



Calaveras County

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Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) FAQ

Where do these requirements apply? Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Construction requirements, Chapter 7A, apply to new buildings in all State Responsibility Areas (SRA) and in Very High Fire Hazard zones within Local Responsibility Areas (LRA).

How do I know if I am in one of these areas? All unincorporated areas of the Calaveras County are within an SRA; consequently, they are subject to these requirements.

Does my addition or remodel need to comply? If the original structure was built under these regulations, then yes. If the original building was constructed under a Building Permit issued in 2007 or earlier, an addition or remodel to it would not have to comply. Any addition or remodel to a structure built under a 2008 Building Permit must comply.

Does this apply to my new Manufactured Home? Yes; see the *Wildland Urban Interface Requirements for Manufactured Homes* Handout.

Does this apply to Factory Built Housing (FBH)? Yes, FBH is regulated under Title 24 of California Code of Regulations that contains the 7A Wildland Urban Interface requirements.

Where can I find listed products that comply with these requirements? From the manufacturer or products that are listed through the Office of the State Fire Marshall (SFM), available online at: <http://www.fire.ca.gov/wildland.php>

Can I use quarter-inch mesh on vents? All attic and under floor ventilation, other than eave and soffit vents, may use quarter-inch wire.

Can I use eave vents and soffit vents in Fire Hazard Severity Zones? Only if they are tested and listed to resist the intrusion of flame and burning embers into the attic.

What do I need to show on my plans? See each of the following:

Roof Coverings: Specify the type and rating of the roof covering. Class A or noncombustible roofing is required (aluminum is not considered non-combustible). Specify the roof material and provide the listing for other than composition, steel or tile.

Roof Vents: Eave or soffit vents are not permitted unless listed by an approved agency. All other roof vents can be ¼ inch corrosion resistant mesh. For vents in the eave or soffit, provide the listing and detail the size, number and location of vents to meet the attic ventilation requirements of 1/150 of the area to be ventilated divided between upper and lower vents. The listed vents will have reduced venting capability that must be accounted for **OR** remove all details and references to eave or soffit vents and detail the number, size and location of vents to meet the roof ventilation requirements of CBC that requires the net vent area to be 1/150 of the area to be ventilated divided between upper and lower vents. *Since eave and soffit vents are prohibited, unless listed, the lower vents must be located as low as possible on the roof surface and/or low on the gable ends to provide the required lower ventilation.*

Gutters: Add a note that if gutters are installed they will be provided with a means to prevent the accumulation of debris in the gutter, such as screening.

Eaves, soffits and similar overhangs: Amend and detail on the plan showing the underside is protected by materials that are non-combustible **OR** ignition resistant (provide listing) or listed under SFM 12-7A-3.

Exterior walls: Amend and detail the plans to show the exterior walls are approved noncombustible **OR** ignition resistant **OR** heavy timber **OR** log walls **OR** listed under SFM 12-7A-1. Currently fiber cement siding, traditional 3-coat stucco and full log walls are acceptable without listings. Other materials will require the submittal of the listing.

Exterior Windows, glazing in doors: Detail/specify on the plans that all (including garage) glazing is insulated glass with a minimum of one-tempered pane of glass **OR** glass block **OR** is 20-minute rated **OR** listed under SFM 12-7A-2. Specify each window on the plans as tempered or the listing.

Exterior Doors: Specify all exterior doors to be noncombustible **OR** listed under SFM 12-7A-1 **OR** a rated 20-minute door **OR** solid core 1-3/8 inch thick with interior field panel thickness no less than 1-1/4 inches.

Garage Doors: Specify garage doors as either noncombustible **OR** exterior fire-treated wood.

Decks (deck surfaces, stair treads/risers, porches, and balconies): Specify heavy timber (minimum 3" nominal thickness) **OR** exterior fire-treated wood **OR** non-combustible materials **OR** ignition resistant meeting SFM 12-7-A, parts A and B **OR** material that passes the SFM 12-7-A (Part A only) and the walls the deck is attached to can only be non-combustible or ignition resistant material unless the material has a flame spread rating of "B" or better then any approved wall material is allowed. *These regulations do not apply to the underlying deck support material but note that all deck support material must be pressure treated or naturally resistant to decay.*

Underside of cantilevered/overhanging appendages and floor projections (Not decks): Show how the underside maintains the ignition resistances of the exterior walls or enclosed to grade.