

LAKE CHABOT – LC009

FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

This 28 acre area includes two significant vegetation types: grasslands around EBRPD's Public Safety and South County Corporation Yards and oak/bay woodlands adjacent to homes on Arcadian Drive and Briery Court in Castro Valley.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GOALS:

Grassland, oak-bay woodlands.

FUELS MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:

1. Create space between trees and thin the understory to reduce the intensity of wildland fires and create a fuel break.
2. Reduce ladder fuels and the potential for crown fires and ember dissemination.
3. Meet the state law requirements for creating defensible space around District buildings.
4. Reduce potential for flame lengths of greater than 8 feet in grassland portion of unit.

RESOURCE OBJECTIVES AND CONSIDERATIONS:

- Conduct all initial treatment during the period from July 31st to Jan. 31st 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. 31st and April 1st. 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.
- 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.
- Retain roughly 30% shrub cover in patches in brush habitat, thereby developing a connected mosaic of brush and grassland habitat. Maintaining vertical and horizontal discontinuity.

FUELS TREATMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Initial Treatment

- With the exception of select oaks and bays retained for recruitment, oak trees with DBH less than 8 inches and bay trees with DBH less than 12 inches will be removed creating spacing between trees and allowing healthy mature trees to flourish.
- Surface and ladder fuels will be removed up to approximately 8 feet from the forest floor, including brush under the tree canopies, and live tree branches.
Work includes:
 - Thinning out brush such as poison oak, coyote brush, and blackberry.
 - Herbicide applications will not be required during the initial treatment, but may be necessary during annual maintenance to treat re-sprouts.
 - Material may be chipped and left to a depth not to exceed 4 inches.
- In Grassland areas use techniques including weed eating, goat grazing, or mowing annually after grasses have cured or dried, reducing the height of the stubble to 6" - 8".
- Brush will be cut and removed or placed in piles for burning.

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


Signature

6/13/2012
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:

John R. Swanson
Fire Chief, EBRPD

JRS 6/13/2012


Signature

6/19/2012
Date

NEAL FUJITA
Stewardship Manager, EBRPD


Signature

6/15/12
Date

