

Notice of Determination

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: University of California, Berkeley
Physical & Environmental Planning
200 A&E Building
Berkeley, CA 94720

**Subject: Filing of Notice of Determination
in Compliance with Section 21108 or 21152 of the Public Resource Code.**

State Clearinghouse Number: 2019110389
Project Title: Grizzly Peak Strategic Fuel Break Collaboration
Project Applicant: University of California, Berkeley
Project Location: University of California, Berkeley, Hill Campus
County: Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

Project Description: UC Berkeley, in partnership with East Bay Regional Park District, East Bay Municipal Utility District and the City of Berkeley, proposes to establish and maintain a strategic and continuous fuel break along a segment of Grizzly Peak Boulevard in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The Strategic Fuel Break Collaboration Project totals approximately 30 miles of roadway and 139 acres. The Project within the UC Berkeley Hill Campus comprises 3.5 linear miles along Grizzly Peak Boulevard totaling just over 22 acres. The UC Berkeley project involves fuel management activities within 100 feet of the edge of pavement depending on slope and other conditions along the western edge of Grizzly Peak Boulevard from Marlborough Terrace to the intersection of Grizzly Peak Boulevard and Centennial Drive. UC Berkeley's portion of the proposed Strategic Fuel Break Collaboration project in the Hill Campus would include grass/shrub mitigation, potential tree removal, limbing of trees, and debris removal obstructing the roadway to provide improved emergency ingress and egress in the public right-of-way along Grizzly Peak Boulevard. Work would be performed primarily using mechanical equipment with the option of grazing herds of goats being utilized on the most difficult and steep terrain. UC Berkeley proposes to commence the project in 2024, as part of on-going fuel management activities it implements in the Hill Campus, consistent with the fuel management activities evaluated in the Wildland Vegetative Fuel Management Plan Environmental Impact Report (SCH # 2019110389).

The proposed project is a preventative measure that serves to: 1) support emergency evacuation along Grizzly Peak Boulevard in the event of a landslide, wildfire, earthquake, or other need for evacuation; and 2) increase the protection of several of the campus's most prominent facilities including the Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Botanical Garden, Space Sciences Laboratory and Mathematical Sciences Institute.

This Notice of Determination is to advise that the University of California Lead Agency has approved the above-described project on November 8, 2023, and has made the following determinations:

1. The project would not cause any significant environmental impacts nor an increase in the severity of significant impacts previously analyzed in the Wildland Vegetative Fuel Management Plan Environmental Impact Report (WVFMP EIR).
2. The WVFMP EIR (SCH #2019110389) was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.
3. Relevant mitigation measures, environmental protection measures and continuing best practices from the WVFMP EIR are made a condition of the approval of the project; no new project-specific mitigation measures are required.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan was adopted for this project.
5. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

Dated Received for filing at OPR:

This is to certify that the Final WVFMP EIR with comments and responses and record of project approval is available at: <https://capitalstrategies.berkeley.edu/environmental-review>



Signature:

Wendy Hillis

Title: Associate Vice Chancellor, Campus Architect

Date: November 8, 2023

Dated Received for filing at OPR:

Authority cited: Sections 21082 and 21087, Public Resources Code.
Reference: Sections 21000-21174, Public Resources Code.

Revised 2019