ATTACHMENT 2
"Defensible Space Zone 0, 2022"
Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (14 CCR), Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Subchapter 3, Article 3.

§ 1299.01. Purpose. Provisions for Application of These Regulations.

The intent of these regulations is to provide guidance for implementation of Public Resources Code Section 4291 to improve safety for fire fighters defending a home as well as increase the survivability of a "Building or structure" as defined, that exists in grass, brush, and forest covered lands within the designated State Responsibility Area (SRA) of California.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision in this Article, a person is not required under this subchapter to manage fuels on land if that person does not have the legal right to manage fuels, nor is a person required to enter upon or to alter property that is owned by any other person without the consent of the owner of the property.

(b) A greater distance than that required under 14 CCR § 1299.03 may be required in accordance with Section 4291, subdivisions (a)(1)(B) or (C), of the Public Resources Code.

(c) The State Fire Marshal may exempt a structure from the requirements of this Article in accordance with Section 4291, subdivision (c), of the Public Resources Code.

(d) The director may vary the requirements of this Article in accordance with Section 4291, subdivision (c), of the Public Resources Code.
(e) The State Fire Marshal may authorize the removal of vegetation that is not consistent with the standards of this Article in accordance with Section 4291, subdivision (d), of the Public Resources Code.

(f) The requirements for Zone 0 shall take effect:

(1) Upon the date of regulatory effectiveness for new structures and
(2) One year from the date of regulatory effectiveness for existing structures.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Section 4291, Public Resources Code.

§ 1299.02. Definitions.
The following definitions apply to this article:

(a) Building or structure: Anything constructed that is designed or intended for support, enclosure, shelter, or protection of persons, animals, or property, having a permanent roof that is supported by walls or posts that connect to, or rest on the ground. Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy, except Utility and Miscellaneous Group U buildings.

(b) Combustible: Any material, combination of materials, or arrangement of materials in which any portion thereof is susceptible to ignition when exposed to radiant heat, direct flame, or exposure to other burning materials.

(c) Cultivated: Cared for to support plant health and pruned sufficiently to be kept free of dead and dying material.

(ad) Defensible space: The buffer that landowners are required to create on their property between a “Building or structure” and the plants, brush and
trees or other items surrounding the "Building or structure" that could ignite in the event of a fire. The area adjacent to a structure where wildfire prevention or protection practices are implemented to provide defense from an approaching wildfire burning under average weather conditions or to minimize the spread of a structure fire to wildlands or surrounding areas.

(e) Department: The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

(b) Building or structure. Anything constructed that is designed or intended for support, enclosure, shelter, or protection of persons, animals, or property, having a permanent roof that is supported by walls or posts that connect to, or rest on the ground.

(f) Fuel: Any combustible material, including petroleum-based products, cultivated landscape plants, grasses, and weeds, and wildland vegetation.

(g) Herbaceous Ground Cover: A plant with little to no aboveground woody material and a horizontally spreading growth pattern.

(h) Ladder fuels: Vegetative Fuels that can spread fire vertically between or within a fuel type.

(i) Occupancy: The purpose for which a building, or part thereof, is used or intended to be used.

(j) Outbuilding: A building or structure that is less than one hundred-twenty (120) square feet in size and not used for human habitation. For purposes of this Section, an "Outbuilding" is not a "Building or structure" as defined in subsection (ab) above.

(k) Person: A private individual, organization, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation.

(k) Single-Specimen Tree: Any live tree that stands alone in the landscape so as to be clear of buildings, structures, combustible vegetation, or other
trees, and that does not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from the
vegetation to a structure or from a structure to vegetation.

(1) State Responsibility Area (SRA): Has the same meaning as within Section
4102 of the Public Resources Code.

(m) Utility and Miscellaneous Group U building: A structure of an accessory
c CHARACTER or a miscellaneous structure not classified in any specific
occupancy permitted, constructed, equipped, and maintained to conform to the
requirements of Title 24, California Building Standards Code.

(m) Building or structure: Anything constructed that is designed or intended
for support, enclosure, shelter, or protection of persons, animals, or
property, having a permanent roof that is supported by walls or posts that
connect to, or rest on the ground. That which is built or constructed, an
edifice or building of any kind, or any piece of work artificially built up
or composed of parts joined together in some definite manner.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Section 4291, Public Resources Code; Sections 18908 and 18917,
Health and Safety Code.

§ 1299.03. Requirements.
A person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or
structure in a State Responsibility Area which is in, upon, or adjoining a
mountainous area, forest-covered lands, shrub-covered lands, grass-covered
lands, or land that is covered with flammable material shall maintain
defensible space at all times in accordance with these regulations, whenever
flammable vegetative conditions exist. One hundred feet (100 ft.) of
Defensible space clearance shall be maintained in two three distinct zones as follows, but not beyond the property line except as may be required in accordance with Section 4291, subdivision (a)(1)(B): Zone 0 extends five feet (5 ft.) from each structure or, if applicable, an attached deck; Zone 1 extends five to thirty feet (30 ft.) from each structure; Zone 2 extends from thirty feet (30 ft.) to one hundred feet (100 ft.) from each structure but not beyond the property line. The vegetation treatment requirements for Zone 1 are more restrictive than for Zone 2, as provided in (a) and (b) below. The Department’s “Property Inspection Guide, 2000 version, April 2000,” provides additional guidance on vegetation treatment within Zone 1 and Zone 2, but is not mandatory and is not intended as a substitute for these regulations.

(a) The following standards shall apply to Zone 0:

1. All dead or dying: grass; plants; shrubs; trees; branches; leaves; weeds; and tree needles shall be removed from Zone 0.
2. Grass lawn and herbaceous ground covers shall be maintained at no greater than four inches (4 in.) in height; woodchips, bark, combustible mulch, or synthetic lawn shall be removed.
3. Plants with non-woody stems shall be no greater than 18 inches in height, cultivated, and set apart by 1.5 times the height of the plant or 12 inches, whichever is greater, from the structure and each other. Groupings of plants with a total foliage width of no more than one square foot may be treated as a single plant.
4. Shrubs, bushes, or woody-stemmed plants shall be removed unless no greater than 18 inches in height, cultivated, and kept in a non-combustible pot or container.
(5) All live tree branches shall be kept 10 feet above the roof and 10 feet away from chimneys and stovepipe outlets. No live branches or ladder fuels shall be within five feet (5 ft.) of the sides of the structure.

(6) Combustible boards, timbers, planting pots or containers shall be removed.

(7) Planting pots or containers, regardless of material, mounted on the structure or located directly beneath a window shall be removed.

(8) The portions of combustible gates or fences which run perpendicular to the structure shall be removed or replaced with non-combustible material within five feet (5 ft.) of the sides of the structure.

(9) Covered storage outbuildings shall be removed, unless constructed entirely of masonry or according to the standards in Chapter 7A (commencing with Section 701A.1) of Part 2 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations.

(10) Combustible materials located on top of or underneath a deck, balcony, or stairs shall be removed.

(11) Firewood piles shall be removed.

(ab) Zone 1 Requirements:

(1) Remove all dead or dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds, and pine needles from the Zone whether such vegetation occurs in yard areas around the “Building or structure,” on the roof or rain gutters of the “Building or structure,” or any other location within the Zone.
(2) Remove dead tree or shrub branches from Zone 1. that overhang roofs, below or adjacent to windows, or which are adjacent to wall surfaces, and keep all branches a minimum of ten feet (10 ft.) away from chimney and stovepipe outlets.

(32) Relocate exposed firewood piles outside of Zone 1 unless they are completely covered in a fire resistant material.

(4) Remove flammable vegetation and combustible items which are located within Zone 1.

(b) Zone 2 Requirements:

(1) In this zone create horizontal and vertical spacing among shrubs and trees using the “Fuel Separation” method, the “Continuous Tree Canopy” method or a combination of both to achieve defensible space clearance requirements.

(2) The Fuel Separation method shall be implemented as follows:

   (A) Minimum clearance between fuels surrounding each building or structure shall range from 4 feet to 40 feet in all directions, both horizontally and vertically.

   (B) Clearance distances between vegetation shall depend on the slope, vegetation size, vegetation type (brush, grass, trees), and other fuel characteristics (fuel compaction, chemical content etc.). Properties with greater fire hazards, including but not limited to steep slopes and large vegetation, will require greater separation between fuels. For example, properties on steep slopes having large sized vegetation will require greater spacing between individual trees and bushes (see Plant Spacing Guidelines and Case Examples below).

   (C) Groups of vegetation (numerous plants growing together less than 10 feet in total foliage width) may be treated as a single plant. For
example, three individual manzanita plants growing together with a total foliage width of eight feet can be “grouped” and considered as one plant and spaced according to the Plant Spacing Guidelines in this document.

(D) Grass generally should not exceed 4 inches in height. However, homeowners may keep grass and other forbs less than 18 inches in height above the ground when these grasses are isolated from other fuels or where necessary to stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.

(E) Table 1. Plant Spacing Requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trees</th>
<th>Minimum horizontal space from edge of one tree canopy to the edge of the next</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Slope</td>
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<td>0% to 20%</td>
<td>10 feet</td>
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<td>20% to 40%</td>
<td>20 feet</td>
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<td>Greater than 40%</td>
<td>30 feet</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shrubs</th>
<th>Minimum horizontal space between edges of shrub</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slope</td>
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<td></td>
<td>0% to 20%</td>
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<tr>
<th>Vertical Space</th>
<th>Minimum vertical space between top of shrub and bottom of lower tree branches:</th>
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<td>3 times the height of the shrub</td>
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(F) Figure 1. Horizontal clearance between trees to reduce the spread of fire from one fuel to the next. Figure 1 is a visual representation of paragraphs 2(A) and (B).
(G) Figure 2. Horizontal clearance between shrubs to reduce the spread of fire from one fuel to the next. Figure 2 is a visual representation of paragraphs 2(A) and (B).

(H) Figure 3. Horizontal clearance between aerial fuels and surface fuels to remove ladder fuels and reduce the spread of fire from shorter to taller fuels. Figure 3 is a visual representation of paragraphs 2(A) and (B).
(3) To achieve defensible space while retaining a stand of larger trees with a continuous tree canopy, the Continuous Tree Canopy method shall be implemented as follows:

(A) All surface fuels greater than four inches (4 in.) in height shall be removed. Single-specimen trees or other vegetation may be retained provided they are well-spaced, well-pruned, and create a condition that reduces the potential spread of fire.

(B) Lower limbs of trees shall be pruned to at least six (6) feet up to 15 feet (or the lower 1/3 of branches for trees less than 18 feet tall). Properties with greater fire hazards, such as steeper slopes or more severe fire danger, will require pruning heights in the upper end of this range.

(C) Figure 5. Defensible space retaining continuous trees. Figure 5 is a visual representation of paragraphs 3(A) and (B).

(24) In both the Fuel Separation and Continuous Tree Canopy methods the following standards apply:

(A) Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or...
needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be maintained permitted to a maximum depth of three inches (3 in.).

(B) Maintain Cut annual grasses and forbs down to a maximum height of four inches (4 in.).

(C) All exposed wood piles must have a minimum of ten feet (10 ft.) of clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions.

c) For both Zones 1 and 2:

(1) “Outbuildings” and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have the following minimum clearance: ten feet (10 ft.) of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional ten feet (10 ft.) around their exterior.

(2) Protect water quality. Do not clear vegetation to bare mineral soil and avoid the use of heavy equipment in and around streams and seasonal drainages. Vegetation removal can cause soil erosion, especially on steep slopes. Keep soil disturbance to a minimum on steep slopes.

d) This Article shall not apply to Single-Specimen Trees or other vegetation that are 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 structure or from a structure to other nearby vegetation or to interrupt the advance of embers toward a structure.

e) All dead or dying: grass; plants; shrubs; trees; branches; leaves; weeds; and tree needles shall be removed from the roof and rain gutters of the structure.
§ 1299.04. Additional Clearance.

(a) An insurance company that insures an occupied “Building or structure” may require additional clearance beyond that required under § 1299.03 only if a fire expert designated by the Director provides findings that the clearing is necessary.

(b) Within the intent of the regulations, a fire expert designated by the Director may require more than one hundred feet (100 ft.) of defensible space. A fire expert cannot require additional defensible space clearance beyond the property line.

(c) Further guidance to property owners on implementation of this regulation is contained in the “General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space” and the “Property Inspection Guide,” both of which are referenced elsewhere in this regulation.

1299.06. Alternative Methods.

The provisions of these regulations are not intended to exclude alternative methods not specifically prescribed by these regulations. A fire expert designated by the Director may approve alternative practices which provide for the same practical effects as those stated in these regulations.
Note: Authority cited: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.