



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Mendocino Unit
17501 North Highway 101
Willits, CA 95490
(707) 459-7414
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



FIRE SAFETY REGULATIONS APPLICATION PACKAGE
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION

To ensure that the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) can adequately identify which regulations apply to your project and/or respond to your inquiry we ask that you do the following;

- 1) Print neatly IN PEN or type application. Fill in ALL application information.
- 2) Be as thorough as possible within the space provided.
- 3) **Answer all questions-Failure to do so may result in your application being returned.**
- 4) Use the example in helping prepare your site plan on the provided 8-1/2 x 11" graph paper.
- 5) For residential dwellings, garages, and accessory buildings, do not supply architectural drawings, unless the size of the project requires it.
- 6) Subdivisions and parcel splits should include tentative parcel maps.
- 7) Show all existing and proposed roads, driveways, bridges, gates, setbacks, property lines and water systems and indicate distances between all buildings and property lines. Show widths, lengths, and steepness (in % grade) of proposed roads and driveways.
- 8) Make sure you have signed the application and mail or deliver to the address on the front page. Office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.
- 9) Your application will be held at the Howard Forest CAL FIRE Headquarters Office for pickup or mailed to: (1) The applicant/owner, or (2) Your agent, **PLEASE INDICATE WHICH YOU WOULD PREFER.** *Because of CAL FIRE's response to emergency incidents and other routine responsibilities, please allow up to two weeks for processing your application.*
- 10) *Please make a copy of the completed application (with the attached "Conditions of Approval") for your files before submitting to Mendocino County Planning & Building Services. Contact the CAL FIRE Headquarters Office to Request a Final Inspection when you have **COMPLETED** the criteria outlined in your Conditions of Approval.*



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CAL FIRE File #

To be completed by CAL FIRE

-OFFICE USE ONLY-

STATE FIRE SAFE REGULATIONS APPLICATIONS FORM

Please complete the following and submit to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). **See the attached Homeowner's Summary of Fire Prevention and Loss Reductions Laws to ensure your plans will meet the requirements. If not, you will be required to propose and submit an exemption (Detailed in Item #19) for the Department's review. Failure to submit a proposed exemption when required will result in delays. CAL FIRE will strive to work with landowners who require an exemption, however, submitting an exemption in itself, does not guarantee it will be accepted by CAL FIRE.**

1. Name, Mailing Address and Phone Number of Property Owner:

Phone:

2. Name, Mailing Address and Phone Number of Agent representing the Property Owner:

Phone:

Mail correspondence to:

☐ Owner **OR** ☐ Agent **OR** ☐ Pick-up at Howard Forest

3. Address/Location of proposed building site:

APN:

CONSERVATION IS WISE—KEEP CALIFORNIA GREEN AND GOLDEN

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONSERVE ENERGY. FOR TIPS AND INFORMATION, VISIT "FLEX YOUR POWER" AT WWW.CA.GOV

Is it accessible, gate, locked? If so, gate combination or instructions to access:

4. Type of Project – CHECK ONE

☐ Subdivision

Current acreage before split: _____

Number of new parcels to be created: _____

Acreage of newly created parcels: _____

☐ Use Permit

Describe your project, include dates, times, number of people, roads used or required, etc.

☐ Building Permit

☐ New building, ☐ Remodel, ☐ Class K, ☐ Replacement, ☐ Other

_____ Size in square feet of Single Family dwelling, if applicable.

_____ Size in square feet of attached garage, if applicable.

_____ Size in square feet of proposed detached garage, if applicable.

_____ Size in square feet of proposed accessory building(s), if applicable.

_____ Size in square feet of other proposed structure, if applicable.

_____ **TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE**

Briefly describe the type of structure you will be building:

5. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Is project location map attached showing access to the site?

6. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Was the subject parcel created PRIOR to January 1, 1992?

If NO please answer a & b below:

a. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Is the structure within ½-mile driving distance of a working fire hydrant?

b. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Is the structure within a 5-mile driving distance of a year round fire station?

Set Back Standard- If YES to # 7 and NO to # 8, an exemption will be required.7. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Is the subject parcel 1 acre or larger?8. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will the proposed structure(s) be 30 ft. or more from ALL property lines?**Road and Driveway Standards** -Roads or driveways deviating from the Standards will require an exemption.9. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will your project require construction of a new road?

If so, how long in feet or miles? _____

If so, what is the maximum grade(%)? _____

10. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will your project require the extension of an existing road?

If so, how long in feet or miles? _____

If so, what is the maximum grade(%)? _____

11. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will your project require construction of a new driveway?

If so, how long in feet or miles? _____

If so, what is the maximum grade(%)? _____

12. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will your project require the extension of an existing driveway?

If so, how long in feet or miles? _____

If so, what is the maximum grade(%)? _____

13. If NO to 9-12 above, Describe the existing road/driveway:

14. Describe the turnout locations, their spacing, and the turnaround or hammerhead "T" related to your project and the standards ensure it meets the required standard or an exemption will be needed.

15. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Are there existing bridges en route to the proposed project located on your property?16. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will this project require any bridges to be constructed/installed?

Timber and Land Conversion Activities- FOR TIMBER RELATED QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL 707-459-7440.

17. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will trees be cut and timber products sold, bartered, traded or exchanged?

If YES, may require a harvest permit from CAL FIRE Resource Management.

18. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Will timberland be converted to non-timber growing use?

If YES, may require a harvest permit from CAL FIRE Resource Management.

Exemption Request

19. ☐ Yes ☐ No -- Are you requesting any exemptions to the Fire Safe Regulations?

If YES, attach a separate page identifying the applicable section of State Law pertinent to your request, material facts supporting the request, the details of the exemption or mitigation measures proposed, and a map showing the proposed location of the exemption or mitigation measure.

An exemption may be granted only if it is "necessary due to health, safety, environmental conditions, physical site limitations or other limiting conditions such as recorded historical sites" and if it "provides the same overall practical effect as these [fire safe] regulations towards providing defensible space." (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§ 1270.07, 1271.00.) An exemption may not allow avoidance of the standards. An exemption is an "alternative...that provides mitigation of the problem."

I hereby agree to maintain the property in compliance with the Fire Safe Requirements established in the Public Resources Code Section 4290.

SIGNATURE OF PROPERTY OWNER OR AGENT _____

Print Name

HOMEOWNER'S SUMMARY OF FIRE PREVENTION AND LOSS REDUCTION LAWS

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CAL FIRE)



References to "department" means CAL FIRE
"director" means the Director of CAL FIRE

Summary of Fire Safe Regulations

Title 14 Code of California Regulations: Division 1.5, Chapter 7,
Subchapter 2, Articles 1-5

These regulations have been prepared and adopted for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction and development in SRA. These regulations shall become effective September 1, 1991. The future design and construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in State Responsibility Area (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures as specified in the following articles. These measures shall provide for emergency access; signing and building numbering; private water supply reserves for emergency fire use; and vegetation modification. *The intent statements that follow are a summary and are provided for information only. Specific requirements should be obtained from the local planning and building departments.*

Article 2. Emergency Access Standards

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

Article 3. Signing and Addressing Standards

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

Article 4. Emergency Water Supply Standards

Emergency water for wildfire protection shall be available and accessible in quantities and locations specified in the statute and these

regulations, in order to attack a wildfire or defend property from a wildfire. Such emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or manmade containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately available.

Article 5. Fuel Modification and Defensible Space Standards

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

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

These regulations apply to new construction and development in State Responsibility Area (SRA) in California. These regulations are not retroactive to existing structures and facilities, unless a new use or occupancy is applied for. CDR offices and fire stations, as well as, County Planning and Building Departments can assist in modifying specific SRA boundaries. The following is a summary only for the purpose of information. Reference to the specific adopted language should be made before construction or development plans are prepared.

Application of Standards (Article 1)

The following activities trigger or initiate the application of specific standards within the regulations.

Creation of NEW PARCELS (except for lot line adjustments)

- o Road Standards (Article 2)
- o Gate Standards (Article 2)
- o Emergency Water Standards (Article 4)
- o Fuel Modification and Defensible Space Standards (Article 5)

Building Permit for New Construction

- o Road Standards (Article 2)
- o Gate Standards (Article 2)
- o Driveway Standards (Article 2)
- o Address Signs (Article 3)
- o Fuel Modification and Defensible Space Standards (Article 5)

Application for a Use Permit

All or part of these regulations may apply depending upon the specific use being permitted.

Siting of Mobile Homes and Manufactured Homes

- o Road Standards (Article 2)
- o Gate Standards (Article 2)
- o Driveway Standards (Article 2)

- o Address Signs (Article 3)
- o Fuel Modification and Defensible Space Standards (Article 5)

Road Construction (except for existing roads)

Roads for agricultural or mining use on one ownership, roads used solely for managing or harvesting wood products, or roads required as a condition of a parcel map approved prior to the effective date of these regulations are exempted.

- o Road Standards (Article 2)
- o Gate Standards (Article 2)
- o Signing and Addressing Standard (Article 3)
- o Fuel Modification & Defensible Space Standards (Article 5)

Inspection Authority (Article 1)

The inspection authority may be either the CAL FIRE or the local jurisdiction.

Requests for Exceptions (Article 1)

Requests for exception from a specified requirement shall be submitted by the applicant in writing to the inspection authority, listing the applicable code section, stating the material facts supporting the exception request, listing the proposed mitigation measure and providing a map of the requested change.

Appeals (Article 1)

Any applicant may appeal the denial of an exception to the local jurisdiction who shall provide written findings to the local CAL FIRE office if the appeal is granted.

Maintenance Requirements (Article 1)

The maintenance of all requirements shall be secured as a condition of the approved permit or map.

Road Standards (Article 2)

- o Two nine foot traffic lanes (18 foot wide road surface)
- o A minimum 40,000 pound load capacity (California Vehicle Code)
- o A maximum grade of 16%
- o A minimum curve radius of 50 feet

Dead-end roads shall not exceed the following lengths:

- o 800 feet for parcels zoned for less than 1 acre
- o 1,320 feet for parcels zoned for 1 acre to 499 acres
- o 2,640 feet for parcels zoned 5 to 19.99 acres
- o 5,280 for parcels zoned for 20 acres or larger

Gate Standard (Article 2)

Gate openings shall be at least 2 feet wider than the road surface and shall be located at least 30 feet from the intersecting roadway.

Driveway Standards (Article 2)

- o Minimum 10 feet wide
- o A minimum of 15 feet vertical clearance
- o A maximum grade of 16%
- o A minimum inside curve radius of 50 feet
- o Turnarounds are required at building sites for driveways longer than 300 feet.
- o Turnarounds shall be a minimum of 40 foot radius or a hammerhead/t 60 feet long
- o Turnouts shall be constructed every 400 feet.
- o Turnouts shall be a minimum 10 feet wide and 30 feet long with a 25 foot taper at each end

Address Signs (Article 3)

Roads shall be named or sequentially numbered (non-duplicating in a county) with approved signs posted at each intersection:

- o A minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke
- o ReflectORIZED and contrasting with the background color
- o Visible for 100 feet from both directions of travel

Addresses shall be posted at driveway entrances and shall be visible from both directions of travel. Addresses shall be sequentially numbered.

Multiple addresses shall be on a single post.

Emergency Water Supply Standards (Article 4)

Water storage and supply systems shall be approved by the inspection authority and shall meet or exceed either:

PUC Revised General Order #103, Section VII and other applicable fire flow sections, or NFPA 1231, or ISO Rural Class 8 Standard.

Fire Hydrants shall:

- o Be at least 18 inches above grade
- o Be a minimum of 8- feet from flammable vegetation
- o Be installed between 4 and 12- feet from the roadway
- o Be located between 50-feet and 1/2 mile from the building it serves
- o Have a 2-1/2 or 4-1/2 inch N.H. male fitting
- o Be suitable crash protected if required by a local jurisdiction
- o Be identified with a 3-inch reflectORIZED blue dot on the driveway address sign, or placed on a post within 3-feet of the hydrant, or identified as described in the State Fire Marshal's Highway Marker Guidelines.

Fuel Modification and Defensible Space Standards (Art. 5)

Structures on parcels 1 acre and larger shall be set back from the property line at least 30 feet. Smaller parcels shall provide for comparable mitigation.

Flammable waste generated by construction or development must be lawfully disposed of before final approval of a project.

Greenbelts that are proposed as a part of a development or project shall be strategically located to separate wildland fuels and structures.

DISCLOSURE RESPONSIBILITY OF SELLERS OF REAL PROPERTY

Each seller of real property in State Responsibility Areas (SRA) is required to disclose to any prospective purchaser that the property is in a wildland area which poses a wildfire risk and/or hazard. Each seller shall also disclose that the property is required to meet the flammable vegetation clearance requirements of PRC 4291. The seller must also disclose to any prospective buyer that it is not the state's responsibility to provide fire protection services to any building or structure located within the wildlands unless the state has entered into an agreement with local government to provide structure fire protection.(PRC4125)

FIRE RESISTIVE ROOFING

Roofs on all new buildings in State Responsibility Areas (SRA) must have at least a Class C fire resistive or non-combustible roof covering. A Class C or non-combustible roof covering is also required when 50% or more of the roof area is reroofed. A local jurisdiction may apply more stringent standards. The installer of the roof covering shall provide certification of the roof covering classification to the building owner and, when requested, to the inspection authority.(UBC, California Amendments, Section 3203)

PERMITS FOR BURNING

A person shall not burn any brush, stumps, logs, fallen timber, fallows, slash, grass-covered land, brush-covered land, forest-covered land, or other flammable material, in any state responsibility area, area receiving fire protection by the department by contract, or upon federal lands administered by the United States Department of Agriculture or Department of the Interior, unless the person has a written permit from the department or its duly authorized representative or the authorized federal officer on federal lands administered by the United States Department of Agriculture or of the Interior and in strict accordance with the terms of the permit. (PRC4423)

DEFENSIBLE SPACE AROUND STRUCTURES

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, shall at all times do all of the following:

- (a) Maintain around and adjacent to the building or structure a firebreak made by removing and clearing away, for a distance of not less than 30 feet on each side of the

building or structure or to the property line, whichever is nearer, all flammable vegetation or other combustible growth. This subdivision does not apply to single specimens of trees or other vegetation that is well-pruned and maintained so as to effectively manage fuels and not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from other nearby vegetation to any building or structure.

(b) Maintain around and adjacent to the building or structure additional fire protection or firebreak made by removing all brush, flammable vegetation, or combustible growth that is located within 100 feet from the building or structure or to the property line or at a greater distance if required by state law, or local ordinance, rule, or regulation. This section does not prevent an insurance company that insures a building or structure from requiring the owner of the building or structure to maintain a firebreak of more than 100 feet around the building or structure. Grass and other vegetation located more than 30 feet from the building or structure and less than 18 inches in height above the ground may be maintained where necessary to stabilize the soil and prevent erosion. This subdivision does not apply to single specimens of trees or other vegetation that is 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 dwelling or structure.

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

(d) Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging a building free of dead or dying wood.

(e) Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles, or other dead vegetative growth.

(f) Provide and maintain at all times a screen over the outlet of every chimney or stovepipe that is attached to any fireplace, stove, or other device that burns any solid or liquid fuel. The screen shall be constructed of nonflammable material with openings of not more than one-half inch in size. (PRC4291)

SPARK ARRESTERS

No person shall use, operate, or allow to be used or operated, any internal combustion engine which uses hydrocarbon fuels on any forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land unless the engine is equipped with a spark arrester, as defined in subdivision (c), maintained in effective working order or the engine is constructed, equipped, and maintained for the prevention of fire. Motor vehicles must be equipped with an approved muffler. No person shall offer for sale, lease or rent any internal combustion engine unless he provides written notice of this requirement and violation penalties. (PRC4442)

NOTE

Counties are allowed to develop their own fire safe regulations. Many counties have enhanced the requirements stated in this summary. You should check with the County Planning Section or the fire authority in your county to verify the requirements you will have to meet.