

TILDEN TI010 – WILDCAT CANYON ROAD AND CENTRAL PARK DRIVE FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

SITE DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION:

Bounded by Wildcat Canyon Road and Lake Anza Road, this 28 acre site is comprised of predominantly grassland as well as a varied mix of scattered brush, non-native conifers, eucalyptus, oak-bay woodland, redwoods, and landscaping. Central Park Drive bisects the northern half of the RTA. Selby Trail runs through the entire site. Initial treatment brush removal in the north half of the site occurred in 2008. Annual maintenance since 2004 has included goat grazing in the open grasslands and weed-eating along Wildcat Canyon Road.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT GOALS:

Oak-bay woodland, scattered eucalyptus and pine trees, native grassland (from the Wildfire Hazard Reduction and Resource Management Plan).

FUELS MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES:

- 1 - Reduce fuel volume and the intensity of wildland fires by reducing ladder fuels and surface fuels.
- 2 – Continue to maintain previously treated areas to minimize regrowth of eucalyptus, undesired brush, and exotics, using hand labor, herbicides, prescribed pile burning, mowing, and grazing.

FUELS TREATMENT PRESCRIPTION:

Initial Treatment

Throughout the site, reduce fuel volume and the intensity of wildland fires by reducing ladder fuels and surface fuels, with a focus on areas closest to District roads and trails, public roads, and structures. Specific fuels management includes the following:

- Prune up low hanging branches on all trees species up to 8 feet from the forest floor.
- Remove accumulated forest litter and down branches and logs, stringy bark collecting at the base of eucalyptus trees, and artificially created piles of woody debris scattered throughout the site.
- Reduce live brush where fuel ladders up into tree canopies. Exotics such as French broom should be pulled out by the roots wherever feasible.
- Remove live and dead standing non-native conifers and eucalyptus where fuel laddering is significant and to minimize the future spread of these stands. Target smaller diameter trees and retain larger trees to minimize soil disturbance and damage to adjacent desirable bays and oaks during tree felling operations.
- Dispose of cut woody material by piling/burning, chipping on site to a depth not to exceed an average of 3", or removing cut material off site.
- Use herbicide stump treatment on eucalyptus and brush, as recommended by the District's Integrated Pest Manager.
- Use goat grazing, mowing, and weed-eating to reduce flashy fuels.

Hazard Trees

Though not necessarily posing a significant fuels management problem, hazardous trees within this RTA along trails and roads, near structures, or developed park areas should be assessed by park staff and treated appropriately.

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. Reduce flashy fuels in critical areas using a combination of mowing, weedeating, grazing, and herbicides.
02-30	For any stumps where herbicide was applied in the previous year, follow-up with stump sprout herbicide treatment. Continue ladder and surface fuel reduction as needed. Reduce flashy fuels in critical areas using a combination of mowing, weedeating, grazing, and herbicides.

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 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.
- 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.
- 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 described by the current 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.

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:

Brad Gallop
Fire Captain, EBRPD

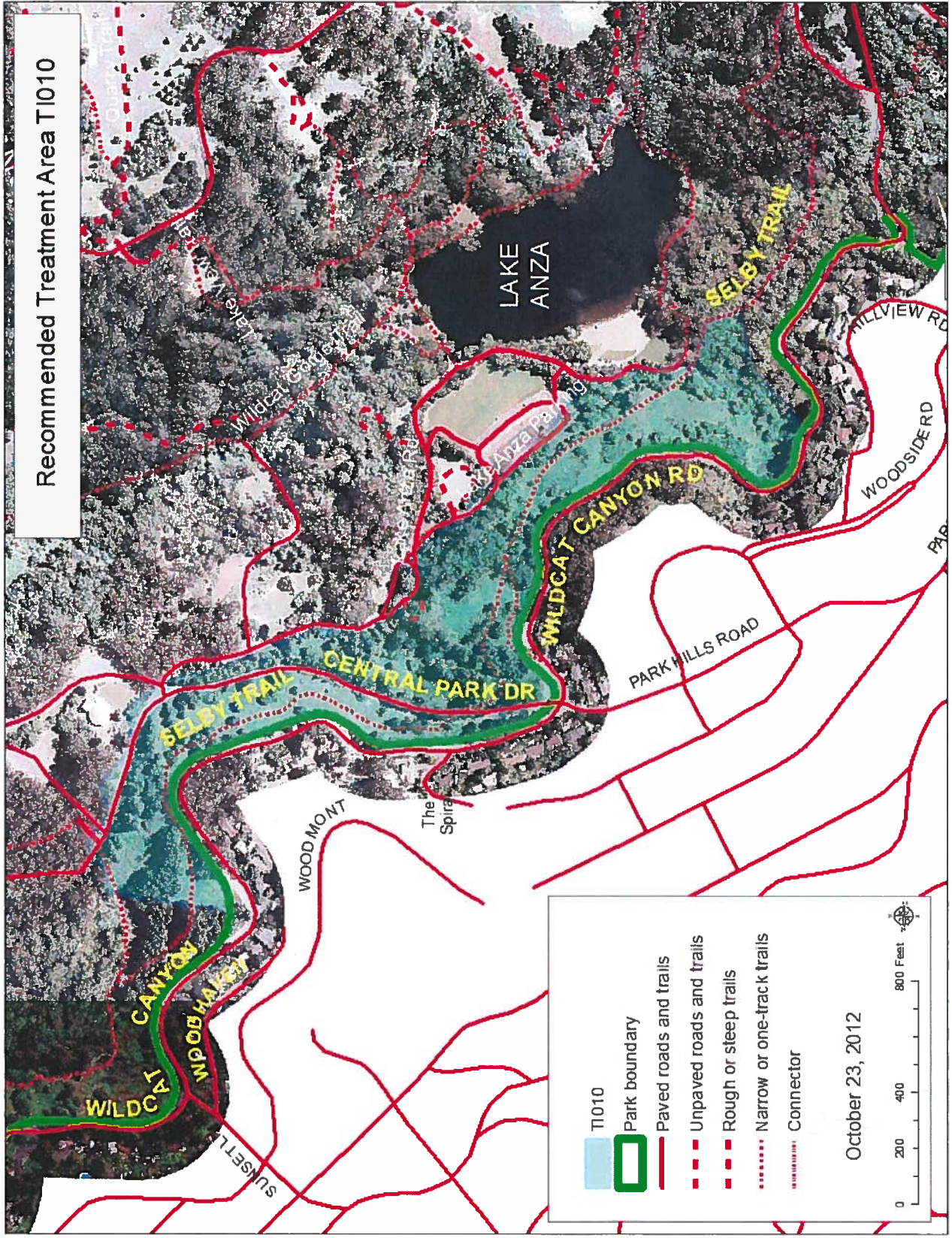
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10/22/12
Date

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:

<u>John R. Swanson</u> Fire Chief, EBRPD	<u>[Signature]</u> Signature	<u>10.31.2012</u> Date
<u>[Signature]</u> Stewardship Manager, EBRPD, <i>Interim</i>	<u>[Signature]</u> Signature	<u>10/26/2012</u> Date



Recommended Treatment Area T1010

T1010

- Park boundary
- Paved roads and trails
- Unpaved roads and trails
- Rough or steep trails
- Narrow or one-track trails
- Connector

October 23, 2012

0 200 400 800 Feet