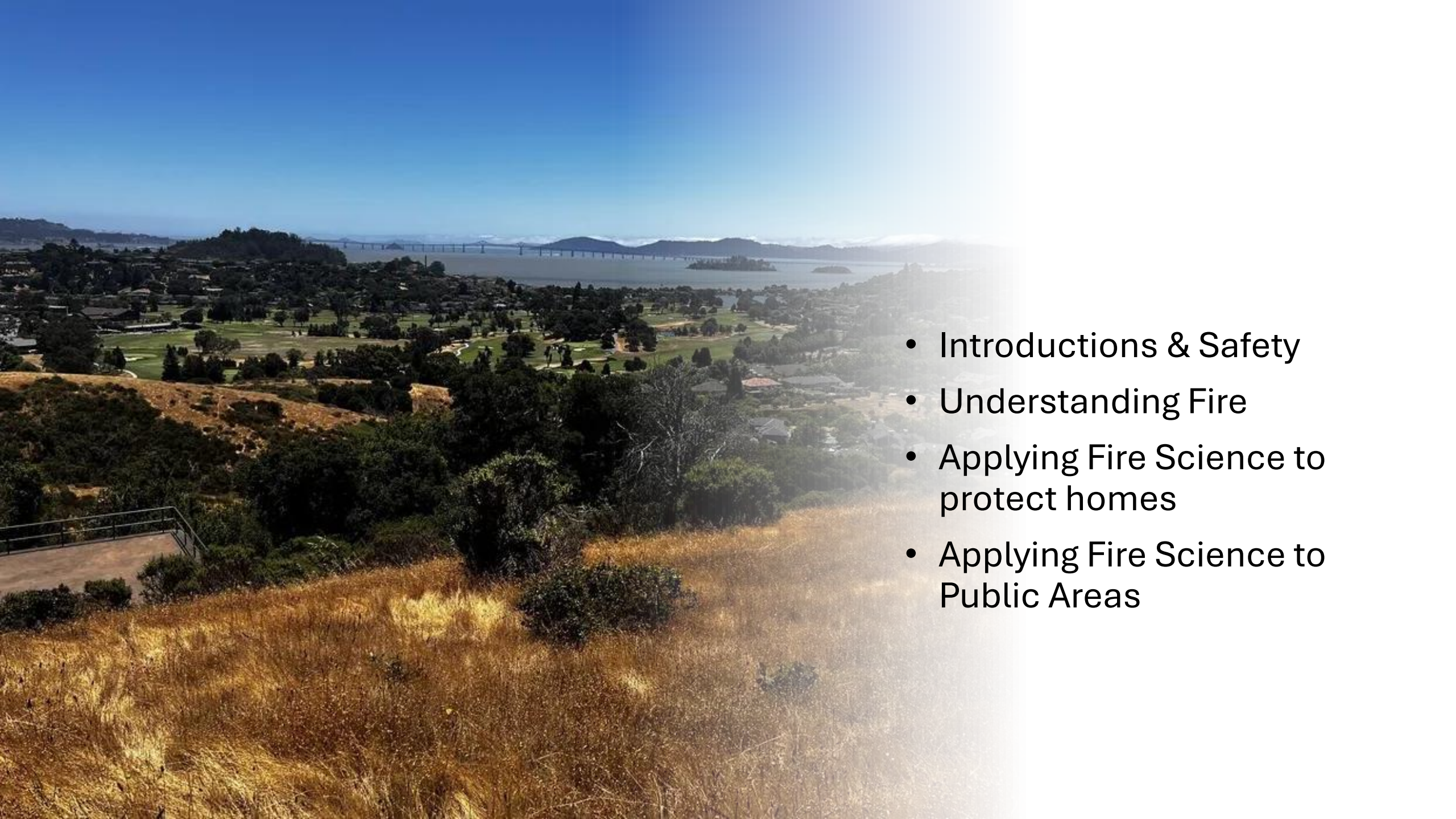


Community Forum on Wildfire Preparedness

San Rafael Fire Department
California State Parks
Department of Insurance



- Introductions & Safety
- Understanding Fire
- Applying Fire Science to protect homes
- Applying Fire Science to Public Areas



How do you build a campfire?

How Does Fire Spread?





Fuel Spacing

Break Out Groups

- What's the hazard or risk?
- Why?
- How do you mitigate the Hazard?
- Be prepared to have someone brief out to the larger group









09/09/2024 2:37 PM









8/12/2023 11:12 AM







10/07/2024 9:17 AM



06/26/2023 2:07 PM



08/17/2024 3:07 PM







Defensible Space and Home Hardening

- You CAN change your home's ignition potential!
- Homes catch fire due to:
 - Wind blown embers
 - Radiant heat from nearby burning vegetation or structures
 - Direct flame contact

START FROM THE HOUSE OUT AND KEEP IT GREEN, LEAN, and CLEAN

Take action now to reduce the wildfire risk to your home

OUTBUILDINGS

Create defensible space around separate outbuildings, including garages and sheds, just like you would treat your home

VENTS

Enclose vents with 1/8 inch metal mesh or smaller

ROOF

Remove leaves, pine needles, and debris from your roof and gutters

GUTTERS

Install metal gutter guards to prevent debris build-up

VEGETATION ISLANDS

Create islands of lower growing plants or shrubs. Use non-combustible materials like decorative rock, gravel, or stepping stone pathways to separate vegetation

EVACUATION

Maintain vegetation within 10 feet of roads and driveways

TREES

Keep trees well spaced and trimmed up off the ground

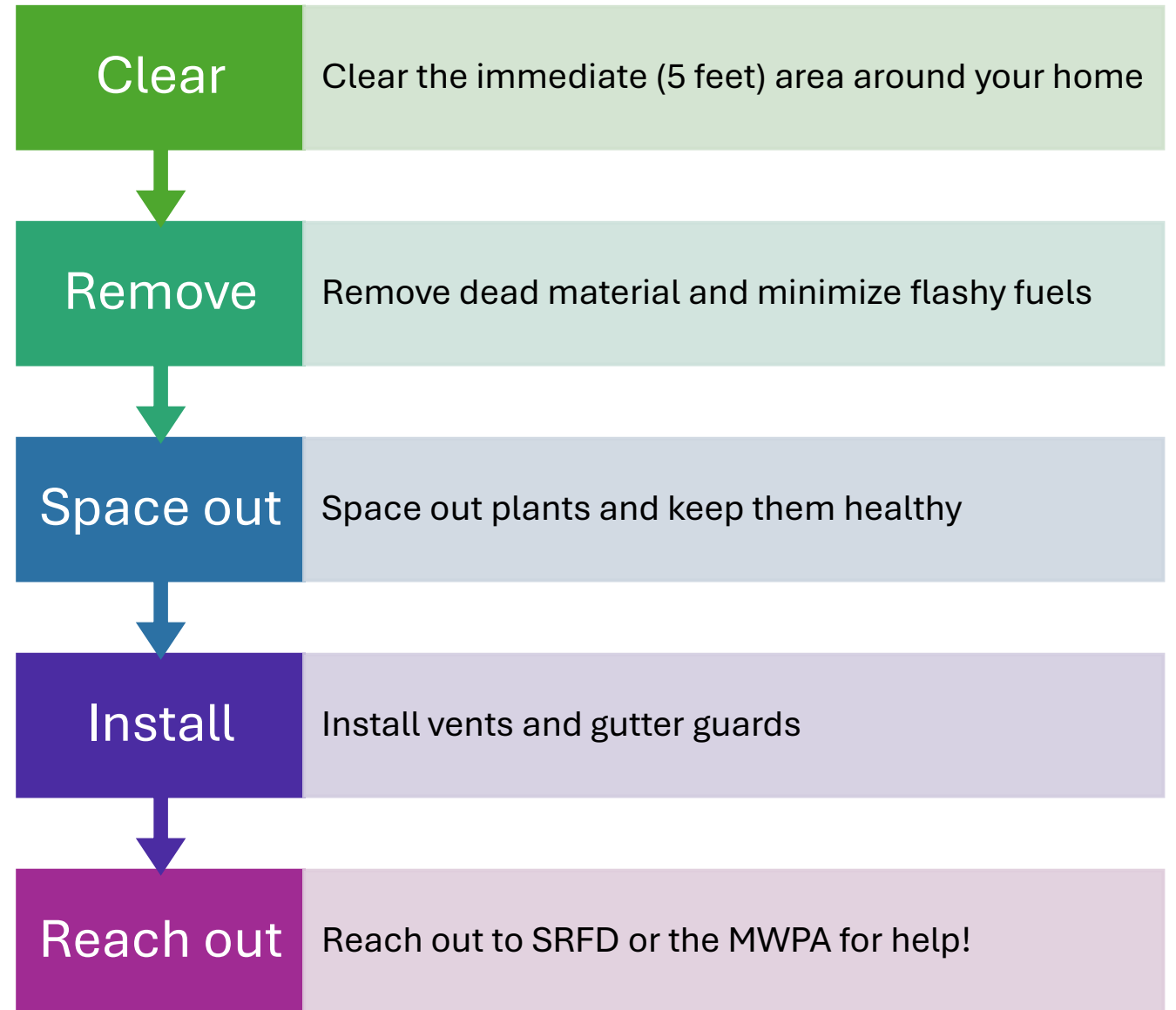
GRASS

Cut grasses to a maximum height of 3 inches

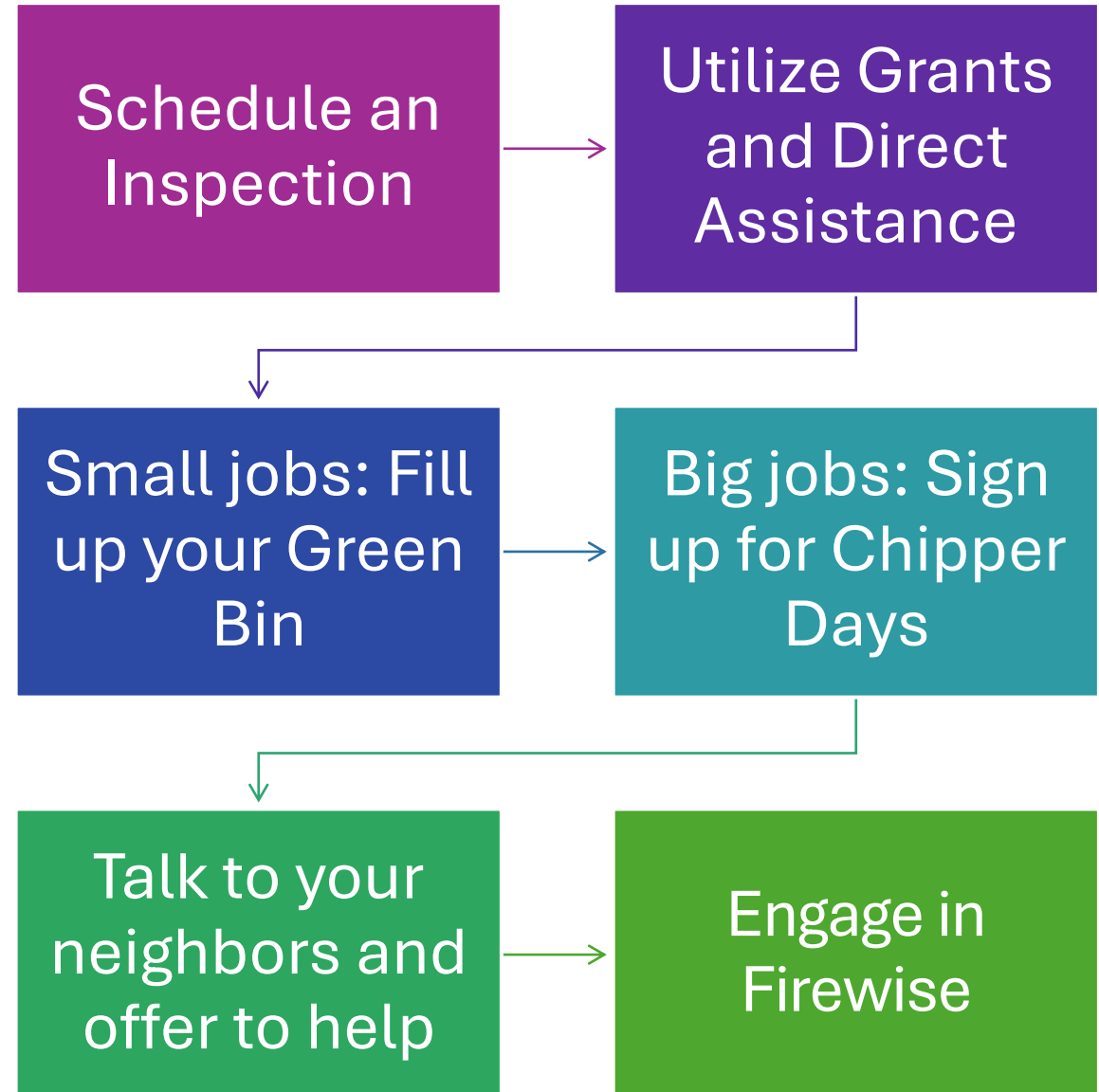
To learn more about your responsibilities, support resources, annual evaluations, how to work with your neighbors, and what the city is doing to adapt to wildfire, please visit SRFD.org
¿Hablas español? Visite srfd.org/espanol

Action Items

What are a few things you can take home today?

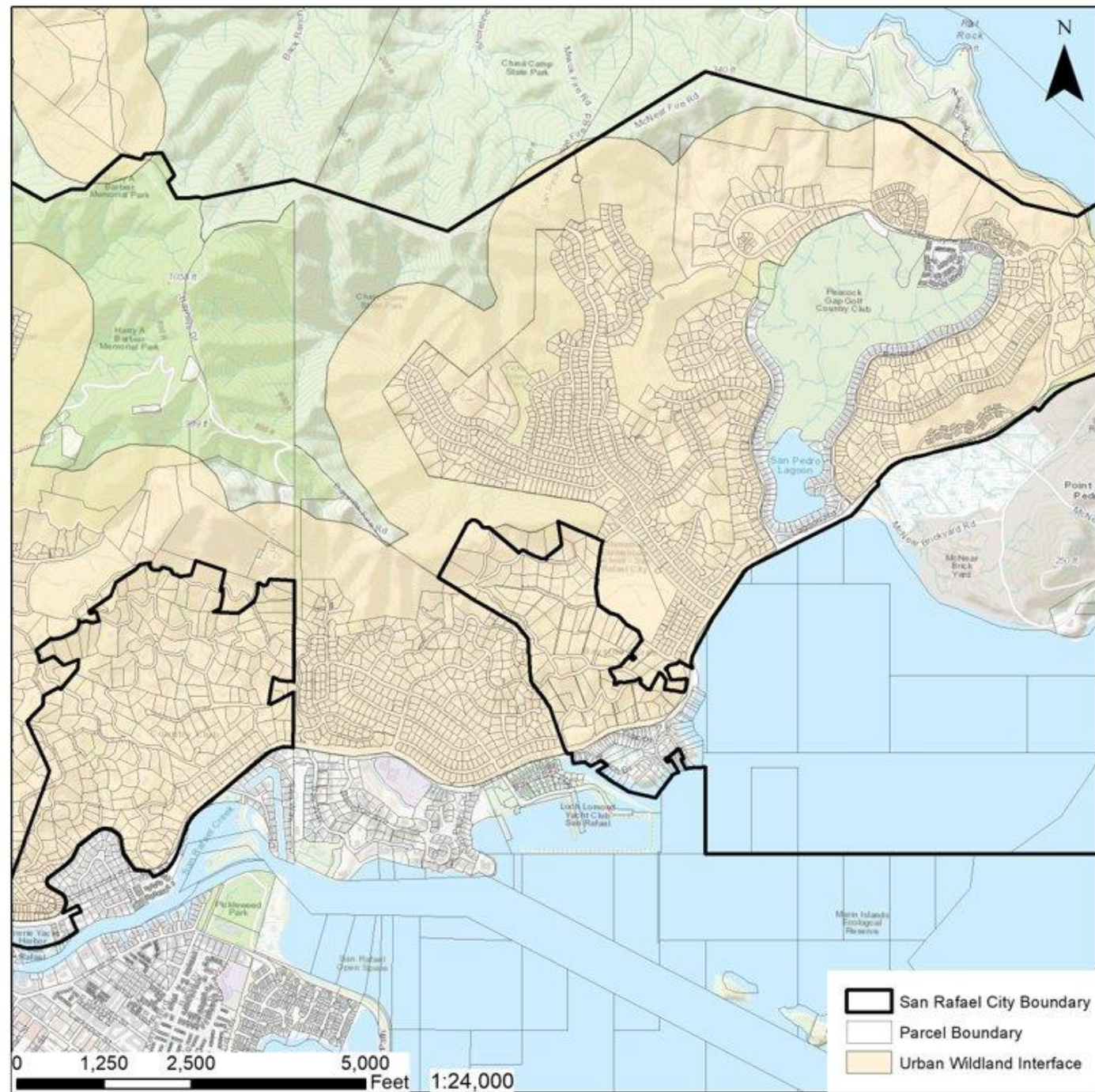


How to Start





Wildland Urban Interface (or intermix)



Vegetation Stewardship For Wildland Fire Resilience

Recent Work Completed in China
Camp State Park





Context of Work

- Absence of historic fire regimes has prompted expansion of woody vegetation into grasslands and woodlands, and increased the amount of accumulated dead wood in forested environments
- Nonnative species introduced over the past three centuries have proliferated, altering fire behavior and outcompeting native plants in some areas
- State Parks has engaged in prescribed burning, fuel reduction and woody invasive species management at China Camp for 40+ years
- These efforts focus on promoting biodiversity and often support resilience of human and natural communities

McNear Fire Road/Ridge Top Stewardship Work

- Ridge top Eucalyptus Grove Removal and Prescribed Burns in Early 2000s,
- Maintenance of oak woodlands and resprouting eucalyptus has been ongoing in subsequent years
- 2014 and 2022 Defensible Space Work in Partnership with SRFD, MCFD and others
- 2023 Understory Prescribed Burns reduced fuels in 21 acre area along ridge top
- 2025 Pile burning effort provided additional fuel reduction and included burning of 185 piles





North San Pedro Vegetation Stewardship

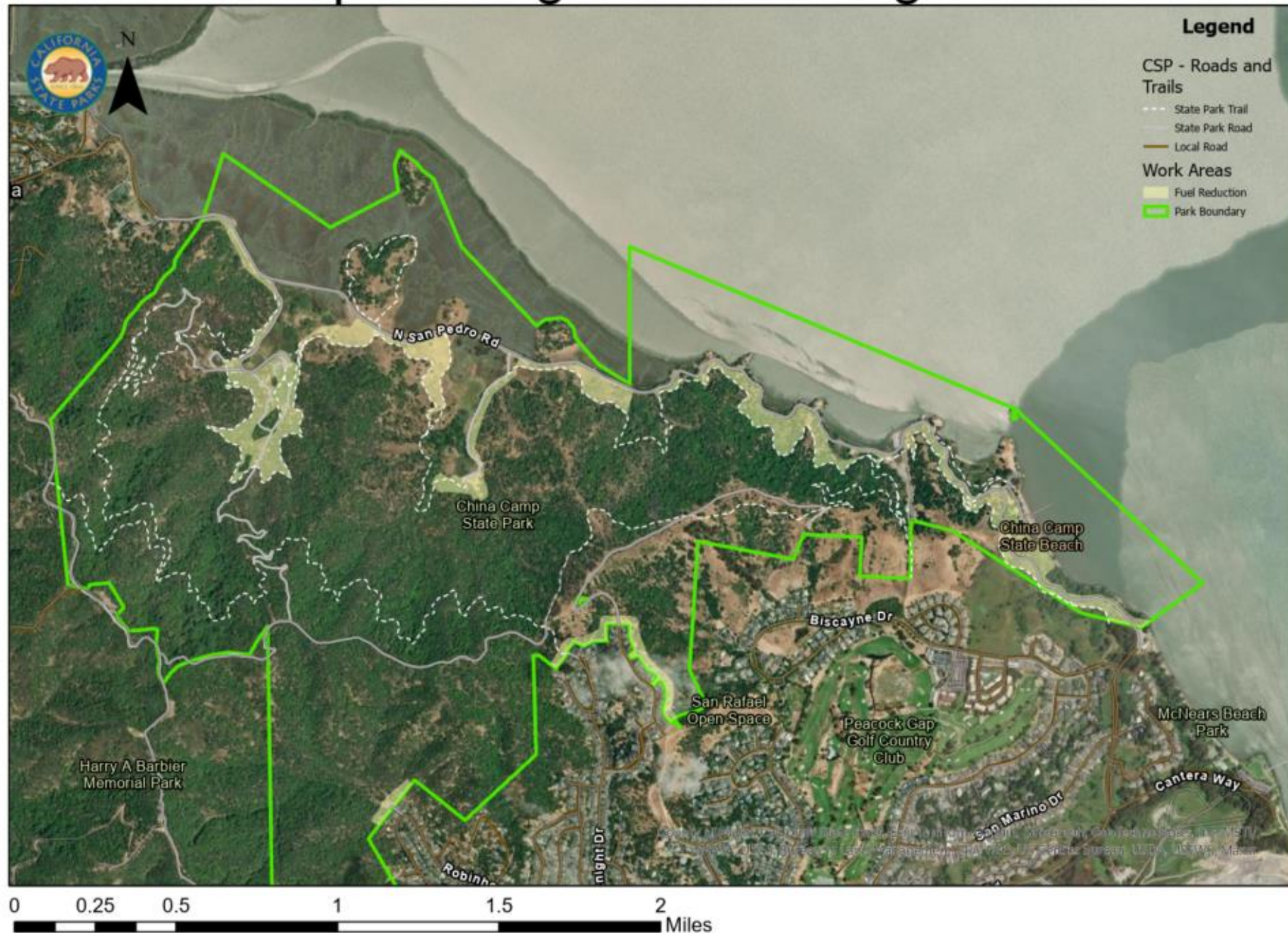
- Prescribed burns occurred in the 1990s and early 2000s along North San Pedro Road
- State Park and outside funding supported initiation of maintenance in a 95-acre area along North San Pedro Road, including historic fishing village and park structures
- 52.5 of the 95 acres have had fuel reduction work completed since effort started in 2022 (all 95 have continued to be managed for French Broom)
- 2024-25 Work covered 32.5 acres of selective clearing and piling of invasive broom and small shrubs, dead vegetation, and tree limbs to reduce fuel loads.
- Cut vegetation from 2024-25 was piled, all 749 piles built were burned in Spring 2025





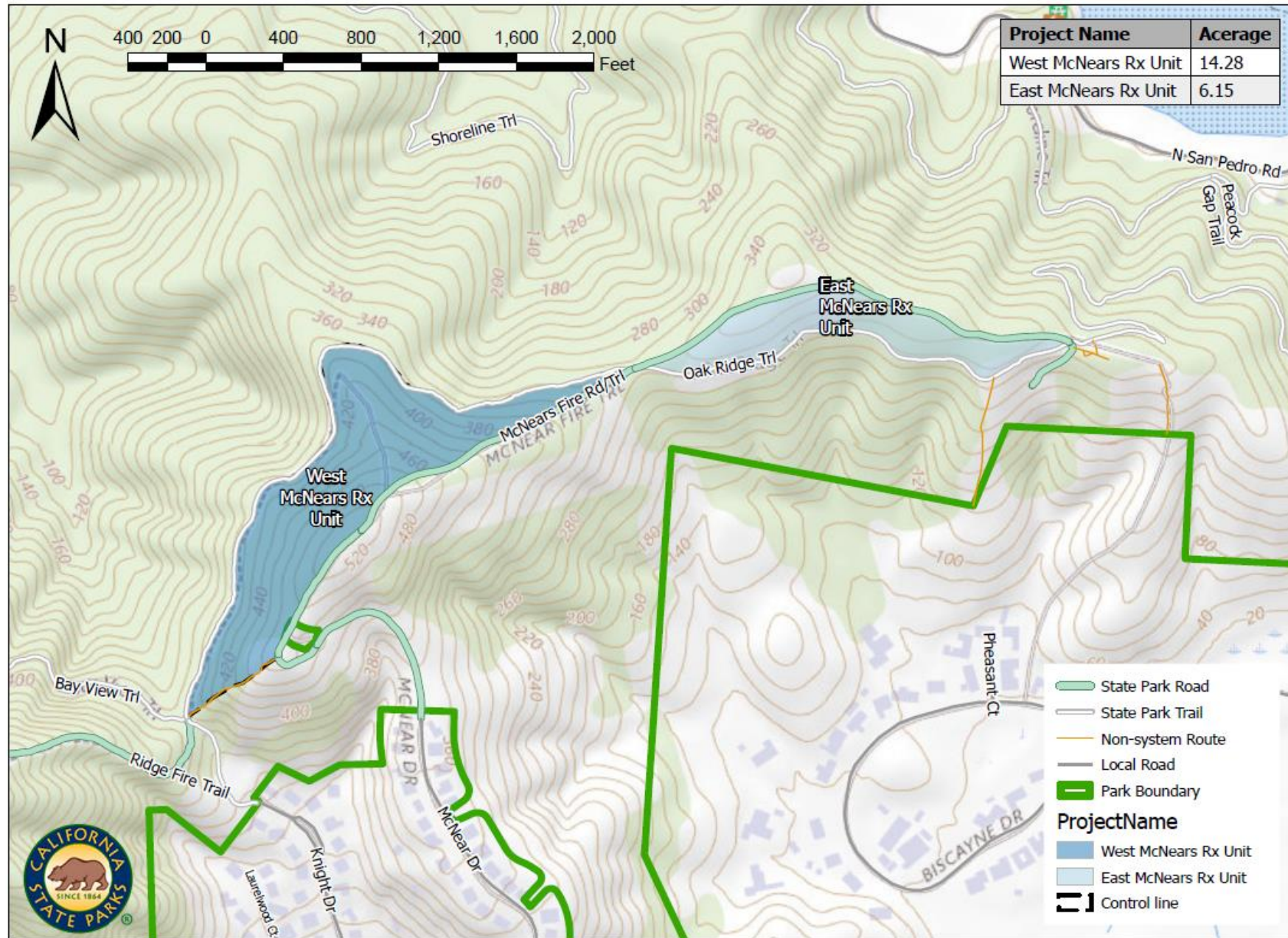
Oak Ridge/McNears Fire Road Area

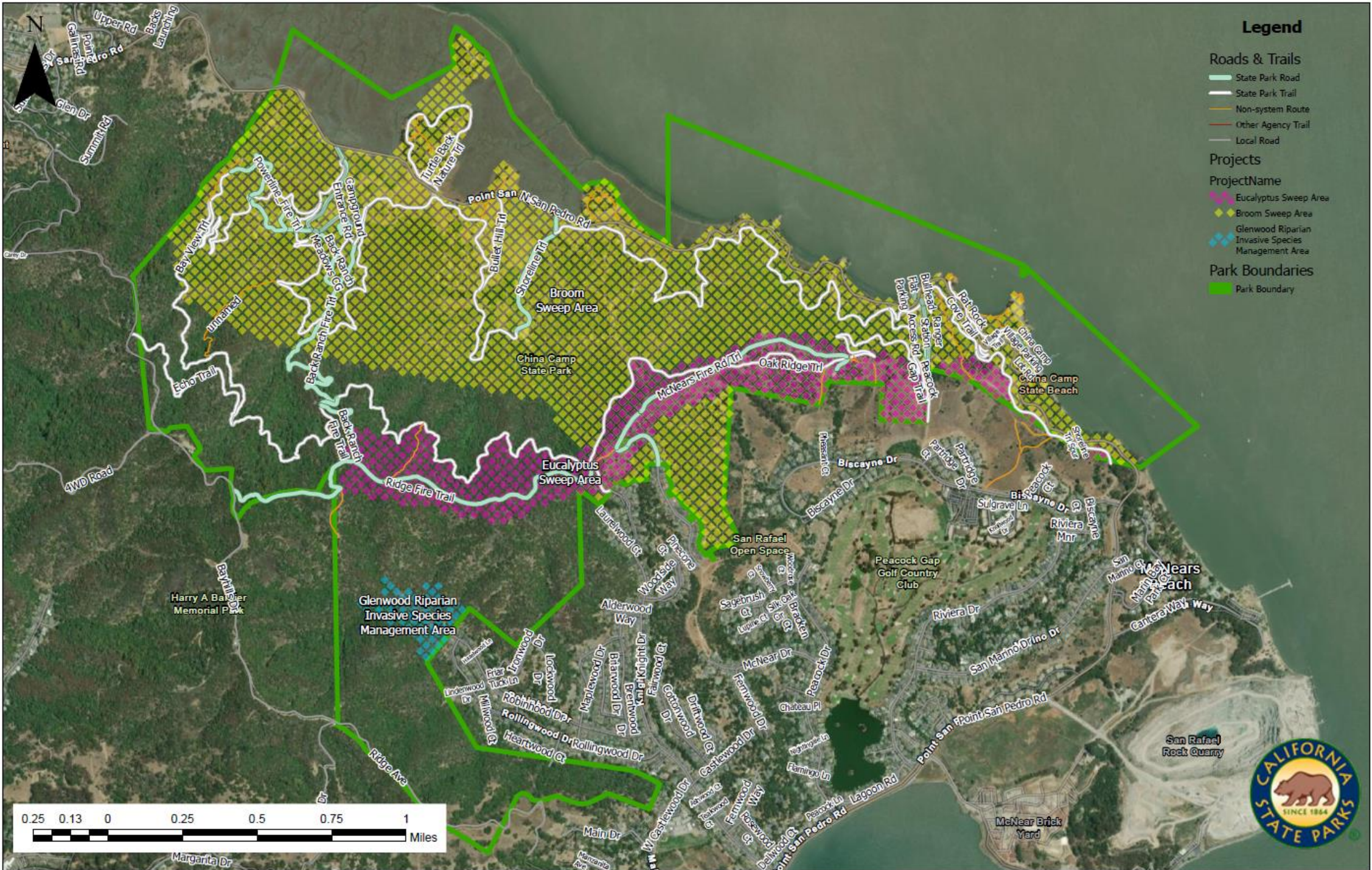
China Camp SP Vegetation Management Zones



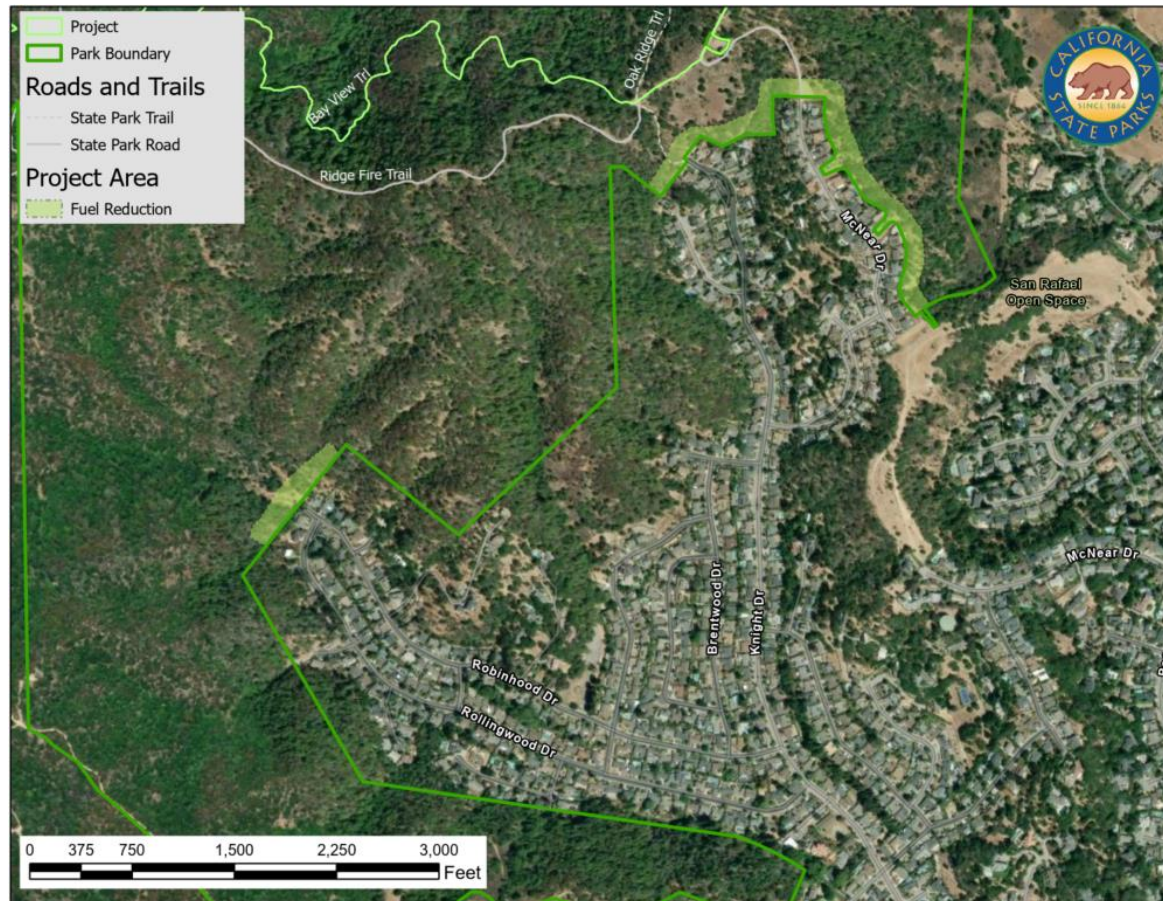
China Camp State Park

McNears Fire Road Prescribed Burn Units





Defensible Space Maintenance at China Camp

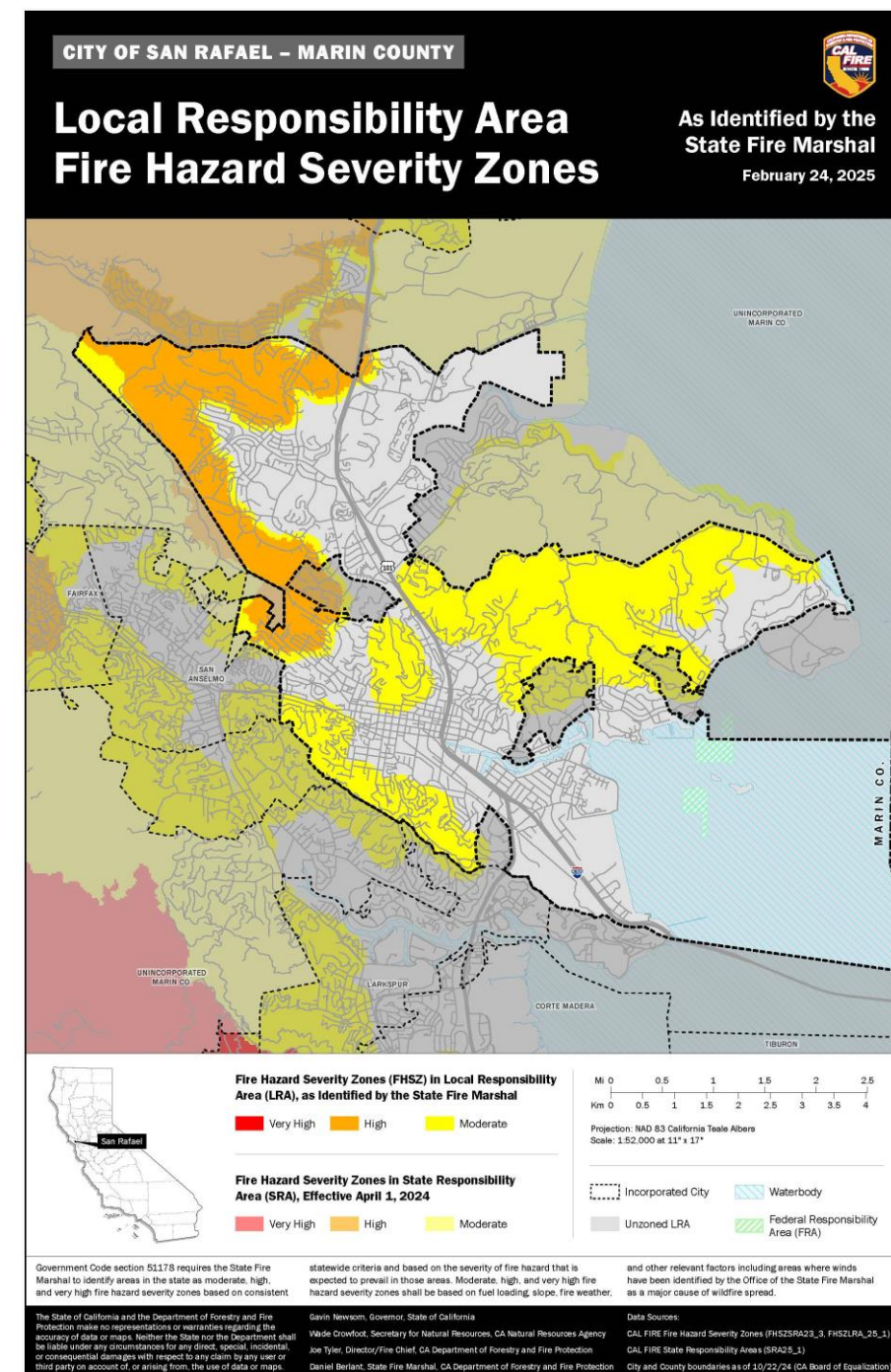
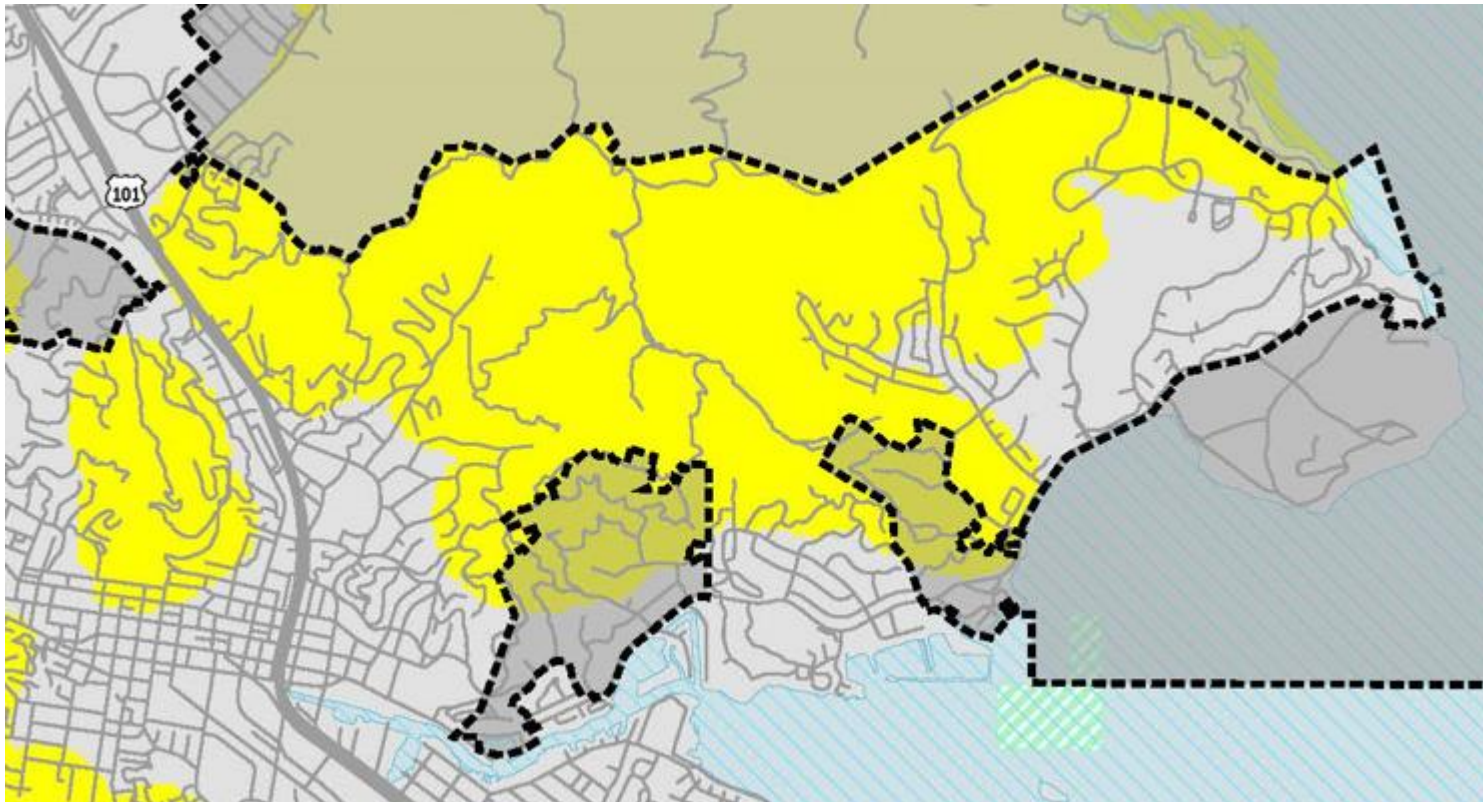


- MWPA funding to San Rafael Fire Department supported maintenance of a defensible space zone established by State Parks and MCFD in the early 2000s on the south side of China Camp SP
- Recent work has included 9.5 acres of manual removal of invasive broom and pine trees, small shrubs, dead vegetation, and small understory trees to reduce vertical fuel continuity.
- Cut vegetation was chipped and off hauled or burned in an air curtain burner

CAL FIRE Hazard Maps

- City will adopt maps by ordinance in June
- Public comment period is closed
- Learn more at:

www.cityofsanrafael.org/fire-hazard-severity-zones-fhsz-2025-lra-map-update



Evacuation

- Sign up for Alerts
- Have a Plan
- Have Items Ready
- Check on Neighbors
- Don't Delay Leaving

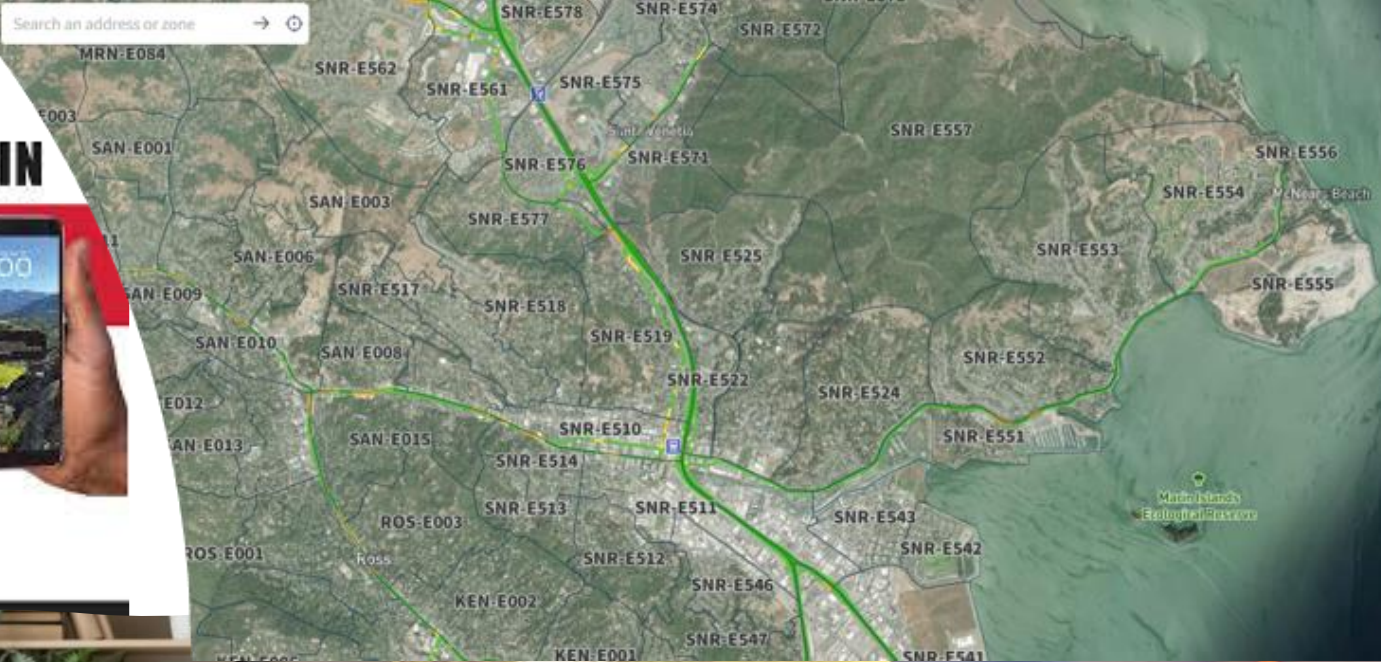
SIGN-UP FOR
ALERTMARIN

Those who work or live in Marin should register for emergency alerts.

To sign up for AlertMarin and stay updated on incidents, visit

[Emergency.MarinCounty.gov](#)







BE **READY**
FOR EVACUATION

BE **SET**
TO EVACUATE

GO
IMMEDIATELY



Resources

- SRFD.org
- Marinwildfire.org – MWPA
- FireSafeMarin.org- educational resources
- SROES.org – San Rafael Disaster Info
- ReadyMarin.org – Countywide Disaster Preparedness Info
- Emergency.marincounty.org – County Emergency Portal
- Plan.readyforwildfire.org - CAL FIRE
- Alertmarin.org - sign up

Wildfire Forum Feedback



Wildfire Forum Feedback



The next step in protecting your home and assets:

Insurance

Durriya Syed : California Department of Insurance

Questions?



SRFD.DSPACE@CITYOFSANRAFAEL.ORG



SRFD.ORG