

# Flagstaff Fire Department



November 26, 2018

CANYON LAND INVESTORS III LLC  
2700 N CENTRAL AVE 9TH FLOOR  
PHOENIX, AZ 85004

CCO Brian Rhoton  
RAC Partners  
1750 Railroad Springs Blvd. Suite 10  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Re: **Required Vegetation Management (APN#s 106-08-005-M, 106-08-005-N, 106-08-005-L; 3200 E BUTLER AVE)**

Greetings Brian Rhoton:

Upon examination of recent plans to develop the above parcels as part of the Canyon Del Rio project, it has been determined that these parcels will require vegetation management as per our Wildland Urban Interface Code Section 603. The parcels have been reviewed during an on-site visit by our staff and vegetation management (i.e. selective tree thinning, debris disposal) has not occurred up to this point. This work must occur prior to combustibles coming on to site. I am reaching out to you to help facilitate successful completion of required vegetation management work.

The required vegetation management is defined as the following according to our Flagstaff Wildland Urban Interface Code:

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT is a plan or operational activity, described below, that is undertaken by property owners at their own discretion or directed/approved by the Code Official designed or required to reduce wildfire threat, promote environmental sustainability, public welfare, and/or community well-being.

- a) Debris Disposal – Removal of cut, dead, dying, and/or downed vegetation or other combustible materials, including flammable landscaping plants.
- b) Marking – Designating trees or other vegetation, by location, paint, flagging, or other identification system, that are to be either removed or retained.
- c) Prescribed Fire – The planned use of fire under specific environmental conditions to achieve forest management or community protection objectives. Used to reduce hazardous fuel levels, control unwanted vegetation, recycle nutrients, favor desired vegetation, and improve visibility and wildlife habitat.
- d) Selective Tree Thinning – The periodic removal of individual trees or groups of trees to reduce threat of wildfire, improve individual tree vigor and forest health, or achieve other desired objectives.

To achieve desired conditions that meet the vegetation management requirement prior to development of the above parcels, the following action plan may be followed:

1. Consult with a professional forester to develop a vegetation management plan for the parcels in question. Flagstaff Fire Department (FFD) may advise on forestry professionals they've worked with in the past the whom are experienced in wildfire threat reduction projects as needed.

- a. A vegetation management plan shall include at least the following information:
  - i. A copy of the site plan.
  - ii. Methods and timetables for controlling, changing or modifying areas on the property. Elements of the plan shall include fuel reduction to 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.
  - iii. Methods to be used to provide for ecosystem sustainability, specifically methods to provide for age and size class distribution over the areas of the property.
  - iv. A plan for maintaining the proposed fire protection measures.
2. Submit plans to Firewise Specialist at Fire Administration, 211 W Aspen Ave in Flagstaff, AZ 86001 for review.
3. Upon approval of plans by Firewise Specialist, owner shall consult with vendors to achieve needed vegetation management work defined/designed in the approved plan. Once again, FFD may be able to advise on vendors whom have done this work on past projects as well.
4. Provide status updates to Firewise Specialist towards completion of selective tree thinning work.
5. Once all work is completed, a final inspection will be required prior to any combustibles coming on site.

I invite you to join us with any questions to this process and to provide further details moving forward in a future meeting as schedules allow. We are happy to walk you through this process every step of the way as necessary. Ultimately, the goals of this vegetation management work will reduce wildfire risk, improve forest health and resiliency, and improve our fire response capabilities with the development of your property. We look forward to working cooperatively with you to achieve these goals.

Respectfully,

Jerolyn Byrne  
Wildland Firewise Specialist  
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