

# Community Wildfire Protection Plan

## San Marcos Pass - Eastern Goleta Valley Mountainous Communities

### Section 1.0 Introduction

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Wildfire has been a natural part of the ecosystem in the Santa Barbara area for thousands of years; however, over the past 100 years there has been a significant change in the ecosystem as a whole. Human development and urban growth has expanded from the lower elevation of the coastal plains into the Santa Ynez Mountains. This expansion created a WUI problem that has added to the complexity of wildfire management and altered the natural environment contributing to the loss of habitat for native species and the introduction of exotic species.

The Santa Barbara Front (which includes the CWPP Planning Area south of the Camino Cielo ridgeline), at one time experienced infrequent natural fire ignition and low fire frequency, now experiences more frequent wildfires that pose a substantial threat to human life, improvements, and to **the area's natural and cultural resources**.

Property owners, environmental groups, and agencies can have differing ideas on how to protect property and natural habitats. Natural and ornamental vegetation that provide privacy and scenic beauty to a property owner can also serve as habitat for sensitive species. However, this same vegetation can allow wildfires to burn more intensely, spread more rapidly, and threaten lives, homes, and habitat. Wildfires are inevitable; however, the loss of human life is preventable and the loss and damage to human development and natural and cultural resources can significantly be reduced through thoughtful planning and careful implementation of hazard mitigation actions.

In October, 2016 the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors adopted the East Goleta Valley Community Plan ("EGVCP"), **which constitutes the County's general plan for unincorporated County lands between the City of Santa Barbara and City of Goleta, and for the San Marcos foothills and portions of the Santa Ynez Mountains located within the CWPP area.** Action FIRE-EGV-1B in the EGVCP directs the County to "shall encourage and support" development of a Community Wildfire Protection **Plan ("CWPP")** for at-risk communities in the EGVCP planning area. In March of 2016 representatives of the Wildland Residents Association and Painted Cave Volunteer Fire Department formed an initial steering committee to pursue development of a CWPP, in consultation with representatives of SBC Fire, LPF, Urban Creeks Council, and citizen representatives of the mountain areas. Upon recommendation of SBC Fire, the proposed scope of the CWPP was subsequently expanded to include the San Marcos foothills and Paradise Canyon communities. **Formal meetings with representatives of County Planning, the County Executive Office and Second District Supervisor's office were commenced in late April, 2016.**

In October, 2016, SBC Fire hired a consultant to assist in the development of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). In early 2017, the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council received a State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund (SRAFPF) Grant to fund approximately 50 percent of the consultant's cost. The San Marcos Pass and Eastern Goleta Valley Mountainous Communities (SMP/EGV) CWPP is the result of efforts by members of the CWPP Development Team. The intent of the stakeholder led Development Team is to enhance the protection of life safety and other values from wildfire within the Planning Area. This CWPP is written to

ensure that recommended actions developed during the CWPP planning process are in balance with sustainable ecological and cultural resource management practices and fiscal resources.

The SMP/EGV Development Team created the SMP/EGV CWPP as a guidance document pursuant to the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA). The contents of this CWPP follow the guidelines established in the *Community Wildfire Protection Plan Development Process for Santa Barbara County*, adopted by the SBC Board of Supervisors in 2011 and in *The Wildland Fire Leadership Council's handbook, Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, A Handbook for Wildland Urban Interface Communities*.

This CWPP serves to guide future actions of agencies and individuals but does not legally commit any public agency to a specific course of action. Actions identified in this CWPP that exceed environmental thresholds defined in the **County's** 2008 *Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines*, or that trigger permit requirements of the County Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) concerning areas subject to ESH/RC Overlays within the EGVCP area, will likely require, at a minimum, a negative declaration following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for evaluating potential environmental impacts. Proposed projects on federal lands would be subject to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance.

### 1.1 Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this CWPP is to identify wildfire hazard reduction strategies for communities in the SMP/EGV mountainous areas that are in balance with sustainable ecological management and fiscal resources. Additionally, the CWPP provides educational resources for residents to enhance wildfire preparedness.

### 1.2 Goals and Objectives

Table 1 identifies the goals that guided the development of this CWPP and objectives that provide a mechanism to meet these goals:

*Table 1 CWPP Goals and Objectives*

GOALS	OBJECTIVES
Reduce the wildfire threats within the wildland urban interface/intermix to promote life safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify areas within the project boundary with the greatest wildfire threat to life safety using all available data and fire modeling</li> <li>• Evaluate wildfire protection and evacuation capabilities</li> <li>• Develop guidelines and strategies that reduce the wildfire threat to life safety</li> <li>• Develop evacuation guidelines and identify activities and travel routes that enhance evacuation processes during wildfires</li> <li>• Review potential environmental and other constraints on fuel management strategies and recommended appropriate mitigation measures</li> </ul>
Enhance protection of values at risk from wildfire (e.g., homes, businesses, critical infrastructure, natural resources, cultural)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and locate values within the Planning Area</li> <li>• Review potential impacts on wildfire protection capabilities based on existing environmental policies found in the <i>EGV Community Plan</i> (EGVCP)</li> </ul>

GOALS	OBJECTIVES
resources, agricultural resources, and watershed resources)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess potential damage and loss of structures from burning embers and a flaming fire front</li> <li>• Evaluate and develop activities that <b>enhance the County's</b> wildfire preparedness, firefighting capabilities, and community education and existing wildfire hazard reduction programs</li> <li>• Develop specific guidelines and strategies that minimize the wildfire threat to values within the Planning Area</li> <li>• Identify strategies that reduce structure vulnerability</li> <li>• Identify and prioritize hazardous fuel treatments that reduce the wildfire threat to life, property and resource values, incorporating environmental protection measures</li> </ul>
Balance wildfire protection strategies with natural and cultural resource sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement fuel modification strategies that consider visual quality. Follow guidelines established in the EGVCP and the Eastern Goleta Valley Residential Design Guidelines, Santa Barbara County Comprehensive plan</li> <li>• Ensure fuel modification activities follow best management practices regarding natural and cultural resources</li> <li>• Develop fuel treatment options that provide for reduction of the wildfire threat to values consistent with sustainability of natural and cultural resources and environmental protection laws</li> </ul>
Identify funding opportunities and grants for wildland fire protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the CWPP meets or exceeds the requirements of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003</li> <li>• Identify grant funding sources within the CWPP</li> </ul>

### 1.3 Policy and Regulatory Framework

Development of this CWPP and potential wildfire hazard reduction projects within it are consistent with applicable federal, state and local laws regulating land use, development and environmental resource protection. Environmental protection measures, including Best Management Practices (BMPs) must be implemented before, during and after all proposed fuel hazard reduction projects that have not already been approved. These measures help ensure appropriate erosion and sediment control of surface waters and are intended to reduce adverse effects to natural and cultural resources. With project specific environmental protection measures including BMPs implemented in the field, many substantial impacts to the environment may be avoided.

#### 1.3.1 Federal Level Policy

*Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288), as amended by the Disaster Mitigation Act (2000–present)*

Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) enacted Section 322, Mitigation Planning of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act that created incentives for state and

local entities to coordinate hazard mitigation planning and implementation efforts, and is an important source of funding for fuels mitigation efforts through federal hazard mitigation grants.

### *National Incident Management System (NIMS)*

National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a systematic, proactive approach to guide government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector to work together to prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents, regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity, in order **to reduce the loss of life and property and harm to the environment**. NIMS improves a community's ability to prepare for and respond to potential incidents and hazard scenarios.

### *National Fire Plan (NFP) 2000*

The summer of 2000 marked a historic milestone in wildland fire records for the United States. This resulted in **the Western Governor's Association's "A Collaborative Approach for Reducing Wildland Fire Risks to Communities and the Environment - A 10-Year Comprehensive Strategy - Implementation Plan"**, which collectively became known as the National Fire Plan. This plan places a priority on collaborative work within communities to reduce their risk from large-scale wildfires.

### *Healthy Forest Initiative (HFI) 2002 ⇔ Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA) 2003*

The intent of the Healthy Forests Initiative (HFI) is to reduce the severe wildfires risks that threaten people, communities, and the environment. Congress then passed the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) on December 3, 2003 to provide the additional administrative tools needed to implement the HFI. This Act emphasized the need for federal agencies to work collaboratively with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects and places priority on fuel treatments identified by communities themselves in their CWPPs.

### *National Environmental Policy Act*

Enacted in January 1970, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is a United States environmental law that promotes the enhancement of the environment and established the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). This covers federal lands within the Planning Area.

### *National Historic Preservation Act*

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) (Public Law 89-665; 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.) is legislation intended to preserve historical and archaeological (cultural) sites in the United States of America. The act created the National Register of Historic Places, the list of National Historic Landmarks, and the State Historic Preservation Offices.

### *Endangered Species Act of 1973*

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 provides for the conservation of species that are endangered or threatened throughout all or a significant portion of their range, and the conservation of the ecosystems on which they depend.

### *Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918*

Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 makes it unlawful without a waiver to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill or sell birds listed therein ("migratory birds"). The statute does not discriminate between live or dead birds and grants full protection to any bird parts including feathers, eggs and nests.

### *National Forest Management Act (NFMA)*

The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 (P.L. 94-588) is a United States federal law that is the primary statute governing the administration of national forests and was an amendment to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, which called for the management of renewable resources on national forest lands.

### *Los Padres National Forest Land Management Plan*

Each national forest and national grassland is governed by a land and resource management plan in accordance with the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). These plans outline management direction, including desired future conditions, suitable uses, monitoring requirements, goals and objectives, and standards and guidelines. Monitoring of conditions on a national forest or national grassland ensures projects are done in accordance with plan direction and determines effects that might require a change in management direction.

### *Quadrennial Fire Review Report (2014)*

The *Quadrennial Fire Review* is a strategic assessment process conducted every four years to evaluate current mission strategies and capabilities against best estimates of future environment for wildland fire management. This integrated review is a joint effort of the five federal natural resource management agencies and their state, local, and tribal partners that constitute the wildland fire community. The objective is to create an integrated strategic vision document for fire management.

### *Final Phase in the Development of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (2014)*

The *National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy* mandates that federal agencies work collaboratively among all stakeholders and across all landscapes, using best science, to make meaningful progress towards three primary goals: resilient landscapes, fire adapted communities, and safe and effective wildfire response. Its vision is to safely and effectively extinguish wildfire when needed, use wildfire where allowable, manage our natural resources, and to live with wildland fire.

### *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)*

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) maintains numerous codes and standards that provide direction on development in the WUI including:

- NFPA 1, Fire Code, Chapter 17.
- NFPA 1051, Wildland Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications.
- NFPA 1141, Standard for Fire Protection Infrastructure for Land Development in Suburban and Rural Areas.
- NFPA 1142, Standard on Water Supplies for Suburban and Rural Fire Fighting.
- NFPA 1143, Standard for Wildland Fire Management.
- NFPA 1144, Standard for Reducing Structure Ignition Hazards from Wildland Fire.
- NFPA 1710, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments.
- NFPA 1720, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Operations and Special Operations to the Public by Volunteer.

### 1.3.2 State Level Policy

#### *California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)*

The 1970 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has evolved into one of the most prominent components of community planning in California. It requires state and local agencies to follow a protocol of analysis and public disclosure of environmental impacts in proposed projects and to include feasible measures to mitigate those impacts. The implementation of any potential hazardous fuel treatment projects on non-federal lands recommended in this CWPP must comply with CEQA regulations.

#### *Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014: Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, Coastal Waters, and Watersheds*

In protecting and restoring California rivers, lakes, streams, and watersheds, the purposes of Chapter 6 in the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 are to implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health. It also determines priorities for water security, climate, and drought preparation.

#### *California Strategic Fire Plan (revised 2018)*

The *California Strategic Fire Plan* (Fire Plan) is the state's road map for reducing the risk of wildfire. The Fire Plan is a cooperative effort between the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. By placing the emphasis on what needs to be done long before a fire starts, the Fire Plan looks to reduce firefighting costs and property losses, increase firefighter safety, and to contribute to ecosystem health. **The 2018 Plan reflects Cal Fire's focus on (1) fire prevention and suppression activities to protect lives, property, and ecosystem services, and (2) natural resource management to maintain the state's forests as a resilient carbon sink to meet California's climate change goals and to serve as important habitat for adaption and mitigation.**

#### *California Office of Emergency Services – California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan (2014)*

The *California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan* is an extension of the *California Emergency Plan*. The *California Emergency Plan* is published in four parts as follows:

- Part One: Basic Emergency Plan.
- Part Two: Peacetime Emergency Plan.
- Part Three: Compendium of Legislation and References.
- Part Four: War Emergency Plan.

#### *California State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (updated 2013)*

The purpose of the *State Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan* (SHMP) is to significantly reduce deaths, injuries, and other losses attributed to natural- and human-caused hazards in California. The SHMP provides guidance for hazard mitigation activities emphasizing partnerships among local, state, and federal agencies as well as the private sector. This plan will be updated in 2018.

#### *California Public Resource Code (Public Resources Code) Section 4290*

California Public Resource Code (Public Resources Code) Section 4290 grants authority to State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and implement fire safety standards for defensible space on State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands.

### *Public Resources Code Section 4291*

Public Resources Code Section 4291 extends the required defensible space clearance around homes and structures from 30 feet to 100 feet for wildfire protection. The Code applies to all lands that have flammable vegetation. The regulations include several requirements for how the vegetation surrounding buildings and structures should be managed to create defensible space.

### *Public Resources Code 4292-4296 and 14 CCR 1256, Fire Prevention for Electrical Utilities*

Statutes and regulations Public Resources Code 4292-4296 and 14 CCR 1256, Fire Prevention for Electrical Utilities address the vegetation clearance standards for electrical utilities. They include the standards for clearing around energy lines and conductors such as power-line hardware and power poles.

### *Public Resources Code 4741*

In accordance with policies established by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, CAL FIRE shall assist local governments in preventing future wildland fire and vegetation management problems by making its wildland fire prevention and vegetation management expertise available to local governments to the extent possible within **the department's** budgetary limitations (Public Resources Code 4741). CAL FIRE recommendations shall be advisory in nature and local governments shall not be required to follow such recommendations.

### *California Code of Regulations, Title 14, 1270.04*

California Code of Regulations, Title 14, 1270.04 applies to the following: (a) local jurisdictions shall provide the CAL FIRE 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; and, (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.

### *2016 California Fire Code*

2016 California Fire Code establishes regulations affecting or relating to structures, processes, premises and safeguards regarding residences and historic buildings. The Code includes: 1) hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling or use of structures, materials or devices; 2) conditions hazardous to life, property or public welfare in the occupancy of structures or premises; 3) fire hazards in the structure or on the premises from occupancy or operation; 4) matters related to the construction, extension, repair, alteration or removal of fire suppression or alarm systems; and 5) conditions affecting the safety of fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

### *Senate Bill 1241 Compliance*

In order to address fire protection and prevention, Senate Bill 1241 (SB 1241) requires jurisdictions to update the Safety Element with new information regarding fire hazards. California's increasing population and expansion of development into previously undeveloped areas is creating more WUI issues with a corresponding risk of economic loss caused by wildland fire.

### *Government Code 51175-51189: Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones*

Government Code 51175-51189: Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones defines Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones and designates lands considered by the State to be a very high fire hazard. It also defines defensible space, fuel, fuel management, and wildfire.

### *Government Code 51189: WUI Building Standards*

Government Code 51189: WUI Building Standards directs the Office of the State Fire Marshal to create building standards for wildland fire resistance. The code includes measures that increase the likelihood of a structure withstanding intrusion by fire (such as building design and construction requirements that use fire-resistant building materials) and provides protection of structure projections (such as porches, decks, balconies and eaves), and structure openings (such as attics, eave vents, and windows).

### *California Building Code 2013 Edition, Section 705A*

California Building Code 2013 Edition, Section 705A establishes minimum building standards for the protection of life and property by increasing the ability of a building located in any Fire Hazard Severity Zone within State Responsibility Areas or any Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Area to resist the intrusion of flames or burning embers projected by a vegetation fire and contributes to a systematic reduction in conflagration losses.

### *Government Code 65302.5: General Plan Fire Safety Element Review*

Statute, Government Code 65302.5 requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to provide recommendations to a local **jurisdiction's General Plan fire safety element at the time that the General Plan is amended**. While not a direct and binding fire prevention requirement for individuals, General Plans that adopt the Board's recommendations will include goals and policies that provide for contemporary fire prevention standards for the jurisdiction.

### *1968 California Fair Plan Act*

The *California Fair Access to Insurance Requirements ("FAIR") Plan* was created by state legislation in July 1968 **following the 1960's brush fires and riots**. It is an insurance pool established to assure the availability of basic property insurance to people who own insurable property in the State of California and who, beyond their control, have been unable to obtain insurance in the voluntary insurance market.

The FAIR Plan is a private association comprised of all insurers licensed to write property insurance in California. All insurers conducting property business in California must be a member of the Association. FAIR Plan profits and losses are shared by its members in direct proportion to their market share of property insurance written **in California. There is no public funding, or taxpayers' monies involved. The FAIR Plan is not a state agency.**

### 1.3.3 Santa Barbara County Level Policy and Regulations

#### *Office of Emergency Services, Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (2017)*

The *Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan* is a tool for stakeholders to increase public awareness of local natural and human-made hazards and risks, while providing information about options and resources available to reduce risks by hazard mitigation measures.

#### *Santa Barbara County Unit Strategic Fire Plan (2018)*

The *Santa Barbara Unit Fire Plan* is intended to convey management direction from the County Fire Chief, involve and educate stakeholders on the wildfire environment, establish strategic priorities for wildfire

prevention and suppression projects and programs into a single unified plan, and be a living document that will adapt to changing conditions and be updated on a regular basis.

### ***Santa Barbara Operational Area Mutual "All Risk" Mutual Aid Plan (2018)***

The goal of the *Santa Barbara Operational Area Mutual "All Risk" Mutual Aid Plan* is to provide, in an expedient manner, fire, rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, urban search and rescue or other expertise in the form of resources and qualified personnel as would be necessary to manage a major incident or disaster that would exceed the capabilities of a single agency. Santa Barbara County is located in California Mutual Aid Region I, which includes San Luis Obispo, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and Santa Barbara counties. Each county is required to have a Mutual Aid Plan that outlines procedures, policies, resources, and personnel information. This Plan assists local, state, and federal fire agencies in preparing for a major emergency.

### ***Santa Barbara Comprehensive Plan (Adopted 1991, Republished 2009)***

The *Santa Barbara Comprehensive Plan* is a long-term plan mandated by California state planning law for the physical development of a city or county. Various elements of the plan are mandated, including land use, circulation, open space, conservation, housing, safety, and noise. The objective of this plan was to analyze regional resources and environmental constraints in order to be able to identify and rank opportunities for urban development, agricultural expansion, and recreational activities. Areas to be preserved because of environmental hazards, ecological communities, or scenic value also were evaluated. Additional elements in Santa Barbara County include groundwater resources, oak tree protection, air quality, and coastal land use. Goleta Valley is an unincorporated area of the South Coast of Santa Barbara County and one of ten community planning areas under County jurisdiction.

The eastern portion of the Goleta Valley Planning Area (the Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan Area) lies primarily on the coastal shelf between the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Ynez Mountain Range, east of the City of Goleta and west of the City of Santa Barbara, and includes the southern slopes of the mountains up to the crest. The 2015 *Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan* was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on October 20, 2015. Within the Coastal Zone, the California Coastal Commission certified the *Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan* and it took effect in the Coastal Zone on December 14, 2017.

### ***Santa Barbara Operational Area Emergency Management Plan (2013)***

The *Santa Barbara Operational Area Emergency Management Plan* (EMP) addresses the Santa Barbara Operational Areas planned response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and national security emergencies. The EMP does not address normal day-to-day emergencies, or the well-established and routine procedures used in coping with such emergencies. Instead, the operational concepts reflected in this plan focus on potential large-scale disasters, which can generate unique situations requiring unusual emergency responses.

### ***Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan (2015)***

The *Eastern Goleta Valley Community Plan* (EGVCP) provides land use policy for Santa Barbara County (SBC) decision makers, the community, and landowners in the unincorporated Eastern Goleta Valley and adjoining foothill and mountainous area. Most portions of the CWPP Planning Area south of the crest of the Santa Ynez Mountains lie within the EGCVP boundaries. The EGVCP requires the SBC public safety services departments, such as Fire, **Sheriff's and Office of Emergency Services** Departments. The EGVCP adopts land use designations, development standards, policies, and actions to organize development within Eastern Goleta Valley around the adopted vision for the community. It amends the SBC's Land Use and Zoning maps, the Local Coastal Program,

the Comprehensive Plan, zoning districts and overlays, and design guidelines. The EGVCP determines Eastern **Goleta Valley's community design and capital improvement programming.** The EGVCP also identifies the groups and/or agencies responsible for implementing portions of the plan, as well as potential funding sources for various improvement programs. The EGVCP is general to accommodate unforeseen conditions, changes, or requirements.

*Permits from Santa Barbara County Fire Department, Section 01331*

Provides policy for installation and acceptance permits for sprinkler Systems including NFPA 13, 13R and 13D, NFPA 24 Underground Fire Service, NFPA Standpipe System, Fire Hydrants (NFPA 24), Water tanks (NFPA 22), Monitoring Equipment, Fire alarm/detection systems, and Fire Protection Systems including Hood and Duct systems, CO<sub>2</sub> systems, and CFC-free systems. Section 116 of the 2013 California Building Code is replaced in its entirety to read as follows:

*Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 10 – Building Regulations*

Chapter 1, Division I and II, of the 2013 California Building Code was adopted in its entirety except as amended as administrative provision of Chapter 10 of Santa Barbara County Code and is applicable to all primary codes enlisted in Chapter 10 unless specifically modified and amended elsewhere in this chapter. Only amendments to the California Building Standard Codes are addressed in this chapter. These include:

- Buildings that are damaged by fire or by natural disasters where the extent of damage to the building exceeds 75 percent of the valuation of the building prior to the disaster.
- Applications for new buildings, additions, alterations, and repairs located in any Fire Hazard Severity Zone or any Wildland-Urban Interface Areas designated by the enforcing agency constructed after the application date shall comply with the provisions of this chapter; designated High Fire Hazard Area as an area considered to be a Wildland-Urban Interface Area.
- Use of Wood roofing materials is prohibited except approved Class A or B fire-retardant-treated wood roofing materials are permitted to effect repairs for roofs of similar existing wood roofing material where such repairs do not exceed 25 percent of the existing roof area within any given 12-month period.
- New buildings, additions, alterations, and repairs for which an application for a building permit is submitted on or after July 1, 2008, located in any Fire Hazard Severity Zone or Wildland Urban Interface Area, shall comply with all sections of this chapter, including all of the following areas:

*Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 15 – Fire Prevention*

Includes adoption of the California Fire Code with amendments, fire Development Standards, standards for weed abatement, and fire protection mitigation fees.

*Chapter 35 Codes and Ordinance, Section 35-1 Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code*

Chapter 35 Codes and Ordinance, Section 35-1 Santa Barbara County Land Use and Development Code (LUDC) is the zoning ordinance for most of Santa Barbara County. It currently is applicable to the unincorporated areas of the County outside of Montecito and the Coastal Zone. The LUDC implements the Comprehensive Plan (and eventually the Coastal Land Use Plan) by classifying and regulating the uses of land, buildings and structures in unincorporated areas of the County. The LUDC also contains road naming and street addressing standards as well as sign regulations. The LUDC contains specific regulations governing vegetation removal in areas

subject to the Environmentally Sensitive Habitat (ESH) and Riparian Corridor (RC) overlay zones in the EGVCP area.

*Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 35, Article IX - Deciduous Oak Tree Protection and Regeneration Ordinance*

Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 35, Article IX addresses deciduous oak tree removal in the inland rural areas if such removal is not associated with development that requires a permit under Section 35-1 and Section 35-2 of Chapter 35 of the County Code or Ordinance 661.

*Eastern Goleta Valley Residential Design Guidelines (2006)*

The unincorporated Eastern Goleta Valley region of Santa Barbara County is well known for the scenic beauty **of its mountains and seascapes and the livability of its neighborhoods.** Given the importance of the area's visual character, the *Eastern Goleta Valley Residential Design Guidelines (2006)* were developed to help maintain the **high quality of Eastern Goleta Valley's neighborhoods and promote neighborhood compatibility and good architectural design.**

*County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual (2008)*

The *County of Santa Barbara Planning and Development Environmental Thresholds and Guidelines Manual* was prepared to assist the public, the applicant, environmental consulting firms, and County decision makers in understanding the use and application of various environmental impact thresholds as they relate to project proposals.

## 1.4 CWPP Planning Process

Development of this CWPP involved a process whereby stakeholders identified the CWPP goals and objectives, defined community values, utilized a science-based assessment to identify the wildfire threat, identified and prioritized proposed hazardous fuel treatments, and collaborated on a course of action to address the wildfire threat. This process provides a community-based product that influences where and how local, county, state, and federal agencies and organizations implement wildfire mitigation activities within the Planning Area.

This plan complies with the requirements for a CWPP, as required by the 2003 HFRA, including:

- Collaboration - A CWPP must be collaboratively developed. Local and state officials must meaningfully involve federal agencies that manage land in the vicinity of the community and other interested parties, particularly non-governmental stakeholders.
- Prioritized Fuel Reduction - A CWPP must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments on both federal and non-federal lands and recommend the types and methods of treatment that, if completed, would reduce the wildfire risk to the community.
- Treatment of Structural Ignitability - A CWPP must recommend measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

### 1.4.1 County of Santa Barbara CWPP Process

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors has an approved *Community Wildfire Protection Plan Development Process for Santa Barbara County* ("CWPP Development Process") that identifies the need to engage interested parties and to collaborate with applicable federal and state agencies. The development

process consists of eight steps that describe a standardized approach for the CWPP process in Santa Barbara County.

### *Working Group*

The Working Group consisted of representatives from SBC Fire, County Planning and Development, the County Executive Officer (or designee), and State Forester (represented by San Luis Unit Forester). A project kickoff meeting was held on November 9, 2016, with the contractor, to discuss an overview of the CWPP, the CWPP process, development team formation, public outreach planning, and future development team and public meeting scheduling. The County Board of Supervisors Second District Staff were present at this initial meeting but the representative from the San Luis Unit was unable to attend.

### *Agency Meeting*

On December 8, 2016, an agency meeting was held to introduce the CWPP planning process and solicit input from various agencies. Invitations were sent to twelve federal, state, and local stakeholders with the meeting attended by representatives from the following:

- San Marcos Pass Volunteer Fire Department
- Painted Cave Volunteer Fire Department
- United States Forest Service, Los Padres National Forest
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- City of Santa Barbara
- Santa Barbara County Public Works Water Resources Flood Control
- Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council
- **California Department of Parks and Recreation** United States Bureau of Reclamation
- Santa Barbara County Office of Emergency Management

SBC Fire Marshal Rob Hazard led a discussion of the CWPP planning process and explained how stakeholder input would lead to a more robust plan. The contractor presented maps of the CWPP Planning Area, wildfire hazard assessment and known environmentally sensitive habitats to the representatives. A round table discussion of general issues and specific agency policy constraints followed the presentations.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the representatives were invited to sit in on future, yet unscheduled, Development Team meetings. Rob Hazard was designated as a point of contact for the agency representatives.

### *Public Workshops*

The initial public workshop took place on January 26, 2017 at the Santa Barbara County Emergency Operations Center (Figure 1). Approximately 86 property owners and representatives from local government agencies, homeowner associations, and environmental groups as well as other interested publics attended the workshop. The presentation included introductions, goals and objectives for the workshop (by SBC Fire staff) and a PowerPoint presentation (by the contractor).



*Figure 1. January 26, 2017  
Public Meeting*

This PowerPoint presentation provided a description of the CWPP planning process, draft CWPP goals and objectives, the major plan components, an overview of wildfire history, and an initial wildfire hazard and risks assessment. SBC Fire staff presented the next steps in the process and an invitation was extended seeking interested individuals to serve on the CWPP Development Team.

A final public workshop occurred on <in process>.

### *Development Team*

A Development Team to lead the CWPP process was formally convened in January 2017. Members of the Development Team were chosen by agreement of citizen representatives of the CWPP area and County government. Development Team meetings were held each month between January and <in process>, 2017/2018. The Development Team (Team) was tasked with providing community-based input on local issues and concerns to the consultants preparing the CWPP. Deputy Fire Marshal Rob Hazard and Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council representative Phil Seymour provided leadership for the team that included residents and representatives from local homeowner associations, environmental groups, and volunteer fire departments.

The Team spent over three months developing a comprehensive list and maps of existing, planned, and potential fuel treatments. Mapping of existing and potential future fuel treatment areas was completed based on on-the-ground inspections by County Fire and LPF fire personnel, local Development Team members, affected property owners and area residents. Team members facilitated local meetings to share and gather information from local residents and convened panels of concerned stakeholders to vet issues and concerns regarding these potential treatments. A priority process, which was approved by the Development Team, assisted in prioritizing hazardous fuel treatments.

The Team also served as liaisons to their local communities to compile information concerning specific characteristics regarding wildfire susceptibility of communities located within the Planning Area. This information allowed the Team to delineate 12 specific community areas, each with unique issues and concerns.

Environmental concerns centered on potential hazardous fuel treatments and structure-hardening guidelines for the CWPP occupied much of the remaining Team's discussions. A final set of structure hardening mitigation, hazardous fuel treatment areas and guidelines, and proposed environmental protection measures including best management practices was **developed as part of the Team's work. The guidelines, for both structure-hardening and for hazardous fuel treatments, provide stakeholders interested in decreasing their wildfire exposure a starting point for taking appropriate mitigation actions within the limits of existing policy and regulation.**

### *Stakeholder Meetings*

#### San Marcos Trout Club, West Camino Cielo, and Rosario Park Communities

Members of the Wildland Residents Association coordinated information gathering and developed tentative fuel treatment areas for all areas on and west of Highway 154. Individuals from the San Marcos Trout Club, West Camino Cielo, and Rosario Park conducted community outreach for the development of potential fuel treatments.

#### Painted Cave, East Camino Cielo

For areas east of Highway 154, Development Team representatives contacted affected property owners directly and conducted community meetings on proposed potential fuel treatment areas. Initial meetings with Painted Cave residents and property owners were held on March 2 and March 14, 2017. A major community meeting attended by Painted Cave and East Camino Cielo area residents was held at the Forest Service San Marcos Pass fire station on April 13, 2017. Additional information was available for residents on the Wildland Residents Association website, community bulletin boards, and mailboxes. Multiple community field trips were conducted with Forest Service and SBC Fire representatives in attendance.

## San Marcos Pass Foothills

The San Marcos Foothills community representatives wrote and disseminated letters to 250 community members. Most of the letters were sent by email via Homeowner Associations (HOA) presidents or neighborhood leaders. Others were hand-delivered by a neighborhood leader.

The letter described the CWPP goals and process, and requested feedback from residents. It was disseminated to residents of the following neighborhoods: San Antonio Creek Neighborhood Association, Rancho San Antonio, Park Highlands, La Romana, Twin Ridge, Shadow Hills, Via Regina, San Antonio Estates, Paseo Cameo, and Via Chaparral.

In addition, the letter was posted to the website *NextDoor.com* and all the foothill residents in the CWPP who subscribe to *NextDoor.com* had access to that posting. About 40 people responded to the two foothills community representatives by email, phone, or in person with questions or feedback. Most of the questions pertained to concerns about defensible space on neighboring properties, either private property or County property. Responses were provided by the community or SBC Fire representatives.

The two foothills community representatives were invited to give presentations to two HOAs on March 6 and March 27, 2017. SBC Fire Vegetation Management Captain Fred Tan attended both of these meetings. They presented for about 15 minutes at each HOA meeting. Fred brought maps of the foothills and shared detailed information about existing and proposed fuelbreaks and other information. On March 6, they attended the annual meeting of the Park Highlands Association. About 25 people were in attendance and Q&A lasted about 10 minutes. Most questions pertained to evacuation and roads (egress). On March 27, they attended the San Antonio Estates homeowners meeting. About 18 people attended. Again, most of the questions were about the limited roads for evacuation.

## San Marcos Pass

On May 11, 2017, a community CWPP meeting was held at Forest Service San Marcos Fire Station for approximately 35 residents of San Marcos Pass/Kinevan, West Camino Cielo, Paradise Canyon, and Stagecoach Road/Cold Springs. A representative from the Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council gave an overview of the CWPP process with presentations from LPF and SBC Fire representatives regarding agency hazardous fuel treatments near the San Marcos Pass. Suggestions for additional fuel treatments within the San Marcos Pass Area were taken, and in some cases, added to the maps.

## California Department of Fish and Wildlife / Forest Service Meeting

On April 14, 2017, a meeting with representatives from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Forest Service occurred to discuss draft best management practices and their potential beneficial effects to environmentally sensitive habitat and species. Both CDFW and Forest Service submitted recommendations for modification to these draft best management practices for use in the CWPP.

## Meeting with Academia

A meeting occurred on May 22, 2017 with the Chaparral Institute and professors from the University of California, Santa Barbara to discuss various issues raised by members of the Development Team. The group also discussed a range of topics, including stream course protection, limited operating periods for nesting and migratory birds, invasive species management, and the potential impacts of climate change. Recommended measures derived from the discussion were incorporated in Section 6.4.4.