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| <i>BODEGA BAY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT</i> | | |
| STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES | Article: Operational | SOG 3-4 |
| | References: NSCAPCD Letter (text of letter pasted to this SOG) | |
| | Subject: Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District Permits and Violations | |

The Bodega Bay Fire Protection District is within the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (NSCAPCD). The NSCAPCD controls and regulates all burning within the Bodega Bay Fire District. Bodega Bay is also within State Responsibility Area of Cal Fire and therefor Cal Fire will regulate all open burning during the declared fire season (in conjunction with NSCAPCD).

Bodega Bay Fire Protection District does not issue permits for NSCAPCD, but will provide permits for residents that are interested in sending the permit to the NSCAPCD offices in Healdsburg.

The policy of BBFPD will be that burning will be allowed during the open burning season and permittees are in compliance with NSCAPCD policies and fire safe practices. BBFPD reserves the right to disallow open burning due to unsafe local conditions.

Open burning may only take place during approved burn days.

In the event employees encounter the burning of materials that are not approved for burning by the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District, please take the following actions (this assumes the responsible party has been informed and refuses to comply or we have responded before):

- Inform the responsible party of the violation and extinguish the fire if it is in the best interest of public safety.
- Take a few pictures of the materials being burned.
- Document pertinent facts in the NFIRS report and attach the photographs to the NFIRS report.
- Email the NFIRS report to NSCAPCD at asaschin@sonoma-county.org to report the incident.

For further reference and follow up if needed:

Alex Saschin
Air Quality Engineer
Northern Sonoma County APCD
150 Matheson Street
Healdsburg, CA 95448
(707) 433-5911

Or: Matt Palmer
Air Quality Specialist III
(Same Contact Info)

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For reference:

Air pollution control enforcement based on fire protection personnel evidence

Dear Fire Chiefs:

Staff at the Air Pollution Control District are committed to effective cooperation with fire protection personnel and we welcome collaboration. We recognize that firefighters may attend poorly managed open burns not in compliance with permit conditions. Often these calls do not require further fire intervention but may be a safety or air pollution issue where firefighters have limited enforcement powers. For example, unattended fires, excessively smoky burns, burning garbage or burning on no-burn days. Firefighters may also encounter burners who repeatedly ignore fire safety advice or who present a risk to the community.

We have a range of enforcement tools open to us including issuing Notices of Violation and even refusing to reissue burn permits. Normally NOVs are issued based on evidence gathered by air pollution field staff but NOVs can and have been issued based on firefighter evidence alone.

I'd like to make you aware of this option which hopefully will provide you with another tool in your fire protection work. In circumstances where you believe it appropriate to use this option simply email me a copy of the NFIRS report together with supporting evidence (such as photographs).

If you have any questions feel free to contact me or my field inspector Matthew Palmer at 707 433-5911.

Sincerely,

Alex Saschin
Air Pollution Control Officer
Alex.Saschin@sonoma-county.org

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