

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations

Page 1 of 21

[Notice Published May 25, 2007]

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Fire Hazard Severity Zones, 2007

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) proposes to adopt the regulations described below after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION

CAL FIRE proposes to amend the following sections of Title 14, Chapter 7. Fire Protection, Subchapter 3 Fire Hazard, Article 1. Fire Hazard Severity, of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR):

§1280. Fire Hazard Severity Zones

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CAL FIRE will hold a series of public hearings in every county with State Responsibility Areas described below pursuant to PRC 4205. At the hearings, any person may present statements or arguments, orally or in writing, relevant to the proposed action described in the *Informative Digest*. CAL FIRE requests, but does not require, that persons who make oral comments at the hearing also submit a summary of their statements. Additionally, pursuant to Government Code § 11125.1, any information presented to CAL FIRE during the open hearing in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration becomes part of the public record. Such information shall be retained by CAL FIRE and shall be made available upon request.

The hearing locations, dates, starting time, and local contact person for all hearings are shown below:

<u>County Name</u>	<u>Hearing Date and Time</u>	<u>Hearing Location</u>	<u>Local Contact Person</u>
Alameda	July 10, 10:00 AM	Dublin City Library, 200 Civic Plaza, Dublin, CA 94586	Eric Wood (408) 778-8620
Alpine	June 19, 3:00 PM	Turtle Rock Park Community Center, 17300 Hwy 89, Markleeville, CA 96120	Gianni Muschetto (530) 647-5234
Amador	June 20, 3:00 PM	Sutter Creek Community Building, 33 Church Street, Sutter Creek, CA 95685	Gianni Muschetto (530) 647-5234
Butte	June 27, 3:00 PM	Butte County Employment Center, Andes Rm., 78 Table Mountain Rd., Oroville	Jeff Harter (530) 538-7111
Calaveras	June 25, 3:00 PM	Calaveras Works and Human Services Agency, Sequoia Room, 509 E. St., Charles (Hwy 49), San Andreas, CA 95249	Rich Strazzo (209) 754-2725
Colusa	June 27, 1:00 PM	Williams City Hall, 810 E St., Williams, CA 95987	Frank Kemper (707) 967-1408
Contra-Costa	July 16, 10:00 AM	The Veterans Memorial, 3780 Mt. Diablo, Lafayette, CA 94549	Eric Wood (408) 778-8620
Del Norte	June 18, 1:00 PM	Del Norte County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 981 H Street, Crescent City, CA	Jim Moranda (707) 726-1202
El Dorado	June 25, 3:00 PM	El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Board Room, 330 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667	Gianni Muschetto (530) 647-5234
Fresno	July 9, 9:00 AM	Clovis Memorial Building, 453 Hughes, Ave., Clovis, CA	Brian Newlin (559) 485-7500
Glenn	July 12, 3:00 PM	Board of Supervisors Hearing Room Glenn County Courthouse, Willows, CA	Chuck Schoendienst (530) 528-5102
Humboldt	June 20, 1:00 PM	Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 535 5th Street, Eureka, CA	Jim Moranda (707) 726-1202
Imperial	June 20, 9:00 AM	1078 Dogwood Rd., Suite 104, Heber, CA	Daryll Pina (619) 590-3129
Inyo	June 20, 6:00 PM	Board of Supervisors Room County Administrative Center, 224 North Edwards, Independence, CA 93526	Paul Camarena (909) 881-6928
Kern	July 18, 1:00 PM	Kern County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 1115 Truxtun Ave., First Floor, Bakersfield, CA 93301	David Goodell (661) 330-0151
Kings	July 10, 9:00 AM	Kings County Government Center/mult-Purpose Room, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Hanford, CA	Brian Newlin (559) 485-7500
Lake	June 19, 1:00 PM	South Lake Fire Protection District Board Rm, 21095, Hwy 175, Middletown, CA 95461	Frank Kemper (707) 967-1408
Lassen	July 11, 4:00 PM	Lassen County Fairgrounds, 200 Russell Ave., Susanville, CA 96130	Rob Cobb (530) 257-5575
Los Angeles	July 19, 9:00 AM	Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Kenneth Hahn Hall Of Administration 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012	J. Lopez (818) 890-5783
Madera	July, 11, 6:00 PM	Madera County Resource Management Agency, The Madera Rm., 2037 W. Cleveland Ave., Madera CA 93637	Tracy Cheek (209) 966 3622
Marin	July 17, 10:00 AM	Marin County Civic Center Dr., Rm 329, San Rafael, CA 94903	Scott Alber (415) 499-6566
Mariposa	July, 12, 6:00 PM	Mariposa County Government Center, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 5100 Bullion St., Mariposa, CA 95338	Tracy Cheek (209) 966 3622

Mendocino	July 12, 2:00 PM	Mendocino County Board of Supervisor Chambers, 501 Low Gap Road, Rm 1070, Ukiah, CA	Larry Grafft (707) 459-7420
Merced	July 10, 6:00 PM	County Administration Building, 3rd Floor Board Rm, 2222 M St., Merced, CA 95340	Tracy Cheek (209) 966 3622
Modoc	July 19, 4:00 PM	Alturas City Hall, 200 North St., Alturas, CA 96101	Rob Cobb (530) 257-5575
Mono	June 19, 7:00 PM	Bridgeport Courthouse, Board Chamber, Hwy 395, Bridgeport, CA 93517	Paul Camarena (909) 881-6928
Mono	June 19, 7:00 PM.	Sierra Center Mall Social services Conference Room 3rd floor, 452 Old Mammoth Rd., mammoth, CA 93546	Paul Camarena (909) 881-6928
Monterey	July 16, 6:00 PM	Richard W. Nutter Agricultural Center Conference Room, 1432 Abbott Street, Salinas, CA 93901	Catey Trenner (831) 333-2600
Napa	July 11, 10:00 AM	County Board of Supervisor's Chamber, 1195 Third St., Napa, CA 94559	Frank Kemper (707) 967-1408
Nevada	July 12, 9:00 AM	Eric Rood Center, 950 Maidu Ave, Nevada City, CA 95959	Kathleen Edwards (530) 265-1253
Orange	July 24, 5:00 PM	Orange County Fire Authority Headquarters Board Room, 1 Fire Authority Rd., Irvine, CA	Laura Blaul (714) 573-6018
Placer	July 24, 2:00 PM	Truckee Donner Public Utility District, 11570 Donner Pass Rd., Truckee, CA 96160	Doug Rinella (530) 277-2315
Placer	July 11, 12:30 PM	Placer County Community Development Resources Agency, Planning Commission Rm., 3091 County Center Dr., Auburn, CA 95603	Brad Albertazzi (530) 745-3575 or Bob Eichotz (530) 745-3574
Plumas	June 28, 4:00 PM	Chester Veterans Hall, 500 Stone Rd., Chester, CA, 96020	Rob Cobb (530) 257-5575
Riverside	July 10, 6:00 PM	Ben Clark Training Center Auditorium, 3409 Plummer Ave., Riverside, CA 92518	Ken Twardowski (951) 659-3337
Sacramento	August 1, 10:00 AM	Resources Building Auditorium, 1416 9th St. Sacramento, CA	Chris Zimny (916) 653- 9418
San Benito	July 17, 6:00 PM	San Benito County Board of Supervisors, 481 4th St., 1st floor, Hollister, CA 95023-3840	Catey Trenner (831) 333-2600
San Bernardino	June 29, 6:00 PM	Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (Oak Room), 400 N Pepper Ave., Colton, CA 92324	Paul Camarena (909) 881-6928
San Diego	June 21, 10:00 AM	Pacific Coast Hearing Room, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B, San Diego	Daryll Pina (619) 590-3129
San Diego	June 21, 2:00 PM	Pacific Coast Hearing Room, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite B, San Diego	Daryll Pina (619) 590-3129
San Joaquin	June 27, 3:00 PM	Clements Fire District Station 61, 18901 E. Highway 88, Clements, CA 95227	Rich Strazzo (209) 754 2725
San Luis Obispo	July 12, 1:00 PM.	Veterans Memorial Building, 801 Grand Ave., San Luis Obispo, Ca	Denny O'Neil (805) 543-4244
San Mateo	July 9, 3:00 PM	San Mateo County Government Center Hall of Justice and Records Board's Chamber, 400 County Center Hall of Justice, Redwood City, CA 94063-1655	John Martinez (831) 335-6728
Santa Barbara	July 18, 3:00 PM	County Administration Building Board Hearing Room, Fourth Floor, 105 East Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101	David Neels (805) 686-5068

Santa Clara	June 21, 6:30 PM	Campbell Community Center, 1 West Campbell, CA 95008	Eric Wood (408) 778-8620
Santa Cruz	July 12, 3:00 PM	Santa Cruz Board's Chambers Governmental Center Building, 701 Ocean Street, Room 525, Santa Cruz, CA 95060	John Martinez (831) 335-6728
Shasta	July 5, 1:00 PM	Shasta County Board of Supervisor Chambers, 1450 Court Street, Redding, CA	Scott McDonald (530) 225-2406
Sierra	July 25, 10:00 AM	Sierra County Board of Supervisors Chamber, 100 Courthouse Square, Downieville, CA 95939	Kathleen Edwards (530) 265-1253
Siskiyou	June 27, 10:00 AM	Miners Inn convention Center, 122 E. Miner Street, Yreka, CA 96097	Ron Bravo (530) 842-3516
Solano	July 12, 10:00 AM	Cordelia Fire Protection District Assembly Hall, 2155 Cordelia Road, Fairfield, CA 94534	Frank Kemper (707) 967-1408
Sonoma	July 18, 10:00 AM	Sonoma County Board of Supervisor's Chambers, 575 Administrative Dr., Room 102A, Santa Rosa, 95403	Frank Kemper (707) 967-1408
Stanislaus	June 28, 3:00 PM	Regional Fire Science Training Center, Room 107 and 108, 1220 Fire Science Ln., Modesto CA, 95351	Rich Strazzo (209) 754-2725
Tehama	July 11, 3:00 PM	Board of Supervisors Board Room Tehama County Courthouse, Red Bluff, CA	Chuck Schoendienst (530) 528-5102
Trinity	July 6, 9:00 AM	Weaverville Fire Department, 100 Bremer Street, Weaverville, CA	Scott McDonald (530) 225-2406
Tulare	July 20, 3:00 PM	Tulare County Board of Supervisor's Chambers, 2800 West Burnet, Visalia, CA 93291	Bill Hoover (559) 358-7122
Tuolumne	June 26, 3:00 PM	Tuolumne County Ambulance and Fire Admin Building-Training Room, 18440 Striker Court, Sonora, CA 95370	Rich Strazzo (209) 754 2725
Ventura	July 2, 10:00 AM	Ventura County Government Center Hall of Administration Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, 800 S. Victoria Ave., Ventura, CA 93009	Christina Jamison (805) 947-8527
Yolo	June 21, 1:00 PM	Woodland City Fire Department Station 3, 1550 Spring Lake Ct., Woodland, 95776	Frank Kemper (707) 967-1408
Yuba	July 13, 10:00 AM	Marysville County Government Center, 915 8th Street, Marysville, CA	Matt Furtado (530) 749-5649

ADA Notice

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals who because of a disability need special assistance to attend or participate in (the meeting), may request assistance (see contacts above). Requests should be made one week in advance whenever possible.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any person, or authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action to CAL FIRE. The written comment period ends at 5:00 P.M., on Tuesday, July 31, 2007. CAL FIRE will consider only written comments received at the Department office by that time (in addition to

those written comments received at the public hearing). CAL FIRE requests, but does not require, that persons who submit written comments to CAL FIRE reference the title of the rulemaking proposal in their comments to facilitate review.

Written comments may be submitted by U.S. mail to the following address:

Christopher Zimny
Regulations Coordinator
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Written comments can also be hand delivered or sent by courier to the contact person listed in this notice at the following address:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Resources Building
1416 9th St., Room 1517
Sacramento, CA 95818

Written comments may also be sent to CAL FIRE via facsimile at the following phone number:

(916) 653-8957

Written comments may also be delivered via e-mail at the following address:

chris.zimny@fire.ca.gov

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

Under the authority of Public Resources Code (PRC) Sections 4202 - 4204, CAL FIRE is amending Article 1, Chapter 7, to Title 14 California Code of Regulations. References include Sections 4202-4204 of the Public Resources Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is proposing amendments to the regulation in 14 CCR, Section 1280, which designates Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in State Responsibility Area (SRA). Within this section are referenced maps titled "Maps of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in State Responsibility Areas of California". These maps are being updated as part of the proposal pursuant to California Public Resource Code (PRC) Sections 4201- 4204.

Fire Hazard Severity Zones are geographical areas (lands) designated pursuant to PRC Sections 4201- 4204 and classified as Very High, High or Moderate in State Responsibility Area (SRA). Lands are grouped into these classes in accordance with the severity of wildfire hazard expected to prevail in those areas.

The zones are designated so that measures may be identified which will reduce the potential for losses to life, property and resources from wildfire. Building standards are effectuated by the proposed FHSZ maps, meaning some special fire resistant building code requirements will depend on the hazard zone in which the building is located.

While CAL FIRE creates fire hazard severity maps for the entire State, the maps/zones proposed for adoption in this regulation apply to SRA.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

CAL FIRE has determined the proposed action will have the following effects:

- **Costs or savings to any State agency:** None
- **Cost to any local agency or school district that must be reimbursed in accordance with the applicable Government Code (GC) sections commencing with GC § 17500:** None
- **Mandate on Local Agencies or School Districts, including reimbursable state mandate:** None
- **Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed upon local agencies:** None
- **Cost or savings in federal funding to the State:** None
- **Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Business, including ability of California Businesses to compete with businesses in other states:** None
- **Cost impacts on representative private persons or businesses:** The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.
- **Significant effect on housing costs:** None
- **Adoption of these regulations will not:** (1) create or eliminate jobs within California; (2) create new businesses or eliminate existing

businesses within California; or (3) affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

- **Effect on small business:** None. The regulation does not impose any new fire prevention standards.
- The proposed rules do not conflict with, or duplicate Federal regulations.

BUSINESS REPORTING REQUIREMENT

The regulation does not require a report that applies to businesses.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Government Code § 11346.5(a) (13), CAL FIRE must determine that no reasonable alternative it considers or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of CAL FIRE would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action.

CONTACT PERSON

Requests for copies of the proposed text of the regulations, the *Initial Statement of Reasons*, modified text of the regulations and any questions regarding the substance of the proposed action may be directed to:

Christopher Zimny
Regulations Coordinator
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

The designated backup person in the event Mr. Zimny is not available is Doug Wickizer, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, phone number (916) 653-5602 at the above address.

The regulation, maps, and Geographic Information System data for the maps can be electronically viewed and downloaded at: <http://www.fire.ca.gov/wildland.php>

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

CAL FIRE has prepared an *Initial Statement of Reasons* providing an explanation of the purpose, background, and justification for the proposed regulations. The statement is available from the contact person on request.

When the *Final Statement of Reasons* has been prepared, the statement will be available from the contact person on request.

A copy of the express terms of the proposed action using UNDERLINE to indicate an addition to the California Code of Regulations and ~~STRIKETHROUGH~~ to indicate a deletion, is also available from the contact person named in this notice.

CAL FIRE will have the entire rulemaking file, including all information considered as a basis for this proposed regulation, available for public inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at the following address.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Resources Building
Room 1517
1416 9th St.
Sacramento, CA 94816
Attention: Christopher Zimny
Tel: (916) 653-9418

All of the above referenced information is also available on the CAL FIRE website at: <http://www.fire.ca.gov/wildland.php>

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After holding the hearing and considering all timely and relevant comments received, CAL FIRE may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If CAL FIRE makes modifications which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text—with the changes clearly indicated—available to the public for at least 15 days before CAL FIRE adopts the regulations as revised. Notice of the comment period on changed regulations, and the full text as modified, will be sent to any person who:

- a) testified at the hearings,
- b) submitted comments during the public comment period, including written and oral comments received at the public hearing, or
- c) requested notification of the availability of such changes from CAL FIRE.

Requests for copies of the modified text of the regulations may be directed to the contact person listed in this notice. CAL FIRE will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available.

Christopher Zimny

Christopher Zimny
Regulations Coordinator
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Fire Hazard Severity Zones, 2007

[Notice Published May 25, 2007]

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
Title 14, Chapter 7. Fire Protection, Subchapter 3 Fire Hazard,
Article 1. Fire Hazard Severity,
of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR):

Amend:

§1280. Fire Hazard Severity Zones

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is proposing amendments to the regulation in 14 CCR, Section 1280, which designates Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in State Responsibility Area (SRA). Within this section are referenced maps titled "Maps of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in State Responsibility Areas of California". These maps are being updated as part of the proposal pursuant to California Public Resource Code (PRC) 4201- 4204.

Fire Hazard Severity Zones are geographical areas (lands) designated pursuant to PRC 4201- 4204 and classified as Very High, High or Moderate in State Responsibility Area (SRA). Lands are grouped into these classes in accordance with the severity of wildfire hazard expected to prevail in those areas. The zones are designated so that measures may be identified which will reduce the potential for losses to life, property and resources from wildfire.

While CAL FIRE creates fire hazard severity maps for the entire State, the maps/zones proposed for adoption in this regulation apply to SRA.

**PUBLIC PROBLEM, ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENT, OR OTHER
CONDITION OR CIRCUMSTANCE THE REGULATION IS INTENDED TO
ADDRESS**

Statutory Requirement

The proposed regulation and referenced maps are being updated as required in California Public Resource Code (PRC) 4201- 4204. This is the primary administrative requirement for which the regulation is intended to address.

Wildfire Hazards

The on going raging wildfires that threaten and destroy communities, threaten lives, and harm natural resources is the underlying public problem the regulation is intended to address. When homes, property and natural resources are burned, lives are lost, businesses ruined, communities are devastated and million of dollars are spent trying to suppress those fires.



With Statewide levels of wildfire often exceeding over 500,000 acres burned per year, costs of fire suppression and losses of property have been increasing. Since the initial production of the fire hazard maps by CAL FIRE in 1985, there has been increasing catastrophic loss of buildings in the wildland urban interface (WUI) areas. For example, substantial structure losses occurred during the 1991 Oakland Hills "Tunnel Fire" (2900 homes destroyed) and the 2003 fire siege in Southern California (over 6000 homes destroyed). Clearly, population and building growth, historical development and construction practices, increasing vegetation/fuel density, and climate change factors are contributing to these losses. Thousands of new homes are built each year in hazardous fire locations, increasing potential damage from wildfire.

Effectuates wildland urban interface building standards

CAL FIRE and its governmental and private partners have for many years created and implemented wildland fire prevention programs to combat hazards from wildfire. Programs to help reduce building fire losses include development and implementation of fire resistant building standards. Building standards are effectuated by the proposed FHSZ maps, meaning some special fire resistant building code requirements will depend on the hazard zone in which the building is located.

Fire resistant roofing construction is one significant building standard that is effectuated by the proposed SRA FHSZ map. The existing California Building Codes and authorizing statutes require specific roofing construction requirements for new structures and specific remodeling (See Health and Safety Code 13132.7 (c)). For roofing in SRA, different roof standards are required depending on the FHSZ designation at the site where the home is located (see more in next section: Specific Purpose). By providing the FHSZ map update, builders and building officials can understand where roofing codes apply and effectively implement the building code requirements.

Other recently implemented and newly planned fire resistant building codes (Title 24, Part 2, 9, and 12) are/will be applicable to all SRA, and apply to all hazard

zones. In 2005, the Office of the State Fire Marshal submitted to the California Building Standards Commissions ignition resistant building requirements for roof assemblies and attic venting. These were known as the Phase I "wildland urban interface building standards", or WUIBS (effective December 1, 2005). In May of 2006, the State Fire Marshal submitted Phase II WUIBS that will affect requirements for exterior walls, decking, windows and ancillary buildings. Phase II codes will become effective in January, 2008. Together, existing health and safety codes and WUIBS address fire points of entry in the building during conflagration fire events. Because conflagration fire events have caused significant home losses in the wildland urban interface, these building standards will substantially reduce fire losses and costs.

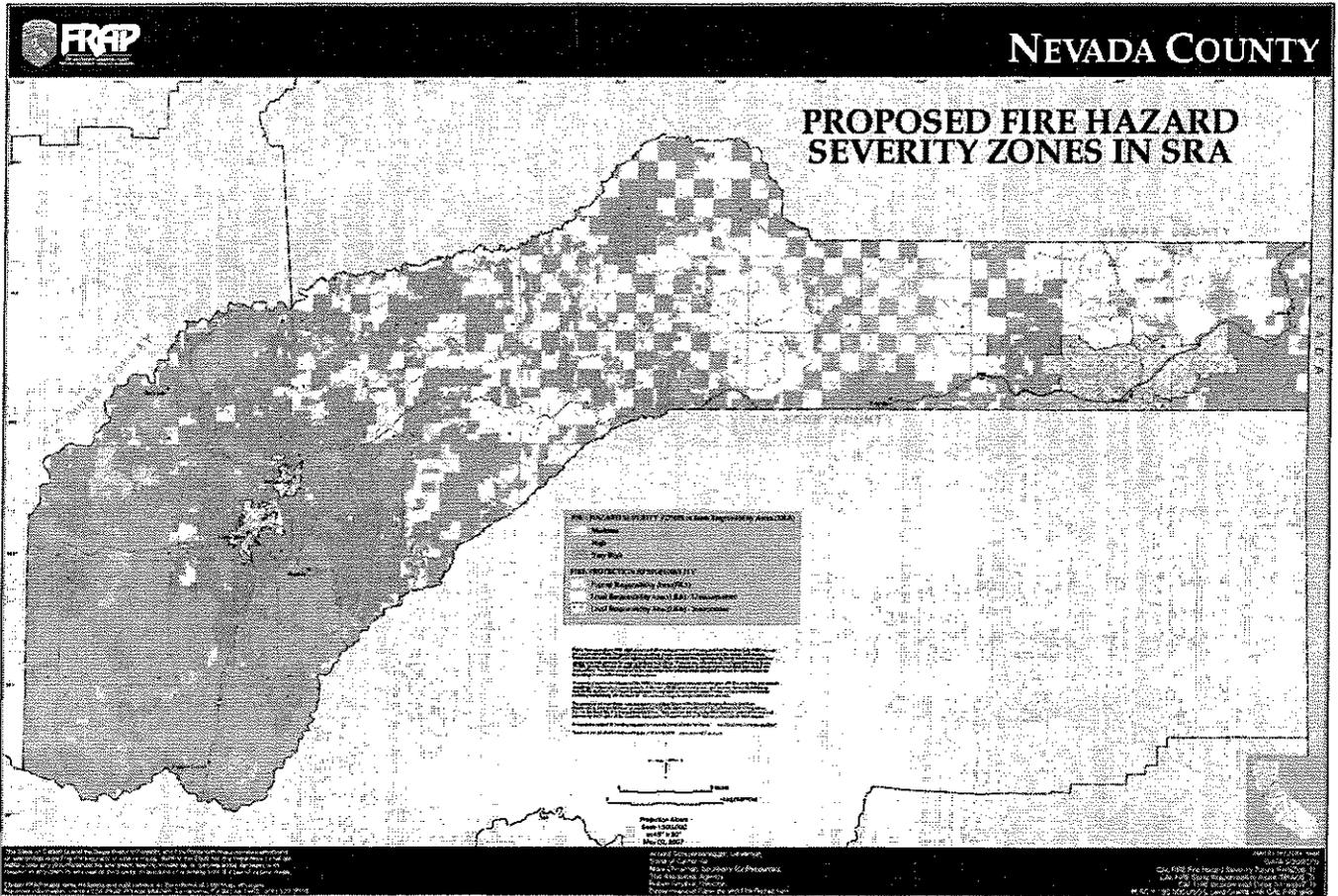
Map Updates use improved science

Current FHSZ maps do not necessarily incorporate those factors that drive structure ignition potential and are not as useful as they could be in clearly defining hazardous areas. The 1983 legislation establishing PRC Sections 4201 – 4204 and the original FHSZ maps (which are still in place), were mapped on paper 7½ and 15 minute quadrangle maps. These maps are difficult to read and define specific hazard locations. They also do not include the state-of-the-science site specific fire behavior calculations or the contribution of embers to ignition risk. These factors result in existing maps not providing sufficient resolution or ease of access to support building permit issuance business processes or accurate real estate disclosure information.

The opportunity now exists to update the SRA fire hazard zones using current technology, fire modeling science, and detailed remotely sensed wildland fuels information. The technology also exists to make this information readily available to building officials in support of the building permit issuance and enforcement process, to members of the public considering real estate purchases or new building projects, or to governmental policy makers who make land use decisions. The new maps are expected to significantly improve information and awareness for these policy makers, potential homeowners, and building permit issuance and enforcement officials.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF THE REGULATION

The purpose of the regulation is to revise language that refers to the previously adopted maps and document an update to the FHSZ zone designations for SRA. The regulation amends the location where the map can be viewed and date of the SRA FHSZ map update. The map is a referenced attachment to the regulatory text. The FHSZs define the locations of application of various mitigation strategies to reduce risk associated with wildland fires.



Production of the FHSZ maps using a GIS system, with maps and GIS data on a publicly accessible web site <http://www.fire.ca.gov/wildland.php>, should provide superior access to the information at the scale that is relevant to the user.

The proposed map results in the following geographic zones designations for SRA in each county:

Area of Fire Hazard Severity Zone for SRA in each County, (1000 acres)

County Name	SRA Fire Hazard Severity Zone Classification		
	Very High	High	Moderate
Alameda	23	150	72
Alpine	14	10	11
Amador	82	35	175
Butte	296	144	101
Calaveras	309	158	64
Colusa	45	17	197
Contra Costa	25	131	44
Del Norte	106	50	47
El Dorado	311	117	139
Fresno	76	392	297
Glenn	71	87	154
Humboldt	594	952	75
Imperial	0	1	1
Inyo	0	2	332
Kern	298	659	877
Kings	3	31	64
Lake	242	40	113
Lassen	345	86	616
Los Angeles	401	96	11
Madera	24	66	283
Marin	8	36	156
Mariposa	61	99	283
Mendocino	327	1,362	177
Merced	-	135	287
Modoc	195	264	175
Mono	4	5	190
Monterey	386	717	187
Napa	152	76	143
Nevada	252	123	21
Orange	100	9	4
Placer	245	19	127
Plumas	341	36	60
Riverside	498	94	96
Sacramento	1	0	117
San Benito	154	429	146
San Bernardino	155	84	123
San Diego	808	216	171

San Joaquin	0	43	118
San Luis Obispo	555	941	32
San Mateo	39	94	48
Santa Barbara	290	400	47
Santa Clara	149	372	34
Santa Cruz	6	158	71
Shasta	1,260	83	21
Sierra	117	27	20
Siskiyou	1,001	173	195
Solano	13	32	42
Sonoma	154	393	248
Stanislaus	64	168	219
Tehama	837	163	282
Trinity	421	61	2
Tulare	47	381	177
Tuolumne	232	78	50
Ventura	265	52	34
Yolo	26	5	145
Yuba	147	21	49
Total	12,572	10,569	7,974

As mentioned in the Necessity section of this ISOR, the primary purpose of the FHSZ maps is to define the application of various fire mitigation strategies to reduce risk associated with wildland fires. The primary are two fire mitigation strategies (for SRA) resulting from the application of the maps is fire resistant roof cover building codes:

Wildland Urban Interface Building code roof covering requirements

Specific building standards for fire resistant roof covers are required pursuant to the California Building Code Title 24, Part 2, Section 1503 Roofing Requirements in SRA. These existing requirements have been in place since the 1990's. In SRA classified as VHFSZ, there shall be fire resistant roof covering that is at least Class A (cement, ferrous metal, and some composite asphalts, for example). In SRA with High FHSZ, there shall be fire resistant roof covering that is at least Class B (some composite asphalts or specially treated wood material for example). In Moderate zones there shall be fire resistant roof covering that is at least Class C (some rolled material and certain wood material, for example) (See Health and Safety Code 13132.7 (c)). The new maps will designate the area where the required roof covering classes is needed.

Other new fire resistant building codes (WUIBS Phase I and II) also apply to all SRA areas, regardless of hazard zoning.

ALTERNATIVES TO THE REGULATION CONSIDERED BY CALFIRE AND THE REASONS FOR REJECTING THOSE ALTERNATIVES

CAL FIRE has considered alternatives to the regulation proposed.

Alternative #1: Application of the FHSZ to Communities at Risk

New fire resistant building codes (some of which are effectuated by FHSZ designation in SRA) were to be applied to buildings located in the "urban wildland communities interface" pursuant to Health and Safety Code 13108.5 (c). Relating the FHSZ maps to communities at risk was rejected as perimeters of communities at risk have not been mapped. Community locations exist as a point on a map. Extensive GIS information would need to be developed to relate FHSZs and communities at risk.

Alternative #2: Application of the Fire hazard Severity Zone Map to individual parcels

Applying the FHSZ map designations to individual parcels would provide great utility for local assessment of fire hazard for a particular parcel. With this information, building inspectors and homeowners could precisely determine the fire hazard for a specific project/building under consideration and apply the appropriate fire resistant building codes. This alternative was rejected as not all counties have GIS parcel information that could be related to a FHSZ GIS layer, substantial reconciling would be necessary to conform parcel maps to FHSZ maps (i.e. geo referencing conflicts, multiple zones in any one parcel), and the workload to map every parcel is beyond the Department's capacity.

Alternative #3: Take no action and do not update the hazard maps

The "take no action" alternative would leave the existing fire hazard maps as the official maps on record. These hazard ratings defined in the existing maps do not reflect current wildland fire behavior science or current knowledge of wildland fuels. The current hazard maps do not incorporate new knowledge of structure ignition due to mass transport of burning embers. These maps do not meet the needs of building officials, industry, or the affected public.

POSSIBLE SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND MITIGATIONS

CAL FIRE has not identified any adverse environmental effects as a result of the proposed rules. These rules are expressly developed to improve fire prevention

standards and provide lessened risk to people, property and wildland resources from wildfire.

The proposed hazard mapping regulation is a Project under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Project has been determined to be Categorical Exemption pursuant to 14 CCR Article 9, Section 15300 Categorical Exemptions. Projects in these categories have been determined not to have a significant adverse affect on the environment and are exempt from the CEQA provisions. The Project was found to be exempt under the following categories: 14 CCR 1662.5(e), Information Collection [Fire Protection]; 14 CCR 1152 Declaration of Ministerial Projects [Classification of SRA]; and 14 CCR 1153(b)(3)[Adoption of Rules for the fire protection system in accordance with PRC 4111].

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ANY BUSINESS

CAL FIRE estimated that this regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses. Proposed revisions (creating a new map) does not itself impose new requirements that have an economic impact.

The map is used to effectuate other laws (building codes) which may have an economic impact to the regulated public. Economic impact may be imposed because there may more areas in high and very high fire hazard than previously designated by maps already in affect. Increasing these zones means increased effectuation of roofing requirements. There is currently no calculation of acreage increases or decreases of any the zones compared to the existing maps.

No precise estimate has been made of potential additional cost to homeowners or builders resulting from greater amounts of High or Very High and thus any potential increased roof covering cost associated with requirements for Class A and Class B roofing in these zones. There is no evidence that Class A or B roofing routinely is more expensive than Class C roofing or that builders or homeowners would not use Class A or B roofing in all situations regardless of hazard zone designation.

If there are additional costs associated with requirements for Class A and B roofing, potential ranges of increased cost to builders and homeowners can be framed based on the number of new homes expected to be built in newly designated High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones. Allocating a number of new homes within the newly designated High or Very High Fire Hazard Zones, along with the any additional costs associated with Class A and B roofs is speculative, and there is no information that a significant cost impact is found.

ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION THAT WOULD LESSEN ANY ADVERSE IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS

No alternatives were presented to CAL FIRE that would lessen any adverse impact on small businesses.

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND/OR EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORTS, OR DOCUMENTS

CAL FIRE relied on the following technical, theoretical, or empirical studies, reports or documents in proposing this regulation as referenced in this *Statement of Reasons*:

1. CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resource Protection Program. Wildland Fire Hazard Areas. <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/projects/hazard/fhz.html>. April 26, 2007.
2. CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resource Protection Program. Guidelines for Fire Hazard Severity Zone Review and Validation. April 26, 2007.
3. Sapsis, Dave. CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resource Protection Program. Guidelines for Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) Review and Validation. PowerPoint slides. April 26, 2007.
4. California Resources Agency. Natural Hazard Disclosure Statement. <http://ceres.ca.gov/planning/nhd/background2.html>. April 13, 2007.
5. California Codes Civil Code Section 1103-1103.14. www.leginfo.ca.gov April 13, 2007
6. Fire Cause Analysis. Fire at the Urban Wildland Interface: Cost-Benefit Evaluation of Proposed California State Fire Marshal Building Construction Regulations. July 28, 2004.
7. Legislative Council of California. California FHSZ Summary of Codes & Regulations." Official California Legislative Information. November, 2006. www.aroundthecapitol.com/code/
8. 2001 Title 24, Part 2, California Building Code. Revision Record for the State of California Emergency Supplement. December 1, 2005.
9. CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. 20 Largest California Wildland Fires (By Structures Destroyed). February 24, 2006.

Pursuant to Government Code 11346.2(b)(6): In order to avoid unnecessary duplication or conflicts with federal regulations contained in the Code of Federal Regulations addressing the same issues as those addressed under the proposed regulation revisions listed in this *Statement of Reasons*; the Director has directed staff to review the Code of Federal Regulations. CAL FIRE staff determined that no unnecessary duplication or conflict exists.

PROPOSED TEXT

The proposed revisions or additions to the existing rule language are represented in the following manner:

UNDERLINE indicates an addition to the California Code of Regulations, and

~~STRIKETHROUGH~~ indicates a deletion from the California Code of Regulations.

All other text is existing rule language.

Fire Hazard Severity Zone, 2007

Proposed Rule Language

(Notice Language Published May 25, 2007)

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Amend 14 CCR: § 1280. Fire Hazard Severity Zones

The fire hazard severity zones and the rating reflecting the degree of severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those zones, shall be designated by the Director and delineated on a series of maps on file in the Sacramento Office of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Fire and Resources Assessment Program, 1300 U St. ~~1416 Ninth Street, Room 1653-10.~~
The official maps are also filed electronically on the Department's internet web site. The maps are entitled "Maps of Fire Hazard Severity Zones in the State Responsibility Area of California," dated ~~August 1984~~ January 1, 2008.

NOTE:

Authority cited: Sections 4201-4204, Public Resources Code.

Reference: Sections 4201-4204, Public Resources Code.