**NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

***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.*

**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.*

**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.*

**5. 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. Creation of PSAs and resources, including outreach to relevant state and local agencies, is ongoing.*

**Priorities FOR 2024**

**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:*** *In progress. Updates at Resource Protection Committee meetings.*

**2. LRA VHFHSZ Map Collection**

***Objective:*** *Establish form and collection process for LRA VHFHSZ 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:*** *Ongoing. Timeline dependent on CAL FIRE’s release of Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps.*

**3. Fire Risk Reduction Communities 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, 2024.*

***Status:*** *Applications will be solicited from December 2023-April 2024 for Board approval in June 2024.*

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

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

***Status:*** *Will begin review in second half of 2024.*

**5. 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.*

**6. 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.*