

**SANTA LUCIA PRESERVE  
FIREWISE COMMUNITY  
MULTI-YEAR ACTION PLAN**



**YEAR 1 (2022):**

**EDUCATION PROGRAM**

- Coordinate with the Fire Safe Council for Monterey County, Monterey County Regional Fire District, CAL FIRE BEU and the Santa Lucia Conservancy to host an educational Firewise event at the Santa Lucia Preserve. Discussion topics will include:
  - introduction to the Firewise Community and expectations
  - lot-specific fuel management plans and defensible space
  - the anatomy of a wildfire incident (talk about the incident command system)
  - how community members can take action to create a firesafe community
  - how to establish evacuation plans
  - evacuation communication drills
- Conduct a survey with community members to understand what they would like to see at the next Preserve Firewise event and if there were any questions unanswered.

**DEFENSIBLE SPACE**

- Newly constructed homes are required to have an updated Lot-Specific Fuel Management Plan (FMP). These plans are built heavily upon the PRC 4291 and include guidelines on treating the various types of vegetation to maintain the natural landscape, increase biodiversity and promote ecological health. One goal is to make sure these newly constructed homes have an updated FMP. Another goal is to work with homeowners on properly maintaining their defensible space as it relates to the state minimum requirements, starting with the non-combustible zone:
  - new amendments to the PRC 4291
  - home-hardening removing debris from roofs, gutters and around foundations

**WILDLAND PREFIRE PLANNING**

- Develop and maintain relationships with the local fire agencies and neighboring stakeholders of the Santa Lucia Preserve.
- Start a discussion about what should happen if a wildfire starts in the area, specifically addressing:
  - chain of command
  - individual roles
  - communication
  - alert wildfire cameras available onsite
  - spatial data needs and authoritative data resources
  - developing a wildland prefire plan that is accessible to strike teams and local fire agencies alike

- Evaluate fuel breaks that were installed during the Soberanes Fire (2016) by CAL FIRE to maximize the efficacy of these historic investments in a manner that is environmentally sustainable:
  - determine primary and secondary lines
  - determine site-specific maintenance methods and long-term management

#### FUEL MITIGATION

- Incorporate backyard pile burning as a fuel mitigation tool for homeowners and provide expert supervision. All backyard burning will occur only during burn season and will require both getting a permit through the Monterey County Regional Fire District and notifying the Santa Lucia Preserve.
- Host a centralized burn site, where an incinerator and operators will be available for homeowners to haul their vegetation. This option offers more control from fire escaping and yields less smoke.
- Conduct roadside fuel reduction along all roads and driveways to ensure safe ingress and egress.
- Collaborate with the Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association and the Santa Lucia Conservancy to conduct prescribed fires at the Santa Lucia Preserve. The Santa Lucia Conservancy in cooperation with the Santa Lucia Preserve completed a 33 acre controlled burn in November 2021 and aim to continue using this as a fuel reduction tool that also promotes ecological health in a fire-adaptive landscape.

#### **YEAR 2 (2023):**

##### EDUCATION PROGRAM

- Incorporate the community member survey results into another annual Firewise event.
- Coordinate with the Fire Safe Council for Monterey County, Monterey County Regional Fire District, CAL FIRE BEU and the Santa Lucia Conservancy to host an educational Firewise event at the Santa Lucia Preserve. Discussion topics will be similar to the previous event, but customized to the community member survey:
  - lot-specific fuel management plans and defensible space
  - how community members can take action to create a firesafe community
  - how to establish evacuation plans
  - evacuation communication drills
- Conduct a survey with community members to understand what they would like to see at the next Preserve Firewise event and if there were any questions unanswered.

##### DEFENSIBLE SPACE

- Promote the importance of maintaining a current FMP.
- Conduct a presentation for the community members with the Monterey County Regional Fire District's Fire Marshal to explain the differences and similarities between a lot-specific fuel management plan and the annual fire safety inspections (based on LE-100s).
- Define insurance needs above and beyond local and state ordinance.

## WILDLAND PREFIRE PLANNING

- Develop and maintain relationships with the local fire agencies and neighboring stakeholders of the Santa Lucia Preserve.
- Create a standard wildland preplan for the Santa Lucia Preserve that includes:
  - a web map for mobile devices and desktop
  - a geospatial PDF of the preplan
- Identify historical fuel breaks that need fuel reduction and markers to support future suppression efforts and mitigate unnecessary dozerlines.

## FUEL MITIGATION

- Continue to reduce fuels along all roadsides and driveways.
- Begin fuel reduction work along targeted historical fuel breaks.
- Incorporate backyard pile burning as a fuel mitigation tool for homeowners and provide expert supervision.
- Host a centralized burn site, where an incinerator and operators will be available for homeowners to haul their vegetation. This option offers more control from fire escaping
- Plan more prescribed burns with the Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association and the Santa Lucia Conservancy.
- Involve the community members in live-fire training, if they so choose.

## **YEAR 3 (2024):**

### EDUCATION PROGRAM

- Incorporate the community member survey results into another annual Firewise event.
- Coordinate with the Fire Safe Council for Monterey County, Monterey County Regional Fire District, CAL FIRE BEU and the Santa Lucia Conservancy to host an educational Firewise event at the Santa Lucia Preserve. Discussion topics will be similar to the previous event, but customized to the community member survey:
  - lot-specific fuel management plans and defensible space
  - how community members can take action to create a firesafe community
  - how to establish evacuation plans
  - evacuation communication drills
- Conduct a survey with community members to understand what they would like to see at the next Preserve Firewise event and if there were any questions unanswered.

### DEFENSIBLE SPACE

- Promote the importance of maintaining a current FMP and compliance with the PRC 4291.
- Conduct a presentation for the community members with the Monterey County Regional Fire District's Fire Marshal to explain the differences and similarities between a lot-specific fuel management plan and the annual fire safety inspections (based on LE-100s).
- Define insurance needs above and beyond local and state ordinance.

#### WILDLAND PREFIRE PLANNING

- Develop and maintain relationships with the local fire agencies and neighboring stakeholders of the Santa Lucia Preserve.
- Make the wildland prefire plan accessible to strike teams and local fire agencies alike.
- Identify historical fuel breaks that need fuel reduction and markers to support future suppression efforts and mitigate unnecessary dozerlines.

#### FUEL MITIGATION

- Continue to reduce fuels along all roadsides and driveways.
- Continue fuel reduction work along targeted historical fuel breaks.
- Continue backyard pile burning as a fuel mitigation tool for homeowners and provide expert provision.
- Host a centralized burn site, where an incinerator and operators will be available for homeowners to haul their vegetation. This option offers more control from fire escaping.
- Plan more prescribed burns with the Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association and the Santa Lucia Conservancy.