

## EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT



### GRANTS DEPARTMENT

#### Memo

**DATE:** June 17, 2015  
**TO:** Executive Committee  
**FROM:** Jeff Rasmussen  
**SUBJECT:** Fuels Management Grants

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The Grants Department is working on a number of grant funding sources for initial entry treatment, maintenance and crews.

**INITIAL ENTRY** -The District has been awarded two grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for initial entry. In early 2015, FEMA released the Record of Decision authorizing the grants shown below for fuels management initial entry. In March 2015, all the agencies were sued in federal court over the grants. The District may conduct the fuel management work subject to the grant funds while the litigation is pending unless plaintiff seeks and the court grants an injunction prohibiting the release or use of the funds. It is expected that no work on the ground will occur prior to resolution of the litigation in the Federal District Court.

- \$2,400,159 for environmental compliance and thinning approximately 540 acres of brushland, plus a possible additional \$1,900,000 from FEMA for environmental requirements of brushland thinning.
- \$351,510 in partnership with the City of Oakland for the treatment of eucalyptus at Grizzly Peak, Claremont Canyon Stonewall and Sibley Island.

**MAINTENANCE** – The District has been awarded a number of grants through the Diablo Fire Safe Council and the California Fire Safe Council for maintenance of existing fuels management areas. As these are federal funds, this funding is tied to the completion of the FEMA environmental review process.

- ~~\$425,000 for maintenance of areas treated by FEMA in 2003 and 2006. (Grant lost due to delay in FEMA environmental clearance.)~~
- ~~\$118,720 for maintenance of treated areas in Anthony Chabot and Leona Canyon. (Grant to be revoked due to delay in FEMA environmental clearance.)~~
- \$144,600 for maintenance of treated areas in Wildcat Canyon and Tilden (Grant may be revoked due to delay in FEMA environmental clearance.)
- \$204,000 for goat grazing in State Responsibility Areas of Sibley, Redwood, Lake Chabot and Anthony Chabot.
- \$50,000 from P, G & E through the Diablo Fire Safe Council to hire two youth crews from the Student Conservation Association.

**CAP & TRADE** – Over the past year, the governor has created a number of fuels management grants aimed at the carbon sequestration under the Cap and Trade program. The District has made a number of application for fuels management projects and has been invited to the second round in the grant award process. Grants approved to move forward in the process include:

- \$261,000 progressive thinning of 4.5-acres of eucalyptus in Redwood.
- \$227,000 goat grazing for areas in the East Bay Hills outside the State Responsibility Area.

**FUTURE** – Given FEMA's investment in environmental clearance for EBRPD's fuels plan, the District may be able to apply for a series of grants totaling \$9 million to complete the fuels plan as EBRPD's capacity to annual maintenance allows. Future maintenance grants opportunities totaling approximately \$300,000 per year include partnerships with the Calfire, Fire Safe Councils and Conservation Corps.