

TEHAMA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

Rule 3:12 General Requirements For All Prescribed Burning and Prescribed Fires, Including Forest Management, Range Improvement, and Wildland Vegetation Management Burning
Adopt 8/10/71, Amend to 3:13, Adopt New 08/04/87, Amend 4/25/89, Repealed/Adopted 6/19/01

- 1 All planned burn projects for a calendar year shall be registered with the District annually prior to April 1 and updates to the scheduled burn dates shall be provided with a minimum of 7 days notice thereafter as new information becomes available. Actual acreage burned shall be reported annually as required by the District.
- 2 Smoke Management Plans (SMPs) shall be submitted to the District for review and approval by any person or entity proposing to burn more than 10 acres in size or proposing to burn a project that would produce more than 1 ton of particulate matter a minimum of 15 day prior to the burn. SMPs must contain, at a minimum, the following information:
 - 2.1 Location, types, and amounts of material to be burned;
 - 2.2 Expected duration of the fire from ignition to extinction;
 - 2.3 Identification of responsible personnel, including telephone contacts; and
 - 2.4 Identification and location of all smoke sensitive areas.
- 3 Smoke Management Plans (SMPs) shall be submitted to the District for review and approval by any person or entity proposing to burn more than 100 acres in size or proposing to burn a project that would produce more than 10 tons of particulate matter a minimum of 15 days prior to the burn. SMPs must contain, at a minimum, the information contained in subsection 2 above plus the following additional information:
 - 3.1 Identification of meteorological conditions necessary for burning
 - 3.2 The smoke management criteria the land manager or his/her designee will use for making burn ignition decisions;
 - 3.3 Projections, including a map, of where the smoke from burns is expected to travel, both day and night;
 - 3.4 Specific contingency actions (such as fire suppression or containment) that will be taken if smoke impacts occur or meteorological conditions deviate from those specified in the smoke management plan;
 - 3.5 An evaluation of alternatives to burning considered (if an analysis of alternatives has been prepared as part of the environmental documentation required for the burn project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as applicable, the analysis may be attached to the smoke management plan in satisfaction of this requirement); and
 - 3.6 Discussion of public notification and education procedures, including appropriate signage at burn sites, and procedures for public reporting of smoke complaints.
- 4 If smoke may impact smoke sensitive areas, appropriate monitoring, which may include visual monitoring, ambient particulate matter monitoring or other monitoring approved by the District, as required by the District, shall be provided by any person or entity planning the following burn projects:
 - 4.1 Projects greater than 250 acres;
 - 4.2 Projects that will continue burning or producing smoke overnight;
 - 4.3 Projects conducted near smoke sensitive areas; or
 - 4.4 As otherwise required by the District
- 5 Daily coordination between the land manager or his/her designee and the District shall be required for multi-day burns which may impact smoke sensitive areas, to affirm that the burn project remains within the conditions specified in the smoke management plan, or whether contingency actions are necessary. The District shall also

consult with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on multi-day burns having the potential to impact smoke sensitive areas in order to receive guidance regarding CARB procedures for review and approval.

- 6 For natural ignitions on a no-burn day, the initial “go/no-go” decision to manage the fire for resource benefit will be a “no-go” unless:
 - 6.1 After consultation with the District, the District decides for smoke management purposes, that the burn can be managed for resource benefit, or
 - 6.2 For periods of less than 24 hours, a reasonable effort has been made to contact the District, or if the District is not available, the ARB, or
 - 6.3 After 24 hours, the District has been contacted, or if the District is not available, the ARB has been contacted and concurs that the burn can be managed for resource benefit.
 - 6.4 The no-go decision does not necessarily mean that the fire must be extinguished, but that the fire cannot be considered as a prescribed fire.
- 7 Smoke management plans shall be submitted by the appropriate land manager to the District within 72 hours of the start of a naturally-ignited wildland fire managed for resource benefits that is expected to exceed 10 acres in size.
- 8 All conditions and requirements stated in the smoke management plan of any prescribed burn project must be verified by the land manager or his/her designee to be met on the day of the burn event and prior to ignition.
- 9 A post-burn smoke management evaluation shall be submitted to the District within 45 days after the burn takes place by any person or entity conducting a prescribed burn project larger than 250 acres or managing a naturally-ignited wildland fire exceeding 250 acres.
- 10 Vegetation to be burned under a prescribed burn plan shall be in a condition that will minimize the smoke emitted during combustion when feasible, considering safety and other factors. The material to be burned shall be piled whenever possible, unless good silviculture practices or ecological goals dictate otherwise.
- 11 No prescribed burning of any land area comprising more than 10 acres shall be conducted pursuant to such permit without specific District approval on the day of the burn. Burning conducted pursuant to each permit must comply with all conditions specified on the permit and conform to the prescription for the burn as outlined in the smoke management plan submitted to the District for approval.
 - 11.1 The permit applicant shall file with the District a statement from the Department of Fish and Game certifying that the burn is desirable and proper if the burn is to be done primarily for improvement of land for wildlife and game habitat. The Department of Fish and Game may specify the amount of brush treatment required, along with any other conditions it deems appropriate.