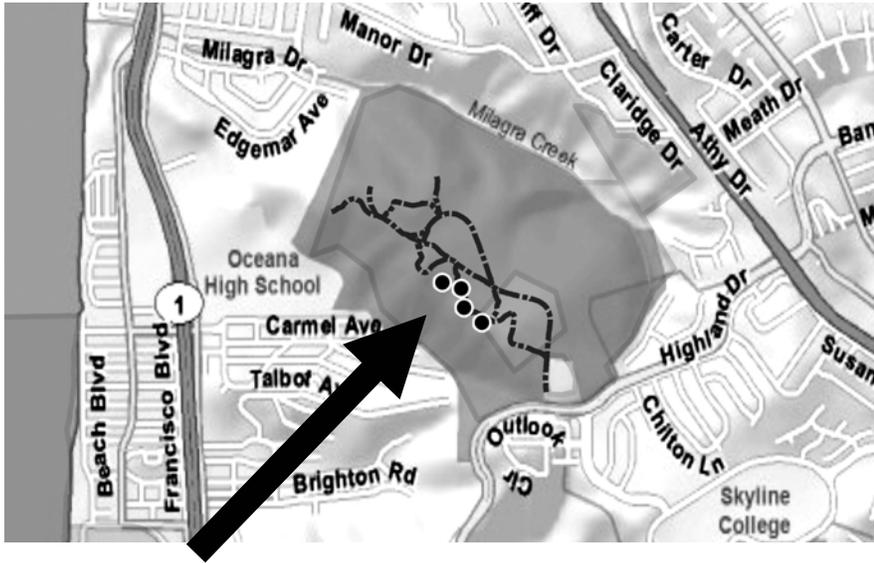


Prescribed Fire on Milagra Ridge

2009 Restoration Project



Golden Gate National Recreation Area is experimenting with restoration techniques aimed at improving habitat for endangered Mission blue butterflies. One day of burning in small customized burn boxes at Milagra Ridge near Pacifica is expected to take place this fall sometime between late September and early November. Burning will only take place if weather conditions allow. Smoke from this project will be very minimal, but traces of smoke may be seen or smelled from a distance. Burning will be confined to metal burn boxes which are 5 meters by 5 meters in area and 1 meter in height.

Managers will compare the effects of fire with vegetation removal and soil scraping to determine if either treatment is more effective at stimulating lupine germination. Lupine plants are critical to Mission blue butterflies because they are the sole food source for developing larvae.

The Milagra Ridge Trail will be temporarily closed while burning is in progress. For more information, contact NPS Public Affairs Specialist George Durgerian at 415-335-8258.