
AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

A PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY
FOUNDATION

Lower American River Conservancy Program
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ARPF MISSION AND VISION

Incorporated in April 1983 as a nonprofit 501c3

Vision: The American River Parkway to be one of the nation's premiere urban parks

Mission: Lead and inspire the community to conserve and nurture the American River Parkway as a unique, accessible resource for everyone to enjoy



ARPF PROGRAMS

Clean-Ups
Invasive Plant Removal
River Bend Outdoor Education Site
Parkway CONNECT
Interpretive Program
Trail Maintenance
Infrastructure Improvement
Mile Steward Program
Native Plant Program
Pups in the Park
Tribute Tables
American River Parkway Fire Safe Council



CALIFORNIA FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Nonprofit corporation first formed as a project of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in 1993

Mission: To be California's leaders in community wildfire risk reduction and resiliency

Leadership: CFSC works with community leaders, governmental agencies, and corporations to provide education on the dangers of wildfires and how they could be prevented through hazardous fuel reduction and defensible space

Grants: Since 2004, CFSC has awarded over \$118M in grant funding



PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: CONCEPT

Began discussions with State Fire Safe Council in response to significant increase in Parkway fires during early-2021

- Public service infrastructure *within* the Parkway at highest risk

Started meeting with CAL FIRE, regional Fire Safe Councils, local fire protection agencies, utilities, and other Parkway stakeholders

Evaluated various models for Council organization and structure including single-purpose nonprofit, government-convened, and program-based approach



PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: CONVENED

Established the American River Parkway Fire Safe Council as a Program of the American River Parkway Foundation

Hosted first meeting in August 2021

- Over 20 representatives from 15 agencies and organizations met to review locations of critical infrastructure in Parkway (i.e., electric, water, sewer, flood, etc.)



PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: COMMITTED

Mission

To reduce fire risk and preserve the natural and infrastructure resources within the American River Parkway and contribute to reduced fire risk for homes and businesses along the Parkway.

Goals

- Develop prescribed wildfire hazard risk reduction plans for each area within the Parkway
- Protect the infrastructure that exists on the Parkway
- Identify other high fire risk issues
- Address the safety concerns of Parkway users
- Engage the public in support of fire management activities



PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: PLANNING BEGINS

In September, Council members agreed the highest wildfire risks lay between miles 2 through 6 – the Cal Expo/Woodlake area including Bushy Lake and Sutter's Landing

- Council members select Cal Expo/Woodlake area for 2022 Pilot Project

Planning begins using measures from the Sacramento County-commissioned *2015 Report of Wildfire Hazard Conditions and Recommendations for Wildland Hazard Reduction in the Sacramento County Regional Park System* as a foundation



PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: PILOT PROJECT

In December, the Council completed the actionable 2022 Cal Expo/Woodlake Fire Hazard Reduction Plan with measures related to:

- **Fuel Reduction and Integrated Vegetation Management**
Ladder fuel removal is highest priority
- **Fire Road and Firebreak Improvements**
Improve emergency vehicle access and enhance firebreaks
- **Fire Road Signage and First Responder Safety**



PARKWAY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: IMPLEMENTATION

In July 2022, the Council coordinated its first fuel reduction project in the Enchanted Forest area near the Discovery Park Archery Range which experienced a fire in 2019.

The two-day project brought together Sacramento County Regional Parks staff and a dozen skilled volunteers from Team Rubicon, an international relief organization that also performs community service projects such as this one.



NEXT STEPS

Develop and implement a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the American River Parkway to

- Identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments
- Recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect essential infrastructure and communities adjacent to the Parkway
- Recommend measures to reduce structural ignitability throughout the at-risk community

Fulfill Goal 5.2 of the American River Parkway Natural Resources Management Plan

- Reduce wildfire fuel and hazards fuel in the Parkway

