

Division II
SPECIAL HAZARDS
APPENDIX II-A
SUPPRESSION AND CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS FIRE AREAS

(See UFC Section 1101)

SECTION 1 — SCOPE

The unrestricted use of grass-, grain-, brush- or forest-covered land in hazardous fire areas is a potential menace to life and property from fire and resulting erosion. Safeguards to prevent the occurrence of fires and to provide adequate fire-protection facilities to control the spread of fire which might be caused by recreational, residential, commercial, industrial or other activities conducted in hazardous fire areas shall be in accordance with Appendix II-A.

SECTION 2 — DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of Appendix II-A, certain terms are defined as follows:

TRACER is any bullet or projectile incorporating a feature which marks or traces the flight of said bullet or projectile by flame, smoke or other means which results in fire or heat.

TRACER CHARGE is any bullet or projectile incorporating a feature designed to create a visible or audible effect by means which result in fire or heat and shall include any incendiary bullets and projectiles.

SECTION 3 — PERMITS

The chief is authorized to stipulate conditions for permits. Permits shall not be issued when public safety would be at risk, as determined by the chief.

SECTION 4 — RESTRICTED ENTRY

The chief shall determine and publicly announce when hazardous fire areas shall be closed to entry and when such areas shall again be opened to entry. Entry on and occupation of hazardous fire areas, except public roadways, inhabited areas or established trails and camp sites which have not been closed during such time when the hazardous fire area is closed to entry, is prohibited.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. Residents and owners of private property within hazardous fire areas and their invitees and guests going to or being upon their lands.

2. Entry, in the course of duty, by peace or police officers, and other duly authorized public officers, members of a fire department and members of the United States Forest Service.

SECTION 5 — TRESPASSING ON POSTED PROPERTY

5.1 General. When the chief determines that a specific area within a hazardous fire area presents an exceptional and continuing fire danger because of the density of natural growth, difficulty of terrain, proximity to structures or accessibility to the public, such areas shall be closed until changed conditions warrant termination of closure. Such areas shall be posted as hereinafter provided.

5.2 Signs. Approved signs prohibiting entry by unauthorized persons and referring to Appendix II-A shall be placed on every closed area.

5.3 Trespassing. Entering and remaining within areas closed and posted is prohibited.

EXCEPTION: Owners and occupiers of private or public property within closed and posted areas, their guests or invitees, and local, state and federal public officers and their authorized agents acting in the course of duty.

SECTION 6 — SMOKING

Lighting, igniting or otherwise setting fire to or smoking tobacco, cigarettes, pipes or cigars in hazardous fire areas is prohibited.

EXCEPTION: Places of habitation or within the boundaries of established smoking areas or campsites as designated by the chief.

SECTION 7 — SPARK ARRESTERS

Chimneys used in conjunction with fireplaces, barbecues, incinerators or heating appliances in which solid or liquid fuel is used, upon buildings, structures or premises located within 200 feet (60 960 mm) of hazardous fire areas, shall be provided with a spark arrester constructed with heavy wire mesh or other noncombustible material with openings not to exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ inch (12.7 mm).

SECTION 8 — TRACER BULLETS, TRACER CHARGES, ROCKETS AND MODEL AIRCRAFT

Tracer bullets and tracer charges shall not be possessed, fired or caused to be fired into or across hazardous fire areas.

Rockets, model planes, gliders and balloons powered with an engine, propellant or other feature liable to start or cause fire shall not be fired or projected into or across hazardous fire areas.

SECTION 9 — EXPLOSIVES AND BLASTING

Explosives shall not be possessed, kept, stored, sold, offered for sale, given away, used, discharged, transported or disposed of within hazardous fire areas except by permit from the chief.

SECTION 10 — FIREWORKS

Fireworks shall not be used or possessed in hazardous fire areas.

The chief is authorized to seize, take, remove or cause to be removed fireworks in violation of Section NO TAG.

EXCEPTION: Fireworks allowed by the chief under permit in accordance with Section 7801.3 when not prohibited by applicable local or state laws, ordinances and regulations.

SECTION 11 — APIARIES

Lighted and smoldering material shall not be used in connection with smoking bees in or upon hazardous fire areas except by permit from the chief.

SECTION 12 — OPEN-FLAME DEVICES

Welding torches, tar pots, decorative torches and other devices, machines or processes liable to start or cause fire shall not be operated or used in or upon hazardous fire areas, except by permit from the chief.

EXCEPTION: Use within habited premises or designated campsites which are a minimum of 30 feet (9144 mm) from grass-, grain-, brush- or forest-covered areas.

Flame-employing devices, such as lanterns or kerosene road flares, shall not be operated or used as a signal or marker in or upon hazardous fire areas.

EXCEPTION: The proper use of fuses at the scenes of emergencies or as required by standard railroad operating procedures.

SECTION 13 — OUTDOOR FIRES

Outdoor fires shall not be built, ignited or maintained in or upon hazardous fire areas, except by permit from the chief.

EXCEPTION: Outdoor fires within habited premises or designated campsites where such fires are built in a permanent barbecue, portable barbecue, outdoor fireplace, incinerator or grill and are a minimum of 30 feet (9144 mm) from a grass-, grain-, brush- or forest-covered area.

Permits shall incorporate such terms and conditions which will reasonably safeguard public safety and property. Outdoor fires shall not be built, ignited or maintained in or upon hazardous fire areas under the following conditions:

1. When high winds are blowing,
2. When a person age 17 or over is not present at all times to watch and tend such fire, or
3. When public announcement is made that open burning is prohibited.

Permanent barbecues, portable barbecues, outdoor fireplaces or grills shall not be used for the disposal of rubbish, trash or combustible waste material.

SECTION 14 — INCINERATORS AND FIREPLACES

Incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues and grills shall not be built, installed or maintained in hazardous fire areas without prior approval of the chief.

Incinerators, outdoor fireplaces, permanent barbecues and grills shall be maintained in good repair and in a safe condition at all times. Openings in such appliances shall be provided with an approved spark arrester, screen or door.

EXCEPTION: When approved, unprotected openings in barbecues and grills necessary for proper functioning.

SECTION 15 — CLEARANCE OF BRUSH AND VEGETATIVE GROWTH FROM ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION LINES

15.1 General. Clearance of brush and vegetative growth from electrical transmission and distribution lines shall be in accordance with Section 15.**EXCEPTION:** Section 15 does not authorize persons not having legal right of entry to enter on or damage the property of others without consent of the owner.

15.2 Support Clearance. Persons owning, controlling, operating or maintaining electrical transmission or distribution lines shall have an approved program in place that identifies poles or towers with equipment and hardware types that have a history of becoming an ignition source, and provides a combustible free space con-

sisting of a clearing of not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) in each direction from the outer circumference of such pole or tower during such periods of time as designated by the chief.**EXCEPTION:** Lines used exclusively as telephone, telegraph, messenger call, alarm transmission or other lines classed as communication circuits by a public utility.

15.3 Electrical Distribution and Transmission Line Clearances.

15.3.1 General. Clearances between vegetation and electrical lines shall be in accordance with Section 15.3.

15.3.2 Trimming clearance. At the time of trimming, clearances not less than those established by Table A-II-A-1 should be provided. The radial clearances shown below are minimum clearances that should be established, at time of trimming, between the vegetation and the energized conductors and associated live parts.

EXCEPTION: The chief is authorized to establish minimum clearances different than those specified in Table A-II-A-1 when evidence substantiating such other clearances is submitted to the chief and approved.

15.3.3 Minimum clearance to be maintained. Clearances not less than those established by Table A-II-A-2 shall be maintained during such periods of time as designated by the chief. The site specific clearance achieved, at time of pruning, shall vary based on species growth rates, the utility company specific trim cycle, the potential line sway due to wind, line sway due to electrical loading and ambient temperature, and the tree's location in proximity to the high voltage lines.

EXCEPTION: The chief is authorized to establish minimum clearances different than those specified by Table A-II-A-2 when evidence substantiating such other clearances is submitted to the chief and approved.

TABLE A-II-A-1—MINIMUM CLEARANCES BETWEEN VEGETATION AND ELECTRICAL LINES AT TIME OF TRIMMING

| LINE VOLTAGE | MINIMUM RADIAL CLEARANCE FROM CONDUCTOR (feet) | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| | × 304.8 mm | |
| 2,400-72,000 | 4 | |
| 72,001-110,000 | 6 | |
| 110,001-300,000 | 10 | |
| 300,001 or more | 15 | |

TABLE A-II-A-2—MINIMUM CLEARANCES BETWEEN VEGETATION AND ELECTRICAL LINES TO BE MAINTAINED

| LINE VOLTAGE | MINIMUM CLEARANCE (inches) | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|--|
| | × 25.4 mm | |
| 750-35,000 | 6 | |
| 35,001-60,000 | 12 | |
| 60,001-115,000 | 19 | |
| 115,001-230,000 | 30½ | |
| 230,001-500,000 | 115 | |

15.3.4 Electrical power line emergencies. During emergencies, the utility company shall perform the required work to the extent necessary to clear the hazard. An emergency can include situations such as trees falling into power lines, or trees in violation of Table A-II-A-2.

15.4 Correction of Condition. The chief is authorized to give notice to the owner of the property on which conditions regulated by

Section 15 exist to correct such conditions. If the owner fails to correct such conditions, the legislative body of the jurisdiction is authorized to cause the same to be done and make the expense of such correction a lien on the property where such condition exists.

SECTION 16 — CLEARANCE OF BRUSH OR VEGETATIVE GROWTH FROM STRUCTURES

16.1 General. Persons owning, leasing, controlling, operating or maintaining buildings or structures in, upon or adjoining hazardous fire areas, and persons owning, leasing or controlling land adjacent to such buildings or structures, shall at all times:

1. Maintain an effective firebreak by removing and clearing away flammable vegetation and combustible growth from areas within 30 feet (9144 mm) of such buildings or structures;

EXCEPTION: Single specimens of trees, ornamental shrubbery or similar plants used as ground covers, provided that they do not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from the native growth to any structure.

2. Maintain additional fire protection or firebreak by removing brush, flammable vegetation and combustible growth located from 30 feet to 100 feet (9144 mm to 30 480 mm) from such buildings or structures, when required by the chief because of extrahazardous conditions causing a firebreak of only 30 feet (9144 mm) to be insufficient to provide reasonable firesafety;

EXCEPTION: Grass and other vegetation located more than 30 feet (9144 mm) from buildings or structures and less than 18 inches (457 mm) in height above the ground need not be removed where necessary to stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.

3. Remove portions of trees which extend within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the outlet of a chimney;

4. Maintain trees adjacent to or overhanging a building free of deadwood; and

5. Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles or other dead vegetative growth.

16.2 Corrective Actions. The executive body is authorized to instruct the chief to give notice to the owner of the property upon which conditions regulated by Section 16.1 exist to correct such conditions. If the owner fails to correct such conditions, the executive body is authorized to cause the same to be done and make the expense of such correction a lien upon the property where such condition exists.

SECTION 17 — CLEARANCE OF BRUSH OR VEGETATIVE GROWTH FROM ROADWAYS

The chief is authorized to cause areas within 10 feet (3048 mm) on each side of portions of highways and private streets which are improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic to be cleared of flammable vegetation and other combustible growth. The chief is authorized to enter upon private property to do so.

EXCEPTION: Single specimens of trees, ornamental shrubbery or cultivated ground cover such as green grass, ivy, succulents or similar plants used as ground covers, provided that they do not form a means of readily transmitting fire.

SECTION 18 — UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

If the chief determines that difficult terrain, danger of erosion or other unusual circumstances make strict compliance with the clearance of vegetation provisions of Sections NO TAG, NO TAG or NO TAG of Appendix II-A undesirable or impractical, enforce-

ment thereof may be suspended and reasonable alternative measures shall be provided.

SECTION 19 — DUMPING

Garbage, cans, bottles, papers, ashes, refuse, trash, rubbish or combustible waste material shall not be placed, deposited or dumped in or upon hazardous fire areas or in, upon or along trails, roadways or highways in hazardous fire areas.

EXCEPTION: Approved public and private dumping areas.

SECTION 20 — DISPOSAL OF ASHES

Ashes and coals shall not be placed, deposited or dumped in or upon hazardous fire areas.

EXCEPTIONS: 1. In the hearth of an established fire pit, camp stove or fireplace.

2. In a noncombustible container with a tightfitting lid, which is kept or maintained in a safe location not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) from combustible vegetation or structures.

3. Where such ashes or coals are buried and covered with 1 foot (304.8 mm) of mineral earth not less than 25 feet (7620 mm) from combustible vegetation or structures.

SECTION 21 — USE OF FIRE ROADS AND FIREBREAKS

Motorcycles, motor scooters and motor vehicles shall not be driven or parked upon, and trespassing is prohibited upon, fire roads or firebreaks beyond the point where travel is restricted by a cable, gate or sign, without the permission of the property owners. Vehicles shall not be parked in a manner which obstructs the entrance to a fire road or firebreak.

EXCEPTION: Public officers acting within their scope of duty.

Radio and television aerials, guy wires thereto, and other obstructions shall not be installed or maintained on fire roads or firebreaks unless located 16 feet (4877 mm) or more above such fire road or firebreak.

SECTION 22 — USE OF MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Motorcycles, motor scooters and motor vehicles shall not be operated within hazardous fire areas, without a permit by the chief, except upon clearly established public or private roads. Permission from the property owner shall be presented when requesting a permit.

SECTION 23 — TAMPERING WITH FIRE DEPARTMENT LOCKS, BARRICADES AND SIGNS

Locks, barricades, seals, cables, signs and markers installed within hazardous fire areas, by or under the control of the chief, shall not be tampered with, mutilated, destroyed or removed.

Gates, doors, barriers and locks installed by or under the control of the chief shall not be unlocked.

SECTION 24 — LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE

The expenses of fighting fires which result from a violation of Appendix II-A shall be a charge against the person whose violation of Appendix II-A caused the fire. Damages caused by such fires shall constitute a debt of such person and are collectable by the chief in the same manner as in the case of an obligation under a contract, expressed or implied.

