These regulations have been prepared for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction, and development in State Response Area (SRA). Construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures. These measures shall provide for emergency access; signing and building numbering; private water supply reserves for emergency fire use; and vegetation modification. These regulations shall apply to all new construction within the SRA.

Inspections:
The inspection authority shall inspect for compliance with these regulations. When inspections are conducted, they should occur prior to: the issuance of the use permit; the recordation of the parcel map; the filing of a notice of completion; or the final inspection of any project or building permit; or certificate of occupancy.

Driveways:
All driveways shall provide a minimum 12 foot wide traffic lane and unobstructed vertical and horizontal clearance to combustible vegetation of 15 feet from the centerline of the driveway 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.
(c) Max driveway slope not to exceed 16% for gravel base driveways and 20% for paved driveways.

Gated Entrances:
(a) Gated entrances shall be a minimum of 14 feet wide.
(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) A key box is required where access to or within a structure or an area is restricted because of secured openings such as a locked gated entrance.

Signing and Building Numbering:
To facilitate locating a fire and to avoid delays in response, all newly constructed or approved roads, streets, and buildings shall be designated with 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.

Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Road Signs:
Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for street and road signs shall be a minimum 4 inch letter height, 1/2 inch stroke, reflective, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

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.

Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses:
Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 4 inch letter height, 1/2 inch stroke, reflective and contrasting with the background color of the sign.
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 for a minimum distance of 100 feet. 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.

Emergency Water System for Fire Protection:
The emergency water system shall be available on-site prior to the completion of building construction. The emergency water supply system shall be no less than 3000 gallons. The emergency water supply may be a pond or a swimming pool. If you would like to utilize one of these methods the local Fire authority needs to approve the use of this option and provide an approval letter to the county.

Hydrant/Fire Valve:
(1) 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:
(2) Be not less than 50 feet and no more than 1000 feet by road from the building it is to serve, and
(3) Be located at a turnout or turnaround along the driveway to that building, or along the road that intersects with that driveway.

The hydrant head shall be 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.

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, 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 the hydrant/fire valve, with the sign no less than 3 feet, and not greater than 5 feet above ground, in a horizontal position and visible from the driveway.

Fuel Modification Standards.

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

Setbacks for Structure:
(a) Provide for a minimum 30 foot setback for buildings and accessory buildings from all property lines and/or the center of a road to serve as a fire break. Required utility structures such as but not limited to water tanks, propane tanks, and well/pump houses are not considered buildings for the purposes of this section.

Defensible space:
“Lean, Clean and Green Zone.”
(a) Clearing an area of 30 feet immediately surrounding your home is critical. This area requires the greatest reduction in flammable vegetation. Green lawn / vegetation are best in this area.

“Reduced Fuel Zone.”
(a) The fuel reduction zone in the remaining 70 feet (or to property line whichever is less) will depend on the steepness of your property and the vegetation. Minimum of 10’ from grade to lowest part of tree canopy.
Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels.

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

Additionally.

This handout was created to help understand the minimum requirements that are mandatory with all newly constructed structures that are located within the SRA (State Responsibility Area). The information provided is in compliance with and obtained from:

(a) California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection SRA Fire Safe Regulations, California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Natural Resources, Division 1.5 Department of Forestry, Chapter 7 - Fire Protection, Subchapter 2 SRA Fire Safe Regulations.
(b) Public Resources Code §4290.
(c) Yuba County Development Code, (Chapter 11.22 Fire Safe Regulations).
(d) Yuba County Fire Chief’s Association.

If you have any questions or alternate methods or materials proposals, please contact the Cal-Fire Battalion Chief, “Nevada–Yuba–Placer Unit” for review and possible approval.

Loma Rica / Dobbins Battalion: (530) 743-4477

If you have any additional questions please contact Yuba County Building Department: (530) 749-5440
FIRE SAFE DRIVEWAY

NOTES:
1. THE DRIVEWAY SHALL TERMINATE WITHIN 50’ OF THE DWELLING.

2. A HAMMERHEAD T OR TERMINUS BULB TURNAROUND IS REQUIRED WHEN DRIVEWAY EXCEEDS 300’.

3. FOR DRIVEWAYS BETWEEN 150 FEET AND 800 FEET IN LENGTH, 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.

4. DRIVEWAY REQUIREMENTS:
   a) 16% MAXIMUM DRIVEWAY GRADE FOR A.B. AND 20% MAXIMUM DRIVEWAY GRADE FOR A.C.
   b) 50’ MINIMUM CENTERLINE RADIUS ON CURVES.
   c) 14’ MINIMUM DRIVEWAY WIDTH ON CURVES.
   d) DRIVEWAYS SHALL SERVE NO MORE THAN 2 PARCELS.
   e) MINIMUM VERTICAL CLEARANCE IS 15’ FROM CENTERLINE OF DRIVEWAY ENTIRE LENGTH OF DRIVEWAY.
   f) ENTIRE DRIVEWAY, INCLUDING TURNAROUND AND TURNOUTS, MUST BE SURFACED WITH A MINIMUM OF 4” COMPACTED CLASS 2 AGGREGATE BASE.

5. GATE OPENING MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 14′ WIDE, 30′ MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM EDGE OF TRAVELED WAY, AND MUST OPEN TO ALLOW VEHICLE TO STOP WITHOUT OBSTRUCTING ROAD TRAFFIC.

6. BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION MUST MEET H-20 LOADING REQUIREMENTS (80,000 LBS.)

7. FINAL APPROVAL OF THE DRIVEWAY IS REQUIRED PRIOR TO BUILDING DEPARTMENT ISSUANCE OF FINAL CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY.

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Revision By: DRB
PUBLIC WORKS - YCFSS
YUBA COUNTY FIRE SAFE DRIVEWAY
12 FEET MINIMUM DRIVEWAY WIDTH

15' MINIMUM CLEARANCE TO
FLAMMABLE VEGETATION
FROM CENTER OF DRIVEWAY

50' MINIMUM CENTERLINE
RADIUS ON CURVES.
14' MINIMUM DRIVEWAY
WIDTH ON CURVES.

16% MAX GRADE FOR DRIVEWAYS WITH ONLY A.B. (AGGREGATE BASE / ROCK).
20% MAX GRADE FOR DRIVEWAYS WITH A.C. ( ASPHALT ).
YUBA COUNTY FIRE SAFE STANDARDS
RESIDENTIAL DRIVEWAY ADDRESSING

All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed at each driveway entrance and visible from both directions of travel for a minimum distance of 100 feet. 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.

Size of letters, numbers, and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 4 inch letter height, 1/2 inch stroke, reflective and contrasting with the background color of the sign. Building addressing SHALL NOT be mounted on trees. Addressing numbers shall be mounted between 3 feet minimum and 5 feet maximum above grade.

EXAMPLE # 1

EXAMPLE # 2

ACCEPTABLE LOCATION OF BUILDING ADDRESSING

VISIBLE FROM 100 FEET AWAY

ACCEPTABLE LOCATION OF BUILDING ADDRESSING

VISIBLE FROM 100 FEET AWAY
YUBA COUNTY FIRE SAFE STANDARDS
EMERGENCY WATER STORAGE TANK EXAMPLE.

NOTE: ALL ADAPTERS SHALL BE OF BRASS, ALUMINUM, OR STAINLESS STEEL NATIONAL MALE HOSE THREAD. PIPING MAY BE PVC OR STEEL (MINIMUM OF 4"), AND MUST BE SUPPORTED.
TANK MAY BE CONSTRUCTED OF CONCRETE, STEEL, PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIALS AS APPROVED AS COMPAREABLE.
VALVE MUST BE LOCATED NO CLOSER THAN 50' NOR FARTHER THAN 1000 FEET FROM THE STRUCTURE IT SERVES AND MUST BE MARKED WITH A BLUE REFLECTOR.
EXAMPLE OF RISER SUPPORT, OTHER METHODS MAY BE USED WITH APPROVAL FROM YUBA COUNTY FIRE PLANNER.

Example of hydrant and fittings

Required adapters
2-1/2" cap
2-1/2" x 1-1/2" Adapter Disting
4-1/2" x 4" Adapter
Fire valve

Brace / support
UNI STREET
Concrete pad

Minimum 3000 gallon tank
(Tanks greater than 5000 gallons require a separate permit).

4" minimum port size Max 6" above bottom of tank
Pressure treated 2x frame with sand inside for tank to rest on. Or 3-1/2" concrete pad. (Inspection is not required for pad).

Blue reflector
15" X 15" X 4" Concrete pad
Minimum of 4" schedule
40 PVC buried 12" below grade.

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YUBA COUNTY FIRE SAFE STANDARDS
EMERGENCY WATER STORAGE TANK EXAMPLE.

NOTE: ALL ADAPTERS SHALL BE OF BRASS, ALUMINUM, OR STAINLESS STEEL NATIONAL MALE HOSE THREAD. PIPING SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 4", AND MUST BE SUPPORTED AND BRACED. TANK MAY BE CONSTRUCTED OF CONCRETE, STEEL, PLASTIC OR OTHER MATERIALS AS APPROVED AS COMPARABLE.
VALVE MUST BE LOCATED NO CLOSER THAN 50' NOR FARHER THAN 1000 FEET FROM THE STRUCTURE IT SERVES AND MUST BE MARKED WITH A BLUE REFLECTOR.
EXAMPLE OF RISER SUPPORT, OTHER METHODS MAY BE USED WITH APPROVAL FROM LOCAL FIRE DISTRICT CHIEF.

4" Valve minimum 18" above grade, max 24". And max 10’ from bottom of tank to center line of valve.

Minimum of 4” schedule 40 suction and vent piping
Underground water storage vessel. Minimum of 3000 gallons.
(Tanks greater than 5000 gallons require a separate permit).

Screened suction fitting no more than 6” max to top of fitting from bottom of tank.

Required adapters
- 2-1/2" cup
- 2-1/2" x 4-1/2" Adapter fitting
- 4-1/2" x 6" Adapter
- Fire valve

Example of hydrant and fittings

Concrete pad

10' MAX

Blue reflector

Concrete pad

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YUBA COUNTY FIRE SAFE STANDARDS
EMERGENCY WATER STORAGE LAKE / RESEVOIRE EXAMPLE.

NOTE: ALL ADAPTERS SHALL BE OF BRASS, ALUMINUM, OR STAINLESS STEEL NATIONAL MALE HOSE THREAD. PIPING SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 4”, AND MUST BE SUPPORTED AND BRACED.
Make your home Fire Safe!

FOLLOWING THESE SIMPLE STEPS CAN DRAMATICALLY INCREASE THE CHANCE OF YOUR HOME SURVIVING A WILDFIRE!

"Lean, clean and green zone."
Clearing an area of 30 feet immediately surrounding your home is critical. This area requires the greatest reduction in flammable vegetation. Keep all the plants and grass in this area GREEN.

"Reduced Fuel Zone."
The fuel reduction zone in the remaining 70 feet (or to property line) will depend on the steepness of your property and the vegetation. Spacing between plants improves the chance of stopping a wildfire before it destroys your home.

Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants. The amount of space will depend on how steep the slope is and the size of the plants. Large trees do not have to be cut and removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates a vertical "fire ladder." When clearing vegetation, use care when operating equipment such as lawn mowers. One small spark may start a fire; a string trimmer is much safer. Remove all build-up of needles and leaves from your roof and gutters. Keep tree limbs trimmed at least 10 feet from any chimneys and remove dead limbs that hang over your home or garage. The law also requires a screen over your chimney outlet of not more than 1/2 inch mesh. For more information please go to: www.fire.ca.gov

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CAL-FIRE - YCFSS