

Action 5:

Fuel Reduction Zone On Isis Ridge East of Fish Ranch Road

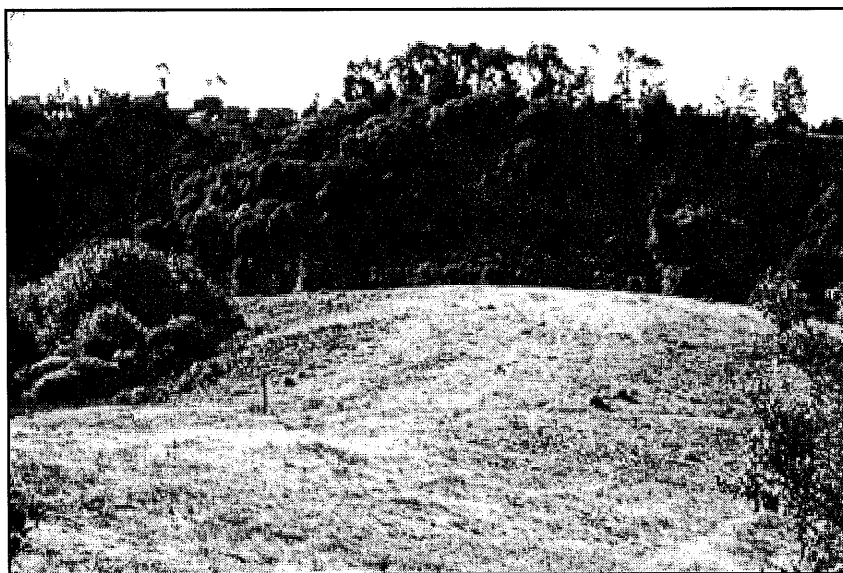
pacts of a severe wildfire. Provide an additional firefighting location.

Cautions:

Fuel buffers cannot be neglected for long or they could become a hindrance rather than a help to firefighting. Care should be taken to prevent weed encroachment in the buffer and adjoining habitat.

Description:

Recommend that EBMUD and EBRPD jointly manage vegetation in a roughly north-south band up to 100' wide in their lands along Isis Ridge just east of Fish Ranch Road to reduce fuels and provide defensible space to fight fires emanating from Siesta Valley and Fish Ranch Road. The vegetation along this ridge, predominantly coyote bush and other dry north coastal scrub species, should be mowed and thinned to slow the spread of fire, to aid air attack, and to create a defensible space suitable for fire fighting by ground crews under favorable conditions. Rare plants will be protected and native species will be encouraged where brush is thinned and removed.



Isis Ridge shortly after treatment by EBMUD (J. Kopchik)

Implementation:

EBMUD is primarily responsible for implementing this action, though portions of Isis Ridge are owned by EBRPD. Work could be performed by machine, by hand, or with goats.

Fiscal Impacts:

\$500 to \$1000 per acre per year (cheaper than other areas due to the relatively gradual slopes and homogeneous vegetation).

Anticipated results:

Reduce the risk of fire to people and property both to the east and west, but particularly in the Caldecott Corridor. Potentially protect biological resources in the Caldecott Corridor from the short term significant im-