Remembering the Vision Fire 1995-2005

Fire in the Ecosystem, Fire in the Wildland-Urban Interface

...An illegal campfire, rekindled by strong east winds, had escaped initial attack. Before the first night was over, the fire had raced to the ocean, and forty five structures were lost...

Exhaustion, and sadness for what could not be replaced, was followed by renewal. After the rains, there was a great resurgence of life...

10 Year Anniversary Events

Ongoing
Film: Spark of Life-Fire at Point Reyes
An 11-minute presentation on the Vision Fire. Includes original footage and interviews with people involved in different aspects of the fire. Shown on request at the Bear Valley Visitor Center, Point Reyes National Seashore.

Saturday, September 10, 10 am-2:30 pm
Nature Hike: Tour of the Burn Area
See how the landscape has responded to the Vision Fire during a visit to the burn area with Bay Nature and NPS Fire Education Specialist, Jennifer Chapman. Hike begins at the Bayview Trailhead and covers approximately 5 miles. See also www.baynature.org.

Saturday, September 17, 10 am-4:30 pm
Field Seminar: Fire in the Ecosystem
Point Reyes National Seashore Association Field Seminar
Presentations 10 am-12:30 pm, Muddy Hollow Field Trip 1:30-4:30 pm
Registration required, call 415-663-1200. Suggested donation $15-$35.

...Changes in habitat caused the populations of some species to increase and others to decrease. Monitoring and research in the burn area has led to many important insights about the ecosystem....

Laurel Collins, Geomorphologist, Watershed Sciences - Effects on the Watershed
Tom Gardali, Biologist, PRBO Conservation Science - Landbirds
Barbara Holzman, Professor of Biogeography, S.F. State University - Effects on Vegetation
Jerry Powell, Professor Emeritus of Insect Biology, U.C. Berkeley - Butterflies and Moths
Gary Fellers, Biologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Point Reyes Field Station - Wildlife

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Saturday, October 1, 10 am-4 pm
Field Seminar: Fire in the Wildland-Urban Interface
Point Reyes National Seashore Association Field Seminar
Presentations 10 am-12 pm, Mount Vision Field Trip 1-4 pm
Registration required, call 415-663-1200. Suggested donation $15-$35.

...Firefighting strategies used during the Vision Fire were based on the priority to protect life and property. Extensive efforts were made to rehabilitate firelines to prevent long term scarring to the landscape...

Ed Mestre, Battalion Chief, Marin County Fire Department - Firefighting Operations and Structure Protection
Keith Parker, Senior Captain, Marin County Fire Department (Tomales Station) - Initial Attack and Defensible Space
Roger Wong, Fire Management Officer, Point Reyes National Seashore - Fire Management Policy at the Seashore
Alison Forrestel, Fire Ecologist, National Park Service, S.F. Bay Area - Emergency Rehabilitation for Resource Protection

Sunday, October 2, 1-4 pm
Environmental Action Committee of West Marin Field Trip:
Follow-up on the Phoenix Report
Visit the neighborhoods affected by the Vision Fire with foresters who prepared the community recovery plan. Includes a 10-year update on fire ecology, vegetation management, and safety improvements. This easy 2 mile hike, led by Tom Gaman, Ray Moritz, and Carol Rice, begins at the Bayview Trailhead. RSVP to Tom Gaman, 415-669-7100. Suggested donation to EAC, $20.

Sunday, October 2, 4-9 pm
Celebrating Rebirth - A Gathering on Inverness Ridge
Slide show, pot luck, artwork, and stories.
Hosted by photographer Richard Blair and artist Kathleen Goodwin. RSVP 415-663-1615.

Saturday, October 8, 7-9 pm
Readings: Point Reyes Ten Years After the Vision Fire
Point Reyes Books, 11315 State Route 1, Point Reyes Station
Presentations by Geoff Coffey, Sim Van der Ryn, Ane Carla Rovetta, Greg Sarris.
Sponsored by Bay Nature and Point Reyes Books.

Saturday, October 15, 2-4 pm
Discussion: Community Perspectives - Reflection on the Vision Fire
Red Barn, Bear Valley, Point Reyes National Seashore
A public dialogue on ecology, firefighting, private property, and fire safety. Guest speakers will present insights for discussion. Reception to follow.

...The coastal environment can experience intense, weather-driven fire events. These are usually started by a variety of human activities, and are difficult to control because of hot, dry, fast moving, off-shore winds. What was learned during the Vision Fire can affect our future decisions...

Sarah Allen, Science Advisor, Point Reyes National Seashore
Ken Massucco, Chief, Marin County Fire Department
Anne Murphy, Home Ranch
Ray Moritz, Fire Safe Landscaping Consultant

For More Information - www.nps.gov/pore/fire