

## Wildland-Urban Interface Code Administrative Rules Overview

Proposed additions to the Fire Protection Criteria Manual (Acronyms: FC - Fire Code, WUIC – Wildland-Urban Interface Code)

Preface: Adds WUIC after FC in 3 places and adds a new paragraph for LDC title references.

### Section 1 – Introduction

#### 1.2.0 – User Information

Adds Fire Department is now reviewing subdivision plans for compliance with FC and WUIC

Adds site plan and Building permit review for WUIC

Adds WUIC after FC in 3 places

#### 1.3.0 – Site Plan Review Process

1.3.1 – Adds WUIC after FC in 3 places and specifies WUIC review for site plans

1.3.2 – corrects name from PDRD to DSD

#### 1.5.0 Building Permit Review Process – adds WUIC and corrects PDRD to DSD

### Section 3 – Inspection Process

3.1.0 - General – Adds paragraph to section A specifying inspections of new, remodeled and in some cases existing (i.e. illegal use or distinct hazard) structures, both residential and commercial, regardless of occupancy.

#### 3.2.0 - Inspection Procedures

##### 3.2.1 – Site Inspections

Adds a section E calling for WUIC compliance inspections per approved site plans.

##### 3.2.5 – Complaint Inspections – adds WUIC after FC.

3.2.12 – New section entitled “Criteria for Wildland-Urban Interface Inspections” reiterates inspections will be for both commercial and residential structures with sections A, B, C, D for site plans, building plans, defensible space and general standards (i.e. spark arrestors and storage of combustible materials near structures) respectively.

### Section 4 – Fire Protection Rules

#### 4.1.0 – General adds WUIC after FC in 2 places

#### 4.10.0 – New section for WUIC rules

Sections 101.2, 101.4, 101.5 & 102.6 – Clarifies application to new and remodeled structures exterior only and possible distinct hazard conditions.

## Wildland-Urban Interface Code Administrative Rules Overview

Section 107.2.1 – Describes conditions and remedies for not-permitted sites due to distinct hazard. References section 603, defensible space, as possible remedy.

Section 108.1 – Describes in general how submittals will be reviewed, i.e. as part of existing processes and review times.

Section 202 – Definitions – Clarifies definitions for distinct hazard, fire retardant treated lumber, ignition-resistant construction and wildland-urban interface areas.

Section 402.2.1, 403.3, 603 & International Fire Code, Reference Section 503 – describes requirement to maintain defensible space on individual home sites that make access to the site unobtainable.

Section 402.2.1, 402.2.2 & International Fire Code, Reference Sections 507.3, Appendix B105.1 & B105.2 – Describes conditions to confirm conforming water supply.

Section 402.1.2 & Sec 404 – Clarifies conforming water supply can only be provided by a public or private utility system, not lakes, ponds, tanks, stored water or other natural sources of water such as streams/rivers.

Section 403.2.1 & IFC Section 503.2.1 – Clarifies unobstructed dimensions for driveways shall be in accordance with FC section 503.2.1.

Section 405 – Describes when a fire protection plan is required, what must be included, and who it can be sealed by.

Section 502.1 & Table 502.1 – Describes how fire hazard severity is used in the WUIC (see also rule for section 602). Includes example from table 502.1.

Section 504.1 thru 504.11 – Describes intent and that examples of acceptability are provided throughout this section. States intention to allow approved noncombustible material.

Section 504.7 – Clarifies ignition resistant construction required for decks attached to or within 10' of a structure and parts of fences within 10' of a structure.

Section 504.11 – Lists detached accessory structures as storage buildings, greenhouses, sheds, pool bathrooms and similar structures, that these structures must meet requirements of 504.11, and that occupied detached accessory structures will be reviewed per the same standards as all other structures in the WUI area.

Section 507.1, 504.2, 504.10 – States roof repair consisting of 25% or more must be replaced with class A rated roofing and be installed in accordance with Sections 504.2, 504.2.1 & 504.10.

Section 601 – Describes resources available for risk analysis assistance and when chapter 6 requirements would be required or allowed for permitting on a site that is otherwise not allowed due to illegal use or distinct danger (Section 101.2) or hazardous site conditions (Section 107.2.1).

Section 603 & 604 – Restates 603 as if required or allowed, based on rule for section 602, defensible space shall be provided and shall be not less than 30 feet or to property line.

## Wildland-Urban Interface Code Administrative Rules Overview

Describes use of table 603.2 to increase or decrease the standard fuel modification distance and provides examples of site conditions that would be considered; hazard severity, structure ignition potential, topography, proximity to wildland fuels, proximity to other structures, space for fire suppression operations, access, water supply, and factors that influence the rate and spread of fire near the structure.

Describes minimum information required to demonstrate compliance with defensible space, and description of what will be reviewed to determine fire transfer potential from ground cover to trees or from groundcover or trees to structure. Describes elements required to demonstrate compliance with this section and gives examples of site features that could affect fire spread such as rock outcrops or bluffs, water features, retaining walls, hardscape, and flammable fences.

Describes review will be for a) clear areas for fire suppression operations, b) ground cover potential for fire transfer to tree canopies or structures, and c) tree maintenance to prevent fire from entering or spreading through tree canopies.

Clarifies superseding regulations for environmental features and regulated trees.

Describes extenuating circumstances will allow defensible space plan or submittal from qualified professional.

Describes characteristics of clear areas and fire transfer potential from ground cover and trees.

Describes fire transfer materials and practices not regulated by this code.

Describes exception in Central Texas to tree canopy separation to reduce intensity and rate of spread of fire in the landscape.