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The California Building Commission adopted the Wildland-Urban Interface codes in late 2005 to be effective in 2008. These new codes include provisions to improve the ignition resistance of buildings, especially from firebrands. The updated fire hazard severity zones will be used by building officials to determine appropriate construction materials for new buildings in the Wildland-Urban Interface. The updated zones will also be used by property owners to comply with natural hazards disclosure requirements at time of property sale and 100 foot defensible space clearance. It is likely that the fire hazard severity zones will be used for updates to the safety element of general plans.

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