

4.20 WILDFIRE

Would the Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones would the project;				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines, or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4.20.1 Environmental Setting

Climate change is expected to increase the frequency and severity of wildfires in California by altering precipitation and wind patterns, changing the timing of snowmelt, and inducing longer periods of drought. In California, responsibility for wildfire prevention and suppression is shared by federal, state, and local agencies. Federal agencies are responsible for federal lands in Federal Responsibility Areas. The State of California has determined that some non-federal lands in unincorporated areas with watershed value are of statewide interest and have classified those lands as SRAs, which are managed by CAL FIRE. All incorporated areas and other unincorporated lands are classified as Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs).

While all of California is subject to some degree of wildfire hazard, there are specific features that make certain areas more hazardous. CAL FIRE is required by law to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other relevant factors (PRC 4201-4204 and Government Code 51175-89). Factors that increase an area's susceptibility to fire hazards include slope, vegetation type and condition, and atmospheric conditions. CAL FIRE has identified two types of wildland fire risk areas: 1) wildland areas that may contain substantial forest fire risks and hazards, and 2) very high fire hazard severity zones. Each risk area carries with it code requirements to reduce the potential risk of wildland fires. Under state regulations, areas within very high fire hazard risk zones must comply with specific building and vegetation management requirements intended to reduce property damage and loss of life within these areas.

There are no wildlands located within the City. According to CAL FIRE, there are not any very high fire hazard severity zones within the LRA in proximity to the project site. Likewise, there are no moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zones in the SRAs in the vicinity of the project site (CAL FIRE 2008).

4.20.2 Previous Environmental Analysis

City of Daly City General Plan EIR Summary

The General Plan EIR did not address the issue of “wildfire” because its publication in 2013 preceded adoption of the 2019 CEQA Appendix G Checklist Questions. Issues related to wildland fires are discussed in Chapter 3.7 of the General Plan EIR. According to the General Plan EIR, no portions of the City are classified as having a “Very High” fire threat. Though wildfire threat is present, implementation of General Plan policies would ensure adequate service from the NCFCA. Therefore, the threat of fire hazard (in particular wildland fire) is less than significant.

Plan Bay Area EIR Summary

Although the Plan Bay Area EIR does not contain a separate section for analyzing impacts related to wildfires, Chapter 2.13 of the Plan Bay Area EIR evaluated the potential impacts related to hazards (including wildfire risk) that may result from future development. The Plan Bay Area EIR determined that impacts related to wildfire would be less than significant because there are existing state and local regulations and oversight in place that would effectively reduce the inherent hazard associated with development of areas with a high wildfire hazard risk to an acceptable level. No mitigation measures were identified.

4.20.3 Project-Specific Analysis

Impact WF-1 If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project: that is:

- a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?
 - b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?
 - c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?
 - d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?
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Impact Analysis

The proposed project is not located in an SRA or a very high fire hazard severity zone (CAL FIRE 2008). The project area is located in an urban area surrounded by existing development, including buildings, roadways, and associated infrastructure. Although the area does contain some landscaping and a few street trees, these are not considered wildland areas and would not pose a significant wildfire risk. The nearest wildland area is the San Bruno Mountain State and County Park, which is located approximately 0.36 mile southwest of the project site. Existing residences

and roadways separate this park from the project site. Additionally, the proposed project would be constructed to meet all safety standards related to potential fires contained in the CBC and the California Fire Code, including placement of new fire hydrants throughout the site. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact related to wildfire risk.

Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Less Than Significant Impact.

Mitigation Measures

No mitigation is necessary.

Level of Significance After Mitigation

Less Than Significant Impact.

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