

UC SANTA BARBARA

THE Current

July 6, 2011

George Foulsham

UCSB, County Fire Department to Conduct Prescribed Burn on Lagoon Island

The Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (CCBER), the UC Santa Barbara Fire Protection Division, and the Santa Barbara County Fire Department will conduct a prescribed burn on UCSB's lagoon island on one day during the week of July 22-29.

The burn will be part of the ecological restoration of the area, according to Lisa Stratton, director of ecosystem management at CCBER. "The burn is part of a management effort to control non-native grasses and establish native coastal bluff scrub vegetation," Stratton said. "We will be conducting the burn on the day with the least amount of fog, in order to get a hot enough burn to reduce the viability of the non-native seed bank."

Stratton said officials are hoping to conduct the burn on Saturday, July 23, weather permitting.

This will mark the fourth year that UCSB has conducted the burn. Funding for the project is from the students of UCSB, through the Coastal Fund, Stratton said. UCSB officials have all necessary permits for the burn from the Coastal Commission and the Air Pollution Control District, and campus officials have conducted a fire safety meeting with Santa Barbara County fire officials.

About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.