

DEPARTMENT FIRE SCIENCE AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION	DIVISION FIRE SCIENCE AND FIRE COORDINATION	EFFECTIVE DATE FEBRUARY 25, 2022
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SECTION GENERAL PRACTICES

SUBJECT TITLE SDG&E OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE WILDLAND FIRE PREVENTION PLAN
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1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 Southern California presents both a dangerous natural wildland fuel scenario and explosive fire weather potential year round. This plan outlines the “base” or minimum wildland fire prevention standards for all system Operations & Maintenance work conducted in wildland areas of our service territory. It may also be used for smaller, low complexity construction projects that do not fall under a “capital projects” status or for work that Does Not require additional mitigation or a specific mandated fire prevention plan (see Section 4.9 SDG&E PROJECT SPECIFIC FIRE PREVENTION PLANS). The intent of this document is to formalize procedures and routine practices that will:
 - 1.1.1 Assist SDG&E employees, contractors and consultants in their understanding of fire prevention and improve their ability to prevent the start of any fire.
 - 1.1.2 Set standards for fire tools and equipment to be present in vehicles and at work sites.
 - 1.1.3 Incorporate State, Federal, and local requirements into our standards to provide compliance with rules and regulations. This includes pertinent laws, Forest Standard Practice Regulations, “Special Use Permit” and “Right of Way” fire related requirements.
 - 1.1.4 Provide a wildland fire risk and mitigation matrix based on work activity within Fire Potential Index (FPI) or Project Activity Level (PAL) areas to set a level for minimum fire prevention and suppression tools.
 - 1.1.5 Define restrictions mandated by “Red Flag Warnings,” or other unique fire danger scenarios. Provide the means for determining when these restrictions are in effect, what activities they prohibit, locations to which they apply; and identify the notification procedures for all affected employees, contractors and consultants. (See TMC-1320) and/or Section 4.3 Fire Risk & Mitigation Matrix in this document.
 - 1.1.6 Requires that our employees, contractors and consultants have positive communication for reporting fires. If there is no connectivity at the work site then the responsible person needs to know where the closest location is to get connectivity for a radio or phone call. **Dialing 911 is the primary means for reporting ALL FIRES. Additional notifications should include the Field Construction Advisor (FCA), Project Manager, on-duty Fire Coordinator (and/or their designees).**
 - 1.1.7 Provide guidance to identify when a Construction project specific “Fire Plan” is required and the process for developing the document (Section 4.9).
 - 1.1.8 Reference General Fire Prevention and Fire Safety considerations (Section 4.4 and 4.5) that will be used in all activities to reduce the risk of wildland fire ignitions and prevent injury to employees as a result of a wildland fire.

2.0 APPLICABILITY

- 2.1 This Standard Practice applies to all SDG&E, contract, and consultant personnel who work in the wildland areas of the service territory. Included are all Distribution, Transmission, Substation, Planning, and Environmental personnel who perform activities in the field.

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3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.1 **“At Risk” Activities:** Activities that present a risk of igniting a wildfire.
- 3.2 **Wildland Areas:** This is any area with wildland vegetation (trees, chaparral, grass, and ground litter) to support the ignition and spread of a wildland fire. This does not include parking strips, ornamental vegetation or areas that are cultivated, landscaped and irrigated.
- 3.3 **Wildland Fuels:** Native vegetation such as grasses, brush (chaparral) and trees. This does not include landscaping or vegetation that is planted, cultivated, and kept irrigated.
- 3.4 **HFTD – CPUC’s High Fire Threat District:**
 - **Tier 2** – This region consists of areas on the CPUC Fire-Threat Map where there is an elevated risk (including likelihood and potential impacts on people and property) from wildfires associated with overhead utility power lines or overhead utility power-line facilities also supporting communication facilities.
 - **Tier 3** – This region consists of areas on the CPUC Fire-Threat Map where there is an extreme risk (including likelihood and potential impacts on people and property) from wildfires associated with overhead utility power lines or overhead utility power-line facilities also supporting communication facilities. Tier 3 is distinguished from Tier 2 by having the highest likelihood of utility-associated fire initiation and growth that would impact people or property, and where the most restrictive utility regulations are necessary to reduce utility fire risk.
 - **Zone 1** – This region consists of Tier 1 High Hazard Zones (“HHZs”) on the map of Tree Mortality HHZs prepared jointly by the United States Forest Service and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (“CAL FIRE”). Note: for SDG&E, Zone 1 is encompassed within Tier 2 and Tier 3.
- 3.5 **Fire Season:** Wildland Fire Agencies do not designate a fire season. Wildland fires can and do occur throughout the calendar year. USFS and CAL FIRE adjust their staffing patterns as fire conditions moderate or escalate and this can be used as an indicator of potential fire activity.
- 3.6 **Fire Potential Index (FPI) (1-17):** This is a comprehensive assessment of fire risk, used as a tool for making operation & maintenance decisions related to fire prevention. The tool converts environmental, statistical, and scientific data into an easily understood forecast of short-term fire threat. The index is generated for a seven-day forecast period for each C&O District. The 7-day forecast is used for planning purposes, while the daily FPI is used for work activities. The FPI is used to determine the fire potential for each day (Normal, Elevated, or Extreme). Definitions of each to follow.
 - 3.6.1 **Normal Fire Potential (1-11)** Normal FPI is shown in the matrix and the 7-day Outlook with the boxes shaded in GREEN. All O&M activities can take place in the wildland areas of the service territory without additional risk mitigation, **as long as baseline fire equipment is available as prescribed in this plan.**

Note: the baseline fire equipment requirements meet or exceed all local, state, & federal requirements for working in the wildland areas.

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- 3.6.2 **Elevated Fire Potential (12-14):** Elevated FPI is shown in the matrix and the 7-day Outlook with the boxes shaded in **YELLOW/ORANGE**. Certain “at risk” O&M activities may require additional mitigation measures in order to proceed with the work. Refer to Section 4.3 Fire Risk and Mitigation Matrix.
- 3.6.3 **Extreme Fire Potential (15-17):** Extreme FPI is shown in the matrix and the 7-day Outlook with the boxes shaded in **Red**. No “at risk” activities should be conducted except for those activities, which, if left undone, present a greater risk than that involved with their accomplishment. Consultation with the On-duty Fire Coordinator (858-503-5152) is required to help make that determination and identify additional mitigations required to reduce risk.
- 3.7 **Red Flag Warning (RFW):** The National Weather Service will declare a RFW when conditions are expected to meet either of the following criteria:
 - 3.7.1 Relative humidity is 15% or less with sustained winds equal to or greater than 25 mph, or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 35 mph for a period of 6 hours or more. This RFW (based on wind/relative humidity) will be considered “Extreme” operating condition regardless of the FPI for that time period and have the same restrictions described for “Extreme.”
 - 3.7.2 Dry lightning is for a lightning event that is not accompanied by enough precipitation to significantly wet fuels that have been identified as critically dry. This is common within the inland and mountain zones. This RFW (based only on dry lightning) will be assessed by Meteorology and Fire Coordination to determine the appropriate operating condition related to actual weather conditions. Notifications will be made to the field per TMC-1320.
- 3.8 **Project Activity Level (PAL):** This term is specific to the Cleveland National Forest (CNF) and only applies to work within the boundaries of the CNF. When conducting work on the CNF it is each crewmember’s responsibility to know the PAL level and adhere to any additional work restrictions or mitigation measures listed in Appendix F, SDG&E Fire Prevention Plan. This is an appendix to the SDG&E Master Special Use Permit (MSUP) Operations and Maintenance Plan for Electric Facilities on the Cleveland National Forest.
- 3.9 **Fire Tools:**
 - 3.9.1 **Shovel:** standard round point shovel with overall length of at least 46”.
 - 3.9.2 **Pulaski:** an axe-like fire hand tool used for cutting, chopping or grubbing. (Not a mattock or pick)
 - 3.9.3 **McLeod:** a fire hand tool used for raking and scraping.
 - 3.9.4 **Backpack pump:** is a portable 5-gallon water pack with hose and nozzle used for extinguishing Class A (common combustibles) fires and primarily wildland fires. They can be collapsible backpacks, plastic (poly) tanks or steel tanks.
 - 3.9.5 **Firebox:** may be required in a staging area or worksite to supplement available fire suppression equipment when necessary due to excessive work activity. It generally contains additional hand tools and/or backpack pumps as deemed appropriate.
- 3.10 **Major Operations Work Area (MOW):** Major Operations Work areas are locations where work activities or staging of resources will be concentrated in and out of a staging facility. These work sites are typically large in size and include but are not limited to construction yards, fly yards, substation pads and any other area where construction work will be concentrated.

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3.11 Fire Patrol:

- 3.11.1 A *designated* "Fire Patrol" is a member of a work crew assigned the responsibility and accountability for fire prevention, risk mitigation, early detection of fires, ensuring fire compliance is maintained with vehicles and equipment on the work site and within 50' of the work activity, and rapid extinguishment of a wildland fire should one occur. This position can be accomplished as a collateral duty with other work duties and should be documented on the tailboard form or similar document. If a person is working alone and their activity requires a designated fire patrol they will be the designated "Fire Patrol" for their activity and no documentation is required.
- 3.11.2 A *Dedicated* "Fire Patrol" is a person(s) assigned the responsibility and accountability for fire prevention, risk mitigation, early detection of fires, ensuring fire compliance is maintained with vehicles and equipment on the work site and within 50' of the work activity and rapid extinguishment of a wildland fire should one occur. This will be their sole duty while serving as a dedicated Fire Patrol. When a Dedicated Fire Patrol is required the position must be filled with an SDG&E Contracted Qualified Fire Fighter (QFF).
- 3.11.3 **SDG&E Contracted Qualified Firefighter (QFF)** - a contracted QFF is an individual that has successfully completed wildland firefighter classes required by SDG&E that are deemed necessary to perform fire prevention duties when "at risk work" requires a Dedicated "Fire Patrol". See Attachment #5 for list of training required.

3.12 SDG&E Fire Coordinator (FC) or designee:

- 3.12.1 Serves as a conduit or liaison to the emergency service agencies for the utilities for daily operations as well as emergency incidents. The FC will help the emergency service agencies obtain their needs related to the utility and represent the utility needs to the emergency service agencies.
- 3.12.2 Responsible for maintaining and updating ESP 113.1 and is the primary source for questions or concerns regarding this plan. Also develops Project Specific Fire Prevention plans when required and serves as Subject Matter Expert (SME) for wildland fire prevention planning for new projects.
- 3.12.3 Conducts compliance inspections at work sites in wildland areas of our service territory.
- 3.12.4 Coordinates SFUGN103 Wildland Fire Prevention training for SDG&E and collaborates with contractors and consultants for this annual training.

3.13 Operations & Maintenance (O&M): O&M refers to post construction care and maintenance of SDG&E facilities.

3.14 SDG&E Point of Contact (POC): The SDG&E POC serves as the Company Point of Contact and will be the liaison or agency representative for communications with the Agency Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for the incident. There will always be an SDG&E POC during an active incident and there can only be one for the incident. All SDG&E (and contracted) personnel will know who the SDG&E POC is at all times.

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- 3.15 **Off Road Travel:** Vehicle travel or vehicle placement where there is no established road or where vehicle is travelling on an unimproved roadbed (washed out, not graded, vegetation growing in the roadbed (two-track)).
- 3.16 **Privately Owned Vehicle (POV):** A privately owned vehicle used as transportation and parked in a yard ONLY. If driven to and/or parked outside of a yard, MOW or on a work site, the POV will be treated as any other construction vehicle and must have the required fire tools.
- 3.17 **Construction Hot Work:** Operations including cutting, welding, grinding, brazing, soldering, thermal spraying, thawing pipe, installation of torch applied roof systems or any other similar activity.
- 3.18 **Operating Secondary Equipment:** Work activities involving secondary lines (service drops) that could provide a source of ignition.

4.0 PROCEDURE

- 4.1 **General:** SDG&E personnel will be committed to the following three step process for reducing the fire risk and exposure involved with potential wildland fires related to our work activities or equipment;
 - 4.1.1 Fire Prevention: all work activities taking place in the wildland areas of our service territory will be assessed with regard to fire risk during standard safety tailboard sessions. Those activities that pose a fire risk and can be excluded will be. Those that cannot be eliminated will incorporate appropriate mitigation measures to reduce the fire risk where possible, and in those cases where all fire risk cannot be eliminated the following steps will be in place:
 - 4.1.1.1 Immediate or Early Fire Detection: SDG&E enhances the ability of its crews to detect fire at its earliest stages by assigning designated (co-lateral duty) and dedicated Fire Patrols (sole duty) as well as training all personnel to establish good situational awareness during "Normal," "Elevated," and "Extreme" operating conditions.
 - 4.1.1.2 Rapid Extinguishment: prescribed fire tools and equipment will be available within 50' of worksite and immediately available for rapid extinguishment of any ignition.
 - 4.2 **Tools & Equipment:** When working in the HFTD (identified on Attachment 1), the following tools and equipment are required as a minimum and will be carried on the vehicles as described. If work is in a wildland area outside the HFTD, it is required that you follow these same standards. This does not apply to through traffic that stays on paved roads without stopping or pulling onto the shoulder. These items will meet the California Forest Practice Rules, Public Resource Code Division 4, Chapter 6. Making this equipment available at your work sites will also meet the majority of the requirements mandated by the wildland fire agencies within the company service territory.
Note: When the vehicle is parked on site and will remain on site and the work activity is over 50' from the vehicle location, the mandated equipment will be removed from the vehicle and staged at the work site. If the vehicle leaves the site, the tools must be returned to the vehicle and a 2nd set of tools must be staged with personnel remaining at the original work site.

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- 4.2.1 Passenger Vehicles (operating/parking in the wildland areas):
 - 4.2.1.1 1 round point shovel with overall length of at least 46"
 - 4.2.1.1.1 On the rare occasion that a full-size shovel cannot be safely carried inside smaller vehicles consult with Fire Coordination for a variance.
 - 4.2.1.2 1 serviceable fire extinguisher, minimum U.L. rated "2A10BC;" rating found on fire extinguisher label (a "2" rated extinguisher will put out approx. 2 sq. ft. of combustible material and BC indicates it will work on flammable liquids and is non-conductive for electrical fires)

- 4.2.2 Trucks & 4 Wheel Drive Vehicles:
 - 4.2.2.1 1 round point shovel with overall length of at least 46"
 - 4.2.2.2 1 Pulaski (not a mattock or pick)
 - 4.2.2.3 1 (5) gallon backpack pump (filled with water)

- 4.2.3 Heavy Machinery or Equipment (including tub grinders, whole tree chippers, drilling rigs, tractors, etc.):
 - 4.2.3.1 1 round point shovel with overall length of at least 46"
 - 4.2.3.2 1 Pulaski
 - 4.2.3.3 1 (5) gallon backpack pump (filled with water)

- 4.2.4 Chain Saw Use:
 - 4.2.4.1 1 round point shovel with overall length of at least 46" within 25 feet of the chainsaw operation with unrestricted access to the tool or 1 serviceable UL rated 2A10BC fire extinguisher in the immediate possession of the operator.

- 4.2.5 Major Operations Work Area: When vehicle equipment does not meet the needs of the work area or site conditions, a Fire Box should be located on site. Fire Coordinator or designee should consult with Project Manager, FCA or site manager to discuss contents. At a minimum box will contain:
 - 4.2.5.1 1 (5) gallon backpack pump (filled with water)
 - 4.2.5.2 2 Pulaskis
 - 4.2.5.3 2 McLeod fire tools
 - 4.2.5.4 3 Round point shovels with overall length of at least 46"

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4.3 **Fire Risk & Mitigation Matrix:** The following matrix is designed to blend the fire risk associated with a specific work activity and the fire potential index for the day. This will establish the minimum fire prevention measures required for the activity to be conducted in wildland areas. Most work activities can be done daily by having the required equipment from section 4.2 available, serviceable, and within 50' of the work site. Some activities involve more risk and may require additional mitigation measures. The fire potential is determined by the daily Fire Potential Index.

Green on the FPI matrix and the 7-day Outlook indicates **Normal Fire Potential**. Under **Normal FPI** the baseline tool & equipment requirements from section 4.2 suffice, except for specifically noted exceptions.

Yellow/Orange on the FPI Matrix and the 7-day Outlook indicates **Elevated Fire Potential**. Under **Elevated FPI** certain work activities may require additional mitigation measures in order to proceed with the work. The supervisor responsible for the work activity will document how the additional mitigation will be met for the day's activities. This can be done in conjunction with normal tailboard documentation or as separate documentation.

Red on the FPI Matrix and the 7-day Outlook is considered **Extreme Fire Potential**. Under **Extreme FPI** most work activities will cease, except when not performing the work creates a greater risk than doing so. In those cases where work needs to continue, consult with On-duty Fire Coordinator ((858) 503-5152) and check the FPI matrix to see if additional mitigation is required. The supervisor responsible for the work activities will document that work has in fact ceased or why it is acceptable to continue. When Fire Coordination is consulted, they will document that a joint decision to continue work is made.

Red Flag Warning (RFW) (based on wind/relative humidity). When the National Weather Service declares an RFW for fire weather zones, activities in these zones will be treated the same as if they were in Extreme FPI.

Normal	Elevated	Extreme FPI or RFW
< 12	12-14	15-17

Example of 7-day Outlook

First column is the actual FPI for the day and the other seven days are the predicted FPIs

	Fri 9/25	Sat 9/26	Sun 9/27	Mon 9/28	Tues 9/29	Wed 9/30	Thu 10/01	Fri 10/02
ME	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Extreme 15	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14
RA	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Extreme 15	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14
EA	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14
NE	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14
OC	Normal 11	Normal 11	Elevated 12	Elevated 13	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 14	Elevated 13
NC	Normal 10	Normal 10	Normal 11	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12
BC	Normal 10	Normal 10	Normal 11	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12
CM	Normal 10	Normal 10	Normal 11	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12	Elevated 12

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Work Activity	Work Activity Description	NORMAL FPI	ELEVATED FPI	EXTREME FPI or RFW
<i>Vehicle, Roads, Inspections</i>		1-11	12-14	15-17
Privately Owned Vehicle (POV)	Used as transportation and parked in a yard only. Parking area must have adequate clearance from vegetation.	No tools required	No tools required	No tools required
Vehicle Travel	On paved roads or improved roads with no vegetation on roadbed.	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump
Vehicle Travel	Off road including driving on unmaintained roadbeds.	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Designated Fire Patrol and document	Permitted only for work that meets the extreme criteria and must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol
Inspections/Surveying	Ground, aerial, security, climbing, vegetation, and weed control inspections, etc.	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must follow vehicle travel rules above
Access Road Maintenance	Vegetation removal, water bars, culvert cleaning/repair, grading	1 round point shove, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Designated Fire Patrol (Document) and 150 gallons of water and equipment for its use	Not Permitted

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ELECTRIC STANDARD PRACTICE

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Work Activity	Work Activity Description	NORMAL FPI	ELEVATED FPI	EXTREME FPI or RFW
<i>Equipment Maintenance</i>		1-11	12-14	15-17
Operating secondary equipment	Work activities involving secondary lines (service drops) that could provide a source of ignition in areas WITH vegetation capable of carrying fire	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	When FPI is 12 or 13, District analysis will be made and the need for a designated fire patrol established. When FPI is 14 must have Dedicated Fire Patrol and 150 gallons of water and equipment for its use	Permitted only for work that meets the extreme criteria and must have Dedicated Fire Patrol and 150 gallons of water and equipment for its use
Operating secondary equipment	Any work that could provide a source of ignition in areas WITHOUT vegetation capable of carrying fire	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump
Insulator Washing	Conducted on existing access roads with Insulator Wash Rig (1,000 gal.)	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Not Permitted
Equipment Replacement	Mechanical replacement of system equipment; i.e. insulators, fuses, etc. ON paved roads or improved roads with no vegetation on roadbed.	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Permitted only for work that meets the extreme criteria and must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol
Equipment Replacement	Mechanical replacement of system equipment; i.e. insulators, fuses, etc. OFF road vehicle travel and on unmaintained roadbeds.	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must have Dedicated Fire Patrol and 150 gallons of water and equipment for its use	Permitted only for work that meets the extreme criteria and must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol

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Work Activity	Work Activity Description	NORMAL FPI	ELEVATED FPI	EXTREME FPI or RFW
<i>Equipment Maintenance (continued)</i>		1-11	12-14	15-17
Conductor Replacement	Replacement of conductor with all activities conducted ON paved roads or improved roads with no vegetation on roadbed	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Not Permitted
Conductor Replacement	Replacement of conductor with all activities conducted OFF road vehicle travel and on unmaintained roadbeds	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must have Dedicated Fire Patrol and 150 gallons of water and equipment for its use	Not Permitted
Pole Replacement/ Pole hole digging	Replacement of existing power pole ON paved roads or improved roads with no vegetation on roadbed	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Not Permitted
Pole Replacement/ Pole hole digging	Replacement of existing power pole OFF road vehicle travel and on unmaintained roadbeds	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document) and 150 gallons of water and equipment for its use	Not Permitted
<i>Substations within the HFTD</i>				
At Risk Activities ≤ 10 feet from inside station fence	Any substation activities	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Standard Tools within 50 +refer to specific work activities in matrix	Not Permitted
Activities inside the substation and > 10 feet from inside station fence	Any substation activities excluding construction hot work See construction hot work activities	No tools required	No tools required	No tools required

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Work Activity	Work Activity Description	NORMAL FPI	ELEVATED FPI	EXTREME FPI or RFW
Vegetation Management		1-11	12-14	15-17
Pole/Tower Ground Clearance (PRC 4292)	10' clearance around poles and tower structures hand tools only	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Not Permitted
Pole/Tower Ground Clearance (PRC 4292)	10' clearance around poles and tower structures weed eaters/hand tools and chain	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Not Permitted
Conductor Vegetation Clearance (PRC 4293)	Tree trimming and occasional removal to maintain required clearances mandated by code	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Allowed when trees making contact or intermittent contact. Must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol
Noxious Weed Control	Controlling or abating weeds in permitted access roads & worksites	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Not Permitted
Other Activities				
Construction Hot Work: Welding, cutting, grinding	See section 3.19 for definition. Must follow Hot Work plan that meets NFPA 51B at a minimum. Must be done in an area with 10' clearance to mineral soil	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document). This can be done by the Fire Watch required by the Hot Work Plan.	Must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol . This is in addition to the Fire Watch required by the Hot Work Plan	Not Permitted
Blasting	Any work using explosives must have permit with restrictions identified	Must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol	Must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol	Not Permitted
Combustion Engines	Compressors, generators, etc. must have 10' minimum clearance or equivalent from the heat source.	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump	Must designate a Fire Patrol (Document)	Permitted only for work that meets the extreme criteria and must have a Dedicated Fire Patrol
Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Missions	Missions taking place in wildland areas of the service territory	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump at the take-off/landing zone.	1 round point shovel, 1 Pulaski, and 1 (5) gallon filled backpack pump at the take-off/landing zone.	UAV must take-off and land within 50' of the Remote Pilot in Charge
Activities not covered by the <i>Matrix</i> that do not fit with an identified work activity require consultation with the On-duty Fire Coordinator (858-503-5152) for approval and/or additional mitigation requirements.				

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- 4.3.1 **Optional** considerations when site specific hazards may warrant additional mitigation measures. These can be required by working foreman, FCA, Project Manager or Fire Coordination. (*discuss with On-duty Fire Coordinator, 858-503-5152*):
 - 4.3.1.1 Small fire engine or patrol unit:
 - 4.3.1.11 Minimum tank capacity of 150 gallons
 - 4.3.1.12 Pump rated at 50 gpm at 100 psi
 - 4.3.1.13 300' of 1.5" hose with National Hose fittings
 - 4.3.1.14 300' of 1" hose with National Pipe Straight Hose fittings.
 - 4.3.1.15 Hard line hose reel with 100' ¾ hose
 - 4.3.1.16 1 ea 1.5" nozzle
 - 4.3.1.17 1 ea 1" nozzle
 - 4.3.1.2 Cache of fire hose and related accessories
 - 4.3.1.3 Water supply; water tender, truck, 500 gallons minimum stored water in MOW, or hydrant (1500 gal. recommended)
 - 4.3.1.4 Vegetation fuel reduction (with environmental approval) or appropriate wildfire mitigations at the site to reduce the potential of wildfire ignitions.
- 4.3.2 Helicopter Operations: Helicopter staging areas will be treated similar to other staging areas with enough fire equipment for personnel on site or fire box available on major operations. On Temporary Structure Access Pads (TSAP), adequate firefighting equipment shall be carried on the helicopter for the number of personnel working on the ground at those sites.
- 4.4 General Fire Prevention Considerations:
 - 4.4.1 It is required on projects in the SDG&E HFTD (and recommended in any wildland area) to conduct a formal "tailboard" safety session to discuss fire risks. All fire concerns will be documented, including designated or dedicated fire patrol, mitigation measures taken, and extinguishment plans for any at risk work for the day.
 - 4.4.2 Smoke only in designated smoking areas or in a 10' clearing void of all grass or other vegetation. Cigarette butts or other smoking materials are not to be discarded on the ground and must be disposed of in an appropriate receptacle.
 - 4.4.3 Idling your vehicle in areas of brush, grass, or other vegetation is prohibited. When parking in these areas, shut off vehicle and check vehicle undercarriage for any threat of fire ignition.
 - 4.4.4 When driving over grass meadows or areas of low vegetation, have a designated Fire Patrol follow along with fire tools available to extinguish an inadvertent fire start. If traveling alone, you become the designated fire patrol, frequent observations of the ground behind you should be made with fire tools ready and available, and this **should not be done in elevated or extreme conditions**.
 - 4.4.5 At work sites, have all required tools available and within 50' of the work activity. Tools should be serviceable and ready for use. Backpack pumps need to be full of water.

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- 4.4.6 When using any piece of equipment capable of producing sparks and/or which has an exposed exhaust system, provide an area with 10' clearance or equivalent from the heat source. Refer to the matrix (Section 4.3) for fire prevention requirements.
- 4.4.7 All internal combustion engines shall have approved spark arresters.
 - 4.4.7.1 Engines used to provide motive power for trucks, tractors, buses, and passenger vehicles, except motorcycles, are exempt if the exhaust system is equipped with a muffler.
 - 4.4.7.2 Turbocharged engines are exempt.
- 4.4.8 When it is possible, wet down adjacent vegetation when performing at risk work in the wildland areas.
- 4.4.9 Consider work hour restrictions in the wildland areas avoiding particularly hazardous work during the hottest portions of the day.
- 4.4.10 When conducting construction Hot Work activities utilize welding curtains, welding blankets or other fire resistant materials to contain the slag, sparks or other hot materials from travelling outside the 10' cleared area or wet down the area outside the 10' clearance to a sufficient distance to prevent a fire start. Hot work conducted above grade (aerial hot work) will need the area to be cleared or wet down equal to 1 ½ times the elevation above grade.

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- 4.5 **General Fire Safety Considerations:** As previously indicated, fire prevention is the primary focus of all of our efforts. We do carry the proper equipment to rapidly extinguish a witnessed ignition or very small fire that is within our capabilities to safely extinguish. If at any time the fire becomes unmanageable or unsafe for you to continue your suppression actions, you should stop and retreat to a safe area. If work activities require personnel to perform utility related work adjacent to or near an uncontrolled wildfire, the following considerations become important for your safety (See below).
- 4.5.1 Use proper Personal Protective Equipment (P.P.E.), standard SDG&E requirements apply. When working within or adjacent to uncontrolled fire perimeter company issued Flame Resistant (FR) clothing should be worn.
 - 4.5.2 When working on or adjacent to a wildland fire, positive communications must be maintained internally using SDG&E work protocols. It is critical that employees have the ability to communicate with fire agencies for reporting fires and for the exchange of critical information for the duration of an incident. Cross communication with the fire agencies is the responsibility of the SDG&E POC (single point of contact assigned to manage all SDG&E resources) or the Fire Coordinator (FC). In the absence of a SDG&E or Fire Coordinator, the On-Site Supervisor (pre-designated work supervisor for affected area) will be the Point of Contact until they arrive.
 - 4.5.3 Know what the fire is doing at all times. Observe personally or be in direct communication with a competent person (IC, FC, or On-Site Supervisor) who is monitoring fire activity.
 - 4.5.4 Work within the Incident Command System (ICS) while assigned to a fire incident. Follow the chain of command for the incident and know whom you are to report to. Check in when entering an uncontrolled fire perimeter after it is determined to be safe by the IC, FC, or on-site SDG&E Single Point of Contact. Check out when leaving the incident area to maintain accountability.
 - 4.5.5 Pre-evaluate and designate safety zones (areas large enough to provide a safe retreat) and evacuation routes (safe access to these safety zones) when working in the wildland areas during high fire danger days. Dedicated Fire Patrols can help with this.
 - 4.5.6 Get proper rest and adequate water during extended fire activity to avoid fatigue and help prevent accidents and/or injuries.
 - 4.5.7 Exercise extreme caution when driving within a fire area and/or smoky conditions. Be aware of falling rocks, trees, and other debris as well as road obstructions and other traffic. Keep driving speeds down when visibility is limited.
 - 4.5.8 Do not block roadways in or adjacent to wildland fire perimeters. Roads need to be kept open for ingress and egress by 1st responder personnel.

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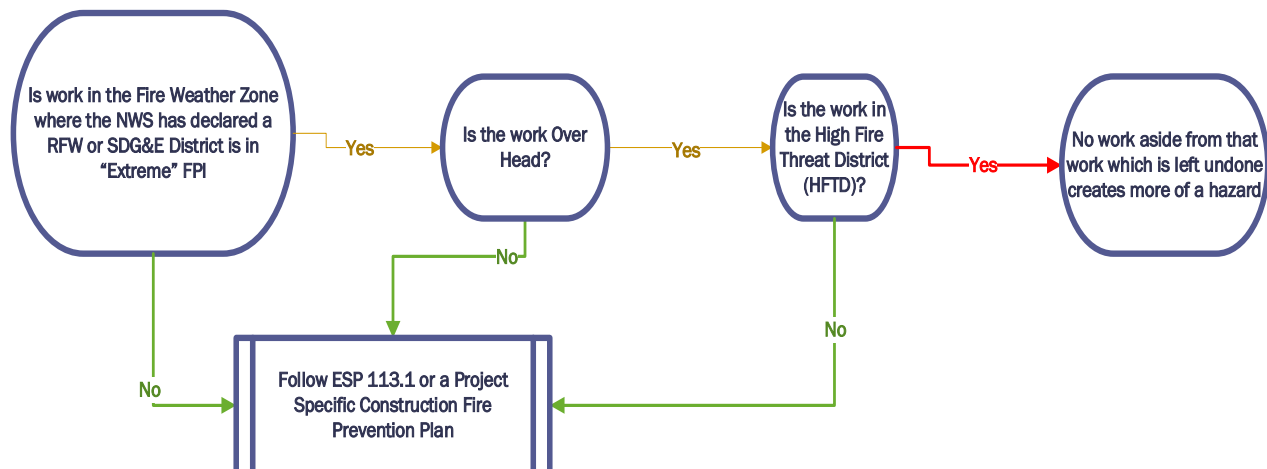
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- 4.6 **Extreme Fire Potential Index:** SDG&E Meteorology will issue an Extreme Fire Potential Index (FPI) rating for a C&O district when weather and vegetation conditions indicate that the burn environment is conducive for catastrophic wildfire. This applies to all areas within the district where there is wildland vegetation.
- 4.7 **Red Flag Warnings** The National Weather Service (NWS) will issue a Red Flag Warning (RFW) when conditions are conducive for rapid or explosive fire growth. The NWS issues RFWs for various fire weather zones that transect the SDG&E service territory and C&O Districts. An RFW applies to the fire weather zone. Areas in a fire weather zone with a declared RFW will follow the matrix for Extreme FPI. Areas in a C&O District not in the fire weather zone with the declared RFW will be governed by the FPI for that C&O District. The NWS will declare a RFW when conditions are expected to meet either of the following criteria:
 - 4.7.1 Relative humidity is 15% or less with sustained winds equal to or greater than 25 mph, or frequent gusts equal to or greater than 35 mph for a period of 6 hours or more. The operating condition will be considered "Extreme" during this RFW, regardless of actual FPI rating, and all work activity will cease, except such activities that, without performing, would create a greater risk. Refer to the matrix (Section 4.3) for mitigations or work restrictions.
 - 4.7.2 A lightning event in which precipitation does not significantly dampen critically dry fuels. During this event, Fire Coordination and Meteorology will confer to determine the operating condition for the duration of the RFW. Refer to the matrix (Section 4.3) for mitigations or work restrictions.
 - 4.7.3 Supervisors will retain authority to allow (exempt) work necessary to mitigate an immediate fire risk. The supervisor will be required to document the exemption. If required, the On-duty Fire Coordinator can provide assistance with the decision and documentation process.
 - 4.7.4 Fire Coordination should be consulted during pre-event conference calls and/or TEAMS meetings to discuss wildland fire risks and mitigations or work restrictions required by ESP113.1.
 - 4.7.5 Red Flag Warning/Extreme Fire Potential work restriction decision tree. Utilize this decision tree during a declared RFW or when the FPI is 15-17 Extreme and follow matrix in Section 4.3 of ESP 113.1.



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- 4.8 **Project Activity Levels:** The Cleveland National Forest (CNF) utilizes Project Activity Levels (PALs) as risk levels as SDG&E uses the FPI to assess risk. When working on the CNF, employees will need to know which PAL area their worksite is located in. Attachment 4 of this plan is a general map of the PAL areas. The PALs are determined each day at 4:00 PM for the following days use. They can be obtained from CNF Dispatch by calling (619) 557-5262 after 4:00 PM. SDG&E Meteorology also posts them at 6:00 AM each day at the following web site: <https://sdgeweather.com/>. Utilize the PAL for your location to reference minimum fire prevention mitigations from the matrix in Appendix F, SDG&E Fire Prevention Plan. Internal Link to the plan: <https://sempra.sharepoint.com/sites/sdge-powerup/fsca/Shared%20Documents/Forms/Fire%20Mitigation%20%20Climate%20Adaptation%20Documents.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2Fsdge%2Dpowerup%2Ffsca%2FShared%20Documents%2FUSFS%20Fire%20Prevention%20Plan%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2Fsdge%2Dpowerup%2Ffsca%2FShared%20Documents> . Contractors have access to the plan through <https://www.isnetworld.com/en/login>
- 4.9 **SDG&E Project Specific Fire Prevention Plans:** This Wildland Fire Prevention plan will be sufficient for most routine day to day work activities performed in the wildland by all SDG&E employees and contractors. Fire Coordination should be consulted for projects outside of regular work activities or for an activity that seems to be at risk for starting a wildland fire. Fire Coordination will make a determination whether this plan (ESP 113.1) is sufficient for the prescribed work, this plan (ESP 113.1) with some minor additional mitigation will suffice, or if a project specific Fire Prevention Plan is required. If required, Fire Coordination will work with the Project Manager or representative to develop the required plan, follow it through to approval, and monitor compliance with the plan as appropriate. On major projects, there may be additional requirements assessed by the CPUC or a jurisdictional fire agency that will be incorporated as required into the project specific Fire Prevention Plan.
- 4.10 **Other Critical Fire Danger Proclamations:** Fire Chiefs with jurisdictional responsibility for a given area have the authority to proclaim additional restrictions during extreme fire conditions or when they are experiencing a critical shortage of resources. These cases will be very rare and it will be incumbent on them to insure we are informed of any temporary changes in fire restrictions for their jurisdictional area. Upon notification we would be required to comply as appropriate.
- 4.11 **Fire Related Training:**
- 4.11.1 It is mandatory that all SDG&E field employees have basic wildland fire prevention training on an annual basis. If an employee who does not have wildland fire prevention training needs to go to the field they will need to be escorted by someone who has had the training and has the required tools for both employees. Wildland Fire Prevention training (SFUGN103) will be incorporated into annual Compliance Training and documented on Form 5300. This training can be accomplished in approximately one hour at a routine safety meeting prior to fire season or sessions may be scheduled by emailing Fire Coordination at FireCoordinators@semprautilities.com
- 4.11.2 Contractors will be responsible for providing basic wildland fire prevention training, annually, utilizing this Wildland Fire Prevention Plan and documenting the training for their personnel who will be working in the wildland areas of the SDG&E service territory. This training will need to meet requirements provided by SDG&E Fire Coordination.
- 4.11.3 For those employees who are likely to be asked to work within or immediately adjacent to an uncontrolled fire area, the following additional training is recommended: Wildland Fire Safety, Incident Command System, and basic fire behavior training.

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4.12 Wildland Fire Prevention Plan Access:

4.12.1 Internal:

<https://sempra.sharepoint.com/sites/sdgepowerup/fsca/Shared%20Documents/Forms/Fire%20Mitigation%20%20Climate%20Adaptation%20Documents.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2Fsdge%2Dpowerup%2Ffsca%2FShared%20Documents%2FUSFS%20Fire%20Prevention%20Plan%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2Fsdge%2Dpowerup%2Ffsca%2FShared%20Documents>

4.12.2 External: <https://www.isnetwork.com/en/login> Click on message center, than bulletin board and search for Wildland Fire Prevention

4.13 Fire Coordination: SDG&E has (6) full-time Fire Coordinators and additional qualified assistance within the company.

4.13.1 Serve as a conduit, liaison, or Agency Representative to emergency service agencies for everyday operations as well as emergency incidents. The FC or designee will help the 1st responder agencies obtain their needs related to the utility and represent the utility needs to the 1st responders.

4.13.2 Responsible for maintaining and updating ESP 113.1 and Appendix F Fire Prevention Plan for the CNF and are the primary source for answering questions or concerns regarding these plans. Subject Matter Experts (SME's) for wildland fire prevention planning for new projects and Project Specific Wildland Fire Prevention Plans.

4.13.3 Conduct fire prevention compliance inspections at work site in wildland areas of our service territory.

4.13.4 Coordinate SFUGN103 Wildland Fire Prevention training internally and collaborate with contractors and consultants for this annual training.

4.13.5 Questions related to this plan, fire prevention or wildland fire emergencies should be made through the Fire Coordination group. On duty Fire Coordinator at 858-503-5152 or by email at FireCoordinators@semprautilities.com

5.0 REFERENCES

5.1 State Forest Standard Practice Act

https://bof.fire.ca.gov/media/9478/2020-forest-practice-rules-and-act_final_ada.pdf

5.2 [TMC 1320](#) (aka DOP3013, ESP109 – SDG&E Fire Conditions)

5.3 Electric Standard Practice ESP 113-Fire Coordination

<https://sempra.sharepoint.com/sites/sdge-powerup/ede/EDE%20Manuals/Electric%20Standard%20Practices.pdf#search=electric%20standard%20practices>

5.4 Power Line Fire Prevention Field Guide https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/media/3vqj2sft/2021-power-line-fire-prevention-field-guide-ada-final_jf_20210125.pdf

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6.0 REVISION HISTORY

Effective Date:	Type Of Change	Brief Description of Change
25Feb2022	Revised	Revised by SDG&E Fire Science and Coordination Program Manager
22June2021	Revised	Added paragraph on reporting all fires, definition of Privately Owned Vehicle (POV), and POV's to the matrix. Revised Major Operations Work area description, need for a Fire Box and Fire Box contents. All changes highlighted in yellow.
17May 2021	Revised	Updated links, clarified that tools required in any areas with wildland vegetation, adjusted font in some blocks of matrix to get entire sentence to show, clarified sentence in matrix on off road vehicle travel, added cutting in the matrix block for construction hot work, bolded portion of 4.4.4 for emphasis, updated number of fire coordinators. All changes highlighted in yellow.
22May2020	Revised	Updated links and contact information
14Dec2018	Revised	Revised by SDG&E Fire Science and Coordination Program Manager
12July2018	Revised	Revised by SDG&E Fire Science and Coordination Program Manager
26Jul2016	Revised	SDG&E Fire Program Manager has made minor changes to this standard. Revisions or additions highlighted in YELLOW. Removed Attachment 2, Project Specific Fire Plan Template.
8Jun2015	Revised	SDG&E Fire Program Manager updated all maps
25Jul2014	Revised	Revised by SDG&E Fire Program Manager
24Apr2013	Revised	Revised by SDG&E Fire Program Manager
05Jul2012	Revised	Revised by SDG&E Fire Program Manager

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7.0 ATTACHMENTS

These attachments are to be used for general orientation purposes and not to provide exact boundaries or locations. Employees, contractors, consultants, Supervisors, crews and individuals working in areas with wildland vegetation are responsible for knowing if they are on Cleveland National Forest (CNF) land, which National Weather Service (NWS) fire weather zone they are in, and which SDG&E Construction & Operations (C&O) District they are working in to be able to utilize the Fire Risk and Mitigation Matrix. Managers requiring maps with better detail can request them through Land Services GIS.

- 7.1 Attachment 1: SDG&E Service Territory, Districts and High Fire Threat Districts
- Attachment 2: SDG&E Service Territory, Districts and National Weather Service Fire Weather Zones
- Attachment 3: SDG&E Service Territory, Districts and Cleveland National Forest Boundaries
- Attachment 4: SDG&E Service Territory, Districts and CNF Project Activity Level (PAL) areas
- Attachment 5: SDG&E Qualified Firefighter Training Requirements

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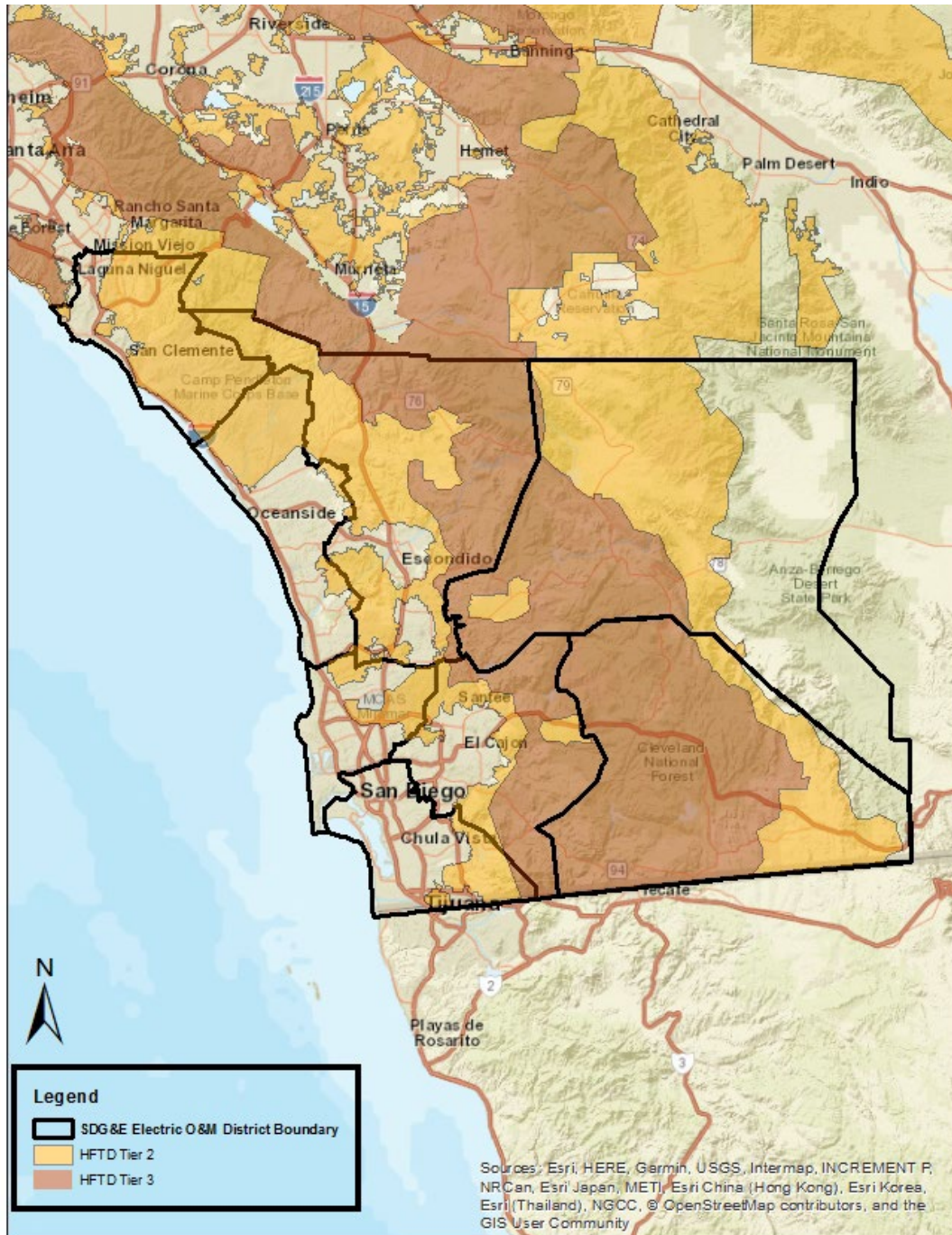
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Attachment 1: HFTD Tiers and SDG&E Districts



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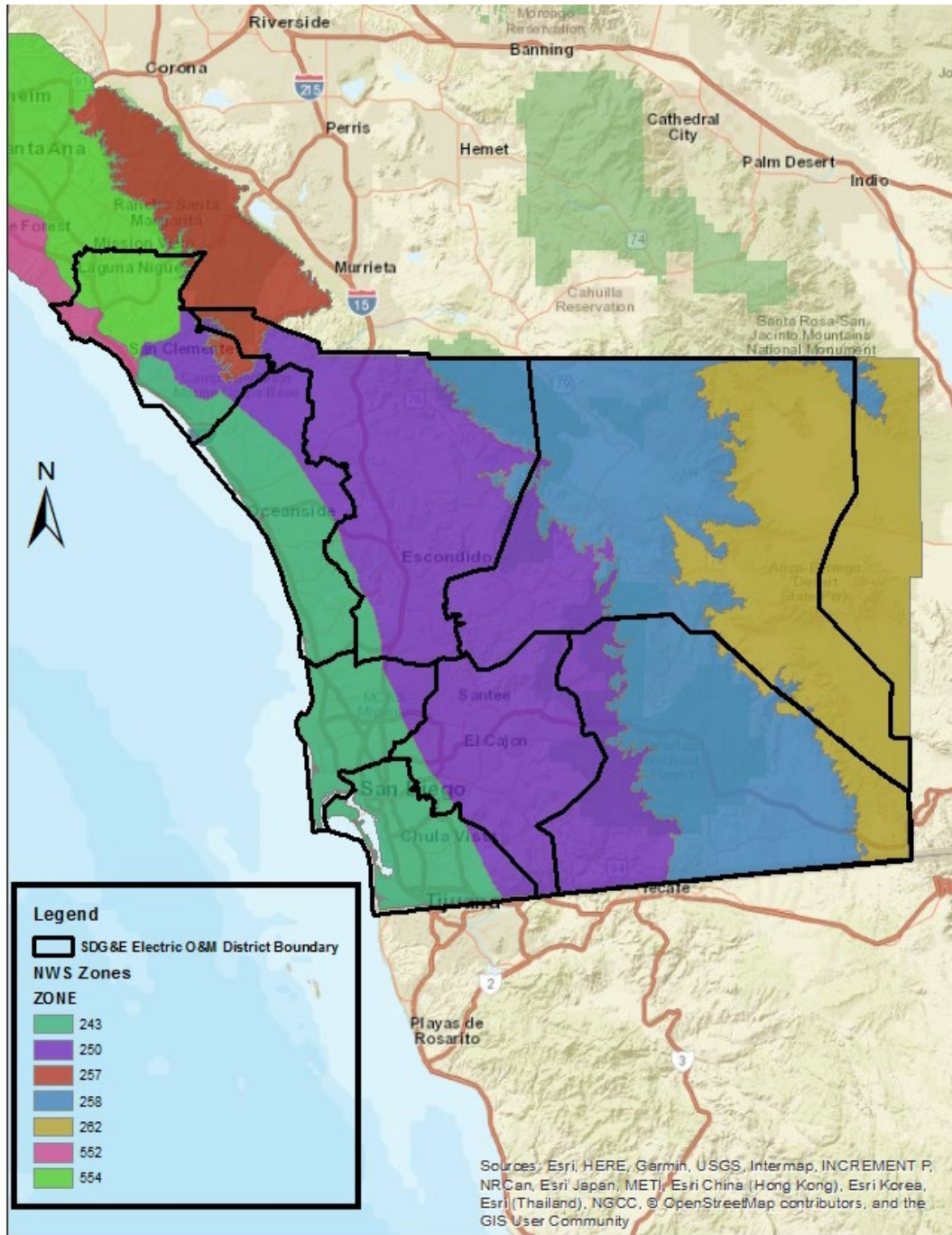
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Attachment 2: NWS Fire Weather Zones and SDG&E Districts



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Attachment 3: USFS Land and SDG&E Districts



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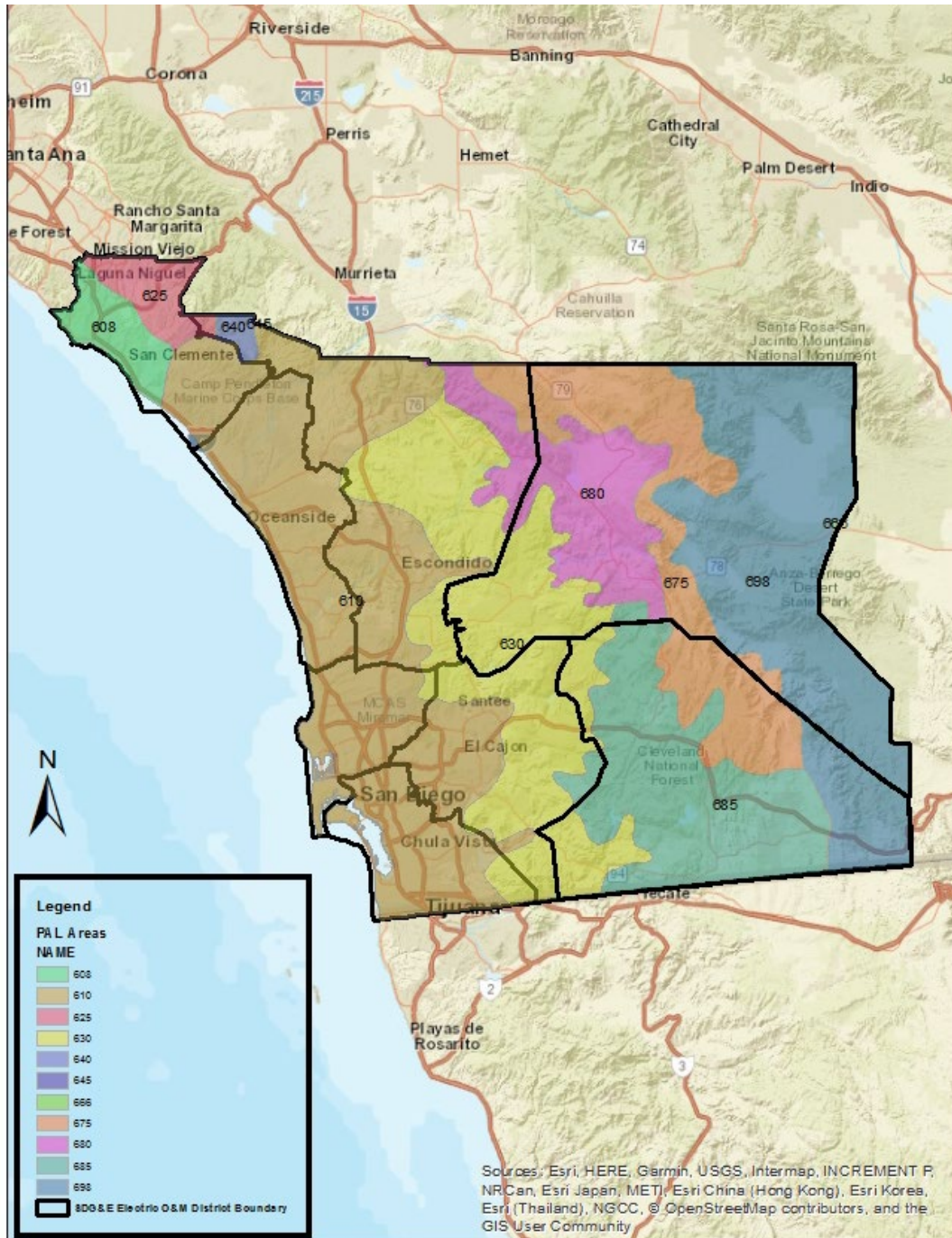
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Attachment 4: PAL Areas and SDG&E Districts



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Attachment 5: SDG&E Contracted Qualified Firefighter (QFF) Training Requirements

The successful completion of these courses will provide the basic knowledge levels for Contracted QFF's to perform fire prevention duties when covering "at risk" activities that require a Dedicated fire patrol.

Courses listed below were obtained from the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) document PMS 310-1 National Incident Management System: Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide.

Annual RT-130 and Wildland Fire Prevention Refreshers need to be completed by June 30 for returning QFF's.

Contracted QFF Training Courses

Course Title	Delivery Type	Hours	Link/Source
Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100 (IS-100.C)	On-line	2.0	https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c
Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service (L-180)	On-line	4.0	https://wildlandfirelearningportal.net/
Firefighter Training (S-130)	Blended (On-line + Field Delivered)	22.0 on-line/8-10 Field Exercises	https://wildlandfirelearningportal.net/ Link is for the on-line portion only. Field portion has to be arranged through a certified/qualified instructor.
Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior (S-190)	On-line	6.0 – 8.0	https://wildlandfirelearningportal.net/
An Introduction to the National Incident Management System (IS-700.B)	On-line	3.5	https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-700.b
Firefighter Type 1 (S-131)	Classroom Instructor led	12.0	https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-131
Annual Fireline Safety Refresher (RT-130)	On-line information	varies	https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/rt-130/wfstar-catalog Qualified instructor utilizes information from this site.
Wildland Fire Prevention (ESP 113.1 SDG&E Operations and Maintenance Wildland Fire Prevention Plan)	Classroom	1.0	Contractor will be responsible for providing and documenting this training. This training will need to meet requirements provided by SDG&E Fire Coordination.

Similar training may be obtained through California State Fire Training and are listed in the California Incident Command Certification System (CICCS) Qualification Guide found at the following link:

<https://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/000-2018%20CICCS%20CICCS%20Quals%20Guide%20July%202018%20070618.pdf#search=CICCS%20qualification%20guide>

Questions regarding course equivalencies, acceptable documentation of training, or auditing procedures to verify meeting QFF requirements should be sent to FireCoordinators@semprautilities.com.

ISSUED BY RICHARD VEIHL, FIRE SCIENCE & COORDINATION PROGRAM MGR.	APPROVED BY BRIAN D'AGOSTINO, DIRECTOR FIRE SCIENCE & CLIMATE ADAPTATION
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