

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Issue 27

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GREATER MILL VALLEY FUEL BREAK/SAN RAFAEL HILL AND DEER VALLEY PROJECTS

Greater Mill Valley Fuel Break - Southern Marin Fire District and Marin Wildfire worked with consultants, including Willow Labs, to identify high fire risk areas and design a project that would intercept potential fire pathways under northeast wind and west wind conditions. These fire pathways are areas on the landscape that, if left untreated, would facilitate rapid fire spread across a landscape and into a community. This project area was further refined by reviewing sensitive plant communities and mutual priority areas with neighboring jurisdictions such as the City of Mill Valley and land management agencies, including Marin County Parks/MCOSD and Marin Water.

San Rafael Hill and Deer Valley - The purpose of the proposed projects is to expand existing fuel reduction zones within City of San Rafael Open Space parcels adjacent to communities. The San Rafael Hill and Deer Valley project sites are at high risk for wildfires due to the spread of exotic, invasive fire-hazardous vegetation (i.e., French and scotch broom, gorse, eucalyptus, and acacia), decades of dead vegetation accumulation, as well as increased risk of anthropogenic ignition due to the interface with urban development and frequent human activity in the area.

RECENT BOARD ACTIONS

- Approved Annual Cost of Living Increase of 1.6% for Current MWPA Employees for Fiscal Year 2025/26.
- Acknowledged completion of environmental compliance for the “Coastal Critical Infrastructure Defensible Space Project” and “Blueberry Ridge Fuel Reduction Project” as categorically exempt pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1), Existing Facilities, 15304 (Class 4), Minor Alterations to Land, and California Public Resources Code (PRC) section 21080.49(d); and approved the Projects.
- Approved the budget adjustment for the San Rafael Core 24/25 Budget.
- Approved the ninth amendment to the professional services agreement with Charlotte Jourdain for project-based consulting services.
- Adopted findings as responsible agency to facilitate work overlapping Marin Wildfire's proposed "Greater Mill Valley Fuel Break Project".



MARIN WILDFIRE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Marin Wildfire takes a house-out approach to risk reduction. This work includes home hardening and defensible space inspections; projects, programs, and grants to help residents harden homes and create defensible space; evacuation and alert planning; and public education. One other tool available for reducing wildfire risk is vegetation management in key locations to reduce unnatural levels of fuel loading. To learn more about our vegetation management approach, please check out this [link](#).

Thank You,



Mark Brown
Executive Officer
Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority