



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Point Reyes National Seashore  
Fire and Fuels Management  
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Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

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**Fuels crew at work thinning eucalyptus along the Palomarin Trail in 2007.**  
Local, state, and federal agencies, as well as neighboring organizations assist Point Reyes National Seashore with fire and fuels management. Thank you to the many partners who help the park improve fire safety and restore ecosystem health.

## For More Information

Please call (415) 464-5133 if you have questions or comments about the Seashore's fire management program.

Contact: Jennifer Chapman  
Fire Communication and Education Specialist

### E-mail Updates

If you would like to receive e-mail updates when burn days have been confirmed, please send your e-mail address to: Jennifer\_Chapman@nps.gov

### Point Reyes National Seashore Fire Management Web Pages

Information about prescribed burns, mechanical fuel treatments, and fire ecology at Point Reyes can be found on the park website.

[www.nps.gov/pore/fire](http://www.nps.gov/pore/fire)



# Point Reyes National Seashore

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## 2008 Projects

Defensible Space  
Around Park Structures

Mowing Projects

Bolinas Ridge Fuelbreak

Limantour Prescribed  
Fire (Unit D) - 25 acres

Highway One Prescribed  
Fire -

- \* McCurdy - 76 acres
- \* Strain Hill - 115 acres

**BOLINAS RIDGE TRAIL ADVISORY**  
Tree cutting and chipping will occur between the Randall and McCurdy Trail intersections during weekdays throughout the summer. Please use caution in this area.

# Work in progress on Bolinas Ridge fuelbreak



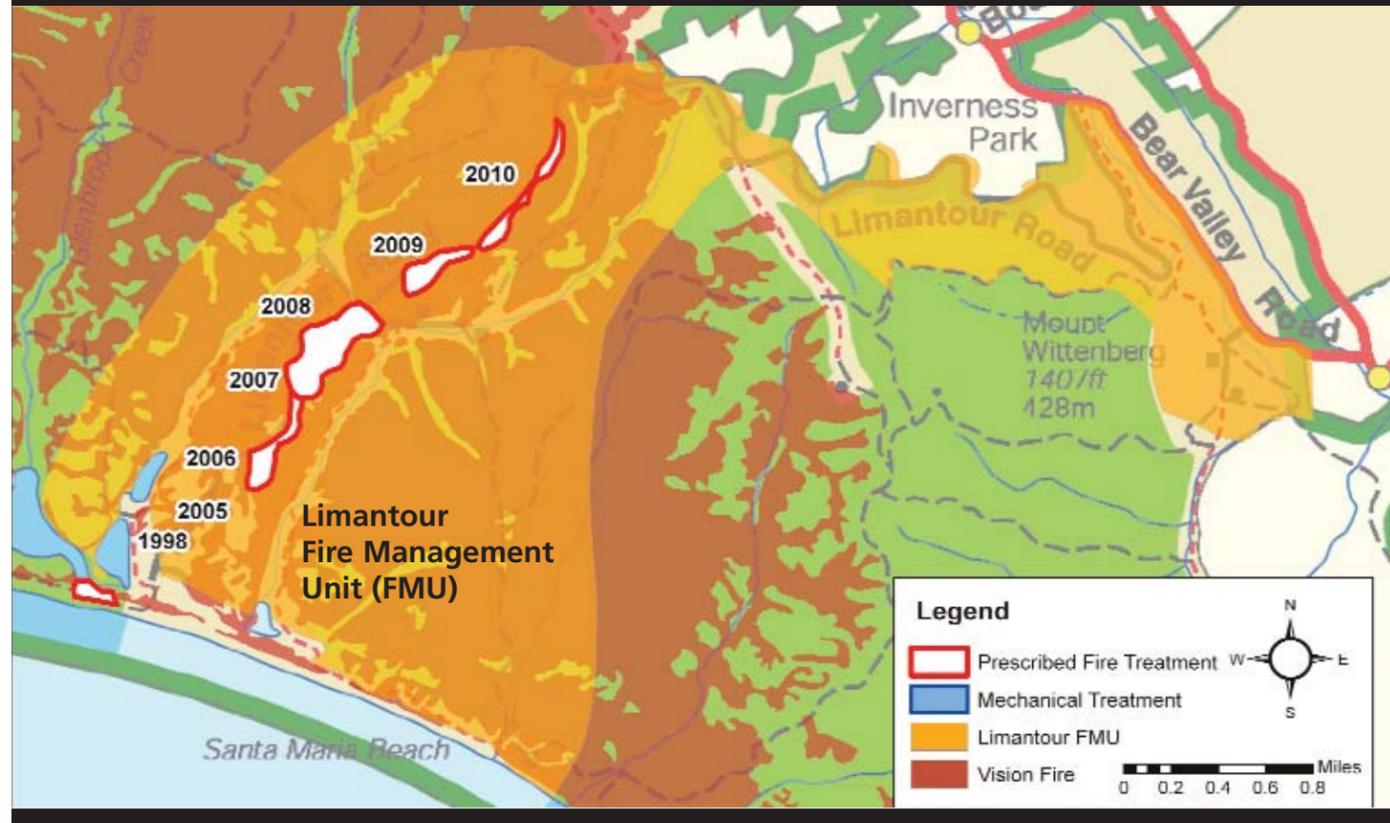
TOP: Bolinas Ridge project site  
NPS photo  
LEFT: Rare plants, Marin manzanita and Mason's ceanothus  
photos by Doreen Smith

The thinning prescription for Bolinas Ridge is designed to prevent impacts to the rare maritime chaparral plants which grow there.

THE POINT REYES HAZARDOUS FUELS CREW is currently working on Phase 1 of the Bolinas Ridge Fuelbreak, to improve the fire road for emergency access and to use it as a fire control line if necessary. The project will extend along the ridge from Randall Trail to Bolinas-Fairfax Road for a distance of approximately 5 miles. This year, work will be completed on the section from Randall Trail to McCurdy Trail.

This project involves working in mixed Douglas-fir / coast redwood forest and dense maritime chaparral where fuel has accumulated and several rare plants are known to grow. Surveys in the project area have determined that these plants do not occur in the section being treated this year. The rare chaparral species -- Marin manzanita, Mason's ceanothus, and glory brush ceanothus -- are unique and are only found in West Marin. These plants have been tagged and will be left intact when the crew encounters them while working.

## Fuel Reduction at Point Reyes



## Small burns create large fuelbreaks along Limantour Road and Hwy One

A SERIES OF SMALL PRESCRIBED BURNS are being used to create fuelbreaks along both Limantour Road and Highway One where there is high potential for vehicle caused ignitions, as well as strategic opportunities to stop a wildfire from moving across the park. Along both of these corridors, a series of burns are being completed on a multi-year rotation. The target fire cycle for Limantour Road is 5 years to keep the coyote brush at a young stage with less fuel. On Highway One, the target cycle is every other year, to prevent French broom populations from spreading any further.



**French broom is mowed in the burn units along Highway One to help control this invasive plant. A combination of repeated mowing and burning has proven successful at preventing new seeds from being released.**

**Mowing is one of many tools used for hazardous fuel reduction. At Point Reyes, mowing is also used along roadsides to prevent vehicle caused wildfire ignitions, and around park structures to create defensible space.**

Individually, these prescribed burns typically range from 25 to 100 acres, but together with adjacent mechanical treatments, they create fuelbreaks that are over 1,000 acres in size. Burns at Point Reyes are kept small to minimize impacts on visitors and the community. This strategy has been working well over the years, resulting in both fuel reduction and increased habitat diversity in the vegetation.

## West Marin Community Fire News

### Nicasio

Nicasio Volunteer Fire Department is offering **defensible space evaluations** to all Nicasio residents. FIREsafe MARIN is supporting this effort by providing copies of "A Homeowner's Guide to Fire Safe Practices in Marin County", and the "Marin on Fire" DVD to participating residents.

August 23, 2008 - Nicasio Volunteer Fire Department and Ladies Auxillary **Annual Bar-B-Q** will take place. This is the fire department's primary fundraiser. For more information call Liz Bourne, 415-662-2605.

### Bolinas

The 1.5 acre Mesa Fire on July 24, 2008 started when a tree snapped a powerline and was a wake-up call for Bolinas. Fortunately the firefighters that responded were able to keep the fire small.

The Bolinas Fire Protection District is launching an effort to form a **FIREsafe BOLINAS Committee** which will address wildland fire hazards in the community. The committee will begin with an education and outreach program for all residents. Neighborhood fuel reduction projects will then be identified, and funding strategies will be developed. Bolinas residents interested in serving on the committee should contact Fire Chief Anita Tyrrell-Brown at 415-868-1566.

### Stinson Beach

Stinson Beach Fire Protection District received a **matching grant** from the Cal Fire Assistance to Volunteer Firefighters Program for 4 digital radios with accessories.

The fire department continues to educate residents about the fire hazard associated with **pine pitch canker infected trees**. Numerous people have removed infected trees.

### Inverness

**Chipper Days** - August 18 - 22, 2008 -- The Inverness Fire Department is underwriting this program to encourage people to work on defensible space and remove Sudden Oak Death infected trees. \$30 to participate - no size limit on brush piles. The chipper comes to your roadside.

**Sudden Oak Death Program** -- Two consultants are educating property owners about S.O.D.'s effects on their trees. Four local companies will provide a free consultation on cost-effective ways to deal with dead and dying trees. The Fire Department will underwrite up to \$175.00 per hour for chipping brush where it is not feasible to bring it to the roadside during Chipper Days.

**Defensible Space** -- The Fire Department is available to conduct defensible space evaluations at the request of property owners. Call 669-1414 for more information

### West Marin

\* **Disaster Radios** - The Disaster Councils in Nicasio, Bolinas and Inverness have made great progress in acquiring emergency radios for the neighborhood liaisons and other parts of the Community Emergency Response Team.

\* \$34,000 in **Rural Fire Assistance Grants** from the National Park Service to Nicasio, Bolinas and Inverness Fire Departments was awarded for wildland firefighting equipment and radios .

\* \$53,000 in a **Community Assistance Grant** from the National Park Service to FIREsafe MARIN provided 12 free brush drop off days in Nicasio and Olema and chipper days in Muir Beach. These programs were implemented by Marin County Fire Department and the Muir Beach Volunteer Fire Department.