

**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.*

**JANUARY 22, 2020**

**COMPLETED OR SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED 2019**

**1. California Vegetation Treatment Program PEIR (CalVTP PEIR)**

**Objective:** *Certify a statewide program environmental impact report for vegetation treatment.*

**Status:** CalVTP approved and the PEIR certified by the Board on December 30, 2019.

**2. Regulations Development**

**Objective:** *Clarify, interpret, or make specific new legislation from 2018 (AB 2911, SB 1260, SB 901) via regulation, as necessary.*

**Status:** *“Safety Element Review, 2019” approved by the Office of Administrative Law on October 16, 2019, effective January 1, 2020. “Subdivision Map Findings, 2019,” “Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone Adoption, 2019,” and “Fire Safety Survey, 2019” regulations submitted to OAL for approval in early 2020.*

**3. Policy Updates**

**Objective:** *Review and update, as necessary, all policies related to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and associated Committees. Examine all general policies, licensing policies, joint policies with other agencies, and other policies as identified and revise policies to reflect current programs and business operations.*

**Status:** Approved by Board at May 2019 meeting.

**ANNUAL ONGOING ITEMS**

**4. 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.

**5. Fire Safe Development Regulations Certification**

**Objective:** *Review and certify local county ordinances submitted for certification under 14 CCR §1270.03.*

**Status:** Ongoing as counties submit ordinances. Potential revisions to ordinance certification process as a result of item 9, Fire Safe Regulations Update.

**6. 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 relative, 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.

**2020 PRIORITIES**

**PRIORITY 1**

**7. Utility Right of Way Exemptions**

**Objective:** *Review existing Forest Practice Rules 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. Expect to notice regulations mid-2020.

**8. Fire Safety Survey**

**Objective:** *With the Office of the State Fire Marshal, 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 that subdivision's fire safety.*

**Status:** Creating forms and survey process with CAL FIRE land use planning program. Surveys to be conducted in earnest in the first quarter of 2020.

**9. 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:** Contract for technical consultants in CAL FIRE business services process.

**10. 14 CCR 1299 Defensible Space Revisions**

**Objective:** *Investigate need for 0-5 foot noncombustible zone around structures in defensible space regulations as requested by public in Annual Call for Regulatory Review.*

**Status:** No progress to date. Staff background research in progress.

## **PRIORITY 2**

### **11. Fire Risk Reduction Communities List**

**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:** No progress to date. Staff augmentation in CAL FIRE personnel process.