

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

**EMERGENCY REGULATION NO. 1 FOR THE CZU AUGUST LIGHTNING
COMPLEX FIRES**

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**TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION OF ENTRY ONTO PRIVATE PROPERTY
IMPACTED BY FIRE DAMAGE IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF SAN
MATEO COUNTY BY COUNTY OF SAN MATEO STAFF AND CONTRACTORS
FOR SAFETY ASSESSMENTS**

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 8634 and San Mateo County Ordinance Code 2.46.060(a)(6), the County of San Mateo Director of Emergency Services (the “Director”) issues the following Emergency Regulation No. 1 for the CZU August Lightning Complex Fires Temporarily Authorizing Entry Onto Private Property Impacted by Fire Damage in the Unincorporated Areas of San Mateo County by County of San Mateo Staff and Contractors for Safety Assessments:

This Emergency Regulation No. 1 for the CZU August Lightning Complex Fires (“Director’s Emergency Regulation No.1” or this “Regulation”) temporarily authorizes County of San Mateo staff and contractors to enter private property in the unincorporated area of the County of San Mateo (the “County”) that has been impacted by fire damage in order to assess the condition of private properties and identify potential threats to life and property.

The Regulation temporarily authorizes County staff and contractors, including, but not limited to, personnel from the Department of Public Works, Environmental Health Services, Department of Planning and Building, Parks Department, County Fire and the Sheriff’s Office, to enter private property impacted by fire damage to assess a variety of conditions, including but not limited to road, drainage structure and bridge safety, the presence of hazardous materials, water well status, sewer septic system status, propane tank status, the integrity of structures and tree safety. This assessment will also involve data collection in the form of notes, photos and video to assist in potential, future remediation efforts.

Findings:

This Regulation is adopted pursuant to the authority set forth in California Government Code Sections 8634 and San Mateo County Ordinance Code Section 2.46.060(a)(6) based upon the following findings:

Whereas, beginning on August 18, 2020, fires in the southern portion of San Mateo County that are collectively referred to as the CZU August Lightning Complex Fires (the “CZU Fires”), have given

rise to conditions of disaster and extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of the County; and

Whereas, on August 19, 2020, and pursuant to Section 8630 of the California Government Code and Chapter 2.46 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors (the “Board”) declared a local emergency related to the CZU Fires; and

Whereas, the CZU Fires have, to date, covered over 80,000 acres across both the County and the County of Santa Cruz, and threatened or damaged infrastructure and thousands of structures; and

Whereas, the CZU Fires have caused damage to infrastructure and structures that may present unsafe conditions to persons returning to properties impacted by fire; and

Whereas, the County has the resources and expertise to inspect and assess fire damage in the areas impacted by the CZU Fires; and

Whereas, in order to allow persons to return safely to private property damaged by the CZU Fires, County staff and contractors must first assess and evaluate the condition of these properties, including but not limited to road, drainage structure and bridge safety, the presence of hazardous materials, water well status, sewer septic system status, propane tank status, the integrity of structures and tree safety; and

Whereas, the Director finds that in order to allow the prompt and safe return of persons to fire-damaged private property, County staff and contractors, including personnel from the Department of Public Works, Environmental Health Services, Department of Planning and Building, Parks Department, County Fire and the Sheriff’s Office, require immediate access to these properties in order to conduct safety assessment and evaluation; and

Whereas, in temporarily authorizing County staff and contractors to enter onto private property impacted by fire damage in the unincorporated areas of San Mateo County to conduct safety assessments, the Director is taking action pursuant to his authority under Government Code Section 8634 and Chapter 2.46.060 of the County Ordinance Code, in order to protect life and property within the unincorporated area of the County during the Local Emergency.

Jurisdiction:

This Regulation shall apply throughout the unincorporated area of the County.

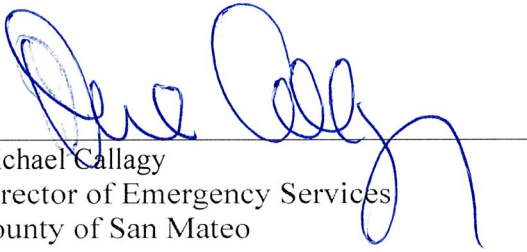
Effective Date and Termination:

This Regulation shall take effect and be in full force immediately and shall remain in effect until it is modified or revoked by the Director or the Board, or the present local emergency due to the CZU August Lightning Complex Fires ends, whichever is earlier. This Regulation will be submitted to the Board for ratification as soon as practicable pursuant to Chapter 2.46.060 of the County Ordinance Code.

ORDERS

Authorization:

This Director's Emergency Regulation No. 1 hereby authorizes County staff and contractors, including, but not limited to, personnel from the Department of Public Works, Environmental Health Services, Department of Planning and Building, Parks Department, County Fire and the Sheriff's Office, to enter private property impacted by fire damage to assess a variety of conditions, including but not limited to road and bridge safety, the presence of hazardous materials, water well status, the integrity of structures and tree safety, in order to identify potential threats to life and property.



Michael Callagy
Director of Emergency Services
County of San Mateo

Date: August 28, 2020