

# **JAMUL COMMUNITY PROTECTION PLAN**

**Prepared by  
JAMUL DISASTER TEAM  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Overview</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>Collaboration</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>Community History</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>Regulatory Compliance</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Community Risk Assessment</b>	<b>E</b>
<b>Mitigation Strategy</b>	<b>F</b>
<b>Fire Agencies</b>	<b>G</b>
<b>Law</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>Medical</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>Animal Services</b>	<b>J</b>
<b>Community Resources</b>	<b>K</b>
<b>Evacuation Plan</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Shelters</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Water Resources</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>Training and Certification</b>	<b>O</b>
<b>Communications Plan</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Important Contact Information</b>	<b>Q</b>
<b>Action Plan</b>	<b>R</b>
<b>Terrorism</b>	<b>S</b>
<b>Core Signature Approval</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>Maps</b>	<b>U</b>

## OVERVIEW

### 1. Community Overview and Current Conditions

Jamul has a land area of 16.5 square miles. Population is 5,920 persons (Year 2000 Census).

**1.1** Key features of Jamul include canyons, roads having the same entry and exit that could be difficult to travel in a wildfire, and large flat areas of vegetation that can result in rapid spread of fire. Winds are common with dry strong north and east winds (Santa Ana winds) the most deadly in relation to fire. The usual wind is from west and south that can be a problem and strong at times.

**1.2** Water is provided by Otay Water District or water wells on properties. This water is available for use by firefighters.

**1.3** Major road connections to Highway 94 are Lyons Valley Road, Melody Road, Proctor Valley Road and Steele Canyon Road. In addition, during an emergency requiring evacuation, Proctor Valley Road, Otay Lakes Road and Jamul Drive, can be used to move individuals, and animals.

**1.4** Within the past two years, parts of the Jamul community experienced evacuations resulting from a major fire, and recently experienced an earthquake measuring 4.9. Rock slides and road damage can hinder emergency response by emergency providers.

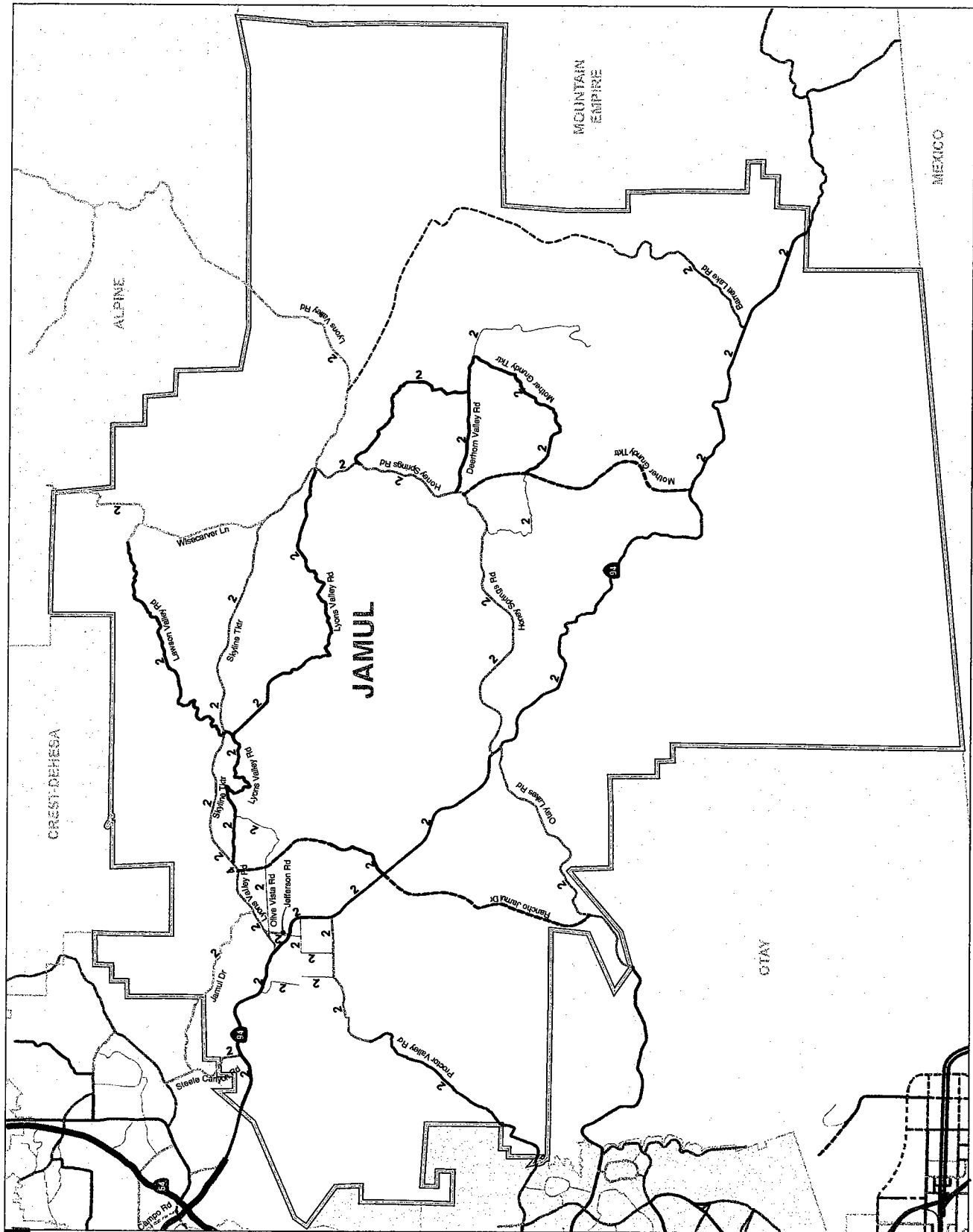
**1.5** There is a new danger posed by possible terrorist events in San Diego. A significant event could cause power outage, disease and a mass influx of people to the Jamul area in need of shelter and support.

**1.6** The U.S. and Mexico Border has historically been a source of many problems. Fires that start in either country, depending on wind conditions, can easily spread to the other.

**1.7** The San Diego Rural Fire Protection District office is located in Jamul off Highway 94. In addition, and depending on the situation, local cities are in close proximity, whereby, they can provide assistance in responding to emergencies in Jamul, as needed.

## APPENDIX: A

**1.8** The maps on the following pages identify the number road lanes currently constructed and the average daily traffic volumes on certain roads. These roads can be used as emergency routes.



**LEGEND**

XX Number of Lanes Under Existing Plus CIP Network

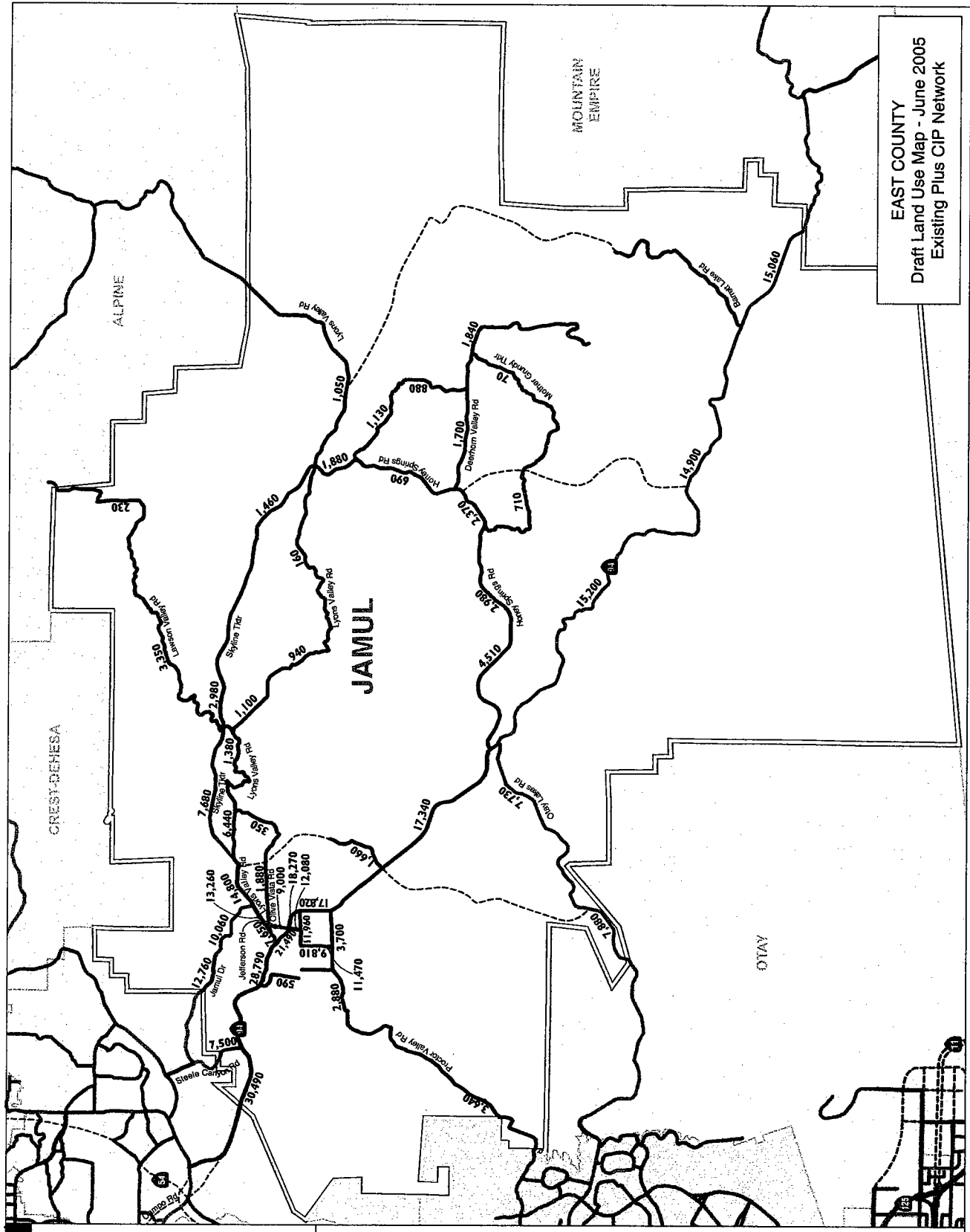
**Currently Adopted Circulation Element Roadway Classification**

- Freeway & Expressway
- Prime Arterial
- Major Road
- Collector
- Light Collector
- Rural Collector
- Rural Light Collector
- Recreational Parkway
- Rural Mountain
- Local Street
- Unbuilt CE Roadway

**Figure 1**  
**Jamul Community Planning Areas**  
 Existing Plus CIP Roadway Network



June 23, 2004



**Figure 2**  
Jamul Community Planning Area  
Roadway Segment Level of Service and Average Daily Traffic Volumes

## COLLABORATION

### 2. Community Stakeholders List and Master Callout Phone Tree

2.1 The Jamul Disaster Team is in the process of preparing a Master Callout Phone Tree. The Phone Tree can be used by any of the key personnel [Jamul Disaster Team Chair; Communications Chair; and Animal Rescue/Logistics Chair] to notify specific people of an event that needs attention. **The decision to open an Emergency Evacuation Shelter is made by the Manager of Response, American Red Cross, San Diego/Imperial Counties Chapter; or Incident Commander; or Director, San Diego County Office of Emergency Services; or the County's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).** They will contact one of the key people in our community and give the approval to start the process to open the shelter, if assistance is required. *Under any circumstance, the Jamul Disaster Team will not open a shelter without first receiving specific direction from the above agency director's.*

Regarding the Master Callout Phone Tree, the person receiving the *initial* emergency call, will contact the people immediately below them. Those people will then call the next person below them until they have contacted someone who can continue to spread the message throughout the tree. The extent of the callout should be consistent with the severity of the problem and **must** be coordinated with the local San Diego Rural Fire Protection District, Sheriff's Department, U.S. Border Patrol, and/or the California Highway Patrol.

Refer to the Incident Command System (ICS) and Disaster Center Command System (DCCS) that will be utilized as required depending upon the severity and number of incidents that have occurred.

2.2 The information passed to the people on the Master Callout Phone Tree should be short, clear and concise. It should inform the person of what the Incident is, where it is, which emergency evacuation shelter will be opened and if their services are needed.

2.3 The Master Callout Phone Tree is a confidential document, and will only be used for public safety.

#### 2.4 Community Personnel, Phone Numbers & Function

Jackie Chapman	619-445-7173	Chair, Jamul Disaster Team
Clare Maudsley	619-669-0347	Chair, Animal Rescue/Logistics
Sharon Gladding	619-468-3782	Chair, Communications

## COMMUNITY HISTORY

### 3. Jamul Region

**3.1** Jamul regional area covers approximately 16.5 square miles. Boundaries generally go from Slone Canyon Road in the North, East of Oak Valley Trail, South above Otay Lakes, Via Las Faldas and Cottonwood Springs in the West. U.S. Highway 94 traverses the region generally in an east-west direction. Brush fires are the most common problem. Size and extent of the fires is related to wind conditions, humidity, fuel load, and resources available to fight the fires. It is not unusual for a small fire to suddenly expand to a large area.

**3.2** There are many narrow and twisting roads that make evacuation of residents, pets and animals, coupled with the need to bring in fire equipment extremely difficult. A fire with afternoon winds from the west, east, or south could result in a blowtorch effect.

**3.3** Flooding from sudden storms does not appear to be a problem in relation to roads that can be used as evacuation routes. County Public Works' road crews are very efficient and work closely with other safety agencies to ensure roads and water run-off areas are clear and useable.

**3.4** Winds occur in the region on a frequent basis, especially in the afternoon. At times, this may result in power and phone line breaks, falling trees and branches, causing not only isolation of residents but dangerous situations.

**3.5** The need for rescue and shelter for people and animals is critical, and is an ongoing process to ensure shelters/facilities are identified and available for use in an emergency.

## REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

### 4. Legislation Relevant to Jamul

#### 4.1 State Legislation

##### Public Resources Code 4291

Effective January 1, 2005, if you live in a wildland area in California you need to know about changes in the following laws. Governor Schwarzenegger signed into law on September 23, 2004, Senate Bill 1369. This bill amended both Public Resources Code (PRC) 4291 and Government Code (GC) 51182 in the following manner:

- Increase the minimum clearance (defensible space) requirement from 30' to 100'.
- Provide for state law, or local ordinance, rule or regulation to specify requirements of greater than 100'.
- Allows insurance companies to require home/building owners to maintain firebreaks greater than 100'.

##### **CALIFORNIA CODES PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE SECTION 4291-4299**

4291. A person that owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining any mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or any land that is covered with flammable material, shall at all times do all of the following:

(a) Maintain around and adjacent to the building or structure a firebreak made by removing and clearing away, for a distance of not less than 30 feet on each side of the building or structure or to the property line, whichever is nearer, all flammable vegetation or other combustible growth. This subdivision does not apply to single specimens of trees, ornamental shrubbery, or similar plants that are used as ground cover, if they do not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from the native growth to any building or structure.

(b) Maintain around and adjacent to the building or structure additional fire protection or firebreak made by removing all brush, flammable vegetation, or combustible growth that is located within 100 feet from the building or structure or to the property line or at a greater distance if required by state law, or local ordinance,

## APPENDIX: D

rule, or regulation. This section does not prevent an insurance company that insures a building or structure from requiring the owner of the building or structure to maintain a firebreak of more than 100 feet around the building or structure. Grass and other vegetation located more than 30 feet from the building or structure and less than 18 inches in height above the ground may be maintained where necessary to stabilize the soil and prevent erosion.

(c) Remove that portion of any tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe.

(d) Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging a building free of dead or dying wood.

(e) Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles, or other dead vegetative growth.

(f) Provide and maintain at all times a screen over the outlet of every chimney or stovepipe that is attached to a fireplace, stove, or other device that burns any solid or liquid fuel. The screen shall be constructed of nonflammable material with openings of not more than one-half inch in size.

(g) Prior to constructing a new building or structure or rebuilding a building or structure damaged by a fire in such an area, the construction or rebuilding of which requires a building permit, the owner shall obtain a certification from the local building official that the dwelling or structure, as proposed to be built, complies with all applicable state and local building standards, including those described in subdivision (b) of Section 51189 of the Government Code, and shall provide a copy of the certification, upon request, to the insurer providing course of construction insurance coverage for the building or structure. Upon completion of the construction or rebuilding, the owner shall obtain from the local building official, a copy of the final inspection report that demonstrates that the dwelling or structure was constructed in compliance with all applicable state and local building standards, including those described in subdivision (b) of Section 51189 of the Government Code, and shall provide a copy of the report, upon request, to the property insurance carrier that insures the dwelling or structure.

(h) Except as provided in Section 18930 of the Health and Safety Code, the director may adopt regulations exempting structures with exteriors constructed entirely of nonflammable materials, or conditioned upon the contents and composition of same, he or she may vary the requirements respecting the removing or clearing away of flammable vegetation or other combustible growth with respect to the area surrounding those structures.

No exemption or variance shall apply unless and until the occupant thereof, or if there is not an occupant, the owner thereof, files with the department, in a form as the director shall prescribe, a

## APPENDIX: D

written consent to the inspection of the interior and contents of the structure to ascertain whether this section and the regulations adopted under this section are complied with at all times.

(i) The director may authorize the removal of vegetation that is not consistent with the standards of this section. The director may prescribe a procedure for the removal of that vegetation and make the expense a lien upon the building, structure, or grounds, in the same manner that is applicable to a legislative body under Section 51186 of the Government Code.

(j) As used in this section, "person" means a private individual, organization, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation.

4291.1. (a) Notwithstanding Section 4021, a violation of Section 4291 is an infraction punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100), nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500). If a person is convicted of a second violation of Section 4291 within five years, that person shall be punished by a fine of not less than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500). If a person is convicted of a third violation of Section 4291 within five years, that person is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500). If a person is convicted of a third violation of Section 4291 within five years, the department may perform or contract for the performance of work necessary to comply with Section 4291 and may bill the person convicted for the costs incurred, in which case the person convicted, upon payment of those costs, shall not be required to pay the fine. If a person convicted of a violation of Section 4291 is granted probation, the court shall impose as a term or condition of probation, in addition to any other term or condition of probation, that the person pay at least the minimum fine prescribed in this section.

(b) If a person convicted of a violation of Section 4291 produces in court verification prior to imposition of a fine by the court, that the condition resulting in the citation no longer exists, the court may reduce the fine imposed for the violation of Section 4291 to fifty dollars (\$50).

4292. Except as otherwise provided in Section 4296, any person that owns, controls, operates, or maintains any electrical transmission or distribution line upon any mountainous land, or forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land shall, during such times and in such areas as are determined to be necessary by the

## APPENDIX: D

director or the agency which has primary responsibility for fire protection of such areas, maintain around and adjacent to any pole or tower which supports a switch, fuse, transformer, lightning arrester, line junction, or dead end or corner pole, a firebreak which consists of a clearing of not less than 10 feet in each direction from the outer circumference of such pole or tower. This section does not, however, apply to any line which is used exclusively as telephone, telegraph, telephone or telegraph messenger call, fire or alarm line, or other line which is classed as a communication circuit by the Public Utilities Commission. The director or the agency which has primary fire protection responsibility for the protection of such areas may permit exceptions from the requirements of this section which are based upon the specific circumstances involved.

4293. Except as otherwise provided in Sections 4294 to 4296, inclusive, any person that owns, controls, operates, or maintains any electrical transmission or distribution line upon any mountainous land, or in forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land shall, during such times and in such areas as are determined to be necessary by the director or the agency which has primary responsibility for the fire protection of such areas, maintain a clearance of the respective distances which are specified in this section in all directions between all vegetation and all conductors which are carrying electric current:

- (a) For any line which is operating at 2,400 or more volts, but less than 72,000 volts, four feet.
- (b) For any line which is operating at 72,000 or more volts, but less than 110,000 volts, six feet.
- (c) For any line which is operating at 110,000 or more volts, 10 feet.

In every case, such distance shall be sufficiently great to furnish the required clearance at any position of the wire, or conductor when the adjacent air temperature is 120 degrees Fahrenheit, or less. Dead trees, old decadent or rotten trees, trees weakened by decay or disease and trees or portions thereof that are leaning toward the line which may contact the line from the side or may fall on the line shall be felled, cut, or trimmed so as to remove such hazard. The director or the agency which has primary responsibility for the fire protection of such areas may permit exceptions from the requirements of this section which are based upon the specific circumstances involved.

## APPENDIX: D

4294. A clearing to obtain line clearance is not required if self-supporting aerial cable is used. Forked trees, leaning trees, and any other growth which may fall across the line and break it shall, however, be removed.

4295. A person is not required by Section 4292 or 4293 to maintain any clearing on any land if such person does not have the legal right to maintain such clearing, nor do such sections require any person to enter upon or to damage property which is owned by any other person without the consent of the owner of the property.

4296. Sections 4292 and 4293 do not apply if the transmission or distribution line voltage is 750 volts or less.

4296.5. (a) Any person or corporation operating a railroad on forest, brush, or grass-covered land shall, if ordered by the director or the agency having primary responsibility for fire protection of the area, destroy, remove, or modify so as not to be flammable any vegetation or other flammable material defined by regulation of the director to be a fire hazard on the railroad right-of-way. The director shall adopt regulations establishing fire prevention hazard reduction standards for broad geographic areas by fuel type, slope, and potential for ignition from hot or flaming exhaust, carbon particles, hot metal, burning signal devices, burning tobacco, and other similar potential sources of ignition.

(b) The order to destroy, remove, or modify vegetation or other flammable material shall specify the location of the hazard to be destroyed, removed, or modified within the right-of-way, the width of the hazard which shall not exceed the width of the right-of-way, and the time within which compliance with the order is required.

(c) The director or the agency having primary responsibility for fire protection of the area shall allow a reasonable period of time for compliance with an order to destroy, remove, or modify vegetation or other flammable material.

4297. Upon the showing of the director that the unrestricted use of any grass-covered land, grain-covered land, brush-covered land, or