Redwood Valley/Calpella, Hopland and Ukiah Valley have agenda items to adopt sections of the 2019 fire code for amending local fire safety ordinances.

The text below was referenced in item 40 Redwood Valley/Calpella and 4R Hopland.

California Fire Code Section 202 is amended to add the following: OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION is modified to include: [BG] Factory Industrial F-1 Moderate-hazard occupancy is amended to add to the list of Moderate-hazard factory industrial groups the following: Agricultural crop production including cultivation, drying, processing and/or storage

It is concerning that this is potentially saying that current ag exempt buildings (non commercial/no public access) will be treated as F-1 occupancy. It is not clear how the fire code intertwines with local building code, so if possible, it is requested that this question be asked of Planning Staff/Code Enforcement. Having every hay barn listed as F-1 doesn't make sense.

Since this is state code, It is also unclear how much flexibility local fire departments have with choosing what sections to adopt. If the Board has the ability to consider amending the inclusion of this section, it is requested that this be considered.

Clarification on the F-1 occupancy designation for agricultural crop production, including cultivation, drying, processing or storage related to items 40 and 4R would be appreciated.

Thank you

Devon Jones
Executive Director
Mendocino County Farm Bureau