

Fuel Treatments



Using prescribed fire to reduce hazardous fuel and remove non-native species at PORE.



Removing fire prone eucalyptus to protect homes near GOGA. Non-native eucalyptus removal is also being done at other parks in California and Hawaii.



Mechanical treatment (cut, buck and scatter) at LAME to reduce encroachment of pinyon-juniper. Project in collaboration with JFS/USGS.



Thinning at NOCA to create a shaded fuel break near developed areas. Future fires in this area will be easier to control.

The Fuels Program aims to reduce hazardous fuels and restore vegetation to a safer, healthier, more historic condition. This is done with prescribed fire as well as with mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments. Much of this work is done in the wildland-urban interface where park lands and developed areas meet. The goal is to prevent loss, both economic and ecological. Fuel treatments address several kinds of problems...

Values at Risk - Increased development near wildlands creates more potential for wildland fire to damage property. By reducing fuel near structures and communities, this threat is mitigated. **Encroachment** - Lack of fire has caused changes in vegetation which can make fire more difficult to control, and can lead to other kinds of ecological loss. Many fuel treatments involve the removal of pinyon pine, juniper, Douglas fir and other shade tolerant conifers. **Non-native Fuels** - Numerous non-native species have altered vegetation types which can cause fire to spread more rapidly or create unhealthy competition for the native pioneer species that colonize recently burned areas. **Missing Fire Cycles** - Many areas need pre-treatment before fire can be reintroduced.

BROADCAST BURNING. TREE REMOVAL. THINNING. PILE BURNING. BRUSH CUTTING. CHIPPING. HAND CUTTING. HERBICIDES. GOATS.

Fire Education, Prevention, and Information



This year, Fire Education Specialists from the Pacific West Region participated in Camp Smokey, a special interagency event at the California State Fair. SCA Fire Education interns and highschool students from "Generation Green" in Fresno also staffed the event. During 18 days of the Fair, families learn about fire safety and minimum impact recreation.

It is challenging to integrate fire ecology and fire prevention messages. Traditional park interpretation is aimed at resource protection whereas fire education is also concerned with the protection of human life and private property. Prevention of negative impacts means both the resource and the public...

The Fire Education, Prevention, and Information Program continues to build understanding through communication about fire and fuels management activities. A partnership with the Student Conservation Association has allowed thousands of people to be contacted through community events, home defensible space evaluations, and fire education programs. New Fire Management web pages are now online for SEKI, GOGA, PORE and YOSE. New publications and exhibits have been developed including JOTR's innovative mobile exhibit in an historic fire engine. Information Officer support was provided for numerous fire events including suppression efforts in Montana and Southern California, Wildland fire Use at NOCA, SEKI, OLYM and YOSE, and other incidents including space shuttle debris collection.