

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Benito-Monterey Unit

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Prescribed Burn Planned for Monterey County

Big Sur, CA – CAL FIRE plans to conduct a prescribed burn at Andrew Molera State Park in Monterey County in the Big Sur area on October 4th or October 5th, 2022. The project aims to restore the Coastal Prairie Plant Community in Andrew Molera State Park that has diminished due to competition from non-native grasses, encroachment by scrub, and lack of frequent, low intensity fires. The reintroduction of fire to the landscape also has the potential to enhance fire safety by reducing high fuel density.

Each operation follows a specialized burn plan, which considers temperature, humidity, wind, moisture of the vegetation, and conditions for dispersal of smoke. All this information is used to decide when and where to burn.

Smoke from prescribed fire operations is normal and may continue for several days after an ignition depending on the project size, conditions, and weather. Prescribed fire smoke is generally less intense and of much shorter duration than smoke produced by wildland fires.

Smoke from this control burn will be visible from the Big Sur Area, Point Sur, and Pfeiffer State Parks. Expect temporary delays along Highway 1 in area of Andrew Molera State Park. Weather conditions will be monitored, and the burn may be postponed if burning conditions are found to be unfavorable. CAL FIRE is in close consultation with the National Weather Service's Monterey office and Monterey Bay Air Resources District to ensure that burn takes place in appropriate weather conditions.

To be added to the San Benito Monterey Prescribed Notification List. Please email BEU.ResourceManagement@fire.ca.gov or scan the QR code

For additional information on preparing for and preventing wildfires visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.

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