

2026 Marin County Community Wildfire Protection Plan – DRAFT Tiburon and Belvedere Summary

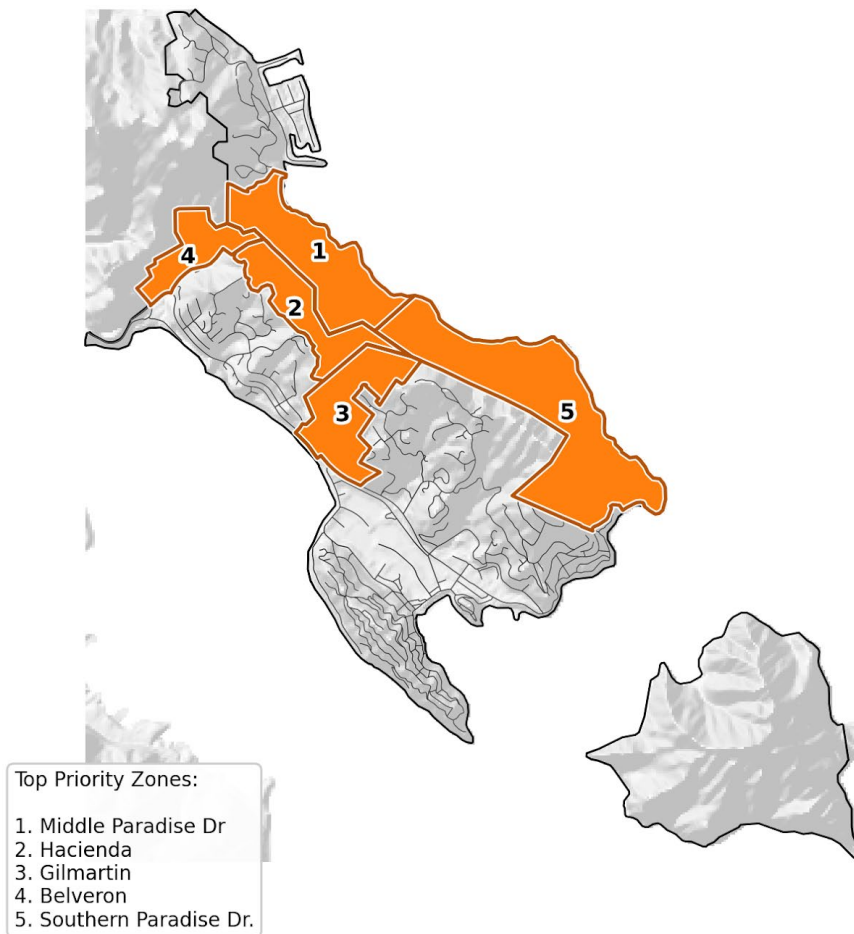
Although Tiburon and Belvedere are less likely than other parts of Marin County to experience large-scale wildland fire exposure, these communities border wildland vegetation where small, wind-driven fires could require evacuation and cause losses within the built environment. The highest-priority risk-reduction activities in this region are Near-Community Vegetation Management, enhanced Alerting and Warning, and Residential Risk Reduction. These measures address wind-driven spread potential at the community edges and structure-level vulnerability within closely spaced neighborhoods. Targeted Evacuation Planning in several zones would also help address difficult-to-travel roadway networks and limited egress options, improving operational readiness during a fast-moving incident.

This zone-specific summary provides a brief description of the highest-priority zones within the Tiburon and Belvedere operational area. These recommendations are intended to be interpreted in conjunction with local knowledge and expertise to develop effective risk-reduction strategies in Tiburon and Belvedere.

Near-Community Vegetation Management

Near-Community Vegetation Management would be beneficial in several Tiburon and Belvedere zones, including Middle Paradise, Hacienda, Gilmartin, Belveron, and Southern Paradise. Fire-behavior modeling indicates that flame lengths within 200 feet of structures in these areas may reach or exceed 10 feet during severe fire weather events. Direct suppression may be difficult, increasing the importance of proactive vegetation modification to reduce flame contact and ember exposure.

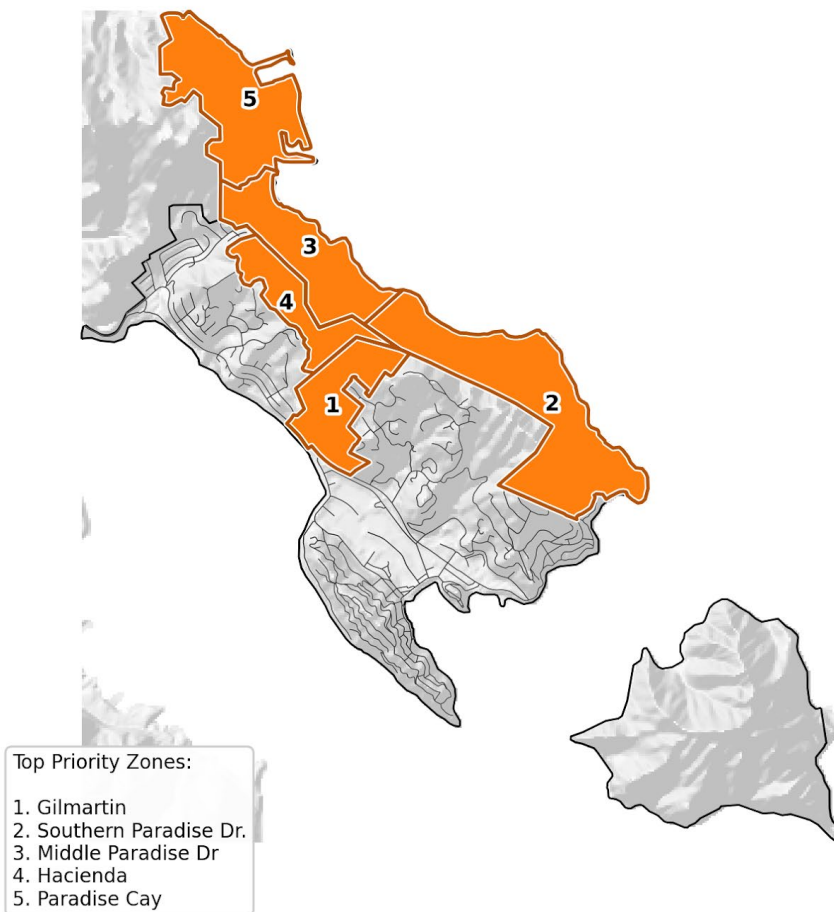
Tiburon/Belvedere Vegetation Management Near Community



Open-Space Vegetation Management

Open-Space Vegetation Management is recommended in many of the same zones identified for Near-Community Vegetation Management, including Gilmartin, Southern and Middle Paradise, Hacienda, and Paradise Cay. Fire-spread modeling shows that wind-driven wildland fires could move into developed neighborhoods through these zones. Fire-pathways modeling indicates that fire can spread rapidly along the ridge between Hacienda Drive and Paradise Drive. Strategically located SPLATs along this corridor could moderate fire growth and reduce downstream exposure to adjacent zones. Evacuation zones containing electrical and communications infrastructure, particularly Middle Paradise, warrant additional fuel reduction activities around these assets to improve continuity of service during a wildfire incident.

Tiburon/Belvedere Vegetation Management Open Space



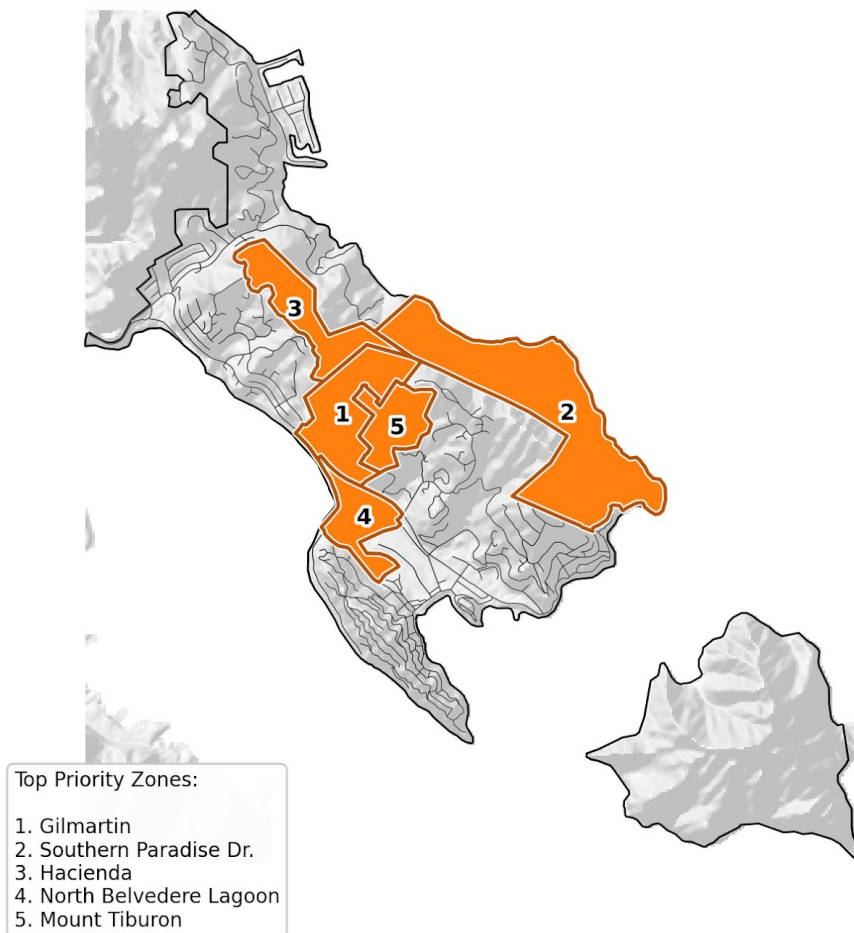
Detection

Due to the dense population, extensive road network, and comprehensive coverage of fire-detection cameras, no additional investments in fire detection are recommended in Tiburon or Belvedere.

Alerting

Initiatives to enhance alerting systems are recommended in the Gilmartin, Southern Paradise, Hacienda, North Belvedere Lagoon, and Mount Tiburon zones. Census data indicate relatively high concentrations of residents with household characteristics that could make rapid evacuation more difficult under emergency conditions. AlertMarin enrollment in these zones is low compared with other evacuation zones in the county: on average, fewer than half of residential parcels have an active subscription, limiting access to geographically targeted evacuation messaging. Focused enrollment efforts and supplemental notification strategies would improve warning effectiveness and support timely evacuation.

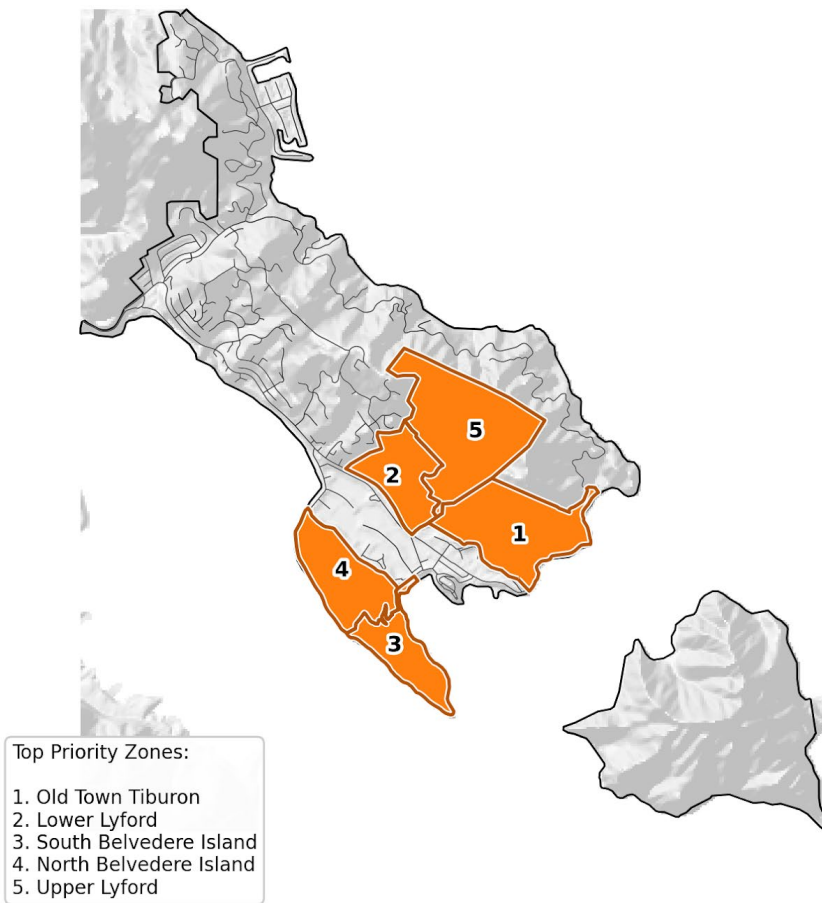
Tiburon/Belvedere Alerting



Evacuation Planning

Enhanced Evacuation Planning is recommended in Old Town Tiburon, Upper and Lower Lyford, and North and South Belvedere Island. These zones have relatively dense residential populations and limited, challenging-to-travel egress routes, increasing the potential for congestion during an evacuation. Although modeled fire probability is comparatively low, the potential for fast-moving, wind-driven fire and complex roadway geometry present challenges to smooth evacuation. Roads are narrow, winding, and include complex intersections that may be difficult to navigate when visibility is reduced by smoke. Fire response times are also likely to be longer in these areas due to constrained access and distance from nearby fire stations. Advance evacuation planning, traffic management coordination, and public preparedness efforts would reduce operational risk during an incident.

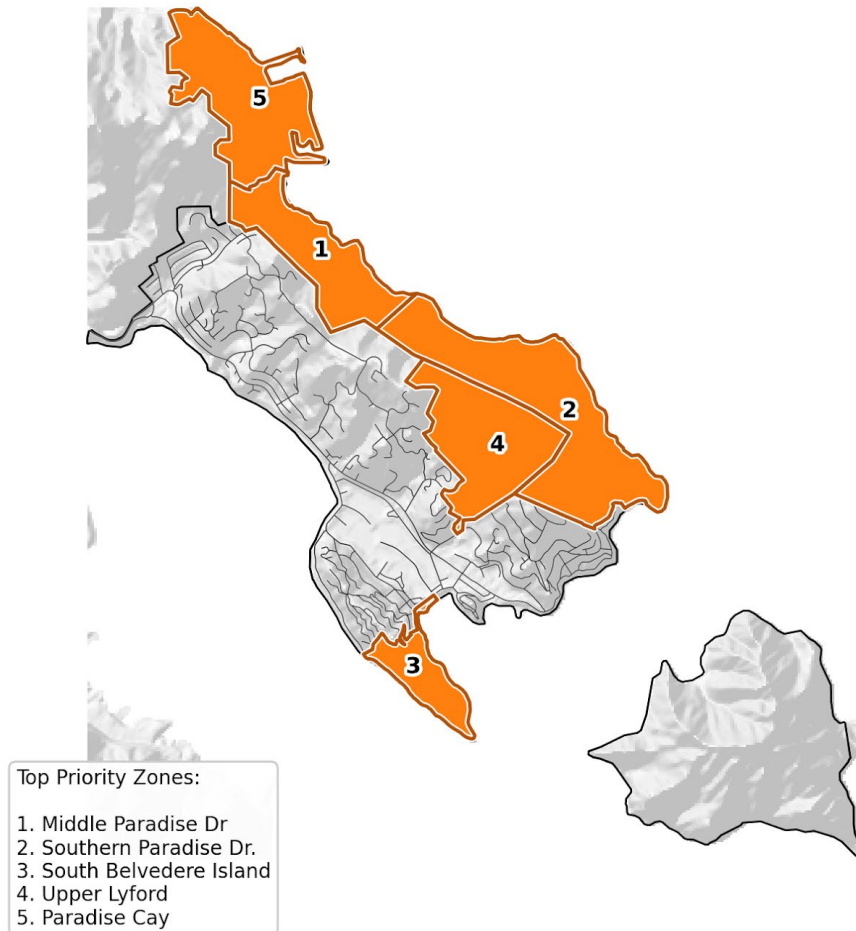
Tiburon/Belvedere Evacuation Planning



Roadside Clearance

Roadside Clearance is most strongly recommended across much of the northern Belvedere/Tiburon Zone. Middle and Southern Paradise, Upper Lyford, and Paradise Cay contain roads running through areas where fire behavior is anticipated to be quite active. Flame lengths exceeding 8 feet along roads are anticipated, and more than one quarter of roads in these zones are modeled as not fire resilient. Under these conditions, fire behavior adjacent to roadways could compromise safe evacuation. Targeted roadside vegetation clearance would reduce heat exposure to evacuating residents and may provide ignition-reduction benefits.

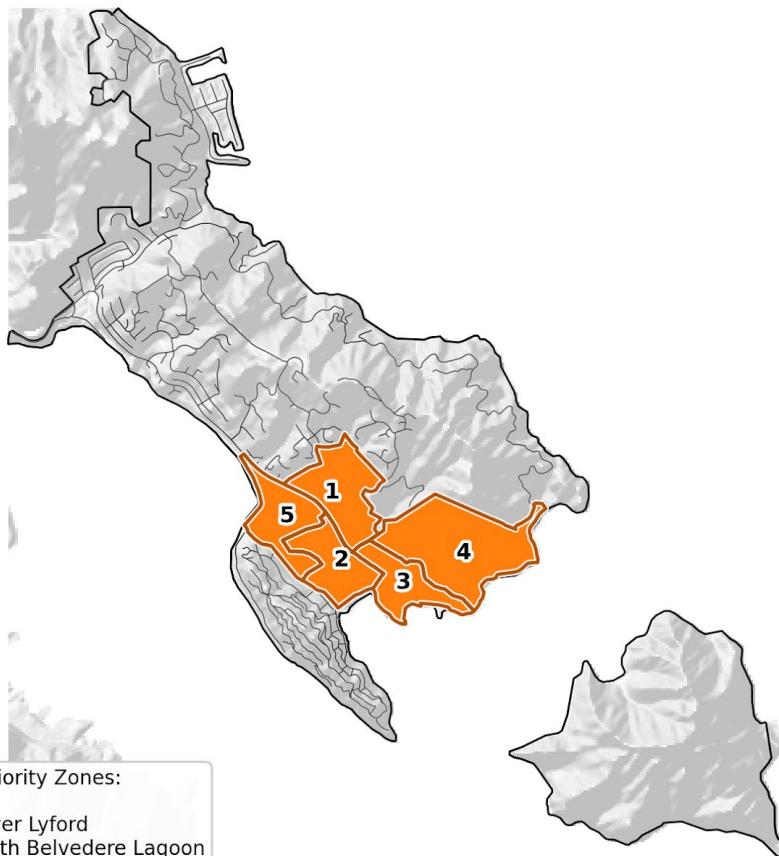
Tiburon/Belvedere Roadside Clearance



Residential Risk Reduction

Closely spaced structures and constrained fire response access in southeastern Tiburon and the Belvedere Lagoon make these areas high priorities for Residential Risk Reduction within this zone. Geographically specific inspection data on defensible-space and home-hardening conditions are not currently available for Tiburon and Belvedere. However, fire modeling data sets and other data sets indicate exposure under both northeast and west wind events. Modeled wildland fire behavior is generally moderate, but continuity with adjacent vegetation and average structure separation distances of less than 10 feet increase the potential for structure-to-structure transmission should a fire become established within the built environment. Targeted defensible space-compliance and home-hardening efforts would reduce conflagration potential in these neighborhoods.

Tiburon/Belvedere On Parcel Risk Reduction



- Top Priority Zones:
1. Lower Lyford
 2. South Belvedere Lagoon
 3. Downtown Tiburon
 4. Old Town Tiburon
 5. North Belvedere Lagoon

Countywide Comparison

The table below compares priorities in the Tiburon and Belvedere operational area relative to the rest of the county. Unlike the summaries above, which identify the top five zones for each theme, the data in this table indicate how often high-priority zones occur within each theme.

Theme	Number of Zones at or Above 75th Percentile Countywide
Near-Community Vegetation Management	0
Open-Space Vegetation Management	0
Detection	0
Alerting	3
Roadside Clearance	0
Evacuation Planning	0
Residential Risk Reduction	1