



**California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Butte County Fire Department  
Fire Prevention Bureau**

176 Nelson Avenue, Oroville CA 95965  
(530) 538-7888 Office, (530) 538-2105 Fax

**SRA Building Permit # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_**

**Address / Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

Under authority of Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4290 and 4291, Butte County Improvement Standards (BCIS), California Building Code (CBC), and the California Fire Code (CFC), the following items are required by CAL FIRE/Butte County Fire Department for all development located within the State Responsibility Areas of Butte County and are required as part of this permit. These requirements are minimums and may be superseded by Butte County local regulations exceeding these standards.

**This pre inspection is for:**

- Residence
- Addition to existing structure
- Manufactured Home
- Ancillary Building (detached garage, shop, shed, etc.)

**Public Resources Code 4290  
ADMINISTRATION**

**1272.00 Maintenance of Defensible Space Measures**

\_\_\_\_\_ To ensure continued maintenance of properties in conformance with these standards and measures and to assure continued availability, access, and utilization of the defensible space provided for these standards during a wildfire, provisions for annual maintenance shall be included in the development plans and/or shall be provided as a condition of the permit, parcel or map approval.

**DRIVEWAY STANDARDS**

**1273.10 Driveways**

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) All new driveway construction or an extension of an existing driveway shall comply with Public Resources Code 4290 roadway requirements. **Driveways can only serve a single parcel.**

Length of Driveway \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (b) All driveways shall provide a minimum 10 foot traffic lane and unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet along its entire length.

\_\_\_\_\_ (c) 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.

\_\_\_\_\_ (d) A turnaround shall be provided to all building sites on driveways over 300 feet in length, and shall be within 50 feet of the building.

**1273.02 Driveway Surface**

\_\_\_\_\_ The surface shall provide unobstructed access to conventional drive vehicles, including sedans and fire engines. Surfaces should be established in conformance with local ordinances, and be capable of supporting a 40,000 pound load. 4" of class 2 aggregate base shall be required for all driveways, turnouts and turnarounds.

**1273.03 Driveway Grades**

\_\_\_\_\_ The grade for all driveways shall not exceed 15% without being paved. Grades over 15% shall have 4" of class 2 aggregate base and 2" of asphalt concrete. No driveways allowed in excess of 20%.

**1273.04 Driveway Radius**

\_\_\_\_\_ (a) No roadway shall have a horizontal inside radius of curvature of less than 50 feet and additional surface width of 4 feet shall be added to curves of 50-100 feet radius; 2 feet to those from 100-200 feet.

\_\_\_\_(b) The length of vertical curves in roadways, exclusive of gutters, ditches, and drainage structures designed to hold or divert water, shall be not less than 100 feet.

#### **1273.05 Driveway Turnarounds**

\_\_\_\_Turnarounds are required on driveways and dead-end roads as specified in this article. The minimum turning radius for a turnaround shall be 40 feet from the center line of the road. If a hammerhead-T is used, the top of the "T" shall be a minimum of 60 feet in length.

#### **1273.06 Driveway Turnouts**

\_\_\_\_Turnouts shall be a minimum of 10 feet wide and 30 feet long with a minimum 25 foot taper on each end.

#### **1273.07 Driveway Structures**

\_\_\_\_(a) All driveway, road, street, and private lane roadway structures (Bridges, culverts, and other appurtenant structures which supplement the roadway bed or shoulders) shall be constructed to carry at least the maximum load and provide the minimum vertical clearance as required by Vehicle Code Sections 35550, 35750 and 35250. **All bridges shall be certified by a registered Civil Engineer.**

\_\_\_\_(b) Appropriate signing, including but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, one-way road or single lane conditions, shall reflect the capability of each bridge.

\_\_\_\_(c) A bridge with only one traffic lane may be authorized by the local jurisdiction; however, it shall provide for unobstructed visibility from one end to the other and turnouts at both ends.

### **GATE STANDARDS**

#### **1273.11 Gate Entrance**

\_\_\_\_(a) Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider on both ends than the width of the traffic lane(s) serving that gate.

\_\_\_\_(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) Where a one-way road with a single traffic lane provides access to a gated entrance; a 40 foot turning radius shall be used.

### **SIGNING AND BUILDING NUMBERING**

#### **1274.00. Intent**

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 of numbers appearing on street signs for other purposes.

### **ADDRESSING**

#### **1274.08. Addresses for Buildings**

\_\_\_\_All buildings shall be issued an address by the local jurisdiction which conforms to that jurisdiction's overall address system. Accessory buildings will not be required to have a separate address; however, each dwelling unit within a building shall be separately identified.

#### **1274.09. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses**

\_\_\_\_Size of letters, numbers and symbols for addresses shall be a minimum 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

#### **1274.10. 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 along the road. 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.

\_\_\_\_(d) Where a roadway provides access solely to a single commercial or industrial business, the address sign shall be placed at the nearest road intersection providing access to that site.

## FUEL MODIFICATION STANDARDS

### 1276.00 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:

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

### 1276.01 Setback for Structure Defensible Space

- [ ] (a) All parcels 1 acre and larger shall provide a minimum 30 foot setback for buildings and accessory buildings from all property lines and/or the center of the road.

### 1276.02 Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels

\_\_\_\_\_ Disposal, including chipping, 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.

## DEFENSIBLE SPACE GUIDELINES

### Public Resources Code 4291

\_\_\_\_\_ 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. 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) Prior to constructing a new building or structure or rebuilding a building or structure damaged by a fire in such an area, the construction or rebuilding of which requires a building permit, the owner shall obtain a certification from the local building official that the dwelling or structure, as proposed to be built, complies with all applicable state and local building standards, including those described in subdivision (b) of Section 51189 of the Government Code, and shall provide a copy of the certification, upon request, to the insurer providing course of construction insurance coverage for the building or structure. Upon completion of the construction or rebuilding, the owner shall obtain from the local building official, a copy of the final inspection report that demonstrates that the dwelling or structure was constructed in compliance with all applicable state and local building standards, including those described in subdivision (b) of Section 51189 of the Government Code, and shall provide a copy of the report, upon request, to the property insurance carrier that insures the dwelling or structure.

**Public Resources Code 4621 thru 4628 and California Forest Practice Rules Article 7**

\_\_\_\_Prior to any lot clearing activity or cutting of trees, contact the Butte area Forester at (530) 872-6353 to determine the need for a less than 3 acre conversion exemption permit or a timber harvest plan. **If required, a copy of the Timber Harvest Plan or less than 3 acre conversion exemption permit will need to be reviewed at the final inspection.**

- Permit required
- Permit not required

**2007 California Fire Code**

**LPG Tanks**

**3807.3, LPG Tank Clearance of Combustibles**

\_\_\_\_Weeds, grass, brush, trash and other combustible materials shall be kept a minimum of 10 feet from LP-gas tanks or Containers.

**3807.4 Protecting LPG containers from vehicles**

\_\_\_\_Where exposed to vehicular damage due to proximity to alleys, driveways or parking areas, LP-gas containers, regulators and piping shall be protected in accordance with Section 312.

**Fire Department Fees**

\_\_\_\_Fire department fees are collected by the Butte County Development Services Department at the time of application for your building permit. You are assessed two fees (pre-inspection and final inspection). Additional fees will be assessed when the fire department inspector is required to perform additional re-inspections of your property, those additional fees must be paid to Development Services, 7 County Center Drive in Oroville.

**California Building Code Chapter 7A, Materials and Construction Methods for Exterior Wildfire Exposure**

Check with Butte County Department of Development Services –Building Division for specific questions regarding Chapter 7A of the California Building Code and its application to your project. Also, check the websites below for useful information including the full text of Chapter 7A CBC.

To find acceptable Chapter 7A products: Click on NEW PRODUCTS HANDBOOK  
[http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire\\_prevention/fire\\_prevention\\_wildland.php](http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland.php)

All of the Fire Safe Requirements are posted on the Butte County Fire Department website at  
<http://www.buttecounty.net/Fire/Fire%20Prevention/Building%20Information.aspx>

Check the status of your permit online at  
[http://dspermits.buttecounty.net/etrakit/Permit\\_Search.asp](http://dspermits.buttecounty.net/etrakit/Permit_Search.asp)

**Need a fire department inspection? Call our inspection line.  
(530) 538-6226**