

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Mateo & Santa Cruz Unit

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Fire Hazard Severity Zone Public Comment Hearings

FELTON, CA - The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is in the process of revising the Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) maps that identify wildfire hazard in areas for which the State has financial responsibility (SRA) for wildland fire protection. The existing FHSZ SRA map was last approved in 2007.

The Administrative Procedures Act (APA) requires a minimum 45-day period for the public to comment to the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) in writing on the proposed regulation. Public Resource Code (PRC) requires that public hearings occur in affected counties during that 45-day period, where both written and oral comments must be accepted. Hearings are being conducted through January 31, 2023. A comment link is available here: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/wildfire-preparedness/fire-hazard-severity-zones/>.

Public hearings are not a public forum for discussion; these hearings are only to receive comments as required in PRC 4203. Questions will not be answered during these meetings. Verbal comments will be restricted to a maximum of three minutes. Written comments will be accepted at the hearing and for the entire 45-day period. Comments will be collected, summarized, and addressed in the final regulatory submission to the Office of Administrative Law. The only public comments considered by the State Fire Marshal are those submitted during the comment period or during hearings.

Santa Cruz County: 1/10/23 at 1:30 P.M. Ben Lomond Training Center 13575 Empire Grade, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

San Mateo County: 1/11/23 at 2:00 P.M. San Mateo County Regional Operations Center 501 Winslow Street, Redwood City, CA 94063

For questions, contact: Frank Rodgers (831) 254-1728 frank.rodgers@fire.ca.gov

For additional information on how to be prepared for wildfires, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit readyforwildfire.org

