

*Wildcat Canyon*

# WILDCAT CANYON WC011-001 - IVY COURT/CAMP HERMES FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

## SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

This site is within a five acre bay and oak woodland grove on a steep slope below homes and adjacent to the Wildcat Canyon Regional Park, located in the city of El Cerrito. Access is from Ivy Court through the right-of-way entrance at the end of the court.

## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GOALS:

Emerging and established oak woodland with ferns, oak litter, no understory shrubs, patches of north coastal shrub

## FUELS MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:

Maintain this unit so as to generate a flame length of 8 feet or less and to reduce the potential for crowning and sustained crown fire under 97<sup>th</sup> percentile weather conditions. Create and maintain vertical and horizontal discontinuity in the fuel bed. Encourage and expand the mosaic of vegetation types and age classes. Reduce ladder fuels through pruning and selective thinning. Maintain fuel accumulations on the forest floor to acceptable levels.

## RESOURCE OBJECTIVES AND CONSIDERATIONS: RESOURCE OBJECTIVES AND CONSIDERATIONS:

- Conduct all initial work during the period from July 31<sup>st</sup> to Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> to avoid disturbance to nesting raptors and song birds, as recommended by the District's biologist. If work will occur during nesting season, Stewardship will conduct a pre-work nesting survey within 15-days of work beginning and flag any buffer sites around identified nests.
- Conduct surveys and treatment activities in a manner that will minimize potential adverse effects to Alameda whipsnakes. At rocky outcrops, or within grasslands, work may occur between Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>. If work occurs outside this window, a biological monitor must be present for all activities on site.
- Conduct surveys and treatment activities in oak and bay habitat to identify and avoid dusky-footed woodrat nests. Any nest will have a buffer zone described by the current protocol developed by Stewardship.
- Install erosion control measures if needed in areas where duff has been removed.

## FUELS TREATMENT PRESCRIPTION:

### Maintenance Treatment

Early Spring--Hand labor techniques including weed whipping used annually after grasses have dried or cured so that the grass does not grow back. This technique reduces the height of the fuel, but does not create areas of bare soil, as vegetation is not completely removed. Use chainsaws to cut and remove brush and ladder fuels. Branches and material cut from brush can then be further broken into compact brush piles. Pile burning will be done in selected areas deemed safe and downwind from structures. Use hand tools to clear a fire control line around the piles edges and cut

a shallow trench at the base of the burn pile to catch any burned material that would inadvertently roll down slope. After burning is accomplished, the soils under the piles would be slightly cultivated to break up the soil and mix in nutrients. A burn notice would be provided to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and burns would only take place on designated "Burn Days".

Follow-up/Maintenance

YEAR	FUELS TREATMENT
01	Weed whipping annual grasses, remove ladder fuels, burn piles
02	Weed whipping annual grasses, remove ladder fuels, burn piles
03	Weed whipping annual grasses, remove ladder fuels, burn piles
04	Weed whipping annual grasses, reduce fuel height
05	Weed whipping annual grasses, reduce fuel height
06	Weed whipping annual grasses, reduce fuel height
07-30	Weed whipping annual grasses, reduce fuel height

**MONITORING:**

Staff from the District's Fire Department, Planning/Stewardship, and Operations will evaluate the success and efficacy of the fuels treatments. Document monitoring results.

**PRESCRIPTION PREPARED BY:**

Brian Cordeiro  
Fire Captain, EBRPD

Brian M. Cordeiro  
Signature

MAY 16, 2012  
Date

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL:**

This prescription meets the District's standards for fuels management, natural resource protection and achievement of Best Management Practices according to the Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan and is consistent with the mitigation measures contained in the EIR:

John R. Swanson May 16, 2012  
for Fire Chief, EBRPD

[Signature]  
Signature

05.30.2012  
Date

Neal Fujita  
Stewardship Manager, EBRPD  
NEAL FUJITA

Neal Fujita  
Signature

5/18/12  
Date



Wildcat Canyon WC011-001 - Ivy Court/Camp Hermes  
Fuels Management Prescription Map

