

# Fort Baker

## Fuel Reduction Project

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

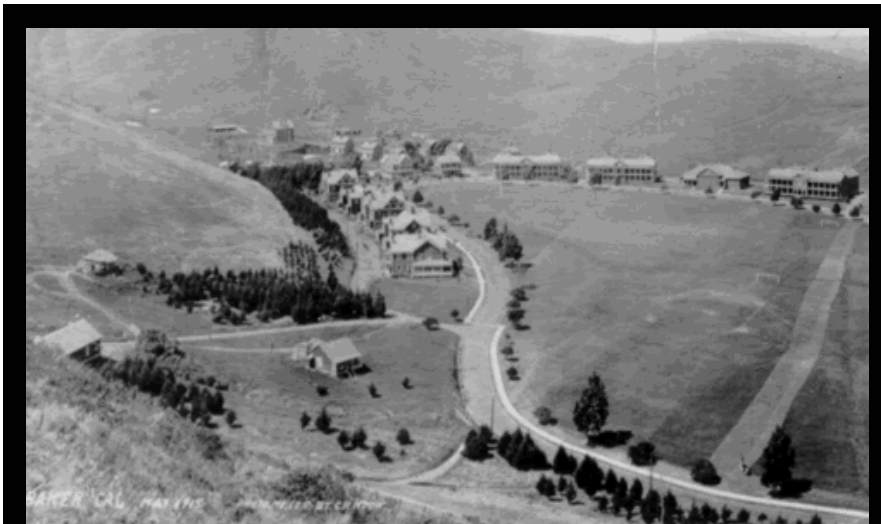
Golden Gate  
National Recreation Area



### Summary:

Golden Gate National Recreation Area is reducing the wildland fire risk to historic landscapes and structures within the park. As part of this effort the park will reduce hazardous fuels on a 2.5 acre area adjacent to Fort Baker, reversing 35-years of non-native vegetation overgrowth. Reducing this overgrowth also aids in restoring the natural habitat and historic landscape.

### Project Purpose:



Fort Baker Circa 1946



Fort Baker Circa 2003

In the early 1900's non-native Monterey Cypress trees were planted adjacent to Fort Baker as a windbreak. Over the years, this historic Monterey Cypress windbreak has expanded well beyond its original footprint.

Partly because of that expansion, Fort Baker is now surrounded by dense stands of non-native vegetation. This concentration of hazardous fuel increases the likelihood that a wildland fire would destroy the nationally significant historic structures of the Fort Baker cantonment and the adjacent, historic, Monterey Cypress windbreak.

An overgrowth of the non-native invasive plants French and Scotch broom has also contributed to the excessive fuel load. In a wildland fire, Broom would act as a ladder, carrying fire from the ground into the canopy of the trees.

The Fort Baker Fuel Reduction Project will remove the non-historic cypress trees that have sprouted and grown beyond the original windbreak. Other non-native plants such as Broom and Thoroughwort will also be removed.

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## Project Details:

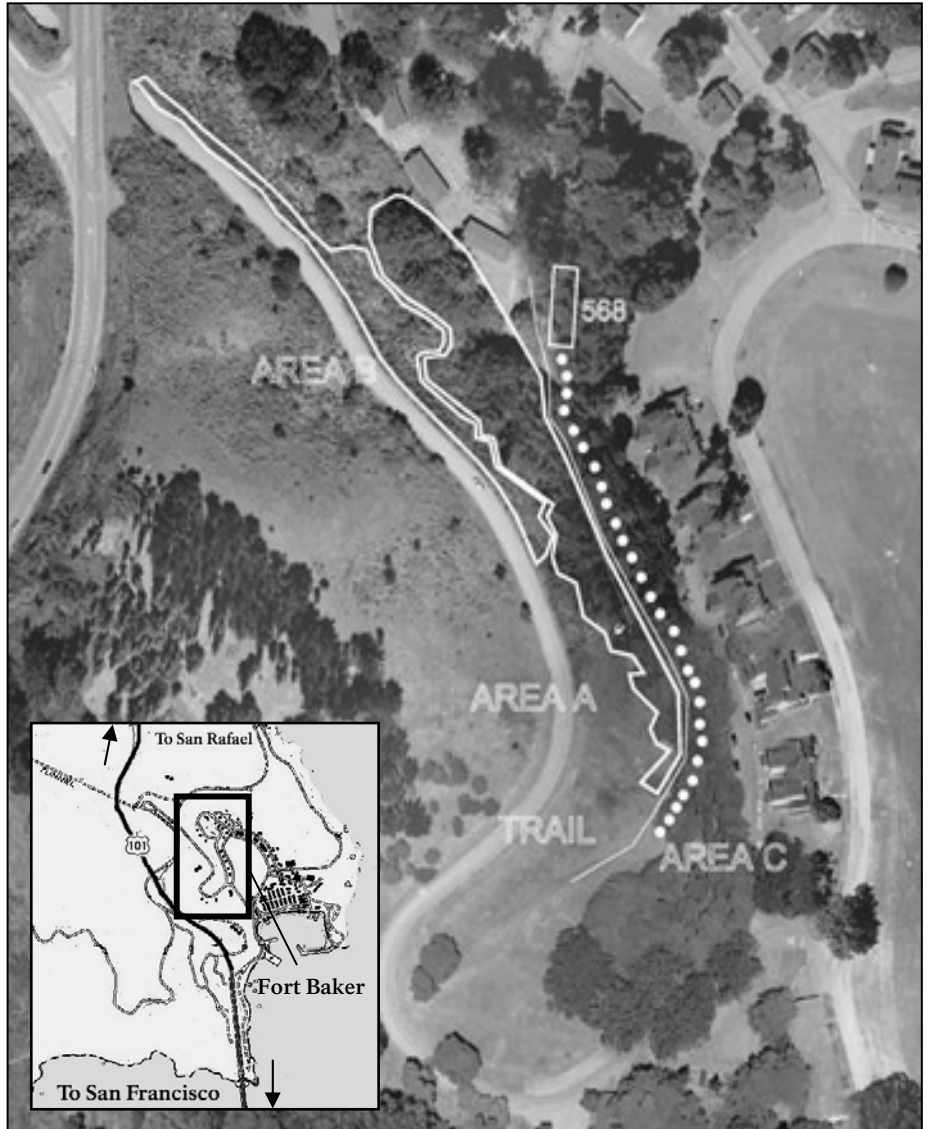
Golden Gate National Recreation Area has assessed environmental impact and all work will comply with NPS environmental regulations.

Work will occur between August 15, 2003 and will continue through December 31, 2003. The project is divided into three areas:

**Area A:** Crews will remove Monterey cypress overgrowth outside the footprint of the historic windbreak. Thoroughwort, a non-native invasive plant in the understory of the cypress forest, will also be removed. Material will be chipped and distributed on site.

**Area B:** All French and Scotch Broom, between bunker road and Area A will be removed with weed wrenches to assure that rootballs do not resprout.

**Area C:** The Monterey Cypress in the historic windbreak in Area C will be limbed up to a height of eight feet above the ground. Limbing will reduce the potential a wildfire can spread to the tree crowns and threaten the Parade Ground structures. Downed branches will also be removed from the site to reduce this risk.



Crews will be trained to identify, and leave undisturbed, native plants and wildlife shelters. Erosion control measures will be taken after work is completed. Revegetation efforts will be carried out over 5 years by NPS Habitat Restoration Team staff assisted by park volunteers.

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### Temporary Access Limitations:

Temporary traffic interruptions may occur on Bunker Road as vegetation removal occurs and equipment traverses across the roadway between the work area and the staging area, which are on opposite sides of the road.

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### Further Information:

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For more information on GGNRA Fuel projects, please visit the Fire Management Office webpage at:

[www.nps.gov/goga/fire](http://www.nps.gov/goga/fire)