

THE 2024 LAKE TAHOE NEVADA WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE CODE

INCORPORATING THE 2024 INTERNATIONAL WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE



2024 Lake Tahoe Nevada Wildland-Urban Interface Code

**Published by North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) and Tahoe Douglas Fire
Protection District (TDFPD)**

Introduction

This document contains proposed amendments to the 2024 Edition of the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code, as published by the International Code Council, Inc., and as further amended by the State of Nevada. These provisions have been additionally amended by the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) and the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District (TDFPD).

This document shall hereafter be referenced as the 2024 Tahoe Nevada Fire Code Amendments. It is prepared for consideration and potential adoption by NLTFPD and TDFPD. Until formally adopted and codified by the respective Fire Districts, the provisions contained herein do not constitute law or enforceable code.

Amendment Conventions:

The following conventions are used throughout this document to identify modifications to the 2024 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC):

- Deleted language from the base 2024 IWUIC is shown in ~~striketrough~~.
- Added language to the 2024 IWUIC is shown as underlined.
- In certain instances, the entire text of a section from the 2024 IWUIC has been restated as amended in order to provide complete context and to ensure clarity of application.

Table of Contents

101.1 Title.	4
101.2.1 Appendices	4
101.5 Additions or alterations.	4
108.4 Work commencing before permit issuance.	4
109.3.7	4
109.3.9 Escalation of enforcement.	5
112.3.	5
Chapter 2 DEIFNITIONS FIRE-RESISTANT VEGETATION.	5
Chapter 2 DEIFNITIONS Heavy Timber Construction.	5
302.3 Review of wildland-urban interface areas.	6
404.5 Adequate water supply	6
501.2 Objective	6
503.1 General.	7
504.7.2 Decks.	7
603.2 Fuel modification.	7
603.2.2 Trees.	7
603.2.4 Noncombustible area.	7
604.4 Trees.	7

604.4.1 Chimney clearance	8
604.5 Non-combustible area.....	8
607.1 General.	8
A104.7.1 General.....	8
B101.1 Scope.	8
B101.2 Plan content	9
2022 NFPA 1140, Standard for Wildland Fire Protection	9
Concluding Statement	9

2024 Lake Tahoe Nevada Wildland-Urban Interface Code Amendments

Section 101.1 is amended to read:

101.1 Title. These regulations shall be known as the 2024 Lake Tahoe Nevada Wildland-Urban Interface Code of North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) and Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District (TDFPD) hereinafter referred to as “this code.”

Section 101.2.1 is amended to read:

101.2.1 Appendices. Appendices A and B are adopted and amended as recorded.

Section 101.5 is amended to read:

101.5 Additions or alterations. Additions or alterations shall be permitted to be made to any building or structure without requiring the existing building or structure to comply with all of the requirements of this code, provided that the addition or alteration conforms to that required for a new building. Exceptions: Provisions of this code that specifically apply to existing conditions are retroactive.

Exception (s):

1. Roof Coverings, if the roof covering is replaced or more than 25% of the roof area (or 100 sq ft or more) is replaced within a 12-month period, it shall be replaced with ignition-resistant construction.
2. Exterior Walls, if more than 25% of the exterior wall covering is replaced, it shall be replaced with ignition-resistant construction.
3. Decks, if more than 25% of the deck covering is replaced, it shall be replaced with ignition-resistant construction.

Section 108.4 is amended to read:

108.4 Work commencing before permit issuance. Any person who initiates work, activity, or operations regulated by this code without first obtaining the required permits shall be subject to fees and a stop work order, as specified in the respective Fire District’s adopted fee schedule and amendments, which shall be in addition to the required permit fees.

109.3.7 is amended to read:

109.3.7 Violation penalties. Persons who shall violate a provision of this code or shall fail to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who shall erect, install, alter, repair or do work in violation of the approved construction documents or directive of the fire Code Official, or of a permit or certificate used under the provisions of this code, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by either the fee schedule adopted by the respective Fire District or imprisonment not exceeding 180 days or a combination of both. The respective Fire District is authorized to issue administrative citations for violations of not only the adopted codes and standards, but also any related fire safety statutes and administrative code pursuant to Nevada Law.

Section 109.3.8 is amended to read:

109.3.8 Abatement of violation. Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS 474.580), as permitted, the Fire District may eliminate and remove a fire hazard and contract with any person for the performance of this work. The Fire District may recover reasonable and documented costs associated with enforcement and abatement of work, including costs of labor and equipment, administrative, legal, and investigative material, disposal or related charges. Abatement for such work shall comply as follows:

1. Written notice of the intent to abate shall be provided to the property owner.
2. A reasonable opportunity for the property owner or representative to respond shall be given.
3. If entry is denied, a warrant shall be obtained unless emergency conditions exist. In emergency situations involving imminent threat to public safety, warrantless entry is authorized during exigency.
4. Abatement actions shall be documented. Post-abatement notice with an itemized invoice shall be provided to the property owner.

Section 109.3.9 is added to read:

109.3.9 Escalation of enforcement. In addition to abatement, the Fire District may take further action if a violation is not corrected or abated, such as:

1. Issue additional fines.
2. Request judicial enforcement and penalties.
3. Claim a property lien pursuant to NRS Chapter 318 or applicable legislation, following proper notice and hearing procedures.

Section 112.3 is amended to read:

112.3. The Fire District's Board of Commissioners or Trustees shall serve as the Board of Appeal.

Definitions are amended to read:

Chapter 2 DEIFNITIONS FIRE-RESISTANT VEGETATION. Plants, shrubs, trees and other vegetation that exhibit properties, such as high moisture content, little accumulation of dead vegetation, and low sap or resin content, that make them less likely to ignite or contribute heat or spread flame in a fire than native vegetation typically found in the region. Note: The following sources contain examples of types of vegetation that can be considered as fire-resistant vegetation. (Fire-resistant Plants for Home Landscapes, A Pacific Northwest Extension publication; Home Landscaping for Fire, University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources; Sunset Western Garden Book).

Chapter 2 DEIFNITIONS Heavy Timber Construction. As described in the *International Building Code*. For Decks and similar projections, construction shall be as follows: Minimum 6x6 columns; 4x8 floor joists; 4x10 or 6x8 beams; 3x ledgers; and 2x decking.

Section 302.3 is amended to read:

302.3 Review of wildland-urban interface areas. The Code Official shall reevaluate and recommend modification to the *wildland-urban interface areas* in accordance with Section 302.1 ~~on a 3-year basis or more frequently as deemed necessary by the legislative body~~ as deemed necessary.

Section 404.5 is amended to read:

404.5 Adequate water supply. Adequate water supply shall be determined for purposes of initial attack and flame front control as follows:

1. One- and two-family dwellings. The required water supply for one- and two-family dwellings having a fire flow calculation area that does not exceed 3,600 square feet (334 m²) shall be 1,000 gallons per minute (63.1 L/s) for a minimum duration of 30 minutes. The required fire flow supply for one- and two-family dwellings having a flow calculation area in excess of 3,600 square feet (334 m²) shall be 1,500 gallons per minute (95 L/s) for a minimum duration of 30 minutes.

Exception: A reduction in required flow rate of 50 percent, as approved by the Code Official, is allowed where the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system.

2. Buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings. The water supply required for buildings other than one- and two-family dwellings shall be as approved by the Code Official but shall not be less than 1,500 gallons per minute (95 L/s) for a duration of 2 hours.

Exception: A reduction in required flow rate of up to ~~75~~ 50 percent, as approved by the Code Official, is allowed where the building is provided with an approved automatic sprinkler system. The resulting water supply shall not be less than 1,500 gallons per minute (94.6 L/s).

Section 501.2 is amended to read:

501.2 Objective. The objective of this chapter is to establish minimum standards to locate, design and construct buildings and structures or portions thereof for the protection of life and property, to resist damage from wildfires, and to mitigate building and structure fires from spreading to wildland fuels. The minimum standards set forth in this chapter vary with the critical *fire weather*, slope and fuel type to provide increased protection, above the requirements set forth in the *International Building Code* and the *International Residential Code*, from the various levels of hazards.

Section 502 is deleted in its entirety.

Table 503.1 is amended to read:

503.1 General. Buildings and structures hereafter constructed, modified or relocated into or within ~~the wildland-urban interface areas~~ the respective Fire District shall meet IR1 construction. Materials required to meet IR1 construction shall comply with the requirements of Section 503.2 and 504 within the scope of work.

Section 504.7.2 is added to read:

504.7.2 Decks. All decks shall be constructed with the following, 0.25 inch deck board spacing with foil-faced bitumen tape or corrosion-resistant metal applied to the top and upper 2 inches of the side surfaces of the combustible supporting joist.

Table 603.2 is deleted, and Section 603.2 is amended to read:

603.2 Fuel modification. New and existing structures shall comply with defensible space, as prescribed by the respective Fire District, following their approved guidelines and sections in this chapter. The fuel modification area within the defensible space shall be no less than 100' from the building's exterior elements or to the property line, whichever comes first.

Section 603.2. is deleted in its entirety.

Section 603.2.2 is amended to read:

603.2.2 Trees. Trees are allowed within defensible space, provided the ~~horizontal~~ distance between crowns of adjacent trees and crowns of trees and structures, overhead electrical facilities or unmodified fuel is not less than 10 feet (3048 mm) or an acceptable distance as determined by the Code Official. Tree crowns within the defensible space shall be pruned to remove limbs located less than 10 feet (3048 mm) above the ground surface adjacent to the trees; or an acceptable distance as determined by the Code Official.

Section 603.2.4 is added to read:

603.2.4 Noncombustible area. The area extending from the base of any structure to 5 feet beyond the base of such structure shall be composed entirely of noncombustible material or fire resistive vegetation.

Section 604.4 is amended to read:

604.4 Trees. Trees are allowed within the defensible space, provided the distance between crowns of adjacent trees and crowns of trees and structures, overhead electrical facilities or unmodified fuel is not

less than 10 feet (3048 mm) or an acceptable distance as determined by the Code Official. Tree crowns within the *defensible space* shall be pruned to remove limbs located less than 10 feet (3048 mm) above the ground surface adjacent to the trees; or an acceptable distance as determined by the Code Official.

Section 604.4.1 is amended to read:

604.4.1 Chimney clearance. Portions of tree crowns that extend to within 10 feet (3048 mm) of the outlet of a chimney shall be pruned to maintain a minimum ~~horizontal~~ clearance of 10 feet (3048 mm).

Section 604.5 is added to Section 604 to read:

604.5 Non-combustible area. The area extending from the base of any structure to 5 feet beyond the base of such structure shall be composed entirely of non-combustible material or fire resistive vegetation.

Section 607.1 is amended to read:

607.1 General. Firewood and combustible material shall not be stored in unenclosed spaces beneath buildings or structures, or on decks or under eaves, canopies or other projections or overhangs. When required by the Fire District, storage of firewood and combustible material stored in the *defensible space* shall be located a minimum of ~~20-30~~ feet (~~6096~~ 9144 mm) from structures and separated from the crown of trees by a minimum horizontal distance of 15 feet (4572 mm).

Exception. Approved fire-resistance-rated coverings used in accordance with their listing and as approved and allowed by the respective Fire District.

Section A104.7.1 amended to read:

A104.7.1 General. Persons shall not build, ignite or maintain any outdoor fire of any kind for any purpose in or on any *wildland-urban interface area*, except by the authority of a written permit from the respective Fire District.

~~Exception: Outdoor fires within inhabited premises or designated campsites where such fires are in a permanent barbeque, outdoor fireplace, incinerator or grill and are not less than 30 feet from any combustibles or nonfire-resistive vegetation~~

Section B101.1 is amended to read:

B101.1 Scope. Where required, vegetation management plans shall be submitted to the ~~Code~~ Official for review and approval as part of the plans required for a permit or when required by the Fire District.

Section B101.2 is amended and added to read:

B101.2 Plan content. Vegetation management plans shall describe all actions that will be taken to prevent a fire from being carried toward or away from the building. A vegetation management plan shall include at least the following information:

1. A copy of the *site vegetation management* plan.
2. Methods and timetables for controlling, changing or modifying areas on the property. Elements of the plan shall include removal of slash, snags, vegetation that may grow into overhead electrical lines, other ground fuels, ladder fuels and dead trees, and the thinning of live trees.
3. A plan for maintaining the proposed fuel-reduction measures.
4. Current and proposed structures.
5. Existing trees and other vegetation, including brush fields.
6. Property boundaries.
7. Roads, driveways, and fire department access.
8. Special requirements as requested by the Fire District

Chapter 7 is amended to add NFPA 1140:

2022 NFPA 1140, Standard for Wildland Fire Protection Section 11.4.2, Section 11.4.3, and Section 14.2.1.6.4 of NFPA 1140 (2022 Edition), *Standard for Wildland Fire Protection*, are hereby adopted and incorporated by reference for limited application for new construction.

Concluding Statement

This document concludes the 2024 Lake Tahoe Nevada Wildland-Urban Interface Code Amendments.

These provisions amend, delete, or supplement the 2024 IWUIC, as published by the International Code Council. All sections of the IFC not specifically amended, deleted, or replaced herein shall remain in full force and effect as adopted.

These amendments shall take effect upon adoption and codification by the respective Boards of Commissioners/Trustees of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) and the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District (TDFPD).