

**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA**  
**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**  
 A Division of the Fresno County Department of Public Health

Manual	Emergency Medical Services Administrative Policies and Procedures	Policy Number 202  Page 1 of 7
Subject	Authorization of Ambulance Provider Agencies in Madera County	
References	California Vehicle Code; Madera County Ambulance Ordinance and Resolutions; Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations; and Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations	Effective 06/14/2005

I. POLICY

Ambulance Provider Agencies operating within Madera County will be authorized by the EMS Agency and Madera County for their appropriate level of service in accordance with established policy and procedures.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. Ambulance Dispatch Center - The Fresno County EMS Communications Center is the dispatch center authorized by the EMS Agency to provide ambulance dispatch services for Madera County.
- B. Ambulance Provider Agency/Provider Agency - A private or public organization, or entity, or individual utilizing any ground, water, or air vehicle specifically designed, constructed, modified, equipped, arranged, maintained, operated, used or staffed, including vehicles specifically licensed or operated pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 2416, for the purpose of transporting sick, injured, invalid, convalescent, infirm, or otherwise incapacitated persons and which has met all license and other requirements in applicable Federal, State, and local law and regulation (Section 51151.1 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and Section 1100.2(a) of Title 13 of the California Code of Regulations).
- C. Ambulance Service Area - A specific geographic area within the County of Madera established by the County and Local EMS Agency.
- D. Ambulance Response Zone - A specific geographic area within the ambulance service area which is designated by the EMS Agency for assignment of primary and back-up ambulance resources.
- E. Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) - An exclusive operating area is an area defined by the County Emergency Medical Services Plan for which the EMS agency, upon the recommendation of the County and pursuant to Division 2.5 of the Health and Safety Code, restricts operations to one or more providers of emergency ambulance service, limited advanced life support services (EMT-II), or advanced life support services (paramedic).
- F. Exclusive Operating Area Provider (EOA Provider) – The ambulance provider contracted for the provision of emergency ambulance and advanced life support (paramedic) ambulance services for a designated exclusive operating area.

Approved By EMS Division Manager	DANIEL J. LYNCH (Signature on File at EMS Agency)	Revision  01/06/2017
EMS Medical Director	JIM ANDREWS, M.D. (Signature on File at EMS Agency)	

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- G. Non-Exclusive Operating Area (Non-EOA) - A non-exclusive operating area is an area defined by the County Emergency Medical Services Plan for which the EMS agency does not restrict operations to one or more providers of emergency ambulance service or advanced life support services (paramedic) ambulance service.

### III. PROCEDURE

#### A. Exclusive Operating Area

Madera County – Mountain Exclusive Operating Area – The Madera County – Mountain Exclusive operating area includes the communities of Oakhurst, Ahwahnee, Coarsegold, North Fork, Bass Lake, O’Neals and borders the County of Mariposa on the north-west, the County of Fresno on the east, and the Madera Valley non-exclusive area on the south. The geographic area of the exclusive operating area is described in Attachment A-1 and A-2 of this policy.

#### B. Non-Exclusive Operating Areas

The following areas of Madera County are non-exclusive (Attachment B):

- Madera Area Ambulance Zone – includes the City of Madera and the communities of Madera/Bonadelle Ranchos, Rolling Hills, Eastside Acres, Raymond, and the unincorporated areas surrounding these communities. It borders the County of Fresno on the south and east, the Madera County – Chowchilla Area Ambulance Zone on the North, and the Madera County Mountain Exclusive Operating area on the northeast;
- Chowchilla Area Ambulance Zone – is located in the northwestern Madera County and includes the City of Chowchilla, the communities of Fairmead, Dairyland, and the unincorporated areas surrounding these communities. It borders the Madera Area Ambulance Zone on the south, the County of Merced on the west, and the Madera County – Mountain Exclusive Operating area on the north;

#### C. First Responder Services

The County and EMS Agency reserve the right to allow providers, other than the exclusive and non-exclusive providers, to operate enhanced first responder services for 911 responses, including, but not limited to, advanced life support (paramedic), advanced EMT, or BLS-defibrillation first responder services, within Madera County.

#### D. Air Ambulance / Air Rescue Services

The County and EMS Agency reserve the right to allow providers, other than the exclusive and non-exclusive providers, to operate advanced life support air ambulance and/or air rescue services within Madera County. This includes flights and air transportation within Madera County from air providers responding from outside of Madera County. Unless the air ambulance/air rescue provider is based within Madera County, no agreement or licensure is required. Dispatch for helicopter air ambulance/air rescue services shall be provided consistent with EMS Agency Policies and Procedures.

#### E. Non-Emergency Transports

The County or EMS Agency do not restrict the provision of non-emergency transportation services in Madera County (including the EOA) that may be provided by entities other than an emergency ambulance service and which do not require vehicles equipped with emergency lights and siren pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 2416, including, but not limited to, services provided by *wheel chair* or *litter van* services. However, providers using ambulance type vehicles for non-emergency medical transportation must remove and/or cover their light-bar and emergency lights if operating within Madera County.

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F. Ambulance Dispatch Center – The designated county-wide and centralized ambulance dispatch center for Madera County is the Fresno County EMS Communications Center. All ambulances in Madera County shall receive the primary dispatch of medical incidents from the Fresno County EMS Communications Center.

G. Limited Exceptions to the Ambulance Service Areas (including EOA)

Services provided to Ambulance Service Areas (including EOAs) shall encompass the operation of all ground emergency ambulance services and advanced life support (paramedic) ground ambulance services with the following exceptions:

1. Disaster Assistance - Ambulances providing assistance at the County's request during disaster incidents may operate within the EOA.
2. Instant Aid/Mutual Aid - The provision of ambulance services pursuant to and requested in accordance with EMS Agency Policies and Procedures and/or under formal instant aid and mutual aid agreements between the ambulance provider and a third party that has been reviewed and approved by the EMS Agency, shall be an exception to the service area.
3. Contracted Specialty Care Units - Ambulance services providing specialty interfacility care and transportation (e.g., neonatal/pediatric transport or critical care transport) utilizing a registered nurse and/or physician staffing, may utilize ambulance vehicles equipped with red emergency warning light and siren only for interfacility transports. Such vehicles and personnel may not be utilized for prehospital responses and such units may not be staffed by paramedics in the place of registered nurses and/or physicians. This includes neonatal and pediatric transport services under contract to Children's Hospital Central California.
4. Veteran's Administration (VA) Contract Ambulance Services - Ambulance services operating pursuant to a federal contract for direct purchase of ambulance services for the Veteran's Administration shall be exempt from the EOA solely for the purpose of servicing that contract.
5. Federally Operated Ambulances - Ambulance services, provided either by an agency of the federal government or a person or entity pursuant to a contract with such agency shall be exempt from the EOA solely for the purpose of services to that federal facility/agency. Such exception shall not extend to ambulance services provided to the general public except when such members of the public are at such federal facility.
6. State Operated and Contracted Ambulances - Ambulance services, provided either by an agency of the state government or a person or entity pursuant to a contract with such agency shall be an exception from the ambulance service area solely for the purpose of services to that state facility/agency. Such exception shall not extend to ambulance services provided to the general public except when such members of the public are at such state facility.

Note: For the purposes of this policy and the exclusive operating areas, Medicare and Medicaid (Medi-Cal) authorizations or other arrangements for reimbursement for services shall be considered a reimbursement arrangement - not a federal or state contract for direct purchase of ambulance services.

H. Ambulance Service Areas

Ambulance service area boundaries, as established by the County and Local EMS Agency Policies and Procedures, shall be used in determining the dispatching of ambulances within Madera County. These ambulance service area boundaries include the exclusive operating area and non-exclusive operating areas within Madera County (see Attachment A-1 and B). Ambulance response zones within these ambulance service areas have been designated by the EMS Agency through EMS Policy which defines the geographic

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areas for data collection and identification of the primary ambulance unit and any applicable back-up ambulance units.

I. Approved Ambulance Provider Agencies

1. Madera County – Mountain - The EMS Agency, in conjunction with Madera County, has designated a single provider agency – Sierra Ambulance Service -- for the provision of emergency ambulance services within the Madera County exclusive operating area designated by the EMS Agency pursuant to the EMS Plan. Therefore, no other ground ambulance provider agencies will be designated for services which are within the geographic area and scope of the exclusive operating area (Attachment A-1 and A-2).
2. Non-Exclusive Ambulance Providers - The EMS Agency, in conjunction with Madera County has designated the following non-exclusive providers for the provision of emergency ground ambulance services within Madera County (Attachment B):

<u>Ambulance Zone</u>	<u>Provider</u>
Madera Area Ambulance Zone	Pistoresi Ambulance Service of Madera, Inc
Chowchilla Area Ambulance Zone	Pistoresi Ambulance Service, Inc

3. Anyone desiring to provide ground or air ambulance service within a particular service area shall comply with all relevant sections of the Madera County Ambulance Ordinance and Resolutions and obtain an ambulance provider agreement with the local EMS Agency (unless the air ambulance/air rescue provider is responding from outside of Madera County, in which case the provider is exempt from the agreement requirement in accordance with Section III.D.). As applicable, such services would be for non-exclusive operating areas within the County of Madera or for services which are outside the scope of the exclusive operating area.
4. Ambulance operations within Madera County shall be conducted in strict accordance with the, all applicable Federal, State, and local codes and regulations including the provisions of the California Health and Safety Code, Title 13 and Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, the California Vehicle Code, local municipal and county codes and regulations, including Madera County Ambulance Provider Agreements and local EMS Agency policies and procedures.
5. The local EMS Agency shall be notified in writing no less than sixty (60) days prior to an ambulance provider agency changing their level of service (i.e., ALS to BLS), or of their intent to discontinue providing ambulance service within a service area(s).



## EXHIBIT A-2

### Description of Mountain Exclusive Operating Area

The Mountain Exclusive Operating Area is defined as the North Eastern portion of Madera County, which includes all jurisdiction and geographical locations within Madera County. The Mountain Exclusive Operating Area extends south-west to the boundary line separating the Mountain Exclusive Operating Area from the valley response area, which is a non-exclusive area. The south-western boundary line of the Mountain Exclusive Operating Area is described as follows:

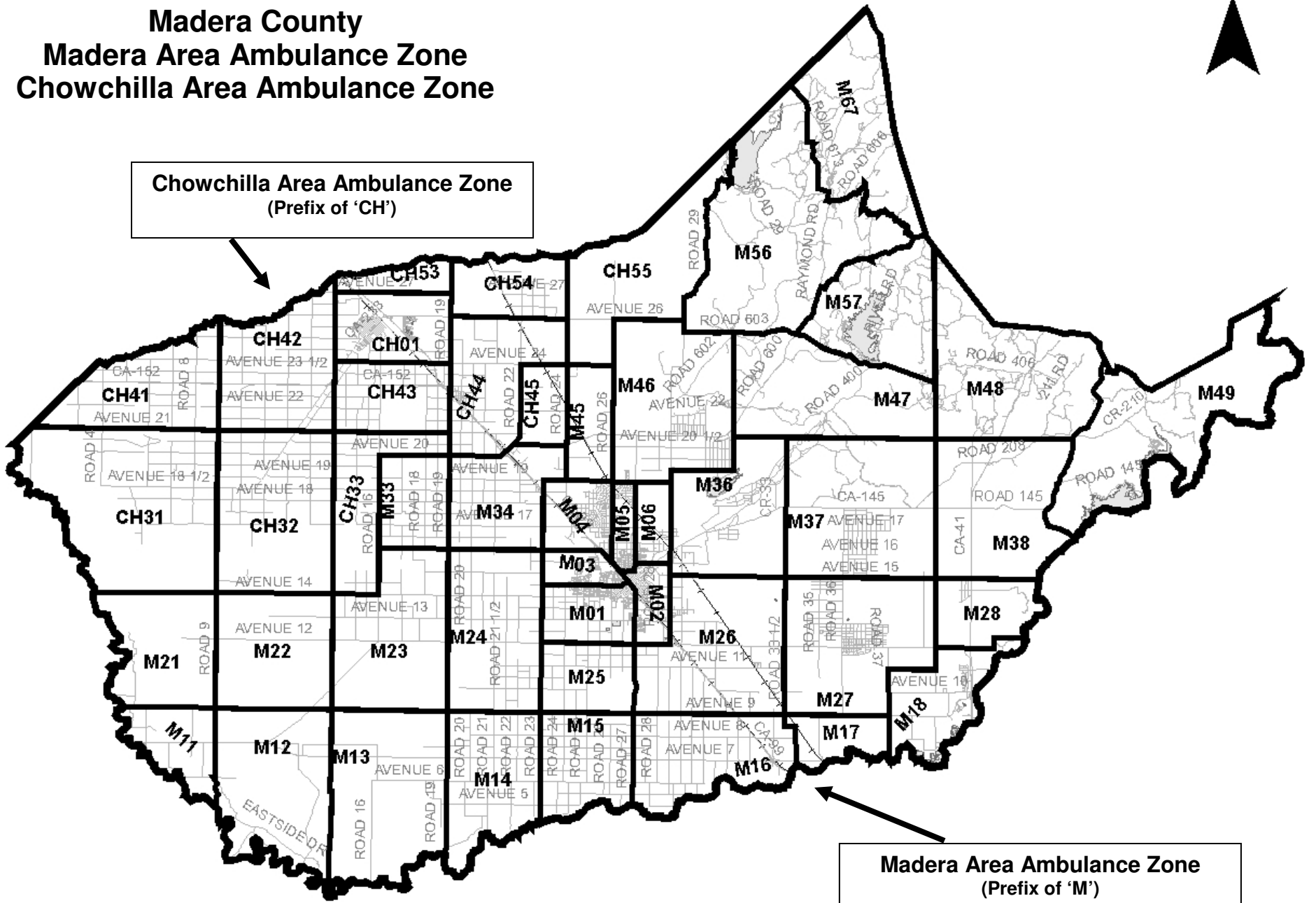
A line that begins at the intersection of Road 820 and the Madera/Mariposa border line and continues southeasterly along the west edge of Road 820 to the intersection of Road 820 and Road 800. The line continues in a straight line from Road 820 and Road 800 to just above of the intersection of Road 415 and Road 606. The intersection of Road 415 and Road 606 is in the Valley response area. The boundary line continues in a straight line from Road 415 just above Road 606 to the intersection of Road 400 and Lilly Mountain Road. It then continues in a straight line to Red Top Mountain Lookout. The boundary line then continues in a straight line to the intersection of Highway 41 and Road 200. The intersection of Highway 41 and Road 200 is in the Mountain Exclusive Operating Area response area. The boundary line continues east along Road 200 to Road 211. The line follows Road 211 to Road 210. At the intersection of Road 210 and the Willow Creek over cross, the boundary line continues along the Willow Creek waterbed until the creek reaches Road 210. All of Road 210 is included in the Mountain Exclusive Operating Area. The boundary line continues from Road 210 and Willow Creek in a straight line to the San Joaquin River (Fresno/Madera County border).

# ATTACHMENT B

## Madera County Madera Area Ambulance Zone Chowchilla Area Ambulance Zone



Chowchilla Area Ambulance Zone  
(Prefix of 'CH')



Madera Area Ambulance Zone  
(Prefix of 'M')