

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
ENFORCEMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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Topic	<u>Prescribed Burning</u>		
Distribution:	<u>APCD Staff</u>		

This policy and procedure provides guidance in the enforcement of APCD rules and state law related to prescribed burning. It is the policy of the APCD to allow prescribed burning as regulated under APCD Rule 401, Section 80100 et seq. of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations and the requirements of Article 3, Chapter 3, Part 4, Division 26 of the California Health and Safety Code.

APPLICABILITY

The provisions of APCD Rule 401 and Title 17, set forth requirements for the regulation and control of agricultural burning, including prescribed burning. Prescribed burning is a type of agricultural burning and means the planned application of fire to vegetation to achieve any specific objective on lands selected in advance of that application.

DEFINITIONS

Prescribed burning includes "wildland vegetation management burning" and "range improvement burning" as defined in Section 80101 of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

- A. *Wildland vegetation management burning* means the use of prescribed burning conducted by a public agency, or through a cooperative agreement or contract involving a public agency, to burn land predominately covered with chaparral, trees, grass, or standing brush.
- B. *Range improvement burning* means the use of open fires to remove vegetation for a wildlife, game or livestock habitat or for the initial establishment of an agricultural practice on previously uncultivated land.

AUTHORIZED AGENCIES

The public agencies that have authority to burn lands in Santa Barbara County are the U.S. Forest Service, Santa Barbara County Fire Department, Santa Barbara City Fire Department, Carpinteria/Summerland Fire Department, Montecito Fire Department, Lompoc City Fire

Policies and Procedures Memoranda are intended to provide agency staff, applicants and the public guidance relative to standardized District procedures. These policies and procedures shall not be interpreted in conflict with District Rules and Regulations or administrative policies, and may be modified or updated periodically without advance notice.

Department, Santa Maria City Fire Department, Vandenberg Air Force Base Fire Department, and California Department of Parks and Recreation.

REQUIREMENTS

1. A permit to burn must be obtained from a public fire department, fire protection agency or other agency authorized by the Air Resources Board (ARB) to issue such permits. The burn permit shall comply with the requirements of Section 80120 of Title 17.
2. Prescribed burning is permitted on days designated as permissive or marginal burn days by the ARB as set forth in Section 80101 of Title 17. Prescribed burning is prohibited on no-burn days, except as otherwise specified in Title 17 Sections 80120(e) and 80160(h). Further, prescribed burning shall not be conducted without specific APCD approval consistent with the requirements of Section 80100 et seq. of Title 17. APCD approval is required to conduct prescribed burning whether it is a permissive burn day or no-burn day.
3. In accordance with the requirements of Title 17, the APCD shall require that prescribed burning activities comply with requirements stipulated in Section 80160 et seq. of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations. These requirements have been included into a Smoke Management Plan (SMP), incorporated herein as APCD form ENF-78.
4. All burn permittee's shall submit a Smoke Management Plan (SMP) to the APCD for all prescribed burn projects, regardless of size or potential impact on smoke sensitive areas. APCD approval of the SMP shall be obtained prior to commencing a burn. Burn permittee's shall submit SMPs for APCD review and approval at least 30 days prior to the scheduled date(s) of the burn. The APCD will consult with the ARB as needed on multi-day burns, projects greater than 250 acres, projects conducted near smoke sensitive areas, or as otherwise required by the APCD.
5. The burn permittee shall provide a list of all planned prescribed burn projects to be conducted during a calendar year by not later than January 15th of each year, with updates as they occur. This includes areas that are considered to have a potential for "naturally-ignited" wildland fires managed for resource benefits [Reference 80160 (a)].

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SMOKE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT

INSTRUCTIONS: Any person wishing to conduct prescribed burning shall first submit and obtain written approval of a Smoke Management Plan (SMP) from the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD). Please complete and fill in all applicable information in Sections A through E of the SMP and submit to the APCD for approval. Please send your SMP to the attention of Mr. Michael Broughton at 26 Castilian Drive, B-23, Goleta, CA 93117. Should you have any questions regarding this Plan, please contact Mr. Broughton at (805) 961-8800.

SECTION A: GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS FOR ALL PRESCRIBED BURN PROJECTS

A.1. Project Name

Permittee: _____ Burn Permit No.: _____
Project Name: _____
Project location _____

A.2. Natural Ignition on a No-burn Day (CCR 80160(h))

When a natural ignition occurs on a no-burn day, the initial "go/no-go" decision to manage the fire for resource benefit will be a "no-go" unless:

1. After consultation with Santa Barbara APCD, the APCD decides, for smoke management purposes, that the burn can be managed for resource benefit; or
2. For periods of less than 24 hours, a reasonable effort has been made to contact the APCD, or if the APCD is not available, the Air Resources Board (ARB); or
3. After 24 hours, the APCD has been contacted, or if the APCD is not available, the ARB has been contacted and concurs that the burn can be managed for resource benefit.

A "no-go" decision does not necessarily mean that the fire must be extinguished, but that the fire cannot be managed as a prescribed fire.

A.3. Smoke Management Plan Conditions Must Be Met on Day of Burn (CCR 80160(j))

Ignition of this burn project will not occur unless all conditions and requirements stated in this Smoke Management Plan (SMP) are met prior to ignition on the day of the burn event, the ARB and the APCD have both declared the day to be a burn day, and the APCD has authorized the burn on the day of the burn.

A.4. Condition of Vegetation and Burn Limitations to Minimize Smoke (CCR 80160(m)(n) and (o))

1. To minimize smoke, vegetation will be in the following condition during combustion, considering fire safety and other factors:

2. To minimize smoke, vegetation will be piled and prepared as follows:

3. To minimize smoke, burning will be limited as follows:

No more than ____ piles per day and no more than ____ piles at one time.
No more than ____ acres per day and no more than ____ acres at one time.
No less than ____ hours between ignitions

A.5. California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Statement (CCR 80160(p))

Check if applicable

This burn project is to be done primarily for improvement of land for wildlife or game habitat. A statement from CDFG is attached to this SMP that certifies that this burn is desirable and proper.

Check if applicable

The CDFG statement specifies the amount of brush treatment that is appropriate and this treatment is specified in this SMP.

A.6. Public Notification Procedures (CCR 80160(l))

The permittee shall begin public notification before the day of burning. The notification shall be continuous until end of burning.

The permittee will use the following procedures to notify and educate the public about this burn project

___ Television ___ Radio ___ Newspaper ___ Posters/flyers ___ Telephone calls
___ Other (Explained below)

The specifics of the notification procedure(s) checked above are as follows:

In addition, the permittee will place signage to identify the burn project to the public as noted on the attached map. Public notification shall direct the public to report complaints on smoke impacts to the Santa Barbara County APCD, and to adjacent Air Districts into which smoke may travel. APCD contact information shall include the information listed below:

Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

Contact: Mike Broughton Address: 26 Castilian Drive B-23, Goleta, CA 93117
Telephone: (805) 961-8800 Fax: (805) 961-8801
Alt. Contact: Craig Strommen

The permittee will notify the adjacent Air Districts listed below about the burn project when smoke may travel into and/or the permittee knows that smoke has traveled into those jurisdictions.

Adjacent Air Districts Potentially Impacted by Smoke from the burn:

Ventura County APCD Address: 669 County Square Dr., Ventura, 93003-5417
Contact: Kent Field Telephone: (805) 662-6960 Fax: (805) 645-1444

San Luis Obispo County APCD Address: 3433 Roberto Ct., San Luis Obispo, 93401-7126
Contact: Karen Brooks Telephone: (805) 781-5912 Fax: (805) 781-1002

A.7. Procedures for Permittees to Report Public Smoke Complaints to Air Districts (CCR 80160(l))

The permittee shall immediately report any air quality smoke complaints received about this burn project to the Santa Barbara County APCD. A phone call to the APCD during normal business hours will suffice. During non-business hours, a fax or voice mail message will suffice. The complaint report shall include the following:

1. The location of the smoke impact, a short description of the smoke behavior including wind direction and speed, visibility, and public safety impacts if available from the complainant.
2. The permittee shall inform the complainant that he or she may also contact the APCD directly and shall provide the APCD name, telephone number and address.
3. The permittee shall, in coordination with the APCD, seek resolution for all complaints, as necessary.
4. The permittee shall keep a log of all complaints about this burn project for one year from the conclusion of the burn project.

SECTION B: THIS SECTION APPLIES TO BURN PROJECTS GREATER THAN 10 ACRES OR PRODUCING MORE THAN 1 TON OF PARTICULATE MATTER

Check if applicable

B.1. SMP Requirement for Natural Ignition Over 10 Acres (CCR 80160(i))

The permittee shall submit a SMP to the APCD within 72 hours of the start of any naturally ignited wildland fire managed for resource benefits that is expected to exceed 10 acres in size.

This SMP is submitted for a naturally ignited wildland fire subject to the above criteria.
Yes: ___ No: ___

B.2. Responsible Personnel (CCR 80160(b))

Project Supervisor: _____ Tel (____) ____ - _____
Project Field Contact: _____ Tel (____) ____ - _____

B.3. Project Location (CCR 80160(b))

Legal Coordinates: UTM Coordinates Latitude/Longitude
S. ____ T. ____ R. ____ N ____ m, E ____ m Lat ____ Long ____
Project elevation: Top: _____ Bottom: _____ (feet)

The burn project is located in the following county (ies):

B.4. Type and Amount of Material to be Burned (CCR 80160(b))

- The purpose of this burn project is:

___ *Forest Management Burning*: use of open fires, as part of a forest management practice, to remove forest debris or for forest management practices, which include timber operations, silvicultural practices, or forest protection practices.

___ *Range Improvement Burning*: use of outdoor fires to remove vegetation for a wildlife, game, or livestock habitat or for the initial establishment of an agricultural practice on previously uncultivated land.

___ *Wildland Vegetation Management Burning*: the use of prescribed burning conducted by a public agency, or through a cooperative agreement with a private manager or contract involving a public agency, to burn land predominantly covered with chaparral (as defined in Title 14, California Code of Regulations, section 1561.1), trees, grass, or standing brush.

- Type of project: _____ Machine pile burn _____ Hand pile burn _____
_____ Landing pile burn _____ Broadcast _____ Understory
- Vegetation type: _____ Brush _____ Grass _____ Timber Litter _____ Timber Slash
- Project area: _____ (acres) Project fuel loading: _____ (tons/acre)
- Particulate matter emissions: _____ (tons PM10)
EPA-approved calculation method: _____

B.5. Method of Ignition

Ignition Device Type: Helitorch: _____ Hand Drip: _____ Other: _____

Firing Pattern: Headfire: _____ Backfire: _____ Stripfire: _____ Spotlighting: _____
Other: _____ (Described below)

B.6. Expected Duration of the Fire from Ignition to Extinction (CCR 80160(b))

Ignition: _____ (hours or days) Burndown: _____ (hours or days)
Mopup: _____ (hours or days) Total time: _____ (hours or days)

Proposed burn dates are: _____
Proposed burn hours for the fire are: _____

B.7. Identification of all Smoke Sensitive Areas (SSA) (CCR 80160(b))

This burn project is located near or adjacent to following SSAs:

SSA	Distance from Burn Site (Miles)
_____	_____
_____	_____

The attached map also shows the SSAs.

SECTION C: THIS SECTION APPLIES TO BURN PROJECTS GREATER THAN 100 ACRES OR PRODUCING MORE THAN 10 TONS OF PARTICULATE MATTER.

Check if applicable

C.1. Meteorological Conditions and Smoke Management Criteria Necessary for Ignition (CCR 80160(c))

Surface wind direction:	Ideal: _____	Acceptable: _____	Unacceptable: _____
Surface wind speed:	Ideal: _____	Maximum: _____	Minimum: _____ (mph)
Aloft wind direction:	Ideal: _____	Acceptable: _____	Unacceptable: _____
Aloft wind speed:	Ideal: _____	Maximum: _____	Minimum: _____ (mph)
Fuel moisture content (dead):	Ideal: _____	Maximum: _____	Minimum: _____ (%)
Fuel moisture content (live):	Ideal: _____	Maximum: _____	Minimum: _____ (%)
Relative humidity:	Ideal: _____	Maximum: _____	Minimum: _____ (%)
Mixing height:	Ideal: _____	Acceptable: _____	Unacceptable: _____

The permit will request an ARB forecast for this project pursuant to CCR 80145(f).
Yes: _____ Type of forecast (24/48/96 hour): _____
No: _____

The permittee will use a site specific forecast for this project. Yes: _____ No: _____
If yes, indicate meteorologist: _____

C.2. Projections of Smoke Travel (Day and Night) (CCR 80160(c))

The attached map also shows where the smoke from the project is expected to travel.

The permittee expects this project to burn past daylight hours and/or for more than one day.

Yes _____ the smoke travel projections for both day and night are shown on the attached map.
No _____

C.3. Specific Contingency Actions (CCR 80160(c))

The attached map indicates interior units and cutoff lines. The permittee will take the following specific contingency actions if smoke impacts occur or if meteorological conditions deviate from those specified in this SMP.

- _____ Stop ignitions, except as needed to maintain control of fire
- _____ Begin fire suppression
- _____ Request fire suppression
- _____ Begin mop up within _____ 1hr, _____ 8 hrs, _____ 24 hrs, _____ 48 hrs.
- _____ Complete mop up within _____ 18 hrs, _____ 24 hrs, _____ 48 hrs.
- _____ Other, as explained below:

The permittee will make the following equipment available for the contingencies listed above:

C.4. Evaluation of Alternatives to Burning (CCR 80160(c))

This evaluation consists of the following:

_____ It is a part of the environmental documentation required for the burn project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act or the California Environmental Quality Act and is attached to this SMP.

_____ Alternatives to reduce fuel load as described below:

Alternative	Extent Used	Particulate Reduction (tons)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Total particulate reductions from alternatives: _____

The following alternatives to burning were considered, but not carried out:

Alternative	Reason for Rejection
_____	_____
_____	_____

SECTION D: ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL BURN PROJECTS.

This burn project is near a smoke sensitive area(s) (SSA) or the burn project can affect a SSA(s).

Yes: _____ A detailed description of the location of SSAs is:
_____ Provided in Section B.7.
_____ Provided below

This burn project is located near or adjacent to following SSAs:

SSA	Distance from Burn Site (Miles)
_____	_____
_____	_____

The attached map also shows the SSAs.
Section D.1. describes the site monitoring requirements.

No: _____ There are no SSAs.

- Prescribed burning in this area has previously impacted a SSA(s).

Yes: _____ An explanation of the impacts is provided below:

The attached map also shows the SSAs.
Section D.1. describes the site monitoring requirements.

No: _____ There are no previous impacts.

- This burn project will continue burning or producing smoke overnight.

Yes: _____ **Section D.1.** describes the site monitoring requirements.
Section D.2. describes the multi-day burn coordination requirements.
No: _____

- This project is greater than 250 acres.

Yes: _____ **Section D.1.** describes the site monitoring requirements.
Section D.3. describes the post burn evaluation requirements.
No: _____

D.1. Project Monitoring Requirements (CCR 80160(d))

Check if applicable

The permittee will monitor the burn project for meteorological conditions and smoke behavior before, during and after the burn using the following techniques and timing:

Method	Location	Beginning	Interval	Ending
_____ Winds (Direction and Speed)	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ Test fire	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ Balloon	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ RAWS	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ Aircraft	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ Visual	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ Other Description: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____ Other Description: _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Project monitoring is further described below:

The permittee will not ignite this project and/or will take all feasible steps to curtail smoke emissions, including the implementation of those measures identified in **Section C.3**, for the purpose of protecting SSAs under the following air quality and meteorological conditions:

D.2. Multi-Day Burn Daily Coordination (CCR 80160(e))

Check if applicable

The permittee will coordinate daily with the APCD regarding this multi-day burn which may impact SSAs, to affirm that the burn project remains within the conditions specified in this SMP, and/or whether contingency actions are necessary.

APCD contact: Michael Broughton

Tel: (805) 961-8800

Fax: (805) 961-8801

E-mail: broughtonm@sbcapcd.org

The permittee will use the frequency and method of contact is described below:

The permittee will follow any instructions by the APCD to communicate directly with ARB when necessary.

D.3. Post Burn Evaluation (CCR 80160(k))

Check if applicable

The permittee will provide a post-burn evaluation to the APCD within 30 days of project completion. The evaluation will address whether or not the SMP objectives were met. The evaluation shall also address each of the following:

- a) What were the meteorological conditions (wind speed, direction, temperature, relative humidity (%)), prior to, during and following the burn?
- b) Did the weather meet the prescription?
- c) Were there smoke impacts? If so, where? How were the impacts monitored and documented?
- d) Were there complaints related to smoke impacts from the burn? If so, list them. How were the complaints responded to and remedied?
- e) What went wrong, if anything, with the weather or smoke? How can this be improved upon for future burns?

SECTION E: TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS

E.1. Preparer's Name and Signature

SMP Submittal Date: _____

Permittee: _____

Preparer's Name (print): _____ Title: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - _____

Preparer's Signature: _____

I, the undersigned permittee, understand that this SMP, once approved by the APCD, is a conditional permit to burn, when combined with my agricultural burn permit.

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the permit issuing agency and the APCD to inspect the burn sites described above for compliance with APCD rules, the Health and Safety Code and related regulations, and the APCD Smoke Management Program. I absolve the APCD and fire protection agencies with authority over the burn sites mentioned above of any and all liability for damage of any kind whatsoever that may occur as a result of any burning operations that I conduct or allow.

I understand that this SMP does not excuse me from liability in the event such burning operations create a nuisance or hazard. I understand all of the burning permit conditions specified in this SMP and will be responsible for compliance. I am aware that failure to comply with the permit conditions, SMP, APCD rules, the Health and Safety Code and any regulations pertaining to agricultural burning may result in civil penalties or criminal prosecution.

Name of Permittee or Authorized Representative: _____

Permittee or Authorized Representative Signature: _____

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___ I have reviewed and approved this SMP as a conditional burn permit to be combined with agricultural burn permit number _____, which expires on _____.

___ This burn project is greater than 250 acres and/or is a multi-day burn which requires ARB consultation prior to final approval pursuant CCR 80160(g)).

Date ARB Notified: _____ Date ARB approval received: _____

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Agency: _____

Date: _____