



# Media Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 2, 2015**

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**BRUSH PILE BURNING TO OCCUR AT MORRO BAY STATE PARK**

**Burning will not occur if a burn ban is in effect or if weather conditions do not permit burning.**

**What:** Prescribed brush pile burns.

**When:** Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Where:** "Y intersection" of State Park Rd. and Park View Dr. in Morro Bay State Park

**Why:** This burn project is part of the Hazard Fuel Reduction and Prescribed Fire Program for vegetation management, fuel load reduction and structure protection. The pine forests are experiencing major die-offs due to pine pitch canker disease, compounded by drought. Burn pile operations will be conducted to reduce fuel loads and maintain defensible space on areas adjacent to neighborhoods and park facilities per permit conditions. This treatment will greatly reduce dead, downed and diseased fuels in the wildland-urban interface, decrease potential for wildfires, enhance the health of the native plant communities, encourage increased species composition, restore essential nutrients to the soil, and aid in the control of pine pitch canker.

**Who:** CA State Parks, in cooperation with Morro Bay Fire Department, CAL FIRE, the Air Pollution Control District, and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. For more information please call Vince Cicero, Senior Environmental Scientist, San Luis Obispo Coast District, (805)471-2049.

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**California State Parks on the Internet: [www.parks.ca.gov](http://www.parks.ca.gov)>**

