity and increase the quadratic mean diameter of the stand.

(8) Only trees less than 18 inches outside bark stump diameter, measured at eight inches above ground level, may be removed except as follows:

(A) Within 500 feet of a legally permitted structure that complies with the California Building Code, or in an area prioritized as a shaded fuel break in a community wildfire protection plan approved by a public fire agency, if the goal of fuel reduction cannot be achieved by removing trees less than 18 inches outside bark stump diameter, trees less than 24 inches outside bark stump diameter may be removed if that removal complies with this section.

(10)

(A) This subsection applies to areas described in 14 CCR § 1038(i)(8)(A) (**within 500 feet of legally permitted structure**). Surface and ladder fuels in the harvest area, including logging slash and debris, brush, small trees, and deadwood, that could promote the spread of wildfire, shall be treated to achieve standards for vertical spacing between fuels, horizontal spacing between fuels, maximum depth of dead ground surface fuels, and treatment of standing dead fuels, as follows:

(i) Ladder and surface fuels, excluding residual stand dominant and codominant trees, shall be spaced to achieve a vertical clearance distance of eight feet or three times the height of the post-harvest fuels, whichever is the greater distance, measured from the base of the live crown of the post-harvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the ladder or surface fuels, whichever is taller.

(ii) Ladder fuels, excluding residual stand dominant and codominant trees, shall be spaced to achieve horizontal clearance distance of two to six times the height of the post-harvest fuels measured from the outside branch edges of the fuels. On ground slopes of zero percent to 20 percent horizontal clearance distance shall be two times the height of post-harvest fuels; on ground slopes of greater than 20 percent to 40 percent horizontal clearance distance shall be four times the height of post harvest fuels; on ground slopes of greater than 40 percent horizontal clearance distance shall be six times the height of post-harvest fuels.

(iii) Dead surface fuel depth shall be less than 9 inches.

(iv) Standing dead or dying trees and brush shall generally be removed. Such material, along with live vegetation associated with the dead vegetation, may be retained for wildlife habitat when isolated from other vegetation.

(B) This subsection applies to all other areas outside those described in 14 CCR § 1038(i)(8)(A).

(ii) Vertical spacing shall be achieved by treating dead fuels, excluding dead branches on the trees retained for stocking, to a minimum clearance distance of 8 feet measured from the base of the live crown of the post-harvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the dead surface or ladder fuels, whichever is taller.

(iii) All logging slash created by the timber operations shall be treated to achieve a maximum post-harvest depth of 9 inches above the ground.

(C) The requirements of this subsection shall not supersede the requirements of PRC § 4291.

(11) Treatments for fuels shall include chipping, removing, piling, burning or other methods necessary to achieve the standards. Treatments for any portion of the exemption area where timber operations have occurred, except for burning operations, shall be done within 120 days from the start of timber operations on that portion of the exemption area. Burning operations shall be completed by April 1 of the year following surface fuel creation. Treatment of surface fuels by burning shall be exempt from the one year time limitations described under 14 CCR § 1038.1.

(12) Fuel treatments conducted under 14 CCR § 1038(i)(8), (9), (10) and (11) shall be achieved on at least 80 percent of the treated area.

(j) The harvesting of trees in compliance with PRC § 4584(j)(11), Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Pilot Project, limited to those trees that eliminate the vertical continuity of vegetative fuels and the horizontal continuity of tree crowns, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, duration and intensity, fuel ignitability, or ignition of tree crowns, when the following conditions are met:

(10)

(A) Post treatment stand shall contain no more than 200 trees per acre over 3 inches in dbh, when consistent with 14 CCR § 1038(j)(9)(A) through (E).

(B) Vertical spacing shall be achieved by treating dead fuels, excluding dead branches on the trees retained for stocking, to a minimum clearance distance of 8 feet measured from the base of the live crown of the post-harvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the dead surface or ladder fuels, whichever is taller.

(C) All logging slash created by the timber operations shall be treated to achieve a maximum post-harvest depth of 18 inches above the ground.

(D) The requirements of this subsection shall not supersede the requirements of PRC § 4291.

(11) Treatments for fuels shall include chipping, removing, piling, burning or other methods necessary to achieve the standards. Treatments for any portion of the exemption area where timber operations have occurred, except for burning operations, shall be done within 120 days from the start of timber operations on that portion of the exemption area. Burning operations shall be completed in conformance with 14 CCR § 917.2(a) [937.2(a), 957.2(a)]. Treatment of surface fuels by burning shall be exempt from the one year time limitations described under 14 CCR § 1038.1.

(12) Fuel treatments conducted under 14 CCR § 1038(j)(8), (9), (10) and (11) shall be achieved on at

least 80 percent of the treated area.

1051.4. Modified THP for Fuel Hazard Reduction Conditions and Mitigations.

(a) A Modified THP for Fuel Hazard Reduction (hereafter also referred to as “MTHP-FHR”) may be filed by a plan submitter for a project area not to exceed 2,500 acres, providing that the following conditions and mitigations are met:

(2) Prescribed fuel hazard reduction to promote project area resiliency to wildfire is recognized as an intermediate treatment rather than a regeneration method. Therefore, clearcutting as defined in 14 CCR §§ 913.1(a), 933.1(a), and 953.1(a) and §§ 913.2(a), 933.2(a), and 953.2(a) shall not be used, except for legally permitted utility corridors or road construction. Silvicultural methods that may be used are commercial thinning pursuant to 14 CCR §§ 913.3(a), 933.3(a), and 953.3(a), rehabilitation as constrained by 14 CCR §§ 1051.3-1051.7 and pursuant to 14 CCR §§ 913.4(b), 933.4(b), and 953.4(b), and fuelbreak/defensible space pursuant to 14 CCR §§ 913.4(c), 933.4(c), and 953.4(c).

1051.5 Contents of Modified THP for Fuel Hazard Reduction.

A plan submitted under section 14 CCR § 1051.3 above shall contain all the provisions of 14 CCR § 1034 except 14 CCR § 1034(z) and the RPF shall:

(e) Develop and document the vegetation treatments necessary to meet the objectives of fuel hazard reduction and increased resiliency to wildfire within the project area. The RPF shall utilize contemporary sources of technical information in the development of fuel treatment prescriptions.

Prescriptions shall increase landscape heterogeneity, reduce surface and ladder fuels, and maintain or increase residual quadratic mean diameter. The RPF should be aware of the importance of topography and slope position in the designation of treatment areas. Within stands, important topographic features include sinks, areas susceptible to cold air drainage, and moist microsites. Documentation prepared by the RPF shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) A description of the assets at risk to catastrophic wildfire that are to be protected through the fuel treatments proposed. As feasible and appropriate, the RPF shall attempt to coordinate the objectives of the MTHP-FHR with larger-scale, federal, state, and local strategic fuel treatment and fire prevention plans, including but not limited to the “2010 Strategic Fire Plan for California” (rev. June 2010, available at http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/board/committees/resource_protection_committee/current_projects/resources/strategicfireplan_june2010_06-04_photos.pdf), herein incorporated by reference.

(2) A description of pre-harvest stand structure and stocking levels and silvicultural prescription for achieving the desired post-harvest stand structure and stocking levels.

(3) A description of the timeline, methods and standards for treatment of pre-existing surface and ladder fuels as well as logging slash created by timber operations. The description shall include discussion of the performance standard to be achieved and the methods by which compliance with that performance standard may be verified. The description shall include, but not be limited to, the United States Forest Service “Natural Fuels Photo Series” (rev. April 2011, available at http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/fera/publications/photo_series_pubs.shtml), incorporated by reference herein, and, in particular, photo series “General Technical Report (GTR) PNW-5 1 (rev. 1976), PNW-52 (rev. 1976), PNW-56 (rev. 1981), and PNW-95” (rev. 1979) incorporated by reference herein, for visual demonstration of pre and post-treatment stand conditions in this description (copies of all four General

Technical Reports are available upon request from the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection located at 1416 9th Street, Room 1506-14 [P.O. Box 944246], Sacramento, California [94244-2460]).

(A) While surface and ladder fuel treatment standards will vary based upon site specific conditions, post-treatment total surface fuel loading shall not exceed an average of 25 bone dry tons per acre.

(4) A plan for pre and post-treatment photo point monitoring for the purpose of characterizing the project treatment effects. All photo points shall be mapped and designated on the ground by stake, post, or other equivalent semi-permanent methods. Post-treatment photo point monitoring shall occur prior to expiration of the MTHP-FHR. Post-treatment photos shall be included with the submission of a final report of stocking and work completion.

1052.1 Emergency Conditions

(e) Where high, very high or extreme fuel hazard conditions, the combination of combustible fuel quantity, type, condition, configuration and terrain positioning, pose a significant fire threat on private timberlands. Cutting and removal of hazardous fuels, including trees, shrubs and other woody material, is needed to eliminate the vertical and horizontal continuity of understory fuels, and surface fuels, and/or crown fuels, for the purpose of reducing the rate of fire spread, fire duration and intensity, and fuel ignitability.

The following are conditions that constitute a financial emergency as defined in 14 CCR 895.1: Potential financial loss of timber previously inoperable or unmerchantable due to one or more of the following factors: access, location, condition, or timber volume that has unexpectedly become feasible to harvest provided that the harvest opportunity will not be economically feasible for more than 1 year and provided that such operations meet the conditions specified in 14 CCR § 1038(b)(1)-(10) and meet minimum stocking requirements at the completion of timber operations.

1052.4 Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction

(5)

(A) This subsection applies to geographic areas listed in 14 CCR § 1052.4 (c) (2) and (6), and to areas within 500 feet of structures in 14 CCR § 1052.4(c)(1). Surface and ladder fuels in the harvest area, including logging slash and debris, brush, small trees, and deadwood, that could promote the spread of wildfire shall be treated to achieve standards for vertical spacing between fuels, horizontal spacing between fuels, maximum depth of dead ground surface fuels, and reduction of standing dead fuels, as follows:

1. Ladder and surface fuels, excluding residual stand dominant and codominant trees, shall be spaced to achieve vertical clearance distance of eight feet or three times the height of the post-harvest fuels, whichever is the greater distance, measured from the base of the live crown of the post-harvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the surface or ladder fuels, whichever is taller.
2. Ladder fuels, excluding residual stand dominant and codominant trees, shall be spaced to achieve horizontal clearance distance of two to six times the height of the post-harvest fuels measured from the outside branch edges of the fuels. On ground slopes of zero percent to 20 percent horizontal clearance distance shall be two times the height of post-harvest fuels; on ground slopes of greater than 20 percent to 40 percent

horizontal clearance distance shall be four times the height of post-harvest fuels; on ground slopes of greater than 40 percent horizontal clearance distance shall be six times the height of post-harvest fuels.

3. Dead surface fuel depth shall be less than 9 inches.

4. Standing dead or dying trees and brush shall generally be removed. Such material, along with live vegetation associated with the dead vegetation, may be retained for wildlife habitat when isolated from other vegetation.

(B) This subsection applies to geographic areas listed in 14 CCR § 1052.4 (c)(3), (4), (5), and (7) and to areas between 500 feet to 1320 feet of structures in 14 CCR § 1052.4(c)(1).

1. Dead fuels, excluding dead branches on trees retained stocking, shall be treated to achieve a minimum clearance distance of 8 feet measured from the base of the live crown of the post-harvest dominant and codominant trees to the top of the dead fuels.

2. All logging slash created by the timber operations shall be treated to achieve a maximum post-harvest depth of 9 inches above the ground.

(C) The requirements of this subsection shall not supersede requirements of PRC § 4291.

(6) Fuel treatments shall include chipping, removal or other methods necessary to achieve the fuel hazard reduction standards in this section, and shall be accomplished within 1 year from the start of operations, except for burning operations, which shall be accomplished by April 1 of the year following surface fuel creation.

(e) As part of the preharvest project design, the RPF shall evaluate and incorporate habitat requirements for fish, wildlife and plant species in accordance with 14 CCR §§ 898.2, 916.9 [936.9,956.9] and 919. Such evaluations shall include use of the California Natural Diversity Database (as referenced by the California Department of Fish and Game, <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/whdab/html/cnddb.html>) and local knowledge of the planning watershed. Consultation with California Department of Fish and Game personnel is recommended. Examples of habitat requirements to be incorporated into the project include retention of large woody debris and snags congruent with emergency condition goals, and vegetative screening for wildlife cover and visual aesthetics.

(f) Operations conducted concurrently in the same geographic area (ref. 14 CCR § 1052,4(c)) pursuant to 14 CCR § 1038(b) shall not remove diseased trees in excess of the diameter limit required under 14 CCR § 1052.4(d)(2).

1090.5 Contents of NTMP

(t) A description of slash treatment for site preparation, fire protection and pest protection consideration.

1090.7 Notice of Timber Operations Content

(k) Instructions on felling, yarding, road construction or reconstructions, hauling, erosion control work, site preparation, erosion control maintenance, winter operations, watercourse protection measures and slash treatment.

1104.1 Conversion Exemptions

Timber operations conducted under this subsection shall be exempt from conversion permit and timber harvesting plan requirements of this article except no tree that existed before 1800 A.D and is greater than sixty (60) inches in diameter at stump height for Sierra or Coastal Redwoods, and forty-eight (48) inches in diameter at stump height for all other tree species shall be harvested unless done so under the conditions or criteria set forth in subsection 1104.1 (i).

Timber operations shall comply with all other applicable provisions of the Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act, regulations of the Board and currently effective provisions of county general plans, zoning ordinances and any implementing ordinances. The Notice of Conversion Exemption Timber Operations shall be considered synonymous with the term "plan" as defined in 14 CCR 895.1 when applying the operational rules and regulations of the Board.

(a) This conversion exemption is applicable to a conversion of timberland to a non-timber use only, of less than three acres in one contiguous ownership, whether or not it is a portion of a larger land parcel and shall not be part of a THP. This conversion exemption may only be used once per contiguous land ownership. No person, whether acting as an individual, acting as a member of a partnership, or acting as an officer or employee of a corporation or other legal entity, may obtain more than one exemption pursuant to this section in a five-year period. If a partnership has as a member, or if a corporation or any other legal entity has as an officer or employee, a person who has received this exemption within the past five years, whether as an individual or as a member of a partnership, or as an officer or employee of a corporation or other legal entity, then that partnership, corporation, or other legal entity is not eligible for this exemption. "Person," for purposes of this section, means an individual, partnership, corporation, or any other legal entity.

(2) The following conditions apply to conversion exemption timber operations:

(D) This section refers to slash and woody debris resulting from timber operations associated with conversion exemptions. The timber operator shall be the responsible party for the treatment of logging slash and woody debris. Responsibility for treatment of logging slash and woody debris may be assumed by the landowner, provided that the landowner acknowledges in writing to the Director at the time of notice such responsibility and specific slash and woody debris treatment requirements and timing.

(1) Unless otherwise required, slash greater than one inch in diameter and greater than two feet long, and woody debris, except pine, shall receive full treatment no later than April 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.

(2) All pine slash three inches and greater in diameter and longer than four feet must receive initial treatment if it is still on the parcel, within 7 days of its creation.

(3) All pine woody debris longer than four feet must receive an initial treatment prior to full treatment.

(4) Initial treatment shall include limbing woody debris and cutting slash and woody debris into lengths of less than four feet, and leaving the pieces exposed to solar radiation to aid in rapid drying.

(5) Full treatment of all pine slash and woody debris must be completed by March 1 of

the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.

(6) Full slash and woody debris treatment may include any of the following:

- a. burying;
- b. chipping and spreading;
- c. piling and burning; or
- d. removing slash and woody debris from the site for treatment in compliance with (a)-(b).

Slash and woody debris may not be burned by open outdoor fires except under permit from the appropriate fire protection agency, if required, the local air pollution control district or air quality management district. The burning must occur on the property where the slash and woody debris originated.

(7) Slash and woody debris, except for pine, which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying by April 1 of the year following its creation. Pine slash and woody debris which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying within seven days of its creation.

All treatment work must be completed prior to the expiration date for the conversion exemption.

(8) Any treatment which involves burning of slash or woody debris shall comply with all state and local fire and air quality rules.

(9) This section does not supersede more restrictive treatments or time frames within a Forest district or subdistrict.

(J) The RPF and the timber operator shall meet (on-site, or off-site) if requested by either party to ensure that sensitive on-site conditions and the intent of the conversion regulations such as, but not limited to, slash disposal, will be complied with during the conduct of timber operations.

1299.01. Purpose.

The intent of this regulation is to provide guidance for implementation of Public Resources Code Section 4291 to improve safety for fire fighters defending a home as well as increase the survivability of a "Building or Structure" as defined, that exists in grass, brush, and forest covered lands within the designated State Responsibility Area (SRA) of California.

1299.02. Definitions.

The following definitions apply to this article:

(a) Defensible space. The buffer that landowners are required to create on their property between a "Building or Structure" and the plants, brush and trees or other items surrounding the "Building or Structure" that could ignite in the event of a fire.

(b) Building or Structure. Anything constructed that is designed or intended for support, enclosure, shelter, or protection of persons, animals, or property, having a permanent roof that is supported by walls or posts that connect to, or rest on the ground.

(c) Outbuilding. Buildings or structures that are less than one hundred-twenty (120) square feet in size and not used for human habitation. For purposes of this Section, an "Outbuilding" is not a "Building or Structure" as defined in subsection (b) above.

1299.03. Requirements.

Defensible space is required to be maintained at all times, whenever flammable vegetative conditions exist. One hundred feet (100 ft.) of defensible space clearance shall be maintained in two distinct "Zones" as follows: "Zone 1" extends thirty feet (30 ft.) out from each "Building or Structure," or to the property line, whichever comes first; "Zone 2" extends from thirty feet (30 ft.) to one hundred feet (100 ft.) from each "Building or Structure," but not beyond the property line. The vegetation treatment requirements for Zone 1 are more restrictive than for Zone 2, as provided in (a) and (b) below. The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's "Property Inspection Guide, 2000 version, April 2000," provides additional guidance on vegetation treatment within Zone 1 and Zone 2, but is not mandatory and is not intended as a substitute for these regulations. This publication may be found on the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) website at: http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/fire_er/fpp_engineering_view?guide_id=8

Comment [TB1]: "Property Inspection Guide, 2000 version, April 2000" is not available via this link.

(a) Zone 1 Requirements:

- (1) Remove all dead or dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds, and pine needles from the Zone whether such vegetation occurs in yard areas around the "Building or Structure," on the roof or rain gutters of the "Building or Structure," or any other location within the Zone.
- (2) Remove dead tree or shrub branches that overhang roofs, below or adjacent to windows, or which are adjacent to wall surfaces, and keep all branches a minimum of ten feet (10 ft.) away from chimney and stovepipe outlets.
- (3) Relocate exposed firewood piles outside of Zone 1 unless they are completely covered in a fire resistant material.
- (4) Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to or under combustible decks, balconies and stairs.

(b) Zone 2 Requirements:

- (1) In this zone create horizontal and vertical spacing among shrubs and trees using the "Fuel Separation" method, the "Continuous Tree Canopy" method or a combination of both to achieve defensible space clearance requirements. Further guidance regarding these methods is contained in the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's, "General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space, February 8, 2006," incorporated herein by reference, and the "Property Inspection Guide" referenced elsewhere in this regulation. The "General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space" may be found on the Board's website at: http://www.fire.ca.gov/CDFBOFDB/pdfs/Copyof4291finalguidelines_9_2_9_06.pdf.
- (2) In both the Fuel Separation and Continuous Tree Canopy methods the following standards apply:
 - (A) Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of three inches (3 in.).
 - (B) Cut annual grasses and forbs down to a maximum height of four inches (4 in.).
 - (C) All exposed wood piles must have a minimum of ten feet (10 ft.) of clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions.

Comment [TB2]: Broken Link.

(c) For both Zones 1 and 2:

- (1) "Outbuildings" and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have the following minimum clearance: ten feet (10 ft.) of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional ten feet (10 ft.) around their exterior.
- (2) Protect water quality. Do not clear vegetation to bare mineral soil and avoid the use of heavy equipment in and around streams and seasonal drainages. Vegetation removal can cause soil erosion, especially on steep slopes. Keep soil disturbance to a minimum on steep slopes.