

TILDEN PARK – TI001

FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

This 29 acre RTA (Recommended Treatment Area) within Tilden Park includes 16 acres of eucalyptus forest and 13 acres of mixed oaks, bays, grassland, and shrubland. Nimitz Way, a frequently used paved ridgeline trail and emergency access route, passes through some of the densest eucalyptus in the RTA. In 2011, staff created a half-acre shaded fuel break within the eucalyptus along Nimitz Way. Maintenance should continue in this area to reduce eucalyptus sucker growth.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GOAL:

Thinned eucalyptus, annual grassland, oak-bay woodland, north coastal scrub, pallid manzanita.
(from the Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan).

FUELS MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:

- 1 - Reduce fuel volume and the intensity of wildland fires along Nimitz Way, Wildcat Peak Trail, and near the Berkeley Rotary Peace Grove.
- 2 - Reduce surface and ladder fuels and the potential for crown fires and ember dissemination.
- 3 - Maintain, enhance, and expand existing fuel break area.

Current Condition	Desired Condition
	

FUELS TREATMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Initial Treatment: Throughout the site: reduce fuel volume and intensity of wildland fires by reducing ladder fuels, surface fuels, and dense understory. Focus on areas closest to fire roads and trails. Specific fuels management includes the following:

- Remove surface fuels, such as: down logs/limbs, eucalyptus leaf litter, old “jackpot” piles of cut logs and branches.

- Reduce ladder fuels, such as: decadent brush, low hanging limbs of all tree species (including oaks and bays), accumulated eucalyptus stringy bark, small trees, eucalyptus stump suckers and seedlings, and blackberry.
- Cut old stumps to ground level.
- Remove eucalyptus trees that are multi-stemmed or contributing significantly to the forest litter.
- Remove young acacia, eucalyptus, and pine to help prevent stand regeneration.
- Thin eucalyptus and pine stands throughout the site to help minimize the potential for crown fires.
- Reduce brush stands by at least one-third in critical areas.
- Treat all eucalyptus and acacia stumps with herbicide as recommended by the District's Integrated Pest Manager to reduce future sucker growth.
- Material may be removed, chipped/mulched, or piled and burned. Chips and mulch layers should not exceed 2 inch depth. Broadcast or pile burning may be used to reduce surface fuels or brush.
- All trees to be cut will have a maximum 4" stump height.
- Maintain sufficient health of retained trees by limbing up no more than the lower third of the crown.
- Remove dead and dying trees or trees structurally unsound. Though not necessarily posing a significant fuels problem, risk trees should be assessed by park staff and treated appropriately through the District's hazardous tree program.
- Areas where brush has been removed may be treated with herbicides to discourage regrowth as recommended by the District's Integrated Pest Manager.

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: As described above, reduce surface and ladder fuel loads, thin eucalyptus and pine stands, reduce brush, etc.
02-30	Continue periodic ladder and surface fuel reduction as needed in areas where initial treatment has occurred. Retreat eucalyptus or acacia stumps with herbicide to minimize sucker growth. In areas where brush has been removed, treat with herbicides to discourage regrowth.

RESOURCE OBJECTIVES AND CONSIDERATIONS:

- Conduct all initial work during the period from September 1 to January 31 to avoid disturbance to nesting raptors and song birds, as required by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. If work will occur during nesting season (February 1 to August 31), Stewardship or its contracted biologists will conduct a pre-work nesting survey within 15 days of work beginning and flag any buffer zones around identified nests.
- 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 as described by the current protocol developed by Stewardship.
- Install erosion control measures if needed in areas where duff has been removed.

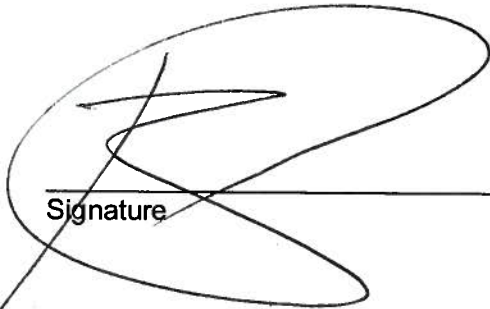
- In areas where Pallid Manzanita may be found as per the WHRRMP: before work begins, a qualified botanist will survey the treatment area for the presence of Pallid Manzanita. If PM is found, it will be flagged and procedures from the Conservation Measures (BO) as well as the Pallid Manzanita Management Plan will be followed.
- When working in shrublands, retain roughly 30% to 50% of shrub cover in islands through mosaic thinning or patch retention thinning. "Islands" are to be approximately 50' diameter and spaced 50 feet apart. Islands should be in natural appearance and include specimens of variable age classes.

MONITORING:

Resource monitoring results will be documented by Stewardship staff in the post-work survey data sheet.

PRESCRIPTION PREPARED BY:

Brad Galley
Fire Representative, EBRPD


Signature

5/11/16
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:

 DAN MCCORMICK
Fire Chief, EBRPD


Signature

5/16/16
Date

MATTHEW GRAUL
Chief of Stewardship, EBRPD

Matthew Graul
Signature

5/16/16
Date

N
1 inch = 205 feet

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
WHA-T1001

RTA
EBRPD

