

# **ANTHONY CHABOT – AC001**

## **FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION**

### **SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:**

This site occupies 9.6 acres north of Skyline Ranch Equestrian Center on Redwood Road. It is primarily oak–bay woodland with occasional eucalyptus and non-native conifers mixed with annual grasslands. This site is at the base of a steep slope below homes on Bell Waver Way & Blythen Way.

### **VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GOALS:**

Oak woodland with herbaceous understory, patches of shrubs, occasional eucalyptus trees and pines.

### **FUELS MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:**

1. Improve fire protection capability adjacent to private land.
2. Ensure State Defensible Space requirements are adhered to around District owned structures through administration of the Concessionaire Special Use Permit.
3. Reduce ladder fuels and the potential for crown fires and ember dissemination.
4. Reduce potential for flame lengths of greater than 8 feet.

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

- Conduct all initial treatment 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 Stewardship staff. If work is proposed during nesting season, Stewardship will conduct a pre-work nesting survey within 15-days of performance of work and flag a reasonable buffer around identified nest sites. Some areas within the RTA may have prohibited entry until after nesting season based on the results of the Stewardship surveys.
- Within potential and occupied Alameda Whipsnake habitat, as determined by pre-assessment surveys, conduct treatment activities in a manner that will minimize adverse effects to Alameda Whipsnakes and their habitat. Within brushlands or brushland/grassland habitats, 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. Some areas within the RTA may have prohibited entry based on the results of the Stewardship assessments.
- Conduct surveys in oak and bay habitat to identify and avoid Dusky-Footed Woodrat nests. Any nest identified will be protected by a reasonable buffer described in the protocol developed by Stewardship.
- Retain roughly 30% to 50% of shrub cover in islands through mosaic thinning or patch retention thinning. Clumps should be in natural appearance and include specimens of variable age classes.

## **FUELS TREATMENT PRESCRIPTION:**

### Initial Treatment

- Remove all eucalyptus trees along Redwood Rd. less than 12" (diameter breast height) dbh not to exceed a residual spacing of 20-25 feet between trees. Eucalyptus may be chipped and left on site or hauled away. All residual trees will be limbed up to 8 feet from the forest floor, and surface and ladder fuels removed including live tree branches, brush under the tree canopies, dead and downed materials. Work includes:
  - Thinning out brush such as poison oak, coyote brush.
  - Herbicide applications during initial treatment and as necessary during annual maintenance to treat re-sprouts.
  - Material may be chipped and left to a depth not to exceed 4 inches or placed in piles for burning.
- In Grassland areas use hand labor techniques or goat grazing after grasses have cured or dried, reducing the height of the stubble to 6" - 8".
- Install erosion control measures if needed in areas where vegetation has been removed or disturbed to protect water courses (streams, drainages, springs, wetlands) and to prevent sloughing of slopes during rainfall events.

Skyline Ranch Equestrian Center Concessionaire is part of this RTA (Recommended Treatment Area). Fuels management in this area will be coordinated with the concessionaire.

Follow-up/Maintenance (Note: if initial treatment is spread over more than one year, adjust the maintenance schedule as needed to accommodate.)

YEAR	FUELS TREATMENT
01	Initial Treatment.
02-04	Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
05	Repeat initial treatment as needed. Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
06-09	Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
10	Repeat initial treatment as needed. Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
11-14	Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
15	Repeat initial treatment as needed. Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
16-19	Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
20	Repeat initial treatment as needed. Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
21-24	Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
25	Repeat initial treatment as needed. Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
26-29	Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.
30	Repeat initial treatment as needed. Use weed eating/mowing/grazing/herbicides to maintain grass and low shrub fuel loads.

**MONITORING:**

Staff from the District's Fire Department, Planning/Stewardship, and Operations will evaluate the success and efficacy of the initial and follow-up fuels treatments. Monitoring results will be documented.

**PRESCRIPTION PREPARED BY:**

Aileen Theile  
Fire Captain, EBRPD

*Aileen Theile*  
Signature

7/18/2012  
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:

*for* JOHN R. SWANSON  
Fire Chief, EBRPD

*JS* 07-18-2012

*[Signature]*  
Signature

08-08-2012  
Date

NEAL FUJITA  
Stewardship Manager, EBRPD

*[Signature]*  
Signature

8/7/12  
Date

