**December 6, 2021**

***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 Substantially Completed IN 2021**

**1. Fire Safe Development Regulations Emergency Rulemaking**

***Objective:*** *Address concerns regarding the scope and applicability of the Fire Safe Regulations in light of the ongoing wildfire and housing crises in the State.*

***Status:*** *Emergency regulations approved by OAL and made effective on July 27, 2020. Second re-adoption effective December 7, 2021; they will expire March 7, 2022.*

**2. Fire Risk Reduction Communities List Rulemaking**

***Objective:*** *Clarify, interpret, or make specific new legislation from 2018 (AB 2911, SB 1260, SB 901) via regulation, as necessary. By July 1, 2022, develop a list of local agencies taking fire risk reduction activities.*

***Status:*** *New regulations effective January 1, 2022. The list of local agencies will be complied prior to July 1, 2022.*

**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. Fire Safety Survey**

***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.*

**Priorities FOR 2022**

**1. Fire Safe Regulations Update**

***Objective:*** *Clarify, interpret, or make specific new legislation from 2018 (AB 2911, SB 1260, SB 901) via regulation, as necessary. By July 1, 2021, update the 14 CCR 1270 regulations to apply to LRA, to establish requirements for greenbelts around communities, and to protect undeveloped ridgelines.*

***Status:*** *In progress. 45-day comment period ended June 22, 2021. New draft presented at December 8, 2021 Board meeting for possible noticing.*

**2. 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. Anticipated draft for noticing by May 2022.*

**3. Defensible Space Guidebook**

***Objective:*** *Write an implementation guidebook for defensible space inspectors, homeowners, and other stakeholders by January 1, 2023.*

***Status:*** *In development simultaneously with regulatory revisions.*

**4. Fire Risk Reduction Communities List Implementation**

***Objective:*** *Develop the first iteration of the Fire Risk Reduction Communities List, in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 4290.1 and the Board’s forthcoming regulations, to be posted on the Board’s website no later than July 1, 2022.*

***Status:*** *Working with Land Use Planning and Fire Prevention Grants programs to prepare for receipt and review of local agency applications for inclusion on the List.*

*Draft List application form complete.*

**4. 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 $2 million to provide technical assistance for PSA completion for approximately 30 projects. The identification of appropriate projects is ongoing. Projects are priorities based on establishing geographic and bioregion diversity and funding a variety of treatment types and treatment activities.*

**5. Utility Right of Way Exemptions**

***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. On hold pending Governor’s Office review.*