

Fuels Treatment Overview

Recommended Treatment Area CC001

Claremont Canyon Regional Preserve

Background: In 2010, the East Bay Regional Park District’s Board of Directors approved the *Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan* (“Plan”) and the accompanying CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) document which covers hill and shoreline parklands from Richmond to Castro Valley within the Measure CC (Measure FF) funded area. The approved Plan is an integral component of the Park District’s Safe and Healthy Forests initiative for wildfire protection. This project is within Recommended Treatment Area (RTA) CC001 of the Plan.

Why: The purpose of this project is to establish a zone of natural habitat that is resistant to wildfires, more accessible for firefighters, and less fire-prone. Hazardous wildland vegetation will be reduced in the wildland-urban interface. Healthy native oak and bay trees will be preserved where feasible. Specifically, thick brush including invasive French broom and dead woody material, and lower branches of trees will be cut back from the area immediately behind homes with chainsaws and cleared with a small brush mower. Some material will be stacked into 4 ft x 4 ft burn piles which will be safely burned during the rainy season. Pile burning is a cost-effective low-impact way to dispose of woody biomass and cycle nutrients back into the soil, especially where chippers and large equipment cannot access. Burning takes place in the winter when surrounding vegetation is wet and green and therefore cannot ignite, and on days when atmospheric conditions allow smoke to rise up and disperse away from populated areas. The work is prescribed by FEMA and fully permitted by State and Federal environmental regulatory agencies. Homeowners should continue to clear vegetation on their own property and take appropriate measures to protect their homes against wildfire.

Who: The Park District’s Fire Department is managing and performing the project. Various crews and equipment will be performing the initial work and ongoing maintenance. Fire engines and trucks will be present during crew work and pile burning. The Park District’s Stewardship Department and consulting biologists will be closely monitoring to ensure appropriate resource protection. The Park District’s survey department may be surveying and marking some of the property boundaries to help us make sure we perform work on District lands.

When: The Park District Fire Department’s Diablo Crew, our fuels management and firefighting hand crew, will be performing the brush mowing and chainsaw work for this project starting late September through mid-October. Piles will be burned during the rainy season on permitted Open Burning Days when the forecasted SW winds will transport any smoke uphill and away from populated areas. The Park District will minimize the impact to park users by restricting work hours to weekdays (7:30 am to 5 pm). Equipment and crews will be operating during the project.

Additional Information: More information about the Park District’s Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan and specific maps and reports can be found at: <https://www.ebparks.org/resource-management/wildfire-resilience>

Updates to the current fuels management projects can be found by scrolling down the appropriate Recommended Treatment Area at: <https://www.ebparks.org/public-safety/fire/fuels-management/update>

Site Map:

cc001 Diablo Crew 2023

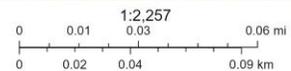


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EBRPD Parklands Merged

RTA Labels (38,400)

RTAs



EBRPD



Well built piles consume with minimal smoke production in about 4 hours. Crews remain on scene until all piles are completely extinguished.

