

Site-Specific Work Plan, Parma Park

Santa Barbara City Fire Department and Parks and Recreation
Department

Fire Resiliency Project



Existing Conditions

Parma Park is regionally located within the City of Santa Barbara on the southern coast of California. Parma Park totals 200 acres and is located in the extreme foothill zone of the High Fire Hazard Area, roughly bordered by State Round 192 to the south, and includes a portion of Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Vegetation Management Unit (VMU) 28. (Figure 1). The Park is bordered by Coyote Road to the east and West Mountain Drive turning into El Cielito Road to the west. Land use of the surrounding area is residential development. Parma Park is located within the United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute Santa Barbara topographic quadrangle in Section 11 of Township 4 North and Range 27 West, and Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) 012-120-005, 021-120-006, 021-130-001, 021-130-002, 021-130-003, and 021-050-013 (SummitWest 2023).

Parma Park is centered at approximately 34.448376 latitude and -119.680529 longitude, and elevation of the park ranges from 300 to 700 feet above mean sea level (msl). The majority of Parma Park soil is made up of Lodo-Sespe complex 50-75% slopes (somewhat excessively drained and derived from Residuum weathered from sandstone and shale), Todos-Lodo complex 30-50% slopes (well drained and derived from Residuum weathered from sandstone and shale), and Gaviota-Rock outcrop complex 50-75% slopes (well drained and Residuum weathered from sandstone) (USDA, 2023). This park is composed of twelve different vegetation communities. The native bigpod ceanothus chaparral community makes up a majority of the park space, followed by the coast live oak woodland and forest community. Parma Park is an open space park with a trail system running throughout.

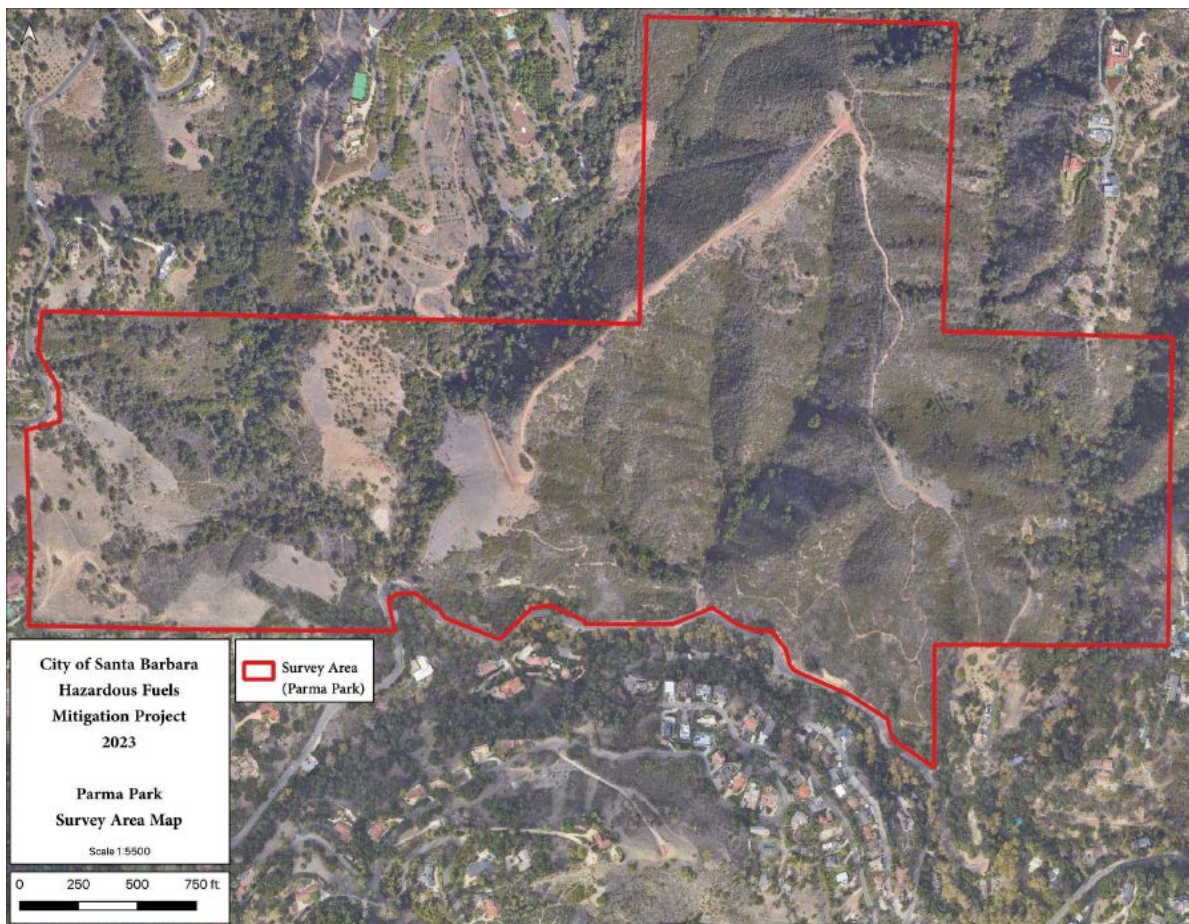


Figure 1: Parma Park

Approach

Vegetation management work will be performed by a City Fire Department seasonal crew, starting October 3, 2023. In accordance with the CWPP, associated Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), and Parma Park Biological Resource Assessment (BRA), a biological evaluation/pre-activity survey will be conducted on site within 10 days of scheduled work. Limits of work and environmentally sensitive areas will be delineated on site prior to work commencement; following site mark-out, photo points will be established for before and after photos to be included in the After-Action Report. An Environmental Awareness Training for all crew members will be held by a qualified biologist prior to commencement of vegetation management activities. A biological monitor will be present for project activities around sensitive natural resources, as needed, in accordance with the Parma Park BRA recommended avoidance and mitigation measures.

Crews will be targeting deadwood and invasive species to reduce fuel loads in the park through weed whipping, hand cutting, hand pulling, chainsaw work, chipping, flattening, raking, shoveling, and bucking existing woody debris; details on each target area are described in the photo document included below. Targeted invasive species include bristly ox-tongue, acacia, canary island date palm, non-native annual grasses, eucalyptus, Peruvian pepper, olive, onionweed, cape ivy, French broom, thoroughwort, cotoneaster, euphorbia, and milk thistle.

Crews will also focus on removing vegetation from trails, also known as trail brushing, to maintain clear site access for emergency crews and vehicles in the event of a fire.

All tools shall be sanitized before use at the work site. Weed whipping will not be used on onionweed or cape ivy so as to not further spread the invasive plant. All invasives will be removed by root, or stump ground, when feasible. When not feasible, the City will seek an exemption from the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advisory Committee to treat stumps with herbicide to inhibit regrowth. Invasives in seed, or at risk of spreading due to rhizomes / vegetative debris will be disposed of off-site. If needed, fiber rolls and/or mulch will be deployed on the slope(s) where vegetation was removed for soil stabilization.

This Site-Specific Work Plan will function as a working document. Work areas will be marked out and surveyed ahead of crew progression. This allows for all work to stay within the confines of a biological evaluation/pre-activity survey, and for adjustments to on-site conditions to be made, if needed.

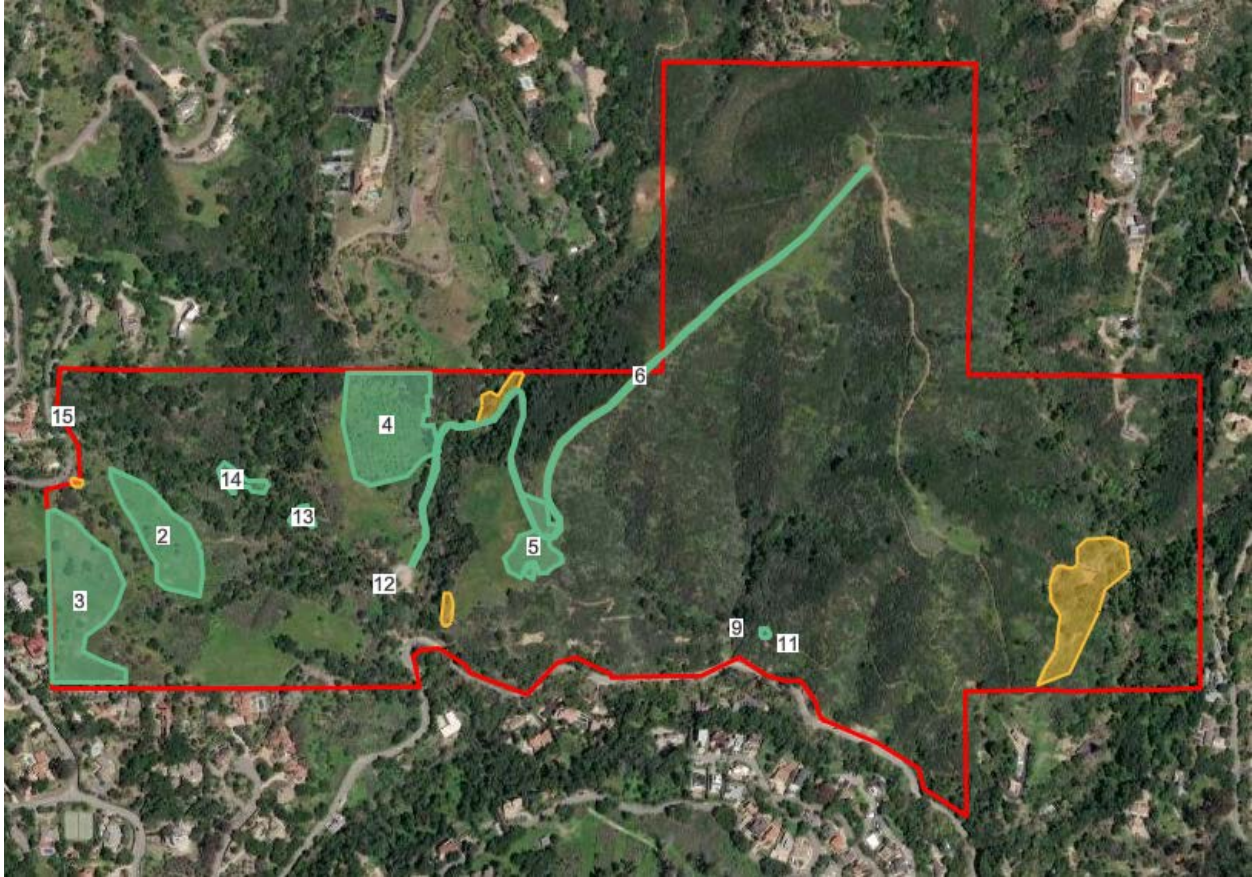


Figure 2: Parma Park Work Areas 1-15. Green polygons show work areas completed during the 2023-2024 seasonal work window. Orange polygons show target work areas for future seasonal work.

Safety Plan

Designated work zones will be marked out on site. All crew members will wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) at all times. Crew members using mechanized tools (chainsaw and weed whippers) will be properly trained. Work will not occur during rain or other unsafe weather conditions.

Work Activity Schedule

Work schedule will be between Monday and Thursday, between the hours of 8a.m. to 4:30 p.m., from October 2023 – February 2024. Nesting bird surveys occurred ahead of all work into the nesting bird season (February). No weekend work is allowed unless an emergency necessitates it. Work is dependent on weather conditions.

Proposed Materials / Tools

- Weed whippers
- Chainsaws
- Tarps
- Loppers
- Pole saw
- Hedge trimmers

- Pulaskis
- Shovels
- Burlap-wrapped waddles and wooden stakes (if needed)
- Portable restroom/wash station
- Roll-off dumpster

Work Site Contacts

Mark vonTillow	Mike Lopez	Monique O'Conner
Wildland Specialist	Fire Services Specialist - Crew Lead	Open Space Planner / Biologist
mvontillow@santabarbaraca.gov	mlopez@santabarbaraca.gov	moconner@santabarbaraca.gov
805-331-5406	805-448-1091	805-560-7576

Pre-Activity Biological Surveys

Pre-activity biological surveys were conducted in Work Areas 1-15 within 10 days of scheduled crew work. The pre-activity surveys were conducted by either the City's internal staff biologist, Monique O'Conner, or by Rincon biologist Kaitlyn Weaver. During the pre-activity surveys, Work Areas were assessed for presence of sensitive biological resources, and were flagged to guide crew work. The purpose of the survey was to confirm the location and presence of sensitive biological resources that were documented and mapped in the park's Biological Resources Assessment (BRA), and to flag invasive plant species that will be removed during project activities. All pre-activity surveys were conducted in accordance with the requirements in the City's Community Wildlife Protection Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and Honda Valley Park BRA, to protect sensitive biological resources.

All pre-activity biological surveys were not protocol level for special status species with potential to occur; additionally, the surveys were conducted in fall, outside of the identifiable/blooming period for some plant species. Negative results do not guarantee species absence from the survey area.

Survey 1

The first pre-activity biological survey was conducted on site by Monique O'Conner (City biologist/arborist) on October 12, 2023. This biological survey area focused on Work Areas 1 and 2 included in this work plan, including a 150-foot buffer, on City property.

The first survey area was composed primarily of the native coast live oak woodland, native California sagebrush purple sage scrub, and non-native wild oats and annual brome grasslands vegetation communities. All special status plant species identified in the Parma Park BRA were flagged for avoidance, however, approximately 15 Santa Barbara honeysuckle individuals would be impacted due to overgrowth on trail. The Santa Barbara honeysuckle were trimmed back during work, without removal of the root system, so the plants would persist. Additionally, 540 Santa Barbara honeysuckle are being planted as part of the Parma Park habitat restoration project. No special status wildlife were observed within the Work Areas during the survey.

Survey 2

The second pre-activity biological survey occurred on October 30, 2023, by Monique O'Conner. This biological survey area focused on Work Area 3. The second survey area was composed primarily of the non-native wild oats and annual brome grasslands vegetation communities. No special status plant species were identified in Work Area 3, consistent with the Honda Valley BRA. Patches of purple needlegrass were flagged for avoidance; the seedheads were left in place to aid in identification during installation of the restoration site. Wildlife species observed included scrub jay, California towhee, turkey vulture, western bluebird, bushtit, and oak titmouse. No special status wildlife were observed within the Work Areas during the survey.

Survey 3

The third pre-activity biological survey occurred on December 15, 2023, by Monique O'Conner. This biological survey area focused on Work Area 4, which consisted of the planted olive grove. One additional individual Santa Barbara honeysuckle, and one Santa Barbara honeysuckle population consisting of approximately 7 individuals not included in the Parma Park BRA were observed, flagged,

and recorded in FieldMaps. No special status wildlife were observed within the Work Area during the survey.

Survey 4

The fourth pre-activity biological survey occurred on January 3, 2024, by Rincon biologist Kaitlyn Weaver. This biological survey was a resurvey of Work Area 4, due to a lapse in work activities for the holidays. The results of this survey are included in a pre-activity survey memorandum attached to this Site-Specific Work Plan (Attachment 1).

Survey 5

The fifth pre-activity biological survey occurred on January 3, 2024, by Rincon biologist Kaitlyn Weaver. This biological survey focused on Work Areas 2 and 5. The results of this survey are included in a pre-activity survey memorandum attached to this Site-Specific Work Plan (Attachment 1).

Survey 6

The sixth pre-activity biological survey occurred on January 18 and 19, 2024, by Rincon biologist Kaitlyn Weaver. This biological survey focused on Work Areas 6-15. The results of this survey are included in a pre-activity survey memorandum attached to this Site-Specific Work Plan (Attachment 1).

Survey 7

The seventh nesting bird survey and pre-activity biological survey occurred on February 12, 2024, by Rincon biologist Kaitlyn Weaver. This biological survey was a resurvey of Work Areas 4 and 5 due to a laps in work activities. The results of this survey are included in a pre-activity survey memorandum attached to this Site-Specific Work Plan (Attachment 1).

Conclusions

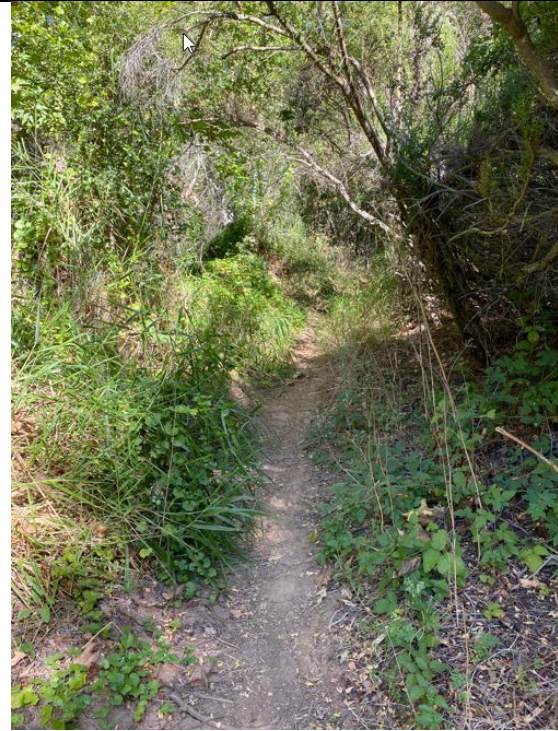
The proposed work methods stated herein are feasible, and no significant environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. While approximately 15 Santa Barbara honeysuckle individuals would have temporary impacts due to overgrowth on trail, this impact would be mitigated via the 540 Santa Barbara honeysuckle that are being planted as part of the Parma Park habitat restoration project. Additionally, the Santa Barbara honeysuckle were trimmed back during work, without removal of the root system, so the plants would persist. A biological monitor will be present for project activities around sensitive natural resources in Work Area 8 and to monitor cut and paint herbicide application, as noted below, in accordance with the Parma Park BRA recommended avoidance and mitigation measures. An After Action Report (“before” and “after” photo documentation) will be submitted following completion of all Project related work activities.

References

- City of Santa Barbara (City). 2021. *Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)*. February 2021.
- City of Santa Barbara (City). 2021. *City of Santa Barbara Community Wildfire Protection Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP)*. January 2021.
- SummitWest Environmental, Inc. *Biological Resource Assessment for Parma Park, City of Santa Barbara Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project*. November 29, 2023.
- United States Department of Agricultural (USDA). 2023. Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey. *Soil Survey Area: Santa Barbara County, California*. <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/>. Accessed August 2023.

Work Area Descriptions

Work Areas will be finalized ahead of crews progression, following pre-activity survey / site mark out.
Green shaded Work Areas have been finalized.



Work Area #: 1

Work Description: Brush eastern trails (shown in yellow below) 3-6ft wide to maintain clear site access.



Work Area #: 2

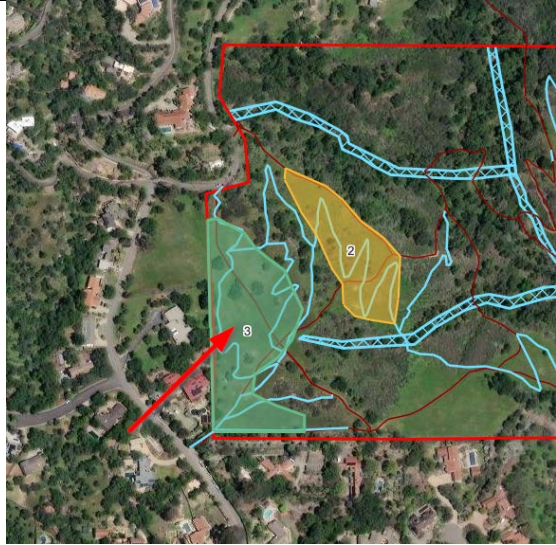
Work Description Remove all castor bean, onionweed, and fennel. Castor bean seed heads and onion weed to be cut, bagged, and disposed of off site. Work Area #2 will be revisited multiple times to remove resprouting castor bean.





Work Area #: 3

Work Description: Weedwhip all non-native grasses/mustards in preparation for restoration project. Remove all jade plant and dispose of off site. Pull all tarping used for solarization.



Work Area #: 4

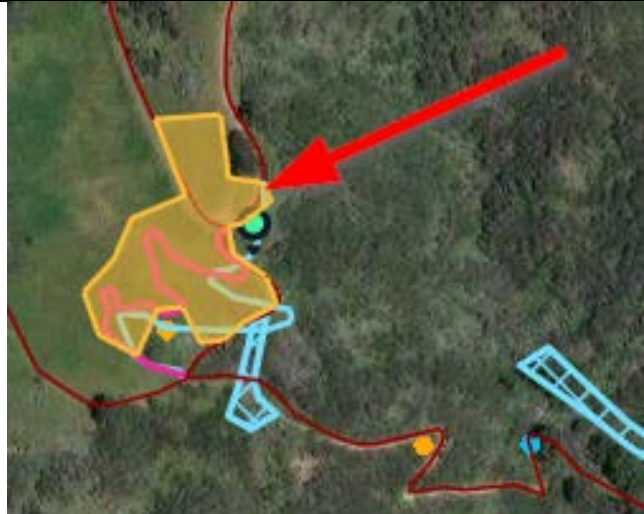
Work Description: Prune all "heritage" olive trees (trees with large burnt stump) via lifting/lolipopping branches. Remove all young volunteer olives. Remove stump to 6" down, and bury.





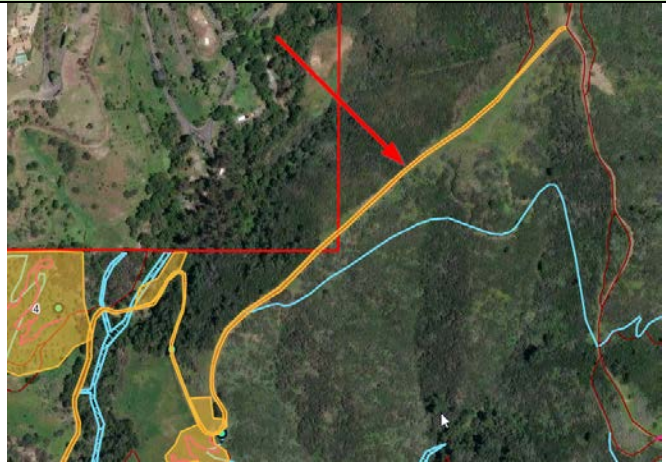
Work Area #: 5

Work Description: Remove all onionweed – remove entire plant, including root system. All onionweed to be bagged and disposed of off site. Work Area #5 will be revisited multiple times to remove resprouting onionweed.



Work Area #: 6

Work Description: Maintain vehicle and fire engine access route by pruning vegetation to maintain vertical/horizontal clearance. Hedge dry mustards and remove tree tobacco adjacent to road.





Work Area #: 8

Work Description: Remove Peruvian pepper tree. Leave 2ft of stump for herbicide treatment. To be included in this seasons treatment.



Work Area #: 9

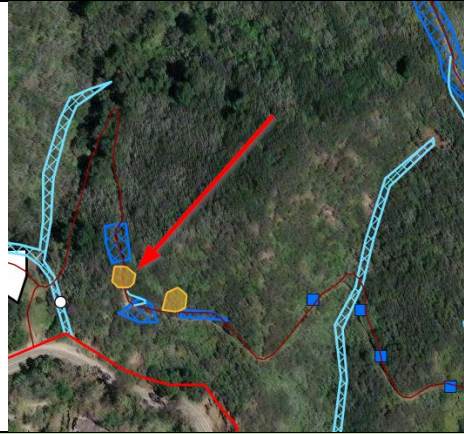
Work Description: Remove all tree tobacco. If large/woody, cut stump to 6" down, and bury.





Work Area #: 10

Work Description: Remove Peruvian pepper tree. Leave 2ft of stump for herbicide treatment. To be included in this seasons treatment.



Work Area #: 11

Work Description: Remove Peruvian pepper tree. Leave 2ft of stump for herbicide treatment. To be included in this seasons treatment.





Work Area #: 12

Work Description: Remove olive and canary island date palm.



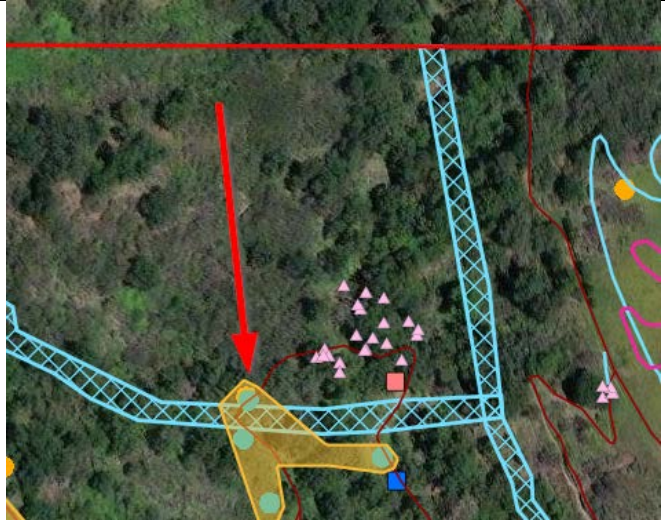
Work Area #: 13

Work Description: Remove all cotoneaster, olive, and thoroughwort.





Work Area #: 14
Work Description: Remove all cotoneaster and olive.



Work Area #: 15
Work Description: Remove olives that are accessible on steep terrain; perform cut and paint herbicide treatment.



Attachment 1



M E M O R A N D U M

Date: January 3, 2024

To: Monique O’Connor
 Associate Planner
 City of Santa Barbara, Parks & Recreation
 620 Laguna Street
 Santa Barbara, California 93101

Via: MOConnor@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

From: Kendra Bonsall
 Biologist
 kbonsall@rinconconsultants.com

Subject: Pre-activity Survey for Work Area 4 at Parma Park

Project Number: 23-15384

On January 2, 2023, Rincon biologist, Kaitlyn Weaver conducted a pre-activity survey at the proposed Work Areas at Parma Park for the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation project (Project). The survey area included Work Area 4 where vegetation management activities will occur, as described in the Site-Specific Work Plan provided by the City. The purpose of the survey was to confirm the location and presence of sensitive biological resources that were documented and mapped in the park’s Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) report and to flag invasive plant species that will be removed and sensitive plant species that will be avoided during project activities. The survey was consistent with the requirements in the City’s Community Wildlife Protection Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and Parma Park BRA to protect sensitive biological resources. The work area had been previously surveyed by the City of Santa Barbara, but a follow up survey was required due to a lapse in work activities.

The survey was conducted on foot from 0700 to 0830 hours with air temperatures ranging from 51 to 61 degrees Fahrenheit, clear skies, and 1 to 5 miles per hour winds. A summary of the findings at Work Area 4 is provided in Table 1 below. No special status wildlife species were observed within Work Area 4 during the survey. One special status plant species, Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata* var. *subspicata*), was identified in Work Area 4 which is consistent with the findings of the Parma Park BRA. The populations of Santa Barbara honeysuckle were flagged, and the crew was informed to avoid any impacts to this special status species.

Invasive plants (olive trees [*Olea europaea*]), were flagged with orange ribbon for removal. A GPS photo point was taken and added in Field Maps to document before photos in the Work Area.

Table 1. Summary of Findings at Work Areas

Work Area	Sensitive Wildlife Observed/Flagged	Sensitive Plants Observed/Flagged	Invasive Plants Observed/Flagged	Other Notes
Work Area 4	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes; olive trees (<i>Olea europaea</i>)	Eastern boundary of Work Area was altered to exclude a dense patch of Santa Barbara honeysuckle.

Work is scheduled to resume in Work Area 4 on January 2. A biological monitor is not recommended since work will avoid any impacts to the Santa Barbara honeysuckle populations.



Thank you for the opportunity to support the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kendra Bonsall". The letters are cursive and fluid.

Kendra Bonsall
Biologist/Project Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yuling Huo". The signature is more stylized and less legible than the one on the left.

Yuling Huo
Certified Arborist/Senior Biologist



M E M O R A N D U M

Date: January 10, 2024

To: Monique O’Conner
Associate Planner
City of Santa Barbara, Parks & Recreation
620 Laguna Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Via: MOConner@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

From: Kendra Bonsall
Biologist
kbonsall@rinconconsultants.com

Subject: Pre-activity Survey for Work Areas 2 and 5 at Parma Park

Project Number: 23-15384

On January 4, 2023, Rincon biologists, Kaitlyn Weaver and Elizabeth Schoemaker conducted a pre-activity survey at the proposed Work Areas at Parma Park for the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation project (Project). The survey area included Work Areas 2 and 5 where vegetation management activities will occur, as described in the Site-Specific Work Plan provided by the City. The purpose of the survey was to confirm the location and presence of sensitive biological resources that were documented and mapped in the Park’s Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) report and to flag invasive plant species that will be removed and sensitive plant species that will be avoided during vegetation management activities. The survey was consistent with the requirements in the City’s Community Wildlife Protection Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and Parma Park BRA to protect sensitive biological resources.

The survey was conducted on foot from 0900 to 1200 hours with air temperatures ranging from 59 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit, clear skies, and 1 to 5 miles per hour winds. No special status wildlife species were observed within the Work Areas during the survey. One special status plant species, Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata* var. *subspicata*), was identified in or immediately adjacent to Work Area 2 and 5 which is consistent with the findings of the Parma Park BRA. The populations of Santa Barbara honeysuckle were flagged. One additional population of Santa Barbara honeysuckle was found on the western border of Work Area 2. The biologists collected the GPS location in Field Maps. A summary of the findings at Work Areas 2 and 5 are provided in Table 1 further below.

Invasive plants (onionweed [*Asphodelus fistulosus*], fennel [*Foeniculum vulgare*], castor bean [*Ricinus communis*]), were flagged with orange ribbon and orange pin flagging for removal. A GPS photo point was taken and added in Field Maps to document the conditions of the Work Areas prior to vegetation management activities.

Table 1. Summary of Findings at Work Areas



Work Area	Sensitive Wildlife Observed/Flagged	Sensitive Plants Observed/Flagged	Invasive Plants Observed/Flagged	Other Notes
Work Area 2	None	None	Yes: onionweed (<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>), fennel (<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>), castor bean (<i>Ricinus communis</i>)	Additional population of Santa Barbara honeysuckle found and mapped near the western boundary.
Work Area 5	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes: onionweed (<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>),	Crew will only use hand tools near southwestern boundary to avoid any incidental impacts to Santa Barbara honeysuckle.

Work is scheduled to start in Work Area 2 on January 8, 2024, and in Work Area 5 on January 9, 2024. A biological monitor is not recommended for either work areas since work will avoid any impacts to the Santa Barbara honeysuckle populations.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Kendra Bonsall
Biologist/Project Manager

Yuling Huo
Certified Arborist/Senior Biologist



MEMORANDUM

Date: January 23, 2024

To: Monique O’Conner
Associate Planner
City of Santa Barbara, Parks & Recreation
620 Laguna Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Via: MOConner@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

From: Kendra Bonsall
Biologist
kbonsall@rinconconsultants.com

Subject: Pre-activity Survey for Work Areas 6 – 15 at Parma Park

Project Number: 23-15384

On January 18 and 19, 2023, Rincon biologist Kaitlyn Weaver conducted pre-activity surveys at the proposed Work Areas at Parma Park for the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation project (Project). The survey area included Work Areas 6 through 15 where vegetation management activities will occur, as described in the Site-Specific Work Plan provided by the City. The purpose of the survey was to confirm the location and presence of sensitive biological resources that were documented and mapped in the Park’s Biological Resources Assessment (BRA) report and to flag invasive plant species that will be removed and sensitive plant species that will be avoided during vegetation management activities. The survey was consistent with the requirements in the City’s Community Wildlife Protection Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) and Parma Park BRA to protect sensitive biological resources.

The survey was conducted on foot from 0900 to 1400 hours with air temperatures ranging from 59 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit, clear skies, and 1 to 5 miles per hour winds on January 18. The remainder of the survey was conducted on January 19 from 1000 to 1130, with air temperatures ranging from 59 to 61, partially cloudy skies, and 1 to 5 miles per hour winds. No special status wildlife species were observed within the Work Areas during the survey. One special status plant species, Santa Barbara honeysuckle (*Lonicera subspicata* var. *subspicata*), was identified in or immediately adjacent to Work Area 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 14 which is consistent with the findings of the Parma Park BRA. The populations of Santa Barbara honeysuckle were marked with pink flagging. A summary of the findings at Work Areas 6 to 15 is provided in Table 1 further below.

Invasive plants (olive trees [*Olea europaea*], Peruvian pepper trees [*Schinus mole*], cape ivy [*Delairea odorata*], cotoneaster [*Cotoneaster apiculatus*], thoroughwort [*Eupatorium hyssopifolium*], black mustard [*Brassica nigra*], tree tobacco [*Nicotiana glauca*], blue gum eucalyptus [*Eucalyptus globulus*] and Canary Island date palm [*Phoenix canariensis*]), were flagged with orange ribbon and orange pin flagging for removal. A GPS photo point was taken and added in Field Maps to document the conditions of the Work Areas prior to vegetation management activities. Larger invasive woody trees that are difficult to remove mechanically will undergo herbicide treatment. These invasive woody trees were flagged in blue and an IPM photo point was added to Field Maps for each tree. Invasive woody trees identified for herbicide treatment are shown in Table 1.



Table 1. Summary of Findings at Work Areas

Work Area	Sensitive Wildlife Observed/Flagged	Sensitive Plants Observed/Flagged	Invasive Plants Observed/Flagged	Other Notes
Work Area 6	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes: black mustard [<i>Brassica nigra</i>].	Unable to locate tree tobacco [<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>] noted in Work Area plan.
Work Area 7	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes: cape ivy [<i>Delairea odorata</i>], thoroughwort [<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>], blue gum eucalyptus [<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>] (IPM), and olive trees [<i>Olea europaea</i>] (IPM)	None
Work Area 8	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes, Peruvian pepper trees [<i>Schinus mole</i>] (IPM)	None
Work Area 9	None	None	Yes, tree tobacco [<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>] (IPM)	None
Work Area 10	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes, Peruvian pepper trees [<i>Schinus mole</i>] (IPM)	None
Work Area 11	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes, Peruvian pepper trees [<i>Schinus mole</i>] (IPM)	None
Work Area 12	None	None	Yes: Canary Island date palm [<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>]	Patches of poison oak vines along the hillside above the creek for crew to be aware of. Unable to locate olive trees [<i>Olea europaea</i>] noted in Work Area plan.
Work Area 13	None	None	Yes: thoroughwort [<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>], and olive trees [<i>Olea europaea</i>] (IPM)	Unable to locate cotoneaster [<i>Cotoneaster apiculatus</i>] noted in Work Area plan.
Work Area 14	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes: cotoneaster [<i>Cotoneaster apiculatus</i>] (IPM) and olive trees [<i>Olea europaea</i>] (IPM)	None



Work Area	Sensitive Wildlife Observed/Flagged	Sensitive Plants Observed/Flagged	Invasive Plants Observed/Flagged	Other Notes
Work Area 15	None	Santa Barbara Honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera subspicata</i> var. <i>subspicata</i>)	Yes, olive trees [<i>Olea europaea</i>] (IPM) and blue gum eucalyptus [<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>] (IPM)	Much of the original Work Area was inaccessible due to a physical barrier (cliff). Work Area boundary updated to reflect accessible area that was surveyed by biologist. Hillside covered with poison oak vine. Crew should decide if olive trees can be reached safely, as they are located on the hillside.

Work is scheduled to occur in Work Areas 6 to 15 from January 22 to January 25. A biological monitor is recommended for Work Area 8 as the work is adjacent to a Santa Barbara honeysuckle population. A biological monitor is not recommended for any of the remaining work areas as no impacts are anticipated. Herbicide treatment is anticipated to occur by a qualified applicator on January 29. Rincon will monitor herbicide treatment of up to 20 locations, as requested by the City.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Kendra Bonsall
Biologist/Project Manager

Yuling Huo
Certified Arborist/Senior Biologist



M E M O R A N D U M

Date: February 16, 2024

To: Monique O’Conner
Associate Planner
City of Santa Barbara, Parks & Recreation
620 Laguna Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Via: MOConner@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

From: Kendra Bonsall
Biologist
kbonsall@rinconconsultants.com

Subject: **Nesting Bird Survey and Pre-activity Survey for Work Areas 4 and 5 and East Trail Loop at Parma Park**

Project Number: 23-15548

Background

On February 12, 2024, Rincon biologist, Kaitlyn Weaver conducted a nesting bird survey and pre-activity surveys for proposed Work Areas and additional trails along the east trail loop for the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation project (Project). The portion of Parma Park surveyed was requested by the City of Santa Barbara via email on February 5, 2024. The survey area included Work Areas 4 and 5 where vegetation management activities will occur, as described in the Site-Specific Work Plan provided by the City. The survey areas included the Project footprint and adjacent buffer (500 feet), including the eastern trail loop that is currently under construction. This area was previously surveyed by Rincon on January 2 and 4, 2024. The purpose of this recent survey was to confirm the presence/absence of sensitive biological resources, including nesting birds, within the study area prior to vegetation clearance activities. The survey was consistent with the City of Santa Barbara’s (City’s) Community Wildfire Protection Plan Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP).

Methods

The survey was conducted on foot from 0700 to 1130 hours, under clear skies, with air temperatures ranging from 44-62 degrees Fahrenheit, and 0-5 miles per hour winds. Ms. Weaver surveyed for nesting birds and/or nesting activity, such as courtship displays, copulation, vegetation or food carry, presence of fledglings, and territorial displays (e.g., singing or aggression). Areas that were inaccessible (e.g., private property, area behind locked fences) were surveyed via binoculars from within the Project site or public vantage point.

Results

No nests or nesting activity was observed during the survey within the areas that were surveyed at Parma Park. Several birds were observed during the survey, none of which exhibited breeding behavior, including oak titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), Anna’s hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), wrentit (*Chamaea fasciata*), american crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), dark-eyed junco (*Junco hyemalis*), song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), California towhee (*Melozone crissalis*), spotted towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*), bushtit



(*Psaltriparus minimus*), yellow-rumped warbler (*Setophaga coronata*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), California thrasher (*Toxostoma redivivum*), and American robin (*Turdus migratorius*).

Conclusions

Suitable nesting habitat is present within the Project footprint with the most suitable locations being native and non-native mature trees (e.g., blue gum eucalyptus) and large woody native plants (e.g., toyon). Native bird species with potential to nest in this habitat are present; however, none of the birds that were observed are currently exhibiting breeding behavior. If there is a lapse in vegetation management activities, or if active nesting within or adjacent to the work areas is suspected, further surveys or nest monitoring may be necessary. If needed, Rincon can provide necessary follow-up surveys or monitoring as described under Task 2 of our contract for As-needed Biological Monitoring and Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to support the Parma Park Hazardous Fuels Mitigation Project. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Rincon Consultants, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kendra Bonsall".

Kendra Bonsall
Biologist/Project Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yuling Huo".

Yuling Huo
Certified Arborist/Senior Biologist