

CONTRACT COUNTIES

8540

(No. 56 March 2006)

[PRC §4129-4135](#) provides that a county may, with the concurrence of the Director in accordance with criteria adopted by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, elect to assume responsibility for the wildland fire protection of SRA and that the Director may enter into a contract, with the approval of the State Department of General Services, with requesting county for necessary protection. PRC §4132 directs that funding to those counties be at least equal to the direct cost of fire protection which is determined pursuant to PRC §4130. Costs shall include the salaries and benefits for personnel assigned to fire prevention, dispatch, ground attack, and pre-fire management, general operating expenses, equipment, capital outlay, special repairs, and contract administration.

The counties of Marin, Kern, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, and Orange have assumed this responsibility and are collectively referred to as “Contract Counties.” These counties provide wildland fire protection to 3.4 million acres of unincorporated land within each county that is classified as SRA.

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