

# NEWS RELEASE



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FIRE CHIEF

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## PRESCRIBED BURNING SCHEDULED FOR LAKE MATHEWS AREA

Perris, CA—On Wednesday, May 22 and Friday, May 24, 2019, CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department, in cooperation with the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA) and Metropolitan Water District (MWD), will be conducting prescribed burns at Lake Mathews near El Sobrante Road and Mocking Bird Canyon. The scheduled date is dictated by favorable weather conditions. A total of 350 acres of grassland will be burned. Smoke will be visible from nearby communities, but will disperse quickly and is not expected to be a health hazard.

The project is aimed at eliminating non-native grass as well as reducing the hazard posed by flammable vegetation. In addition to the ecological and hazard reduction benefits, firefighters from multiple departments are provided the opportunity to participate in valuable wildland fire suppression training.

This prescribed burn operation will utilize CAL FIRE engines and CAL FIRE Conservation Camp Fire crews in addition to other local department engines from throughout Southern California. Burning operations will typically begin after 6:00 a.m. and conclude by noon the same day. The burning operation will only occur on permissive burn days as determined by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department.

Please contact the CAL FIRE/Riverside County Fire Public Affairs Bureau at (951) 940-6985 with any questions.

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