

# CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

## California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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**RELEASE DATE:**  
September 18, 2023

### **CAL FIRE CZU to Conduct Prescribed Fire on San Francisco Public Utilities Watershed Lands**

**Felton** - On Wednesday, September 20, 2023, weather permitting, CAL FIRE CZU will conduct a broadcast prescribed fire on an estimated 89-acres of brush and grass near Upper Crystal Springs Reservoir in San Mateo County. The location of the prescribed fire is around the Sheep Camp Trail on the I-280 corridor. The plot expected to be burned on Wednesday is Burn Plot #5 (see attached map).

The objective is to reduce fire fuel, lower the risk of a larger fire and to increase coastal prairie habitat which is disappearing due to lack of disturbance and brush encroachment.

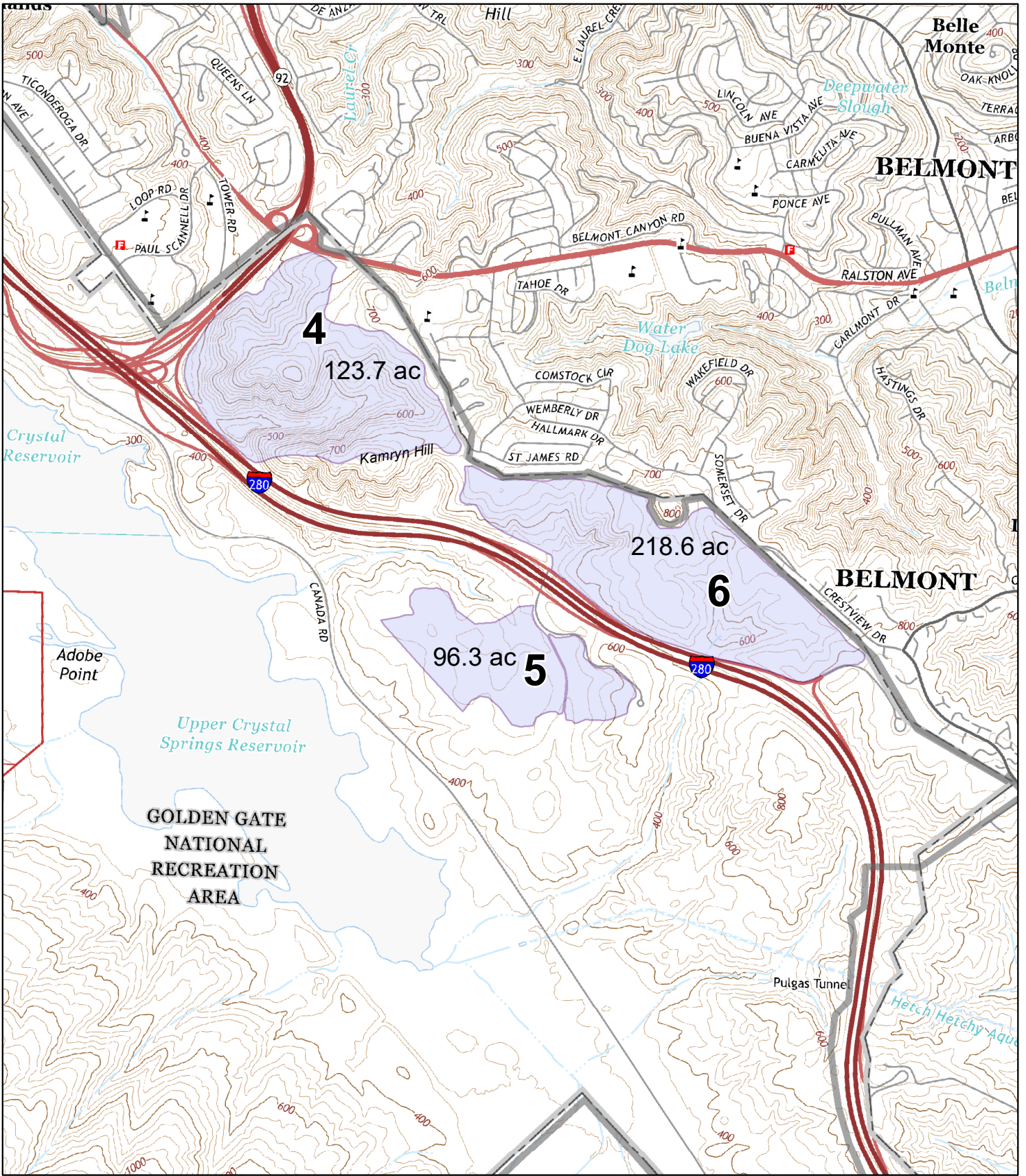
This will be a one- or two-day burn. Smoke may be visible in Woodside, Belmont, Burlingame, Emerald Hills, San Carlos Hills, and parts of I-280 in San Mateo County. There will be extensive fire equipment and a helicopter on scene. There is no need to call 911.

CAL FIRE CZU Forester Sarah Collamer says, "This is a large acreage burn for San Mateo County. We have a significant fire history in the I-280 corridor, including in this rest stop area. Drought conditions have subsided, and we have a marine layer at night, and high humidity will help extinguish the fire. Because of that, we are able to safely burn earlier in the year."

The SFPUC Peninsula Watershed is approximately 23,000 acres of land that collects drinking water in three reservoirs. The reservoirs serve about one million people in San Francisco and northern San Mateo County. The Peninsula Watershed supports the highest concentration of rare, threatened, and endangered species in the San Francisco Bay Area. The SFPUC is enthusiastic about partnering with CAL FIRE to implement this important fuels reduction vegetation management work.

This prescribed fire was planned as part of broader strategic efforts to protect the local community and nearby natural resources. These plans are informed by community and local stakeholder input and serve as a collaborative effort with a range of cooperators throughout the course of the project. This project adds to significant work underway throughout the state and brings California one step closer towards meeting or exceeding state fuels reduction goals directed by the California Fire Plan and the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan. To track the progress being made, both in your community and throughout California, please visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/prescribed-fire> and help share important preventing and preparedness information with your neighbors at [readyforwildfire.org](http://readyforwildfire.org).



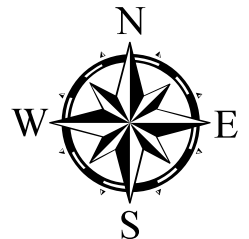


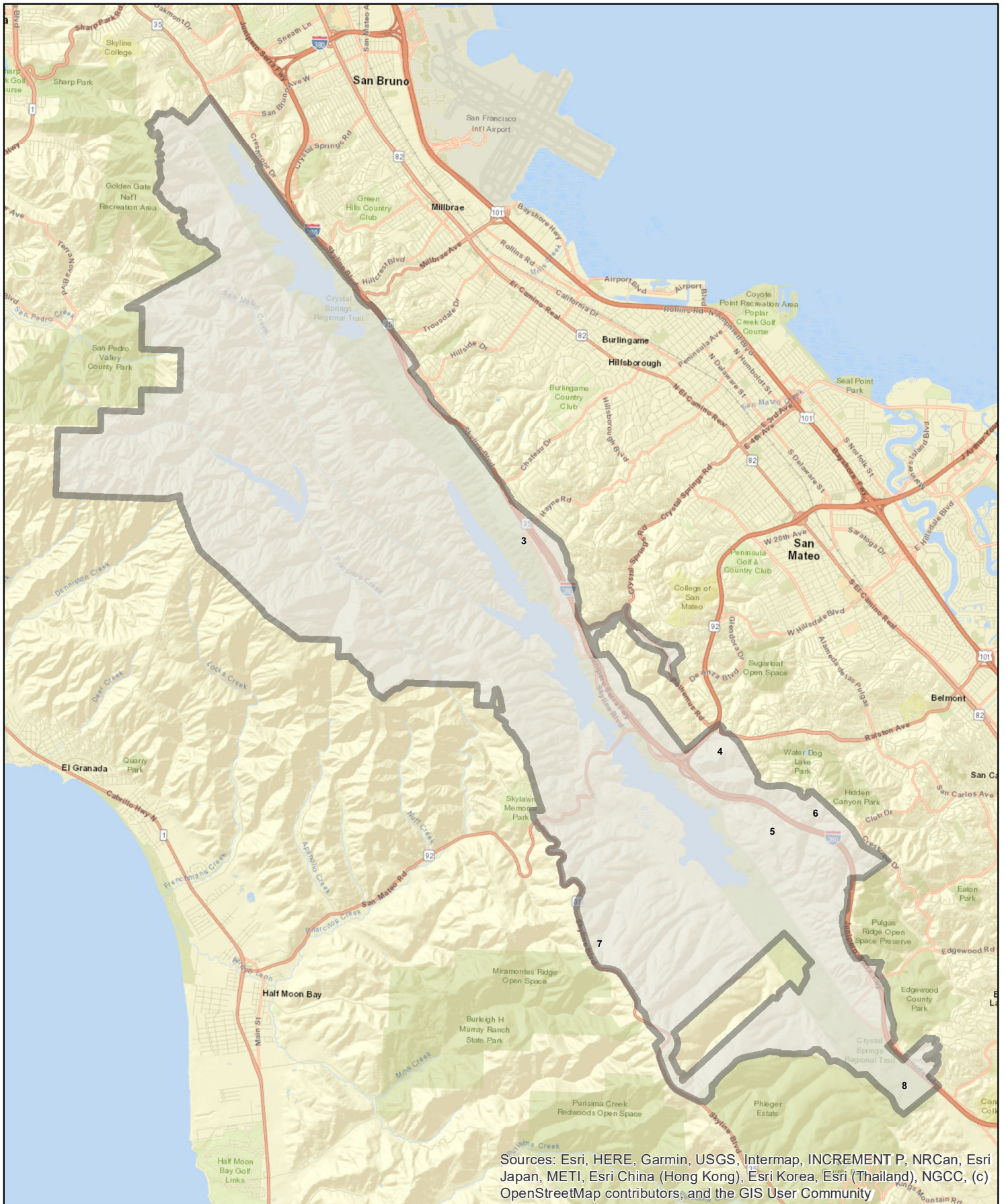
**SF PUC VMP Project**

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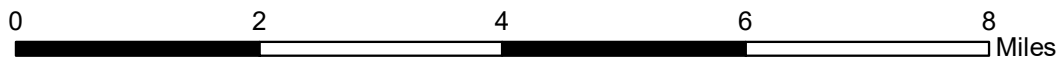


**Burn Plot #4, 5, & 6**





# SF PUC VMP Project - Vicinity Map



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