



Date: November 21, 2024

From: William Hart, Project Manager William@goldridgercd.org

Project Title: LandSmart Grazing Program for Community Resilience at the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation – Laguna Uplands Preserve

Project Applicant: Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District

Project Location: 6700 Palm Avenue

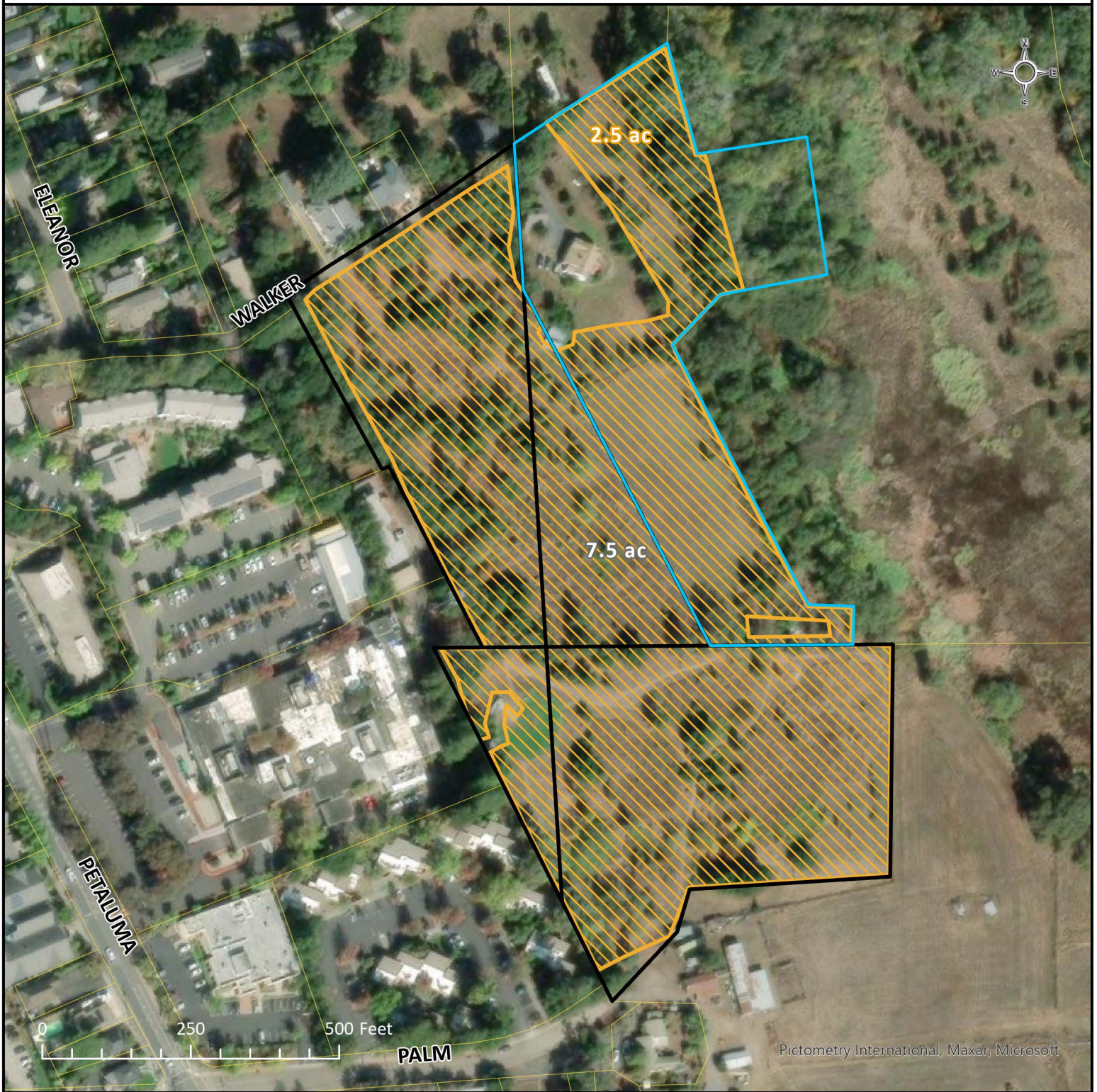
Project Location – City: Sebastopol

Project Location – County: Sonoma

Description of the Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: The project will utilize contracted prescribed herbivory through multiple grazing events to reduce vegetation fuels and increase diversity on the participating property. Fire prevention objectives are to change the fire behavior through modification of the fuel bed, fuel loading, percent cover, and ladder fuels. Invasive species have negative effects on biodiversity and ecosystem services and interfere with meeting restoration goals. Target vegetation will include non-native species. The Project site includes a total of approximately 10.0 acres of Hardwood (*Quercus lobata* Alliance), Non-native Forest / Woodland, and California Annual and Perennial Grasslands landscape. The Project will total approximately 10.0 acres. Prescribed herbivory within the identified grazing area will occur on the property




A mixture of prescribed herbivory and adaptive management will be employed in the project area. The livestock will graze to maintain the vegetation. Grazier is encouraged to densely pack the livestock to rigorously target the intended vegetation. Grazier is also encouraged to employ adaptive management via monitoring of the project area. Adaptive management is the process whereby management is initiated, evaluated, and refined (Holling, 1978). The Laguna Foundation’s land stewardship goal is to utilize grazing to arrest the development of invasive, annual grass species in the project area but not cause overgrazing that results in soil erosion via water or wind. Prescribed herbivory (also known as “targeted grazing” [ASI 2006, Macon 2019]) is the use of domestic livestock to accomplish specific and measurable vegetation management objectives. Those would include things like removing biomass (fine fuel loads), reducing populations of specific plant species, and improving plant community structure for wildlife habitat values.

- Hand work is defined as the physical act of felling and removing targeted trees, by hand and on foot only, i.e., without the aid of any type of vehicle.
- Adaptive management means effectiveness or validation monitoring after application of a treatment performed to the extent feasible, recognizing fiscal constraints, the need for ongoing access to property, and staff availability.



Laguna de Santa Rosa / Laguna Uplands Preserve

Legend

-  Laguna Uplands Parcel (7.5 ac)
-  Signer Parcel (2.5 ac)
-  Grazing Area (10.0 ac)