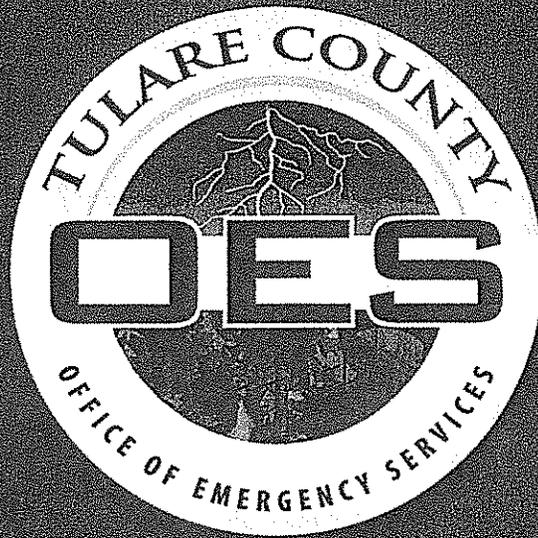


3. Discussion of Special Topics.

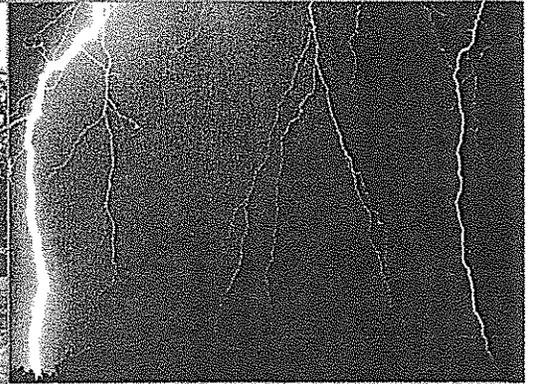
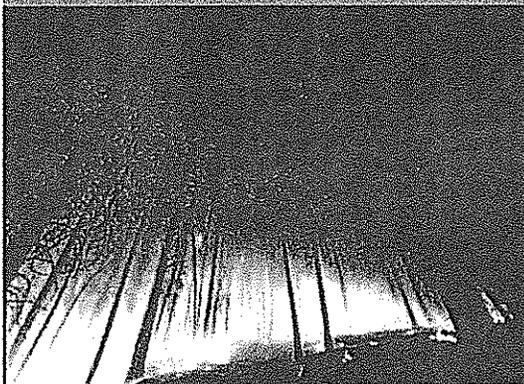
(b) Emergency Preparedness and Access (County of Tulare OES).

1. Tulare County Disaster Preparedness Guide
(2011).



2011 Tulare County DISASTER PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

A guide to help prepare you in the event of a disaster





Jean Rousseau,
Emergency Services Director
Kevin Marks,
Emergency Services Coordinator
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Tulare County
Health & Human
Services Agency

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3-4
AlertTC	5
AlertTC Registration Form	6
Disaster Supplies Kit	7
HAZARD PREPAREDNESS	
Wildfire	8-9
Severe Weather & Storm	10-11
Influenza	11-12
Earthquake	13
Dam	14-15
Hazardous Material	16
Pesticides	17
PERSONAL AND HOME PREPAREDNESS	
Special Population	18-19
Pet Safety	20
Family Emergency Plan	21
Home Safety	22
Work Safety	23
School Safety	24
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Evacuation Guidelines	25
Utilities	26
Volunteer Opportunities	27
Disaster Healthcare Volunteers	28
411 Resource Directory	29-31

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County of Tulare



Jean M. Rousseau
County Administrative Officer

Kristin Bennet, *Assistant
County Administrative Officer*

Dear Friends:

In my capacity as Director of Emergency Services for Tulare County, I am pleased to distribute the 2011 Tulare County Disaster Preparedness Guide. Through the partnership of the Office of Emergency Services (OES), Public Health Emergency Preparedness Department, Environmental Services, Tulare County Sheriff's Department, and the Tulare County Fire Department, we have prepared a vital collection of information to assist you and your loved ones should a disaster take place in Tulare County.

Please review this guide carefully with the members of your household. There are important differences among potential emergencies that will impact the decisions you make and the actions you take. The goal of the OES is to prepare Tulare County and its residents for natural or man-made disasters. Families and individuals who prepare for these possible disasters can reduce their fear and anxiety by knowing what to do and who to contact in the event of an emergency.

In addition to reading this guide with your household, we encourage you to help prepare your community. It takes all members of the County, the government, and the State to mitigate the hazards that pose disaster. On behalf of myself and partnering departments that help put this guide together, I thank you for your ongoing support of safety for Tulare County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean M. Rousseau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jean M. Rousseau
County Administrative Officer
County of Tulare

COUNTY OF TULARE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



MIKE ENNIS
District Five

Dear Friends,

As Chairman of the Tulare County Board of Supervisors, I urge all Tulare County citizens to read this very important Disaster Guide closely. On behalf of myself and my colleagues, I sincerely hope that you find this guide useful in preparing yourself and your family in the event of a local or regional disaster.

The County of Tulare continues to prepare for disasters and encourages local residents to focus on individual and household preparedness. This Disaster Guide presents an easy-to-read plan that each of us can follow.

The public's safety is a top priority and, as such, it is our responsibility to prepare our residents for any disasters that may strike, including earthquakes, flooding, dam failures, wildfires, pandemic flu outbreaks, and others.

Preparedness begins at home. Let's get to work to make Tulare County a safer place to live, work and play.

As the Red Cross reminds us:

- Get a Kit
- Make a Plan
- Be Informed

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Mike Ennis".

Mike Ennis, Chairman
Tulare County Board of Supervisors



AlertTC is a mass notification system designed to keep Tulare County residents and businesses informed of emergencies. By registering with AlertTC, time-sensitive voice messages from the County or City where you live or work may be sent to your home, cell or business phone. Text messages may also be sent to cell phones, email accounts and hearing impaired receiving devices.

What Is AlertTC?

AlertTC is Tulare County's public mass notification system designed to keep those who live or work in Tulare County informed of important information during emergency events. The system is sponsored and led by the County of Tulare, in partnership with all Tulare County cities.

Public mass notification systems have become a critical component of emergency preparation and response.

- Residents prepare to be notified of emergencies by providing their landline phones, cell phones and email addresses.
- Public safety officials respond by using the system to rapidly send out messages when there is a perceived, upcoming or imminent situation that may require community action.

Based on the severity of the event, AlertTC may be used to contact residents by one or all of the following methods: home phone, work phone, cell phone, email, text message. The legal authority (County or City) responsible for announcing emergency notifications depends on the nature and scale of the incident. With the AlertTC partnership between the County and Cities, residents and businesses only need to provide their contact information once to receive emergency messages from either the County or City in which they live or work.

How Does AlertTC Work?

- AlertTC sends large volumes of messages through phone, email and text communication channels.
- When there is an emergency event requiring community action, authorized officials record a voice, email or text message that is then delivered quickly to individuals affected by the event.
- Since there are many instances when the public may not be at home to receive an emergency message, public safety officials feel it is critical that all residents and businesses provide additional contact channels by voluntarily registering cell phone numbers, email addresses and text numbers through the AlertTC web portal.

Example: A wildfire event triggers an evacuation notice.

- Officials will use the system to keep affected communities informed of event information as necessary.

Example: A wildfire evacuation notice is cancelled.

- AlertTC uses the 9-1-1 emergency database and voluntary registration data to contact Tulare County households to inform them that the evacuation is no longer necessary.

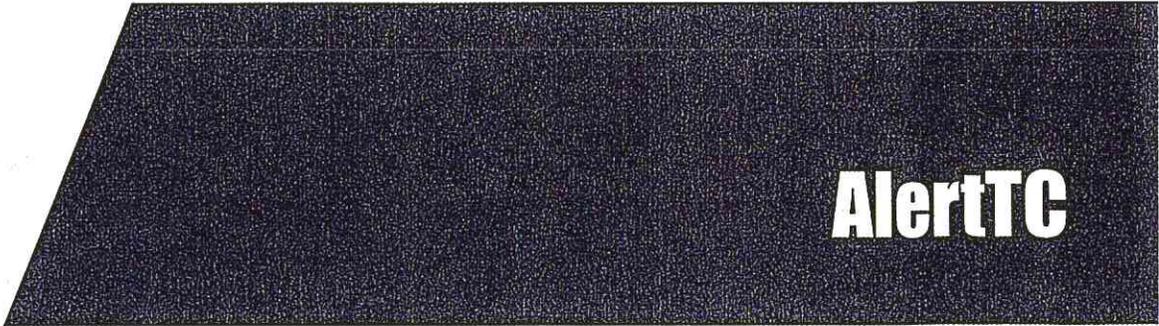
How Do I Register for AlertTC?

To receive important messages from AlertTC, register your contact information online by visiting www.alerttc.com, or call the Tulare County Health & Human Services Information Line at (800) 834-7121 for questions, or to have a form mailed to you.

How Do I Know My Personal Information Is Safe?

AlertTC is a service powered by Twenty First Century Communications (TFCC). Tulare County and TFCC take citizen security and privacy concerns seriously. Citizen provided contact information transmitted through the web-portal is sent over a secure connection. Policy and contract agreements have been put into practice that prohibit AlertTC contact information from being shared, sold, traded, leased or loaned to outside parties.

Register at
www.alerttc.com



AlertTC

REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and return by mail to the County of Tulare at the address provided above. (Fields in * bold are required.)

County of Tulare
Attention: AlertTC Program
5957 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277



Register a Residence

*First Name: _____ *Last Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City: _____ *State: _____ *Zip Code: _____

Alternate Address: _____

Primary Email Address: _____ Secondary Email Address: _____

*Primary Phone #: _____ If this is a cell #, who is the provider? _____

Alternate Phone #1: _____ If this is a cell #, who is the provider? _____

Alternate Phone #2: _____ If this is a cell #, who is the provider? _____

Register a Business

*Business Name: _____

*Contact First Name: _____ *Last Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City: _____ *State: _____ *Zip Code: _____

Alternate Address: _____

Primary Email Address: _____ Secondary Email Address: _____

*Primary Phone #: _____ If this is a cell #, who is the provider? _____

Alternate Phone #1: _____ If this is a cell #, who is the provider? _____

Alternate Phone #2: _____ If this is a cell #, who is the provider? _____



DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT

Disaster Supplies Kit

A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items you would need to be comfortable during and after a disaster. These items should be stored in a portable container(s) as close as possible to the exit door. You may want to carry a smaller version of this kit in your car as well.

Basic Items:

- Water, one gallon per person, per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation.
- Food that will not spoil and requires no cooking, such as canned food, dry cereals, and snacks. Also include a manual can opener and eating utensils.
- Portable, battery-powered or wind-up radio and extra batteries.
- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- First aid kit.
- Whistle to signal for help.
- Duct tape, scissors, and plastic sheeting to seal openings in your shelter-in-place room.
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation.
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities.

Additional Items To Consider Adding To Your Kit:

- Special needs items, such as at least 7-days' worth of prescription medications, extra eyeglasses, contact lenses, contact lens solution, and hearing aid batteries.
- Personal hygiene items, such as shampoo, toothpaste, and a toothbrush.
- Infant formula and diapers.
- Pet food and extra water for your pet.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper - When diluted one part bleach to nine parts water, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. To sanitize drinking water, dilute 16 drops of bleach to a gallon of water.
- Copies of your prescriptions, immunization records, insurance policies and identification cards. Store them in a waterproof container.
- Cash or traveler's checks and change.
- A fire extinguisher (ABC type).
- Matches in a waterproof container.
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket.
- Complete change of clothing, including a long-sleeve shirt, pants and sturdy shoes.
- Books, games, puzzles or other activities for children.
- Tools, a map of the local area, and any other items to meet your unique needs.



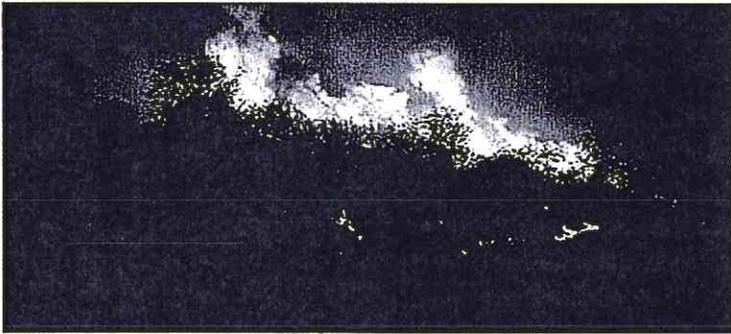


WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

PREPARE FOR A WILDFIRE

Know What Your Fire Risk Is

To prepare yourself and your family, contact your local fire department to acquaint yourself and your family with the history of wildfire in your area. Long periods without rain increase the risk of wildfire.



Deep Fire Incident, August 12-18, 2004

Protect Your Home

- Create a defensible space at least 100 feet around your house.
- Make sure your house number is clearly visible from the roadside. Numbers should not be less than 4" tall, preferably with reflective coloring on a non-glossy, green background.
- Ensure that any private roads leading to your property are clearly marked.
- Remove debris from under porches and decks.
- Enclose eaves and overhangs to reduce rising heat.
- Cover house vents with wire mesh.
- Install spark arrestors in chimneys and stovepipes.
- Use fire resistant siding.
- Choose safety glass for windows and sliding glass doors.
- Prepare water storage; develop an external water supply such as a small pond, well or pool.

If you see a wildfire, call 9-1-1. Don't assume that someone else has already called. Describe the location

of the fire, speak slowly and clearly, and answer any questions asked by the dispatcher.

Evacuation Preparation:

Before The Fire Approaches Your Home

- Keep roadways clear to allow fire crews to get to the location needed.
- Close the garage door, leave it unlocked, and disconnect the automatic garage door opener in the case of power failure.
- Back your car into your garage heading out, windows closed and keys in the ignition in case you have to evacuate.
- Place important documents such as photo albums, and other valuables inside your car in case you have to evacuate.
- Keep a flashlight and portable radio with you at all times and stay tuned to your local news station.
- Evacuate your pets and all family members. Anyone with medical or physical limitations, the young and the elderly, should be evacuated early.
- Wear protective clothing: sturdy shoes, cotton or wool clothing, long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, gloves, and a handkerchief to protect your face.
- Remove combustibles: clear away items that will burn from around the house, including wood piles, lawn furniture, propane tanks, tarp coverings, etc. Move them outside of your defensible space.
- Close/protect openings: close outside attic, eaves and basement vents, windows, doors, pet doors, etc. Remove flammable drapes and curtains. Close all shutters, blinds or heavy non-combustible window coverings to reduce radiant heat.
- Close inside doors and open fireplace damper.
- Place a ladder against the house on the side opposite the approaching fire in clear view for access to the roof.
- Shut off petroleum gas or natural gas valves.



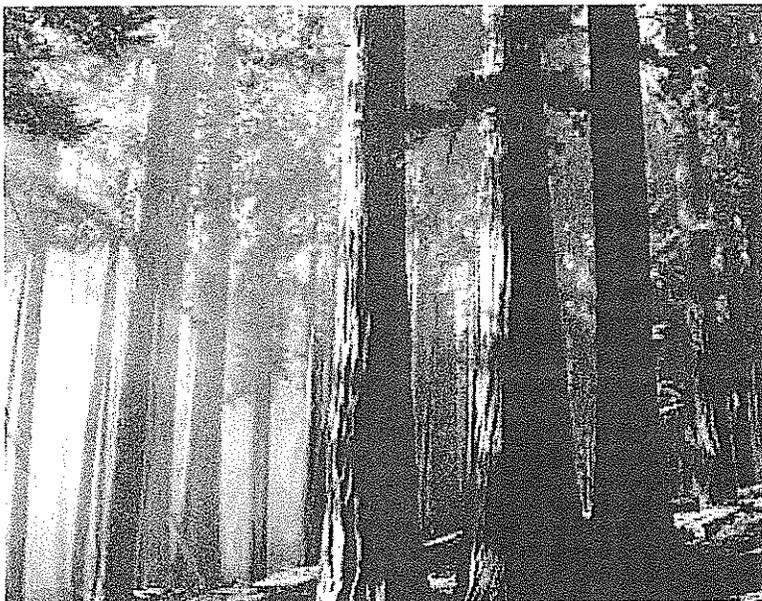
WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

Preparing To Leave

- Lights: Turn on outside lights and leave a light on in every room to make the house more visible in heavy smoke.

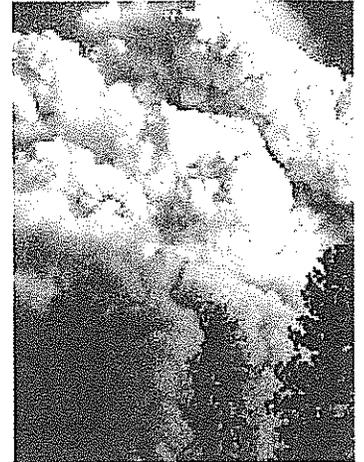
Leaving

- You may be tempted to stay and protect your property from approaching fire. It is not worth the risk of injury or death.
- Choose a route away from fire hazards. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of fire and smoke.
- Notify someone when you have left and where you are going.
- If you become trapped by fire while evacuating in your car, park in an area clear of vegetation, close all vehicle windows and vents, cover yourself with a blanket or jacket and lie on the floor.
- If you are trapped by fire while evacuating on foot, select an area clear of vegetation or lie face down in a ditch.



Sheltering-in-Place

- Stay inside your house away from outside walls.
- Keep all windows and doors closed, but leave them unlocked.
- Keep your family together and remain calm. Remember, if it gets hot in the house, it is four to five times hotter and more dangerous outside.



Returning Home

- Check the exterior and roof immediately, extinguish all sparks and embers. If you must climb on the roof, use caution.
- Check inside the attic for hidden burning embers.
- Check your yard for burning woodpiles, trees, fence posts or other material.

When re-entry is permitted following an evacuation, it is typically limited to residents of the area. In order to gain re-entry you must provide law enforcement with proof of residency for security purposes. Proof of residency may be in the form of a government issued I.D. such as a driver's license, utility bill or other documentation indicating the resident's name and address.

To receive timely alerts of Natural Disasters/ Emergencies in your area, please register for AlertTC (Registration instructions/details on page five).



SEVERE WEATHER AND STORM PREPAREDNESS

Tulare County is susceptible to dangerous weather conditions. These guidelines can help protect you from thunderstorms, flooding, extreme heat, extreme cold and dense fog.

Thunderstorms And Lightning

All thunderstorms are dangerous. Every thunderstorm produces lightning. Remember the 30/30 lightning safety rule: Go indoors if, after seeing lightning, you cannot count to 30 before hearing thunder. Stay indoors for 30 minutes after hearing the last clap of thunder.

- Postpone outdoor activities and get inside a home, building, or hardtop automobile.
- Avoid showering or bathing, as plumbing and bathroom fixtures can conduct electricity.
- Use a corded telephone only for emergencies. Cordless and cellular telephones are safe to use.
- Unplug appliances and other electrical items such as computers and turn off air conditioners.

Dense Fog

Dense fog is an extreme hazard to those who must travel through it. If you can't postpone your trip until dense fog lifts—usually by late morning or the afternoon—follow these tips:

- Drive with lights on LOW beam. High beams will reflect off the fog, creating a "white wall" effect.
- Reduce your speed and watch your speedometer. Fog creates a visual illusion of slow motion when you may actually be speeding.
- If your car becomes disabled or you can't continue, pull off to the shoulder and turn on hazard lights. Move away from your vehicle and the road to avoid injury.

Extreme Heat

Cooling centers in Tulare County will be open on extremely hot days, when the temperature is forecasted by the National Weather Service. An official announcement will be made detailing the specific times and locations of cooling centers when they open.

Follow these simple measures to stay safe in the summer heat:

- Stay indoors as much as possible and limit exposure to the sun.
- Drink plenty of water, even if you do not feel thirsty. Persons who are on fluid-restricted diets, or have a problem with fluid retention, should consult a doctor before increasing liquid intake.
- Slow down your pace and avoid heavy activity. If heavy activity cannot be avoided, perform this activity between the hours of 4 a.m. and 7 a.m. (the coolest part of the day).
- Use electric fans; they do not cool the air, but they help sweat evaporate, which cools your body.
- Protect your face and head by wearing a wide brimmed hat and wearing loose fitting, lightweight, light colored clothes that cover as much skin as possible.
- Check on family, friends, and neighbors who spend much of their time alone and do not have air conditioning.
- Never leave children or pets alone in closed vehicles.

Common symptoms of heat related conditions include:

Profuse sweating, weakness, dizziness, headache, dim or blurred vision, cold damp skin, extreme tiredness, nausea, hot dry skin.

If you need emergency medical attention, call your physician or 9-1-1 immediately.

For information on cooling centers, call Tulare County Office of Emergency Services Information Line at (888) 346-1033 or visit oes.tularehhsa.org.



SEVERE WEATHER AND STORM PREPAREDNESS

Extreme Cold And Winter Storms

Extreme temperatures often accompany a winter storm. You may have to cope with power failures, icy roads and inadequate heating in your home. Warming centers in Tulare County will be opened on extremely cold days, when the temperature is forecasted by the National Weather Services.

- Prepare for possible isolation in your home by having sufficient heating fuel. Store a good supply of dry, seasoned wood if there is a fireplace or woodburning stove in your home.
- Insulate pipes and allow faucets to drip a little during cold weather to avoid freezing.
- If the pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold (or where the cold was most likely to penetrate).
- Learn how to shut off water valves (in case a pipe bursts).
- Know ahead of time what to do to help elderly or disabled friends, neighbors or employees.
- Prepare your car by checking or having a mechanic perform a winter season check. Make sure your car has a winter storm emergency kit, including blankets, snacks and medications in case you are temporarily stranded.
- Listen to your radio, television, NOAA Weather Radio, or an AlertTC notification for emergency information.



Tulare County Orange Grove Flood

Flooding

- Floods and flash floods can occur in all 50 states.
- Floods are one of the most common hazards in Tulare County. You should be aware of flood hazards in your community.
- Hurricanes, winter storms and snowmelt are common, but often overlooked, causes of flooding.
- New land development can increase flood risk, especially if the construction changes natural runoff paths.

What To Do In A Flood

- If a flash flood is possible, move immediately to higher ground.
- Be aware of streams, drainage channels, canyons, and other areas known to flood suddenly.
- Do not drive into flooded areas. Six inches of water will reach the bottom of most passenger cars, causing loss of control and possible stalling. A car can easily be carried away by just a foot of floodwater.
- Turn off utilities at the main switches or valves if instructed to do so. Disconnect electrical appliances. Do not touch electrical equipment if you are wet or standing in water.
- Avoid floodwaters; water may be contaminated by chemicals or sewage or may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines.
- Listen for news reports to learn whether the community's water supply is safe to drink.
- If water is reported to be unsafe, fill the bathtub with water in case water becomes contaminated or services are cut off.

Where Can I Pick Up Sand Bags?

Check with your local county or city fire station. To look up the location and phone number of the closest county fire station, go to: www.co.tulare.ca.us/government/fire/battalion.asp or reference the 411 Directory in the back of this guide.



INFLUENZA

Pandemic Flu

What You Should Know

Pandemic influenza (pandemic flu) is a worldwide outbreak of a new flu virus for which there is little or no immunity (protection) in the human population. Scientists and health professionals are concerned that the current virus in birds (avian flu) may develop into the next human pandemic. Pandemic flu can spread easily from person-to-person, causing serious illness and death. When new pandemic flu spreads, it will create a public health emergency. Pandemic flu will last longer, make more people seriously ill, and may cause more deaths than any other health crisis in our time. It is very important to plan ahead. Federal, State and local governments are taking steps to better prepare for and respond to a pandemic, but individuals also need to take action to be better prepared.

What You Can Do

Stay healthy by eating a balanced diet, exercising daily, getting enough rest and drinking fluids. Get your seasonal flu shot. Stay informed by keeping up-to-date on a possible pandemic by listening to radio and television, reading news stories and checking out the Internet.

These common-sense steps can help stop the spread of influenza germs:

- Wash hands frequently using soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues, or cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Put used tissues in the trash and then wash your hands.
- If you become ill, stay home and away from others as much as possible.



Mass Vaccination Exercise, Porterville

- Don't send children who are ill to school.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill.

Prevent The Spread Of Disease

- If you become ill with influenza symptoms you should stay home and avoid contact with other people, except to seek medical care. Most people are able to recover at home from flu without medical care.
- CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. Continue to cover coughs and sneezes and wash hands even after you return to work. It is important to know that even if you don't have a fever, you may have flu and be contagious if you get flu symptoms.
- Designate a room only for the ill person so they are separated from other household members. The room should have a door that can be closed. The ill person should wear a protective mask when anyone is in the same room or car. People in the room or car with the ill person should also wear a protective mask. Disposable gloves should be used when cleaning or disinfecting any room or area where the sick person has been.
- Everyone in the household should wash their hands with soap between contact with others, before preparing food and before eating. Wash hands after touching tissues or potentially contaminated surfaces.
- Keep the household clean on a daily basis by cleaning surfaces and commonly shared items like microwaves, refrigerator handles, phones, remote controls, doorknobs, handles, toilet seats and handles, faucets, light switches and toys. Use a labeled disinfectant or chlorine bleach mixture. Store bought chlorine bleach can be used as a disinfectant by mixing 1/4 cup chlorine bleach with one gallon of cool water.
- Keep supplies of masks, gloves, soap, tissues, paper towels and cleaning products on hand.

Information obtained from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention and www.flu.gov.



EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

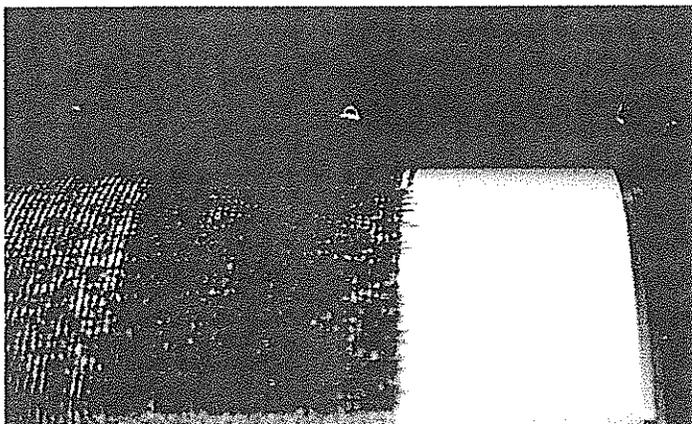
Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently and without warning. Identifying potential hazards ahead of time and advance planning can reduce the dangers of injury or loss of life from an earthquake.

Check For Hazards In The Home

- Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations. Get expert advice if there are signs of structural defects.
- Fasten shelves securely to walls.
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items such as bottled foods, glass, and dishes in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Hang heavy items such as pictures and mirrors away from beds, couches, and anywhere people sit or sleep.
- Brace overhead light fixtures.

These are potential fire risks:

- Repair defective electrical wiring and leaky gas connections.
- Secure a water heater by strapping it to the wall studs and bolting it to the floor.
- Store weed killers, pesticides, and flammable products securely in closed cabinets with latches and on bottom shelves.



During An Earthquake

Indoors:

- Place yourself under sturdy furniture such as a heavy desk or table.
- Stand against an inside wall.
- Stand away from where glass could shatter around windows, mirrors, pictures, or where heavy bookcases or other heavy furniture could fall.

Outdoors:

- In the open, stay away from buildings, trees, telephone and electrical lines, overpasses or elevated expressways that could fall.
- In the mountains, be alert for falling rock or debris.
- At the beach, move quickly to higher ground and make plans to move inland.

Develop An Emergency Communication Plan

- In case family members are separated from one another during an earthquake (a real possibility during the day when adults are at work and children are at school), develop a plan for reuniting after the disaster.
- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact". After a disaster, it is often easier to reunite with separated family members by coordinating with the "family contact". Make sure everyone in the family knows the name, address, and phone number of the "family contact".

Develop An Emergency Communication Plan

"The Great California ShakeOut" is an annual earthquake preparedness drill designed to educate the public about how to protect themselves during a large earthquake and how to get prepared.

Tulare County encourages all residents to participate in "The Great California ShakeOut" every year. For more information, visit www.shakeout.org.



LAKE KAWEAH / LAKE SUCCESS DAM PREPAREDNESS

Lake Kaweah And Lake Success: Should The Dams Fail

There are two major dams that would flood portions of Tulare County in the event of their failure, Lake Success dam on the Tule River and Terminus dam on the Kaweah River. Both are owned and operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A severe storm, earthquake, or erosion of the dam's foundation may cause collapse or structural failure. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are continually looking at ways to preserve the dams' integrity, and reduce the serious risks that they pose to the surrounding areas. Tulare County's Office of Emergency Services is working with both State and Federal agencies to prepare a plan to quickly and efficiently evacuate all residents and visitors from the corresponding flood zones when disaster is imminent. Most importantly, there are very important actions you can take now to prepare for if you are told to evacuate.

Prepare Now

- Know your risk. Do you live downstream from a dam?
- Prepare a "Disaster Supplies Kit." Refer to page 22 for a list of supplies to include in your kit.
- Know your evacuation route and get out of harm's way.
- Select a location on high ground that you can evacuate to quickly.
- Make sure that you can evacuate to this location without travelling into harm's way.

Always keep your vehicle's fuel tank at least half full. If evacuation occurs, take only one vehicle to help prevent crowding the streets and highways in the area during the evacuation.

What To Do If The Ground Shakes And The Dam Fails

- Act immediately! Protect yourself during earthquake shaking—drop, cover, and hold on. See further earthquake safety instructions on page 6
- In the event of an earthquake that causes dam failure, the key to survival will be to listen for



Lake Kaweah

evacuation instructions. These instructions may come by telephone, speakers mounted on fire and police vehicles, AlertTC notifications, over television and radio channels, or by law enforcement officers, firefighters, and volunteers coming directly to your home or business.

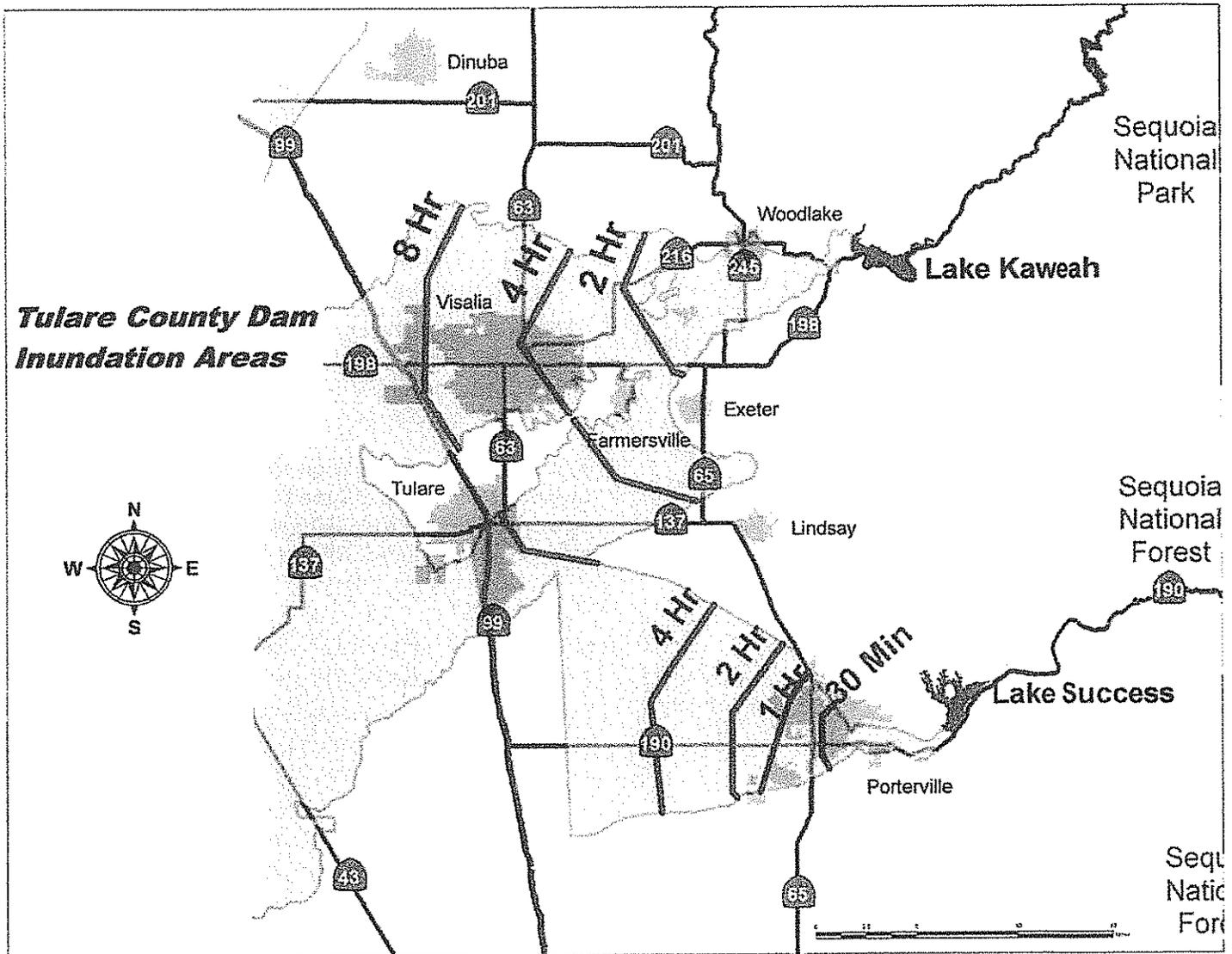
- Evacuate by following your evacuation route and evacuate to high ground.

Follow These Simple Tips

- Listen to local radio and television reports for evacuation information.
- Secure your home by closing and locking windows and doors, and unplugging or turning off appliances and electrical devices.
- Use your telephone only to report dangerous situations or to request emergency help.
- If you are ill or cannot move by yourself, dial 9-1-1.
- Take your "Disaster Supplies Kit," car and house keys, cell phone, emergency contact information of family and friends and other essential items.
- Use only one vehicle when evacuating to help prevent traffic problems.
- If you do not own a vehicle, move to assembly or pick-up points announced by local officials.



DAM PREPAREDNESS



Please note, this map contains the most current information available and does not incorporate data from pending studies.

This map details the peak flood depths of affected areas in a worst-case scenario involving dam failure with the lakes full.

For detailed maps go to Tulare County's web site at www.co.tulare.ca.us/government/rma/gis/needmap.asp



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous materials can be found almost everywhere. We use them to clean our homes, to grow crops and they are readily found in hospitals and service stations. Hazardous materials include biological, chemical and radiological contaminants, which may be released accidentally or intentionally into the environment, putting you and your family at risk.

One of the instructions you may be given in an emergency where hazardous materials may have been released into the atmosphere, is to shelter-in-place. This is a precaution aimed to keep you safe while remaining indoors (this is not the same thing as going to a shelter in case of a storm.) Shelter-in-place means selecting a small, interior room, with no or few windows, and taking refuge there. It does not mean sealing off your entire home or office building. Monitor TV or radio news reports for information or official instructions as they become available. If you are told to shelter-in-place, follow the instructions provided here.

How To Shelter-In-Place

At Home:

- Bring your family and pets inside, lock doors and close all windows, air vents and fireplace dampers.
- If you are told there is danger of explosion, close the window shades, blinds, or curtains.
- Turn off all fans, heating and air conditioning systems.
- Get your family disaster supplies kit, including food and water for any pets and make sure the radio is working.
- Go to an interior room without windows or as few windows as possible that is above ground level. In the case of a chemical threat, an above-ground location is preferable because some chemicals are heavier than air, and may seep into basements even if the windows are closed.
- It is ideal to have a hard-wired telephone in the

room you select. Call your emergency contact and have the phone available if you need to report a life-threatening condition. Cellular telephone equipment may be overwhelmed or damaged during an emergency.

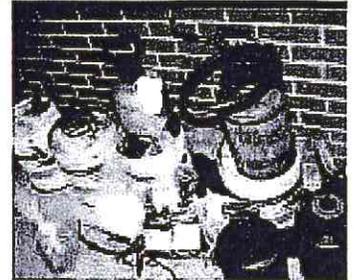
- Use duct tape and plastic sheeting (heavier than food wrap) to seal all cracks around the door and any vents into the room.
- Keep listening to your radio or television until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Local officials may call for evacuation in specific areas at greatest risk in your community.

Remember that instructions to shelter-in-place are usually provided for durations of a few hours, not days or weeks. There is little danger that the room in which you are taking shelter will run out of oxygen.

In Your Vehicle:

If you are driving a vehicle and hear advice to "shelter-in-place" on the radio, take these steps:

- If you are very close to home, your office, or a public building, go there immediately and go inside and follow all shelter-in-place procedures.
- If you are unable to get to a home or building quickly and safely, then pull over to the side of the road. Stop your vehicle in the safest place possible.
- Turn off the engine, and close all windows.
- If possible, close all heating/air conditioning vents and seal with duct tape.
- Listen to the radio regularly for updated advice and instructions.
- Stay where you are until you are told it is safe to get back on the road. Be aware that some roads may be closed or traffic detoured. Follow the directions of law enforcement officials.





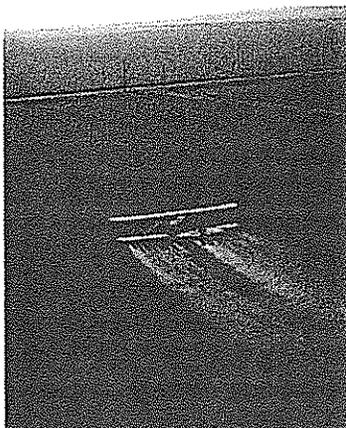
PESTICIDES

What To Do When Pesticide Accidents Happen

Despite what many of us might think, no substance is inherently safe or unsafe. Any substance—even the most innocuous—can be harmful if you are exposed to too much of it. Pesticides are designed to be toxic to the target pest while being safe to the people that use these chemicals. However, accidents and misuse occur, and they can cause illness or injury.

Recognizing Pesticide Poisoning

Like other chemicals, pesticides may produce injury externally or internally. Pesticides can cause contact-associated skin irritation or allergies. Symptoms of irritation include redness, itching, or pimples. Allergic skin reactions may produce redness, swelling, or blistering. The mucous membranes of the eyes, nose, mouth, and throat are also quite sensitive to chemicals. Stinging and swelling can occur. Shortness of breath, excessive saliva and rapid breathing may occur because of lung injury. Other symptoms to watch for include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, or dizziness.



First Aid For Pesticide Poisoning

Appropriate first aid treatment depends on which pesticides were used. Here are some tips that may precede but should not substitute medical advice or treatment:

- **Poison on skin**
Rinse the area with running water for 10 to 15 minutes. In the meantime, call a physician or a poison control center for further treatment advice. Later, discard contaminated clothing or wash it thoroughly, separate from your other laundry.

- **Poison in eye**
Open eyelid and rinse the eye slowly and gently with water. Continue eye irrigation for 10 to 15 minutes. Call a physician or a poison control center for further advice.
- **Inhaled poison**
Take the victim to fresh air. Call a physician or a poison control center for advice. If unconscious, give artificial respiration and call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.
- **Swallowed poison**
Locate and identify the poison (s) swallowed and call a physician or a poison control center for further treatment advice.

After you have administered first aid, you should get medical help immediately. If someone develops symptoms after using or being around pesticides, call the California Poison Control Center System toll-free (800) 876-4766 from anywhere in California. You will be provided with information on what to do. If possible, have the pesticide container with you when you call. Medical personnel will ask what chemical you have been exposed to. Overexposure to certain chemicals causes characteristic symptoms and the doctor needs to know what the chemical is before prescribing treatment. If you are advised to seek treatment at an emergency room or physician's office, you should bring the product label to show your doctor.

To avoid problems, you should minimize your exposure when mixing and applying pesticides by wearing gloves and other protective clothing. Be careful and always follow the label instructions for mixing and application.

Keep Information Handy

By calling (800) 876-4766 from anywhere in California, you can reach the California Poison Control System. Write it on the front of your telephone book or somewhere close to the phone so you have it ready in case of emergency.



SPECIAL POPULATION PREPAREDNESS

Disasters can be more difficult for people with special needs who face mobility, health or age-related challenges. If you, or someone you know, has special needs, then additional considerations need to be made when preparing for an emergency. Having a plan in place will help alleviate anxiety, confusion and feelings of vulnerability in the event of an emergency.

Develop A Personal Support Network

A personal support network can consist of friends, roommates, family members, relatives, personal attendants, co-workers or neighbors who will check in with you in an emergency to ensure you are okay, and provide assistance if needed.

- Choose at least three people for each location where you spend a lot of time, such as your home, gym, workplace, church or volunteer site.
- Choose people who know your capabilities and needs and who will be able to offer help within minutes.

Work Together To Prepare For A Disaster

- Discuss with network members what your personal needs would be and how they can help you in an emergency.
- Arrange for more than one person to check on you immediately after an emergency in case one of them is unable to reach you if disaster strikes.
- Make sure your network knows how to contact you anytime critical information becomes available.
- Teach network members how to operate any special equipment you use. It's a good idea to label your equipment and include instructions.
- If you feel comfortable, give network members the keys they would need to get into your home, car or any other place in order to find you in an emergency.
- Make sure your network knows where you keep your disaster supplies kit.

- Practice your plan. Based on your knowledge of the disasters in your area, simulate any problems or obstacles you may experience. Have the members of your network practice how to help you, and familiarize them with any adaptive equipment you may need.

Provide Network Members With Important Information

- Emergency and medical information lists
- Lists of any special equipment and disability-related supplies
- Personal assessment
- Evacuation plans
- Personal disaster plan

Additional Considerations

• Keep At Least A Seven-Day Supply Of Essential Medications

Work with your doctor to get extra supplies of medications and extra copies of prescriptions. Be sure to ask about the shelf life of your medications and what temperature they should be stored at to ensure their effectiveness.

• Medical Alert System

Consider getting a medical alert system that will allow you to call for help if you are immobilized in an emergency. Most require a working phone line, so have a back-up plan (e.g. cell phone or pager) if the regular landlines are disrupted.





SPECIAL POPULATION PREPAREDNESS

- **Personal Care Attendant**

Disasters can be more difficult if you use a personal care attendant obtained from an agency. Check to see if the agency has special provisions for emergencies, such as providing services at another location should an evacuation be ordered.

- **Communicating With Emergency Personnel**

If you have communication difficulties, prepare in advance for how you will communicate with emergency personnel. Think about what they might need to know about you and be prepared to say it briefly or keep a written copy with you.

- **Backup Power Supply**

Learn what to do in case of power outages and personal injuries. Know how to connect and start a back-up power supply for essential medical equipment.

- **Manual Wheelchair**

If you use an electric wheelchair or scooter, have a manual wheelchair for backup.

- **Extra Mobility Devices**

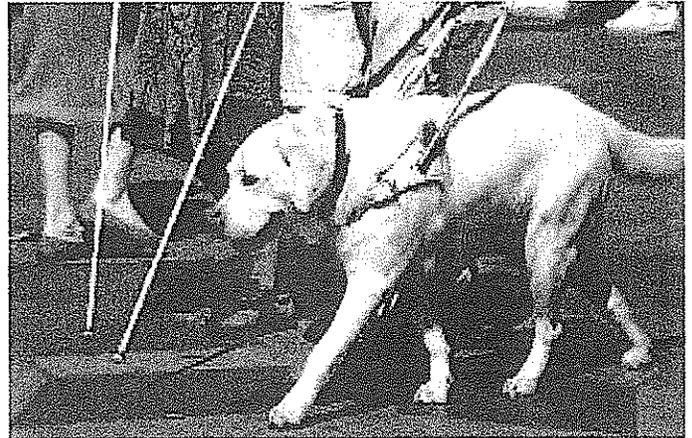
Walking aids should be near you at all times. Store extra walking aids in different rooms throughout your home.

- **Identify Safe Rooms And Sign Exits**

If you live in an apartment, ask the management to identify and mark accessible exits and access to areas designated for emergency shelter or safe rooms. Ask about plans for alerting and evacuating those with sensory disabilities.

- **Shutting Off Utilities**

Know how and when to turn off water, gas and electricity at the main switches or valves. Keep any tools you will need near gas and water shut off valves. Turn off the utilities only if you suspect the lines are damaged, you suspect a leak, or if local officials instruct you to do so.



- **Using Fire Extinguishers**

Know where fire exits and fire extinguishers (ABC type) are located in your home or building. If you do not know how to operate a fire extinguisher get training from your local fire department.

- **Smoke Alarms**

Install smoke alarms on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms. Individuals with sensory disabilities should consider installing smoke alarms that have strobe lights and vibrating pads. Also, consider installing a carbon monoxide alarm in your home.

- **First Aid/CPR And AED**

Take a First Aid/CPR and AED (Automatic External Defibrillation) class from your local American Red Cross. The American Red Cross can accommodate people with disabilities; just remember to discuss your needs when registering for the class.

Preparing for an emergency means addressing key concerns such as evacuation, getting around after a disaster, and the needs for daily living. Those persons who have special needs should make sure to address their own situation, and plan accordingly.



PET SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS

Most people consider their pets to be members of their family. Follow these guidelines to ensure your pet's safety and well-being in case of a disaster or emergency.

Begin Preparing Now

Think about what your pet will need if their routine environment changes drastically for a week. Consider having a supply of:

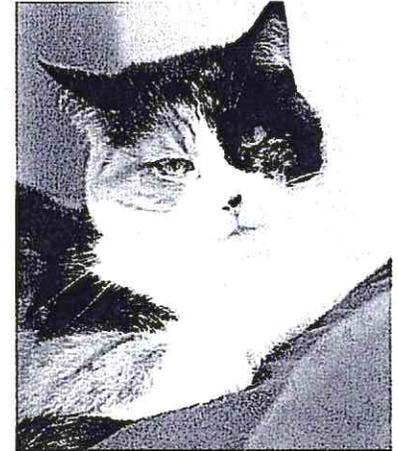
- Food and water
- Sturdy leashes or harnesses
- Pet carriers (should be large enough for the animal to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down)
- Any medicine your pet may be taking
- Litter box and waste collection scoops and bags
- Vaccination records
- Written instructions on your pet's feeding schedule
- A photo of you with your pet to confirm its ownership
- I.D. - Pets must be wearing I.D. tags at all times (be sure to have your cell phone number on your pet's I.D. tag)
- Other useful items such as: paper towels, household bleach, trash bags, a pet first aid kit and the vet's phone number.

When An Emergency Happens

- In case you're not at home, make arrangements with a trusted friend or neighbor to take your pets and their emergency supplies, and meet you at a specified location.
- If you have to evacuate your home, the single most important thing that you can do to protect your pet is to take them with you. Animals left behind in a disaster are in danger of being injured, lost or dying. If you are traveling with your pet, do not leave them unattended in the vehicle.

- Remember, most Red Cross shelters cannot accept pets due to health and safety concerns. The only exception to this is for service animals.

Although most shelters will not accept pets, pet sheltering services will be provided near the shelter site by animal control agencies.



- If you are sheltering-in-place in your home, bring your pets indoors as soon as local authorities report an imminent problem. Keep pets under your direct control. When you are certain that it is safe to come out of your home, keep your pets on leashes. Familiar landmarks and smells around your house may be gone and your pet could easily become disoriented.

To ensure the safety of your pets and animals, include them in your household emergency plan. Remember to maintain proper emergency materials for your pets, just as you keep your household emergency materials ready. For more information on what you can do to keep your pets prepared during a disaster, follow these helpful links:

Animal Disaster Preparedness Links

- **American Red Cross - Preparedness for Pets and Animals**
www.redcross.org
- **Valley Oak SPCA**
www.vospca.org

FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

Make sure your family has a plan in case of an emergency. To be prepared before an emergency happens, sit down together and decide how you will get in contact with each other, where you will go and what you will do in an emergency. Keep a copy of this plan in your disaster supplies kit or another safe place where you can access it in the event of a disaster.

Out-of-Town Contact Name: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email: _____

Neighborhood Meeting Place: _____

Telephone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

Telephone #: _____

Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school and other places you frequent. Schools, daycare providers, workplaces and apartment buildings should all have site-specific emergency plans that you and your family need to know about.

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Social Security #: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Social Security #: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Work Location 1: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Social Security #: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Social Security #: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Work Location 2: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

School Location 1: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

School Location 2: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

Other Place You Frequent: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____

Other Place You Frequent: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Evacuation Location: _____



PLEASE DETACH AND KEEP HANDY

Important Information:	Name:	Telephone #:	Policy #:
Doctor(s):			
Pharmacist:			
Medical Insurance:			
Homeowners/Rental Insurance:			
Veterinarian/Kennel (for pets):			



HOME SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS

Create A Home Fire Escape Plan:

Having an escape plan in case of fire is something every household should create and practice. Practicing the escape plan will allow you to work through any issues and solve any dilemmas that may come up as a result of the practice drills.

- Identify two ways to escape from every room in the home.
- If you have pets, include plans for their evacuation as well.
- Practice your escape plan at least twice a year.
- Select a safe location away from the home where your family can meet after escaping.
- Consider purchasing and storing escape ladders for rooms above ground level, and make sure to learn how to use them.
- If you see smoke or fire in your first escape route, use your second way out.
- If you must exit through smoke, crawl low under the smoke.
- Before escaping through a closed door, feel the door before opening. If it is warm, use your second escape route.

Home Fire Escape Plan

Use the space to the right to create your home fire escape plan.

- Draw a floor plan or a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark all of the smoke alarms clearly. Smoke alarms should be in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Pick a family meeting place outside where everyone can meet.
- Remember, practice your plan at least twice a year!

Grown-ups: Children don't always awake when the smoke alarm sounds. Know what your child will do before a fire occurs.

Get more information on smoke alarms and escape planning at www.nfpa.org.

PLEASE DETACH AND KEEP HANDY



WORK SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS

Disasters and public health threats can happen anywhere, often with little or no warning. In the event of a large-scale disaster, or public health threat, businesses will play a key role in protecting employees' health and safety as well as limiting the negative impact to the economy and society.

Companies that provide critical infrastructure services, such as power and telecommunications, also have a special responsibility to plan for continued operation in a crisis. As with any catastrophe, having a contingency plan is essential.

Risks Of Operating Without A Disaster Preparedness And Response Plan

While reports vary, as many as 40 percent of small businesses do not reopen after a major disaster like a flood, tornado or earthquake. Conservative estimates are that during a major public health threat, like pandemic flu, most businesses will suffer a 30 percent loss in their customary workforce for a prolonged period of up to six months. Businesses that failed as a result of disasters were essentially unprepared; they had no contingency plan or backup systems.

The most effective disaster preparedness and response plans take into consideration three subjects:

- Human Resources – The disaster's affect on employees and customers.
- Physical Resources – Affects on the business environment and the area surrounding the facility.
- Business Continuity – Serving and maintaining customers if the facility is closed.

There are five key characteristics of highly effective disaster preparedness and response plans:

- The plans are tailored to the needs of the individual businesses.
- Are comprehensive enough to address a range of possible disasters.
- Are flexible enough to adapt to changing circumstances during a disaster.

- Include collaboration with other private and public organizations and entities.
- Consider post-disaster strategies for a return to normalcy.

All Businesses Should Have A Disaster Preparedness Plan

If your business does not currently have a disaster plan in place here are some suggestions your may want to consider:

- Keep phone lists of your key employees and customers with you, and provide copies to key staff members.
- If you have a voice mail system at your office, designate one remote number on which you can record messages for employees. Provide the number to all employees.
- Arrange for programmable call forwarding for your main business line(s). If you can't get to the office, you can call in and reprogram the phones to ring elsewhere.
- Install emergency lights that turn on when the power goes out. They are inexpensive and widely available at building supply retailers.
- Use UL-listed surge protectors and battery backup systems. They will add protection for sensitive equipment and help prevent a computer crash if the power goes out.
- Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio with a tone alert feature. Keep it on and when the signal sounds, listen for information about severe weather and protective actions to take.
- Stock a minimum supply of the goods, materials and equipment you would need for business continuity.

Keep emergency supplies handy, including:

- Flashlights with extra batteries.
- First aid kit.
- Tools.
- Food and water for employees and customers to use during the time when you may be asked to shelter in place.

For more information on workplace safety and disaster preparedness, visit www.ready.gov/business



SCHOOL SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS

How Parents Can Help

One of the most important things parents can do to help keep their children safe in the event of a school related emergency is to make sure their child's school or daycare has accurate and up-to-date information regarding:

- Communication with families during a crisis.
- Storage of adequate food, water and other basic supplies.
- Sheltering-in-place if need be and where they plan to go if they must evacuate.
- Emergency response plans.
- The most current contact information for guardian(s) (home and work).
- An updated list of individuals permitted to pick up your children on file at your child's school.
- A recent list of any medical or dietary needs, as well as updated insurance information on file.



Student rosters are key in an emergency

Tools Used By Schools In The Event Of An Emergency

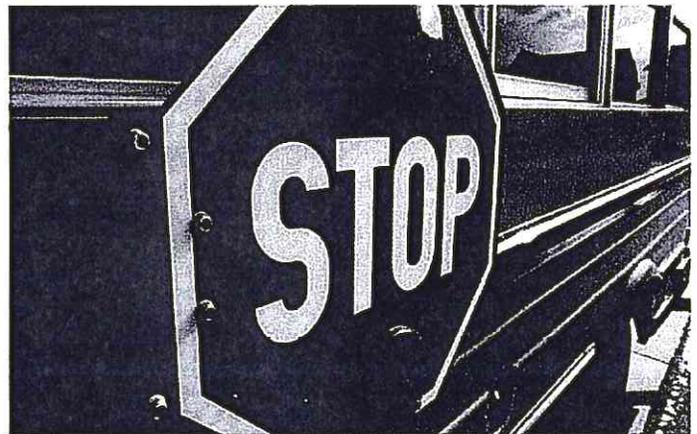
One of the most important items schools have at their disposal during an emergency is the student roster. In a crisis, being able to account for all of the students who are on campus that day is of vital importance. Teachers can use their classroom roster and provide information to response personnel during an emergency. Schools should also maintain a list of those students who have special needs (physical or medical conditions requiring special assistance) who may require additional aid during an emergency event.

If There's An Evacuation

School maps provide first responders with the information necessary to determine where students may safely evacuate in the event of an emergency. In addition to planning an orderly evacuation, maps provide valuable information about the surrounding streets, allowing responders to designate areas where parents may gather to retrieve their children in a safe and orderly manner and teachers, administrators or emergency personnel may maintain records of students that have been released.

Once students have been released, families should monitor the situation through radio or television broadcasts to determine when it is safe for students to return to the classroom.

Crisis response information obtained from the California Department of Education website:
www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/cp/crisisresp.asp





EVACUATION GUIDELINES

Evacuations are more common than many people realize. In the State of California alone, hundreds of times each year, natural and man-made disasters force thousands of people to leave their homes. Fires and floods cause evacuations even more frequently.

Evacuation Guidelines

- Plan places where your family will meet, both within and outside of your immediate neighborhood.
- Keep at least a half tank of gas in your car if an evacuation seems likely. Gas stations may be closed during emergencies and unable to pump gas during power outages.
- Make transportation arrangements with friends or neighbors if you do not own a car.
- Listen to a battery-powered radio and follow local evacuation instructions.
- Gather your family and pets and evacuate if you are instructed to evacuate immediately.
- Leave early enough to avoid being trapped by severe weather.
- Follow recommended evacuation routes. Do not take shortcuts as they may be blocked.
- Be alert for washed-out roads and bridges. Do not drive into flooded areas.
- Stay away from downed power lines.



If Time Permits

- Gather your disaster supplies kit.
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that provides some protection, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and a cap.

- Secure your home. Close and lock doors and windows. Unplug electrical equipment, such as radios and televisions, and small appliances, such as toasters and microwaves. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding.
- Let others know where you are going.
- Check with neighbors who may need a ride.

Returning Home After An Evacuation

Returning home can be both physically and mentally challenging. Above all, use caution.

- Keep a battery-powered radio with you so you can listen for emergency updates and news reports.
- Use a battery-powered flashlight to inspect a damaged home. **Note:** The flashlight should be turned on outside before entering—the battery may produce a spark that could ignite leaking gas, if present.
- Watch out for animals, especially poisonous snakes. Use a stick to poke through debris. Be wary of wildlife and other animals.
- Use the phone only to report life-threatening emergencies.
- Stay off the streets. If you must go out, watch for fallen objects; downed electrical wires; and weakened walls, bridges, roads, and sidewalks.

Before You Enter Your Home

Walk carefully around your home's perimeter and check for loose power lines, gas leaks, and structural damage. If you have any doubts about safety, have your residence inspected by a qualified building inspector or structural engineer before entering.

Do Not Enter If:

- You smell gas.
- Floodwaters remain around the building.
- Your home was damaged by fire and the authorities have not declared it safe.



UTILITIES

Long before an emergency situation occurs, homeowners should have a working knowledge of the location of main shutoff valves for water, gas and electricity, and how to shut them off in the event of a disaster. It is important to mark the location of the shut-off valves and post instructions where they can be easily located in an emergency. If you are unable to locate the shut-off valves on your property, or are unsure of how to safely turn off the system, you should contact your utility companies so that they can provide you with a representative who can show you how to properly shut off the utility in question. Identify your utility companies in advance of an emergency and have their contact information handy for ease in reporting emergency situations.

My utility companies and phone numbers are:

Phone # _____

Natural Gas

Natural gas has a distinctive odor added to it by the gas company so that a leak may be easily detected by smell. If you smell natural gas:

- Stay calm.
- Do not light matches, a lighter, a candle or cigarette.
- Do not turn appliances that run on electricity on or off, as that may cause a spark.
- From a safe location, contact your gas company and report the leak to them so they can repair it. All gas companies have 24-hour phone numbers for people to report suspected leaks. If you feel it is an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

How To Shut Off Your Gas:

- Facing the meter, you should see a pipe that runs from the ground to the meter. You should see a shut-off valve running parallel with the pipe approximately six to eight inches above ground.

- Using a 12" or larger adjustable wrench, turn the valve 1/4 turn, either right or left, until the valve is crossways to the pipe. Make sure you keep a 12" or larger adjustable wrench with your emergency supplies or near the gas valve.
- For safety purposes, a shut-off valve should be installed at every gas appliance in your home, such as a gas stove or gas-powered water heater. This way if there's a leak at a particular appliance you can shut-off the gas to that one appliance, rather than to the entire house.
- If you turn off your gas at the meter, a professional must turn it back on. Do not attempt to do this yourself.

Electricity

Shutting off the electricity to your home should be done with great caution.

- First, locate the breaker box(es) outside of your home.
- Turn off all of the single breakers first, then turn off the main breaker.
- To turn the electricity back on, turn the main breaker on first, followed by the individual breakers.

If An Electrical Fire Occurs:

- Do not use water on an electrical fire, as you could be electrocuted.
- If an electrical appliance catches fire, unplug it as soon as you safely can.
- Call 9-1-1 and report it to the fire department.
- If you see smoke or fire, or if you smell an odd odor coming from electrical wires, an appliance or an electric motor, turn off the appliance and the main switch at the circuit breaker or the fuse box.
- If you have one, use a "C" class fire extinguisher, which is safe to use for electrical fires. If you do not have an appropriate fire extinguisher, baking soda can also be used to extinguish an electrical fire.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

American Red Cross

The Central Valley American Red Cross has been serving Tulare County since 1917, and serves a population of over 582,000. The number one priority of the organization is to help citizens in times of emergency through disaster preparedness and response.

To become a volunteer or to learn more about the Central Valley American Red Cross, call (559) 455-1000 or visit their website at www.arccentralvalley.org.

The Salvation Army

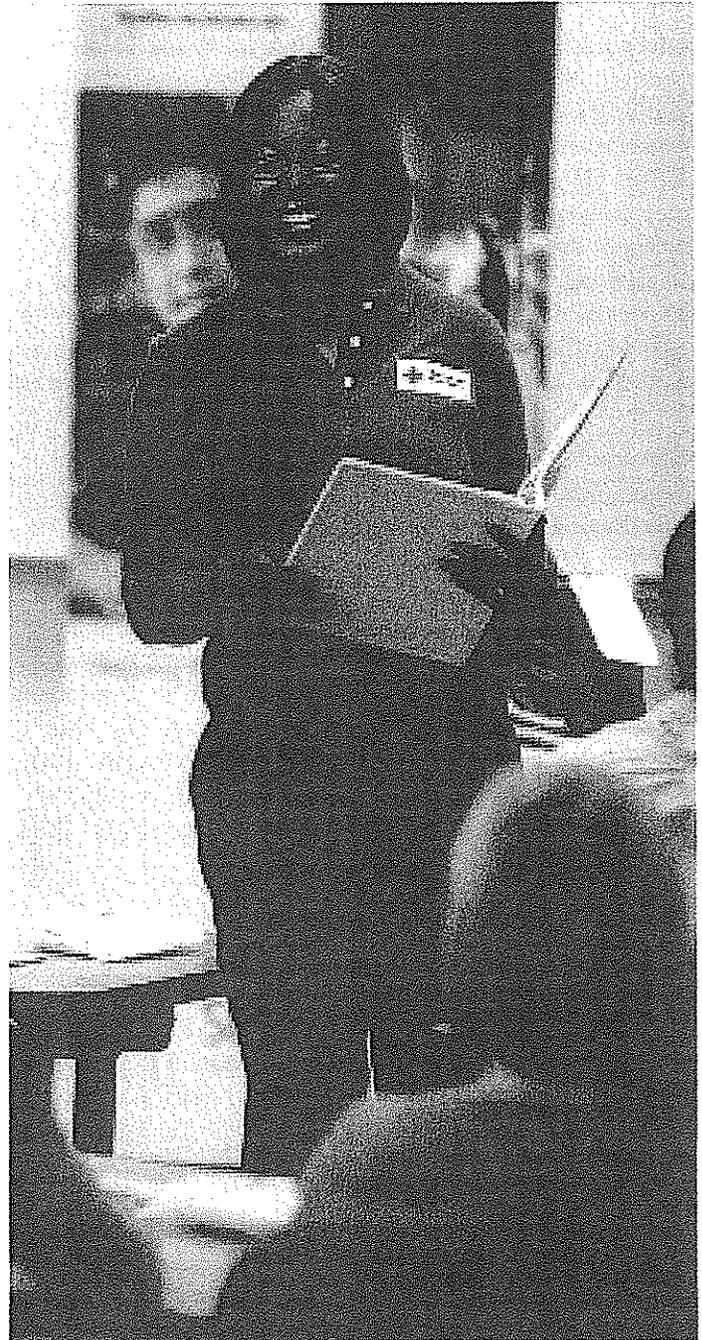
Whether it is a local incident or a major disaster, The Salvation Army relief staff and volunteers are often the first on the scene, and are often the last to leave. In most communities in America, The Salvation Army is already at work providing needed assistance with our programs, honoring a century-old commitment to serve those in need at the time of need and at the place of need.

For information on The Salvation Army's Emergency Disaster Services Team, contact them at (559) 733-2784 (Visalia City Corp) or (559) 687-2520 (Tulare City Corp) or go to www.salvationarmyusa.org.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations.

For information on the Tulare County CERT program, call (559) 280-1755. To learn more about the national CERT program, visit their website at www.citizencorps.gov/cert.





DISASTER HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEERS

Disaster Healthcare Volunteers - Take the Lead

Emergency preparedness is a top priority for Tulare County. With the threat of bioterrorism, increasing possibility of a pandemic influenza outbreak in our near future or even a natural disaster, the residents of Tulare County need to know that each resident can play an important role in ensuring the health and well being of everyone in Tulare County. When it comes to working together to prepare our cities, reduce the impact of a health crisis or natural disaster, and possibly reduce or even prevent serious damage to the economy of Tulare County, we all have the chance to take the lead.

Consider this scenario: Tulare County experiences a major pandemic flu outbreak, all of the hospitals are overflowing, and alternate care sites are required to be opened to vaccinate the entire population of Tulare County. You are a resident or healthcare professional of Tulare County who wants to help, so you arrive at the volunteer staging center for the disaster. You are turned away and not allowed to volunteer because there is no record of who you are, or your credentials. This scenario occurred after the tragedies of September 11th and Hurricane Katrina. By taking the steps to register as a Disaster Healthcare Volunteer, we can prevent that from happening in Tulare County.

What Is A Disaster Healthcare Volunteer?

A Disaster Healthcare Volunteer is someone who is either a concerned resident, or a healthcare professional, who has registered with Tulare County and the State of California as someone who is willing to volunteer should a healthcare crisis or natural disaster occur.

How Does The Disaster Healthcare Worker System Work?

During a disaster, State or local officials will determine what kind of volunteers are needed, search the Disaster Healthcare Worker database for available volunteers, and send an alert to selected members via email, telephone and pager.

If you receive an alert in the event of a disaster, you will have the chance to accept or decline the volunteer request. If you accept, you will receive special instructions on when and where to report, and what is needed for the incident. There is NO obligation to participate during an activation.

How Do I Register As A Disaster Healthcare Worker?

If you are a concerned resident, a healthcare provider with an active license, a public health professional, or a member of a medical disaster response team in California who would like to register, visit www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov. Simply click the "Register Now" button on the home page to begin the registration process, and you will be guided through the steps.

Once I Am Registered, What Happens Next?

In the event of a local, State, or national disaster, the system will be accessed by authorized system administrators. If a decision is made to request your service, you will be contacted using the information you entered. If you agree to participate, your information will be forwarded to the appropriate officials.



Register today and take the lead.



411 RESOURCE DIRECTORY

411 Directory for 2011

Tulare County Emergency Preparedness Guide

TULARE COUNTY SERVICES

Tulare County Information Line
211

Tulare County Office of
Emergency Services (OES)
5957 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 624-7495

oes.tularehhsa.org
OES Information Hotline
(888) 346-1033

County of Tulare
Administrative Center
2800 W. Burrel Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 636-5005
www.co.tulare.ca.us

Tulare County Fire Department
907 W. Visalia Rd.
Farmersville, CA 93223
(559) 747-8233

Tulare County Sheriff
Department
2404 W. Burrel Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 636-4625

Tulare County Solid Waste Office
(559) 624-7000

Tulare County Animal Control and
Shelter
14131 Ave. 256
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 636-3647
<http://lostpets.tularehhsa.org>

County Household
Hazardous Waste
(559) 733-6441

Tulare County Mental Health
Crisis Line (800) 320-1616
www.tularehhsa.org

Tulare County Adult Services
(800) 321-2462
www.tularehhsa.org

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

CHP
(800) 835-5247
www.chp.ca.gov

Visalia Office
5025 W. Noble Ave.
Visalia (559) 734-6767

Porterville Office
861 W. Morton Ave.
Porterville (559) 784-7444

POLICE DEPARTMENTS

DINUBA
680 S. Alta Ave.
Dinuba (559) 591-5914

EXETER
100 N. "C" St.
Exeter (559) 592-3103

FARMERSVILLE
909 W. Visalia Rd.
Farmersville (559) 747-0321

LINDSAY
185 N. Gale Hill Ave.
Lindsay (559) 562-2511

PORTERVILLE
350 N. "D" St.
Porterville (559) 782-7407

TULARE
260 S. "M" St.
Tulare (559) 684-4238

VISALIA
303 S. Johnson St.
Visalia (559) 734-8116

WOODLAKE
350 N. Valencia Blvd.
Woodlake (559) 564-3346

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

DINUBA
496 E. Tulare St.
Dinuba (559) 591-5931

EXETER
137 N. "F" St.
Exeter (559) 592-3714

FARMERSVILLE
909 W. Visalia Rd.
Farmersville (559) 747-0791

LINDSAY
185 N. Gale Hill Ave.
Lindsay (559) 562-2511

PORTERVILLE
40 W. Cleveland Ave.
Porterville (559) 782-7526

TULARE
2082 E. Foster Dr.
Tulare (559) 734-7477

TULARE
Station 61 - Headquarters
800 S. Blackstone St.
Tulare (559) 684-4300

TULARE
Station 62
138 N. "E" St.
Tulare (559) 685-2395

TULARE
Station 63
2900 N. "M" St.
Tulare (559) 684-4261

**VISALIA EMERGENCY
DISPATCH**
1187 Ave. 272
Visalia (559) 734-7477

VISALIA
Station 51
303 S. Johnson St., Visalia

VISALIA
Station 52
2224 W. Monte Vista Ave., Visalia

VISALIA
Station 53
9500 Airport Dr., Visalia

VISALIA
Station 54
440 W. Ferguson St., Visalia

VISALIA
Station 55
6921 W. Ferguson Ave., Visalia

VISALIA
Station 56
1968 S. Lovers Ln., Visalia

VISALIA
Fire Administration
707 W. Acequia Ave.
Visalia (559) 713-4266

WOODLAKE
216 E. Naranjo Blvd.
Woodlake (559) 564-2181

AMBULANCE

American Ambulance of Visalia
2017 E. Noble Ave.
Visalia (559) 730-3015

American Medical Response
3350 W. Mineral King Ave.
Visalia (559) 749-0911

American Medical Response
Mobile Life Support
2412 E. Valley Oaks Dr.
Visalia (559) 749-0911

California Hot Springs
Ambulance
Route 4 Box #681
California Hot Springs
(559) 548-6548

Camp Nelson Ambulance
1500 Nelson Dr.
Springville (559) 542-2410

Dinuba Fire and Ambulance
496 E. Tulare Ave.
Dinuba (559) 591-5931

Exeter District Ambulance
302 E. Palm St.
Exeter (559) 594-5250

Golden State Air Charter
(800) 516-2110

Imperial Ambulance
22 N. Cottage St.
Porterville (559) 784-8500

LifeStar Ambulance
234 N. "M" St.
Tulare (559) 688-2550

SkyLife Air Ambulance
(800) 305-5433

HOSPITALS

VISALIA
Kaweah Delta Health Care
District
(559) 624-2000
www.kaweahdelta.org

TULARE
Tulare Regional Medical Center
(559) 688-0821
www.tulararegional.org



411 RESOURCE DIRECTORY

PORTERVILLE

Sierra View District Hospital
(559) 784-1110
www.sierra-view.com

URGENT CARE AND WALK-IN CENTERS

Alta Family Health Clinic, Inc.
888 N. Alta Ave.
Dinuba (559) 595-1000

Exeter Health Clinic
1014 San Juan Ave.
Exeter (559) 624-6090

Immediate Care Center
215 E. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia (559) 622-9800

Kaweah Delta Urgent Care
1633 S. Court St.
Visalia (559) 624-6090

Lindsay Urgent Care
825 N. Sequoia Ave.
Lindsay (559) 562-9395

Palm Occupational Medicine & Walk-In Clinic
1068 N. Cherry St.
Tulare (559) 684-7256

Palm Occupational Medicine & Walk-In Clinic
235 E. Noble Ave.
Visalia (559) 625-1710

Premier Walk-In Medical
5344 W. Cypress Ave., Ste. 102
Visalia (559) 625-6080

Premier Walk-In Medical
4025 W. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia (559) 733-4505

San Joaquin Prime Care Medical Corp.
682 E. Visalia Rd.
Farmersville (559) 594-4564

Sequoia Family Medical Center Urgent Care
590 W. Putnam Ave.
Porterville (559) 781-3700

Tulare Family Wellness Center & Walk-In Clinic
1159 N. Cherry St.
Tulare (559) 684-7700

Valley Industrial & Family Medical Group, Inc.
755 E. Terrace Ave.
Tulare (559) 685-8800

Valley Industrial & Family Medical Group, Inc.
225 S. Chinowth St.
Visalia (559) 627-3222

Vida Sana Clinica Familiar
755 N. Sequoia Ave., Ste. B
Lindsay (559) 562-9399

Visalia Industrial Medicine & Urgent Care Center
220 S. Mooney Blvd., Ste. D
Visalia (559) 732-7680

Visalia Medical Clinic Quick Care
5400 W. Hillsdale Dr.
Visalia (559) 738-7500

Visalia Walk-In Medical
2431 W. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia (559) 637-5555

Walk-In & Family Health Group, Inc.
981 E. Prosperity Ave.
Tulare (559) 685-9808

Woodlake Family Health Center
180 E. Antelope Ave.
Woodlake (559) 564-8067

Tulare Family Wellness Center
1159 N. Cherry St.
Visalia (559) 684-7700

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Dinuba Transit-DART
(559) 591-5924

Exeter Dial-A-Ride
(559) 592-8100

Porterville Dial-A-Colt
(559) 781-8100

Porterville Transit
(559) 781-8104

South Valley Rideshare
(866) 808-7433

Tulare County Area Transit
(800) 431-9711

Tulare Transit Dial-A-Ride
(559) 688-5706

Tulare Transit Express
(559) 685-2322 or
(559) 688-5706

Valley Medical Transport
(559) 734-8743

Visalia City Coach
(559) 713-4950

Visalia Dial-A-Ride
(559) 713-4750

Woodlake Dial-A-Ride
(559) 280-2736

WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORTATION

Abbey Medical Transportation/
Abbey Charter Bus Service
(559) 625-5454

Tri-County Transportation
(800) 996-2990

Valley Medical Transportation
(559) 734-8743

HOTEL DIRECTORY

CAMP NELSON

Brewer Family's Ponderosa Lodge
(559) 542-2579

Camp Nelson Lodge
(559) 542-0904

Pierpoint Springs Motel
(559) 542-2423

DINUBA

Best Western Americana Inn
(559) 595-8401

El Monte Motel
(559) 591-1636

Holiday Inn Express
(559) 595-1500

EXETER

Best Western
(559) 592-8118

Kaweah Motel
(559) 592-2961

LINDSAY

Lindsay Motel
(559) 562-5244

Super 8
(559) 562-5188

PORTERVILLE

Best Western
(559) 781-7411

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites
(559) 782-1200

Motel 6
(559) 781-7600

Palm Tree Inn
(559) 784-3150

SPRINGVILLE

Camp Nelson Lodge
(559) 542-0904

Mountain Top Bed & Breakfast
(559) 542-2639

The Springville Inn
(559) 539-7501

THREE RIVERS

Best Western Holiday Lodge
(559) 561-4119

Buckeye Tree Lodge
(559) 561-5900

Comfort Inn and Suites Sequoia and Kings Canyon
(559) 561-9000

Gateway Restaurant & Lodge
(559) 561-4133

Lazy J Ranch
(559) 561-4449

Rio Sierra Riverhouse
(559) 561-4720

River Inn
(559) 561-4367

Sequoia Motel
(559) 561-4453

Sequoia Village Inn
(559) 561-3652

Sierra Lodge
(559) 561-3681

TULARE

Best Western Town & Country Lodge
(559) 688-7537

Budget Inn
(559) 687-9990

Charter Inn & Suites
(559) 685-9500

Comfort Suites
(559) 687-1246



411 RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Days Inn
 (559) 686-0985
Garden Inn
 (559) 686-5314
Hales Cottage
 (559) 685-8529
Hampton Inn & Suites
 (559) 686-8700
LaQuinta Inn & Suites
 (559) 685-8900
Motel 6
 (559) 686-1611
Moto-Rest Motel
 (559) 688-7824
Quality Inn
 (559) 686-3432
Toga's Inn/Motel 99
 (559) 688-0501
Tulare Motel
 (559) 686-6623
Village Inn Motel
 (559) 686-7214
VISALIA
Best Western
 (559) 636-3171
Comfort Inn & Suites
 (559) 651-3700
Comfort Suites
 (559) 738-1700
Days Inn Visalia
 (559) 732-5611
Econo Lodge
 (559) 732-6641
Fairfield Inn
 (559) 636-7600
Hampton Inn
 (559) 732-3900
Holiday Inn
 (559) 651-5000
Lamp Liter Inn
 (559) 732-4511
La Quinta Inn & Suites
 (559) 739-9800
Marco Polo Motel
 (559) 732-4591

Rodeway Inn
 (559) 636-3171
Visalia Marriott
 (559) 636-1111
Super 8
 (559) 627-2885

UTILITY COMPANIES

ELECTRIC
PG&E
 (800) 743-5000
Southern California Gas Company
 (800) 427-2200
Southern California Edison
 (800) 655-4555

WATER

California Water Service Company
 (559) 624-1600
Camp Nelson Water Company
 (559) 542-2876
Earlimart Public Utility District
 (661) 849-2663
Foothill Ditch Company
 (559) 592-2105
Ivanhoe Irrigation District
 (559) 798-1118

TELEPHONE

AT&T
 (800) 310-2355
Comcast
 (800) 266-2278
Verizon
 (800) 974-6006

PERSONAL DOCUMENT RESOURCES

American Express
 (800) 528-4800
Bureau of Citizenship & Immigration
 (800) 375-5283
www.uscis.gov
California Tax Information Center
 (800) 338-0505
www.taxcs.ca.gov

Department of Motor Vehicles
 (800) 777-0133
www.dmv.ca.gov
Discover
 (800) 347-2683
Emergency Financial First Aid Kit
www.operationhope.org
IRS
 (661) 829-3676 or
 Toll Free (800) 829-1040
www.irs.gov
Medicare
 (800) 633-4227
www.medicare.gov
Social Security Information
 (800) 772-1213, or
 (866) 344-8475
www.ssa.gov

Tulare County Assessors/Clerk-Recorder Office
 (559) 636-5100
www.co.tulare.ca.us/government/assessor
Tulare County Treasurer/Tax Collector
 (559) 636-5290
www.co.tulare.ca.us/government/treasurertax
US Passport Services
 (877) 487-2778
www.travel.state.gov

Visa
 (800) 847-2911 (Lost/Stolen Card)

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES

California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)
 (916) 445-4171
www.dhcs.ca.gov
California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
 (916) 558-1784
California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA)
 (916) 845-8510
www.calema.ca.gov

California Emergency Preparedness Office
 (916) 650-6416
<http://bepreparedcalifornia.ca.gov/epo>

CAL Fire
 (916) 653-5123
www.fire.ca.gov

California Franchise Tax Board
 (800) 852-5711
www.ftb.ca.gov

CALTRANS
 (916) 654-5266
www.dot.ca.gov

Center for Disease Control (CDC)
 (800) 232-4636
<http://www.cdc.gov>

FEMA
 (800) 621-3362
www.fema.gov

National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)/Visalia Service Center
 (559) 734-8732
www.nrcs.usda.gov

Southern California Earthquake Center
 (213) 740-5843
www.scecc.org

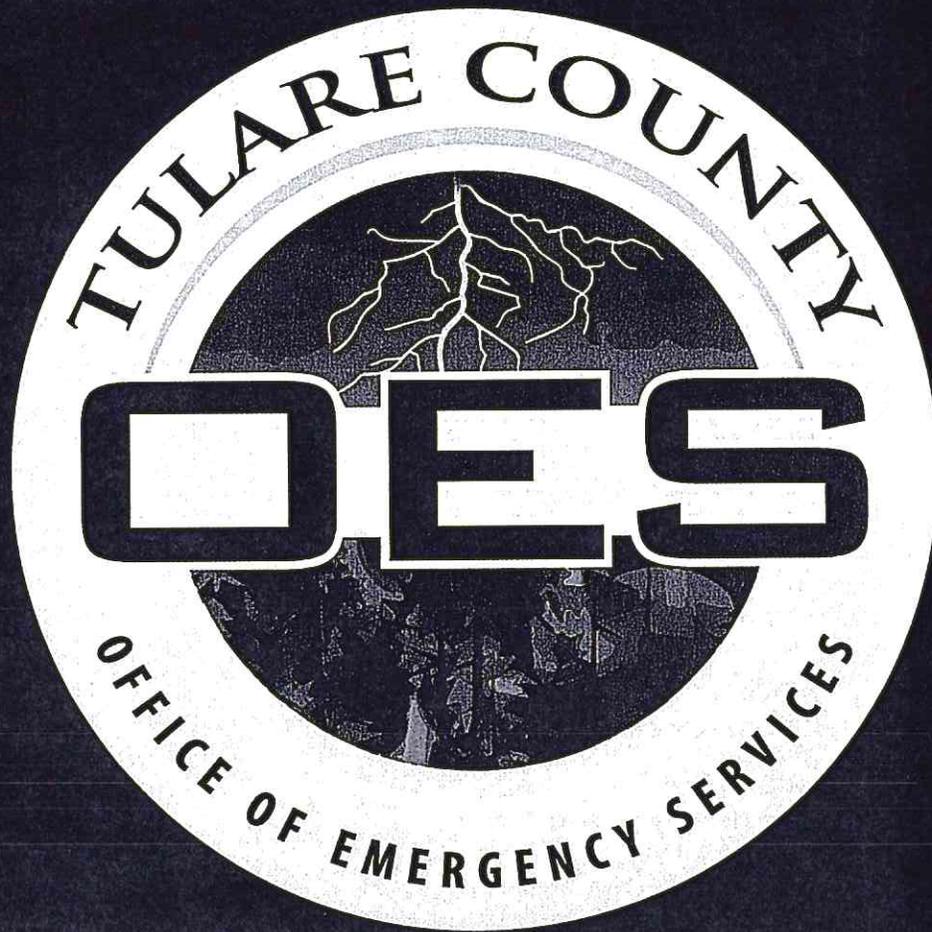
State Board of Equalization
 (800) 400-7115
www.boe.ca.gov

State of California Information/Governor's Office
 (916) 445-2841
www.ca.gov

USDA Food and Nutrition Services/Visalia Service Center
 (559) 734-8732
www.fns.usda.gov

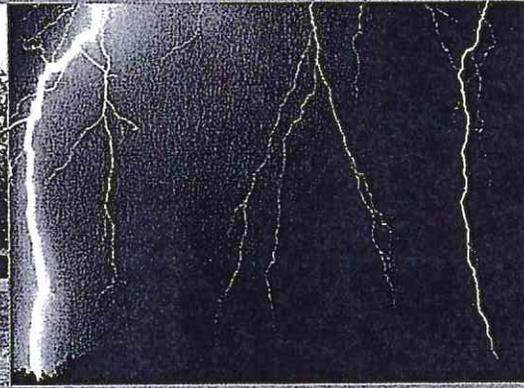
OTHER WEB SITE RESOURCES

www.noaaawatch.gov/floods.php
www.nws.noaa.gov
www.prepare.org
www.ready.gov
www.redcross.org



<http://oes.tularehhsa.org>

OES Information Line: (888) 346-1033



2. Tulare County Operational Emergency Operations Plan Overview/General Plan Policies (Fire, Flood, and Emergency Response/ SRA Fire Safe Regulations).

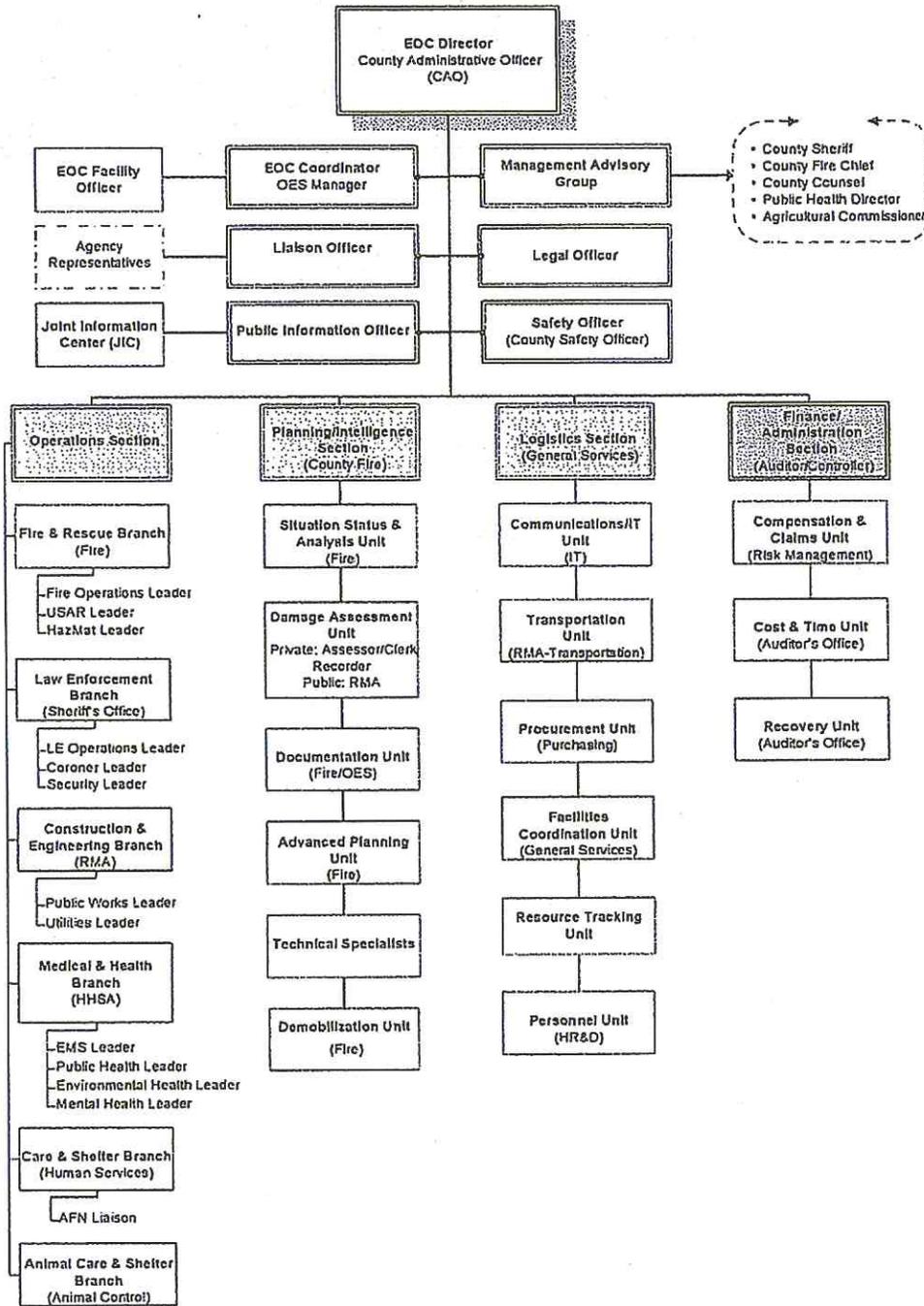


Figure 5 - EOC Organization

9.4 Roles and Responsibilities



from each jurisdiction will coordinate as a team to:

- Gather, verify and produce information for dissemination to the media and public (such as news releases, background information, fact sheets, public service announcements, briefings and news conference materials).
- Respond to media questions and requests.
- Schedule media releases, briefings, news conferences, interviews, public service announcements, etc.
- Arrange for media interviews and tours.
- Assign agency representatives to coordinate information from their agency with other team members before it is released to the public.

9.11 Stand-Down and Deactivation

Once the critical aspects of an emergency or disaster have been secured, EOC operations may begin to scale down, as conditions warrant. Staffing levels and/or hours of operation of the EOC may be reduced prior to deactivation.

During extended EOC operations, the EOC Director, with input from Incident Commanders in the field and Section Chiefs in the EOC, may determine that current circumstances are such that the EOC can stand down for a period of time or can be deactivated. The EOC Director shall stand down the EOC at such time he/she feels it appropriate to do so.

A detailed procedure for standing down and deactivating the EOC is contained in Part 3, Section 4.0 of this plan.

10.0 CONCEPT OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

The information contained in this section provides a summary overview of the Tulare Operational Area approach to managing major emergencies. More detailed information can be found in Part 2 – Annexes and Part 3 - Emergency Procedures.

10.1 Levels of Emergency

The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a standardized methodology for typing incidents by scope and complexity, ranging from a Type 5 (routine incident) to Type 1 (incident of national significance). A summary of each incident type is below:

- Type 5: Routine incident, mitigated with few single resources (i.e. a traffic accident, medical aid). Does not require ICS positions other than the IC.
 - No EOC activation or emergency proclamation.
- Type 4: Several resources required to mitigate the incident, limited to one operational period (i.e. a structure fire). May involve filling some Command/General Staff positions.
 - EOC activation and emergency proclamation very unlikely.
- Type 3: Expanding incident, may extend beyond one operational period (OP) and/or require local mutual aid from within the OA or Region V, Some or all Command/General staff positions filled, may activate Branch/Unit level positions. May require an Incident Management Team and/or written IAPs.



- o At this level, the County/OA EOC may be activated (low level), and a Local Emergency may be proclaimed.
- Type 2: Incident exceeds local capabilities (i.e. dam failure), requires mutual aid from the Region, State, and/or Federal / inter-state level. Written IAPs required; may involve a Delegation of Authority from involved jurisdiction(s) to an Incident Management Team (IMT).
 - o At this level, the County/OA EOC would be activated (level 2 or 3), and a local emergency would be proclaimed. A request for a Governor's proclamation of a State of Emergency would be made, and a Presidential Declaration would likely be requested.
- Type 1: Most complex, requires national resources (i.e. catastrophic earthquake, large hurricane). Thousands of personnel committed, all ICS positions filled, all SEMS levels fully activated.
 - o At this level, the County/OA EOC would be activated at level 3, and Local and State proclamations and a Federal Disaster Declaration would be issued.

10.2 Response Priorities

The priorities to be implemented for a given emergency will be established at the time of the event. Some of these priorities will be addressed simultaneously, depending on the type of incident, the nature and location of the problems, the type and extent of damages, accessibility to the site(s), and the number and classification of personnel available for emergency response. Nonetheless, there will undoubtedly be situations in which competition for limited resources will exist. Under such circumstances, the following priorities should serve as a guide for the distribution of available resources:

- Meeting the immediate needs of people (rescue, medical care, food, shelter, clothing);
- Temporary restoration of facilities and infrastructure essential to protecting health and safety, whether publicly or privately owned (sanitation, water, electricity, road, street and highway repairs); and
- Meeting the rehabilitation needs of people (temporary housing, food stamps, employment, etc.).

10.3 Emergency Proclamations

A Local Emergency Proclamation is generally the first step taken to obtain non-routine (i.e. Fire/Law Enforcement) mutual aid, for requesting assistance from other jurisdictions (local, state, and federal), and applying for state and federal disaster assistance. A Local Emergency may be proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors (BOS), or by the Director of Emergency Services or his successor, if the Board is not in session. A detailed procedure and checklist for proclaiming and periodically renewing a Local Emergency are included in Part 3 - Procedures of this plan.

The Local Emergency Proclamation may include:

- Request for Gubernatorial Proclamation of State of Emergency
- Request for Presidential Disaster Declaration



- Designation of Applicant's Agent (for state and federal disaster reimbursements).

A Local Emergency Proclamation provides the jurisdiction with:

- Additional powers and authorities as detailed by local ordinance (GC §8634).
- The ability to render mutual aid to other political subdivisions (GC §8631).
- Extends liability coverage (GC §8655-8660).
- Initiation to receive state (GC §8685.2 & 8685.4) and federal disaster assistance (PL 93-288, §§401 & 501).
- The ability to receive mutual aid approved by the Governor from other jurisdictions as a cost to the State GC §8633).

10.4 Alert & Warning

Alert and warning involves the notification of emergency response personnel, as well as notifying the affected public. Emergency Responders will be notified using departments' existing systems. AlertTC may be utilized for notifying responders, and is the primary mechanism for notifying emergency management personnel. Tulare County maintains the Emergency Management Staff Notification List as a backup to the automated system in the event manual notifications must be made.

The County Sheriff and Fire Departments have the primary responsibility for alerting and warning the public, with assistance from the Office of Emergency Services and Public Information Officer(s)/JIC as appropriate and available. Mass alerting / warning of the public will primarily be initiated through AlertTC, which interfaces with FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) to initiate Commercial Mobile Alert System (CMAS) and traditional Emergency Alert System (EAS) messages. Press releases, social media, and special media broadcasts will be employed as appropriate for the circumstances. Mass notification technologies will not replace, but rather supplement, public safety units making door-to-door notifications or utilizing public address systems while driving up and down the streets.

A detailed Alert & Warning procedure is contained in Section 1.0, Part 3 of this plan.

10.5 Notification & Mobilization

When an emergency or disaster affects the County of Tulare and poses a major threat to life, property, and/or the environment, the responding County department(s) will utilize internal procedures to notify their respective command staffs. Immediate notification to emergency management staff is essential to a timely, coordinated response to a large-scale emergency. The first emergency management staff member receiving notification, as listed on the Emergency Management Staff Notification List, will be provided with a complete status report on the incident or disaster, identifying resources available and committed, incident prognosis, damages sustained (infrastructure, critical facilities, etc.), current response actions, and any other pertinent information available.

The individual receiving notification shall attempt to contact the Director and Coordinator of Emergency Services, and in consultation with either (or both) and the responding department(s), determine the appropriate level of EOC activation (see Section 10.6). Once activation is authorized, the Emergency Services Director, Coordinator, or Manager shall direct the Sheriff or Fire Communications Centers, or OES staff, to make the necessary notifications to EOC staff and allied agencies.



County OES staff will notify the California State Warning Center and the OA member jurisdictions of the situation and the level of County/OA EOC activation. The EOC Liaison will make additional internal and external notifications as directed by the EOC Director and/or EOC Coordinator.

In the event of wide-scale damage to the County's communications infrastructure, local radio and television stations may be used to notify and recall County staff. For obvious emergencies, such as earthquakes, major floods, or sudden dam failures, staff pre-assigned to emergency functions are expected to report automatically after ensuring the safety of their families and dependents.

10.6 Activation

Tulare County has developed criteria that identify the events/situations that would require EOC activation and has established three levels of activation. For each level, a minimum staffing guide has been developed. This information is detailed in Section 4.0, Part 3 of this plan. The three activation levels for the Tulare OA EOC and EMO are listed below, along with their typical triggers:

- Level 1 – Small Incidents involving two or more Tulare County Departments or member jurisdictions, and/or activation is requested by a Local Government with an activated EOC
- Level 2 – Two or more large incidents involving two or more County Departments or member jurisdictions, and/or a Local Emergency is proclaimed by two or more cities or Tulare County and one city
- Level 3 – Major County-wide or regional emergency

Depending on the nature and scope of the event, activation may range from a single Duty Officer or minimal staffing (Level 1), to partial (Level II) or full (Level III) EOC activation.

10.7 Reporting Locations and Work Shifts

During response to major emergencies with an extended emergency response period, the Tulare OA EOC staff may be assigned to work 12-hour shifts, as determined by the EOC Director. Field staff (those who respond to the scene of an emergency), to the maximum extent practicable, will remain on their regular shifts, with a minimum of eight hours off between shifts for rest. When assigning employees to other emergency functions, County Department Heads or their designee(s) shall assign work shifts and reporting locations/duty stations for their staff.

When an obvious emergency (e.g., major earthquake) occurs during off-duty hours, Tulare OA EOC staff and employees with emergency assignments will report automatically on the pre-assigned shift to the designated duty station. If unable to reach the assigned location, employees will report to the closest County facility or other local jurisdiction and will attempt to contact the assigned work supervisor to advise him/her of the status. If contact cannot be made, non-safety employees shall report to the supervisor at the facility to receive a work assignment. Periodic attempts to contact the regular supervisor should be made until contact is established.

10.8 Staging Areas



Staging Areas are locations established at the time of an incident where non-assigned member jurisdiction, County/OA, and/or mutual aid staff, volunteers, vehicles and emergency equipment can be assembled for deployment to an incident location. A Staging Area Manager, assigned by the Tulare OA EOC Operations Section Chief or a Department Operations Center: 1) establishes and maintains a communications and coordination link with the DOC/EOC; 2) implements a check-in/check-out process for tracking personnel and equipment; and 3) deploys personnel and equipment resources, as directed by the DOC or OA EOC Operations Section staff.

10.9 Assembly Areas

With the assistance of each building's designated Safety Officer(s), the County Department head(s) shall designate one or more outdoor Assembly Area(s). The Assembly Area serves as a central location to which facility occupants report whenever the building is evacuated. Employees gather by department or workgroup, and Department heads or supervisors account for all employees who were on-site when the evacuation took place. Until the facility is deemed safe by a qualified individual, direction will be given to staff to remain in the Assembly Area to receive disaster work assignments.

10.10 Lines of Authority and Reporting

10.10.1 FIELD RESPONSE - COUNTY, CITIES, SPECIAL DISTRICTS, OPERATIONAL AREA

Each local government jurisdiction continues to maintain its autonomy and control over its personnel and equipment resources when responding to disasters under a Local Emergency proclamation. In its role as the OA Lead Agency, Tulare County is responsible for coordinating emergency activities between the County, incorporated cities, tribes, and special districts, and serving as the coordination and communications link between all local jurisdictions and private agencies/organizations and the state's emergency operating centers.

County field response units report status and findings to their respective EOC representatives, either directly or through their Communications/Dispatch or Department Operations Center (DOC), if activated.

County resources providing contracted services to a local government other than the County shall continue to report to the assigned DOC or Communications/Dispatch Center, but also report to the local government EOC via the Incident Commander (IC).

Cities with their own police and/or fire departments provide first-in response at the field level within their respective jurisdictions and may request mutual aid response by the County or other local jurisdictions, when necessary. Such mutual aid resources will report to the requesting jurisdiction's Incident Commander until such time as they are released from the incident.

When the service territory of a special district is contained within the boundaries of one incorporated city, the district typically assigns an Agency Representative to the City EOC, which reports to the County/OA EOC on behalf of both local governments. More often, special district service territories overlap more than one jurisdiction (two or more cities or cities and



unincorporated areas) and a special district EOC is established, which reports directly to the County/OA EOC.

10.10.2 STATE AND FEDERAL FIELD RESPONSE

There are some instances where a state or federal agency field response will be warranted. State agency field responses may be the result of a flood fight effort, oil spill, hazardous materials incident or other hazard scenarios. Federal field response could result from the same scenarios or a military aircraft accident, where the federal military authorities are the Incident Commander.

When a state agency or federal agency is involved in field operations, coordination will be established with the County/OA EOC, and the local government (i.e. city) EOC if applicable. State or federal agencies operating in the field may be found in any ICS section, branch, or unit; or part of a Unified Command. The nature of the incident will determine their location in the ICS organization.

10.10.3 TULARE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS CENTERS

The appropriate Tulare County EOC Section/Branch/Unit will coordinate with DOCs, if established, to obtain information for advance planning, logistical needs, available personnel and equipment resources, and other information as required. If established, the DOCs will assist the Tulare County EOC in supporting field operations.

10.10.4 TULARE OPERATIONAL AREA MEMBER JURISDICTIONS

Direct communications and coordination will be established between Tulare County (via the OA EOC) and any Operational Area Member Jurisdiction's activated EOC. Additionally, as time permits, communications will be established with other member jurisdictions that have not activated their EOCs. Initially, communications will be established by any means available and with whoever is available, regardless of their functional EOC position. Ideally, communications and coordination with the city / tribal EOCs will occur along functional lines where practical, and through the Liaison Officer in all other instances.

Whenever feasible, an agency representative from each jurisdiction with an activated EOC will send a representative to the Tulare OA EOC. These representatives will ensure that adequate coordination and information sharing occurs with the applicable OA EOC functions.

The OA EOC is the single point of contact between local government / member jurisdictions and the State of California for resources and response coordination. Therefore, it is vital that local jurisdictions make complete, timely, and accurate reports, requests, and other communications to the OA.

10.10.5 SPECIAL DISTRICTS

The emergency response role of special districts is generally focused on their normal services or functional area of responsibility. During disasters, some types of special districts will be more extensively involved in the emergency response by directly coordinating, communicating, and assisting local governments. In Tulare County, overlapping boundaries complicates



relationships with special districts and local governments. For the special districts that serve more than one local government and/or serve the County unincorporated areas, they will coordinate and communicate directly with the County/OA EOC.

Ideally, the special district involved in the emergency response will have a representative at the Tulare OA EOC, serving as the focal point of coordination and working with other local government representatives in the EOC. If a special district is unable to send a representative, the Liaison Officer in the EOC will be responsible for establishing communications and coordination with the special district.

10.10.6 PRIVATE AND VOLUNTEER AGENCIES

The EOC will establish direct coordination with the private and volunteer agencies that have multi-jurisdictional or countywide response roles, including the American Red Cross (ARC) and Salvation Army (SA). These agencies will assign representatives to report to the Operational Area EOC whenever requested to do so.

Coordination with other volunteer and private agencies that do not have a multi-jurisdictional or countywide response role will be accomplished through telecommunications, liaison to community councils that represent several agencies, or involvement in special multi-agency groups on specific issues.

10.10.7 NORTHERN REGION EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER / REGIONAL MUTUAL AID

Direct coordination and communications with the Northern Region Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is essential. This can be accomplished by a Cal OES representative in the OA EOC, or by communicating with the REOC through the various communications systems available in the OA EOC. Coordination and communications between the OA EOC and the Northern REOC will occur between the five SEMS functions.

Direct coordination and communications will also be established between the OA Mutual Aid Coordinators and their counterpart Regional Mutual Aid Coordinators, both of whom may be located in the respective EOCs or functioning remotely depending on the situation and mutual aid system in question.

10.11 Status Reporting

Following a major emergency, all on-duty County personnel are required to provide initial and periodic verbal status reports concerning personal status and any injuries or damages observed to the assigned supervisor. County employees who may be traveling on County-related business (conference, training, meeting, etc.) at the time of a significant emergency at the travel location must contact the assigned County supervisor as soon as possible and provide a personal welfare/status report.

Supervisors will compile reports from assigned employees and will provide, through established processes, a summary status report to the Department Head. As soon as possible following an event that occurs during normal business hours, all Department Heads will submit a standard Status Report to the EOC Director (see Section 7.0, Part 3). Updated reports will be submitted as needed, or as directed by the EOC Director.



10.12 Action Planning

An integral part of the Incident Command System (ICS) and Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), Action Plans are developed in the field (Incident Action Plan) and in the EOC (EOC Action Plan). The use of the Action Plan provides a clear and measurable process for identifying objectives and priorities for a given event and operational period.

Action planning is an important management tool that involves:

- A process for identifying priorities and objectives for emergency response or recovery efforts.
- Producing written plans, which document these priorities and objectives, and the tasks and personnel assignments associated with meeting the objectives.

The Planning/Intelligence Section is responsible for facilitating the action planning process and completing and distributing the EOC Action Plan. Action Plans are developed for a specified operational period, which may range from a few hours to upwards of 24 hours. The operational period is determined by the EOC Director, and initial action plans should set the operational period by first establishing a set of priority actions that need to be performed, then setting a reasonable timeframe within which to accomplish those actions.

Action plans need not be complex, but should be sufficiently detailed to guide OA EOC staff in implementing the priority actions. EOC action plans must remain strategic, setting overall objectives and avoiding specific tactical direction of field resources and tactics. A detailed procedure for developing Action Plans is contained in Section 6.0, Part 3.

10.13 Resource Requests

During response to significant emergencies, multiple requests for similar and/or scarce resources require close coordination between all activated local government EOCs and the OA EOC, and between the Operations and Logistics Sections at both EOC levels. Consequently, whenever the Tulare OA EOC is activated, requests for personnel and equipment resources from member jurisdictions will be made to the OA EOC. Any action which involves a financial outlay by Tulare County or a request for military assistance must be authorized by the County/OA EOC Director.

Within discipline-specific mutual aid systems, resource requests will be made first to the OA Mutual Aid Coordinator, then to the Regional Mutual Aid Coordinator, through the system's normal process. Whenever possible, the OA Mutual Aid Coordinator should be located at the OA EOC or the discipline's DOC.

All other resource requests outside of established mutual aid systems shall be made in writing to the OA EOC, via WebEOC or any other available means. Requests that cannot be fulfilled by / within the OA will be forwarded to the REOC via the Response Information Management System (RIMS). Verbal requests may be made and should be acted upon without delay, however written documentation of the request must follow shortly thereafter.

Detailed resource management procedures are included in Section 11.0, Part 3 of this plan.



10.14 Coordination with External Agencies

Coordination with external agencies takes place during the emergency management preparedness phase when roles, responsibilities, and expectations are defined and emergency response procedures are established, as well as during the emergency response and recovery phases.

Certain key external agencies, such as utilities, are cooperating agencies and are an integral part of the Tulare OA emergency management organization. When indicated by the nature of the emergency, these agencies assign a representative to the Tulare OA EOC Operations or Logistics Section, as appropriate. The Liaison Officer in the Tulare OA EOC establishes and maintains a communications and coordination link with any key external agencies that do not have a representative in the EOC.

A cooperating agency supplies assistance other than direct tactical resources to the incident control effort. AT&T, Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas), Southern California Edison (SCE), American Red Cross (ARC), the Salvation Army (SA), and other private and volunteer agencies are cooperating agencies depending on the type of incident.

The level of involvement of special districts, public utilities, private organizations, and volunteer agencies will vary considerably depending upon the kind of incident. In general, special districts or other agencies that have a statutory or jurisdictional responsibility with the incident should be represented at the incident. The form of involvement or coordination for these districts and agencies may be as part of Unified Command in the field, or as an Agency Representative in the EOC who coordinates with the Liaison Officer. The emergency response role of special districts will be focused on their normal services and functional area of responsibility.

10.15 Volunteer Support

Volunteer and private agencies are a critical part of the Tulare Operational Area's emergency response support system. The American Red Cross, Salvation Army and other non-governmental organizations are essential partners of the Tulare OA to address care and shelter needs of disaster victims. Tulare County's Community Disaster Partner (CDP) Task Force, consisting of community-based, faith-based and private sector agencies, will partner with the Tulare OA EOC to supplement the provision of volunteers and other resources. Private sector medical/health resources are an essential part of the County's medical response. These agencies will be represented at the Tulare OA EOC when activated, but will mobilize volunteers and other resources through their own systems.

In addition to the organized groups of volunteers, there are two categories of individual volunteers who may respond to support the Tulare OA following a disaster: 1) those who are part of an established volunteer program, and 2) those who emerge at the time of a disaster. Although those in the first category may be pre-assigned to an emergency function, and, therefore, easily incorporated into the EMO, the emergent volunteers may also provide valuable support to the EMO following a proper orientation.

A designated Volunteer Coordinator in the Tulare OA EOC Personnel Unit assigns and orients volunteers to specific functions as necessary, and ensures that each volunteer is registered as a Disaster Service Worker before being assigned to support an emergency function or location.



11.0 MUTUAL AID

The foundation of California's emergency planning and response is the Governor's Office of Emergency Services' statewide mutual aid system, which is designed to ensure that adequate resources, facilities, and other support are provided to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation.

The basis for the system is the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement, as referenced in the California Emergency Services Act. It created a formal process wherein each jurisdiction retains control of its own personnel and facilities, but can give and receive help whenever it is needed.

State government is obligated to provide available resources to assist local jurisdictions in emergencies. To facilitate the coordination and flow of mutual aid, the state has been divided into six mutual aid regions and two administrative regions. Tulare County is located within Mutual Aid Region V and the Inland Division of the Northern (Administrative) Region (Attachment 9).

11.1 Agreements & Systems

Tulare County is a participant in the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement. This agreement serves as the underlying authority for several statewide mutual aid systems and/or plans, including:

- Law Enforcement Mutual Aid System:
- Coroner's Mutual Aid System
- Fire & Rescue Mutual Aid System
- Medical Mutual Aid Plan / Medical & Health Mutual Aid System
- Emergency Managers Mutual Aid Plan

Additionally, Tulare County is party to the California Fire Assistance Agreement, and its own Operational Area Mutual Aid Agreement with OA member jurisdictions, which specify the conditions for additional types of assistance.

11.2 Discipline-Specific Mutual Aid

In order to facilitate the provision of mutual aid during day-to-day emergencies, as well as in disasters, Law Enforcement, Fire & Rescue and Medical Mutual Aid Coordinators have been selected and function at the Operational Area (county), Mutual Aid Region (two or more counties) and State SEMS levels. The Operational Area (OA) serves as the focal point for processing mutual aid requests from cities and special districts within the Tulare OA.

The Mutual Aid Coordinators at each SEMS level receive requests for mutual aid, coordinate the provision of resources from within the geographic area of responsibility, and pass on unfilled requests to the next level of response. The adoption of SEMS does not alter existing mutual aid systems.

11.3 Mutual Aid Requests

The Tulare Operational Area will coordinate mutual aid requests outside of normal Fire, Law Enforcement, and EMS systems, between the OA member jurisdictions, the OA, and the Cal OES Northern Region Emergency Operations Center (REOC). Requests should specify, at a minimum:



- Number and type of personnel needed, and/or; type and amount of equipment needed;
- Reporting time and location;
- Authority to whom forces should report;
- Safe access routes into the affected area(s);
- Estimated duration of operations; and
- Any known risks or hazards

12.0 RECOVERY OPERATIONS

There is no clearly defined separation between response and recovery. As the threat to life, property and the environment dissipates, the attention and efforts of the EOC will focus on recovery issues. Recovery occurs in two phases - short-term and long-term – and addresses both public and private damages. Section 15.0, Part 3 to this plan provides more detailed recovery information and procedures.

12.1 Short Term Recovery

Short-term recovery operations will begin during the response phase of the emergency. The goal of short-term recovery is to restore the communities of the Tulare Operational Area to at least a minimal capacity, including:

- Utility and infrastructure restoration;
- Expanded social, medical, and mental health services;
- Re-establishment of government operations;
- Transportation route re-opening;
- Debris removal;
- Cleanup operations;
- Abatement and demolition of hazardous structures; and
- Segregation and tracking of response costs to support effective cost recovery.

Each jurisdiction will coordinate its efforts to restore infrastructure and services during recovery operations. Medical services may need to operate from temporary facilities, as necessary. Tulare County Mental Health may also be called upon to coordinate and conduct Critical Incident Stress Management for emergency response personnel and victims of the disaster.

For federally declared disasters, call centers may be established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to assist disaster victims and businesses in applying for grants, loans, and other benefits. In coordination with the County Health and Human Services Agency and the American Red Cross (ARC), the Tulare OA may provide shelter for disaster victims, until long-term housing can be arranged.

The Tulare OA EOC will ensure that debris removal and cleanup operations are expedited. On the basis of damage assessment and safety inspections, structures that pose a public safety concern will be cordoned off to prevent entry, repaired, or demolished.



12.2 Long Term Recovery

The major objectives of long-term recovery operations include:

- Coordinating delivery of social and health services;
- Improving land use planning;
- Restoring local economy to pre-disaster levels;
- Recovering disaster response costs; and
- Integrating mitigation strategies into recovery planning and operations.

The goal of long-term recovery is to restore the community to its pre-disaster condition. Long-term recovery includes hazard mitigation activities, restoration or reconstruction of damaged public and private infrastructure / facilities, and disaster response cost recovery. Tulare County and each OA member jurisdiction are individually responsible for their own approach to mitigation, which could include zoning variances, building code changes, plan reviews, seismic safety elements, and other land use planning measures.

13.0 AFTER ACTION REPORTING

The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) regulations (GC §2450(a)) require any city, city and county, or county declaring a local emergency, for which the Governor proclaims a State of Emergency, to complete and transmit an after-action report (AAR) to Cal OES within 90 days of the close of the incident period. The AAR will provide, at a minimum, the following:

- Response actions taken;
- Application of SEMS;
- Suggested modifications to SEMS;
- Necessary modifications to plans and procedures;
- Training needs;
- Recovery activities to date; and
- Corrective Action / Improvement Plan.

The AAR will document the jurisdiction's emergency response activities, and identify areas of success and concern. It will also be utilized to develop a work plan for implementing corrective actions and needed improvements. Each jurisdiction is responsible for the completion and submission of its respective AAR to Cal OES within 90 days of the end of the incident period.

The Tulare County Office of Emergency Services will be responsible for the completion and distribution of the Tulare County and Operational Area AAR, including submission to Cal OES within the required 90-day period. Tulare County OES will coordinate with the applicable member jurisdictions and special districts in compiling their respective AARs into the OA AAR. The OA AAR will cover all SEMS levels, providing a broad perspective of the incident, referencing more detailed documents, and addressing all areas specified in regulations. It will include an overview of the incident, including enclosures, and will also address specific areas of the response, if necessary. Hazard mitigation efforts may be included in the "recovery actions to date" portion of the AAR.



These After Action Reports' primary audience will be County and city employees, especially management staff within each jurisdiction. As public documents, they are accessible to anyone who requests a copy and will be made available through the Tulare County Office of Emergency Services.

The SEMS statute and implementing regulations are written broadly enough to encompass the National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements for a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) without any additional SEMS regulatory changes. Therefore, the SEMS Guidelines will serve as the primary resource for developing AARs and the associated CAP.

See Section 14.0, Part 3 for more detailed information.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

TULARE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN 2030 UPDATE POLICIES

HEALTH AND SAFETY ELEMENT

HS-1.1 Maintain Emergency Public Services

The County shall ensure that during natural catastrophes and emergency situations, the County can continue to provide essential emergency services.

HS-1.5 Hazard Awareness and Public Education

The County shall continue to promote awareness and education among residents regarding possible natural hazards, including soil conditions, earthquakes, flooding, fire hazards, and emergency procedures.

HS-1.9 Emergency Access

The County shall require, where feasible, road networks (public and private) to provide for safe and ready access for emergency equipment and provide alternate routes for evacuation.

HS-1.10 Emergency Services Near Assisted Living Housing

In approving new facilities, such as nursing homes, housing for the elderly and other housing for the mentally and physically infirm, to the extent possible, the County shall ensure that such facilities are located within reasonable distance of fire and law enforcement stations.

HS-1.12 Addressing

The County shall seek to expand the Street Names and House Numbering Ordinance to all areas of the County, including private roads, for emergency 911 purposes.

HS-4.1 Hazardous Materials

The County shall strive to ensure hazardous materials are used, stored, transported, and disposed of in a safe manner, in compliance with local, State, and Federal safety standards, including the Hazardous Waste Management Plan, Emergency Operations Plan, and Area Plan.

HS-7.1 Coordinate Emergency Response Services with Government Agencies

The County shall coordinate emergency response with local, State, and Federal governmental agencies, community organizations, volunteer agencies, and other response partners during emergencies or disasters utilizing SEMS and NIMS.

HS-7.2 Mutual Aid Agreement

The County shall participate in established local, State, and Federal mutual aid systems. Where necessary and appropriate, the County shall enter into agreements to ensure the effective provision of emergency services, such as mass care, heavy rescue, hazardous materials, or other specialized function.

HS-7.3 Maintain Emergency Evacuation Plans

The County shall continue to create, revise, and maintain emergency plan for the broad range of natural and human-made disasters and response activities that could foreseeably impact Tulare County. This shall include, but not be limited to, flooding, dam failure, extreme weather, evacuation/transportation, mass care and shelter, and animal evacuation

and sheltering. Emergency Planning projects shall be in line with the County's Strategic Plan and Emergency Operations Plan, and incorporate current guidance and initiatives from State and Federal Emergency Management Agencies.

HS-7.4 Upgrading for Streets and Highways

The County shall evaluate and upgrade vital streets and highways to an acceptable level for emergency services.

HS-7.5 Emergency Centers

The County shall require emergency backup systems to enable uninterrupted continuous operations as required by the California Essential Facilities Act.

HS-7.6 Search and Rescue

The County should continue to provide search and rescue operation capabilities for the Tulare County Sheriff's Department in mountainous areas, including those areas on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada that are not served by all weather roads.

HS-7.7 Joint Exercises

The County shall encourage fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, resource management, public health, and other governmental and non-governmental response partners to periodically conduct joint training exercises with the goal of developing the best possible coordinated action in the event of a natural or human-made disaster across all local jurisdictions.

WATER RESOURCES ELEMENT

WR-3.7 Emergency Water Conservation Plan

The County shall develop an emergency water conservation plan for County operated water systems to identify appropriate conservation policies that can be implemented during times of water shortages caused by drought, loss of one or more major sources of supply, contamination of one or more sources of supply, or other natural or man-made events.

FOOTHILL GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN

FGMP-10.3 Fire and Crime Protection Plan

The County shall require that fire and crime protection plan considerations, including financing, be incorporated into all proposed developments to ensure adequate emergency services are available and able to serve new development.

Title 14- Natural Resources
Division 1.5- Department of Forestry
Chapter 7- Fire Protection
Subchapter 2 SRA Fire Safe Regulations
Articles 1-5

Article 1. Administration
Article 2. Emergency Access
Article 3. Signing and Building Numbering
Article 4. Emergency Water Standards
Article 5. Fuel Modification Standards

Article 1. Administration

1270. Title

These regulations shall be known as the "SRA Fire Safe Regulations" and shall constitute the basic wildland fire protection standards of the California Board of Forestry.

1270.01. Purpose

These regulations have been prepared and adopted for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction, and development in SRA. A local jurisdiction may petition the Board for certification pursuant to Section 1270.03. Where Board certification has not been granted, these regulations shall become effective September 1, 1991. The future design and construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in State Responsibility Area (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures as specified in the following articles. These measures shall provide for emergency access; signing and building numbering; private water supply reserves for emergency fire use; and vegetation modification. The fire protection standards which follow shall specify the minimums for such measures. Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1270.02. Scope

These regulations do not apply to existing structures, roads, streets and private lanes or facilities. These regulations shall apply as appropriate to all construction within SRA approved after January 1, 1991. Affected activities include but are not limited to:

- (a) Permitting or approval of new parcels, excluding lot line adjustments as specified in Government Code (GC) Section 66412(d),
- (b) application for a building permit for new construction, not relating to an existing structure,

- (c) application for a use permit,
- (d) the siting of manufactured homes (manufactured homes are as defined by the National Fire Protection Association, National Fire Code, Section 501A, Standard for Fire Safety Criteria for Manufactured Home Installations, Sites and Communities, Chapter 1, Section 1-2, Definitions, page 4, 1987 edition and Health and Safety Code Sections 18007, 18008 and 19971).
- (e) road construction, including construction of a road that does not currently exist, or extension of an existing road.

Exemption: Roads required as a condition of tentative parcel maps prior to the effective date of these regulations; roads for agricultural or mining use solely on one ownership; and roads used solely for the management and harvesting of wood products.

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

1270.03. Local Ordinances

Nothing contained in these regulations shall be considered as abrogating the provisions of any ordinance, rule or regulation of any state or local jurisdiction providing such ordinance, rule, regulation or general plan element is equal to or more stringent than these minimum standards. The Board may certify local ordinances as equaling or exceeding these regulations when they provide the same practical effect.

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Sections 4117 and 4290, Public Resources Code.

1270.04. Provisions for Application of these Regulations

This subchapter shall be applied as follows:

- (a) local jurisdictions shall provide the Director with notice of applications for building permits, tentative parcel maps, tentative maps, and use permits for construction or development within SRA.
- (b) Director shall review and make fire protection recommendations on applicable construction or development permits or maps provided by the local jurisdiction.
- (c) the local jurisdiction shall ensure that the applicable sections of this subchapter become a condition of approval of any applicable construction or development permit or map.

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

1270.05. Inspection Authority

(a) Inspection shall be made pursuant to Section 1270.06 by:

- (1) the Director; or
- (2) local jurisdictions that have assumed state fire protection responsibility on SRA lands, or
- (3) local jurisdictions where these regulations have been implemented through that jurisdiction's building permit or subdivision approval process.

(b) Reports of violations shall be provided to the CDF Ranger Unit headquarters that administers SRA fire protection in that county.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 4119 and 4290, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Section 4290, Public Resources Code.

1270.06. Inspections.

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

Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. **Reference:** Sections 4119, 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1270.07. Exceptions to Standards

Upon request by the applicant, exceptions to standards within this subchapter and mitigated practices may be allowed by the inspection authority, where the exception provides the same overall practical effect as these regulations toward providing defensible space.

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

1270.08. Requests for Exceptions

Requests for an exception shall be made in writing to the inspection authority by the applicant or the applicant's authorized representative. The request shall state the specific section(s) for which an exception is requested, material facts supporting the contention of the applicant, the details of the exception or mitigation measure proposed, and a map showing the proposed location and siting of the exception or mitigation measure.

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

1270.09. Appeals

Where an exception is not granted by the inspection authority, the applicant may appeal such denial to the local jurisdiction. The local jurisdiction may establish or utilize an appeal process consistent with existing local building or planning department appeal processes. Before the local jurisdiction makes a determination on an appeal, the inspection authority shall be consulted and shall provide to that local jurisdiction documentation outlining the effects of the requested exception on wildland fire protection.

If an appeal is granted, the local jurisdiction shall make findings that the decision meets the intent of providing defensible space consistent with these regulations. Such findings shall include a statement of reasons for the decision. A written copy of these findings shall be provided to the CDF Ranger Unit headquarters that administers SRA fire protection in that county.

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

1271.00. Definitions

Accessory building: Any building used as an accessory to residential, commercial, recreational, industrial, or educational purposed defined in the California Building Code, 1989 Amendments, Chapter 11, Group M, Division 1, Occupancy that requires a building permit.

Agriculture: Land used for agricultural purposes as defined in a local jurisdiction's zoning ordinances. **Building:** Any structure used or intended for supporting or sheltering any use or occupancy that is defined in the California Building Code, 1989 Amendments, Chapter 11, except Group M, Division 1, Occupancy. For the purposes of this subchapter, building includes mobile homes and manufactured homes, churches, and day care facilities.

CDF: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Dead-end road: A road that has only one point of vehicular ingress/egress, including cul-de-sacs and looped roads.

Defensible space: The area within the perimeter of a parcel, development, neighborhood or community where basic wildland fire protection practices and measures are implemented, providing the key point of defense from an approaching wildfire or defense against encroaching wildfires or escaping structure fires. The perimeter as used in this regulation is the area encompassing the parcel or parcels proposed for construction and/or development, excluding the physical structure itself. The area is characterized by the establishment and maintenance of emergency vehicle access, emergency water reserves, street names and building identification, and fuel modification measures.

Development: As defined in Section 66418.1 of the California Government Code.

Director: Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or his/her designee.

Driveway: A vehicular access that serves no more than two buildings, with no more than 3 dwelling units on a single parcel, and any number of accessory buildings.

Dwelling unit: Any building or portion thereof which contains living facilities, including provisions for sleeping, eating, cooking and/or sanitation for not more than one family.

Exception: An alternative to the specified standard requested by the applicant that may be necessary due to health, safety, environmental conditions, physical site limitations or other limiting conditions such as recorded historical sites, that provides mitigation of the problem.

Fire valve: see hydrant.

Fuel modification area: An area where the volume of flammable vegetation has been reduced, providing reduced fire intensity and duration.

Greenbelts: A facility or land-use, designed for a use other than fire protection, which will slow or resist the spread of a wildfire. Includes parking lots, irrigated or landscaped areas, golf courses, parks, playgrounds, maintained vineyards, orchards or annual crops that do not cure in the field.

Hammerhead/T: A roadway that provides a "T" shaped, three-point turnabout space for emergency equipment, being no narrower than the road that serves it.

Hydrant: A valved connection on a water supply/storage system, having at least one 2 1/2 inch outlet, with male American National Fire Hose Screw Threads (NH) used to supply fire apparatus and hoses with water.

Local Jurisdiction: Any county, city/county agency or department, or any locally authorized district that issues or approves building permits, use permits, tentative maps or tentative parcel maps, or has authority to regulate development and construction activity.

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

One-way road: A minimum of one traffic lane width designed for traffic flow in one direction only.

Roads, streets, private lands: Vehicular access to more than one parcel; access to any industrial or commercial occupancy; or vehicular access to a single parcel with more than two buildings or four or more dwelling units.

Roadway: Any surface designed, improved, or ordinarily used for vehicle travel.

Roadway structures: Bridges, culverts, and other appurtenant structures which supplement the roadway bed or shoulders.

Same Practical Effect: As used in this subchapter, means an exception or alternative with the capability of applying accepted wildland fire suppression strategies and tactics, and provisions for fire fighter safety, including:

- (a) access for emergency wildland fire equipment,
- (b) safe civilian evacuation,
- (c) signing that avoids delays in emergency equipment response,
- (d) available and accessible water to effectively attack wildfire or defend a structure from wildfire, and
- (e) fuel modification sufficient for civilian and fire fighter safety.

Shoulder: Roadbed or surface adjacent to the traffic lane.

State Board of Forestry (SBOF): A nine member board, appointed by the Governor, which is responsible for developing the general forest policy of the state, for determining the guidance policies of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and for representing the state's interest in federal land in California.

State Responsibility Area (SRA): As defined in Public Resources Code Sections 4126-4127; and the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Division 1.5, Chapter 7, Article 1, Sections 1220-1220.5.

Structure: 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.

Subdivision: As defined in Section 66424 of the Government Code.

Traffic lane: The portion of a roadway that provides a single line of vehicle travel.

Turnaround: A roadway, unobstructed by parking, which allows for a safe opposite change in direction for emergency equipment. Design of such area may be a hammerhead/T or terminus bulb.

Turnouts: A widening in a roadway to allow vehicles to pass. Vertical clearance: The minimum specified height of a bridge or overhead projection above the roadway.

Wildfire: As defined in Public Resources Code Sections 4103 and 4104.

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

1271.05. Distance Measurements All specified or referenced distances are measured along the ground, unless otherwise stated.

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

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 in 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.

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

Article 2. Emergency Access

1273.00. Intent

Road and street networks, whether public or private, unless exempted under Section 1270.02 (e), shall provide for safe access for emergency wildland fire equipment and civilian evacuation concurrently, and shall provide unobstructed traffic circulation during a wildfire emergency consistent with Section 1273.00 through 1273.11.

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

1273.01. Road Width

All roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum of two nine-foot traffic lanes providing two-way traffic flow, unless other standards are provided in this article, or additional requirements are mandated by local jurisdictions or local subdivision requirements.

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

1273.02. Roadway 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.

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

1273.03. Roadway Grades

The grade for all roads, streets, private lands and driveways shall not exceed 16 percent.

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

1273.04. Roadway 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.

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

1273.05. Roadway 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.

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

1273.06. Roadway Turnouts

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

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

1273.07. Roadway Structures

(a) All driveway, road, street, and private land roadway structures 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.

(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.

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

1273.08 One-Way Roads

All one-way roads shall be constructed to provide a minimum of one 10-foot traffic lane. The local jurisdiction may approve one-way roads. All one-way roads shall connect to a two-lane roadway at both ends, and shall provide access to an area currently zoned for no more than 10 dwelling units. In no case shall it exceed 2640 feet in length. A turnout shall be placed and constructed at approximately the midpoint of each one-way road.

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

1273.09. Dead-End Roads

(a) The maximum length of a dead-end road, including all dead-end roads accessed from that dead-end road, shall not exceed the following cumulative lengths, regardless of the number of parcels served:

parcels zoned for less than one acre	800 feet
parcels zoned for 1 acre to 4.99 acres	1320 feet
parcels zoned for 5 acres to 19.99 acres	2640 feet
parcels zoned for 20 acres or larger	5280 feet

All lengths shall be measured from the edge of the roadway surface at the intersection that begins the road to the end of the road surface at its farthest point. Where a dead-end road crosses areas of differing zoned parcel sizes, requiring length limits, the shortest allowable length shall apply.

(b) Where parcels are zoned 5 acres or larger, turnarounds shall be provided at a maximum of 1320 foot intervals.

(c) Each dead-end road shall have a turnaround constructed at its terminus.
Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1273.10. Driveways

All driveways shall provide a minimum 10 foot traffic lane and unobstructed vertical clearance of 15 feet 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.

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

1273.11 Gate Entrances

(a) Gate entrances shall be at least two feet wider 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.

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

Article 3: Signing and Building Numbering

1274.00. Intent

To facilitate locating a fire and to avoid delays in response, all newly constructed or approved roads, streets, 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 or numbers appearing on street signs for other purposes.

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

1274.01. 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 3 inch letter height, 3/8 inch stroke, reflectorized, contrasting with the background color of the sign.

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

1274.02. 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.

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

1274.03. Height of Street and Road Signs

Height of street and road signs shall be uniform county wide, and meet the visibility and legibility standards of this article.

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

1274.04. Names and Numbers on Street and Road Signs

Newly constructed or approved public and private roads and streets must be identified by a name or number through a consistent countywide system that provides for sequenced or patterned numbering and/or non-duplicating naming within each county. All signs shall be mounted and oriented in a uniform manner. This section does not require any entity to rename or renumber existing roads or streets, nor shall a roadway providing access only to a single commercial or industrial occupancy require naming or numbering.

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

1274.05. Intersecting Roads, Streets and Private Lanes

Signs required by this article identifying intersecting roads, streets and private lanes shall be placed at the intersection of those roads, streets and/or private lanes.

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

1274.06. Signs Identifying Traffic Access Limitations

A sign identifying traffic access or flow limitations, including, but not limited to weight or vertical clearance limitations, dead-end road, one-way road (or single land conditions) shall be placed:

(a) at the intersection preceding the traffic access limitation, and (b) no more than 100 feet before such traffic access limitation.

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

1274.07. Installation of Road, Street, and Private Lane Signs

Road, street and private land signs required by this article shall be installed prior to final acceptance by the local jurisdiction of road improvements.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

Article 4. Emergency Water Standards

1275.00. Intent

Emergency water for wildlife protection shall be available and accessible in quantities and locations specified in the statute and these regulations, in order to attack a wildfire or defend property from a wildfire. Such emergency water may be provided in a fire agency mobile water tender, or naturally occurring or manmade containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately available.

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

1275.01. Application

The provisions of this article shall apply when new parcels are approved by a local jurisdiction. The emergency water system shall be available on-site prior to the completion of road construction, where a community water system is approved, or prior to the completion of building construction, where an individual system is approved.

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

1275.10 General Standards

Water systems that meet or exceed the standards specified in Public Utilities Commission of California (PUC) revised General Order #103, Adopted June 12, 1956 (Corrected September 7, 1983, Decision 83-09-001), Section VIII Fire Protection Standards and other applicable sections relating to fire protection water delivery systems, static water systems equaling or exceeding the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1231, "Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting," 1989 Edition, or mobile water systems that meet the Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rural Class 8, 2nd Edition 3-80, standard shall be accepted as meeting the requirements of this article. These documents are available at CDF Ranger Unit Headquarters.

Nothing in this article prohibits the combined storage of emergency wildfire and structural firefighting water supplies unless so prohibited by local ordinance or specified by the local fire agency. Where freeze protection is required by local jurisdiction, such protection measures shall be provided.

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

1275.15 Hydrant/Fire Valve

(a) 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:

- (1) be not less than 50 feet nor more than 1/2 mile by road from the building it is to serve, and
- (2) be located at a turnout or turnaround, along the driveway to that building or along the road that intersects with that driveway.

(b) The hydrant head shall be brass with 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.

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

1275.20 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,

(1) 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 said hydrant/fire valve, with the sign no less than 3 feet nor greater than 5 feet above ground, in a horizontal position and visible from the driveway, or

(2) as specified in the State Fire Marshal's Guidelines for Fire Hydrant Markings Along State Highways and Freeways, May 1988.

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

Article 5. 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; and (2) a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.
Note: Authority cited: Section 4290, Public Resources Code. Reference: Section 4290 and 4291, Public Resources Code.

1276.01. Setbacks 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 a road.

(b) For parcels less than 1 acre, local jurisdictions shall provide for the same practical effect.

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

1276.02. Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels

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.

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

1276.03. Greenbelts Subdivisions and other developments, which propose greenbelts as a part of the development plan, shall locate said greenbelts strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspection authority.

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

1299. Defensible Space.

The intent of this regulation is to provide guidance for implementation of Public Resources Code 4291(a) and (b), and minimize the spread of fire within a 100 foot zone around a building or structure.

(a) 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, and is within State Responsibility Area, shall do the following:

(1) Within 30 feet from each building or structure maintain a firebreak by removing and clearing away all flammable vegetation and other combustible growth pursuant to PRC § 4291 (a). Single specimens of trees or other vegetation may be retained provided they are well spaced, well-pruned, and create a condition that avoids spread of fire to other vegetation or to a building or structure.

(2) Within the 30 feet to 100 feet zone (Reduced Fuel Zone) from each building or structure (or to the property line, whichever is nearer to the structure), provide a fuel break by disrupting the vertical and/or horizontal continuity of flammable and combustible vegetation with the goal of reducing fire intensity, inhibiting fire in the crowns of trees, reducing the rate of fire spread, and providing a safer environment for firefighters to suppress wildfire pursuant to PRC § 4291 (b).

(b) Any vegetative fuels identified as a fire hazard by the fire inspection official of the authority having jurisdiction shall be removed or modified provided it is required by subsection (a)(1) & (a)(2).

(c) Within the intent of the regulations, the fire inspection official of the authority having jurisdiction may approve alternative practices which provide for the same practical effects as the stated guidelines.

(d) Guidance for implementation of this regulation is contained in the publication: "General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space" as published by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection by resolution adopted on February 8, 2006.



JOE GARCIA
CHIEF

TULARE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

907 West Visalia Road, Farmersville, CA 93223 - Phone (559) 747-8233 - Fax (559) 747-8242

State Responsibility Area (SRA)

SITE PLAN REQUIREMENTS:

1. A 100-ft. clearance must be provided from all flammable vegetation. Vegetation must be disposed of prior to the start of construction. Disposal may be accomplished by chipping, discing and removal to a County waste disposal facility.

Private Road Standards:

1. A private road shall have a minimum 18 foot wide all weather surface traffic lane. Private roads that can not meet this standard shall meet the turnout requirements set forth for a driveway. Private roads shall be constructed with an all weather surface capable of supporting a minimum load of 40,000 pounds. Private Roads should not exceed a 16% grade. Private roads that exceed 16% grade shall be in accordance with the Tulare County Road Improvement Standards which require 2 inches of asphalt concrete over 4 inches of aggregate base material.

Driveway Standards:

1. Driveways are limited to 16% grade with an all weather surface that can sustain a load tolerance of 40,000 lbs. Driveways that are 18 ft. or wider with all weather access do not have to provide turnouts.

A. A minimum of a 12 ft. wide all weather surface for residential driveway shall be provided and A minimum of a 20 ft. wide all weather surface for commercial driveway shall be provided. A minimum of 15 ft. vertical clearance shall be provided the length of both a driveway and a private road.

Turnouts:

- 1) Driveways exceeding 150 ft., but less than 800 ft., shall provide a turnout midpoint.
- 2) Driveways in excess of 800 ft. shall provide an approved turnout every 400 ft.
- 3) Turnouts shall be a minimum of 10 ft. wide and 30 ft. long with a minimum of 25 ft. taper on each end.
- 4) A bulb turnaround (40 ft. unobstructed turn radius) or hammerhead "T" shall be provided at all building sites. Driveways in excess of 300 ft. shall provide a turnaround within 50 ft. of the proposed structure.

(Rev 01-12)

Gate Entrances:

1. Driveway gates shall be 2 feet wider than the access lane and be set back a minimum of 30 ft. to allow a fire engine to stop and open the gate without blocking the street. The gate swing direction must be taken into account. A Knox padlock or gate override shall be required at all gates.

Premises Identification:

1. House numbers / structure numbers shall be provided. The numbers shall be a minimum of 4 inches high with a ½ inch line width. The numbers shall be placed so that they are clearly visible from an adjacent public roadway and shall be of a reflective color that contrasts sharply with the background. If the structure is located more than 100 ft. from a public roadway, the numbers shall be placed upon a non-combustible sign and posted at the intersection of the driveway and the public road.

Fire Protection:

Install an automatic fire sprinkler system within each dwelling unit as per standards set forth in NFPA 13D. Three (3) copies of said sprinkler plans shall be submitted to the Fire Department for review and approval prior to construction. The contractor for the system must be appropriately licensed.

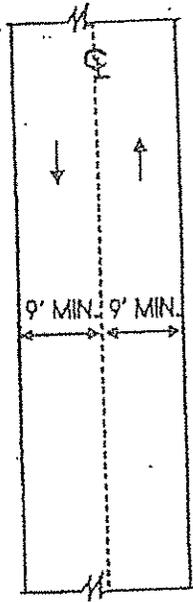
The applicant shall select one of the following as a means of providing fire flow protection:

1. Install a pressurized fire hydrant (system) in compliance with NFPA 24 Standards. Copies of improvement plans shall be submitted to the Fire Department and the Public Works Department (3 copies each) for review prior to construction..
2. Install a fire suppression water storage tank meeting NFPA 1142 & NFPA 22 requirements. The locations shall be designated by the Fire Department. The tank shall be equipped with a valved 4-1/2" (National Hose Thread) connection (Also see Tank Standard). Plans for said system shall be reviewed and approved by the Fire Department prior to the start of any construction.

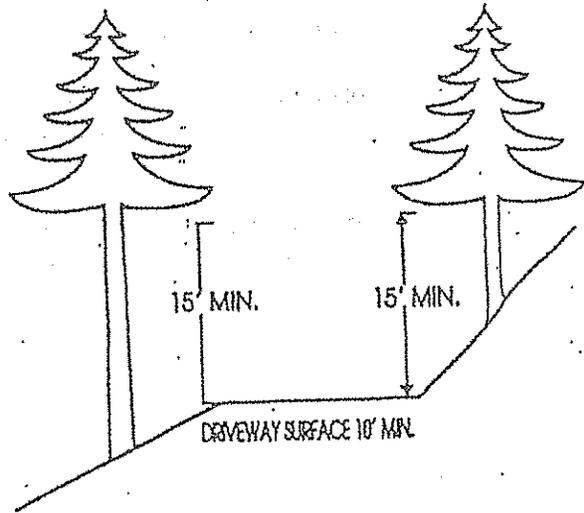
Note: An alternate means of protection may be required or submitted to the Fire Marshal to offset other conditions that cannot be met.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS:

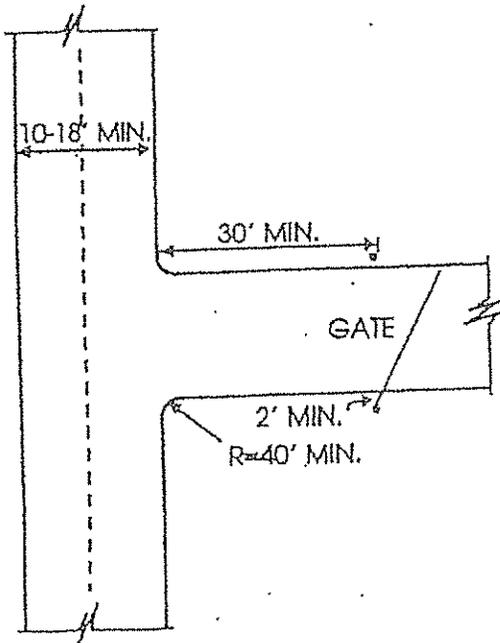
1. All building construction shall meet California Building Code, Chapter 7A, Wildland Urban Interface building standards. (Rev 01-12)



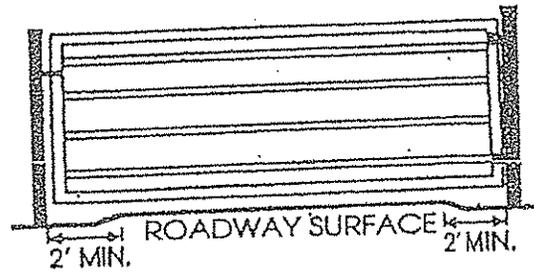
TWO-LANE ROAD



DRIVEWAY



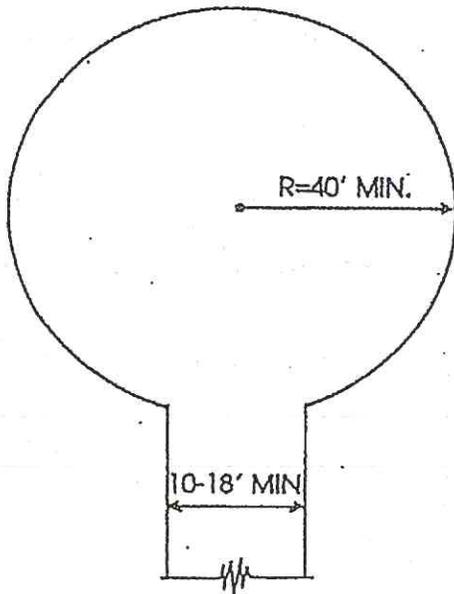
GATED ENTRANCES



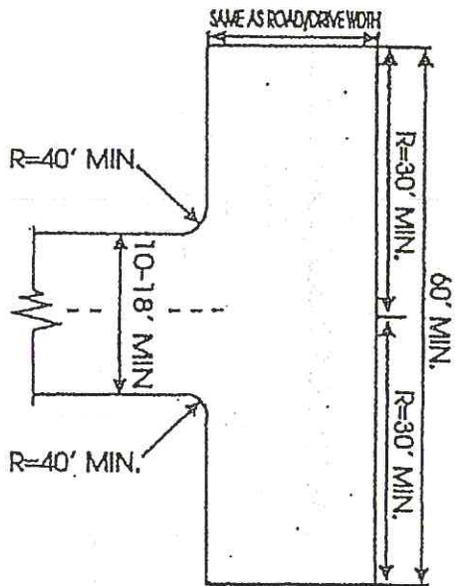
GATES

GATES, ROADWAY WIDTHS AND VERTICAL CLEARANCE

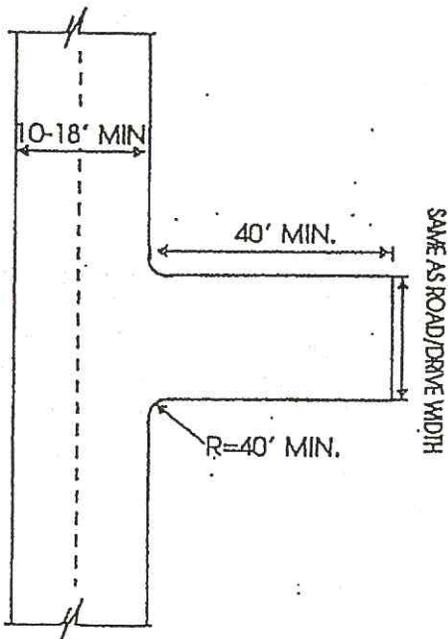
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FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION



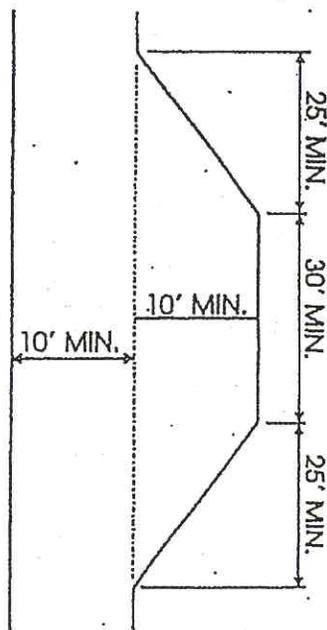
TURNAROUND



HAMMERHEAD/T



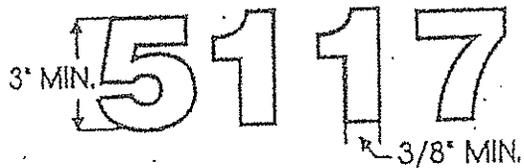
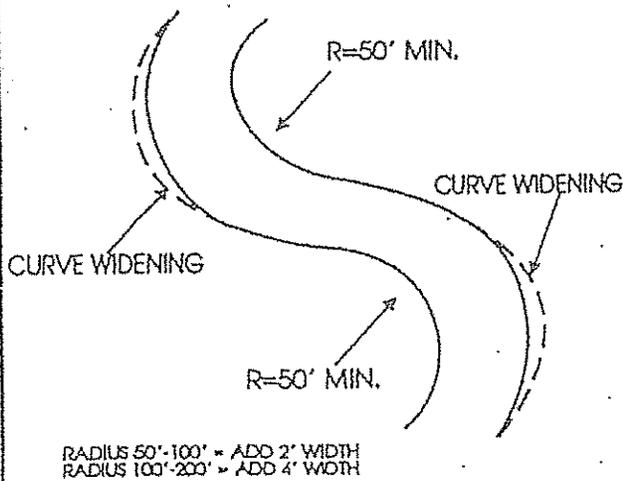
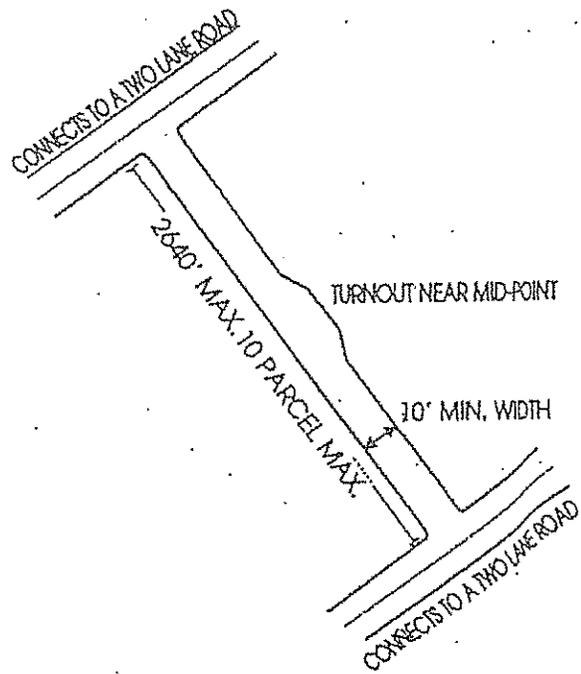
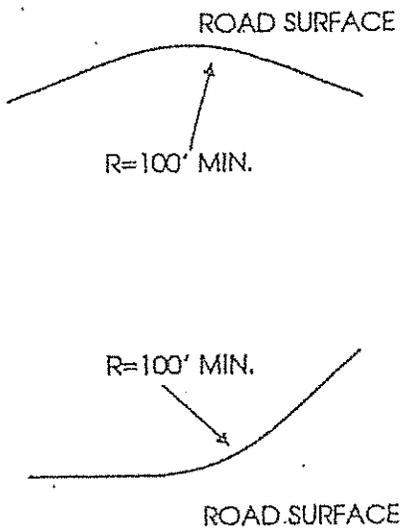
TURNAROUND



TURNOUT

TURNOUTS AND TURNAROUNDS

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FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION



CURVES, ADDRESSES & ONE-WAY ROADS

PRC 4290 GUIDEBOOK
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

3. Tulare County General Plan Health and Safety Element.



10. Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Element is divided into the following sections:

- General (Section 10.1)
- Geologic and Seismic Hazards (Section 10.2)
- Airport Hazards (Section 10.3)
- Hazardous Materials (Section 10.4)
- Flood Hazards (Section 10.5)
- Urban and Wildland Fire Hazards (Section 10.6)
- Emergency Response (Section 10.7)
- Noise (Section 10.8)
- Healthy Communities (Section 10.9)
- Work Plan/Implementation Measures (Section 10.10)

Key Terms

The following terms are used throughout this Element to describe health and safety issues:

“A” Weighted Sound Level. Means a sound level in decibels as measured with a sound level meter using the “A” weighted network (scale) at slow meter response. The unit of measurement is referred to herein as dB. The “A” weighted network responds to the frequency content of noise in a manner similar to the human ear.

CNEL. Means Community Noise Equivalent Level. The average equivalent A-weighted sound level during a 24-hour day, obtained after addition of five decibels to sound levels in the evening from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and after addition of ten decibels to sound levels in the night before 7:00 a.m. and after 10:00 p.m. Nighttime and evening penalties are intended to compensate for the increased potential for annoyance during these more sensitive times of the day or night.

Critical Facilities. Facilities housing or serving many people, that are necessary in the event of an earthquake or flood, such as hospitals, fire, police, and emergency service facilities, utility “lifeline” facilities, such as water, electricity, and gas supply, sewage disposal, and communications and transportation facilities.

Decibel (dB). A unit of measurement describing the amplitude of sound, equal to 20 times the logarithm to the base 10 of the ratio of the pressure of the sound measured to the reference pressure (which is 20 micronewtons per square meter).

Equivalent Energy Level, "L_{eq}". Means the sound level corresponding to a steady state sound level containing the same total energy as a time varying signal over a given sample period. L_{eq} is typically computed over 1, 8, and 24-hour sample periods.

Fault. A fault is a fracture in the Earth's crust that is accompanied by displacement between the two sides of the fault. An active fault is defined as a fracture that has shifted in the last 10,000 to 12,000 years (Holocene Period). A potentially active fault is one that has been active in the past 1.6 million years (Quaternary Period). A sufficiently active fault is one that shows evidence of Holocene displacement on one or more of its segments or branches.

Floodplain. Land adjacent to a stream, slough, or river that is subject to flooding or inundation from a storm event. Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) defines the floodplain to be the area inundated by a 100-year flood.

Floodway. The channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height.

Hazardous Materials. A hazardous material is defined by the California Code of Regulations (CCR) as a substance that, because of physical or chemical properties, quantity, concentration, or other characteristics, may either (1) cause an increase in mortality or an increase in serious, irreversible, or incapacitating illness; or (2) pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, or deposited of (CCR, Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 10, Article 2, § 66260.10).

L_{dn}. Means Day/Night Average Level. The average equivalent A-weighted sound level during a 24-hour day, obtained after the addition of ten decibels to sound levels in the night before 7:00 a.m. and after 10:00 p.m. to account for increased human sensitivity during these hours.

L_{max}. Means the maximum A-weighted noise level recorded during a noise event.

Noise Sensitive Land Use. Noise sensitive receptors that include residential areas, hospitals, convalescent homes and facilities, schools, and other similar land uses.

Existing Conditions

Tulare County has many health and safety concerns, both human-made and naturally occurring, from noise, airport hazards, and hazardous materials, to flooding, and fires.

Tulare County is divided into two major physiographic and geologic provinces: the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the Central Valley. There are no known active faults in Tulare County. Tulare County rarely feels the effects of even the largest earthquakes from the nearest major fault line, the San Andreas Fault.

Tulare County also has human-made hazards such as airports, hazardous materials, and noise. Tulare County utilizes the Comprehensive Airport Land Use Plan (CALUP) to minimize danger to the public while still providing aviation services for public use airports in the County. Hazardous wastes are handled according to State and Federal law and the County's Hazardous Waste Management Plan.

Tulare County's noise producers include highways and roads, railroads, manufacturing plants, airports, and agricultural operations.

Land use, the built environment, and transportation options can also effect communities and contribute to the health, safety, and quality of life. One of the many means of preventing premature death is through crime prevention and promoting healthy lifestyles by means of community design.

Tulare County has a long history of flooding along its major rivers: the Kings, Kaweah, and Tule Rivers. In 1997, flooding occurred in Three Rivers, Springville, Lindsay, and Earlimart. In 2006, flooding occurred in Cutler-Orosi. Recent improvements to raise the elevation of the spillway at Terminous Dam and planned improvements to the Lake Success Dam will help to minimize future flood risk.

Tulare County has both urban and wildland fire hazards, creating the potential for injury, loss of life, and property damage.

Tulare County is served by several public safety and emergency response agencies. The County works closely with these agencies to ensure emergency preparedness.

Assembly Bill 162 (2007 Ca.Stats. 369) and Senate Bill 5 (2007 Ca.Stats. 364)

Assembly Bill 162 (AB 162), adopted in 2007, amended Government Code Section 65302(d)(3) and (g)(2) to require cities and counties to identify information regarding flood hazards upon revision of the jurisdiction's housing element on or after January 1, 2009. The requirements of Government Code Section 65302 (d)(3) and (g)(2)(A) are addressed in this General Plan Update as follows:

Figure 10-1 (Flood Hazards and Faults) displays information based on historic and current data regarding flood waters. Figure 10-1 shows:

- 1) The flood hazard zones (i.e. 100 and 500 Year Flood Zones) from the National Flood Insurance Rate maps published by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA);
- 2) The dam failure inundation maps prepared pursuant to Section 8589.5 that are available from California Emergency Management Agency;
- 3) The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Awareness Floodplain Mapping Program maps.

Figure 10-2 (Fire Threat) shows:

- 1) Data on areas vulnerable to wildfire; and,
- 2) Urban development boundaries, hamlet development boundaries, and mountain service centers where existing and planned development will occur including structures, roads, utilities, and essential public facilities.

Used in conjunction, Figures 10-1 and 10-2 show areas where FEMA flood zones and fire threats overlap to identify areas vulnerable to flooding after wildfires; The Figures also show where flood hazard zones are within these urban boundaries.

Furthermore, Figure 10-1, along with Figure 8-1 (Tulare County Plan For Open Space) in Chapter 8, the Environmental Resource Management Element, Part I, identifies rivers, creeks, streams, flood corridors, and all open space land, including riparian habitat, that may accommodate floodwater for the purposes of groundwater recharge and stormwater management.

Senate Bill 5 (SB 5), also adopted in 2007, authorized the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) to develop the Best Available Maps (BAM) displaying 100- and 200-year floodplains for areas located within the Sacramento-San Joaquin (SAC-SJ) Valley watershed. SB 5 requires that these maps contain the best available information on flood hazards and be provided to cities and counties in the SAC-SJ Valley watershed. This effort was completed by DWR in 2008. Tulare County is not in the SAC-SJ Valley watershed, and 200-year floodplains for Tulare County were not included as a part of that study. The DWR has two Levee Flood Protection Zone (LFPZ) maps within the Sacramento River

Tulare County General Plan

Basin and the San Joaquin River Basin. According to the San Joaquin River Basin map there is no LFPZ for the Tulare County area. Furthermore, the County has not designated any levee protection zones. Areas subject to inundation in the event of the failure of the levees or floodwalls in proximity to the City of Visalia are included in the FEMA information set forth in Figures 10-1 and 8-1, "FEMA 100 Year Flood Zone" and "FEMA 500 Year Flood Zone."¹

The designated floodway maps from the former Reclamation Board, a predecessor to the Central Valley Flood Protection Board with a larger study area, were used to establish the Tulare County Flood Prevention Ordinance (Ordinance Code of Tulare County, Part VII, Chapter 27) Flood Plain zones. The Ordinance defines "floodway" as:

"FLOODWAY" means the channel of a river or other watercourse and the adjacent land area that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one (1) foot. The floodway is delineated on the Flood Boundary Floodway Map, on maps adopted by the State Reclamation Board when acting within its jurisdiction, and/or on the County Zoning Map (signified by the F-1, Primary Flood Plain Zone). The designated floodway maps are provided in General Plan Figure 10-3.

In addition, the Tulare County Flood Control Master Plan (FCMP) was adopted by the Tulare County Board of Supervisors in 1972 upon the recommendations of the Tulare County Flood Control District. This Element of the General Plan addresses issues particularly related to flood control along natural watercourses in Tulare County. This adopted Element is incorporated into this General Plan Update document as Chapter 15 but is not being amended at this time.

The Tulare County Flood Control Master Plan also contains historical data on flooding, including locally prepared maps of areas subject to flooding, and sites that have been repeatedly damaged by flooding. Historical information about flood hazards from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is also included in the Flood Control Master Plan as noted in its selected bibliography on page 58. According to the Army Corp of Engineers Cal EMA now controls authorship of any studies used to process flood information from the USACE by 1986. Furthermore, information from the Cal EMA website included in Figure 10-1, states that its information is based upon information from the USACE.² In July 2012 the County contacted the USACE by phone and by email, but has received no additional relevant information.

In accordance with 65302 (g) (2) (B and C) the County has included Policies (Section 10.5 Flood Hazards and 10.6 Urban and Wildland Fire Hazards) and Implementation Measures in sections 10.10 based upon the above information. The General Plan Policies and implementation measures used in conjunction with the County's zoning and flood ordinances provide a reasonable protection of county uses from unreasonable risk of flooding.

Existing and planned development in flood hazard zones can be viewed by comparing Figures 10-1 and Figure 4-1. Local, state, and federal agencies with responsibility for flood protection include; California Department of Water Resources, US Department of Interior, Geological Survey, Corp of

¹ The levees in the Visalia area were not certified at the time of publication of the updated Visalia area Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) in 2008. Uncertified levees are therefore not relied upon in mapping flood information, as discussed under 44 CFR § 65.10 or the previous freeboard policy in place since February 10, 1981 (51 Fed. Reg. 30305 (August 25, 1986)). FEMA guidance also notes that "Decertified and uncertified levees will not be depicted on flood maps as providing the required level of protection. The areas behind these levees will be mapped as a high-risk areas and flood insurance will be required for buildings behind the levee with a federally backed mortgage." (FEMA, The NFIP and Levees Frequently Asked Questions, October 2006, page 3.)

² See <http://myplan.calema.ca.gov/> under "Flood/CA Specific" noting that "100-Year Floodplains" information is based in part upon "USACE Comprehensive Study."

Engineers, Department of the Army, Tulare County Flood Control District, Tulare County Planning Division, Three Rivers Soil Conservation District, Natural Resource Soil Conservation Service Department of Agriculture, Division of Soil Conservation State of California, Bureau of Reclamation, Southern San Joaquin Valley Flood Control and Water Conservation Association, California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region, California Department of Conservation, Kings River Conservation District, California Water Resources Control Board, and the Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District.

Additional Groundshaking and Landslide Information Resources

Tulare County is characterized as Severity Zone "Nil" and "Low" groundshaking with zero (no) declared landslides according to the updated report "State of California Multi - Hazard Mitigation Plan Chapter 6 - Other Hazards: Risks and Strategies" (published in October 2010) by the California Geological Survey, Department of California. This report does provide very general statewide maps of both "Landslide Hazard Potential" and "Declared Landslide (1950 to 2009) Events" and so is an additional resource for information that can be used in site specific project analysis in addition to Figure 10-4 Ground Shaking and Landslide Potential for Tulare County in this chapter. The referenced mapping specific to ground shaking and earthquake shaking potential within Tulare County taken from the Department of Conservation website indicate that Tulare County is located some distance from known, active faults and will experience lower levels of shaking less frequently. In most earthquakes, only weaker, masonry buildings would be damaged. However, very infrequent earthquakes could still cause strong shaking within Tulare County.

10.1 General

HS-1

To protect County residents and visitors from injury and damage resulting from natural catastrophes, man-made events, and hazardous conditions.

HS-1.1 Maintain Emergency Public Services

The County shall ensure that during natural catastrophes and emergency situations, the County can continue to provide essential emergency services.

HS-1.2 Development Constraints

The County shall permit development only in areas where the potential danger to the health and safety of people and property can be mitigated to an acceptable level.

HS-1.3 Hazardous Lands

The County shall designate areas with a potential for significant hazardous conditions for open space, agriculture, and other appropriate low intensity uses.

HS-1.4 Building and Codes

Except as otherwise allowed by State law, the County shall ensure that all new buildings intended for human habitation are designed in compliance with the latest edition of the California Building Code, California Fire Code, and other adopted standards based on risk (e.g., seismic hazards, flooding), type of occupancy, and location (e.g., floodplain, fault).

HS-1.5 Hazard Awareness and Public Education

The County shall continue to promote awareness and education among residents regarding possible natural hazards, including soil conditions, earthquakes, flooding, fire hazards, and emergency procedures.

Tulare County General Plan

HS-1.6 Public Safety Programs

The County shall promote public safety programs, including neighborhood watch programs, child identification and fingerprinting, public awareness and prevention of fire hazards, and other public education efforts.

HS-1.7 Safe Housing and Structures

The County shall continue to seek grant funding for the rehabilitation of deteriorated and dilapidated structures and provide available information regarding housing programs and other public services.

HS-1.8 Response Times Planning in GIS

The County shall utilize its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to track fire and law enforcement responses times and provide technical assistance to fire and law enforcement agencies.

HS-1.9 Emergency Access

The County shall require, where feasible, road networks (public and private) to provide for safe and ready access for emergency equipment and provide alternate routes for evacuation.

HS-1.10 Emergency Services Near Assisted Living Housing

In approving new facilities, such as nursing homes, housing for the elderly and other housing for the mentally and physically infirm, to the extent possible, the County shall ensure that such facilities are located within reasonable distance of fire and law enforcement stations.



See also Chapter 14-Public Facilities and Services, Policy PFS-7.5: Fire Staffing and Response Time Standards and Policy PFS -7.9: Sheriff Response Time.

HS-1.11 Site Investigations

The County shall conduct site investigations in areas planned for new development to determine susceptibility to landslides, subsidence/settlement, contamination, and/or flooding.

HS-1.12 Addressing

The County shall seek to expand the Street Names and House Numbering Ordinance to all areas of the County, including private roads, for emergency 911 purposes.

10.2 Geologic and Seismic Hazards

HS-2

To reduce the risk to life and property and governmental costs from seismic and geologic hazards.

HS-2.1 Continued Evaluation of Earthquake Risks

The County shall continue to evaluate areas to determine levels of earthquake risk.



See Figure 10-4 Ground Shaking and Landslide Potential for Tulare County and Figure 10-5: Seismic/Geologic Hazard and Microzones Map.

Tulare County General Plan

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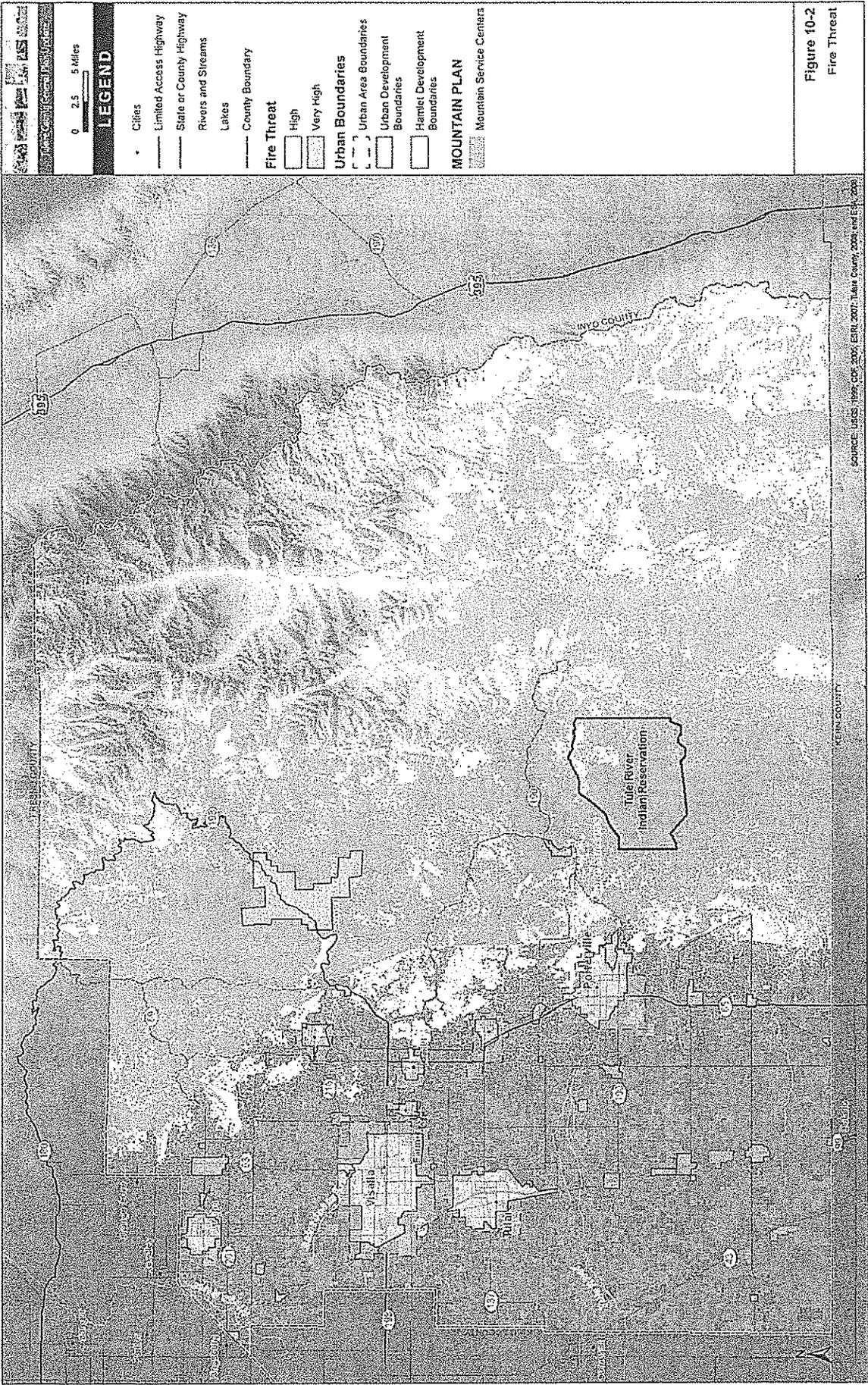


Figure 10-2
Fire Threat

Tulare County General Plan

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Tulare County General Plan

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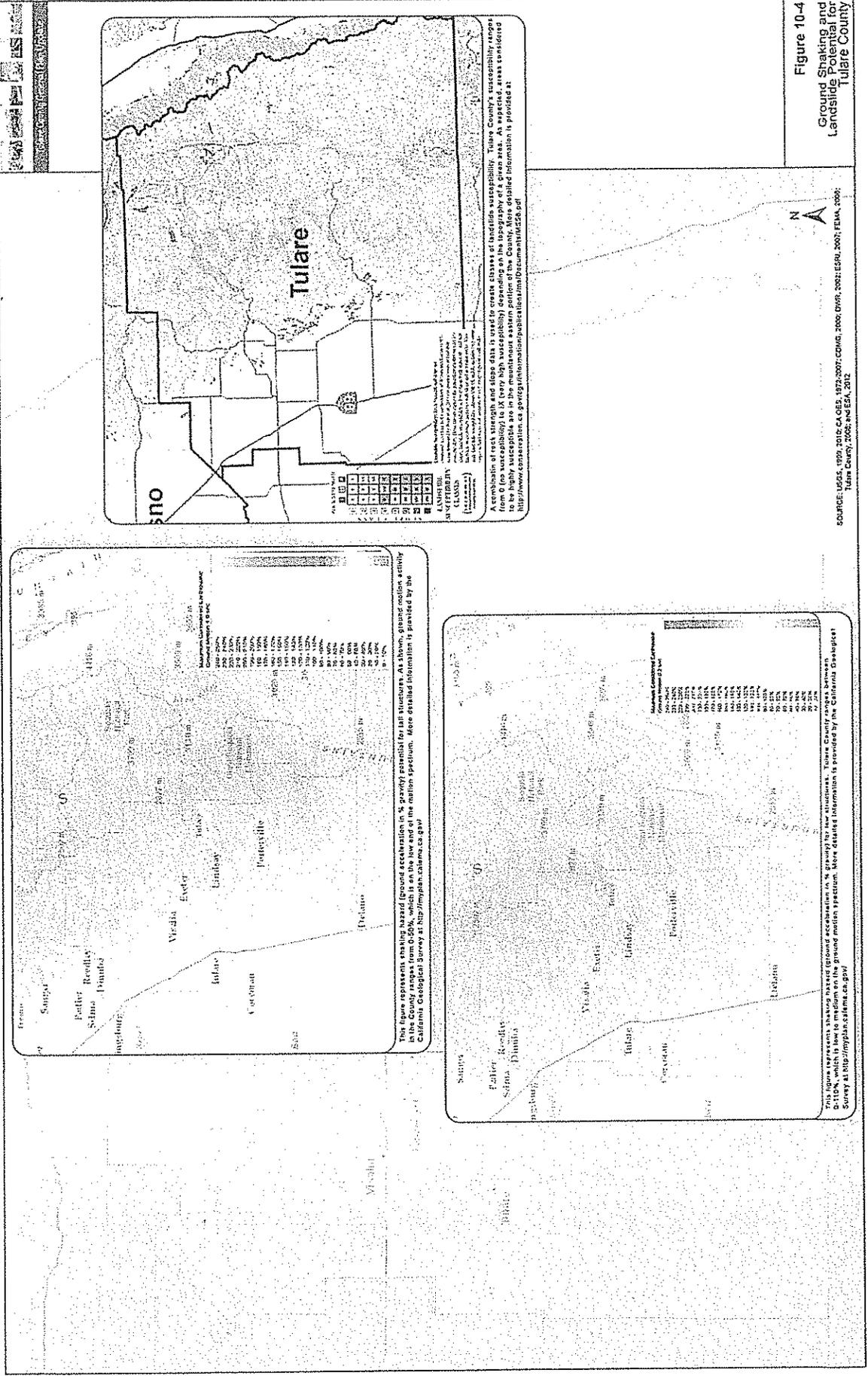
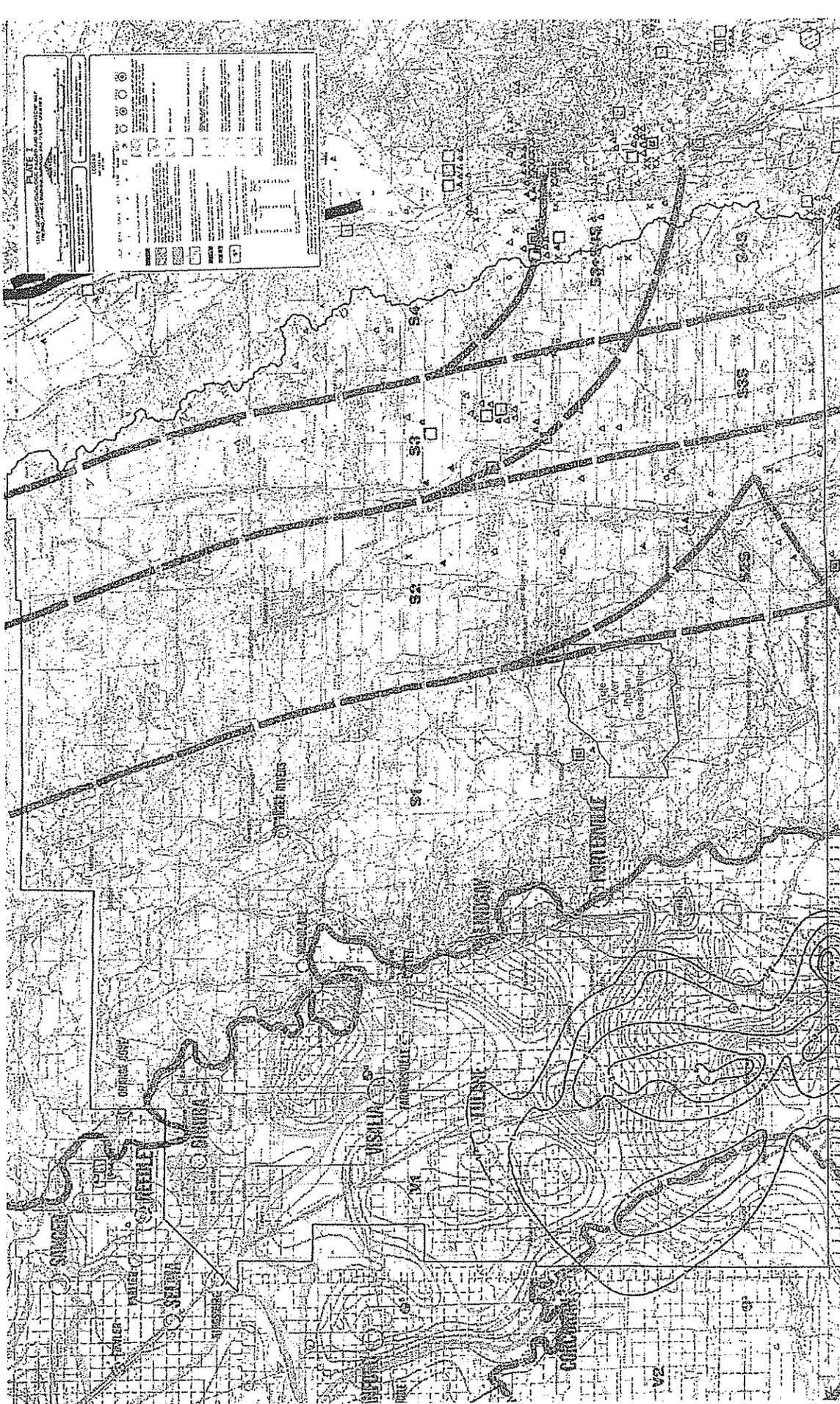


Figure 10-4
Ground Shaking and
Landslide Potential for
Tulare County

SOURCE: USGS, 1990; 2010; CA GCS, 1972-2007; CDWG, 2000; DWR, 2002; USGS, 2007; FEMA, 2009;
Tulare County, 2005; and ESA, 2012

Tulare County General Plan

Back of fold out



Seismic/Geologic Hazards and Microzone | Figure 10-5

Tulare County General Plan

Back of foldout

- HS-2.2 Landslide Areas**
The County shall not allow development on existing unconsolidated landslide debris.
- HS-2.3 Hillside Development**
The County shall discourage construction and grading on slopes in excess of 30 percent.
- HS-2.4 Structure Siting**
The County shall permit development on soils sensitive to seismic activity permitted only after adequate site analysis, including appropriate siting, design of structure, and foundation integrity.
- HS-2.5 Financial Assistance for Seismic Upgrades**
The County shall request Federal and State financial assistance to implement corrective seismic safety measures required for existing County buildings and structures.
- HS-2.6 Seismic Standards for Dams**
The County shall continue to address seismic standards of dam safety as promulgated by the State Division of Safety of Dams, as applicable to all new and existing structures.
- HS-2.7 Subsidence**
The County shall confirm that development is not located in any known areas of active subsidence. If urban development may be located in such an area, a special safety study will be prepared and needed safety measures implemented. The County shall also request that developments provide evidence that its long-term use of ground water resources, where applicable, will not result in notable subsidence attributed to the new extraction of groundwater resources for use by the development.
- HS-2.8 Alquist-Priolo Act Compliance**
The County shall not permit any structure for human occupancy to be placed within designated Earthquake Fault Zones (pursuant to and as determined by the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act; Public Resource code, Chapter 7.5) unless the specific provision of the Act and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations have been satisfied.

10.3 Airport Hazards

HS-3

To minimize the possibility of the loss of life, injury, or damage to property as a result of airport hazards.

- HS-3.1 Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan**
The County shall require that development around airports is consistent with the safety policies and land use compatibility guidelines contained in the adopted Tulare County Comprehensive Airport Land Use Plan (CALUP).



Complete rules and regulations for ensuring airport land use compatibility are found in the Tulare County Comprehensive Airport Land Use Plan (PUC Section 21675(a)).

- HS-3.2 Compliance with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Regulations**
The County shall ensure that development within the airport approach and departure zones is in compliance with Part 77 of the FAA Regulations (*FAA regulations that address objects affecting navigable airspace*).

10.4 Hazardous Materials

HS-4 To protect residents, visitors, and property from hazardous materials through their safe use, storage, transport, and disposal.

HS-4.1 Hazardous Materials

The County shall strive to ensure hazardous materials are used, stored, transported, and disposed of in a safe manner, in compliance with local, State, and Federal safety standards, including the Hazardous Waste Management Plan, Emergency Operations Plan, and Area Plan.

HS-4.2 Establishment of Procedures to Transport Hazardous Wastes

The County shall continue to cooperate with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to establish procedures for the movement of hazardous wastes and explosives within the County.

HS-4.3 Incompatible Land Uses

The County shall prevent incompatible land uses near properties that produce or store hazardous waste.

HS-4.4 Contamination Prevention

The County shall review new development proposals to protect soils, air quality, surface water, and groundwater from hazardous materials contamination.

HS-4.5 Increase Public Awareness

The County shall work to educate the public about household hazardous waste and the proper method of disposal.

HS-4.6 Pesticide Control

The County shall monitor studies of pesticide use and the effects of pesticide on residents and wildlife and require mitigation of the effects wherever feasible and appropriate.

HS-4.7 Coordination of Materials on Public Lands

The County shall work jointly with State and Federal land managers to coordinate the handling and disposal of hazardous materials on public lands *[New Policy]*.

HS-4.8 Hazardous Materials Studies

The County shall ensure that the proponents of new development projects address hazardous materials concerns through the preparation of Phase I or Phase II hazardous materials studies for each identified site as part of the design phase for each project. Recommendations required to satisfy federal or State cleanup standards outlined in the studies will be implemented as part of the construction phase for each project.

HS-4.9 Pesticide Use

The County shall support an integrated pest management program which includes the biological control methods overseen by the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioners Office.

10.5 Flood Hazards

HS-5 To minimize the possibility for loss of life, injury, or damage to property as a result of flood hazards.

HS-5.1 Development Compliance with Federal, State, and Local Regulations

The County shall ensure that all development within the designated floodway or floodplain zones conforms with FEMA regulations and the Tulare County Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance.

New development and divisions of land, especially residential subdivisions, shall be developed to minimize flood risk to structures, infrastructure, and ensure safe access and evacuation during flood conditions.

HS-5.2 Development in Floodplain Zones

The County shall regulate development in the 100-year floodplain zones as designated on maps prepared by FEMA in accordance with the following:

1. Critical facilities (those facilities which should be open and accessible during emergencies) shall not be permitted.
2. Passive recreational activities (those requiring non-intensive development, such as hiking, horseback riding, picnicking) are permissible.
3. New development and divisions of land, especially residential subdivisions, shall be developed to minimize flood risk to structures, infrastructure, and ensure safe access and evacuation during flood conditions.

i See also the *Tulare County Flood Control Master Plan (Chapter 15)*.

HS-5.3 Participation in Federal Flood Insurance Program

The County shall continue to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

HS-5.4 Multi-Purpose Flood Control Measures

The County shall encourage multipurpose flood control projects that incorporate recreation, resource conservation, preservation of natural riparian habitat, and scenic values of the County's streams, creeks, and lakes. Where appropriate, the County shall also encourage the use of flood and/or stormwater retention facilities for use as groundwater recharge facilities.

HS-5.5 Development in Dam and Seiche Inundation Zones

The County shall review projects for their exposure to inundation due to dam failure. If a project presents a direct threat to human life, appropriate mitigation measures shall be taken, including restriction of development in the subject area.

HS-5.6 Impacts to Downstream Properties

The County shall ensure that new County flood control projects will not adversely impact downstream properties or contribute to flooding hazards.

HS-5.7 Mapping of Flood Hazard Areas

The County shall require tentative and final subdivision maps and approved site plans to delineate areas subject to flooding during a 100-year flood event.

HS-5.8 Road Location

The County shall plan and site new roads to minimize disturbances to banks and existing channels and avoid excessive cuts and accumulations of waste soil and vegetative debris near natural drainage ways.

HS-5.9 Floodplain Development Restrictions

The County shall ensure that riparian areas and drainage areas within 100-year floodplains are free from development that may adversely impact floodway capacity or characteristics of natural/riparian areas or natural groundwater recharge areas.

HS-5.10 Flood Control Design

The County shall evaluate flood control projects involving further channeling, straightening, or lining of waterways until alternative multipurpose modes of treatment, such as wider berms and landscaped levees, in combination with recreation amenities, are studied.

HS-5.11 Natural Design

The County shall encourage flood control designs that respect natural curves and vegetation of natural waterways while retaining dynamic flow and functional integrity.



See also Figures 10-1 Flood Hazards and Faults and Figure 10-2 Fire Threat

10.6 Urban and Wildland Fire Hazards

HS-6

To minimize the exposure of County residents, visitors, and public and private property to the effects of urban and wildland fires.

HS-6.1 New Building Fire Hazards

The County shall ensure that all building permits in urban areas, as well as areas with potential for wildland fires, are reviewed by the County Fire Chief.

HS-6.2 Development in Fire Hazard Zones

The County shall ensure that development in extreme or high fire hazard areas is designed and constructed in a manner that minimizes the risk from fire hazards and meets all applicable State and County fire standards. This shall include promoting the use of fire resistant materials designed to reduce fire vulnerability within high or extreme fire hazard areas through use of Article 86-A of the 2001 California Fire Code and other nationally recognized standards, as may be updated periodically. Special consideration shall be given to the use of fire-resistant-materials and fire-resistant-construction in the underside of eaves, balconies, unenclosed roofs and floors, and other similar horizontal surfaces in areas with steep slopes.

HS-6.3 Consultation with Fire Service Districts

The County shall consult the appropriate fire service district in areas identified as subject to high and extreme fire hazard, for particular regulations or design requirements prior to issuance of a building permit or approval of subdivisions.

HS-6.4 Encourage Cluster Development

The County shall encourage cluster developments in areas identified as subject to high or extreme fire hazard, to provide for more localized and effective fire protection measures

such as consolidations of fuel build-up abatement, firebreak maintenance, fire fighting equipment access, and water service provision.

HS-6.5 Fire Risk Recommendations

The County shall encourage the County Fire Chief to make recommendations to property owners regarding hazards associated with the use of materials, types of structures, location of structures and subdivisions, road widths, location of fire hydrants, water supply, and other important considerations regarding fire hazard that may be technically feasible but not included in present ordinances or policies.

HS-6.6 Wildland Fire Management Plans

The County shall require the development of wildland fire management plans for projects adjoining significant areas of open space that may have high fuel loads.

HS-6.7 Water Supply System

The County shall require that water supply systems be adequate to serve the size and configuration of land developments, including satisfying fire flow requirements. Standards as set forth in the subdivision ordinance shall be maintained and improved as necessary.

HS-6.8 Private Water Supply

The County shall require separately developed dwellings with individual private water supply to provide an acceptable guaranteed minimum supply of water for fire safety, in addition to the amount required for domestic needs.

HS-6.9 Fuel Modification Programs

The County shall actively support fuel modification and reduction programs on public and private lands throughout the County.

HS-6.10 Fuel Breaks

In the Foothill and Mountain Plan Areas, the County shall require fuel breaks of at least 100 feet around structures that are in a wildland fire area to limit the risk of fires and property loss. Secondary fuel breaks up to 200 feet in width shall be required when the County Fire Chief finds that additional precautions are necessary.

HS-6.11 Fire Buffers

The County shall strive to maintain fire buffers along heavily traveled roads within high and extreme hazard zones by thinning, disking, or controlled burning. Parks, golf courses, utility corridors, roads, and open space areas shall be encouraged to locate so they serve a secondary function as a fuel break.

HS-6.12 Weed Abatement

The County shall continue to encourage weed abatement programs throughout the County in order to promote fire safety.

HS-6.13 Restoration of Disturbed Land

The County shall support the restoration of disturbed lands resulting from wildfires.

HS-6.14 Coordination with Cities

The County shall coordinate with cities to develop cohesive fire safety plans with overlapping coverage.

HS-6.15 Coordination of Fuel Hazards on Public Lands

The County shall work with local and Federal agencies to support efforts to reduce fuel related hazards on public lands.

10.7 Emergency Response

HS-7

To provide effective emergency response to natural or human-made hazards and disasters.

HS-7.1 Coordinate Emergency Response Services with Government Agencies

The County shall coordinate emergency response with local, State, and Federal governmental agencies, community organizations, volunteer agencies, and other response partners during emergencies or disasters utilizing SEMS and NIMS.

HS-7.2 Mutual Aid Agreement

The County shall participate in established local, State, and Federal mutual aid systems. Where necessary and appropriate, the County shall enter into agreements to ensure the effective provision of emergency services, such as mass care, heavy rescue, hazardous materials, or other specialized function.

HS-7.3 Maintain Emergency Evacuation Plans

The County shall continue to create, revise, and maintain emergency plan for the broad range of natural and human-made disasters and response activities that could foreseeably impact Tulare County. This shall include, but not be limited to, flooding, dam failure, extreme weather, evacuation/transportation, mass care and shelter, and animal evacuation and sheltering. Emergency Planning projects shall be in line with the County's Strategic Plan and Emergency Operations Plan, and incorporate current guidance and initiatives from State and Federal Emergency Management Agencies.

HS-7.4 Upgrading for Streets and Highways

The County shall evaluate and upgrade vital streets and highways to an acceptable level for emergency services.

HS-7.5 Emergency Centers

The County shall require emergency backup systems to enable uninterrupted continuous operations as required by the California Essential Facilities Act.

HS-7.6 Search and Rescue

The County should continue to provide search and rescue operation capabilities for the Tulare County Sheriff's Department in mountainous areas, including those areas on the eastern side of the Sierra Nevada that are not served by all weather roads.

HS-7.7 Joint Exercises

The County shall encourage fire, law enforcement, emergency medical services, resource management, public health, and other governmental and non-governmental response partners to periodically conduct joint training exercises with the goal of developing the best possible coordinated action in the event of a natural or human-made disaster across all local jurisdictions.

10.8 Noise

HS-8

To protect County residents and visitors from the harmful effects of excessive noise while promoting the County economic base.

HS-8.1 Economic Base Protection

The County shall protect its economic base by preventing the encroachment of incompatible land uses on known noise-producing industries, railroads, airports, and other sources.

HS-8.2 Noise Impacted Areas

The County shall designate areas as noise-impacted if exposed to existing or projected noise levels that exceed 60 dB Ldn (or Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL)) at the exterior of buildings.

HS-8.3 Noise Sensitive Land Uses

The County shall not approve new noise sensitive uses unless effective mitigation measures are incorporated into the design of such projects to reduce noise levels to 60 dB Ldn (or CNEL) or less within outdoor activity areas and 45 dB Ldn (or CNEL) or less within interior living spaces.

HS-8.4 Airport Noise Contours

The County shall ensure new noise sensitive land uses are located outside the 60 CNEL contour of all public use airports.

HS-8.5 State Noise Standards

The County shall enforce the State Noise Insulation Standards (California Administrative Code, Title 24) and Chapter 35 of the Uniform Building Code (UBC). Title 24 requires that interior noise levels not exceed 45 dB Ldn (or CNEL) with the windows and doors closed within new developments of multi-family dwellings, condominiums, hotels, or motels. Where it is not possible to reduce exterior noise levels within an acceptable range the County shall require the application of noise reduction technology to reduce interior noise levels to an acceptable level.

HS-8.6 Noise Level Criteria

The County shall ensure noise level criteria applied to land uses other than residential or other noise-sensitive uses are consistent with the recommendations of the California Office of Noise Control (CONC).



Table 10.1: Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Environments (see next page), is provided as a reference concerning the sensitivity of different land uses to their noise environment. It is intended to illustrate the range of noise levels which will allow the full range of activities normally associated with a given land use.

HS-8.7 Inside Noise

The County shall ensure that in instances where the windows and doors must remain closed to achieve the required inside acoustical isolation, mechanical ventilation or air conditioning is provided.

HS-8.8 Adjacent Uses

The County shall not permit development of new industrial, commercial, or other noise-generating land uses if resulting noise levels will exceed 60 dB Ldn (or CNEL) at the boundary of areas designated and zoned for residential or other noise-sensitive uses, unless it is determined to be necessary to promote the public health, safety and welfare of the County.

HS-8.9 County Equipment

The County shall strive to purchase equipment that complies with noise level performance standards set forth in the Health and Safety Element.

HS-8.10 Automobile Noise Enforcement

The County shall encourage the CHP, Sheriff's office, and local police departments to actively enforce existing sections of the California Vehicle Code relating to adequate vehicle mufflers, modified exhaust systems, and other amplified noise.

HS-8.11 Peak Noise Generators

The County shall limit noise generating activities, such as construction, to hours of normal business operation (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.). No peak noise generating activities shall be allowed to occur outside of normal business hours without County approval.

HS-8.12 Foothill and Mountain Noise

For areas designated by Tulare County as being within Foothill and Mountain Planning Areas and outside Foothill Development Corridors, the hourly Leq resulting from the development or new noise-sensitive land uses or new noise-generating sources shall not exceed 50 dB during the day (7:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m.) or 40 dB during the night (10:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m.) when measured at the boundary of areas containing or planned and zoned for residential or other noise-sensitive land uses. For these same areas and under the same circumstances, the maximum A-weighted noise level (Lmax) shall not exceed 70 dB during the day or 60 dB during the night.

HS-8.13 Noise Analysis

The County shall require a detailed noise impact analysis in areas where current or future exterior noise levels from transportation or stationary sources have the potential to exceed the adopted noise policies of the Health and Safety Element, where there is development of new noise sensitive land uses or the development of potential noise generating land uses near existing sensitive land uses. The noise analysis shall be the responsibility of the project applicant and be prepared by a qualified acoustical engineer (i.e., a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of California, etc.). The analysis shall include recommendations and evidence to establish mitigation that will reduce noise exposure to acceptable levels (such as those referenced in Table 10-1 of the Health and Safety Element).

HS-8.14 Sound Attenuation Features

The County shall require sound attenuation features such as walls, berming, heavy landscaping, between commercial, industrial, and residential uses to reduce noise and vibration impacts.

HS-8.15 Noise Buffering

The County shall require noise buffering or insulation in new development along major streets, highways, and railroad tracks.

Table 10.1 Land Use Compatibility for Community Noise Environments

Land Use Category	Community Noise Exposure-L _{dn} or CNEL (dB)							
	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	
Residential - Low Density Single Family, Duplex, Mobile Homes	█		█		█		█	
Residential – Multi-Family	█		█		█		█	
Transient Lodging – Motels, Hotels	█		█		█		█	
Schools, Libraries, Churches, Hospitals, Nursing Homes	█		█		█		█	
Auditoriums, Concerts Halls, Amphitheaters	█		█		█		█	
Sports Arenas, Outdoor Spectator Sports	█		█		█		█	
Playgrounds, Neighborhood Parks	█		█		█		█	
Golf Courses, Riding Stables, Water Recreation, Cemeteries	█		█		█		█	
Office Buildings, Business Commercial and Professional	█		█		█		█	
Industrial, Manufacturing, Utilities, Agriculture	█		█		█		█	
█	Normally Acceptable	Specified land use is satisfactory, based upon the assumption that any buildings involved are of normal conventional construction, without any special noise insulation requirements.						
█	Conditionally Acceptable	New construction or development should be undertaken only after a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements is made and needed noise insulation features are included in the design. Conventional construction, but with closed windows and fresh air supply systems or air conditioning will normally suffice.						
█	Normally Unacceptable	New construction or development should generally be discouraged. If new construction or development does proceed, a detailed analysis of the noise reduction requirements must be made and needed noise insulation features included in the design.						
█	Clearly Unacceptable	New construction or development generally should not be undertaken.						

[Source: Figure Noise-1. State Land Use Compatibility Standards for Community Noise Environment: California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, October 2003]

HS-8.16 State Noise Insulation

The County shall enforce the State Noise Insulation Standards (California Administrative Code, Title 24) and Chapter 35 of the Uniform Building Code.

HS-8.17 Coordinate with Caltrans

The County shall work with Caltrans to mitigate noise impacts on sensitive receptors near State roadways, by requiring noise buffering or insulation in new construction.

HS-8.18 Construction Noise

The County shall seek to limit the potential noise impacts of construction activities by limiting construction activities to the hours of 7 am to 7pm, Monday through Saturday when construction activities are located near sensitive receptors. No construction shall occur on Sundays or national holidays without a permit from the County to minimize noise impacts associated with development near sensitive receptors.

HS-8.19 Construction Noise Control

The County shall ensure that construction contractors implement best practices guidelines (i.e. berms, screens, etc.) as appropriate and feasible to reduce construction-related noise-impacts on surrounding land uses.

10.9 Healthy Communities

HS-9

To support healthy lifestyles among residents of Tulare County through the built environment and land use decisions that play an important role in shaping the pattern of community development, in either promoting or discouraging good health for its citizens.

HS-9.1 Healthy Communities

To the maximum extent feasible, the County shall strive through its land use decisions to promote community health and safety for all neighborhoods in the County by encouraging patterns of development that are safe and influence crime prevention, promote a high-quality physical environment and encourage physical activity by means such as sidewalks and walking and biking paths that discourage automobile dependency in existing communities.

HS-9.2 Walkable Communities

The County shall require where feasible, the development of parks, open space, sidewalks and walking and biking paths that promote physical activity and discourage automobile dependency in all future communities.

10.10 Work Plan/Implementation Measures

The following table documents the Implementation Measures included with the General Plan to implement the goals and policies included in this Element.

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2012-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
1. The County shall maintain a program for training County staff in disaster preparedness and response.	HS-1.1	OES				■
2. The County shall review and update the Public Health All Hazards Preparedness and Response Plan at least every 5 years.	HS-1.1	HHSA; PHEP				■
3. The County shall maintain an Emergency Services Program. The program shall perform comprehensive Emergency Management for the Tulare Operational Area, in the major categories of: a. Preparedness (including grants, planning, training and exercises), b. Response (including coordination with all local, State Federal, non-governmental, and volunteer agencies through the Emergency Operations Center), c. Recovery (including cost recovery, and other disaster assistance programs), d. Mitigation (including Local Hazard Mitigation Programs) The Emergency Services Program shall perform additional functions as prescribed by State (SEMS/CalEMA) and Federal (NIMA/FEMA) guidelines, including monitoring the adoption of NIMA by local jurisdictions.	HS-1.1 HS-1.5	OES				■
4. The County shall create a program that trains volunteers to assist police, fire, and County sheriff personnel how to perform effectively after a natural or human-made disaster.	HS-1.1 HS-1.5 HS-1.6	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department				■

Tulare County General Plan

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2012-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
5. The County shall actively maintain the Emergency Council, as defined by County Ordinance (Part 1, Chapter 15). The Emergency Council shall perform various functions, including but not restricted to: a. Reviewing the preparation and progress of the cities and County in carrying out disaster and emergency services plan and functions. b. Coordination public agencies for efficiency in protection of public safety.	HS-1.1 HS-7.7	CAO HHSA				■
6. The County shall monitor and continue to seek funding to rehabilitate unsafe and dilapidated structures.	HS-1.7	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department; HHSA				■
7. The County shall develop standards for numbering buildings on private driveways to assist emergency service personnel in locating structures.	HS-1.4 HS-1.12	RMA		■		
8. The County shall develop a public education program to foster public awareness about fire hazards to reduce injury and loss of life and damage to property and degradation of the natural environment, particularly in conjunction with the public school system and "critical facility" personnel.	HS-1.5 HS-1.6	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire; County Sheriff	■			
9. The County shall pre-identify and periodically review evacuation routes in anticipation of an emergency. During an emergency requiring and evacuation, the County shall cooperatively select and publicize evacuation routes with the assistance of all involved agencies, based on the best – available information regarding the situation, in order to ensure a safe, orderly, and well-managed evacuation.	HS-1.5 HS-1.6 HS-1.9	RMA; OES; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department				■
10. The County shall work with other local agencies, including cities within the County, to develop coordinated GIS planning that identifies and maps the location of all public facilities and	HS-1.8	RMA		■		

10. Health & Safety

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2012-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
emergency response agencies. Contingency plans for emergency response and recovery should be incorporated into this mapping system.						■
11. The County shall maintain a fire hazard severity map based on inputs from the Cal Fire and local fire districts within the County. The County shall use this map to determine if additional fire safety conditions should be applied as conditions of approval. If inside a fire hazard area, the County will consult with County Fire Department personnel, Cal Fire, and the U.S. Forest Service to determine appropriate protections. The County's fire hazard map will combine the following information: a. Number of fires by activity and area, b. Number of users in the area, c. Number of fires by ignition index in State responsibility areas, and d. Any other information request by the Emergency Council of the Tulare Operational Area as necessary.	HS-1.8 HS-6.6	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department				■
12. The County shall maintain its Hazardous Waste Management Plan and develop regulations for the placement of hazardous waste sites and develop standards for types of uses which would be compatible. Existing hazardous waste development requirements shall be enforced.	HS-4.1 HS-4.2 HS-4.3	RMA; HHSA, Env. Health				■
13. The County shall develop standards for the type, location, and intensity of development adjacent to sites and facilities for the production, use, storage, and disposal of toxic and hazardous materials.	HS-4.3	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department				■
14. The County shall maintain and annually update a Countywide database of FEMA flood plain maps to evaluate projects and provide to County residents, businesses, and developers.	HS-5.1 HS-5.2	RMA				■

Tulare County General Plan

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2012-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
15. The County shall adopt the following standards for use and development in areas of varying fire hazards and using the Fire Hazard Severity Scale as indicated below to review developments or uses within wildlands. The following minimum requirements should be met in relation to the three classes of Fire Hazard Severity as discussed within the context of the Health and Safety Element: a. Extreme Hazard – Extreme caution should be used in allowing development, particularly critical facilities. b. Moderate Hazard – Strict compliance with existing State statutes and local ordinances should provide adequate fire protection. c. Minimum Hazard – Development should be allowed, with recommendations for mitigation of hazard by Fire Warden.	HS-6.1 HS-6.2	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department	■			
16. The County shall work with the Fire Chief to develop a natural hazard disclosure statement for wildland fires to be recorded along with all development approvals in all moderate and extreme hazard areas.	HS-6.1 HS-6.2 HS-6.3	RMA; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department		■		
17. OES shall continue to conduct periodic emergency response exercises to ensure that all County departments respond efficiently and that emergency communications and other systems are to be properly maintained by RMA.	HS-7.1	OES; RMA				■
18. The County shall prepare and periodically update a set of measures and actions to comply with national and State Homeland Security standards for facility security.	HS-7.1	RMA; County Sheriff; CAL FIRE; County Fire Department				■
19. The County shall periodically update the Emergency Operations Plan to meet current Federal and State emergency requirements.	HS-7.3	OES				■
20. The County shall develop and implement procedures for	HS-8.5	RMA				■

10. Health & Safety

Implementation	Implements what Policy	Who is Responsible	2012-2015	2015-2020	2020-2030	On-Going
acoustical analysis of development proposals.						
21. The County shall adopt the Tulare County Noise Ordinance to incorporate standards set forth in the Health and Safety Element.	HS-8.3	RMA		■		
22. The County should develop and adopt a peak noise standards ordinance to regulate the operation and use of peak noise generating uses throughout the County and ensure residents and visitors are not subject to excessive peak noise nuisances.	HS-8.11	RMA	■			
23. The County shall work with the Tulare County Redevelopment Agency, special districts, private developers, and local communities to add health elements to community plans that promote physical activity.	HS-9.1	RMA; HHSA				■
24. Tulare County shall develop a healthy community checklist for new residential, commercial, office, and public developments that lists standards for land use, transportation, street design, parks, and open space.	HS-9.2	RMA; HHSA; Public Health Department				■
25. The County is to consider the preparation of a Healthy Communities Element in the General Plan.	HS-9.1	RMA; HHSA; Public Health Dept.		■		
26. The County shall maintain and periodically update the Hazardous Waste Management Plan, Emergency Operations Plan, and Area Plan as required by State and local regulations.	HS-4.1	HHSA				■

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