

MONTEREY COUNTY

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Arborist and Forester Report Submittal Requirements

- A. All Protected tree removal requests are subject to County policies and ordinances including the Inland Zoning Code Section 21.64.26(C)(4) and the Coastal Zone Land Use and implementation plans, and CEQA. Consult with the RMA--Planning Department or the Project Planner for the designated zoning and land use plan requirements for protected trees.
- B. Reports are required to be prepared by a qualified forester or arborist and listed on the County's approved consultants list.
- C. **Forester and Arborist reports shall include:**
1. Minimum Information:
 - a. Identify each protected tree including landmark oaks, by size and number, including trees to remain and trees to be removed
 - b. Indicate location of trees by number, show on the site plan. Include an inventory table if needed
 - c. Botanical name of tree(s) by number
 - d. Common names of tree(s) by number
 - e. Date of inspection(s)
 - f. Describe the condition of tree(s) by number
 - g. Purpose of tree removal
 - h. Describe the overall condition of the forest environment
 - i. Determine the tree condition
Rating System: rate the tree: excellent, good, fair, poor
Factors to be considered or included:
 - (i) Condition of root crown, base and roots
 - (ii) Condition of trunk including decay, injury callusing or presence of fungus or spores.
 - (iii) Condition of limbs and twigs (identify) including strength of crotches, amount of deadwood, whether excessive weight borne by limbs, need for trimming
 - (iv) Condition and growth rate history including pest damage and diseases
 - (v) Leaf appearance
 - j. Describe the surrounding area--note steep slopes, and presence of water course or ponding, or irrigation and other environmental factors that may affect the health of the trees or forest
 - k. If there is a dead tree removal, state the reason the tree died.
 - l. If there is a proposed hazardous tree removal, complete the ISA Tree Hazard and Evaluation form. State if the hazard can be eliminated without removal of the entire tree.
 - m. Consider the visual impact of tree removal and if required, recommendations or mitigation measures

- n. Provide photographs or other supporting information to demonstrate tree or forest conditions

2. Other information

- a. Recommendations for each protected tree by number
- b. Include trees that may be impacted within ____ ft. of grading or driveways or other construction
- c. Include trees as trees to be removed in septic envelopes (approved by the Environmental Health Division) required to be shown on the site plan.
- d. Discuss alternatives considered to minimize tree removal
- e. Specific methods for tree removal or partial removal, trimming and maintenance, including if disturbance with the Critical Root Zone (CRZ)
- f. Best Management Practices recommended for tree removal, trimming, tree protection during construction, and maintenance.
- g. Describe tree protection required and if installation requires a forester or arborists approval or supervision
- h. Replacement trees recommended locations, size, types, planting methods, monitoring and performance criteria.
- i. Replacement ratio per County ordinance or policies, subdivision etc.
- j. Relocation Plan, If transplanting trees is proposed, provide locations, methods of removal and planting, maintenance, monitoring and performance criteria for success
- k. Fire fuel reduction or fire management measures. Include any trees required to be removed within the wildfire 30- 100 foot defensible area according to State Fire Code, PRC Section 4291.
- l. Identify the canopy dripline or Edge of Foliar Canopy and the Critical Root Zone (CRZ) or Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) if soil disturbance or excavation is proposed within the zone
- m. Special areas: If project site is within certain subdivisions such as Santa Lucia Preserve or Tehama, there may be a CEQA document with mitigation measures that are required to be implemented for individual parcels. Some sites have pre-approved tree removal. Consult with the project planner.

D. Oak Woodlands (CEQA Guidelines, PRC 21073.4)

1. Provide a statement: is there OW present on the project site and if so, is there conversion of oak woodlands that will have a potential significant effect on the environment. Provide an aerial photo or other documentation.
2. Definition uses F& G Code Section 1361(h) until County adopts a definition?
3. If there is a potential significant environmental impact, recommend mitigation measures and monitoring. Specific mitigation measures are required according to PRC 21083.4) including conservation easements, tree replacement, (limited to 50%). Monitoring is required for 7 years after tree planting. The County may also develop alternative mitigation options in the future as part of the OW ordinance.
4. For evaluating Oak Woodlands, oaks 5” or more in diameter at breast height shall be included according to CEQA (PRC Section 21083.4)