**NOVEMBER 5, 2024**

***Resource Protection Committee (RPC)***

*The mission of the Resource Protection Committee is to develop and promote a policy and regulatory program that implements fire safe land use planning and effective vegetation management, pursues a fire prevention program in alignment with the State Fire Plan, and improves forest and rangeland health in California.*

**COMPLETED OR SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETED 2024**

**1. CalVTP Implementation**

***Objective:*** *Provide instructional resources to those wishing to tier the environmental analysis of a vegetation treatment project off the CalVTP PEIR.*

***Status:*** *The Board has received $4 million to provide technical assistance for PSA completion and instructional resources. In 2024, launched new PSA and resource library on the web.*

**3. Fire Risk Reduction Community List Implementation**

***Objective:*** *Develop the second iteration of the Fire Risk Reduction Communities List, in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 4290.1 and the Board’s regulations, to be posted on the Board’s website no later than July 1, 202.*

***Status:*** *The Board approved the Fire Risk Reduction Community List at their June 2024 meeting, effective July 1, 2024.*

**Annual ongoing items**

**1. Safety Element Review (all counties with SRA; cities with VHFHSZ)**

***Objective:*** *Review General Plan Safety Elements of all counties with SRA and cities with Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.*

***Status:*** *Review of safety elements ongoing.*

**2. Forest Pest Council**

***Objective:*** *Ongoing monitoring, management, and education and outreach (for professionals and lay people) regarding invasive pests and pathogens of concern in California’s urban and wildland forests.*

*Ongoing effort to offer relevant, practical information on tree dieoff as well as native and invasive pests and pathogens affecting California’s urban and wildland forests.*

*Ongoing effort to further advance the CA Firewood Task Force ‘Buy It Where You Burn It’ message as well as the risks associated with spread of invasive species through the long-distance movement of firewood.*

***Status:*** *Ongoing review.*

**3. Subdivision Review**

***Objective:*** *With the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), by July 1, 2021 survey existing subdivisions of 30 or more residential structures without secondary access at high fire risk, and develop recommendations to improve those subdivisions’ fire safety.*

***Status:*** *OSFM has identified subdivisions to survey across the state. Surveys are ongoing with 1,100 surveys completed out of 1,800 identified subdivisions.*

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 *July 1-October 1, 20256*

**4. Subdivision Findings**

***Objective:*** *For tentative or parcel maps approved in state responsibility areas (SRA) or very high fire hazard severity zones (VH), the approving body is required to make and submit two findings to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) within 30 calendar days of map approval (14 CCR § 1266.02).*

***Status:*** *The Board has prepared an application and website for local jurisdictions to submit their findings. Based on staff workflow availability, outreach to local governments may occur in 2025.*

**5. CalVTP Implementation**

***Objective:*** *Improve CalVTP effectiveness and uptake.*

***Status:*** *Contemplation of additional environmental review documents for development and approval in 2025.*

**Priorities FOR 2025**

**1. 14 CCR 1299 Defensible Space Revisions**

***Objective:*** *Develop regulations in accordance with changes to PRC 4291 enacted by AB 3074, including new requirement for a zero to five-foot ember resistant zone around structures within the SRA and VHFHSZ in LRA.*

***Status:*** *Developing Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment (SRIA) and addressing changes to August 2023 proposal necessitated by SB 504 (Dodd, 2024). Anticipated Board review and approval for 45 day noticing in early winter 2025.*

**2. LRA FHSZ Map Collection**

***Objective:*** *Establish form and collection process for LRA FHSZ map submittal from local jurisdictions. Align California Code of Regulations Title 14 sections 1280.00, 1280.01, and 1280.02 with CAL FIRE’s regulatory process for Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps.*

***Status:*** *Preparing rulemaking documents for noticing in late 2024 with a goal effective date of July 1, 2025.*

**3. Subdivision Findings Re-Survey and Implementation Review**

***Objective:*** *Begin re-survey of identified subdivisions. Collect implementation updates from previous survey.*

***Status:***

**4. Fire Risk Reduction Communities List Regulatory Update**

***Objective:*** *Update the Board’s regulations under PRC 4290.1 to address errors and inconsistencies.*

***Status:*** *Preparing rulemaking documents for noticing in late 2024 with a goal effective date of July 1, 2025.*

**5. Safety Element Assessment Regulations Review**

***Objective:*** *Evaluate existing Safety Element Assessment document and regulations for changes to improve implementation.*

***Status:*** *OSFM Workgroup to present proposed changes to RPC in first or second quarter 2025.*

**6. Vegetation Clearance Standards Around Electric Utility Infrastructure**

***Objective:*** *Review 14 CCR § 1250 et seq for areas of conflict or inconsistency with utility clearance requirements established by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).*

***Status:*** *Draft revisions to Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Article 4 complete; Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment (SRIA) process ongoing. Timing dependent on movement of Utility Right of Way rulemaking in Management Committee; no earlier than the second half of 2025.*

**7. State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations**

***Objective:*** *Maintain a functional regulatory program under PRC 4290.*

***Status:*** *Most recent regulatory updates effective April 1, 2023. Monitoring implementation by CAL FIRE and local government. Further amendments to be pursued as identified.*