



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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TOM BURNS, PLANNING DIRECTOR

Obtaining Fire Department Approval For Projects Within The Urban Wildland Intermix Area

This preliminary clearance does not substitute for Fire Agency review of the building permit application, but is intended to alert building permit applicants of the Fire Agency requirements when the parcel is in a mapped Urban Wildland Intermix Code (UWIC) area.

Your project will be subject to the requirements of the Urban Wildland Intermix Code if your project is deemed by the Planning Department as a new residential development and is within the State Responsibility Area (SRA). "New Development" means all newly constructed residential dwellings, or habitable structures, and all residential dwelling, or habitable structures deemed to be replacement construction because more than 75% of the exterior walls are replaced, rebuilt, or altered in any way with the exception of replacement wall coverings.

A UWIC Fire Agency Analysis is applicable to the following project types:

- New and replacement single and multi-family dwelling
- New and replacement detached second unit (accessory dwelling unit)
- Detached habitable (heated or insulated) accessory structure or guesthouse
- Residential dwelling unit remodel if 75% or more of the exterior walls will be replaced, rebuilt or altered in any way (including the addition of hold-downs), with the exception of replacement wall coverings

***NOTE:** UWIC is not applicable to temporary trailers / manufactured homes permitted to be on site during construction of a new residential structure.*

Building Permit applications for applicable projects within State Responsibility Areas (SRA) will not be accepted by the County unless accompanied by a fire agency approved UWIC Fire Agency Analysis Form.

1. To determine if your project is located within the mapped State Responsibility Area go to:

<http://gis.co.santa-cruz.ca.us> .

- Click on "Go to GIS Interactive Map"
- Proceed to the bottom of the page and click "YES"
- Click on "APN Search"
- Put your Assessor's Parcel Number in the box title "Value"
- Click on "Execute"
- Your parcel will appear in the screen and the information available for your parcel will be displayed across the bottom of the page
- Scrolling to the far right to "State / Local Response Area"
- If the box shows LRA, you are exempt from the UWIC
- If the box shows SRA, you are not exempt from these requirements, and must complete a UWIC Analysis Worksheet

(continued on the reverse side)

2. Once you have determined that your project is subject to a UWIC review, complete your UWIC Fire Agency Analysis form and make an appointment with the appropriate fire agency to review your form.

Call the appropriate fire district (below) and set an appointment for a UWIC Fire Analysis review.

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|---|----------------|---|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CDF / County Fire | (831) 335-6748 | <input type="checkbox"/> Central Fire | (831) 479-6843 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aptos/LaSelva Fire | (831) 685-6690 | <input type="checkbox"/> Felton Fire | (831) 335-4422 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ben Lomond Fire | (831) 336-5495 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pajaro Valley Fire | (831) 335-6748 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boulder Creek Fire | (831) 338-7222 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scotts Valley Fire | (831) 438-0211 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Branciforte Fire | (831) 423-8856 | <input type="checkbox"/> Zayante Fire | (831)335-5100 |

- a. If your project is within the **Aptos/La Selva, Central, Felton or Scotts Valley fire districts**, you must bring all of the following items to your appointment with that agency:
 - A completed UWIC Fire Agency Analysis form;
 - Two copies of a site plan showing contour lines (slope) in the area of the project site and driveway. Also, show the location and use of all structures on the site (identify structures as existing or proposed);
 - If a fire hydrant exists within 250 feet of the property line, specify the location and flow rate available. Call the water purveyor for this information;
 - Show any proposed or existing on-site water storage facility. Specify if it is existing or proposed and the capacity in gallons. Also, state if the water service is private or shared;
 - Show existing and proposed driveway profiles showing the grade of all slopes.
 - b. If your project is within the **Ben Lomond, Boulder Creek, Branciforte, County Fire, Pajaro Valley, or Zayante fire districts** bring only a completed UWIC Fire Agency Analysis form to your appointment, no plans are required.
3. Your ignition resistance rating (IR) will be determined using the Urban Wildland Intermix Code – Fire Agency Analysis and the information you provide. **It is your responsibility to ensure that the information presented is complete and accurate.**
 4. The fire agency will complete the appropriate sections of the UWIC Fire Agency Analysis form and will determine the fire protection requirements for your project. They will give you a copy of the completed UWIC form (and a stamped set of your plans if they were originally required) to bring to your appointment with the County Planning Department. The fire agency will determine the fire protection rating and provide you with a list of building requirements for your project.
 5. Once your UWIC analysis has been reviewed and your IR rating has been determined, you can proceed to design your project to comply with the fire protection requirements.
 6. Take the completed approved UWIC Fire Agency Analysis form, together with your building plans, and stamped UWIC site plan, if one was required by the fire agency, to your building permit application appointment.

For information on Ignition Resistance (IR) ratings you may contact the County Building Department, order a copy of the UWIC from the International Code Council at www.icc.org, or visit your local fire prevention office or library.