

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



CONTACT:
Information Officer
(650) 477-0379

RELEASE DATE:
October 22, 2026

CAL FIRE CZU to Conduct Prescribed Fire on TomKat Ranch Near Pescadero

On Saturday, October 24, 2026, weather permitting, CAL FIRE CZU plans to burn an estimated 50 acres of grass and brush on TomKat Ranch in San Mateo County. This will be our fifth prescribed fire on the property since 2021, totaling 111.2 acres. You will find a map of the project location on Page 2 and photos of previous prescribed fires at the ranch on Page 3.

Burn Boss Sarah Collamer says “We appreciate our continuing partnership with TomKat Ranch. This burn ties in with other regional fuel reduction efforts that could help reduce the impact of a catastrophic wildland fire and its effect on the town of Pescadero.”

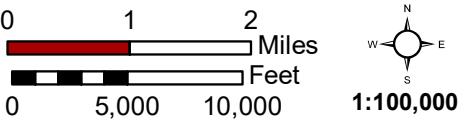
Previous burns have improved rangelands, increased the number of native species, and enhanced species-richness, allowing more diverse plant species to flourish. This prescribed fire also adds to a strong fuel break, decreases flammable vegetation, and reduces ladder fuels that carry fire from the ground to the treetops.

Smoke from this one-day burn may be visible from Pescadero, Half Moon Bay, San Carlos, Belmont, and Highway 1 in San Mateo County. This burn will be performed in accordance with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District on a permissible burn day. Following the prescribed fire, crews will remain on scene as necessary for mop-up and patrol.

This prescribed fire is part of a broader strategy to protect communities and natural resources in the area. These plans are developed collaboratively with stakeholders and incorporate community input. The project contributes to statewide efforts to meet or exceed fuel reduction goals outlined in the California Fire Plan and the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan. To track prescribed fire activity in your community and across California, visit the CAL FIRE fuels reduction dashboard: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/natural-resource-management/prescribed-fire>. For wildfire prevention and preparedness information, please share <https://readyforwildfire.org/> with your neighbors.

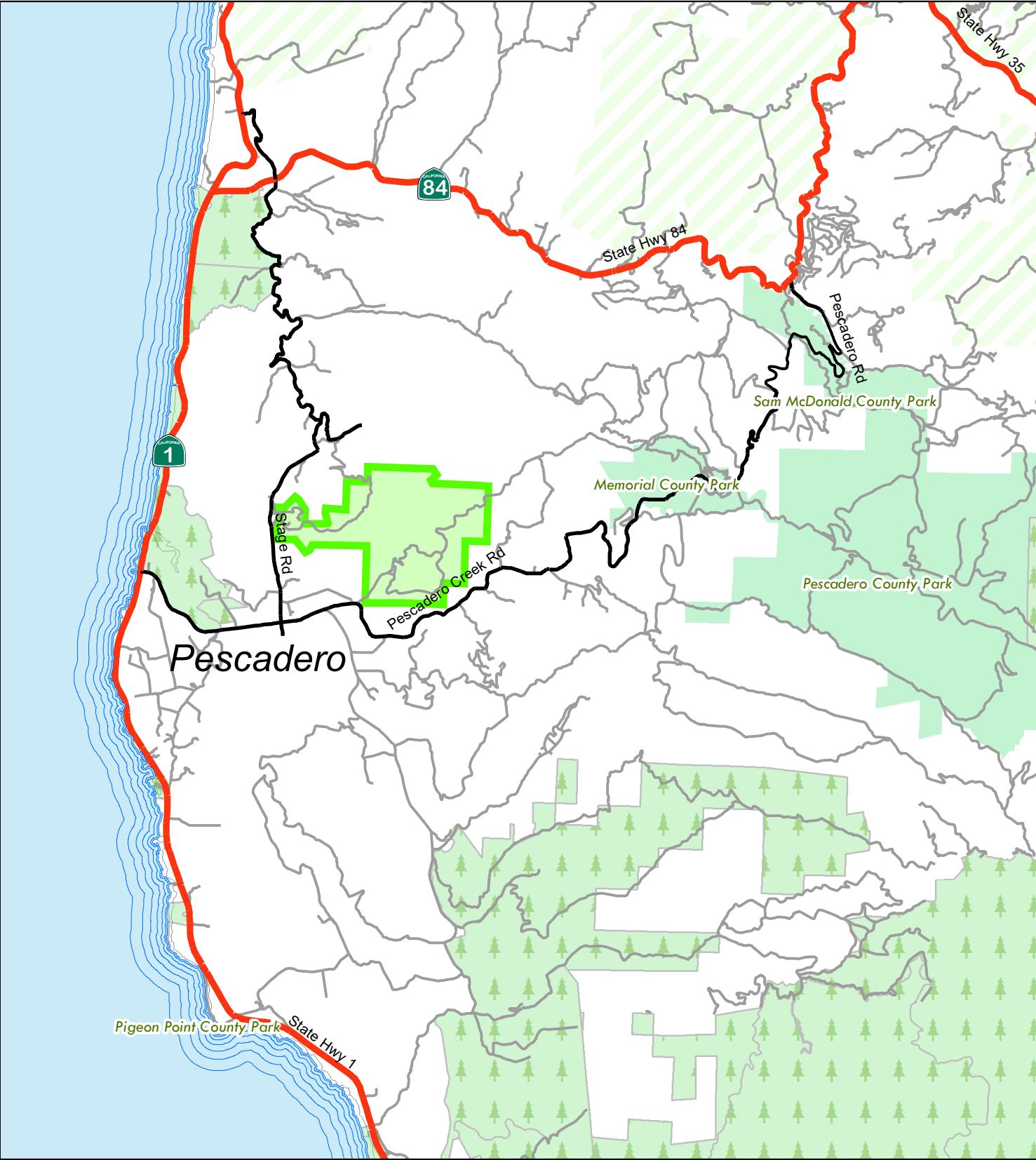


TomKat Ranch Vicinity Map



Legend

- Tomkat_Ranch_LLC
- State Parks
- County Parks
- Midpen OSD





Prescribed fire reduces dangerous fuel loads to help protect San Mateo and Santa Cruz County communities from high-intensity wildfires while restoring ecosystem resilience and promoting the growth of native vegetation.



**CAL
FIRE**