

FUELS TREATMENT OVERVIEW RECOMMENDED TREATMENT AREA ACO03 ANTHONY CHABOT REGIONAL PARK

Background: In 2010, the East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) 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 covers Recommended Treatment Area (RTA) ACO03.

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. Trees and other vegetation will be thinned out or removed throughout the project on Park District property with a focus on dead or diseased trees, ladder fuels that could carry fire into the canopy, and heavy surface fuel accumulations that could pose a threat to neighboring Skyline Highschool. In the event of a future fire, this project will reduce fire intensity in the wildland urban interface. Healthy, larger, established native oak and bay trees will be preserved and pruned. Some of the logs and branches will be chipped or masticated onsite, some will be completely removed, and some material will be left in piles to be burned during the rainy season, either in conservation burn piles (CBP), or in a flame-capped kiln (FK). CBP and FK methodology is used to reduce emissions and to sequester carbon dioxide through the production of biochar, which can be spread on-site, or harvested for use elsewhere. 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 the project. Various crews and contractors will be performing the initial work and ongoing maintenance. Contractors may be using heavy equipment and chippers. 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: Work will start in spring of 2024 and continue through the year. Hand crews from EBRPD, Civicorps, California Conservation Corps and tree contractors will begin brush and hazard tree removal in late May and continue working during the summer. Crews will return in the rainy season to complete the CBP and FK work. The Park District and its contractors will be coordinating with Skyline Highschool throughout the project to ensure safety and minimize impacts to the school. 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-managment/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 Maps:





Well built piles consume with minimal smoke production in about 4 hours. Crews remain on scene until all piles are completely extinguished. Use of Conservation Burn Piles and/or Flame Capped Kilns produces biochar which sequesters CO₂, mitigating climate change while producing a valuable soil amendment.