



Inverness Public Utility District



**MARIN WILDFIRE
PREVENTION AUTHORITY**

West Marin Evacuation Route Project

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is doing the work?

Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA), Marin County Fire Department (MCFD), Inverness Public Utilities District (IPUD), and Bolinas Fire Protection District (BFPD). Please note that PG&E is doing its own work in some of the same areas that is NOT affiliated with the West Marin Evacuation Route Project.

What activities are taking place?

The project includes thinning of ladder fuels and limbing up of trees within 10 feet of roads and up to 15 feet above roads. Mature trees would NOT be removed but some immature trees (below 8 inches dbh) and shrubs would be thinned and weeds and grasses would be trimmed. This and all MWPA-funded projects focus first on dead and down woody material and nonnative fire-hazardous vegetation ahead of treating native vegetation. MCFD is working to ensure all roads within their jurisdiction (private, public/non-county maintained roads, and public roads) comply with applicable fire code (Marin County Fire Code Title 16, Section 322.6.1) so that residents evacuate more safely during wildfire and allow emergency vehicles to enter neighborhoods. MCFD will comply with all requirements set forth in environmental compliance documents (including CEQA documents and Coastal Act permits).

Where is work happening?

The first phase of work took place in November and December 2022 along Drakes View Drive and Douglas Drive in the Inverness area with a local contractor (Valley Tree Service).

The next phase of work will include Behr Rd, a portion of Sunnyside Dr, Laurel St, Balboa Ave, Drakes Summit Road, Camino Del Mar, Via Sobrante, Keith Way, and Vision Rd. This work is taking place in close coordination with the neighborhood Firewise Committee, residents, Inverness PUD, and Marin County Public Works.

Future areas will include portions of Olema-Bolinas Road, Overlook Drive, Mesa Road, and Elm Road in coordination with Bolinas FPD, local residents, and Marin County Public Works.

What are you doing to protect sensitive wildlife and plants?

Biologists have already mapped all sensitive habitats within the project area but are revisiting all sites and flagging resources to be avoided ahead of any work taking place in all locations. Environmental awareness training is required for any contractor working on the project to ensure all resources are protected.

Biologists are actively surveying portions of the project area where Northern Spotted Owl might occur. These surveys, combined with maps of previous owl activity, will help ensure no activities take place that would disturb this species. Additional nesting bird surveys take place ahead of any work during the nesting season.

Compliance under the California Environmental Quality Act and the Coastal Act has been completed for this work.



West Marin Evacuation Route Project

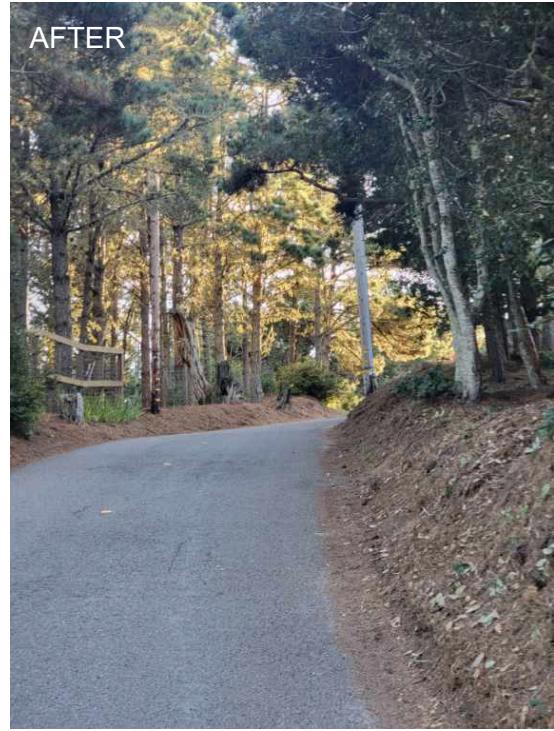
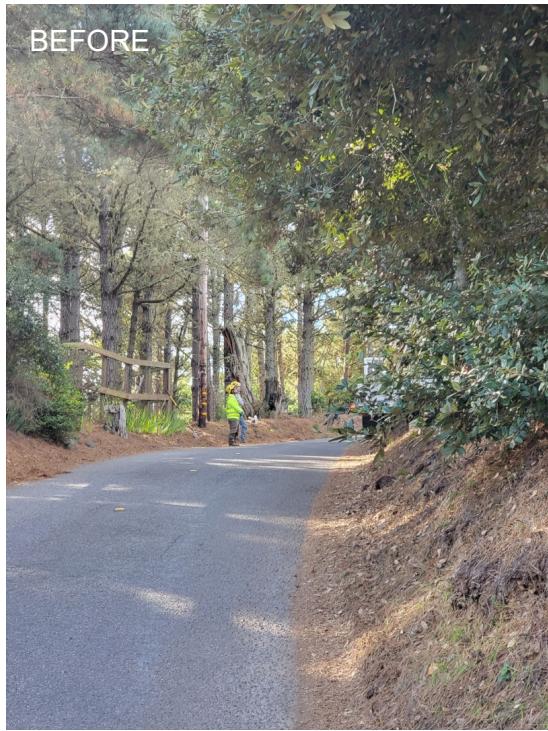
Frequently Asked Questions

What does the fire code say?

Marin County Code, Title 16, Fire: Section 322.6.1 Clearance of brush or vegetative growth from street. The fire code official is authorized to require, within 10 feet on each side and 15 feet in height of fire apparatus roads and driveways, to be abated of flammable vegetation and other combustible growth.

Exception: Single specimens of trees, ornamental vegetative fuels or cultivated ground cover, such as green grass, ivy succulents or similar plants used a ground cover, provided that they do not form a means of readily transmitting fire and not lower than 15 feet vertical clearance in height from the roadway surface

What does this work look like?



The photos above show conditions before and after a crew completed work along a road in the Inverness area in November/December 2022. Botanists first walked the project area and flagged anything the crew needed to avoid. Then the crew limbed up trees with branches that would impede first responder vehicles and trimmed back shrubs next to the road that would create dangerous conditions during a wildfire.

For more information, go to www.marinwildfire.org.