

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Mateo & Santa Cruz Unit

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CAL FIRE CZU to Perform Prescribed Burn on Lower Empire Grade

Felton, CA – The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) San Mateo – Santa Cruz Unit will conduct an approximately 25-acre prescribed burn near Twin Gates off Empire Grade at Marshall Field in Santa Cruz County. The burn will take place on Thursday, September 22, 2022, between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., but smoke may be noticed in the area for one to two days following the burn. The project is being conducted in accordance with a Smoke Management Permit issued by the Monterey Bay Air Resources District, in order to minimize the smoke impacts on surrounding communities.

This burn is being conducted as part of the CAL FIRE Vegetation Management Program, and is intended to benefit coastal prairie habitat, prevent encroachment of trees and shrubs, regenerate native species and restore and enhance grassland. Prescribed vegetation management burns are carefully planned controlled burns that must meet a predefined set of conditions (prescription), in order to achieve ideal fire behavior. No burning takes place if weather and fuel conditions are not within prescription. When optimal conditions are met, trained wildland firefighters manage the burn while monitoring the weather, smoke dispersal, and fire behavior.

For additional information on how to be prepared for wildfires, as well as tips to prevent wildfires, visit [readyforwildfire.org](https://www.readyforwildfire.org).



