

Prescribed Burn Program Grants

Board of Directors

Santa Barbara County

Air Pollution Control District

Our Mission: To protect the people and the environment of Santa Barbara County from the effects of air pollution.

Aeron Arlin Genet
Director / APCO

Kaitlin McNally/Compliance Division Manager &

Molly Pearson/Planning Division Manager

June 20, 2019



VAFB Prescribed Burn
2017



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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Presentation Overview

- Prescribed Burns
- District Prescribed Burn Program
- California Senate Bill 1260
- CARB Prescribed Burn Grant Programs:
 - Reporting & Monitoring Support
 - Air Monitoring Equipment Cache Storage
- Air Monitoring Equipment for Prescribed Burns
- District Air Monitoring Equipment Storage
- Recommendation



Righetti Ranch Prescribed Burn
2018



Prescribed Burns

- Planned vegetation fires to achieve specific objectives
- Administered by federal, state, local, or private land managers
- Reduce risk, severity, and impacts of wildfires
- Smoke can be minimized, monitored, and managed
- Air quality and health impacts are greatly reduced compared to wildfires



Figueroa Mountain Prescribed Burn
2018




District Prescribed Burn Program

- Rule 401 Agricultural & Prescribed Burning
- PFIRs for Smoke Management Plan submittal, review, and approval
- Public Outreach (joint with Land Manager):
 1. News Release: Burn window & details
 2. Media Advisory: Burn day
 3. Social media, including Nextdoor
- E-BAMs for prescribed burns with potential impacts, displayed on web
- Report data annually to CARB



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MEDIA ADVISORY
March 13, 2019

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Lyz Hoffman, Public Information Officer, Santa Barbara County APCD, (805) 961-8819

Burton Mesa Pile Burn Project

WHAT: Santa Barbara County Fire Department will be conducting ongoing pile burning operations of biomass created as the result of community defensible space treatments.

WHEN: Thursday, March 14 – Tuesday, March 19. Additional series of burns will occur through June 1; additional notification will be made each week when burning is expected to occur. Burning operations will begin at approximately 9am and be finished by 4pm on permissive burn days.

WHERE: Three separate burn plots are located west of Rucker Rd. and east of East Mesa Oaks subdivision, north of Galaxy Way and Titian Avenue between Oakhill Drive and Northoaks Drive.

WHY: This pile burning operation is the most efficient way to eliminate biomass created as the result identified defensible space treatments. The treatment and elimination of cuttings will help to safeguard the surrounding community in the event of wildfire.

WHO: This burn project is planned the Santa Barbara County Fire Department in conjunction with Santa Barbara County APCD, and the California Air Resources Board in order to minimize impacts on air quality on surrounding communities. Santa Barbara County APCD staff have reviewed the Smoke Management Plan and provided conditions to minimize smoke impacts in Santa Barbara County.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS: If you smell smoke, take precautions and use common sense to reduce any harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities. When you can smell smoke or when it is visible in your area, avoid strenuous outdoor activity and remain indoors as much as possible. These precautions are especially important to children, older adults, and those with heart and lung conditions. If you are sensitive to smoke, consider temporarily relocating and closing all doors and windows on the day of the burn. Symptoms of smoke exposure can include coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chest tightness or pain, nausea, and unusual fatigue or lightheadedness. Use caution when driving near prescribed burns.

This burn depends on weather and air quality conditions that are favorable for smoke dispersal. If the conditions are not as desired, the burning will be rescheduled.

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Burton Mesa Prescribed Burn
Media Advisory

California Senate Bill 1260

- Enacted September 2018
- Prescribed burns for fire prevention, public health, and public safety
- Develop and fund enhanced prescribed burn programs throughout California
- Air District Role:
 - Enhanced air quality and smoke monitoring
 - Public awareness campaign



Burton Mesa Prescribed Burn
2019



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CARB Prescribed Burn Grant Programs

1. Reporting and Monitoring Support

\$25,000 grant to implement enhanced smoke management programs

2. Air Monitoring Equipment Cache Storage

\$30,000 grant to create and maintain storage caches for air monitoring equipment used to measure emissions from prescribed fires

- Part of the California Climate Investments Program
- Also, cost reimbursement funding available through CAPCOA for:
 - Staff costs to deploy portable air monitoring equipment
 - Training for District staff

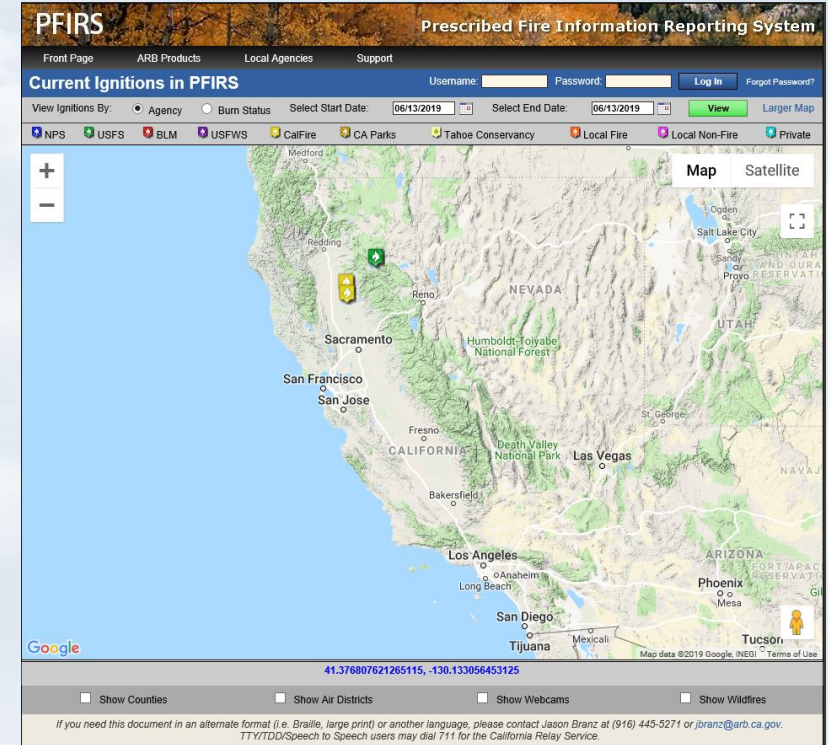


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CARB Prescribed Burn Grant: Reporting & Monitoring Support

- Program Elements:
 - Smoke Management Plans
 - PFIRS for all prescribed burns
 - Public outreach
 - Air monitoring
 - Quarterly reporting to CARB
 - Final report at end of grant period
 - Smoke management program training



PFIRs Website



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CARB Prescribed Burn Grant: Air Monitoring Equipment Cache Storage

- Program Elements:

- Store and maintain CARB-supplied air monitoring equipment
- Facilitate access to the equipment
- Track equipment status in database
- Notify CARB when equipment/supplies are damaged or depleted
- Final report at end of grant period
- Training on Equipment Cache use and procedures



Air Monitoring Equipment for Prescribed Burns

- Environmental Beta Attenuation Monitor (E-BAM)
- Measure PM10 or PM2.5
- Accurate, portable, rapid deployment
- Real-time data reporting
 - Includes meteorological data
- Readings displayed on web



E-BAM



District Air Monitoring Equipment Storage

- Existing lab and storage space for District-owned equipment
 - Includes E-BAM portable monitor
- Successfully store and loan-out state-supplied E-BAMs for wildfires
- Sufficient storage space for additional equipment
- Knowledgeable and experienced air monitoring staff



District Monitoring Lab



Recommendation

- Adopt resolutions authorizing District's participation in CARB Prescribed Burn Grant Programs
- Approve, ratify, and authorize the APCO to enter into CARB Grant Agreements
 1. Prescribed Burn Reporting and Monitoring Support Program - \$25,000 grant
 2. Prescribed Burn Air Monitoring Equipment Cache Storage Program - \$30,000 grant



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