



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

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

Building Permit # _____ - _____

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 These requirements are minimums and may be superseded by Butte County local regulations exceeding these standards.

Public Resources Code 4290

ARTICLE 1. ADMINISTRATION

1272.00 Maintenance of Defensible Space Measures

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

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 Sections 1273.00 through 1273.11.

ROADWAY & DRIVEWAY STANDARDS

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. **Roadways can serve more than one parcel.**

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. 4" of class 2 aggregate base shall be required for all driveways, turnouts and turnarounds.

1273.03 Roadway Grades

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

1273.04 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.

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.

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.

1273.07 Roadway Structures

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

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

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

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.

1273.09. Dead-End Roads

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

parcels zoned for less than one acre	800 feet
parcels zoned for 1 acre to 4.99 acres	1,320 feet
parcels zoned for 5 acres to 19.99 acres	2,640 feet
parcels zoned for 20 acres or larger	5,280 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 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 different 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.

DRIVEWAY STANDARDS

1273.10 Driveways

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

Length of Driveway _____

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

_____ (c) Driveways exceeding 150 feet in length, but less than 800 feet in length, shall provide a turnout near the midpoint of the driveway. Where the driveway exceeds 800 feet, turnouts shall be provided no more than 400 feet apart.

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

1273.02 Driveway Surface

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

1273.03 Driveway Grades

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

1273.04 Driveway Radius

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

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

1273.05 Driveway Turnarounds

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

1273.06 Driveway Turnouts

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

1273.07 Driveway Structures

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

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

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

GATE STANDARDS

1273.11 Gate Entrance

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

_____ (b) All gates providing access from a road to a driveway shall be located at least 30 feet from the roadway and shall open to allow a vehicle to stop without obstructing traffic on that road.

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

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, street, and buildings shall be designated by names or numbers, posted on signs clearly visible and legible from the roadway. This section shall not restrict the size of letters of numbers appearing on street signs for other purposes.

STREET & ROAD SIGNS

1274.01. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Street and Roads 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.

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

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. *All street signs installed will be in accordance with standards S-12 and S-13 (BCIS 13.03-6).*

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.

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.

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 lane 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.

1274.07. Installation of Road, Street and Private Lane Signs

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

ADDRESSING

1274.08. Addresses for Buildings

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

1274.09. Size of Letters, Numbers and Symbols for Addresses

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

1274.10. Installation, Location and Visibility of Addresses

____ (a) All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed at each driveway entrance and visible from both directions of travel along the road. In all cases, the address shall be posted at the beginning of construction and shall be maintained thereafter, and the address shall be visible and legible from the road on which the address is located.

____ (b) Address signs along one-way roads shall be visible from both the intended direction of travel and the opposite direction.

____ (c) Where multiple addresses are required at a single driveway, they shall be mounted on a single post.

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

ARTICLE 4. EMERGENCY WATER STANDARDS

1275.00. Intent

Emergency water for wildfire 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 man made containment structure, as long as the specified quantity is immediately available. **Butte County Fire Department utilizes mobile water tenders to meet the emergency water for wildfire protection requirement. Individual storage tanks for wildfire protection are currently not required.**

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;
- (2) a point of attack or defense from a wildfire.

1276.01 Setback for Structure Defensible Space

- [] (a) All parcels 1 acre and larger shall provide a minimum 30 foot setback for buildings and accessory buildings from all property lines and/or the center of the road.
- [] (b) For parcels less than 1 acre, the local jurisdiction shall provide for the same practical effect.

Same Practical Effect Requirements for buildings less then 30 feet from property line:

- [] If the Building Setback is less then 30 feet from all property lines and/or the center of the road, the following shall be required:
 - ✓ Class A roof, and shall be in compliance with all sections of CBC Chapter 7A, 704A.1
 - ✓ Roof gutters shall prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris in the gutters per CBC Chapter 7A, 704A.1.5
 - ✓ Attic ventilation shall be in compliance with all sections of CBC Chapter 7A, 704.A.2
 - ✓ Fully enclosed non combustibile eaves on entire structure
 - ✓ Exterior walls shall be non combustibile on entire structure and shall be in compliance with all sections of CBC Chapter 7A, 704A.3
 - ✓ The following non combustibile siding is approved:
 - (a) Stucco-3 coat
 - (b) Non combustibile Board, Plank or similar siding
 - (c) Masonry
 - (d) Metal
 - (e) Other Butte County Fire Department approved materials
 - ✓ All windows shall be in compliance with CBC Chapter 7A, 704A.3.2.2
 - ✓ All doors shall be in compliance with CBC Chapter 7A, 704A.3.2.3
 - ✓ Decking, floors and under floor protection shall be in compliance with all sections of CBC Chapter 7A, 704A.4

1276.02 Disposal of Flammable Vegetation and Fuels

_____ Disposal, including chipping, burning or removal to a landfill site approved by the local jurisdiction, of flammable vegetation and fuels caused by site development and construction, road and driveway construction, and fuel modification shall be completed prior to completion of road construction or final inspection of a building permit.

1276.03 Greenbelt

_____Subdivision and other developments, which propose greenbelt as a part of the development plan, shall locate said greenbelt strategically, as a separation between wildland fuels and structures. The locations shall be approved by the inspector.

Public Resources Code 4291

_____A person that owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining any mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or any land that is covered with flammable material, shall at all times do all of the following:

_____ (a) Maintain around and adjacent to the building or structure a firebreak made by removing and clearing away, for a distance of not less than 30 feet on each side of the building or structure or to the property line, whichever is nearer, all flammable vegetation or other combustible growth. This subdivision does not apply to single specimens of trees or other vegetation that is well-pruned and maintained so as to effectively manage fuels and not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from other nearby vegetation to any building or structure.

_____ (b) Maintain around and adjacent to the building or structure additional fire protection or firebreak made by removing all brush, flammable vegetation, or combustible growth that is located within 100 feet from the building or structure or to the property line or at a greater distance if required by state law, or local ordinance, rule, or regulation. Grass and other vegetation located more than 30 feet from the building or structure and less than 18 inches in height above the ground may be maintained where necessary to stabilize the soil and prevent erosion. This subdivision does not apply to single specimens of trees or other vegetation that is well-pruned and maintained so as to effectively manage fuels and not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from other nearby vegetation to a dwelling or structure.

_____ (c) Remove that portion of any tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe.

_____ (d) Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging a building free of dead or dying wood.

_____ (e) Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles, or other dead vegetative growth.

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

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

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

- Permit required
- Permit not required

Note:

California Building Code Chapter 7A does not apply to mobile homes (title 25), accessory buildings or additions. If the Building Setback is less than 30 feet from all property lines and/or the center of the road, the same practical effect guidelines will apply.

This pre inspection is for:

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

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

- CBC Chapter 7A requirements are required to be met
- CBC Chapter 7A requirements are **not** required to be met

704A.1 Roofing

____ **704A.1.1 General.** Roofs shall comply with the requirements of Chapter 7A and Chapter 15. Roofs shall have a roofing assembly installed in accordance with its listing and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

____ **704A.1.2 Roof coverings.** Where the roof profile allows a space between the roof covering and roof decking, the spaces shall be constructed to prevent the intrusion of flames and embers, be firestopped with approved materials or have one layer of No. 72 ASTM cap sheet installed over the combustible decking.

____ **704A.1.3 Roof valleys.** When provided, valley flashings shall be not less than 0.019-inch (0.48mm) (No. 26 galvanized sheet gage) corrosion-resistant metal installed over a minimum 36-inch-wide (914 mm) underlayment consisting of one layer of No. 72 ASTM cap sheet running the full length of the valley.

____ **704A.1.5 Roof gutters.** Roof gutters shall be provided with the means to prevent the accumulation of leaves and debris in the gutter.

704.A.2 Attic Ventilation.

____ **704.A.2.1 General.** When required by Chapter 15, roof and attic vents shall resist the intrusion of flame and embers into the attic area of the structure, or shall be protected by corrosion-resistant, noncombustible wire mesh with ½-inch (6 mm) openings or its equivalent.

____ **704A.2.2 Eave or cornice vents.** Vents shall not be installed in eaves and cornices.

____ **Exception:** Eave and cornice vents may be used provided they resist the intrusion of flame and burning embers into the attic area of the structure.

____ **704A.2.3 Eave protection.** Eaves and soffits shall meet the requirements of SFM 12-7A-3 or shall be protected by ignition-resistant materials or noncombustible construction on the exposed underside.

704A.3 Exterior Walls.

____ **704A.3.1 General.** Exterior walls shall be approved noncombustible or ignition-resistant material, heavy timber, or log wall construction or shall provide protection from the intrusion of flames and embers in accordance with standard SFM 12-7A-1.

____ **704A.3.1.1 Exterior wall coverings.** Exterior wall coverings shall extend from the top of the foundation to the roof, and terminate at 2-inch (50.8 mm) nominal solid wood blocking between rafters at all roof overhangs, or in the case of enclosed eaves, terminate at the enclosure.

704A.3.2 Exterior wall openings. Exterior wall openings shall be in accordance with this section.

____ **704A.3.2.1 Exterior wall vents.** Unless otherwise prohibited by other provisions of this code, vent openings in exterior walls shall resist the intrusion of flame and embers into the structure or vents shall be screened with a corrosion-resistant, noncombustible wire mesh with ¼-inch (6mm) openings or its equivalent.

704A.3.2.2 Exterior glazing and window walls. Exterior windows, window walls, glazed doors, and glazed openings within exterior doors shall be insulating-glass units with a minimum of one tempered pane, or glass block units, or have a fire-resistance rating of not less than 20 minutes, when tested according to ASTM E 2010, or conform to the performance requirements of SFM 12-7A-2.

704A.3.2.3 Exterior door assemblies. Exterior door assemblies shall conform to the performance requirements of standard SFM 12-7A-1 or shall be of approved noncombustible construction, or solid core wood having stiles and rails not less than 1 3/8 inches thick with interior field panel thickness no less than 1 1/4 inches thick, or shall have a fire-resistance rating of not less than 20 minutes when tested according to ASTM E 2074.

Exception: Noncombustible or exterior fire-retardant treated wood vehicle access doors are not required to comply with this chapter.

704A.4 Decking, floors and underfloor protection.

704A.4.1 Decking.

704A.4.1.1 Decking surfaces. Decking, surfaces, stair treads, risers, and landings of decks, porches, and balconies where any portion of such surface is within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the primary structure shall comply with one of the following methods:

1. Shall be constructed of ignition-resistant materials and pass the performance requirements of SFM 12-7A-4, Parts A and B.
2. Shall be constructed with heavy timber, exterior fire-retardant-treated wood or approved noncombustible materials.
3. Shall pass the performance requirements of SFM 12-7A-4, Part A, 12-7A-4.7.5.1 only with a net peak heat release rate of 25kW/sq-ft for a 40 minute observation period and:
 - a. Decking surface material shall pass the accelerated weathering test and be identified as exterior type, in accordance with ASTM E 84 and; the exterior wall covering to which it the deck is attached and within 10 (3048mm) feet of the deck shall be constructed of approved noncombustible or ignition resistant material.

Exception: Walls are not required to comply with this subsection if the decking surface material conforms to ASTM E-84 Class B flame spread.

The use of paints, coatings, stains, or other surface treatments are not an approved method of protection as required in this chapter.

704A.4.2 Underfloor and appendages protection.

704A.4.2.1 Underside of appendages and floor projections. The underside of cantilevered and overhanging appendages and floor projections shall maintain the ignition-resistant integrity of exterior walls, or the projection shall be enclosed to the grade.

704A.4.2.2 Unenclosed under floor protection. Buildings shall have all under floor areas enclosed to the grade with exterior walls in accordance with Section 704A.3

Exception: The complete enclosure of under floor areas may be omitted where the underside of all exposed floors, exposed structural columns, beams and supporting walls are protected as required with exterior ignition-resistant material construction or be heavy timber.

Chapter 15 Roofing and Roof Structures

1503.1, 1503.2, 1503.3 Roof Coverings within State Responsibility Area

The marked box below indicates which Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) your project is located in. You are required to provide the indicated class of fire retardant roof covering as a minimum.

- [] Refer to the Same Practical Effect Requirements for buildings less than 30 feet from property line.
- [] Your project is located in a no data or moderate FHSZ and the roof covering shall have a minimum of a class C fire-retardant roof covering.
- [] Your project is located in a High FHSZ and the roof covering shall have a minimum of a class B fire-retardant roof covering.
- [] Your project is located in a Very High FHSZ and the roof covering shall have a minimum of a class A fire-retardant roof covering.

2007 California Fire Code

LPG Tanks

3807.3, LPG Tank Clearance of Combustibles

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

3807.4 Protecting LPG containers from vehicles

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

Fire Department Fees

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

All of the Fire Safe Requirements are posted on the Butte County Fire Department website at
<http://buttefire.org/Fireprevention/protplan/protplan.html>

Check the status of your permit online at
http://dspermits.buttecounty.net/etrakit/Permit_Search.asp

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