

**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**DATE:** May 22, 2019

**TO:** Planning Commission

**FROM:** Planning Staff

**SUBJECT:** EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Consideration of a Coastal Development Permit (CDP), pursuant to Section 6328.4 of the Zoning Regulations of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, to allow the removal of Eucalyptus and Monterey pine trees in a 100-acre area of Quarry Park located in unincorporated El Granada, CA to reduce potential fire hazard to the nearby community. The Coastal Development Permit is appealable to the California Coastal Commission. The project has been exempted from CEQA review by order of the Governor.

County File Number: PLN 2019-00173 (CAL FIRE)

**PROPOSAL**

CAL FIRE proposes to remove dead, dying, and diseased (*eucalyptus globulus*) and Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*) within Quarry Park to restore an existing fuel break and reestablish multiple previously created shaded-fuel breaks over a 100-acre area. This fire prevention project is intended to protect the nearby community of El Granada. The applicant proposes to remove primarily small diameter and certain larger diameter trees to protect the adjacent community of El Granada from wildfire.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Planning Commission approve the Coastal Development Permit County File Number PLN 2019-00173, by adopting the required findings and conditions of approval in Attachment A

**SUMMARY**

Per Governor Newsom's Emergency Proclamation, Directive 4, fire protection projects must be expedited and put into effect for communities at risk of fires. The applicant proposes to remove primarily small diameter and certain larger diameter eucalyptus (*eucalyptus globulus*) and Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*) as part of an effort to restore an existing fuel break and reestablish multiple previously created shaded-fuel breaks throughout Quarry Park totaling 100 acres. The primary intention of the project is to thin suppressed understory eucalyptus along existing trails and fire roads within the park

and along its perimeter in order to protect the adjacent community of El Granada, which is primarily made up of single-family residences.

The Quarry Park Eucalyptus stand is heavily impacted by the recent drought in California, and has caught fire several times in the past. The removal of smaller, stunted suppressed understory vegetation and dead and dying vegetation, will primarily be conducted by mastication, and also manual removal. Mastication is a fuel reduction treatment method used in forestry management to reduce wildfire risk, and to reduce fuel loadings by returning the forest to natural conditions. Woodchips generated by mastication will be left to serve as both a mulch and erosion control matting. In areas where terrain restricts access of mechanical equipment, generated debris will be piled and burned. Piling and burning will be conducted on approximately 20 acres of the treatment area and will be located away from any residences and with a maximum pile size of 64 sq. ft. or 200 cubic feet.

The scope of this project will occur solely on County Park Property within the State Responsibility Area (SRA), which are the areas within the state, where the State of California has the primary financial responsibility for the prevention and suppression of wildland fires.

The project has been reviewed for conformance with General Plan and Local Coastal Program and has found to be compliant with the applicable policies. A biological assessment of the park was performed in 2018 and found the potential for San Francisco garter snake, Monarch butterfly, and Allen's Hummingbird within the project area. The Project is consistent with the guidelines of the General Plan through integration of measures to ensure protection of waterways and other sensitive habitats, and protection of rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species. Project specific best management practices (BMP's) have been identified by the California Natural Resources Agency and will be approved by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) upon approval of the CDP.

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**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO  
PLANNING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**DATE:** May 22, 2019

**TO:** Planning Commission

**FROM:** Planning Staff

**SUBJECT:** Consideration of a Coastal Development Permit, pursuant to Section 6328.4 of the Zoning Regulations of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code, to allow the removal of Eucalyptus and Monterey pine trees in a 100-acre area of Quarry Park located in El Granada. Approximately 50% of the stand is dead or dying, and poses a potential hazard to the nearby community. The Coastal Development Permit (CDP) is appealable to the California Coastal Commission.

County File Number: PLN 2019-00173 (CAL FIRE)

**PROPOSAL**

The applicant (CAL FIRE) proposes to remove primarily small diameter and certain larger diameter eucalyptus (*eucalyptus globus*) and Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*) as part of an effort to restore an existing fuel break and reestablish multiple previously created shaded-fuel breaks throughout San Mateo County's Quarry Park, totaling 100 acres. In an emergency proclamation issued on March 22, 2019, Governor Newsom ordered that completion of 35 specified fire protection projects be expedited in order to protect communities at risk from fires. The proposed project at Quarry Park is one of the subject projects. The intention of the project is to thin suppressed understory eucalyptus along existing trails and fire roads within the park and along its perimeter in order to protect the adjacent community of El Granada, which is primarily made up of single-family residences.

The Quarry Park Eucalyptus stand is heavily impacted by the recent drought in California, and has caught fire several times in the past. In addition to fire protection, the proposed removal of dead and dying trees will preserve more suitable habitat for Monarch Butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) through the preservation of the taller, older eucalyptus trees, which are used for winter roosting.

The removal of smaller, stunted suppressed understory vegetation and dead and dying vegetation, will primarily be conducted by mastication<sup>1</sup>, and also by manual removal.

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<sup>1</sup> Mastication is a fuel reduction treatment method used in forestry management to reduce wildfire risk, to reduce fuel loadings by returning the forest to natural conditions. Masticating fuels, or mulching the forest,

Woodchips generated by mastication will be left to serve as both a mulch and erosion control matting. In areas where terrain restricts access of mechanical equipment, generated debris will be piled and burned. Piling and burning will be conducted on approximately 20 acres of the 100-acre treatment area and will be located away from any residences and with a maximum pile size of 64 sq. ft or 200 cubic feet.

The scope of this project will occur solely on County park property within the CAL FIRE State Responsibility Area (SRA), which are the areas within the state where the State of California has the primary financial responsibility for the prevention and suppression of wildland fires. With direction from CAL FIRE, the San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD) will be the project coordinator and will be tasked with project implementation.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Planning Commission approve the Coastal Development Permit County File Number PLN 2019-00173, by adopting the required findings and conditions of approval in Attachment A.

### **BACKGROUND**

Report Prepared By: Maya Briones, Project Planner, Telephone 650/363-1882

Applicant: Rich Sampson, Division Chief – Forester II, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal-Fire)

Owner: San Mateo County Parks Department, 455 County Center, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Redwood City CA 95163

Location: Santa Maria Ave & Columbus Street, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 (El Granada)

APN(s): 047340040, 047340040, 047340290

Size: 567 acres

Existing Zoning: RM (Resource Management District)

General Plan Designation: Agricultural (rural)

Existing Land Use: State Cultural Preserve (closed to the public)

Flood Zone: Zone X (area of minimal flooding); FEMA Panels 06081C0465E 06087C0075E effective October 16, 2012

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involves the reduction of vegetation into small chunks and can be done using several different types of equipment to grind, chip, or break apart fuels such as brush, small trees and slash into small pieces.

Environmental Evaluation: The Governor, in his March 22, 2019 emergency proclamation regarding wildfire risk, suspended the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the specified priority fuel reduction projects that begin in 2019. The suspension of CEQA only applies where Cal-Fire requests that the Director of the California Natural Resources Agency or California Environmental Protection Agency determine that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under this suspension and will take protection of the environment into account while ensuring timely implementation. The subject project is one of the specified projects covered by the emergency declaration, and Cal-Fire has requested that the Director of the California Natural Resources Agency determine that the proposed project is eligible to be conducted under this suspension. As such, CEQA does not apply to the proposed project.

Setting: The project site is located in Quarry Park, north of the unincorporated community of El Granada. The southwestern edge of the park is bordered by single-family homes, and the north edge is abutting Rancho Corral de Tierra, a recent addition to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Chronology:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
January 9, 2019	- Governor Newsom issues Executive Order N-05-19, directing Cal-Fire to identify immediate and long-term projects to prevent destructive wildfire.
February 22, 2019	- Cal-Fire Director issues the Community Wildfire Prevention & Mitigation Report, which identifies 35 critical fuel reduction projects. Quarry Park is listed as the #16 priority.
March 22, 2019	- Governor Newsom proclaims a State of Emergency due to risk of wildfires, and directs Cal-Fire to immediately implement the identified fuel reduction projects.
April 18, 2019	- Cal-Fire applies for Coastal Development Permit.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **A. KEY ISSUES**

#### **1. Compliance with the General Plan**

Upon review of the applicable provisions of the General Plan, staff has determined that the project complies with all General Plan Policies, including the following:

a. Vegetative, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources

Policies 1.23 (*Regulate Development to Protect Vegetative, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources*), 1.27 (*Protect Fish and Wildlife Resources*), and 1.29 (*Establish Buffer Zones*) seek to regulate land use and development activities to prevent significant adverse impacts on vegetative, water, fish and wildlife resources and to protect sensitive habitats. The project will remove dead and dying trees, as well as thin the eucalyptus grove in order to reduce the fire risk. The applicant will not remove older trees that are suitable habitat for native California species, except in specific instances where necessary to improve access within Quarry Park for standard fire suppression equipment, or to further improve wildfire resiliency.

The proposed vegetation clearing is intended to restore a previously created fuel break to protect nearby single-family homes. However, it also will enhance the areas natural habitat for threatened and endangered species, such as the Monarch Butterfly and the San Francisco garter snake (SFGS). The project area is classified as a dominant Eucalyptus forest, which have historically been used by Monarch butterflies for winter roosting. Additionally, the aspects typically favored by the butterflies are south and southwest facing slopes, which comprise the majority of the project area. Lastly, the area supports a variety of wild and landscaped (urban) plants to provide nectar, as well as ponds wetlands and seeps suitable for watering. Due to these factors, the species has a moderate potential to use the project area as winter roosting habitat.

The area is also in proximity to suitable habitat for the San Francisco garter snake (SFGS). The preferred habitat of SFGS is a densely vegetated water source such as a pond near an open hillside where they can sun themselves, feed, and find cover in rodent burrows; however, considerably less ideal habitats can be successfully occupied. The project area is composed primarily of dead and dying small Eucalyptus trees with some Monterey pines. The dense understory of Eucalyptus groves throughout most of the project site makes other aquatic features in these areas less likely to support the species due to limited basking habitat. However, along upper Arroyo de en Medio, ponds containing California red-legged frogs (SFGS's primary food source), as well as exposed sunny slopes suitable for basking and heavily vegetated ponds or creeks are present. Together, such features are preferred habitat for San Francisco garter snake. The species has also been documented to the north and south of the park (CDFW 2017).

Allen's hummingbird (*Selasphorus sasin*) is a summer resident along the majority of California's coast. Habitat for this species includes eucalyptus groves, as it feeds on nectar, as well as insects and spiders. The project site is potentially suitable habitat for the bird during its migration.

The Project is consistent with the guidelines of the General Plan through integration of measures to ensure protection of waterways and other sensitive habitats, and protection of rare, threatened, and endangered animal and plant species. Project specific best management practices (BMP's) have been identified by the California Natural Resources Agency and will be approved by California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) upon approval of the Coastal Development Program (CDP). Best Management Practices that will be implemented to avoid impact to sensitive habitats; include retention of vegetative buffers between the project area and active and ephemeral watercourses, observation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and avoidance of removing large live eucalyptus which are suitable for monarch roosting sites.

b. Natural Hazards

Policy 15.37 (*Support Efforts to Reduce the Extent of the Fire Hazards*) encourages public and private efforts to reduce the potential of fire hazards through methods such as construction and maintenance of fire breaks. The clearing of over-dense understory vegetation, thinning of suppressed and declining trees, and removal of dead trees around the existing access roads will establish a critical fuel treatment in the case of a wildfire in the area which is categorized as a Very High wildfire-fuel hazard, and an area of High Priority for fuel reduction as identified by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in the Santa Cruz/San Mateo County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) 2018.

Policy 15.38 (*Encourage Coordination Between the County and Fire Protection Agencies*) supports cooperation between the County, volunteer fire departments, fire protection districts, State and city fire departments in order to facilitate the most efficient delivery of fire protection services, reduce response times and assure a uniform data base and communication system. The County is fully supportive of protecting local communities from the spread of fires through the reduction of fuel loads, and implementation of fuel breaks around densely vegetated areas.

The San Mateo County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP; 2016), identifies wildfire as the most likely hazard to affect areas of the

unincorporated County, and identifies the vulnerability of coastal communities who may become isolated during a severe disaster, including wildfire. A Hazard Mitigation Action Plan within the LHMP lists critical actions for hazard reduction.

(Action SMC-24): directs "County staff in conjunction with State Agencies to continue supporting vegetation management strategies and programs to address potential vegetation management needs for the County."

(Action SMC-62) utilize the updated High Hazard Severity Zone Map as identified by Cal-Fire to target high priority areas for Vegetation Management. The most recent High Hazard Severity Zone Map identifies the majority of Quarry County Park within a Very High - Fire Fuel Hazard area.

## 2. Compliance with the Local Coastal Program

A Coastal Development Permit is required, pursuant to Section 6328.4 of the County Zoning Regulations, for development in the Coastal Development (CD) District because the project involves the removal of significant vegetation within the Coastal Zone. The County's decision on the CDP is appealable to the California Coastal Commission. Staff has determined that the project is in compliance with applicable Local Coastal Program (LCP) Policies, including the following:

### a. Hazard Component

Policy 9.5 (*Designation of High Risk Fire Areas*) Designate high risk fire areas in the Coastal Zone as those delineated by the State Division of Forestry and shown on the Hazards Map for the Coastal Zone.

### b. Sensitive Habitats

Policy 7.3 (*Protection of Sensitive Habitats*) a) Prohibit any land use or development which would have significant adverse impact on sensitive habitat areas.

The implementation of project specific BMP's required by the California Natural Resources Agency will provide buffers for rare, threatened, and endangered plant and animal communities as well as adequate buffers for watercourses and streams. Sensitive habitats protected by the LCP are also the General Plan. As discussed in Section A.1.a of this report, the project is consistent with these requirements.



### 3. Compliance with the Zoning Regulations

The proposed project is zoned Resource Management/Coastal Zone (RM/CZ). The RM/CZ policies require permits for removal of trees larger than 55” circumference (17.5” diameter at breast height [DBH]). Some trees of this size will be removed, however, most will be dead and thus removal would not require a permit. Those live trees 55” in circumference and larger that will be removed will contribute toward a fire management goal and must be removed to protect the public health and safety in a manner that protects valuable natural resources. Zoning Code Section 6905(g)3 provides in part that “Normal forest maintenance may be conducted...but shall be limited to ..(a) removing dead, dying or diseased trees and snags..(b) clearing for firebreaks in accordance with requirements of the County Fire Marshal or other applicable fire authority having jurisdiction.

The Governor has sufficient authority to direct Cal-Fire, the County’s Fire Marshal, to conduct this work to protect public health and safety. This project is consistent with County Zoning Section 6905(g)3 because it will remove dead, dying or diseased trees and snags, and involve clearing for firebreaks.

## B. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Pursuant to the Governor’s March 22, 2019 emergency proclamation regarding wildfire risk, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is suspended for the specified priority fuel reduction projects that begin in 2019. The proposed project at Quarry Park is one of those priority projects, and project activities will commence in 2019. The emergency proclamation further provided that the suspension of CEQA only applies where Cal-Fire requests that the Director of the California Natural Resources Agency or California Environmental Protection Agency determine that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under this suspension and will take protection of the environment into account while ensuring timely implementation. Cal-Fire has requested that the Director of the California Natural Resources Agency determine that the proposed project is eligible to be conducted under this suspension. Cal-Fire has coordinated with the California Natural Resources Agency to develop best management practices (BMPs) for the specified priority fuel reduction projects. In addition, Cal-Fire and County staff, have coordinated with the California Natural Resources Agency and California Department of Fish and Wildlife to tailor those general BMPs to the specific environmental conditions at the Quarry Park site. As such, CEQA does not apply to the proposed project.

C. REVIEWING AGENCIES

San Mateo County Department of Parks  
San Mateo County Fire Department  
California Coastal Commission  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife per Attachment C

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Recommended Findings and Conditions of Approval
- B. Vicinity Map
- C. Vegetation Management Plan/Project Scope
- D. Links to the governor's orders: Exec order: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/1.8.19-EO-N-05-19.pdf>  
Emergency proclamation: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/03.22.19-State-of-Emergency-Attested.pdf>
- E. Link to the Cal Fire report: [http://calfire.ca.gov/downloads/45-Day%20Report-FINAL.pdf#\\_blank](http://calfire.ca.gov/downloads/45-Day%20Report-FINAL.pdf#_blank)

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County of San Mateo  
Planning and Building Department

**RECOMMENDED FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

Permit or Project File Number: PLN 2019-00173

Hearing Date: May 22, 2019

Prepared By: Maya Briones  
Project Planner

For Adoption By: Planning Commission

**RECOMMENDED FINDINGS**

Regarding the Environmental Review, Find:

1. That this project is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to the Governor's March 22, 2019 emergency proclamation regarding wildfire risk, which suspended for the specified priority fuel reduction projects that begin in 2019. The proposed project at Quarry Park is one of those priority projects, and project activities will commence in 2019.

Regarding the County General Plan, Find:

2. That the project is consistent with General Plan policies regarding Vegetation, Water, Fish and Wildlife Resources and the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) because project specific best management practices (BMPs) will be used to avoid impact to sensitive habitats. These BMPs include retention of vegetative buffers between the project area and active and ephemeral watercourses, observation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), and avoidance of removing large live eucalyptus which are suitable for monarch roosting sites.

The San Mateo County LHMP, published in 2016, identifies wildfire as the most likely hazard to affect areas of the unincorporated County, and identifies the vulnerability of coastal communities who may become isolated during a severe disaster, including wildfire. A Hazard Mitigation Action Plan was published within the LHMP lists critical actions for hazard reduction. This project therefore complies with the policies within the LHMP.

Regarding Resource Management (RM) Zoning, Find:

3. That this project conforms to uses consistent with Chapter 36 of the San Mateo County RM-CZ zoning district. The proposed activities are for the

purpose of land and vegetation management supporting the principal use of the site as a park.

Regarding the Coastal Development Permit, Find:

4. That this project conforms to the plans, policies, requirements and standards of the San Mateo County Local Coastal Program (LCP) and Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act of 1976. The project, as proposed and conditioned, will not have any adverse impacts on Sensitive Habitats as the vegetation management efforts are intended to prevent the spread of fire to the neighboring community, and throughout the park and will enhance the habitat for threatened and endangered species such as the Monarch Butterfly.

**RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL**

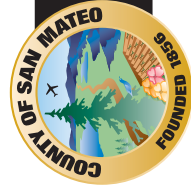
Current Planning Section

1. This approval is for the project as described on the plans and documents submitted for consideration by the Planning Commission on May 22, 2019. Any revisions to the approved plans must be submitted to the Planning Department for review and approval prior to implementation. Minor adjustments to the project may be approved by the Community Development Director if they are consistent with the intent of, and are in substantial conformance with, this approval.
2. The Coastal Development Permit approval shall be valid for one (1) year from the date of approval in which all work authorized under this permit must be completed. This approval may be extended by one (1) year increments with submittal of an application for permit extension and payment of applicable extension fees sixty (60) days prior to the expiration date.
3. The property applicant shall adhere to the San Mateo Countywide Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program "General Construction and Site Supervision Guidelines," including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a. Delineation with field markers of clearing limits, easements, setbacks, sensitive or critical areas, buffer zones, trees, and drainage courses within the vicinity of areas to be disturbed by construction and/or grading.
  - b. Protection of adjacent properties and undisturbed areas from project impacts using vegetative buffer strips, sediment barriers or filters, dikes, mulching, or other measures as appropriate.
  - c. Performing clearing only during dry weather.
  - d. Stabilization of all denuded areas and maintenance of erosion control measures continuously between October 1 and April 30.

- e. Storage, handling, and disposal of project materials and wastes properly, so as to prevent their contact with stormwater.
  - f. Control and prevention of the discharge of all potential pollutants, including sediments and debris, and non-stormwater discharges to storm drains and watercourses.
  - g. Avoiding cleaning, fueling, or maintaining vehicles on-site, except in a designated area where wash water is contained and treated.
  - h. Limiting and timing applications of pesticides and fertilizers to prevent polluted runoff.
  - i. Limiting construction access routes and stabilization of designated access points.
  - j. Avoiding tracking dirt or other materials off-site; cleaning off-site paved areas and sidewalks using dry sweeping methods.
  - k. Training and providing instruction to all employees and subcontractors regarding the Watershed Protection Maintenance Standards and construction Best Management Practices.
  - l. Additional Best Management Practices in addition to those shown on the plans may be required by the Building Inspector to maintain effective stormwater management during construction activities. Any water leaving the site shall be clear and running slowly at all times.
  - m. Failure to install or maintain these measures will result in stoppage of construction until the corrections have been made and fees paid for staff enforcement time.
4. To reduce the impact of clearing activities on neighboring properties, comply with the following:
- a. All debris shall be contained on-site; a dumpster or trash bin shall be provided on-site during clearing to prevent debris from blowing onto adjacent properties. The applicant shall monitor the site to ensure that trash is picked up and appropriately disposed of daily.
  - b. The applicant shall remove all equipment from the site upon completion of the use and/or need of each piece of equipment which shall include but not be limited to tractors, back hoes, etc.

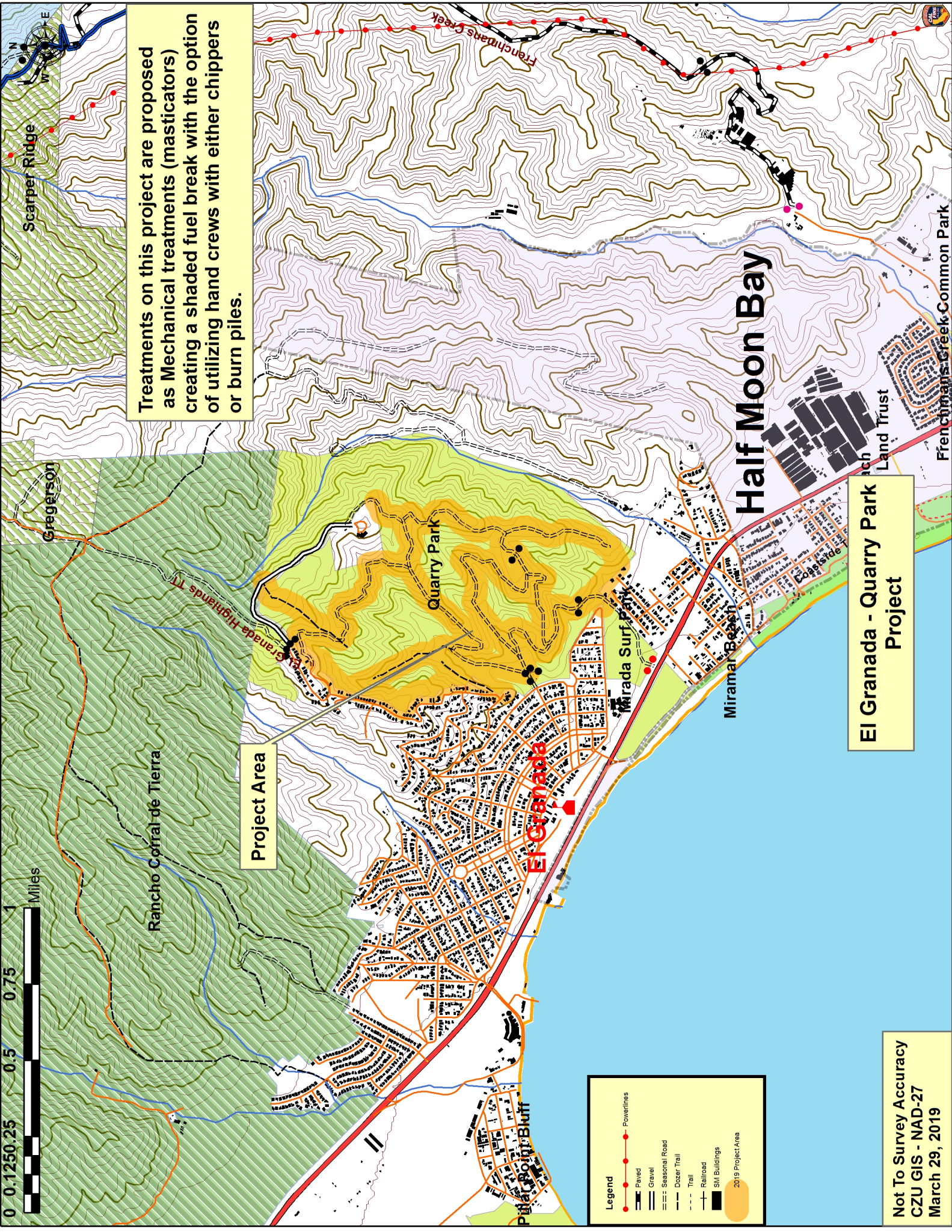
- c. The applicant shall ensure that no clearing-related vehicles shall impede through traffic along the right-of-way on Cabrillo Highway. All project-related vehicles shall be parked on-site outside the public right-of-way or in locations which do not impede safe access on Cabrillo Highway. There shall be no storage of vehicles in the public right-of-way.
5. All equipment used in land clearing operations shall meet spark arrester and fire-fighting tool requirements as specified in the California Public Resources Code.
6. Unless approved, in writing, by the Community Development Director, no land clearing shall be allowed during the winter season (October 1 to April 30) to avoid potential soil erosion. The applicant shall submit a letter to the Current Planning Section, a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to commencement of land clearing, stating the date when land clearing will begin. Work shall not commence until a "hard card" is issued by the County.
7. Prior to the initiation of fieldwork, a copy of the approved MOU or equivalent from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife outlining avoidance/protection measures set forth by both CDFW and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) must be submitted to the Planning Section. Conditions No. 8a-c are standard avoidance/protection measures that may be included in the MOU. The MOU shall contain measures that provide equivalent or better protection of the SFGS and CRLF and associated habitats. The MOU (or equivalent) must be adhered to under the scope of this permit.
  - a. The presence of a California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)-approved qualified biologist or biological monitor is required at all times during activities within all zones.
  - b. Project activities in the buffer zone (Zone B) will be conducted only when seasonal ponds are dry and SFGS and CRLF are less likely to be active above ground.
  - c. Prior to initiation of fieldwork, Zone B boundaries will be measured and clearly marked using Avoidance Area flagging. No work will be conducted in Zone B areas during SFGS/CRLF breeding season from October 16 through May 31.
8. Prior to the initiation of fieldwork, a copy of the updated Section 10(a)1(a) recovery permit from the USFWS must be submitted to the Planning Section.

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**County of San Mateo - Planning and Building Department**

# **ATTACHMENT B**



Treatments on this project are proposed as Mechanical treatments (masticators) creating a shaded fuel break with the option of utilizing hand crews with either chippers or burn piles.

**El Granada - Quarry Park Project**

- Legend**
- Powerlines
  - Paved
  - Gravel
  - Seasonal Road
  - Dozer Trail
  - Trail
  - Railroad
  - SM Buildings
  - 2019 Project Area

Not To Survey Accuracy  
 CZU GIS - NAD-27  
 March 29, 2019





**County of San Mateo - Planning and Building Department**

# **ATTACHMENT C**

**Quarry Park County Park – Shaded Fuel Break Project**  
**El Granada, San Mateo County. CAL FIRE San Mateo Santa Cruz Unit.**  
**100 Acres (50% manual, 50% mastication. 20 acres of pile and burn)**

**1. Laws requested to be suspended, and why.**

Per directive 4 in the Emergency Proclamation issued March 22, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) requests that Division 13 is the Coastal Act, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and Division 20 (commencing with section 30000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to those Divisions be suspended for this priority fuels reduction project.

**2. Project description:**

**a. A brief narrative describing the project and what we are trying to accomplish.**

The Quarry Park project consists of the creation of approximately 100 acres of Shaded Fuel Break (SFB) along the perimeter and around an internal roads system for a County Park. The project will be within Quarry County Park in central coastal San Mateo County in the WUI between the park and the town of El Granada.

Quarry Park is approximately 517 acres of Eucalyptus, Monterey pine that was planted prior to 1905 for a sub-division that was never completely built. This stand is heavily impacted by the recent drought and an estimate that approximately 25% of the stand is dead or dying. The stand has an existing road system that has become overgrown by the Eucalyptus and other exotic species. The dense stand extends directly up to numerous homes in the town of El Granada. There have been several fires in this stand including one during the early 1900's that resulted in several fatalities.

**b. Specific location. A good quality map of the area showing areas to be treated by treatment method.**

El Granada, San Mateo County. CAL FIRE San Mateo Santa Cruz Unit. See attached map.

**c. Description of treatment methods and equipment that will be used.**

50% manual, 50% mastication. 20 acres of pile and burn. Approximately 50% of the project will be completed using masticators which will chip the understory vegetation, thin smaller diameter trees from dense tree stands and remove dead or dying vegetation within the SFB. The chips will be distributed throughout the fuelbreak and will be utilized as both mulch and erosion control matting. Piling and burning is expected to be used on approximately 20 acres of the SFB, mostly in the areas away from the residences. Pile burning would be localized and relatively small (i.e., maximum size about 64 square feet or 200 cubic feet).

**d. Communities that will be protected by the project.**

El Granada, Half Moon Bay, Montara.

**e. Any specific considerations regarding ecologically or culturally sensitive locations.**

To comply with standard department resource protection measures, both NDDDB and CHRIS inquiries are being initiated for each project for review of project impacts on natural resources. In addition, a current Archaeological records check is being ordered as per the most current edition of "Archaeological Review Procedures for CAL FIRE Projects". Please note that records checks must be less than five years old at the start of this operation. A field survey will be conducted by qualified personnel.

Project activities shall be designed to avoid significant effects and avoid take of special status species as defined as a plant or animal species that is listed as rare, threatened, or endangered under Federal law; or rare, threatened, endangered, candidate, or fully protected under State law; or as a sensitive species by the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

**3. A brief description of the best management practices that will be used in this project.**

See Fuel Break Design, Construction and Environmental Protection BMP attached. Also reference the summary report attached.

**4. Results of CNDDDB search.**

The following element occurrence intersected the project area based on a 3/28/19 GIS CNDDDB query:

Thamnophis sirtalis tetrataenia	San Francisco gartersnake
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This species will be physically avoided.

**5. Results of CHRIS search.**

In progress.

**6. Copy of outreach letter transmitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.**

Pending approved outreach letter provided by Program

**7. Copy of outreach letter transmitted to the Department of Fish and Wildlife.**

Pending approved outreach letter provided by Program.

**8. Call the local DFW and Water Quality to give them a heads up the letters are coming.**

Pending approval through the Natural resource Agency.

**9. Record of outreach to local governments (could be list of local leaders who have/will receive briefing on the project). Entities to consider could include County, City, Fire Safe Councils, Resource Conservation Districts, local stakeholders and interest groups.**

3 Local County Board of Sups members and staff  
San Mateo Parks  
CDFW Timber group in San Mateo

Both counties Fire Safe Councils  
State Parks  
Local Fire Districts  
Several local state leg staff.

**10. Identify the lead contact person for the project, and contact information.**

Rich Sampson

**11. Identify an estimated start date for the project.**

Upon execution of contracts and appropriately dry soil conditions.

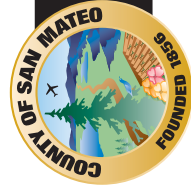


**County of San Mateo - Planning and Building Department**

# **ATTACHMENT D**

Links to the governor's orders: Exec order: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/1.8.19-EO-N-05-19.pdf>

Emergency proclamation: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/03.22.19-State-of-Emergency-Attested.pdf>



**County of San Mateo - Planning and Building Department**

# **ATTACHMENT E**

Link to the Cal Fire report: [http://calfire.ca.gov/downloads/45-Day%20Report-FINAL.pdf#\\_blank](http://calfire.ca.gov/downloads/45-Day%20Report-FINAL.pdf#_blank)