



Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Wildland Fire Resiliency Fact Sheet

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District works year-round to reduce wildland fire severity and risk in our region by managing vegetation in the public open space preserves we care for with a focus on ecological health and wildland fire resiliency, in alignment with our mission and policies.

We continually work with fire agencies and surrounding communities to strengthen the prevention of, preparation for and response to wildland fires. In addition to ongoing annual activities, our **Wildland Fire Resiliency Program**, finalized in 2021, is proactively **expanding our environmentally sensitive vegetation management by approximately 600% over 10 years** to promote healthy, resilient, fire-adapted ecosystems to reduce wildland fire risk and facilitate the response of fire agencies.

Ongoing Annual Activities

- **Maintain** hundreds of miles of fuel breaks, fire roads and evacuation routes.
- **Coordinate with local fire agencies** to annually prioritize resources and projects.
- **Maintain defensible space around Midpen structures.**
- **Prioritize flammable invasive plants for removal through our Integrated Pest Management Program.**
- **Provide annual wildland firefighter training for staff** who are first responders and assist fire agencies.
- **Install water pumpers** on ranger trucks during fire season.
- **Manage grassland fuel loads with conservation grazing** on approximately 6,500 acres on the San Mateo County Coast.
- **Enforce bans on high fire-risk activities in preserves:** smoking, campfires and firearms.
- **Communicate Red Flag Warnings** to the public.
- **Issue Defensible Space Permits** for neighbors.

Wildland Fire Resiliency Program

Finalized in early 2021 after a public process, our program components are designed to prioritize potential treatment areas using best available science:

- **Vegetation management plan** focused on ecosystem resiliency and facilitation of fire response and evacuation.
- **Scientific monitoring plan** to inform continual adaptation of program.
- **Prefire plans with resource advisor maps** to assist fire agencies in their response.
- **Prescribed fire plan** to reintroduce prescribed fire to Midpen's land management toolbox. This element is currently undergoing further environmental analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act.



Brad Pennington.

Fire-trained staff protecting Midpen preserves from the CZU Lightning Complex Fire in 2020 by holding it at Old Haul Road.