

## **Sobrante Ridge, Coach Dr Fuel Reduction Project FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION**

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

This site is within a five acre bay and oak woodland grove on a steep slope below homes and adjacent to the Sobrante Ridge Regional Park. Access is located on Coach Dr through the Staging Area Park entrance gate. *This work will occur within portions of Recommended Treatment Area SO-002.*

### **VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GOALS:**

Reduce ladder fuels behind homes located on Coach Dr adjacent to Sobrante Ridge.

### **FUELS MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:**

- 1 - Reduce fuel volume in the area behind homes to reduce the intensity of wildland fires and to enhance the existing fuel break.
- 2 - Thin the understory and reduce ground surface fuels to help reduce the potential for crown fires and ember dissemination.

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

- Conduct all initial work 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 biologist. If work will occur during nesting season, Stewardship will conduct a pre-work nesting survey within 15-days of work beginning and flag any buffer sites around identified nests.
- Conduct surveys and treatment activities in oak and bay habitat to identify and avoid dusky-footed woodrat nests. Any nests will have a buffer zone to be flagged by Stewardship staff prior to beginning work.
- Retain duff and up to 1" of forest litter to reduce soil displacement and invasive plant establishment within the primary treatment areas. Erosion control measures will be applied, if necessary, where duff and 1" of forest litter have been removed during fuels management operations.
- Conduct all operations to avoid unnecessary and unacceptable damage to boles, roots, and crowns of residual trees and vegetation.
- Maintain sufficient health of the retained trees by pruning no more than the lower one-third of the crown.
- Conduct surveys and treatment activities in a manner that will minimize potential adverse effects to Alameda whipsnakes.

### **FUELS TREATMENT PRESCRIPTION:**

#### Initial Treatment

Hand crews will remove selective surface fuels and ladder fuels such as low hanging branches, accumulated dead and down understory litter associated with eucalyptus, pine, bay and oak trees. Selective thinning and removal of understory vegetation is included. Hand crews will remove all cut material and create burn piles. Pile burning will be done in selected areas to be deemed safe and downwind from structures. Hand-held tools would be used to clear surface fuels and create a clearance area around the piles

edges, we will also cut a shallow trench at the base of the burn pile to catch any burned material that would inadvertently roll down slope. After burning is accomplished, the soils under the piles would be slightly cultivated to break up the soil and mix in nutrients and native grass mix. A burn notice would be provided to the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and burns would only take place on designated "Burn Days".

To be burned by Fire Department Staff only. No heavy equipment will be permitted on this site due to a very steep slopes and limited access.

Follow-up/Maintenance

YEAR	FUELS TREATMENT
01	Initial Treatment.
02	Reduce/remove ladder and surface fuels that have accumulated since years 1.
03	Reduce/remove ladder and surface fuels that have accumulated since year 2.
04	Reduce/remove ladder and surface fuels that have accumulated since year 3.
05	Reduce/remove ladder and surface fuels that have accumulated since year 4. thin residual stand to reduce canopy closure
10	Reduce and remove ladder and surface fuels
15	Reduce and remove ladder and surface fuels, thin residual stand to reduce canopy closure.
20	Reduce and remove ladder and surface fuels

**MONITORING:**

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

**PRESCRIPTION PREPARED BY:**

Brian Cordeiro  
 Fire Captain, EBRPD  
 Date 11-22-2010

Brian Cordeiro  
 Signature

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL:** I certify that this prescription meets the District's standards for fuels management, natural resources 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  
 Date 11-20-2010

NEAL FUJITA  
 Stewardship Manager, EBRPD

John R. Swanson 12/07/2010  
 Signature

Neal Fujita 12/3/10  
 Signature

0 125 250 500 750 1,000  
Feet

Fuels WHR Treatment Areas  
Sobrante Ridge SO002 (910)  
Understory Thinning

