Notice of Preparation

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Wildland Fire Resiliency Program

San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Counties, California

Date:	April 27, 2020
To:	Agencies and Interested Parties
From:	Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Subject:	Notice of Preparation of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Wildland Fire Resiliency Program
Review Period:	April 27, 2020 to May 28, 2020

Introduction

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) is initiating the process of preparing a Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Wildland Fire Resiliency Program (Program) to satisfy the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.). Midpen will serve as the lead agency for CEQA compliance.

In accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] Section 15082), Midpen has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to inform agencies and interested parties that a Program EIR will be prepared for the above-referenced project. The purpose of a NOP is to provide sufficient information about a project and its potential environmental impacts to allow agencies and interested parties the opportunity to provide a meaningful response related to the scope and content of the EIR, including mitigation measures that should be considered and alternatives that should be addressed (14 CCR Section 15082[b]). Midpen is currently gathering public input regarding the scope of the Program EIR.

Midpen will hold a public scoping meeting on May 13, 2020. Invitations to the scoping meeting will be sent to all recipients of this NOP. Midpen appreciates scoping input from public agencies and individuals in response to this NOP and to the scoping meeting. The Program information, as well as Midpen contact information, are provided below.

Program Information

Title

Wildland Fire Resiliency Program

Lead Agency and Address

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650)-691-1200

Contact

Coty Sifuentes-Winter, Senior Resource Management Specialist
csifuentes@openspace.org

Location

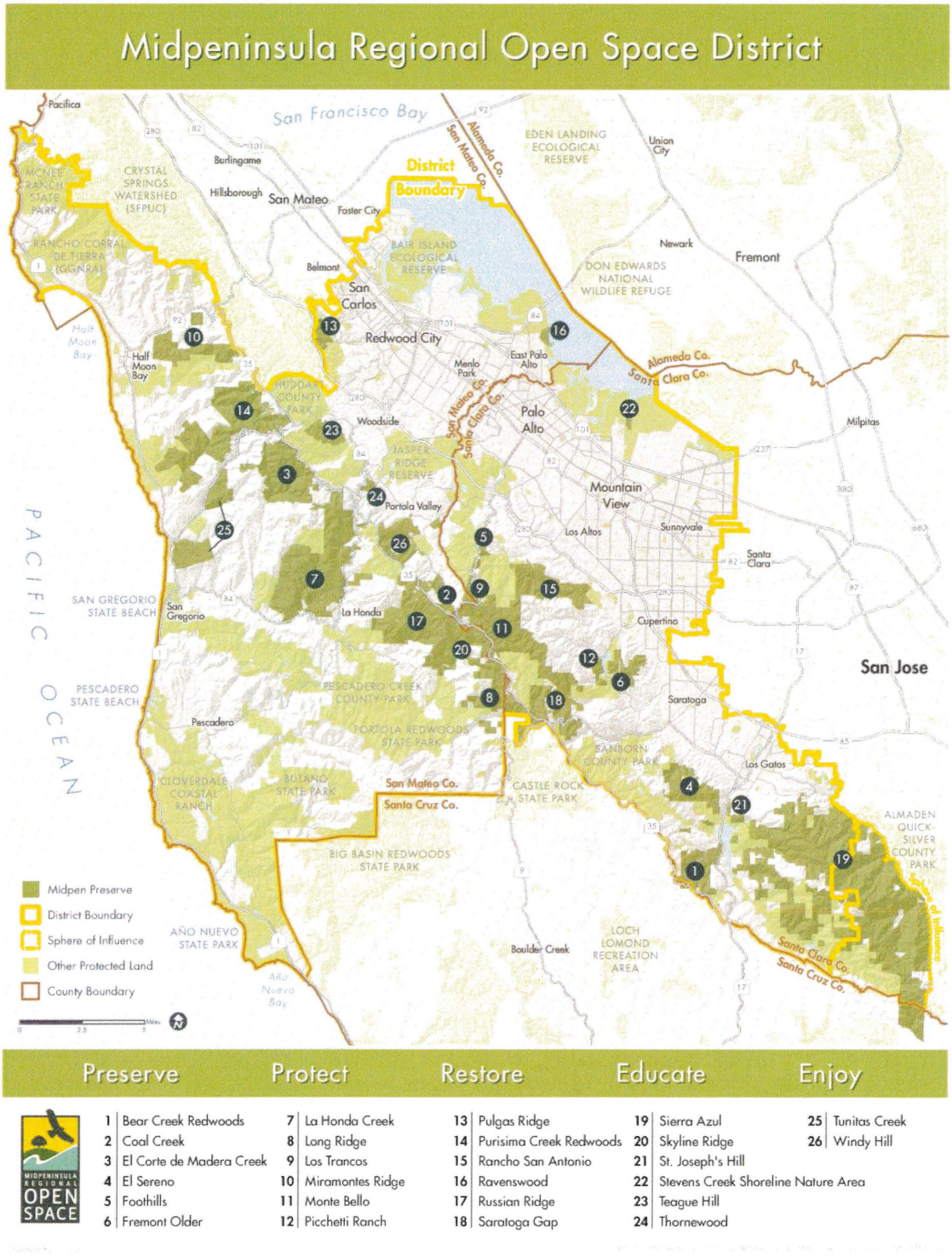
The actions under the Program would be applied on all Midpen's open space preserves (OSP) and other areas under Midpen management (collectively referred to as "Midpen lands"). Midpen is located along the western edge of the North American continent on a geologically active peninsula between the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay, which limits migration of plants and animals. This unique location is contained within the Santa Cruz Mountain region. The region's Mediterranean climate is comprised of mild wet winters and long, hot, and dry summers cooled by cyclical coastal fog. Midpen's boundary extends along the San Francisco Bay from San Carlos to Los Gatos and along the Pacific coast from south of Pacifica to the Santa Cruz County line. Midpen lands permanently protect wildlife habitat, natural resources, watersheds, and a variety of ecosystems, as shown in Figure 1.

Program Setting

Midpen Lands and Recreational Resources

Midpen's purpose is to create a regional greenbelt of public open space lands to permanently protect natural resources and to provide for public use and enjoyment. In addition, through the Coastal Protection Area Service Plan, Midpen is committed to protecting coastal watershed and agricultural lands and preserving the rural character of the region. Midpen has preserved nearly 65,000 acres of open space lands, of which Midpen manages nearly 59,000 acres across 26 OSPs and through management agreements (e.g., Rancho San Antonio County Park). The remaining acreage that was preserved through Midpen action is managed by other entities. Each OSP ranges from 55 to over 18,000 acres. Of the total 26 OSPs, 24 are open to the public, 365 days a year from sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. The preserves are primarily visited for recreational and educational uses. Some preserves are leased for conservation grazing. There are a variety of rural residential and agricultural structures dispersed within preserves. Within the OSPs, there are over 240 miles of trails for hiking, mountain biking, nature study, and dog walking, as well as historical and cultural artifacts, horse stables and barns, a backpack campsite, scenic viewpoints, and picnic tables and benches. District visitor use regulations prohibit activities that can spark fires including possession of firearms, smoking, open campfires, and off-road vehicle use.

FIGURE 1 MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT OSPS AND OTHER MANAGED LANDS



Natural Resources

Located within the California Floristic Province (one of 25 internationally recognized biological hotspots), Midpen lands are rich with natural resources. Habitats found within OSPs include forested lands, grasslands, shrublands, and woodlands. Midpen lands include redwood, oak, and fir forests, chaparral-covered hillsides, riparian corridors, grasslands, and wetlands along the San Francisco Bay. Biological resources of special significance or importance, including species and habitats currently known to occur and those currently listed as sensitive or special-status by resource agencies, are found throughout Midpen lands.

Nearby Communities

Midpen's jurisdictional boundary encompasses 17 cities (Atherton, Cupertino, East Palo Alto, Half Moon Bay, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Menlo Park, Monte Sereno, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Portola Valley, Redwood City, San Carlos, Saratoga, Sunnyvale, and Woodside) and unincorporated areas in San Mateo, Santa Clara, and northern Santa Cruz counties with a combined population of over 700,000 residents. Although use within the OSPs is primarily ecologically sensitive outdoor recreation, many of the OSPs abut low-density residential development in addition to open space owned and maintained by various agencies.

According to CALFIRE, almost 95 percent of fires in California are started by people. Many nearby communities lie within the wildland-urban interface (WUI); the area where structures meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland vegetation. The WUI is thus an area of high human-environment interactions, and a potential source of fire ignition where fires can spread into wildland areas and impact homes located in the WUI. The majority of the WUI along the OSPs has a California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Fire Hazard Severity Zone rating of "High" or "Very High". The Program includes priority areas identified by Community Wildfire Protection Plans for fuel reduction at multiple OSPs.

Fire management enhancements on Midpen lands reduce the potential for catastrophic wildfires, as well as:

- Protect sensitive natural resources and habitat from long-lasting damage and loss;
- Benefit the local communities in the WUI by providing fuelbreaks and aiding fire suppression activities for emergency response to wildland fires; and
- Protect residents living further away and downwind who may be significantly affected by smoke and impacts to air quality within the larger Bay Area region.

Current Midpen Fuels Management Practices

Midpen undertakes several actions and activities on their lands to prepare for fire season. The actions related to fuel maintenance and reduction and fire management include:

- Maintaining existing fuelbreaks in OSPs;
- Defensible space clearing around 117 Midpen-owned structures;
- Maintaining hundreds of miles of fire roads; and
- Managing over 8,500 acres of grasslands through conservation grazing, which reduces fuel loads.

Description of Proposed Program

Purpose and Goals

Changing climatic conditions, past land uses, and years of fire suppression have increased fuel loads and fire-prone conditions that could contribute to larger and more intense wildland fires. Midpen seeks to protect the natural resources on its land and to make policy decisions that support local and state fire agencies to aid in the suppression of wildfire. The Program encompasses vegetation management, as well as planning, response, and monitoring. Vegetation management helps to restore ecosystems closer to pre-fire suppression conditions through the removal of dead and accumulated vegetation, and treatment of forest disease and invasive species. Prior to the mid- to late-20th century, landscapes in the San Francisco Bay Area were subject to periodic natural fire and Native American practices of prescribed burning that kept fuel loads down. Before European contact, the spread of invasive species that alter ecosystems and increase fire risks was a lower concern. Today, in the absence of decades of natural and prescribed fires, live and dead fuels have accumulated creating higher surface fuel loads, vegetation density, and varied species composition from what was seen prior to European contact. The Program would guide Midpen activities and be periodically updated, as needed, to adapt to changing conditions and improved knowledge. The primary objectives of the Program include the following:

1. Manage vegetation to establish healthy, resilient, fire-adapted ecosystems, furthering Midpen's mission to protect and restore the diversity and integrity of the ecological processes on Midpen lands and facilitating healthy post-fire recovery.
2. Integrate Native American cultural practices of vegetation management, particularly as they relate to prescribed fire, that promote ecological resiliency and enhance biodiversity.
3. Manage vegetation and infrastructure on Midpen lands to reduce wildland fire risks, improve wildland fire fighting capabilities and coordination, and improve overall safety to reduce the harmful effects of wildland fire on natural resources, people, and property.
4. Provide an adaptive framework for periodic review and adjustments of the Program based on a changing climate, improved knowledge, and improved technology over time. This framework will also recognize that annual implementation of the Program will need to be balanced with other competing Midpen priorities, capacity, and funding to determine the location, scale, timing, and scope of future vegetation management activities as part of annual workplans and approved fiscal year budgets.

Program Considerations

It is important to note that the Program EIR would be a programmatic document that is intended to help guide Midpen's vegetation and fuel management activities. As such, the Program provides a framework to guide decisions on the types, locations, and timing of vegetation and fuel management activities. The scope, scale, and level of focus that Midpen would be able to place on vegetation and fuel management activities would vary each year and would be dependent on other competing Midpen project and Program priorities, staffing capacity, and funding availability. Also, given the ongoing growth of Midpen land holdings, changing climate conditions that may affect fire risk levels across the landscape, and other factors, Midpen may shift their vegetation and fuel management priorities as needed in response to new or changed priority sites. Annual vegetation and fuel management projects and Program budgets would be reviewed in the context of

the larger agency-wide work plan with discretionary approval held by the Midpen Board of Directors as part of the annual budget and action plan development process.

Program Components

Program Overview

The Program would guide a comprehensive approach to vegetation management, including pre- and post-response activities to wildland fire on Midpen lands that integrates the following four plans:

1. Vegetation Management Plan (VMP)
2. Prescribed Fire Plan (PFP)
3. Wildland Fire Pre-Plan/Resource Advisor Maps
4. Monitoring Plan

The VMP and the PFP are the primary plans within the Program that could result in physical effects on the environment. In addition, the Wildland Fire Pre-Plan includes potential new infrastructure to support wildland fire response that also could result in physical effects on the environment. The Program EIR will focus on the elements of the Program that may result in physical effects on the environment.

Vegetation Management Plan

Overview

The VMP covers the creation of new vegetation treatment areas and maintenance of existing fuel treatment areas using various treatment methods (excluding the use of prescribed fire) to address ecosystem resiliency and/or to enhance fire management. Creation and maintenance of ecologically-sensitive vegetation management areas (VMAs) would reduce fuels by strategically and selectively thinning and removing vegetation to reduce the risk of extreme wildland fire behavior, slow the spread of a wildland fire, aid in the suppression and control of a wildland fire, and/or reduce the impacts of wildland fire should it occur. Treatment would also maintain healthy ecosystems, prioritizing treatment of invasive species over native species.

Although fuel reduction does not necessarily stop fires from spreading, reducing fuel loads lessens both fire intensity and severity, increasing resiliency to both the ecological and human communities. In addition, by slowing the spread of fire, additional time is afforded for fire personnel to respond and for private residents in the WUI to evacuate. The following VMAs would reduce wildland fire damage to natural resources, enhance fire suppression activities, and reduce fire spread:

- Fuel Reduction Areas (FRAs)
- Shaded and Non-Shaded Fuelbreaks
- Ingress/Egress Route Fuelbreaks
- Disclines
- Defensible Space
- Emergency Staging Areas, Emergency Landing Zones, and Other Fire Management Logistics Areas
- Eucalyptus and Acacia (Non-Native, Highly Combustible Plant) Removal

Types of VMAs

FRAs would be implemented for ecosystem resiliency. FRAs also enhance public safety when created in close proximity to the WUI and/or adjacent to existing fuelbreaks. FRAs are less permanent than fuelbreaks and are typically implemented in more natural areas (such as away from roads) where fuel load reduction achieves a combination of habitat enhancement goals and wildland fire risk reduction. Due to past land uses, fire management practices, and disease (such as Sudden Oak Death), reducing fuel loads in certain habitats can make the ecosystem more resilient to wildland fire. This reduction of fuels can reduce fire intensity, severity, and spread in case of a wildland fire. Vegetation management for ecosystem resiliency is performed at a considerably lower intensity than that for fire management.

Other types of VMAs include fuelbreaks. Fuelbreaks are linear strips of land where trees, vegetation, and dead material have been reduced or removed. A shaded fuelbreak is an area where the tree canopy would be thinned to reduce the potential for a fire to move quickly through and/or to reduce fire spread into or through the canopy. A non-shaded fuelbreak is a swath of land where fuels are reduced in areas without an existing tree canopy, typically at a change in vegetation type, such as from forest or shrubland into grassland, or within grasslands. Fuelbreaks can slow, and even stop the spread of a wildland fire because fewer fuels are present to combust. These areas also provide firefighters with zones to take a stand against or control the spread of a wildland fire, or retreat from fire if the need arises. For the purposes of the VMP, fuelbreaks encompass a range of fuel reduction intensities, depending on the resources being protected and the ecological setting. Fuelbreaks can vary in width from approximately 15 feet around minor ingress and egress routes and up to 200 feet around major routes of travel (e.g., highways) or associated with regional vegetation management treatments.

To enhance the safety of emergency staging areas and the safety of fire emergency personnel during an active wildland fire, the VMP would involve creation and maintenance of up to 200-foot shaded and non-shaded fuelbreaks around fire management areas (e.g., staging areas, landing zones), where feasible. Estimated maximum fuelbreak widths are shown in the following table.

TABLE 1 MAXIMUM FUELBREAK WIDTHS BY HABITAT TYPE

Habitat Type	Fuelbreak Width (feet)
Grass	100
Shrub	100
Oak woodland	200
Redwood or Douglas fir forest	200

An ingress/egress route fuelbreak is a 10- to 30-foot zone located on both sides of those roads identified as critical for emergency vehicle passage, typically designed to accommodate a Wildland Type 3 Fire Engine (a mid-sized fire engine built both for wildland mobility and large water capacity). Disclines are a type of mechanical vegetation treatment that would involve turning over the soil and leaving mostly a dirt surface that is intended to slow or stop progression of a fire. Defensible space is the area immediately surrounding a building(s) where vegetation management measures to reduce fuels are implemented, providing the key point of defense from an approaching wildland fire, or defense against escaping structure fires. Emergency

staging areas are key areas where fire suppression resources may safely park, gather crews, or land a helicopter during a wildland fire. These staging areas may also serve as a temporary refuge area during a wildland fire and must be of sufficient size to provide adequate safety for anticipated flame lengths, wind, and other factors. Emergency staging areas include existing parking areas and landing zones. Emergency landing zones allow helicopters to land in the event of an emergency. Eucalyptus and acacia trees would be removed from locations where these non-native and highly combustible trees pose a significant fire hazard.

Locations and Prioritization of VMAs

Several criteria would be used to determine the prioritization and location of new VMAs for both ecosystem resiliency and fire management. The criteria for ecosystem resiliency focus on natural resources, while the criteria for enhanced fire management focuses on infrastructure critical for emergency response, evacuation routes and protecting District managed structures. Prioritization will take into consideration projected staffing and financial resources to confirm long-term maintenance and management of fuel treatment areas. Each year, Midpen staff, with input from surrounding fire agencies, will identify the extent, scope, and location of the proposed VMAs to include in Annual Work Plans. The annual plan will be dependent upon numerous factors, including annual staffing capacity, funding availability, partnerships, and other resource availability, and be balanced with other Midpen priorities that also further Midpen's mission, annual *Strategic Goals & Objectives*, and the *Vision Plan*. District staff, with input from surrounding fire agencies, will annually prioritize areas for treatment and bring the anticipated budgets to the Board for review and approval as part of the annual capital improvement and action plan development process.

Cyclical Maintenance of VMAs

Frequency of maintenance can vary from annually, for vegetation management in grass-dominated vegetation types, to approximately once every 3 to 10 years depending on vegetation type, the fuel conditions, and regrowth. VMAs would be treated annually with Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) through Midpen's Integrated Pest Management Program (IPMP) to detect and remove invasive species that may arise. VMAs that border or traverse largely intact ecosystems still dominated by native species can be maintained with low-intensity brushing, performed as needed based on field inspections. In contrast, VMAs that are bordered or traversed by degraded ecosystems dominated by weeds need a different and more intensive maintenance prescription to reduce the spread of weeds in the VMA and into surrounding areas. VMAs with non-native species would be maintained with annual brushing, which removes invasive weeds; disposal of brush is accomplished via chipping, pile burning, or hauling. Invasive species treatment is addressed in Midpen's IPMP. The IPMP, however, does not address the acreages of mowing and the use of pesticides for VMA creation and maintenance; these are therefore included in the VMP.

Midpen annually mows over 100 miles of roadside to eliminate weeds, and unwanted vegetation and, where applicable, to allow access for Wildland Type 3 Fire Engines. These activities will continue on an annual basis, as defined in the IPMP and covered under that program and its certified EIR (2014; addendum 2019). The VMP would potentially expand on this existing treatment by creating and maintaining fuelbreaks along Wildland Type 3 ingress and egress routes and major routes, and widen the area of treatment, as appropriate.

Vegetation Management Methods for Creation and Maintenance of VMAs

As part of VMP implementation, Midpen would primarily rely on manual, mechanical, and grazing approaches to manage vegetation, consistent with existing vegetation management activities. These approaches currently account for approximately 90 percent of all vegetation management work, and similar percentages are expected to continue into the future even with the continual addition of newly protected open space acreage. Approximately 10 percent of all vegetation management work incorporates chemical methods under limited and controlled applications, supervised by State of California certified applicators. All vegetation management on Midpen lands prioritize invasive and non-native species removal over native species. Limited chemical control would involve use of the Midpen-approved pesticides listed in the IPMP and covered in the IPMP EIR and Addendum (Midpen, 2014; Midpen, 2019). For each type of vegetation management method, Midpen would continue to employ a series of best management practices (BMPs) to prevent, reduce, or mitigate potential impacts to ecological and/or human health and safety. All updates to the Board-approved pesticide list and associated BMPs would be incorporated into the Program.

Prescribed Fire Plan

The Program also includes a programmatic-level PFP. Prescribed burning is a specific activity in which fire is applied to most or all of a well-defined treatment area with discrete boundaries for the combined purpose of habitat improvement to restore and/or enhance ecosystem health and fuel load reduction. Prescribed fires would only be conducted with the agreement of the jurisdictional fire agency. Areas of Midpen land where prescribed fire would likely not be considered include those areas where burning is prohibited by law/regulation/ordinance, less than 0.25 miles of a smoke sensitive area (e.g., hospitals, schools, nursing homes), or where topography (e.g., slope, aspect) makes it unsuitable for a prescribed burn. The technique is particularly useful in grassland and oak woodland habitats, as it can both meet biological objectives by reintroducing natural ecological processes, including the regeneration of native fire-dependent vegetation, and reduce risk of wildland fire.

Prescribed fire burn plans would be utilized to identify site specific aspects of the burn. Burn units would be generally selected to take advantage of natural control lines, such as reservoirs and service roads, and changes in habitat types. Prescribed burning occurs in four distinct phases: pre-treatment, the burn event, mop-up and patrol, and rehabilitation. Pre-treatment may include removal and scattering of vegetation in addition to installation of control lines, where existing control lines do not exist. The burn event would typically be a full-day activity when fire would intentionally be applied at one or more ignition points and allowed to run between control lines across the designated unit. The fire is monitored until completely out. The prescribed burn sites would be patrolled by Midpen Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) crews for 1 to 5 years as needed following a burn event to protect the newly disturbed area from invasive species becoming established.

The PFP lays out the parameters, resources, and factors to guide the implementation of prescribed burns on Midpen lands, including: burn methods, fire durations, fire regimes, seasonality, exclusion zones, priority/recommended locations, vegetation types, monitoring of fuel loads, best management practices, pre- and post-fire activities, personnel, and equipment. The PFP also identifies the priority activities and mapping of burn units. Although prescribed burns would likely focus initially on grasslands, all habitat types that occur within Midpen OSPs would be evaluated and prioritized.

Wildland Fire Pre-Plan/Resource Advisor Maps

The Wildland Fire Pre-Fire Plan/Resource Advisor Maps are geographic-based documents to assist responding fire agencies during emergency response activities in the event of a wildland fire by providing information on fire suppression resources like water sources and staging areas. In addition, the maps provide information on sensitive natural and cultural resources to avoid, if possible, during fire suppression activities or to minimize harm to natural ecosystems. This component of the Program primarily describes planning actions and preparation of maps that do not have physical effects on the environment. The Wildland Fire Pre-Plans and Resource Advisor Maps include the following elements:

- Existing conditions and infrastructure that may aid fire suppression activities, including access roads, fuel breaks, structures, and water sources (hydrants, water tanks, ponds, creeks, and springs);
- Known sensitive natural and cultural resources for fire personnel to avoid, if possible, during fire suppression activities;
- Structures that are inhabited or are historically significant that should have resources committed to their defense during a wildland fire;
- Potential locations for fire suppression activities and equipment staging for Midpen lands in the event of a wildland fire;
- Suggested BMPS for wildland fire response and suppression activities;
- Areas where suppression activities should be limited (if feasible); and
- Circulation and access roads, including designated evacuation routes.

The Wildland Fire Pre-Fire Plan and Resource Advisor Maps have been and would continue to be prepared with input from the local community.

Monitoring Plan

The Monitoring Plan describes and references generally accepted protocols that monitor vegetation, water, and wildlife on Midpen lands to establish and compare pre- and post-project conditions, vegetation treatment response, and fuels inventories. Monitoring results are used to identify any adaptive management techniques that should be considered and incorporated in subsequent fuel management work. The monitoring protocols are based on best practices used by adjacent or regionally based land management agencies (e.g., National Park Service, State Parks) and supported by published research. More specifically, a monitoring plan may include the following:

- Monitoring pre-project vegetation, soil, erosion, and water quality to establish baseline conditions for post project analysis;
- Monitoring Burned Area Emergency Response/Burned Area Rehabilitation, and post fire response;
- Monitoring the response to other vegetation management activities;
- Assessing the achievement of project objectives;
- Assessing impacts to vegetation, soil, erosion, and water quality from fire or other vegetation management activities; and
- Inventorying and monitoring fuels to track fuel accumulation over time.

Monitoring Plans do not typically include elements that could result in physical effects on the environment, as they simply provide the protocols to monitor the environment.

Other Approvals Required

The Program requires approval from the Midpen Board of Directors. For the purposes of CEQA compliance and project implementation, Midpen serves as the lead agency in completing and certifying the CEQA document. Prescribed burns also require approval from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). Approval may be required by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFBRWQCB), and, if some activities occur within jurisdictional waters, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Other permits and approvals may be identified during preparation of the Program EIR.

Potential Environmental Impacts

The Program EIR will describe the direct and indirect environmental impacts associated with implementation of the Program. The Program EIR will also evaluate the cumulative impacts of the Program when considered in conjunction with other related past, present, and probable future projects. All topics identified in the Appendix G Checklist of the CEQA Guidelines will be addressed in the Program EIR. Midpen expects that the Program could result in potentially significant environmental impacts in the following topic areas, which will be analyzed in the Program EIR:

Aesthetics	**Air Quality**	**Biological Resources**
Cultural Resources	**Geology and Soils**	**Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	**Hydrology and Water Quality**	**Noise**
Recreation	**Transportation**	**Tribal Cultural Resources**
Wildfire	**Mandatory Findings of Significance**	

Feasible mitigation measures will be identified to reduce any identified potentially significant impacts.

Alternatives to be Evaluated in the Program EIR

In accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6, the Program EIR will describe a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed project that are capable of meeting most of the project's objectives but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project. The Program EIR will identify any alternatives that were considered but rejected by the lead agency as infeasible and briefly explain the justification for this decision. The Program EIR will also provide an analysis of the No Project Alternative.

Documents Available for Public Review

A hard copy of the NOP is available for public review at:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022

The NOP is also available for public review online at: http://www.openspace.org/news/public_notices.asp

Opportunity for Public Comment

Interested individuals, groups, and agencies may provide Midpen with written comments on topics to be addressed in the Program EIR. Because of time limits mandated by state law, comments should be provided no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 28, 2020.

Agencies that will need to use the Program EIR when considering permits or other approvals for the proposed project should provide Midpen with the name of a staff contact person. Please send all comments to:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Attn: Coty Sifuentes-Winter, Senior Resource Management Specialist
330 Distel Circle
Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 691-1200
Email: csifuentes@openspace.org

Comments provided by email should include "Wildland Fire Resiliency Program NOP Scoping Comment" in the subject line, and the name and physical address of the commenter in the body of the email.

All comments on environmental issues received during the public comment period will be considered and addressed in the Draft Program EIR, which is anticipated to be available for public review in summer 2020.

Public Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting will be held by Midpen to inform interested parties about the proposed project, and to provide agencies and the public with an opportunity to provide comments on the scope and content of the Program EIR. The meeting time and location are as follows:

May 13, 2020
5:00 p.m.
Board Room, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Administrative Office
330 Distel Circle, Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 691-1200

In the event of the continuance of the Shelter-In-Place order due to COVID-19, the scoping meeting may be conducted via teleconference in accordance with the March 17, 2020 Governor issued Executive Order N-29-20. The meeting space is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals needing special assistive devices will be accommodated to Midpen's best ability. For more information, please contact the District Clerk at (650) 691-1200 or clerk@openspace.org at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.