



August 6, 2009

TO: Suisun Marsh Landowners

FROM: Steven Chappell

SUBJECT: BAAQMD Smoke Management Plan

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The fall burn season for the Suisun Marsh will be from September 1, 2009 until October 15, 2009. As you may already know, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has been mandated to implement California's "Smoke Management Guidelines" (Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations) for prescribed burning. These guidelines are intended to reduce potential public health and air quality impacts from open burning.

Adopted amendments to BAAQMD Regulation 5 require that anyone who wishes to conduct a prescribed burn in the Suisun Marsh must file a "Smoke Management Plan" with the BAAQMD.

Enclosed is a copy of the "Marsh Management Fire Procedures for Burning in the Suisun Marsh" information sheet. If you wish to burn in the Suisun Marsh please follow the burn permit process on this sheet.

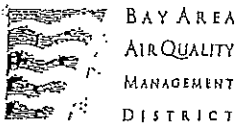
Please do not hesitate to call the SRCD Water Manager office at 707-426-2431, the SRCD office at 707-425-9302, or CDF&G at 707-425-3828 if you have questions or make an appointment to stop by the SRCD Water Manager office. If you need a copy of the burn application form titled "Marsh Management Fire Smoke Management Plan" Form MM-1 please contact SRCD or CDF&G above.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steven Chappell
Executive Director

SUISUN RESOURCE
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2544 Grizzly Island Road
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MARSH MANAGEMENT FIRE PROCEDURES FOR BURNING IN SUISUN MARSH

Revised August 16, 2006

BURN PERMIT PROCESS:

To obtain permission to conduct a controlled marsh management fire in the Suisun Marsh the following procedures must be followed.

Department of Fish and Game (DFG) Authorization *(Allow two weeks for review)*

- Submit a completed Smoke Management Plan (SMP) to DFG, Grizzly Island Office (must include landowner's certification and 3 copies of the property map showing the areas and acreages to be burned);
- DFG will make the initial review of the SMP and maps to certify that the burn is desirable and proper for improvement of land for wildlife or game habitat (Health and Safety Code Section 41861). Once Certified by DFG, the SMP and maps will be forwarded to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) for further review.

BAAQMD Authorization *(Allow 30 days for review)*

- BAAQMD will review the SMP and DFG certification (Note: BAAQMD must receive the SMP for review at least 30 days prior to burning in order to issue a acreage burning allocation).
- After approval of the SMP, BAAQMD will fax a copy of the approved SMP to the appropriate Fire District (i.e. Suisun, Cordelia, or Montezuma) for their consideration of final approval of a Burn Permit.

Local Fire District Authorization

- Local Fire Districts will issue a Burn Permit according to their procedures and regulations (Note: a pre-burn inspection may be required).
- Burn Permits must be picked up and signed by the authorized person at the local Fire District office. Burn permits should be ready within 45 days of initial submission; however, you should call your fire district first to ensure the permit is ready.

Note: BAAQMD and DFG prohibit any person from burning the same area more than once within a two-year period.

BURN PROCESS & REGULATIONS:

1. Prior to final approval, Marsh burners must call (415) 749-4915 by 12:00 noon on the day before the intended burn date and leave a message with the property name, acreage amount to be burned, contact name and phone number. This call will initiate the additional forecasting work necessary to allocate marsh burning acreage for the following day. No return call will be made by the District unless deemed necessary. If burners do not call the day before, then no acreage allocation will be forecast for the following day.

- Final Approval is obtained by calling the BAAQMD at (415) 749-4600 between 8:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. on the day you plan to burn to request an acreage burning allocation and to confirm it is a marsh vegetation burn day. Be prepared to provide BAAQMD with the following information: property number and name or location of burn, what type of vegetation is to be burned, acreage requested, name on permit, permit number, callers' name and telephone number, and telephone number of a person who can be reached at all times during the burn if the caller will not be accessible. Note: If you are unable to contact staff when you call, please leave a voice mail message with the information above and your call will be returned promptly.

In addition, Solano Dispatch must be notified of a burn prior to ignition in order to prevent unnecessary response of fire apparatus; call (707) 421-7090 after 8:00 a.m. Remember, Solano Dispatch is an Emergency 911 Communications Center.

- Burn hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. No fires are allowed outside of this time period and you must not allow any existing burning to continue after 3:00 p.m. All marsh burns must be staffed appropriately, with at least one person in attendance that is responsible for the burn. No more than 100 acres may be burned per day on one property; only 100 acres may be burned in each general area of the Marsh per day (each hundred series of elubs); Total maximum that may be burned in the Suisun Resource Conservation District (SRCD) is limited to 600 acres per day in the Spring, and 300 acres per day in the Fall.
- Remember, you are responsible for the preventing the fire from escaping your property. You are also subject to having your fire extinguished if the smoke becomes a public nuisance. Also be advised that public complaints received by a Fire District will be forwarded to the BAAQMD for investigation. If five public complaints are confirmed by the BAAQMD, you may be issued a citation for causing a public nuisance. In addition, if a flare-up occurs outside of the burn hour limits or on a No-Burn day, you may also be cited by the BAAQMD.
- For each day on which burning occurs, you must report the total acreage of vegetation actually burned to the BAAQMD no later than by 12:00 p.m. the day following a burn. To report burn acreage, call the BAAQMD at (415) 749-4979 and be prepared to provide the actual acreage burned, property name and number, and the caller's name and phone number.

In addition, you must send a follow-up burn map indicating the number of acres burned to the DFG, Grizzly Island Office. If you did not burn you must call the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area office at (707) 425-3828 to report the "No Burn". Failure to respond will jeopardize authorization of future burn permit applications.

quiries or comments should be directed to the appropriate agency:

Air Quality Complaints (BAAQMD)	(800) 334-ODOR
Open Burning Regulations (BAAQMD)	(415) 749-4999
To Request Marsh Management Fire Applications (DFG)	(707) 425-3828
Suisun Fire District, 445 Jackson St., Fairfield	(707) 425-3605
Cordelia Fire District, 2155 Cordelia Rd., Suisun	(707) 864-0468
Montezuma Fire District, 21 North 4 th St., Rio Vista	(707) 374-5962
Solano Dispatch	(707) 421-7090