

Recommended Change to SRA Fire Safe Regulations California Code of Regulation title 14, 1270 Fire Safe Regulations

In 2012, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) formed the Public Resource Code (PRC) 4290 workgroup. The workgroup consists of CAL FIRE region representatives, Board staff, local government, and CAL FIRE Sacramento representatives. The group was tasked with updating CCR title 14, 1270, Fire Safe Regulations and to determine areas of conflict related to implementation.

These document was edited to reflect current standards, or changed due to current CAL FIRE apparatus dimensions. Fuel modifications were also added to driveways, turnouts, and turnarounds to aid in public safety for civilians and first responders. Other sections such as dead-end roads were not changed due to the lack of verifiable conditions or science.

Remember: This discussion document represents the minimum fire safe requirements outlined within PRC 4290. The regulations shall include all of the following:

- (1) Road standards for fire equipment access.*
- (2) Standards for signs identifying streets, roads, and buildings.*
- (3) Minimum private water supply reserves for emergency fire use.*
- (4) Fuel breaks and greenbelts.*

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Article 2. Emergency Access and Egress

1273.00. Intent

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

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

1273.01. Road Width

All roads shall be constructed to provide

Option 1: (current) a minimum of two nine-foot traffic lanes providing two-way traffic flow,

Option 2: (Recommend, Base from CAL FIRE model 34) a minimum driving surface of two ten-foot lanes, not including shoulder and striping. These lanes should provide for two-way traffic flow to support emergency vehicle and civilian egress.

unless other standards are provided in this article, or additional requirements are mandated by local jurisdictions or local subdivision requirements.

Supporting documentation

Emergency response vehicles may need to access a wildfire area at the same time evacuation of traffic. Firefighters need safe access along roads to reach the wildfire and access water resources.

[California Code of Regulations, Title 19, Division 1, §3.05(a)] Fire Department Access and Egress. (Roads)

(a) Roads. Required access roads from every building to a public street shall be all-weather hard-surfaced (suitable for use by fire apparatus) right-of-way not less than 20 feet (6096 mm) in width. Such right-of-way shall be unob-structed and maintained only as access to the public street.

Exception: The enforcing agency may waive or modify this requirement if in his opinion such all-weather hard- surfaced condition is not necessary in the interest of pub- lic safety and welfare.

2010 CFC part 9

503.2.1 Dimensions. Fire apparatus access roads shall have an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet (6096 mm), exclusive of shoulders, except for *approved* security gates in accordance with Section 503.6, and an unobstructed verti- cal clearance of not less than 13 feet 6 inches (4115 mm).

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Guidance for Roads and Driveways

Roads should be wide enough to allow evacuation and emergency vehicles simultaneous access. Minimum width is 20 feet for access roads and 12 feet for driveways.

Vehicle passing performance. 18 foot road.

Model 34 and sedan passing



2 Model 34 by passing



2 Model 34 by passing



Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. References: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1273.02. Roadway Surface **Option 1: (current)** The surface shall provide unobstructed access to conventional drive vehicles, including sedans and fire engines.

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Option 2: (recommended) Roadways shall be designed and maintained to support legally loaded, non-permitted commercial vehicles and provide an all-weather driving surface. Project proponent shall provide engineering specifications to support design, if requested.

~~Surfaces should be established in conformance with local ordinances, and be capable of supporting a 40,000-pound load.~~

Supporting documentation

2010 CFC part-9

503.2.3 Surface. Fire apparatus access roads shall be designed and maintained to support the imposed loads of fire apparatus and shall be surfaced so as to provide all- weather driving capabilities.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. References: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code, Vehicle code and DMV(look up codes).

1273.03. Roadway Grades

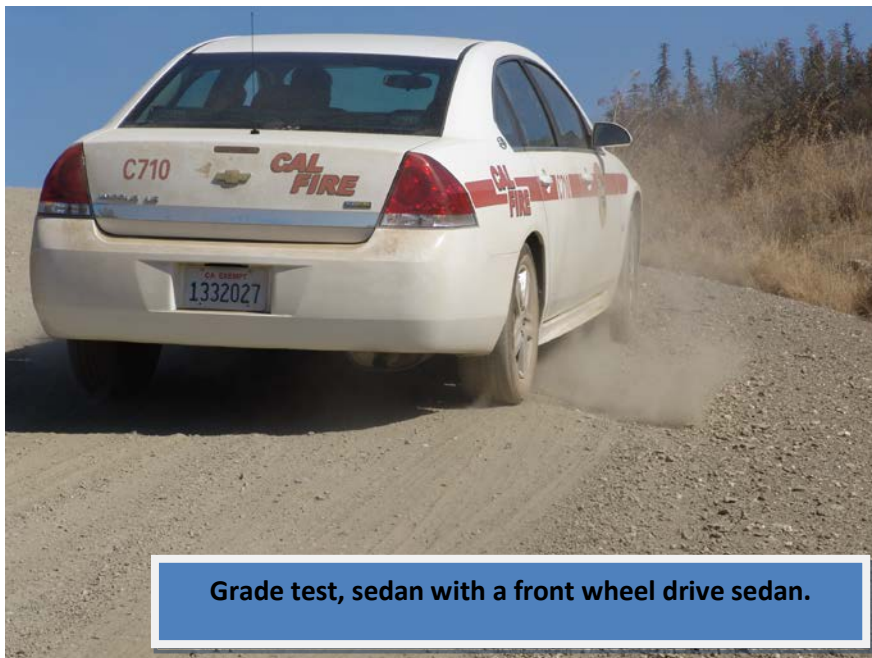
The grade for all roads, streets, private lands and driveways shall not exceed 16 percent.

No change recommended

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008

The maximum grade of roads and driveways should be determined by the local jurisdiction but in general should not exceed a grade of 16 percent.



Grade test, sedan with a front wheel drive sedan.

Grade/ slope test which consisted of stop and then a controlled departure on an all-weather surface road and at the following grade intervals: 16%, 17%, 18% and 20%.

The sedan maintained traction at 16%. The sedan lost traction at 17%, 18% and 20%

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The type three fire engine (model 34) maintained tractions at each of the grade interval with a full tank of water. The type three fire engine (model 34) lost traction at 17% grade with an empty tank of water.



Note: Authority cited Section 4290, Public Resources Code. References: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1273.04. Roadway Radius (no change recommended)

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

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

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

1273.05. Roadway Turnarounds

Unobstructed ~~±~~ turnarounds are required on driveways and dead-end roads as specified in this article. The minimum turning radius for a turnaround shall be

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Option 1:(Note, Current standard does not allow for Engines, water tenders and transports to turnaround without doing a 2 to 3 point turn and or hitting the rear of the vehicle upon entering and exiting the turnaround.) **40 feet from the center line of the road.**

Option 2:(Recommended, option two allows emergency equipment to access the turnaround without damaging the rear of the vehicle. A water tender might have to do a two-point turn and depending on the length of the transport, it might require a two-point turn.) **40 feet from the center line of the road, not including parking and the encroachment of the driving surface, from the roadway into and out of the terminus bulb shall not be less than 38'. The driving surface shall be evenly taper on both sides of the driving surface from the encroachment, 15' back along the roadway. The radius of the taper shall not exceed 40'** : If a hammerhead/T is used, the top of the "T" shall be a minimum of 60 feet in length.

Supporting Documentation

The below pictures illustrate the issues with the current turn around configurator. Fire engine, water tender and the dozer transport all cut the corner of the approach and or departure of the turnaround. Each of the vehicles utilized the opposing land to negotiate the approach and or departure of the turnaround. The Water Tender and the Dozer Transport both did a minimum of a three-point turn.

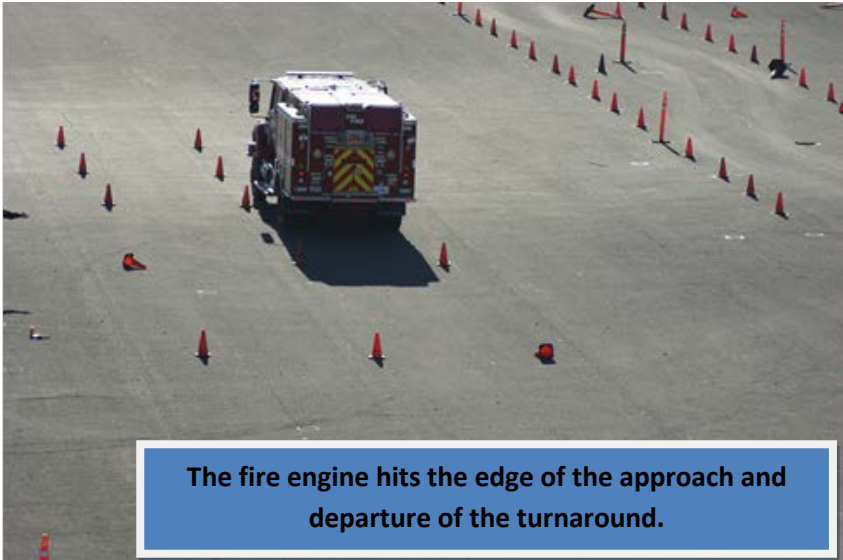
The turnaround configuration was altered at the approach and departure of the turnaround to either a taper or radius. With this alteration all of the emergency vehicles utilized we able to navigate the approach and departure of the turnaround without cutting the corner. The opposing lane was still use at the departure of the turnaround for the Water Tender and the Dozer Transport and both were able to turn around with a two-point turn.

Comments from the drives, was that they had to slow down well under 5 mph for the turnaround and even slower on the all-weather compared to the asphalt.

The below diagram shows the radius at the approach and departure of the turnaround. The radius allows for emergency equipment maneuverability without adding an increase to the turnaround dimension. Adding the radius allows a CAL FIRE Engine to enter and exit the turnaround without cutting the edge of the approach or departure. The radius aids in the reduction of the Fire Engine approaching oncoming traffic. In addition, the radius also gives larger emergency equipment room to maneuver, utilizing a 2 or 3-point turn.

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Emergency Vehicles negotiating current turnaround standard.



The fire engine hits the edge of the approach and departure of the turnaround.



The front bumper encroaches in the oncoming traffic

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

1273.06. Roadway Turnouts

Turnouts shall be a minimum of

Option1: ~~19~~ **12** feet wide and 30 feet long with a minimum 25 foot taper on each end.

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

1273.07 Roadway Structures

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

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

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(c) Where a bridge or an elevated surface is part of a fire apparatus access road, the bridge shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with AASHTO HB-17 into GB). Bridges and elevated surfaces shall be designed for a live load sufficient to carry the imposed loads of fire apparatus. Vehicle load limits shall be posted at both entrances to bridges Where elevated surfaces designed for emergency vehicle use are adjacent to surfaces which are not designed for such use, approved barriers, approved signs or both shall be installed and maintained. A bridge with only one traffic lane may be authorized by the local jurisdiction; however, it shall provide for unobstructed visibility from one end to the other and turnouts at both ends.

Note: Authority cited Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code, California Fire Code 2010.

1273.08 One-Way Roads

All one-way roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum driving surface, not including shoulders of one

Option 1:(Current)10-foot traffic lane

Option 2:(Note, accounts for body width of emergency vehicles) twelve-foot lane.

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008

Guidance for Roads and Driveways

Roads should be wide enough to allow evacuation and emergency vehicles simultaneous access. Minimum width is 20 feet for access roads and 12 feet for driveways

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

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

1273.09. Dead-End Roads (Note, currently no changes are recommended for this section. The 4290 workgroup will recommend to the board of forestry that this section is addressed in the guiding book and that we get the assistance of a traffic engineer.)

Intent: to allow for movement of vehicle of civilians and emergency vehicles and reduce potential entrapment.

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

parcels zoned for less than one acre	800 feet
parcels zoned for 1 acre to 4.99 acres	1320 feet
parcels zoned for 5 acres to 19.99 acres	2640 feet
parcels zoned for 20 acres or larger	5280 feet

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

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

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

Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1273.10. Driveways

All driveways shall provide a minimum driving surface of a,

Option 1: (Note, Current) 10 foot

Option 2: (Recommended) 10 foot width with unobstructed vertical and horizontal clearance of 15 feet along entire length. ,traffic lane and unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet along its entire length.

- (a) Driveways exceeding 150 feet in length, but less than 800 feet in length, shall provide a turnout near the midpoint of the driveway. Where the driveway exceeds 800 feet, turnouts shall be provided no more than 400 feet apart. (b) A turnaround shall be provided at all building sites on driveways over 300 feet in length, and shall be within 50 feet of the building.

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008
Guidance for Roads and Driveways

Roads should be wide enough to allow evacuation and emergency vehicles simultaneous access.
Minimum width is 20 feet for access roads and 12 feet for driveways

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section

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4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1273.11 Gate Entrances

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

(b) All gates providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on that road. (c) Where a one-way road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gated entrance, a 40 foot turning radius shall be used.

(C)The installation of security gates shall be approved. Where security gates are installed, they shall have an approved means of emergency operation. The security gates and the emergency operation shall be maintained operational at all times.

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008

Gated access from a public roadway should be set back from the roadway at a distance that is sufficient to allow emergency equipment to clear the traffic lane. A distance of 50 feet should be adequate for most equipment

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

Article 3: Signing and Building Numbering

1274.00. Intent

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

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

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

Option 1: (Note, Current) Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for street and road signs shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

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Option 2:(Recommended) California Fire Code 2010, California Code of Regulations Title 24. Part 9,Section 505.1 Address identification.

Otpion 3 : (Note, language from the California fire code) Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (101.6 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm). Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the *public way*, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure.

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008
Address and Signage

Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for street and road signs should have a minimum 4-inch letter height and 1/2-inch stroke, be reflective, and contrast with the background color of the sign. The sign and sign support should be constructed of noncombustible materials.

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

1274.02. Visibility and Legibility of Street and Road Signs

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

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008
Address and Signage

Street and road signs should be visible and legible from both directions of vehicle travel for a distance of at least 100 feet and be mounted at a height of 7 feet from the road surface to the bottom of the sign.

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

1274.03. Height of Street and Road Signs

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

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

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1274.04. Names and Numbers on Street and Road Signs

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

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

1274.05. Intersecting Roads, Streets and Private Lanes

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

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

1274.06. Signs Identifying Traffic Access Limitations

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

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

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

1274.07. Installation of Road, Street, and Private Lane Signs

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

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

1274.08. Addresses for Buildings

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

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section

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4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1274.09. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses

Option 1: (Note, Current) Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

Option 2: (Recommended) California Fire Code 2010, California Code of Regulations Title 24. Part 9, Section 505.1 Address identification

Option 3: (Note, language from the California fire code) New and existing buildings shall have approved address numbers, building numbers or approved building identification placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background. Address numbers shall be Arabic numbers or alphabetical letters. Numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches (101.6 mm) high with a minimum stroke width of 0.5 inch (12.7 mm). Where access is by means of a private road and the building cannot be viewed from the public way, a monument, pole or other sign or means shall be used to identify the structure.

Supporting Documentation

Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses is cover under Title 24 California Fire Code. Addressing is typical addresses at the time of a building permit and there for, local jurisdiction having authority tends utilize the California Fire Code.

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

1274.10. Installation, Location and Visibility of Addresses

(a) All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed at each driveway entrance and visible from both directions of travel along the road. In all cases, the address shall be posted at the beginning of construction and shall be maintained thereafter, and the address shall be visible and legible from the road on which the address is located. (b) Address signs along one-way roads shall be visible from both the intended direction of travel and the opposite direction. (c) Where multiple addresses are required at a single driveway, they shall be mounted on a single post. (d) Where a roadway provides access solely to a single commercial or industrial business, the address sign shall be placed at the nearest road intersection providing access to that site.

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

Article 4. Emergency Water Standards

1275.00. Intent

Emergency water for wildfire protection shall be available accessible, and maintained in quantities

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and locations specified in the statute and these regulations, in order to attack a wildfire or defend property from a wildfire. ~~Such emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or manmade containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately available.~~ (moved to standard section below)

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

1275.01. Application

Option 1: The provisions of this article shall apply in the tentative and parcel map process for when new parcels are approved by a local jurisdiction. ~~The emergency water system shall be available the completion of road construction, where a community water system is approved, or prior to building construction, where an individual system is approved. When a water supply for structure defense is required to be installed, such protection shall be installed and made serviceable prior to and during the time of construction except when approved alternative methods of protection are provided.~~

Supporting documentation

FEMA P-373 Fact Sheet 17 8/2008
Guidance for Emergency Water Supply

Community-wide water supplies need to be available and accessible. Signs should be provided indicating access to each water source. Vegetation should be maintained at each water source to allow safe access to the source.

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

1275.10 General Standards

specified in Public Utilities Commission of California (PUC) revised General Order #103, Adopted June 12, 1956 (Corrected September 7, 1983, Decision 83-09-001), Section VIII Fire Protection Standards and other applicable sections relating to fire protection water delivery systems, static water systems equaling or exceeding the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

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

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emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or manmade containment structure, as long as a minimum the specified quantity is 2500 gallons is immediately available.(moved from above).

~~Option 1: 1956 and other applicable sections relating to fire protection water delivery systems, static water systems equaling or exceeding the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1231, "Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting," 1989 Edition, Standard 1142, "Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting," 2012 Edition,, California Fire Code 2010, California Code of Regulations Title 24. Part 9, Fire-Flow requirements or mobile water systems that meet the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rural Class 8, 2nd Edition 3-80, standard shall be accepted as meeting the requirements of~~

Nothing in this article prohibits the combined storage of emergency wildfire and structural firefighting water supplies unless so prohibited by local ordinance or specified by the local fire agency. Where freeze protection is required by local jurisdiction, such protection measures shall be provided.

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

1275.15 Hydrant/Fire Valve

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

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

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

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



Dry Hydrant connection, with a 2 ½ inch adapted to a 4 ½ adapter to a 4 inch pipe.

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

1275.20 Signing of Water Sources

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

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

(b) if located along a street or road,

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

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

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

Article 5. Fuel Modification Standards

1276.00. Intent To reduce the intensity of a wildfire by reducing the volume and density of flammable vegetation, the strategic siting of fuel modification and greenbelts shall provide (1) increased safety for emergency fire equipment and evacuating civilians by its utilization around structures and roads including driveways; and (2) a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

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

1276.01. Setbacks for Structure Defensible Space

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

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

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

1276.02. Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels

Disposal, including chipping, burying, burning or removal to a landfill site approved by the local jurisdiction, of flammable vegetation and fuels caused by site development and construction, road

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and driveway construction, and fuel modification shall be completed prior to completion of road construction or final inspection of a building permit.

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

1276.03. Greenbelts Subdivisions and other developments, which propose greenbelts as a part of the development plan, shall locate said greenbelts strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspection authority. [Refer to BOF VTR EIR.](#)

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290, 4291, Public Resources Code.

1276.04. Driveways. Driveway shall have minimum of ten feet horizontal fuel reduction from the traveled surface on both sides of the driveway fuel reduction, from the point of the road encroachment to the defensible space of the structure, to support civilian evacuation and fire equipment access. The fuel reduction is such that in reflects CCR title 14, 1299 defensible space Zone. 2. These shall include turnouts and turnarounds.

Supporting Documentation

The additional sections added is intended to help provide safety to both civilians and emergency personnel.

The , "Structure Fire Prevention Field Guide," under Fuel Modification, Roadside Vegetation Management 8.4e page 44, states, "Roadside Vegetation Management Roadside vegetation should be removed for a distance of 10 feet on each side of the traveled section. In order to protect escape routes from radiant heat caused by wildfires, the native vegetation should be thinned and dead material removed on each side of roads or highways to reduce radiant heat from wildfire to a tolerable level."



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18-Foot fire access road without fuel reduction.

1299. Defensible Space.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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