
Don't want to encounter this on visits to CA. There are more sound alternatives.

Melissa Roberts
Albuquerque, NM 87125
Jun 17, 2013

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is currently flawed by deliberately avoiding thoughtfully-designed alternatives that are capable of attaining most, if not all, of the project objectives to mitigate fire in a manner that is environmentally favorable. The EIS must identify and consider such alternatives, as well as conduct the legally-required comparison of these alternatives to the "no action" alternative and to the project as it is currently proposed. Also, the agencies requesting the FEMA grant must formulate and adopt enforceable mitigation measures that are spelled out in the EIS. The following are among the areas that need further in-depth analysis of these alternatives and the details of enforceable mitigation: HERBICIDES. The EIS does not properly analyze the proposed use of herbicides. The EIS is inadequate in analyzing alternative methodologies as part of an integrated management program that would minimize or eliminate the need for herbicides. The EIS has eliminated outright any study of how to manage resprouts without herbicides, dismissing an integrated plan that would include a mix of options, such as the use of opaque plastic to cover stumps, which would help reduce the considerable load of herbicides that will be used (in the tens of thousands of gallons). EBMUD has demonstrated that it is not difficult to manage eucalyptus groves by sending in crews every 3 years or so to remove the saplings. The herbicides Garlon 4, Garlon 3A, Stalker2, and/or Roundup3 (glyphosate) will be used initially on eucalyptus stumps, and for follow-up treatments twice a year for 10 years. Also, herbicide spray will be applied to resprouted foliage between 3 and 6 feet in height. Spray will also be used on seedlings, and "noxious weeds," such as native poison oak, according to the EIS. Though Garlon and Roundup are in cancer classification group D and E, (not enough evidence to say one way or the other that they are human carcinogens), a growing number of well-designed epidemiological studies provide substantial evidence that these herbicides are associated with increased cancer risk <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.3322/caac.21170/abstract>. According to the EPA, the half-life (the amount of time it takes for half to break down) of triclopyr (the active ingredient in Garlon) varied from 10 to 100 days, <http://www.pesticide.org/get-the-facts/pesticide-factsheets/factsheets/triclopyr>. One of the breakdown products, TCP (3,5,6-trichloro-2-pyridinol) is persistent in the environment, is mobile in water and soil, and according to the EPA is just about as toxic as triclopyr, <http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/REDs/2710red.pdf>. These products will persist in the environment, and, since they will be reapplied every 6 months, these chemicals are going to be around for 10 years. Although the EIS states that 'best practices' will be used in regards to herbicides, it is often the case that the 'actual' reality on the ground is quite different. The EIS does not adequately analyze and spell out the ways in which the best practices would be monitored, documented and enforced to insure that the best practice rules are, in fact, being followed. There have been incidents where the rules were not followed, where herbicides were applied in the rain and leached into the creek, and where herbicide was sprayed on hemlock, broom, and thistle without posting any of the required signage, where workers in Claremont Canyon were observed spraying aimlessly, and where herbicides were being sprayed within 25 feet of the creek in Strawberry Canyon. This is in direct violation of the 'best practices' that include no spraying of foliage within 60 feet of water, and where herbicides would not be used in the 60-foot buffer within 24 hours after rain or when the chance of rain within 24 hours is greater than 40%. WATER BUDGET. The EIS is inadequate in analyzing the impact of fog drip from eucalyptus and Monterey pine trees in terms of the percent contribution to the overall water budget of the habitats in the proposed project areas, and thereby fails to analyze the impact that the removal of the trees will have on reducing the amount of water in the soil of the habitats involved. Fog drip (when fog droplets condense on the needles or leaves of trees and drip to the ground, penetrating the soil to root zone depth) influences local conditions, and it is likely that fog-drip water produced by trees and shrubs makes an important contribution to the overall water budget of the project areas, especially during the dry summer months when the area is foggiest. Additionally, the soil moisture content decreases when vegetative cover is removed and the soil is exposed to the drying effect of greater wind speed, more sunlight, and increased soil temperatures. The EIS fails to propose a mitigation plan for the desiccation of the soil, the impact on the water table, and the impact on the animals that depend on this moisture source. WILDLIFE. The EIS is inadequate in analyzing and mitigating the degree to which the proposed projects, by degrading nearby habitat areas, may impact the degree of functionality of the wildlife corridors (the Caldecott Tunnel Corridor and the Niles Canyon-Sunol Corridor) that play a critical role as habitat linkages in facilitating wildlife movement through

this region. The EIS is inadequate in analyzing the impact on, and analyzing alternatives by which to properly protect Black-crowned night herons, Great blue herons, Great egrets, and Snowy egrets within the project areas. These birds are special-status species, their nesting colonies are protected by law, and there is suitable nesting habitat and foraging habitat present in the project areas. There are observations of these species in and in the vicinity of the project areas, including documented nesting sites of Snowy Egrets in the eucalyptus near Lake Chabot adjacent to the project areas. NATIVE HABITAT. Significant amounts of native coyote brush scrub and native northern coastal scrub habitat will be destroyed in the project areas. The EIS is inadequate in analyzing alternative thinning patterns and mosaics that maintain a higher percent cover in these areas of native scrub, in order to reduce fire risk without total damage and destruction of these areas of native scrub habitat and their wildlife populations, which, as currently proposed, would have substantial adverse effects. SOIL. Soil will significantly be impacted in the project areas, which includes the use of and skidding beds for heavy equipment on slopes less than 35%, and dragging felled trees through understory. Once the vegetative cover has been disturbed, the soil compacted and its porosity reduced, and the organic litter displaced, then surface soil erosion is greatly accelerated. The EIS states that the park district will arrest the progress of active gully erosion and take action to restore these areas to stable conditions by taking corrective measures to repair damage, such as restoring vegetation where vegetative cover has been reduced or eliminated. However the actual conditions on the ground in parts of the EBRPD currently demonstrate that active gully erosion prevention is not currently taking place. The EIS would need to adequately spell how active gully erosion mitigation would be monitored and enforced to insure that it would in fact take place. Additionally the EIS does not properly research and analyze the degree to which their mitigation measures for soil erosion adequately protect the soil in a manner that is environmentally favorable and constitute 'best practices,' specifically, the impact on soil productivity of scattering wood chips on the ground to a depth of 2 feet in the UCB project areas. The EIS fails to develop alternatives to this proposed idea, which would reduce soil productivity for 5-10 years (the length of time for wood chips to decompose) by wood chips blocking light and by tying up soil nitrogen in the process of wood chip decomposition. COMMUNITY CHARACTER. Although there would be significant visual impact along certain trails, the EIS has failed to propose mitigation measures for these impacts (such as selective thinning) to 'community character,' which refers to the aesthetic look and the overall feel of the community.

Helen Wood
Berkeley, CA 94702
Jun 17, 2013

Please stop the raping of our environment and the poisoning of ALL life forms on earth (this includes human poisoning) Sign this Petition!!

Susan Hanson
Ponte Vedra, FL 32081
Jun 17, 2013

Please FEMA - give your money to someone who needs it - not to destroy a beautiful forest and homes to many species. Your funding is to be used to help people and businesses get back on their feet after a disaster, not to cause a disaster; and this is what this deforestation would do.

Patrice Poet
Mount Wolf, PA 17347
Jun 17, 2013

This is absolutely the wrong way to go about protecting the Berkeley/Oakland hills environments.

Terry McClain
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 17, 2013

Having lived in the East Bay for almost 50 years, with a deep connection to its beautiful canyons, creeks, forests, and majestic ridge lines, I am incredulous and horrified at the prospect of losing tens of thousands of life-giving trees in the East Bay. Responsible and balanced fire-risk mitigation is necessary in any park, but FRAUDULENT CLEAR CUTTING of FORESTS for their non-native status and fire prevention is a non-solution that would tragically alter our environment forever. I am shocked that the "East Bay Hills Hazardous Fire Risk Reduction" plan proposes annihilating non-native forests, and thus their inhabitants for 540 acres across 11 parks from Alvarado/Wildcat Canyon and Miller-Knox Shoreline, all the way down to Chabot! Most people in the Bay Area still have never heard about this proposal and the critical threat it poses to present and future generations because the EBRPD and UCB are quietly going through the motions, salivating at the prospect of procuring massive FEMA funding. Many extensive informational and public discussion meetings with expert scientists should have been held for many months and been widely announced in every Bay Area news source (there were apparently two public comment meetings total, and I happened to learn about them after the fact). Here are just six of the reasons why this demonizing of non-native trees is a transparent moneygrubbing scheme for FEMA funds that are desperately needed elsewhere in the nation for actual emergencies: 1) Butchering every single exotic Monterey pine, Eucalyptus and Acacia in 11 parks would not reduce fire risk. Scrub brush, dry ground fuel and unprotected wood-frame structures are in fact the risk. 2) These tall oxygen-producing trees also precipitate inches of water from the fog during the dry season, preventing fires, and providing moisture for native animals and plants. 3) Enormous stands of Eucalyptus trees in parks such as Alvarado/Wildcat Canyon Regional Park have never burned in 80 years. 4) In addition to the fact that non-natives are now an integral part of our cultural and environmental history, diversity of species is critical because sudden oak death is sadly running rampant without a fully effective cure. Destroy the non-natives, and what would remain after SOD takes its toll on the native trees and plants? A barren, treeless landscape. 5) The proposed two-foot layer of wood chips from the killed tree branches would not encourage growth of the native species that the EBRPD claims to want. 6) With all the information readily available to the public, FEMA, UCB, EBRPD, and the City of Oakland on climate change, I am flabbergasted that there is any discussion at all of clear cutting. Wake up. It's 2013. I am outraged because the FEMA proposal would: * expose humans to thousands of gallons of cancer-causing herbicides for a decade that would also kill incalculable numbers of native animals, including protected species, and contaminate the earth, reservoirs, groundwater, and streams * create greater fire risk with discarded trunk sections which FEMA proposes leaving on the clear-cut forest floor in addition to the stump * destroy critical canopy habitat for raptors and other wildlife * increase the rodent population dramatically with a decreased raptor population * release huge amounts of sequestered CO2 from the stumps which FEMA proposes leaving * destabilize hillsides and damage watersheds with erosion and toxic runoff * leave an ugly wasteland of stumps, toxic chemicals and a proposed two-foot layer of wood chips which would not be conducive to the growth of native species * leave devastation from heavy equipment use * waste approximately \$6 million of taxpayer funds that could be used for real fire-risk mitigation; not to mention the waste of FEMA funds desperately needed elsewhere FEMA's EIS should instead support a far less destructive species-neutral approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires. I urge you, FEMA to please STOP the EBRPD and UCB's fraudulent attempt to destroy our beautiful and fragile East Bay ecosystem! Thank you in advance, Jacki La Pointe El Cerrito, CA

Jacki La Pointe
Berkeley, CA 94709
Jun 17, 2013

Thank you for pursuing sustainable, long-term methods of ecosystem management. This is the way of the future, thank you!

Elizabeth Roggeveen
Novato, CA 94945
Jun 16, 2013

Cleaning up a forested area is not the same as cleaning it out. Clear cutting leads to erosion issues, animal rights issues with loss of habitat/s, herbicides washing into the creek which affects people. What are you thinking?

Martha Skiles
Novato, CA 94945
Jun 16, 2013

Stop the madness!

Phylean Schultz
Oakland, CA 94601
Jun 16, 2013

To Whom It May Concern; I strongly object to the cutting of so many trees and the use of so much herbicide. The places that have been clear cut become barren and ugly and silent and the shade is gone. This action will destroy many trees which over the years have become home to the birds we watch pass through. In terms of disaster mitigation, the people who have been incompletely helped in New Orleans and where Sandy hit should be receiving this attention and monney. Please reconsider. Thank you.

Amy Jo Fillin
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 16, 2013

This project would be a disaster if it continues as planned. It would destroy our ecosystem. It would make many people sick. And it would kill many animals including some that are on the Environmental Protected List. FEMA can spend its money in much better ways than on this badly designed project.

John Patrick
Berkeley, CA 94706
Jun 16, 2013

I just recently moved back to the beautiful Bay Area from S. Calif. First I learn about the plan to cut down the trees in Sutro Forest in San Francisco ... UC inspired. NOW I learn about the unbelievable plan to clear-cut the trees in the Oakland/Berkeley hills ... again involving UC!!!! I graduated from this University, as did my sons ... I am now ashamed of the UC system! PLEASE FEMA read the petition and listen to their logic!!! Do NOT allow the clear-cutting and the use of toxic herbicides!

Linda Ann Chapman
Oakland, CA 94611
Jun 16, 2013

FEMA should view projects like these in the light of evolutionary science. Not all native restorations make sense scientifically or environmentally. This proposal fails under both criteria.

Paul Rotter
San Francisco, CA 94117
Jun 16, 2013

The non-native trees population has devastated the native plant/ tree population in these hills. More specifics are needed regarding the "proposed "species neutral" fire mitigation strategies that would be cheaper, would use far fewer herbicides, and would be far more effective in lessening fire risk because the native plant restoration agenda wouldn't be advanced." I agree that dumping gallons of herbicides is not what is in the best interests of anyone or thing.

Linda Soliven
Antioch, CA 94531
Jun 16, 2013

When will people realize that many birds and animals will die or become extinct because of greedy people who would and will try to cut down every treeno matter what happens to the eco system and risk of fires.....

vicki lewis
Energy, IL 62933
Jun 16, 2013

No Project !

Meg OShaughnessy
San Francisco, CA 94115
Jun 16, 2013

We need trees

Page Mosier
fremont, CA 94538
Jun 16, 2013

Please stop this misguided project.

Robert Sedor
Novato, CA 94949
Jun 16, 2013

you don't live here. do not rely on false information from UC Berkeley re deforestation. Native trees coastal redwoods were clear cut all by 1890's

Gilda Plaza
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 16, 2013

Stop FEMA from allowing UC/Oakland to use federal disaster mitigation funds to clearcut ALL of the tall trees in the hills.

Zelda Penzel
NY, NY 10003
Jun 16, 2013

Is all our govenmnet knows how to do is destroy and destruct???

Linda Goldstein
Solon, OH 44139
Jun 16, 2013

STOP THIS DENUDING OF OUR LOVELY HILLS ALREADY. YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY INSANE
AND UNAMERICAN. THIS IS NO WAY TO STOP FIRES. GET A BRAIN

O F rosenberg
Rch Cucamonga, CA 91730
Jun 16, 2013

Don't throw the baby out with the bath water. Stop. Think. Find another way.

Jona Jordan
Forestville, CA 95436
Jun 16, 2013

This is a horrible idea and will do untold damage!! FEMA should stop this and turn its attention to other areas where its help is really needed.

Kristen A. Hiestand
Cambridge, MA 02138
Jun 16, 2013

I lived in Berkeley for over a quarter century and was proud to say I lived in a safe, beautiful environment. Even though I now reside in North Carolina, I am still invested in the ecosystem there and will continue to have my voice heard - even from these Carolina Pines. Thank you for hearing these voices. Please do the right thing.

Melinda Sandes
Carrboro, CA 27510
Jun 16, 2013

I oppose the clearcutting of all tall trees in the Berkeley Hills, and especially oppose the use of toxic herbicides. The current Draft EIS is unacceptable as it will impact the ecosystem negatively and unnecessarily when use of species-neutral plants would be far better to safeguard the hills against fire dangers. Do not proceed in haste, lest our beautiful hills become barren, fire hazards, and toxic wastelands for native Berkeleyans. The hills do not belong to UC Berkeley, they belong to the residents in all of Berkeley who use the Tilden Park and surrounding areas for our public usage! J. Nakaso

Judy
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 16, 2013

Don't be idiotic!

Mickie Chappell
Lee's Summit, MO 64086
Jun 16, 2013

Thin trees where appropriate. Residents need a say in this.

Margaret Charman
Oakland, CA 94611-1751
Jun 16, 2013

Please do not allow the removal of the trees. They provide critical habitat and contribute to the character of these shared , sacred spaces. I grew up near here and these trees are part of beloved memories. SAVE THE TREES!!!

Brandi lewis
Cardiff, CA 92007
Jun 16, 2013

trees are beautiful

andrew grimm
Aigne, France
Jun 15, 2013

Stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills!

JoAnn Ellis
Basehor, KS 66007
Jun 15, 2013

Save the trees and save the homes of animals. We need trees. Stop the spraying!

Lorraine Kirby
Seminole, FL 33776
Jun 15, 2013

This is horrific that the government wants to remove 50,000 trees and damage habitats with poison. We need to focus on rebuilding our infrastructure-not wasting dollars on something as harmful as this.

Jennifer Gage
Elgin, IL 60123
Jun 15, 2013

PLANT 1,000,000 TREES INSTEAD!

Nina Faulkner
Sebastopol, CA 95472
Jun 15, 2013

Save the trees for the wildlife and for the oxygen.

Ilene Robinette
Lexinton, KY 40504
Jun 15, 2013

There's no reason for the deforestation to happen. It's a blatant waste of time and money. What about the birds and wildlife that will be displaced because of it. Someone's GOT to be the voice for the voiceless.

Daniel Simpson
Huber Heights, OH 45424
Jun 15, 2013

Please do not cut the forests of Berkley/Oakland Hills

Vania Maldonado
Red Bank, United States 37415-6221
Jun 15, 2013

Come ON!

Carin J- Kragler
Forestville, CA 95436
Jun 15, 2013

This is a travesty!

Karen Wilson
Los Angeles, CA 90034
Jun 15, 2013

Almost too ludicrous to imagine this would even be considered! Nullify & disregard all ecological info gathered?

kay
Northbrook, IL 60062
Jun 15, 2013

Enough already of the environmental rape and destruction of the habitats in this country. You have other options!

Pam
South Bend, IN 46615
Jun 15, 2013

Please don't clear cut the tall trees and destroy the environment and habitats. Deforestation ruins life for everyone and everything involved, especially our wildlife. There are better solutions.

Colette Casper
Lehi, UT 84043
Jun 15, 2013

Please leave the trees alone. We need more trees, not less.

Max Emberton
Fresno, CA 93710
Jun 15, 2013

This is a world wide problem. I cannot understand the ignorance of some people.

Barry Bartlett
Hamilton, New Zealand
Jun 15, 2013

Instead of cutting down the trees for wildfire protection, QUIT SELLING OUR WATER TO NEVADA!!! We NEED those trees to keep the soil erosion at bay, provide homes for wildlife, wind protection, and something far more enjoyable to look at than bare and barren hills, not to mention the amount of poisonous runoff into Lake Merritt, Lake Temescal, Calaveras Reservoir, Lake Berryessa, Lafayette Reservoir...keep in mind, some of these are where residents GET THEIR DRINKING WATER...think about it. Would YOU drink that water after the next major rainfall? If you wouldn't, why are you foisting it off on the tens of thousands of people living here? Get with the program - stop this nonsense.

David Watson
Oakland, CA 94610
Jun 15, 2013

Stop the carnage. We would like to be able to live peacefully on this planet.

Terri Robbins
Jacksonville, FL 32225
Jun 15, 2013

Stop destroying habitat and poisoning out environment. Find better, less destructive ways to control fire risk.

Tracy Graydon
Portland, OR 97231
Jun 15, 2013

I grew up there and LOVE those trees! Please don't do this!

Vendetta Yenter
Oakland, CA 94619
Jun 15, 2013

What is wrong with you people? Must we continue to destroy the earth?

Judy Watson
Spring Hill, FL 34610
Jun 15, 2013

We need to help the ecosystem not destroy it bit by bit!! We've lost too much already that can't be replaced!

Donna Brand
Largo, FL 33771-1616
Jun 15, 2013

Who speaks for the trees? We do.

Erin Lale
Henderson, NV 89014
Jun 15, 2013

The current Draft EIS will inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicide, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive plan that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years is UNACCEPTABLE !!

Linda Birch
Oakland, CA 94618
Jun 15, 2013

Stop this now!!

Diane Hostetler
Little Elm, TX 75068
Jun 15, 2013

Clear cutting of more than 50,000 trees and spreading poisonous herbicides is not in the interest of our nation's greater needs. It poses clear dangers and losses to forests, raptor and other habitats and increases wildfire risks. We canNOT afford to lose another healthy ecosystem.

Carol Bekersky
Vista Grove, GA 30033
Jun 15, 2013

Have we not learned our lessons re: deforestation? PLEASE STOP!

Deb Morgan
Trumbull, CT 06611
Jun 15, 2013

This is an atrocity to our already struggling environment

kathy florczak
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
Jun 15, 2013

Perhaps you've forgotten where clean air comes from. Need to rethink this!

JERRY BURNS
GRANDIN, FL 32138
Jun 15, 2013

FEMA ...There is danger to the people if you agree to fund clear-cutting trees. The real reason is not to prevent fires..trimming the trees is the solution. LISTEN to the people and investigate the real reason behind asking for money for fire safety!!!

Marilyn Robinson
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 15, 2013

This action would be ridiculous.

Carol Haggard
Austin, TX 78741
Jun 15, 2013

Insanity to cut down a single tree due to "aesthetics". Man is ruining the planet to the detriment of all living things!

Shoshanna Bennett
Wilbur by the Sea, FL 32127
Jun 15, 2013

Come on! You know this is wrong!!

Bonita Annis
Byrnedale, PA 15827
Jun 15, 2013

Stop the destruction of needed habitat. Trees clean the air we breathe and sustain life.

Alecs Sakta
Tucson, AZ 85752
Jun 15, 2013

This is an outrageous decision! Don't destroy these trees please

Marcela McGrath
Opa Locka, FL 33014
Jun 15, 2013

craziness must be stopped..think of all the trees clearcut with inefficient falsely labeled green wind turbines..industrial lies..save our planet please!

Donna Davidge
NYC, NY 10012
Jun 15, 2013

STOP STRIPPING OUR EARTH OF TREES!!!

Jeannie Tyner
Long Beach, MS 39560
Jun 15, 2013

I used to live in the Bay Area and loved the hills (and trees, of course) above Oakland. Please don't destroy this area..this action would have far-reaching and horrible consequences..We must protect our forested areas, not destroy them willy-nilly.

liz koenig
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635
Jun 15, 2013

This move is far too destructive and costly.

Sherri Winkler
Vinton, VA 24179
Jun 15, 2013

crazy plan- only the federal government could spend so much money on so much stupidity

cindy corey
atlantic beach, FL 32233
Jun 15, 2013

This is cannot happen!

Christina LeMarr
JAX, FL 32211
Jun 15, 2013

This method of fire 'control' is NOT acceptable. Too much will be lost & too many lives endangered by the toxic chemicals.

Carolyn Kears
Columbia, SC 29212
Jun 15, 2013

This has to be stopped.

Christienne Metropole
Los Angeles, CA 90066
Jun 15, 2013

How does cutting down thousands of trees help our society? Here in West Texas we are trying to plant more and more trees. You have them and you want to clear cut them! Trees help us and the environment. Is this so someone can make MONEY?!? Do not do this!

Marcia Bishoff
Lorenzo, TX 79343
Jun 15, 2013

Come on. Grow a spine and do the right thing.

Kim M. Peterson
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Jun 15, 2013

This is a bad plan to satisfy special interest and poison the healthy ecosystem! It must be stopped!!

Mark Cataline
Antioch, CA 94509-3412
Jun 15, 2013

This is a majorly stupid idea on an ecosystem that has become well established and is maintaining a homeostatic balance with the pre-existing system. To change it now, especially in the manner proscribed, will not re-establish the old ecosystem and it will most certainly do far more harm than good. Someone is making money on this and for that I find it extremely suspect.

Margie Hoyt
Gardena, CA 90248
Jun 15, 2013

We need to keep the trees, they are very important for us! And no chemicals, there are already too many chemicals in our environment, no more!

Wendy Beyda
Marlboro, NJ 07746
Jun 15, 2013

This is deplorable. There aren't enough problems in California already, you need to deforest and poison?

Joyce Lattimer
Kansas City, MO 64110
Jun 15, 2013

Please don't do this!!!

Laurie Longman
Manhaca, TX 78652
Jun 15, 2013

Abort this private interest plan. It is unnecessary and hazardous !!

cm
fremont, CA 94538
Jun 15, 2013

Talk about misappropriation of funds??? Good grief!!! This is ridiculous!!

cindy mitchell
Northport, AL 35475
Jun 15, 2013

They may not be native, but we love OUR eucalypts!

Reverend Jane Eagle
GRATON, CA 95444
Jun 15, 2013

This project should be aborted. It is unnecessary and hazardous !!

Lori Alford
Elgin, TX 78621
Jun 15, 2013

Don't do it!

Susan Carlson
Bellflower, CA 90706
Jun 15, 2013

Government is OUT OF CONTROL !!!

Tammie Repp
Woodstock, IL 60098
Jun 15, 2013

I am always amazed when I read about these things in which decisions are made by people who have no concept of the bigger picture. Those who fail to learn from history...

Stephen M Hopper
Dallas, TX 75219
Jun 15, 2013

It is shocking that this type of deforestation would even be proposed. To pass this would be absolutely devastating

Leslie jack
Lake Elmo, MN 55042
Jun 15, 2013

Please stop this disaster.

Rose Trescastro
Miami, FL 33134
Jun 15, 2013

Please, can just one government agency actually HELP the planet? Please?

Suzi Rayve
Sunland, CA 91040
Jun 15, 2013

The current Draft EIS is unacceptable as it will inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicide, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes, and actually increase the risk of hazardous wildfires. FEMA should retract this EIS and remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires. Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years will have disastrous effects on this beautiful and healthy ecosystem, and cannot be allowed to happen.

Sharon Comstock
Independence, MO 64055
Jun 15, 2013

When all the trees are cut down, just where will the air come from we all need to breathe? Guess why we have so much air pollution ... NO TREES TO SCRUB THE AIR CLEAN! Quit denuding tree stands and learn to do it the RIGHT way.

Linda Sparr
Tomball, TX 77377
Jun 15, 2013

Just what we don't need.

Julie Garcia
Long Beach, CA 90813
Jun 15, 2013

I am firmly against the cutting of all tall trees in the Oakland hills, where I live, and the application of pesticides that will poison our forest and it's ecosystem of wildlife that is dependent on it. The east bay has the largest nesting population of golden eagles in the country, not to mention the multitude of other devastations that would result from this irresponsible and destructive plan. Please revise the plan to use a species-neutral approach which would also be less expensive and not disastrously devastating to our forests. I do not want to live in a land of clear-cut stumps and poisoned landscape.

Jennifer Davi
Oakland, CA 94611
Jun 15, 2013

I am so tired of the Federal Government wanting to kill animals and trees when it should be addressing more important problems such as controlling health care costs, ending our involvement in foreign civil operations, instituting term limits in Congress, eliminating fossil fuel use, and such, all of which would be of more benefit to the masses.

Helana Cichon
Weeki Wachee, FL 34613
Jun 15, 2013

This will be a global tragedy and must not be allowed to happen.

Patty Shenker
Los Angeles, CA 91356
Jun 15, 2013

This deeply saddens me. It's so unnecessary, and the animals have just as much a right to live as we do.

Samantha Beigler Davis
Wheeling, IL 60090
Jun 15, 2013

Do not do this, think about the longer term

Bianca McCann
Pacheco, CA 94553
Jun 15, 2013

The current Draft EIS is unacceptable as it will inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicide, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes, and actually increase the risk of hazardous wildfires. DO LET THIS HAPPEN..!!!

Barbara Curtis Krings
Great Falls, MT 59401
Jun 15, 2013

Current climate and environmental issues point to the fact that stabilizing factors in habitats should be protected - especially the large trees that form the ecosystems of this area. Please consider revamping the EIS to focus on limited damage to habitat. It will provide more jobs, stabilize the environment and still manage the risk of wildfires more appropriately. Thanks for your consideration.

Dyane Kirkland
Cincinnati, OH 45255
Jun 15, 2013

Please stop harming the animals and the environment. we have to stop this. we are killing to many trees and animals that live there. Please use the brains that I know you have an do not do this! thank you.

Chris Beane-Martin
somersworth, NH 03878
Jun 15, 2013

I support the restoration of native species, but the current draft plan is not a good one.

wallace gorell
Berkeley, United States 94709-1205
Jun 15, 2013

This FEMA action would be an ill-thought out, despicable waste of both taxpayer money and our trust. Biological xenophobia is, bottom line, bad for the environment, and this clearcutting would be a misuse of funds to support its agenda.

Thomas Hobbs
San Diego, CA 92130
Jun 15, 2013

FEMA can't find a better use for their \$\$, really..???

chris smock
Ozark, AL 36360
Jun 15, 2013

DANGER! DANGER! DANGER! TREES MUST be left alone to help this planet BREATHE! Do you like to breathe? I do too! Lets pause together, think about it real hard and take a deep breath. Apparently it may be our last...

Karianne
Lutz, FL 33548
Jun 15, 2013

Why would you cut down so many trees??? And why would you use herbicides???

Ananda
Mammoth lakes, CA 93546
Jun 15, 2013

Why on earth do you want to do that? Does California have enough problems with fires and you just want to make it worst? Trees actually keep the moist in the area and cool the ground natural -so in reality you are planning to do the opposite.

Sherry Savage
Pickering, Canada
Jun 15, 2013

THIS IS INSANE, WHAT IN THE WORLD DO THEY THINK THEY ARE SAVING BY DESTROYING

MARCIA STUART
Pacheco, CA 94553
Jun 15, 2013

This is a horrible idea! These trees are here now and provide habitats for wildlife and absorb carbon dioxide, which lessens the impact of greenhouse gases. It's also fiscally irresponsible and financially untenable. Do NOT do this! Leave the trees alone!

Susan Lock
Nazareth, PA 18064
Jun 15, 2013

this would be a tragedy to the flora and fauna in the hills, a devastation, please do not let it happen!

Janice Wall
Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Jun 15, 2013

I grew up in this area and visit often. Please keep the forests the way they are!

Maryan Grilli
Sparks, NV 89435
Jun 15, 2013

We need our wildlife!

Courtney hobbs
San Diego, CA 92130
Jun 15, 2013

Save the planet-NOT destroy it!

nancy j fulcher
vero beach, FL 32968
Jun 15, 2013

Due to global warming, eucalyptus and the koalas that eat them are at risk for extinction without transfer and garden preservation. Species drift is nothing new, nor is all change bad. Leave the trees. Get some koalas.

Layla Schubert
Portland, OR 97211
Jun 15, 2013

Please stop destroying the world as we know it.

Mara Comitas
Teaneck, NJ 07666-2624
Jun 15, 2013

Are you serious? The trees are the only thing standing between us and complete loss of human habitat. This is foolish of the inth degree. I have a horrible feeling this decision is made by immigrants who have obtained civil service employment. Americans do not clear cut their trees. Americans conserve and appreciate the beauty of nature. That is how we roll. Destroying our environment is the act of a fool.

Janet Schultz
placerville, CA 95667
Jun 15, 2013

I understand the fire hazard in the area. I live in the Oakland hills and I see the potential risk every day but we should not have to get contaminated by pesticides.

cathya torreon-nisbet
Oakland, CA 94611
Jun 15, 2013

This type of destruction is not necessary! There are other ways so please consider your actions carefully!

Sue Onorato
Henderson, NV 89012
Jun 15, 2013

I really think that the people of this world are getting fed up with big corporate businesses and governments trying to destroy this wonderful planet we have the privilege of looking after for the purpose of big bucks only. We need to start to figure out how to save this planet not keep on destroying it.

Frances Jones
Airdrie, Canada
Jun 15, 2013

Please do not harm nature by cutting the trees and poisoning earth they are so important for us humans and animals that share nature with us and call the forest their home.

hertzi shwartz
SEATTLE, WA 98168
Jun 15, 2013

i'm not exactly a 'tree' hugger but we r destroying too many trees and we certainly don't need to destroy these.

brenda mcnulty
fayetteville, NC 28306
Jun 15, 2013

Stop the deforestation

Robin Null
Austin, TX 78758
Jun 15, 2013

No More cutting and poisoning. It's not only animals who suffer from the effects.

Jo Ann Perry
Deltona, FL 32738
Jun 15, 2013

this is horrific destruction and will poison the earth without serving any useful purpose except to enrich the few who will be doing the work.

Victoria Corse
Marshfield, MA 02050
Jun 15, 2013

This is genocide...plain and simple. How can we do this?

Margaret Glenn
Mgt, WV 26508
Jun 15, 2013

Do not destroy this environment.

Bud Woodward
Scottsville, VA 24590
Jun 15, 2013

It is a healthy ecosystem. Do the right thing on behalf of all, not only invested interests.

Rhainne McRae
Signal Mountain, TN 37377
Jun 15, 2013

No clear cutting and definitely no herbicides!

Pam Hagy
Nashville, TN 37215
Jun 15, 2013

You're embarking on a tragic course for the ecosystem by killing off the trees and wildlife. Do not spend taxpayer dollars to destroy our country.

Kay Gillespie
Garden City, KS 67846
Jun 15, 2013

This is terrible what are they thinking!!

Brian Miller
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
Jun 15, 2013

Stop this insanity!!!! Put the money towards Spay and Neuter programs, TNR, or anything that helps the animals!!!!

Tammy Rizer
New Berlin, WI 53151
Jun 15, 2013

Do not deforest and kill off the trees in this area. It will negatively affect the health of everyone in the surrounding area for decades to come if you do. We need the trees. We need to be better environmental stewards. Clear cutting and poisoning the trees will end up hurting all inhabitants in the area. It will also not help to stop wildfires. This is a stupid idea.

Shavawn Berry
Chandler, AZ 85224
Jun 15, 2013

It is hard to believe our government could be this stupid!

Vicki Neal
Ames, IA 50014
Jun 15, 2013

This government idea is absurd.

kristy niccum
burlington, KY 41005
Jun 15, 2013

This proposal addresses a problem that needs to be solved, but does not solve the problem as well as it might.
We can do better.

C. E. Brewin
Davis, CA 95616
Jun 15, 2013

Please protect our natural resources, our environment, our animals.

Shannon Brigham
Treetops Village, MI 49735
Jun 15, 2013

I have fond memories of my time in the beautiful Bay Area--this is a disgraceful idea.

Krista Behymer
Lynn, MA 01902
Jun 15, 2013

x-(!

M Molthen
CHICO, CA 95926
Jun 15, 2013

Please stop this foolish destruction of the natural world.

Mary Shaw
Kingston, Canada
Jun 15, 2013

Trees and wildlife are essential to a healthy ecosystem. Conservation, not environmental damage!

Roy Krymis
Euless, TX 76039
Jun 15, 2013

we need all the oxygen providing trees we can keep. this is a waste of public money and an offense to nature.

merrill kramer
Clearwater, FL 33763
Jun 15, 2013

WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU PEOPLE. KILLING, KILLING, KILLING IS ALL YOU DO.....Time to stop and lead with your heart.

Ramona Paolini
Waynesville, NC 28785
Jun 15, 2013

We need more trees. They are essential to the ecosystem. We need the wildlife. Stop destroying our earth.

leslie jones
phx, AZ 85019
Jun 15, 2013

Stop, I beg you!

Patricia Becker-Spellman
Stevenson Ranch, CA 91381
Jun 15, 2013

The common sense and logically approach to this situation is to kindly step back and understand the reality of this is absolutely not needed!

Jen Kamish
Hastings, MN 55033
Jun 15, 2013

Time to step up and 'Do the right thing!' Ttree's are the lungs of the world! Forever grateful for Mother Nature! Thank you!

Norma Brosnan
Lake Charles, LA 70601
Jun 15, 2013

Please stop and think in a more enlightened and long term way - we need our precious countryside in tact and un spoiled. The world does not just belong to us, it is not ours to do with as we please. there are many millions of different life on this planet. It is their home too.

Jen
United Kingdom
Jun 15, 2013

Clear cutting is SO clearly destructive! Removing trees that mitigate atmospheric CO2, provide habitat, stabilize soil, etc. is NOT smart, not in our best interests at all. What could be the rationale? LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE PLEASE.

Marjorie Campaigne
Rochester, NY 14609
Jun 15, 2013

Please do not cut down these trees. The trees were clearcut above my sister's 20 acres, and 40 of her trees were blown over from the resulting fierce winds. These trees, mitigate the winds, reduce erosion, improve water lag time for flooding, temper the environment and breathe for us. Please use sustainable forest management methods. Respect the biodiversity that will keep the hills and folks healthy.

jessica@denningfamily.com
Carmichael, CA 95608
Jun 15, 2013

This is the most toxic, earth-destructive plan imaginable. If you want wildfires, landslides, and poisoned groundwater, this is the best way to go about it.

Phila Hoopes
Baltimore, MD 21229
Jun 15, 2013

Trees are a gift to us and to the eco system! They must be preserved! We need to consider future generations and leave them a legacy of respect and love to ourselves and the environment!

Jennifer
Australia
Jun 15, 2013

Saving the Trees means saving our Souls

Diana Morariu
Berlin, Germany
Jun 15, 2013

In addition to the friends I have in California who will be negatively impacted if the current Draft EIS is implemented, I am concerned for the impact such methodology will have on the global environment. Please find another solution.

Sandra Erickson
East Barre, VT 05649
Jun 15, 2013

Please save the trees. They are your lungs, you will need them.

Deirdra McMenamin
Whanganui, New Zealand
Jun 15, 2013

Trees are the air we breathe

Melody Rettay
Perth, Australia
Jun 15, 2013

FEMA please retract this EIS! Why would you support a plan that cuts down and poison so many trees simply because some "conservationists" don't like them? Why would you support a "mitigation" plan that increases the likelihood of forest fires? I live in Colorado, and in the midst of three wildfires - one deemed to be the worst in Colorado history, forest fires are a rather sensitive topic with me! Please retract this EIS NOW!

Anita Cameron
Denver, CO 80219
Jun 14, 2013

I live in these hills and own a home here. I appreciate the cutting of non-native trees BUT NOT the use of chemicals to clear shrubs. Roundup is a carcinogen that has the ability to effect my and my family's health.

Eileen Karpfinger
Oakland, CA 94611
Jun 14, 2013

No comment but I am against the deforestation.

MaryLou Robson
San Francisco, CA 94121
Jun 14, 2013

These pesticides will pollute the water of the bay.

Vicki McBride
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 14, 2013

STOP THIS CRAZY VIOLENCE TOWARDS OUR ENVIRONMENTAL: IT'S NOT YOURS!, IT BELONGS TO EVERYBODY AND SPECIALLY THE FUTURE GENERATIONS!!!

sonia cajade
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 14, 2013

The idea of preventing fire by mowing away all the trees is inexcusably primitive and stupid. It's like killing a person so they won't get sick. Get real, educate yourself on the ecosystem science that has developed in the last 50 years. Please.

Robert Thompson
Alameda, CA 94501
Jun 14, 2013

This is a train-wreck! Please don't do it. The current draft EIS is unacceptable. Please don't do it. Thank you for your consideration. Brenda

Brenda Beebe
San Francisco, CA 94107
Jun 14, 2013

The current plan is not even acceptable to those of us who approve of removing the eucalyptus. Clearcutting and herbicides are both even more harmful to the ecosystem than eucalyptus. (Herbicides will harm endangered species of animals.) Deep mulch and the brush and weeds that will move in, both INCREASE fire risk. And non-native tree species other than eucalyptus are neither very harmful to the ecosystem, nor any more flammable than native trees. The project could be done in a way that is both more ecologically sound AND more effective.

Samuel A Strong
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 14, 2013

Please do not poison the people and all living things in Berkeley. Your plan is evil, profit driven, unamerican and treasonous.

Robin Somerville
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 14, 2013

Please come up with a way to preserve natural environment while addressing concerns. Thank you.

linda blakely
Glen Cove, NY 11542
Jun 14, 2013

This is just crazy and unacceptable. Please do not cut these trees down! This is absolutely insane! Less trees actually equals a drier habitat; how will that help reduce the risk of fires???

Wendy Lynn Parks
Oakland, CA 94610
Jun 13, 2013

Please act wisely and choose not to clear cut. We dont need destruction of trees and more poison in the ground. We need sensible solutions that can achieve the same end and plenty of those exist.

LAURA ANDERSON
oakland, CA 94605
Jun 13, 2013

I am absolutely appalled by the environmental destruction and pollution which would result from this ill-conceived plan. This petition states my views.

Robin McRae
El Cerrito, CA 94530
Jun 13, 2013

This is the WORST move for humanity in the EAST BAY. Not only are you going to kill the trees/nature...but also dump poison into the ground that will "silently" injure people/animal's health and put them at risk for developing Parkinson's. Maybe OAKLAND/BERKELEY officials should actually put on thinking caps before deploying such a move.

Michelle Hall
Burlingame, CA 94010
Jun 13, 2013

Please stop the destruction of the canyons!!!!!!

Susan Harleman
Berkeley, CA 94704
Jun 13, 2013

Have we already forgot the problems with Agent Orange which was not going to hurt anyone?

Jim Robertson
Owasso, OK 74055
Jun 13, 2013

Please reconsider this plan for the sake of the population, both human and non-human.

Jane Welford
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 13, 2013

We live and bought a house in Berkeley because of the trees and I am sure many if not most of our neighbors did too.

Jennifer Berke
Berkeley, CA 94708
Jun 12, 2013

I oppose the use of herbicides on this project, because it's likely they will wash downhill, poisoning streams, wildlife and people.

Susan Kuchinskas
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 12, 2013

Spend half my time here visiting friends in Berkeley Hills can't believe that anyone would think of cutting any of the beautiful trees here, let alone using toxic poisons .

Kathleen Doron
Bellevue, WA 98006
Jun 12, 2013

Less expensive but more destructive is not the right plan.

Deborah Beccue
Hayward, CA 94542
Jun 12, 2013

What is UC's true motive?

Marc Shulman
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 12, 2013

Comment

Claudia Carr
Berkeley, CA 94720
Jun 12, 2013

Unfortunately I only learned about this yesterday. How could a plan that impacts so many people go forward with no mention in the local news, or public comment?

Jean Pfann
Oakland, CA 94618
Jun 12, 2013

Those trees have been here longer than most of us. Leave them alone!

Tara Arnold
Berkeley,, CA 94704-1914
Jun 12, 2013

I love native plants. But this plan is so drastic and destructive. I cannot believe it would be good for the environment. Please consider a gentler approach taking into consideration the existing beauty and richness of the Berkeley/Oakland hills ecosystem.

Hingman Chan
Piedmont, CA 94611
Jun 11, 2013

As a former resident of Berkeley I am horrified and deeply distressed about this plan. Environmentally the repercussions will be intractable Roundup is toxic for wildlife and humans.it is a grave mistake and must be stopped.

Lauren Drescher
Massat, France
Jun 11, 2013

Such a drastic cut would be a major shock to a mature forest system, and poisons have no place in this natural area. The fire risk reduction claims are dubious as well. This lazy approach should be replaced by repeated thinning of eucalyptus as needed to encourage more diversity. And how could you cut mature *Pinus radiata* groves such as the one in UC open space depicted here:

<http://www.bapd.org/100404-09-woods-beyond-Pinus-radiata-on-the-ridge.jpg>

Ken Cheetham
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 11, 2013

We need to protect native species and habitats. Poisoning and clear cutting the land is a lazy approach to land management and detrimental to life and the environment.

Siobhan
San Francisco, CA 94122
Jun 11, 2013

cut down your own trees and leave us alone!~! GO AWAY~!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Paula Mulhall
Oakland, CA 94611
Jun 11, 2013

I reside in the middle of the planned deforestation, among the tall trees that would be cut, and have enjoyed this forest and all of the wildlife for over fifty years (since age 12). I am a signatory of the paper published by the Caldecott Wildlife Corridor Consortium Committee, aka Caldecott Corridor Committee, and a stakeholder, and attention should be given to the conclusions of that document which was signed by representatives of Contra Costa County, CalTrans, EBMUD, EBRPD, Dept. of Fish and Game, UC Berkeley, Grizzly Peak Estates HO Assn., etc.

Warren Chick
Oakland, CA 94611
Jun 11, 2013

Controlled burns have worked for the better part of 75+ years in parks and forests surrounding my home. The Native Americans understood the importance and practiced controlled burns. Don't be a dick and allow lumber and pesticide companies reap rewards at the residents and visitors expense.p

David Schlosser
New Gretna, NJ 08224
Jun 11, 2013

This approach to mitigating fire risk appears too radical a procedure. The areas probably need selective thinning , cleaning of debris and removal of the highly flammable growth. But a clean "sweep" approach makes no sense to me.

jo loughran
Piedmont, CA 94611
Jun 11, 2013

The attack on tall trees is reflective of an ideology against non-natives, not a proactive plan to control fire fuel.

nancy wuerfel
san francisco, CA 94116
Jun 11, 2013

And I thought they were smart people!

Linda B. Lawrence
Richmond, CA 94804
Jun 11, 2013

stop ruining our planet .stop deforesting and using poisoning pesticides .it harms humans and animals and planet life. Stop making decisions without our right to input. you work for US! Get that clear.

madison brown
vallejo, CA 94590
Jun 11, 2013

Stop the deforestation!

kristen portney
san francisco, CA 94131
Jun 10, 2013

Please saved our forest. Roundup is a terrible idea. I have property that has a large power line on it. On my side I refuse to let them use herbicides on my land because I have cattle. The property owner on the other side lets them use herbicide and it destroys everything in its path. Please rethink this terrible decision.

Mary Howell
Tunnelton, WV 26444
Jun 10, 2013

I am 100% against the use of RoundUp and Herbicides and cannot understand how anyone in Berkeley can condone this in the face of Bee Colony Collapse.

Sandra Klein
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
Jun 10, 2013

THEY HAVE ALREADY STARTED TEARING DOWN THE TREE'S! TIME TO START THE SECOND
PHASE OF ACTIVISM!

Keefe Stevernu
Berkeley, CA 94702
Jun 9, 2013

Please consider less extreme measures, we want to be safe, from fires, but the destruction you are proposing goes to far.

Betsy Daley
Berkeley, CA 94708
Jun 9, 2013

Whilst visiting in Berkley, this forest area was amazing to walk around and should remain as one of the cornerstone of this area.

Karen Drummond
Fairview Downs, New Zealand
Jun 8, 2013

Please save these forests. There are other ways to prevent fire.

Nozomi Hayase
Berkeley, CA 94704
Jun 8, 2013

Please consider alternatives with less environmental impact. I beg you.

Julie Thi Underhill
Berkeley, CA 94702
Jun 8, 2013

Surely in this day and age there is a more eco-friendly solution to eradicating non-native species from our ecosystem. This solution is extremely insensitive to the will and wishes of Berkeley residents. We are fiercely protective of our natural environment. Please investigate other options and reconsider your plan.

Kelly Dunbar
Berkeley, CA 94708
Jun 8, 2013

This is BERKELEY - THIS SHOULD BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC DEBATE AND FOR ECO-FRIENDLY
OPTIONS.

William Hall
Berekeley, CA 94706
Jun 8, 2013

These trees need to be protected!

Veronica Gilbert
Oakland, CA 94606
Jun 7, 2013

Thinning and replanting of other species should be considered. Do not clearcut the magical east bay hills which sustains many raptor species and through its trails, the mental health of east bay inhabitants.

Suzan Goodman
Oakland, CA 94610
Jun 7, 2013

Just stop! Use my tax dollars to support libraries, art in schools and stop raping this earth!

Gloria Houlne
Berwick, ME 03901
Jun 7, 2013

This is atrocious! Destroying trees, creating potential health effects for humans and our planet. All for what???

Victoria Govea
Oakland, CA 94608
Jun 7, 2013

no FEMA culling!

jack
las vegas, NV 89122
Jun 7, 2013

Any plan that utilizes herbicides must be opposed! They will poison the groundwater, contribute to bee colony collapse. Herbicides are highly flammable and increase the risk of fire in our already fire-prone region.

Caroline Steele
El Cerrito, CA 94530
Jun 7, 2013

please use FEMA money for disaster relief. Felling trees will create erosion and loss of wildlife habitat.

lauren meyer
Berkeley, CA 94704-1014
Jun 7, 2013

No chemical pesticides!!!

Chrissy Hoffman
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 7, 2013

Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years is an insane approach to the protecting the environment.

Christine Rowland
Port Hope, Canada
Jun 7, 2013

This is unacceptable. And, so so sad. :(

Monica
Oakland, CA 94606
Jun 7, 2013

One of my favorite elements of my time as a student at UC Berkeley (class of '03) was the smell of the trees. I loved walking among them on campus and on my way up the connector to the fire trails. Please prepare for fire season by bringing back some goats to munch down the dry grass (that was fun to see). When I talk with other people from Berkeley, a way in which we connect is often through mutual appreciation for the trees.

Carolyn Marshall
Mercer Island, WA 98040
Jun 6, 2013

What you are proposing is nothing short of criminal and flies in the face of environmental protection. I am appalled and disgusted by the +non-nativist+ movement and oppose the removal of the thousands of trees that provide habitat and shelter for untold thousands of species and the subsequent poisoning of the land to prevent regrowth. Shame on you! Cease and desist are the only options you need to pursue!

Mel Bearn
CONCORD, CA 94519
Jun 6, 2013

If people have such a problem with invasive species they need to get rid of all the grass lawns in this country.

peter starkweather
pensacola, FL 32504
Jun 5, 2013

To the drafters of this plan that we are now signing a petition to combat, please consider the wildlife other than human beings first. The "native" plant notion of its own accord is opposed to diversity; it needs to reconsider its objectives.

Mark Starkweather
Pensacola, FL 32504
Jun 5, 2013

Last year people in my neighborhood were able to witness the birth of a baby Great Horned owl right off the path in Claremont Canyon. Super cute! These trees are the oldest and biggest living beings in the area, and we visit them often and LOVE them.

Joshua Halpern
Berkeley, CA 94704
Jun 5, 2013

At a time when global warming threatens all life on the planet, we need to be planting, conserving, and maintaining existing trees--not razing entire forests. Forest conservation--which would create much needed jobs--is a preferable solution to clear-cutting and slathering the tree stumps with toxic herbicides that can leach into surrounding streams and ultimately into the ground water. While some individuals argue against Eucalyptus as being "invasive" and flammable, I would remind them that most of the human beings and all of the buildings we equate with our culture are non-Native to California. In fact, no trees are impervious to fire. As such, planting native shrubs is misguided, as they prove to be highly flammable, as they fail to provide a home to diverse animal species, and as their ability to sequester carbon dioxide is minimal. It is up to us to save these beautiful trees--these are our neighbors and our lives are inextricably tied up with both the animals and plants around us. Don't be fooled. The time to act is now: SAVE OUR PLANET!

Ariane Eroy, Ph.D.
San Francisco, CA 94146
Jun 5, 2013

We shouldn't have to protect the earth's rights, they should be undeniable. There is no justification for violating the earth's rights. NONE! Shame on deforesters!

Kei Griot
Berkeley, CA 94704
Jun 5, 2013

The damage to all the living animals, plants and the trees this would cause just does not make sense. This is so wrong in so many ways.

Kathleen Lackey
Bethpage, NY 11714
Jun 5, 2013

Please keep our bodies healthy by not allowing herbicides and pesticides in our ecosystem. Our young family lives nestled in the trees for better health, we enjoy the fresh air, and will need to continue with good soils for growing our food. Being a former wildland firefighter, I understand the threats of large wildfires, and understand there is a better way to make our homes safer. Please don't contaminate our area. Please take this to heart. Thanks, Stef Jenzeh

Stef Jenzeh
Oakland, CA 94619
Jun 5, 2013

Please retract the EIS that would permit terrible deforestation in the Berkeley hills.

Peter Harleman
Berkeley, CA 94704
Jun 5, 2013

Do NOT destroy the Oakland hills and all its wildlife with this plan! There are better and more environmentally sound ways to mitigate fire issues!

Lark Coryell
Oakland, CA 94605
Jun 4, 2013

Yet another heavy-handed and wrong-headed approach. Please listen to people that know these hills and ecosystems and only have a vested interest in what's best for their own neighborhood in the long term rather than shortsighted goals. As a scientist, I am appalled but not surprised by the lack of evidence-based policy in this plan.

David Lubertozzi
Oakland, CA 94609
Jun 4, 2013

Thanks again for the great work!

Rajeev Singh
Berkeley, CA 94709
Jun 4, 2013

This is an ill-advised plan that needs additional environmental review. You can't clear cut the hills. And massive amounts of poison for ten years is just absurd. This needs to be rethought.

Vivian Perry
Oakland, CA 94612
Jun 4, 2013

free taxpayer monies used without much thought

miriam wilson
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 4, 2013

My daughter and her family live right there - this EIS is too drastic with long-term negative results!

Liz Wally
Dallas, TX 75214
Jun 4, 2013

I am against this threat to our environment by evil petrochemical companies and Monsanto.

Mariana Ruybalid
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 4, 2013

The current Draft EIS is unacceptable as it will inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicide, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes, and actually increase the risk of hazardous wildfires. FEMA should retract this EIS and remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires. Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years will have disastrous effects on this beautiful and healthy ecosystem, and cannot be allowed to happen.

cece
Montgomery Crk, CA 96065
Jun 4, 2013

Pesticides in East y Parks = Suicide - as no one will visit them!

Pia Loeper
Orinda, CA 94563
Jun 4, 2013

We need to protect trees, not eliminate them!

Sandra Curtis
Berkeley, CA 94707
Jun 4, 2013

wholesale burn/clearing does more ecological harm than prevention. see California Chaparral Institute, their studies show a more enlightened approach, please update your management policies...they are out of date.

Valeria Vincent Sancisi
Berkeley, CA 94703
Jun 4, 2013

More trees and wildlife, less people and development. If non-native eucalyptus are the problem then where's the proposal to replace them with native redwoods, or some other native species of tree?

Christopher Nelson
Berkeley, CA 94705
Jun 3, 2013

The demonization of Eucalyptus is entirely without scientific foundation. The use of herbicides is inappropriate. I support the 'species-neutral' approach, using recognized forestry practices to manage these forests.

David Theodoropoulos
La Honda, CA 94020
Jun 3, 2013

please.

andrea willems
Piedmont, CA 94611
Jun 3, 2013

This is ridiculous and shameful. Federal resources could be put to much better use!

Melissa Payne
Oakland, CA 94610
Jun 3, 2013

As a 30 year resident of the Bay Area, I am utterly horrified that you are even considering this move. Shame on you for even considering this extreme measure.

Kathy Robles
Winfield Park, NJ 07036
Jun 3, 2013

This plan is far too extreme. Proper and regular husbandry of the urban forest would be more effective and less costly.

Diane L Rice
Berkeley, CA 94708
Jun 3, 2013

As a former and hopefully future resident of Oakland, I completely opposed FEMA's plans for deforestation.

Alicia Nieva-Woodgate
Denver, CO 80202
Jun 2, 2013

The worst part of this plan is putting herbicides everywhere. The eucalyptus trees may be bad, but they should be thinned. Making a clear cut will increase fire risk. What are you guys thinking?

Donald Hughes
Berkeley, CA 94702
Jun 2, 2013

Please heed our concerns regarding this unacceptable project.

Linda Dragas
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Jun 2, 2013

Almost all us humans who live in the Bay Area are of immigrant descent. Let's be ok with some lovely non-native trees. Beauty is a necessity. If you want to protect people from fire danger you should get rid of humans, cigarettes, and matches first.

Mary Cuneo
Berkeley, CA 94702
Jun 2, 2013

This EIS for the Berkeley/Oakland hills is a HUGE mistake. We have been so fortunate to have this natural habit that improved our daily quality of life as well as that of so many diverse species. The clear-cutting is NOT an acceptable option. Please work with local environmental agencies to find a better option. thank you.

Roya Arasteh
Berkeley, CA 94702
Jun 1, 2013

Berkeley/Oakland certainly know how to handle fire risk in the hills without Roundup

John Peters
Berkeley, CA 94704
Jun 1, 2013

Trees are life. Stop clear-cutting the future!

Ben
Westbend, WI 53095
Jun 1, 2013

Do not want plan as it now stands.

Deborah Allen
Berkeley, CA 94710
Jun 1, 2013

There are many types of forest management available- if FEMA would only use the most sensible one!

Tina Castaneda
San Jose, CA 95112
May 31, 2013

The herbicide will harm our ecosystem - the plants, the animals, and the people!

Laurel Stever
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 31, 2013

Im opposed to the cutting of our urban forest. The fire scare mania has gone overboard.

greg case
oakland, CA 94611
May 31, 2013

Eucalyptus should be thinned & fire ladder eliminated & ground debris removed. Please consider soil runoff, loss of animal habitat, loss of shade. Please look at the beautiful eucalyptus forest on the way to Morrow Bay that has been managed without clear-cutting trees.

Dolores Butkus
Walnut Creek,, CA 94595
May 31, 2013

THE CLEAR CUTTING OF TREES WITHIN THE BERKELEY HILLS WOULD BE
ENVIRONMENTALLY DEVASTATING AND A COMPLETELY IRRESPONSIBLE ACT.

Isabelo F. Elisan Jr.
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 31, 2013

There are much better ways to manage fire than the cutting down of trees and spraying of Round Up. Please consider cutting underbrush and clearing fallen trees and debris as an alternative. The public forest in the Berkeley / Oakland Hills is a unique, local treasure that should remain intact. Not only do they provide healthy recreation for many, they increase property values and are a real economic asset to the area. Again, please reconsider the proposal to cut down 22,000 trees in our hills.

Sarah Jo Szambelan
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 31, 2013

Having lived through fires in hillside communities in the past I know that fire mitigation is needed. BUT it must be better planned and implemented than the current EIS would suggest. Re-do it!

Richard and Chihoko Solomon
Oakland, CA 94611
May 31, 2013

STOP THINKING ABOUT PROFIT AND TAKE CARE OF PEOPLES LIVES.....

Keith
Las Vegas, NV 89131
May 31, 2013

Please don't cut down all those beautiful trees!

Gaetan Habekoss
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 30, 2013

What an absurd and arrogant idea, for such a small group to impose their mis-guided fantasy on all of us, and in such a toxic and destructive way. Shame on them.

Gregory Glaz
San Jose, CA 95122
May 30, 2013

While they may be a fire danger, toxic herbicides infiltrating the soil and running could have worse effects on the environment. The trees would also leave the hills bare increasing erosion and not offsetting carbon. I think this is a bad idea!

Terri Giamartino
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 30, 2013

Our native Anna's and Allen's hummingbirds feed and nest in eucalyptus trees.

Melanie Hofmann
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 30, 2013

DO NOT cut down trees.

Saba Fazeli
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 30, 2013

Trees help protect us against some of the impact of greenhouse gases! Keep the trees.

Alfreda Wright
ca, CA 94164
May 30, 2013

Eucalyptus are beautiful and part of our California heritage and history, even though they are not native plants. Their scent is heavenly and they are an asset to our lives.

KarinPerkins
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 30, 2013

Don't poison our area with this terrible plan.

CAROL MYERS
Greenbrae, CA 94904
May 29, 2013

there are so many reasons that this is a VERY bad plan, one of them being that birds and other wildlife depend on these trees. Come up with an alternative.

annemarie
berkeley, CA 94705
May 29, 2013

The proposed plan of eliminating exotic trees will cause more wildfire danger, not less, by leaving tons of dead wood on the ground. Many native trees are extremely flammable, but eucalyptus are NOT a fire hazard, and have been demonstrated to help forests prevent and contain fires. The clear-cutting will destroy the East Bay forests from Richmond and El Sobrante through Berkeley and Oakland to Castro Valley. Almost 600 acres are proposed, so that some parks will have almost no trees left.

Pamela Berkowitz
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 29, 2013

We need MORE healthy trees of ALL species, not fewer. And using toxic pesticides is even more egregious. Clearly this is misguided, or worse. Leave healthy eucalyptus forests alone; the native plant "movement" is surely mistaken in this instance (if not many others). Sincerely, Jack Gescheidt / TreeSpiritProject.com

Jack Gescheidt
San Geronimo, CA 94963
May 29, 2013

PLEASE! Come up with another alternative - I'm not a scientist, but there are so many experts that could help you find a healthier, alternate route to preventing hazardous wildfires

susan strasburger
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 29, 2013

I was just up at Tilden, hiking as I do several days a week, and trying to imagine what it would be like without the trees as they are. It is unimaginable. You are talking about destroying a piece of heaven, adding toxic compounds to our environment, creating worse conditions for climate change, and potentially further damaging at least 2 endangered species (Newts and Alameda whipsnake). This should never happen!

Leslie Clark
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 29, 2013

Please do not cut down so many trees and using toxic herbicides that will affect wild life and our ecosystem!
Find a more balanced way to deal with wildfire prevention.

Nancy Burke
Richmond, CA 94803
May 29, 2013

Please stop!

Olga Milosavljevic
OAKLAND, CA 94606
May 29, 2013

You must stop this cutting immediately! We need these trees for our oxygen ... No Way will you cut down these trees!!!!

Jay Brown
Utica, NY 13501
May 29, 2013

These trees are what make the East Bay the East Bay. I'm terrified of fires, having been uncomfortably close to, although unharmed by, the big one of 1991, but I suspect there are other means of fire prevention that don't involve destroying the landscape as we know it. Let's at least try looking into other options.

Frances Jones
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 29, 2013

This is outrageous. There is no real need or excuse to destroy these trees.

Toni Ehrlich-Feldman
El Cerrito, CA 94530
May 29, 2013

Please save our trees.

Monica Nabity
Orangevale, CA 95662
May 28, 2013

There are less toxic and sustainable options to accomplish the same goal. FEMA, get creative!

Robert Armas
Oakland, CA 94608
May 28, 2013

Please do not kill the trees and upset the ecosystem in this area.

Ann Matthews
Oakland, CA 94619
May 28, 2013

It is unthinkable to me that there is a plan to deforest the East Bay hills. Hiking in that area is one of my greatest sources of happiness. People who build there homes on a forested ridge do so against all common sense. Are we going to level forests wherever someone is allowed to build a home? Clear-cutting is not the solution!

Michael Hall
Burlingame, CA 94010
May 28, 2013

This is absurd. The trees in these hills are of utmost importance and the potential damage and toxicity that would come with this act would make my choice to live here far less desirable and make me question the choices of those who would do such an act.

Marielle Amrhein
Oakland, CA 94608
May 28, 2013

These trees should NOT be removed. It will make matters worse, not better.

Janice Shields
Oakland, CA 94619
May 28, 2013

No no no to these projects to clear-cut trees in Oakland and Berkeley. NO!

Jett Psari
Oakland, CA 94619
May 28, 2013

As a frequent visitor to the Berkeley area, I appreciate the natural environment as it stands. If fire is a risk it should be mitigated at man-made structures, not in natural areas.

Matthew R Ross
Seattle, WA 98125
May 28, 2013

It will be frightfully barren up there I looked at the trees and they are old and beautiful

Holly Bazeley
Oakland, CA 94619
May 28, 2013

I have read the arguments for and against the tree removals, and I agree that issues of erosion, toxicity, and humidity protection vs. dryness make this a seriously flawed plan. (I lived in the Berkeley/Oakland area for 20 years before moving to San Jose.)

Kimberly Smith
San Jose, CA 95132
May 28, 2013

I hike 5 miles every morning in Tilden and and strongly this Draft EIS. I do not want to see our parks damaged in this way.

Mark Ellis
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 28, 2013

Deforestation is a tragedy for beasts large and small...from pollutants and soil erosion to the displacement of wildlife, this EIS is too extreme a measure to take in the name of re-establishing native species.

Katie Tandy
Oakland, CA 94609
May 28, 2013

Eradication of eucalyptus and other non-native species is impractical, costly, and will have a far greater negative impact on the environment than these species create. The eco-system may not be pristine/native...but it is healthy. It's way to late to turn back the hands of time regarding introduction of non-native species. The Draft EIS proposal is NO SOLUTION!

Michele Seville
El Sobrante, CA 94803
May 28, 2013

I am just sickened by the thought.

Evan Delegeane
Oakland, CA 94618
May 28, 2013

I cannot believe this madness is even up for consideration. We have known since the 1940s the madness in this type of thinking. Read Silent Spring by Rachael Carson.

Sharon Ledbetter
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
May 28, 2013

Absolutely NOT!!!

Andrea Scott
Richmond, CA 94805
May 28, 2013

I LIVE here! And no one aksed me!

Michele Leavy
Oakland, CA 94611
May 28, 2013

NO! don't want my tax dollars destroying the environment and our health...Too hasty in your plan....be more conservative and go slower...

Gail Duboe
Oakland, CA 94611
May 28, 2013

Deforestation causes global damage.

Cathy Allseits
Bra, Italy
May 28, 2013

Clear cutting thousands of trees in the East Bay area will be devastating to all life: wild and domestic, human and animal. Please don't destroy these remarkable participants in our community. They provide clean air, homes for creatures, and peace of mind when we lay our precious eyes on them. Thank you for your consideration.

Jessica Delmar
Oakland, CA 94611
May 27, 2013

I have lived in the Berkeley Hills for 40 years and one of the reasons is that it has so many trees. I am against this idea of cutting and then poisoning the area. This is unacceptable. Round-up is banded in Europe. It is very toxic. There are many other much more useful ways this money could be spent. Keeping grasses cut and pruning is the way to prevent wildfires. Kay Licina

kay licina
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 27, 2013

enough of this phony management of the environment let's get real about living with nature

john gruntfest
Alameda, CA 94501
May 27, 2013

You've got to be kidding me! This when climate change is breathing down our necks? Trees protect the climate, how hard it this? And what do we know about herbicides? Can you say Vietman?

Layna Berman
Camp Meeker, CA 95419
May 27, 2013

UC Berkeley! You should KNOW BETTER! I'm ashamed I ever worked there. You have a terrific school for the environment... really? Did you not go to your own experts?

Katherine Doolittle
Nevada City, CA 95959
May 27, 2013

Save the habitat

Ann Wheat
Tiburon, CA 94920
May 27, 2013

Don't do this!!

William R. Harmon
Oakland, CA 94611
May 27, 2013

The petition statement is right on! Our tax dollars certainly can be better spent!

Lynne K. Berg
Oakland, CA 94611
May 27, 2013

No poisons no tree cuttings

barbara bucciarelli
Oakland, CA 94618
May 27, 2013

Save our hills!!

Patricia Dolan
Oakland, CA 94611
May 27, 2013

FEMA has no business in our beloved Strawberry Canyon. It could be renamed Emergency Creation Administration if the plan goes through. FEMA and Monsanto should not trespass against us.

gail
San Pablo, CA 94803
May 27, 2013

We need these trees for the health of the city, the county and the globe.

Teya Schaffer
Oakland, CA 94609
May 27, 2013

Such a no brainer! Please tell me the GOOD this is supposed to do!!

Sandy Kinzie
Aptos, CA 95003
May 27, 2013

FEMA does not have the MONEY for this. No sense printing \$/loading up the federal debt when EBMUD could do what's needed on its own budget. If it were a crisis, EBMUD would be thinning trees already. A modest amount of local money could protect homes. To its credit the FEMA document mentions that the trees keep the hillside moist by precipitating fog and holding rain runoff (thereby reducing fire danger). But the EIR process has wasted too much money already. Common sense says preserve this rich environment and reduce flammable eucalyptus concentrations selectively.

Lorenzo Avila
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 27, 2013

This plan is as destructive as any fire. There are better ways to do this.

Linda McFerrin
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 27, 2013

I am against this project of clear cutting tall trees and the use of toxic herbicides in the oakland/berkeley hills

paula sotelo
oakland, CA 94619
May 27, 2013

I live down the hill from Claremont Canyon and no one asked me if I wanted toxic herbicide in my neighborhood. There are ways to reduce fire danger without environmental damage, and I strongly encourage FEMA to look to alternatives.

John Fox
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 27, 2013

It's step by step that we humans allow to lose our habitats.

Gyorgyi Gyulassy
Pelham, NY 10803
May 27, 2013

By signing, I do NOT agree to receive email messages from MoveOn.org Civic Action and MoveOn.org Political Action. I decide what I agree to, MoveOn decides only what MoveOn agrees to.

R Belsher
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 27, 2013

Do not spray our trees with herbicides that can harm our health, especially Roundup.

Pauline Bondonno
Berkeley, CA 94707-1926
May 26, 2013

Why can't FEMA stick to what it does best, such as providing formaldehyde-tainted temporary trailer homes for flood victims.

Bob Sarnoff
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 26, 2013

Save the green hills! Respect Oakland!

Donna Jeanne Turner
Oakland, CA 94606
May 26, 2013

the use of round-up is especially worrisome in this area

Carolyn Clements
Orinda, CA 94563
May 26, 2013

Please expand this concern to the clear cutting of trees in Alvarado Park, Wildcat Canyon which has had NO significant fires in eighty years because of topography, minor maintenance, etc.

Alan La Pointe
Richmond, United States 94805-1157
May 26, 2013

I'm in full agreement of this petition and am an Oakland resident.

Lisa Conrad
Oakland, CA 94609
May 26, 2013

During the Vietnam War, Berkeley residents marched to protest the chemical defoliation of Vietnam's jungles. Is this our reward? Clearcutting 50,000 trees in the name of "fire prevention" reminds me of another Vietnam-era statement: "We had to destroy the village to save it."

Gar Smith
Berkeley, CA 94701
May 26, 2013

This proposal is destructive and wasteful. There are more effective, less expensive, common sense fire prevention measures that are not being considered. I do not want toxic herbicides polluting the land, streams, lakes and SF Bay with the increased runoff and erosion that will result from this disaster.

Dale Peterson
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 26, 2013

Clearcutting is ugly, and it is practically never the answer. It certainly isn't the answer here. There are better methods of fire suppression than wholesale destruction. (Maybe we should pave over everything? Less fire hazard then.)

Joanne Sandstrom
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 26, 2013

I'm from this area and visit often! Keep the trees!!

Jason Lenahan
Scotts Valley, CA 95066
May 26, 2013

PLEASE SAVE OUR TREES!

Connie Sobczak
Kensington, CA 94707
May 26, 2013

stop the beautiful berkeley hills from becoming a poison dump!

Mary Tuteur
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
May 26, 2013

This is stupid.

jed smith
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 26, 2013

Leave those eucalyptus trees alone. They are more native than you.

Austin Bath
San Francisco, CA 94118
May 26, 2013

some of us humans truly are an uncureable cancer on this planet.

mike flores
Jupiter, FL 33458
May 25, 2013

this is a disgrace.

jeff johnson
emeryville, CA 94608
May 25, 2013

this is not tolerable.

Susan Chapler, M.D.
Gualala, CA 95445
May 25, 2013

Please stop the deforestation immediately!!!!!!

Marcello Calabrese
Roma, Italy
May 25, 2013

Ridiculous! Shameful!!!

Istvan Tokes
Montreal, Canada
May 25, 2013

The arrogance of man!! So frightening that every day there is some greed/thoughtlessness/carelessness/pollution/violence to protest! I'm only 25 and already can't help feeling disillusioned with the attitude of our time. I love people- I am not a hater- but for God's sake... please... is it possible for our society to reorient toward a caring, loving, nurturing role? Please, please don't cut these trees. I wish the best of health and true happiness to all involved- including our silent sentient forests.

Kati Gyulassy
Oakland, CA 94602
May 25, 2013

Don't do it!

Cindy Gold
Chicago, IL 60605
May 24, 2013

This is the worst idea I have ever heard. DO NOT destroy the Oakland/Berkeley hills

Vicki Vandeventer
Oakland, CA 94602
May 24, 2013

We do NOT want toxic herbicides on our Berkeley hills.

claire kimmel
berkeley, CA 94703
May 24, 2013

This is crazy and wipes out my backyard! Stop this madness.

Leana Alba
Oakland, CA 95611
May 24, 2013

Please reconsider this. There are so many disastrous consequences from widespread poisoning.

Carole Beasley
Rogue River, OR 97537
May 24, 2013

Please stop this insanity!

Cynthia Pickering
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 24, 2013

Earth Crime. We see through this action. this is our home do not come here take our trees and poison our land for your profit. KARMA

Shannon Currier
Oakland, CA 94608
May 24, 2013

Please do not go through with this horrible, cruel, unsustainable plan! Listen to the residents and potential victims!

Laurel Marks
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
May 24, 2013

I love the Berkeley/Oakland Hills and hike in them every week. I can't believe this new "deforestation" plan is even being considered -- the ecological effects will be incredibly damaging, and the results truly ugly. I absolutely oppose this "deforestation" idea which seems only to benefit the rich and wealthy who want the Hills denuded for their safety. There are better ways!

Steven Goodheart
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 24, 2013

Please, please STOP the deforestation. We are in a global crisis. We need all the trees we have. If anything we should be planting more.

Linda Sherwood
San Francisco, CA 94121
May 24, 2013

Joel, thank you for calling my attention to the important matter.

Chris Weir
Irvine, CA 92614
May 24, 2013

I've had enough of these idiots. In my eyes, these plants have become native. Using federal funds for this botanic holocaust is beyond distasteful. Killing thousands of trees in order to 'cleanse' the area of 'invasive' species is foolish on the face of it. Don't these purists know that EVERYTHING CHANGES!.

Joel Schreck
berkeley, CA 94708
May 24, 2013

Please just consider using common sense! Thank you

Foroozan Toofan
EL Cerrito, CA 94530
May 24, 2013

NO to this destructive plan!! Save our beautiful TREES

lori goldman
Oakland, CA 94618
May 24, 2013

Please reconsider a more gentle option, one that does not contaminate the environment with poisonous herbicides, and one that thins rather than destroys the trees. Please reconsider your decision. Thank you.

liz gamboa
oakland, CA 94602
May 24, 2013

I agree with everything written in the Petition Statement. The plan as currently written is a nightmare which will do much more damage than it supposedly seeks to prevent.

Gerald Grosz
Corte Madera, CA 94925
May 24, 2013

This will be a catastrophe for the environment if you go ahead with this toxic way, instead of using fire.
Please reconsider!!!

Lori Atkinson
San Jose, CA 95124-4805
May 24, 2013

This is outrageous and unconscionable. How can you justify this?!

Dorothy Perkins
San Francisco, CA 94131-2370
May 23, 2013

Considering the existence of climate change, removing trees that sequester carbon makes no sense. Because weather patterns have changed and will continue to change, how do we know what "natives" will survive in the future. Especially since the date for the definition of Bay Area native plants are those existing in 1769. FEMA don't spend taxpayers \$\$ for this boondoggle.

Nancy Stafford
San Francisco, CA 94122
May 23, 2013

Thank you Chris Zydel for your thoughtful and thorough comments. I even think thinning should be minimal because nature is self-regulating--nature usually knows best. If anything, trees need to be preserved in general and more trees should be planted as they absorb carbon, filter pollution and in larger forests, cool and attract moisture in a region, in essence improve a region's climate. If we could plant more trees rather than fell them, that is, reforest the planet, we could reverse global climate change in aprox. 30 years!! (See Diana Beresford-Kroeger, & Archangel Ancient Tree Archive). Thank you.

Marilyn Emerzian
Oakland, CA 94602
May 23, 2013

Hi, I understand the need for fire management in the East Bay, but clear-cutting trees will more likely increase the risk of wildfires than to reduce that risk. Clear-cutting would actually make ignition more likely for the following reasons: distributing tons of dead wood onto bare ground, concentrating and enhancing wildfire risk in that region eliminating shade and fog drip which moistens the forest floor destroying the windbreak that is a barrier to wind driven fires typical of wildfires in California expanding the oak-bay woodland being killed by Sudden Oak Death, thereby adding more dead wood. These projects will damage the environment by releasing hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from the destroyed trees, thereby contributing to climate change. These projects will endanger the public by dousing our public lands with thousands of gallons of toxic herbicides. Erosion is likely on steep slopes when the trees are destroyed and their roots are killed with herbicides. Non-native vegetation such as broom, thistle, and hemlock are more likely occupants of the unshaded, bared ground than native vegetation which will not be planted by these projects. Prescribed burns will pollute the air and contribute to the risk of wildfire, endangering lives and property. These projects are an inappropriate use of the limited resources of the Federal Emergency Management Agency which are for the expressed purpose of restoring communities destroyed by disasters such as floods and other catastrophic events and preparing communities for anticipated catastrophic events. Most of the proposed projects in the East Bay are miles away from any residences. The current Draft EIS is unacceptable as it will inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicide, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes, and actually increase the risk of hazardous wildfires. FEMA should retract this EIS and remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires. Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years will have disastrous effects on this beautiful and healthy ecosystem. Please make the health and vitality of the local ecosystem your foremost priority before you consider this destructive plan!

chris zydel
Oakland, CA 94610
May 23, 2013

Too much Poison! Too radical an approach...I mean I know it's Berkeley but surely moderation would work here. Lets try the species neutral approach.

marylroth@yahoo.com
Point Richmond, CA 94801
May 23, 2013

Our precious hills make it possible to live in this megalopolis!

Rebecca Penn
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 23, 2013

The cutting down of mature trees will contribute to global warming. Shame!

Dale Sorensen
Inverness, CA 94937
May 23, 2013

Comment

Gregory Wilkinson
Oakland, CA 94605
May 23, 2013

I live in the Oakland Hills and this is heart breaking news. Thinning of dead wood is a necessary fire precaution, but indiscriminate cutting is ill founded. Organisms that depend on these trees need habitat.

Zeena Attig
Oakland, CA 94611
May 23, 2013

Please don't cut down all these trees!!

Pete Glikshtern
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 23, 2013

I was born in Berkeley and grew up in the Berkeley hills. My mother lost her home in the Oakland Hills fire. I have nearly 100 years of family history in Berkeley, and the current Draft EIS IS NOT GOOD STEWARDSHIP!

Jill Boornazian
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 23, 2013

SAve our beautiful trees!

Debbie Fier
Oakland, CA 94619
May 23, 2013

saturating the land with a known cancer causing toxin to reduce a potential fire hazard is completely illogical.
 there is a better way.

ivan
San Francisco, CA 94107
May 23, 2013

I'm not signing this because they're cutting down non-native species trees—especially the eucalyptus; the chance of losing our homes to earthquake is nowhere near the danger of losing them to fire. But this herbicide is cancerous. For that alone I'll sign it.

Scott Loganbill
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 23, 2013

The last thing this area (and the planet) needs is less trees!!!!!!!!!!!!

Shirley Lutzky
Oakland, CA 94611
May 23, 2013

As a home owner in the Oakland hills, I know that there is a risk of fire, but my choice to live here was based on the beauty of the forest and life it nurtures. While I can understand the need for fire prevention, the FEMA proposal is not sustainable for the environment, and could contaminate our fragile bay ecology as well, with increased run off that will undoubtedly include herbicides that will upset the ecological balance of not only the hills but also the bay. Please stop this destructive plan now!

Jeannie Mckenzie
Oakland, CO 94611
May 23, 2013

I was shocked when I read that 85,000 of my neighbors (albeit trees) were going to be eradicated. Can anyone say - mudslides! Can anyone say - stupid idea. Can anyone say - I love beautiful landscapes. Can anyone say - STOP!

Sweet Grass Longhouse
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 23, 2013

Please rethink the clear cutting! It would devastate the healthy alive ecosystem that we depend on for Our need for beauty and peace and air.

Katie Wheeler
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 23, 2013

No more herbicides!!! Please leave the trees as they are. They may not be native, but who can honestly say that you and my lineage are native to this region? These regional forests are a healthy contribution to a vital ecosystem.

Amy Lee Hammack
Santa Clara, CA 95050
May 23, 2013

NOT AGAIN! Say NO to UCB! & cutting down more trees!

Xan Joi
atlanta, CA 94705
May 23, 2013

By killing these trees your moving us that much closer to killing Our planet!

Bryan Bennett
Aspen, CO 81611
May 23, 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XzugQBkUrZk>

Christian David
Oakland, CA 94609
May 22, 2013

Andrew Schroeer

Andrew Schroeer
Oakland, CA 94618-1201
May 22, 2013

I spend a lot of time in the Berkeley/Oakland area, as I have family there, and I oppose this short-sighted
ecoside.

Kianna LeVay
Eugene, OR 97402
May 22, 2013

I grew up in Oakland and lived in the bay area all my life until 3 years ago. This is and outrage and will cause so much harm, not to mention kill the beauty too!

Sandy Miller
Vista, CA 92084
May 22, 2013

down with horticultural xenophobia under the guise of fire protection. I love eucalyptus trees!

Janet Wallace
Oakland, CA 94619
May 22, 2013

The EIS report does not adequately address flame heights after clear cutting. Therefore exacerbates fire hazards rather than mitigate risks.

Doyle Saylor
Alameda, CA 94501
May 22, 2013

This is a terrible plan that will create far more problems than it is supposedly addressing and we do not need any more toxic herbicide added to our environment.

karen denicore
Oakland, CA 94608
May 22, 2013

Industrial Hemp can be used for everything tree's can and then some. Why are we destroying trees when we have a sustainable, renewable alternative?

Seth Harris
Hilton Head Island, SC 29926
May 22, 2013

This plan is totally unacceptable in it's current format. Fire safety is important to all of us, but this proposal is NOT in the people's best interest AT ALL! I do NOT support it in it's current form. Period.

Terri Benning
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
May 22, 2013

The University should evaluate legitimate alternatives to clear cutting before taking such a drastic step. I live a few blocks below the Claremont Hotel & do not want the hills to slide into my backyard!

Joseph Michelson
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 22, 2013

Deforestation is NEVER a good idea! It would inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicides, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes, and actually increase the risk of hazardous wildfires.

Maya Dorn
berkeley, CA 94704
May 22, 2013

Additionally, Lake Chabot and Chabot Regional Park are being considered for this project. The degree of herbicides planned is unrealistic. I live among the Chabot Ridge and am very concerned for the health of our wildlife, as well as our families. Reducing the trees to wood chips is unacceptable. FEMA should respond to the disasters our nation is facing, rather than killing trees.

Virginia Castle
Castro Valley, CA 94546
May 22, 2013

Who cooked up this crack-pot idea??

Norman and Laura Gottwald
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 22, 2013

Dumping thousands of gallons of toxics and known carcinogens into the watershed cannot be the right thing to do.

Philip B. Stark
Berkeley, CA 94720-3860
May 22, 2013

I do not want to see these trees..Chopped down. This is unnecessary

0Stephanie
Fremont, CA 94538
May 22, 2013

Save the trees!

Christina Lopez
el mirage, AZ 85335
May 22, 2013

shame on you!

Rochelle Robinson
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 22, 2013

This is outrageous. This must be stopped. No clear cutting of tall trees

Wendy Lee
Oakland, CA 94611
May 22, 2013

do the right thing

elisa kleven
albany, CA 94706
May 22, 2013

This proposal is egregiously overblown and must be stopped.

Patricia Whaley
Oakland, CA 94619
May 22, 2013

Nature is the best way to heal our city and it's people!

Andreanna DelliGatti
Oakland, CA 94602
May 22, 2013

I don't think that introducing non native plants is great but trying to solve the problem with poison and clearcutting ... Oh god.

Ann Marie Davis
Oakland, CA 94610
May 22, 2013

FEMA should retract this EIS and remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires. Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years will have disastrous effects on this beautiful and healthy ecosystem, and cannot be allowed to happen.

christina hernandez
Oakland, CA 94619
May 22, 2013

Crown Raise Trees! Keep the vibrant land in the shade.

Wilson Tai
Concord, CA 94518
May 22, 2013

Dispicable.

Judy Friend
Portland, OR 97202
May 22, 2013

Let's have some intelligence around vegetation management. Clear cutting is a set up for mudslides and erosion.

Amelia Marshall
Oakland, CA 94602
May 22, 2013

Strawberry and Claremont Canyons are two of the most beautiful and pristine I have experienced in the east bay area. I am a bay area native (born here), and while I am concerned about wildfire risk, it would be much more harmful to my quality of life if these areas were negatively impacted, which they will surely be if tall trees are clear-cut and herbicide sprayed. The air in Strawberry canyon is some of the purest I have experienced -- please do not destroy the precious resource of healthy ecosystem and our quality of life!

margaret hooper
El Sobrante, CA 94803
May 22, 2013

Please take the time to consider the long term effects of these actions on the habitat for the animals, birds, soil, water and people.

Atava Garcia Swiecicki
Oakland, CA 94609
May 22, 2013

Eucalyptus should be removed for fire breaks not clear cut Trees can easily be controlled by pulling up by hand annually as they sprout.

dennis gould
Hayward, CA 94542
May 22, 2013

It is paramount to find a way to balance the need to curb fire hazards with NOT poisoning the environment and gutting the forests of the Oakland and Berkeley hills!

Courtney Malone
Oakland, CA 94605
May 22, 2013

this is the dumbest plan i have ever heard of. its MEI LAI all over again.

rob vincent
oakland, CA 94609
May 22, 2013

Please investigate other methods for fire mitigation! Cutting/poisoning these trees is NOT the only solution!!

Kenny Greenberg
Oakland, CA 94611
May 22, 2013

Stop this madness!

Susan Stuart
North Columbia, CA 95959
May 22, 2013

Redwoods are the native trees in the hills in any event. If you want to be a native plant Nazi plant those.
Otherwise end this ridiculous eradication of our forest.

Bronya Feldmann
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 22, 2013

What a bad plan to do this!

Lisa V.
San Francisco, CA 94121
May 22, 2013

The use of herbicides and clear-cutting of tall trees is an extreme environmental hazard to our community.
FEMA is creating a disaster rather than preventing one.

Sherry Keith
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 22, 2013

You must find a less destructive solution to clear-cutting this important habitat.

Tonia Fox
San Francisco, CA 94131-2930
May 22, 2013

Please do not commence with this destructive plan!

Susan Covey
Sacramento, CA 95816
May 22, 2013

FEMA, with its limited resources, should fund other less destructive projects. Although the spin of reducing non-indigenous species is popular and sexy, a less invasive and pollution contributing plan should be drafted and reviewed.

Nina miller
Phoenix, AZ 85027
May 22, 2013

This is a considered approach, often missing when our environmental sensibilities are engaged. I support this petition statement and discourage FEMA from clear cutting all trees that are not native. The use of poisons in a residential setting is NOT ACCEPTABLE ANYMORE...if it ever was.

destiny kinal
Kensington, CA 94707
May 22, 2013

We have enough climate and environmental problems as it is without adding to them. This particular idea of cutting the trees and destroying this environ to make it "fire safe" is the lazy-man's method. We can and must do MUCH better than this plan. I am opposed to this plan completely.

jessica hopkins
Oakland, CA 94619
May 22, 2013

Don't ruin the environment, PLEASE!

Angela Mason
Richmond, CA 94805
May 21, 2013

The local Oakland residents should be allowed to vote on this issue! IF you are not Local Residents , I really do not see why you think you can impact our trees on our property! Louise Garbarino

Louise Garbarino
Oakland, CA 94605
May 21, 2013

I live in this area and can well imagine how adversely affected it will be if this action is taken.

Pearl Goodman
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 21, 2013

I am appalled at the amount of toxic herbicides which will be used. Also, because trees are a carbon sink, prevent erosion, and allow water to move into the earth, cutting these trees is ridiculous.

L. Darlene Pratt
Berkeley, CA 94710-2325
May 21, 2013

Please, there must be a more eco-friendly way to provide fire safety!

Sue Loper-Powers
Nevada City, CA 95959
May 21, 2013

50,000 trees will do more benefit to the overall health of our local environment than the possible advantage you envision.

Colleen
San Francisco, CA 94114
May 21, 2013

PLEASE listen to us.

Tamar Raine
Oakland, CA 94610
May 21, 2013

Do not cut the trees. Do not add toxic herbicides

Eduardo Teixeira
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

I was born in Berkeley and will be buried in Berkeley and feel it is in my heart, so even though I've moved to WA to be an active grandmother my concern for Berkeley Hills is HUGE. The ecosystem of the Berkeley/Oakland hills is unique and precious. I can understand sawing down the Eucalyptus but DON"t spray with any chemicals. The most fragile amphibians are already stressed. Just ask Dr. Stebbins or refer to his works.

Laura J Loper
Milton, WA 98354
May 21, 2013

There are many superior alternatives to the proposed plan that need to be explored. The current draft EIS is grossly unacceptable. I am not normally an activist - but this has my FULL ATTENTION

robinson earl
Richmond, CA 94804
May 21, 2013

FEMA's proposal is massively oversized, and would generate landslides, poisoned earth and water, destruction of habitat for wildlife, and a landscape that looks raped. What is needed is a more thoughtful approach to reducing the risk of fire. Thinning dense groves, pruning lower limbs, and slowly reintroducing native trees and plants would demonstrate a respectful stewardship of the land, its wild inhabitants, and its human visitors.

Sally Nelson
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 21, 2013

Lay off my neighborhood!!!!

silvia mitchell
berkeley, CA 94708
May 21, 2013

What a blind and uncompassionate way to treat the earth and her trees. Why would you ever think that using poison would not affect the rest of us? Please stop the deforestation of the most beautiful residents of Berkeley/Oakland Hills, our trees.

Lalita
San Pablo, CA 94803
May 21, 2013

Save our natural environment!

Bonnie Boller
Alameda, CA 94501
May 21, 2013

Berkeley native. We can't have it!!!!

Brett Hennen
Roseville, CA 95661
May 21, 2013

It is incredible that FEMA would consider such a destructive and unnecessary act, when it's funds and manpower are so urgently needed elsewhere. This must not happen!

Kathleen O'Connell
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 21, 2013

We must remember to vote in 2014. Let's make real change. There's hope in our vote.

Gloria Lewis
Brentwood, TN 37027
May 21, 2013

We will block the equipment and pouring of any chemicals with our very bodies if need be, but this WILL NOT happen. Come up with a better plan, #UCBerekely #FEMA

Derek Chartrand Wallace
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

I was born & raised in California, and cannot fathom the environmental devastation that would be caused by this plan!

Veronica Huey
Berne, Switzerland
May 21, 2013

Outrageously short sighted.

SALLY BASS
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 21, 2013

RoundUp will kill all the people, after it kills all the weeds. Thanks, FEMA!!!

Julie Jaycox
San Francisco, CA 94133
May 21, 2013

We do not want the trees removed. This has never worked and ruins the ecology and beauty of the hills.
Invasive plants like poison oak flourish in disturbed land.

Christie McTigue
Orinda, CA 94563
May 21, 2013

Loni Williams

Loni Williams
Oakland, CA 94610
May 21, 2013

Save those darn trees!

Bill collins
New haven, CT 06511
May 21, 2013

Do not misuse our funds this way. The proposed project will do nothing but cause damage to the area, the environment, as well as the people of the bay area.

Ashley Rose Fosnaugh
San Francisco, CA 94134
May 21, 2013

From what I've read, it sounds like there are less hazardous ways to deals with the need to thin the trees in Berkeley/Oakland Hills

Kathy Kenworthy
Oakland, CA 94602
May 21, 2013

The proposed clear-cutting and herbicide treatment make no sense -- especially when there are less environmental destructive alternatives!

Megan Barton
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

The trees hold the soil in place, help clean the air and catch moisture from the clouds. Clearcutting the trees will create a desert east of Berkeley. This is not good for the ecosystem or the people who live nearby.

Mary Oram
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 21, 2013

Please don't cut down our beautiful trees or use herbicide!

Laurence Kaplan
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 21, 2013

We need to prevent this disaster.

Arline Rodini
Richmond, CA 94801
May 21, 2013

Please rethink this project and how it will impact the environment and the public !

Candice J. Blackman
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
May 21, 2013

leave the trees

Willow Zarlow
Rodeo, CA 94572
May 21, 2013

I am 50 now and I grew up in Berkeley, where my father was born and raised, my grandparents, and great-grandparent lived. They would all be devastated to hear of this plan to rape the Hills. PLEASE DON'T DO THIS. IT CANNOT BE UNDONE ONCE DONE!

Susan Layser
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
May 21, 2013

I live near this area and their "solution" is just NOT acceptable!

Margery F. Eriksson
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 21, 2013

Tall trees do provide important ecosystem services, so it is unwise to plan on removing them over the short term. It makes much more sense to do targeted removal in fuelbreaks, as well as thinning and removing ladder fuels. Tall non-native trees could be removed more gradually by preventing recruitment and allowing them to die- many of the Monterey pines are already reaching the end of their lifespan.

Joel Gerwein
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

This is not the right way to deal with an overgrown and non-native ecosystem. Please allow for those who have a stake (all of the people who live on, around, and use the area) to be a part of a real discussion about how we can accomplish the goals of the proposal (improve fire control) without the toxic chemicals - we here in the bay know of other ways to stop herbs from growing) and clear - cutting nature without any native tree planting. For crying out loud - we live in 2013 - this should not be the way things happen!!

Paul Bulakowski
Kensington, CA 94708
May 21, 2013

This is an INSANE concept. please rethink this radical plan. Go back to the drawing board!

Richelle Lieberman
oakland, CA 94606
May 21, 2013

This plan is unacceptable to those of us who live here in Oakland and Berkeley! Please stop considering it now and find an acceptable alternative.

Revi Airborne-Williams
Oakland, CA 94601
May 21, 2013

Stop this plan, please stop this plan!!!

Ramona Ansolabehere
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 21, 2013

Clear-cutting is devastating to wildlife. We speak for the wildlife that have no voice. Leave the trees!

Mardi Sicular-Mertens
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 21, 2013

This plan is ridiculous. You want to cut down and burn trees, to prevent forest fires. Cutting down trees, turning them into dry wood chips 2 feet deep, and not re-planting new vegetation will increase the chance of fires. Trees provide shade and wind breaks from fires. Please stop this plan.

Thomas Sydow
Oakland, CA 94608
May 21, 2013

Stop! The university was bad enuf w/ the stadium, we need the trees for birds, shade, and wind breaks.

Claire Risley
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 21, 2013

Whenever we cut down trees, we cut down life... Stop this insanity and find another way.

Patricia Schermerhorn
California, CA 94904
May 21, 2013

I believe FEMA's efforts would be better spent in fostering intra-city cooperation and communication between emergency responders and encouraging people not to build in canyons, which are natural "chimneys"...further catastrophizing about the alleged fire hazard of eucalyptus trees is just that: catastrophizing. While I understand that the trees are further demonized by those who do not correctly see it as a non-native, they have been here for almost 200 years. Animals, especially birds, have adapted to them. Take away the eucalyptus and turn the hills into mounds of wood chips soaked in Round Up and you will have effectively destroyed a healthy ecosystem for 1,000s of local species.

Nancy Rieser
Crockett, CA 94525
May 21, 2013

Save our priceless environment

Alexi Matias Keller
Alameda, CA 94501
May 21, 2013

How are tall, breathtakingly beautiful trees grown without pesticides a federal disaster? If UC Oakland faces a real threat, what will it do for funds, raise taxes?

claudia reed
el sobrante, CA 94820
May 21, 2013

Hands off our trees

bob marsh
Richmond, CA 94805
May 21, 2013

While I appreciate the fire problems and I share the desire to see native species restored, I feel this is a very poor way to do this. My husband and I are long term hormonal cancer survivors. We do not think spraying a "Round Up" product twice a year will prevent us from becoming ill. We also feel that the animals, bird, butterflies and bees that depend upon the current wooded habitat will be gone.

sandra morey
Oakland, CA 94602
May 21, 2013

save the treeeeees!

Scott Ramos
Alameda, CA 94502
May 21, 2013

Wide scale herbicide is too broad, needlessly toxic and disruptive to animal habitat. A more sensitive and discretionary approach is warranted for human health and eco system. Public commentary period must be extended and more well advertised.

Kathleen Divney
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

Trees provide life. They are our source of clean air, cool shade, etc, etc, in a city that is rapidly being cemented over. Trees are the primary agent for reducing the negative impacts of climate change, and by cutting them we are insuring our own eventual demise.

Sarah Watson
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 21, 2013

Stop the herbicide. Trim the dangerous trees. Preserve the environment.

Dan Cunningham
Richmond, CA 94805
May 21, 2013

For that matter, we are all "not native" to the area, so please, don't spoil our beautiful nature.

Charlotte Hennessy
Oakland, CA 94602
May 21, 2013

Stop cutting our trees.They are one of the few natural beauties that we have left around us.

soheila lighvani
berkeley, CA 94708
May 21, 2013

We need to get rid of the eucalyptus

June Felter
Berkeley, CA 94705, CA 94705
May 21, 2013

This is a bad idea. Do not move forward with this plan to clear cut non-native trees in Strawberry Canyon and Claremont Canyon. Do not consider the use of large quantities of toxic herbicides in these locations. -Michael McEwen

Michael McEwen
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 21, 2013

This will do way more harm than good and put residents in danger. As someone that enjoys these amazing trees and bay area habitat it is truly disturbing that this could happen in such an educated environment. I will picket and not allow any spraying for myself, children and community.

meagan
Oakland, CA 94611
May 21, 2013

Do not destroy our beautiful hills and parks. These trees are our treasures I do not want to lose this beautiful resource it important to me that they stay accessible for all of us. It's part of this communities health

Susan Domahue
Oakland, CA 94618
May 21, 2013

Born and raised in Berkeley (55 Canyon Rd). CLEAR-CUT does not equal CLEAR THINKING!

Dwight Stratton
Escondido, CA 92026
May 21, 2013

No, No, No

Nikki Poosh
Oakland, CA 94611
May 21, 2013

STOP! THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE AND IN BERKELEY!!!! STOP!!!!

M Alderete
Alameda, CA 94501
May 21, 2013

Destroying and contaminating our beautiful neighborhoods is not the way to preserve them!!

Ariel Adams
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 21, 2013

Save these trees!!! I think the plan to remove them is insidious.

Ralph Somack
oakland, CA 94611
May 21, 2013

cut out your lungs and see how well you breathe

Jack
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 21, 2013

Reforest is the answer, and put people to work as forest managers and understory replanters - not pay monsanto to pollute our air and water. This is one of the most foolish answers to protect our community that I have ever seen proposed by our elected political officials.

Jonathan Toste
San Rafael, CA 94901
May 21, 2013

Everyone needs to be aware of this measure. Where is the local discussion?

Matt Robeson Martin
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 21, 2013

No toxic herbicides in our beautiful wild spaces! There are so few left!

Jasmine Brown
Oakland, CA 94609
May 21, 2013

As a life-long Berkeley resident and one who has traveled the world and learned to appreciate my magnificent city, I've extremely fond memories of the Eucalyptus trees, particularly, and can't imagine them being eradicated. I am honored to sign this petition to FEMA.

Yolanda Ardds
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

This is my community. It is where I walk and run all the time. These proposed steps will open the area to incredible erosion and leave many animals without habitat. It is damaging, dangerous, and completely unnecessary. The current draft EIS is unacceptable. The section about clear-cutting should be removed. Thank you. Judith Bell

Judith Bell
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 21, 2013

This is insane-- it's against everything we believe in.

sandra yolles
richmond, CA 94805
May 21, 2013

eucalyptus is a big part of the problem, an import from 160(?) years ago that never should have been planted here since it is so loaded w/oxygen and burns like a torch. NO HERBICIDES!!

david erdreich
berkeley, CA 94702
May 21, 2013

just sad what happen in this world !!! thanks for your amazing work !

Sette
Zürich, Switzerland
May 21, 2013

We need More Trees - Not Less

Mike Rainy
Nairobi, Kenya
May 20, 2013

How could clear cutting a healthy ecosystem in any way be good?! Could destroying more wildlife, pollinator, birds habitat, trees that sequester carbon and provide oxygen, sheer beauty, holding in water, producing topsoil, and increasing species diversity be bad. Has a this capitalist money based in debt broken the reason of government officials, so to get funds, for there region and dept. they must destroy nature, that sustains humans and all living things. This is obviously insane policy reality emanating from the federal government. We must recognize that capitalism is degrading by design and until we ALL start to transition to local food and energy production within the carrying capacity of our local biomes these assaults, crimes against the earth, our kin and us will escalate. We need to be planting trees, and halting the use of poisons on the land scape, not the opposite. This should be obvious!!! Maybe we should eliminate all people from the earth because there is too many. This is the same logic, and it seems others have plans for this. They call it vaccination. Talk to Bill Gates about that idea...

John Chapman
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

I'm stunned that this would even be under consideration. It's outrageously inappropriate on SO many levels.

Ann Kroeber
Richmond, CA 94804-7485
May 20, 2013

trees help us breathe

gerard robinson
santa monica, CA 90405
May 20, 2013

Trees are the lungs of the earth, the placeholders of soil and nutrients, the habitat for wildlife, and provide shade and shelter. Destroying trees is unconscionable. Using Roundup is also unconscionable as recent studies have linked it to a variety of diseases and Cancer. Stop the destruction of nature!

LynMarie Berntson
Eden Prairie,, MN 55346
May 20, 2013

Please save those trees!

Skyler Norwood
Portland, OR 97232
May 20, 2013

don't be a nature hater, save the trees!

david platford
Oakland, CA 94607
May 20, 2013

There are alternative ways tp dealing with the issue of forest fires. For example, maintaining the shubbery. There are many destructive repercussions to approving the project to deforest. I do not want the quality of air and the quality of a healthy life in the bay area to diminish significantly by this act, in which every tree demolished, will not be replaced.

ciara sudjian
oakland, CA 94610
May 20, 2013

I am against the mass poisoning of everything in the hills. The careless disregard for the fauna is a huge problem, there will be many deaths from the massive tree removal.

Valenta de Regil
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

Need a better plan to rebuild the urban forest. Do not use pesticides. And do not over use mulch.

Kim
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

People are unclear on clear cutting.

Ward Spangler
Oakland, CA 94619
May 20, 2013

Stop this heinous plan!!!

Jim Greenberg
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

DONT DO THIS TO OUR CITY!!!!!!!!!!

Michaela Perry
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

This is truly one of the worst ideas I have seen in years. Just sign me aghast in Oakland.

Sharon Radcliff
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

We love nature

AntDeSean
Oakland, CA 91647
May 20, 2013

STOP

JD SANCHEZ
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

I am an Oakland homeowner. One of the most important reasons we decided to buy our home in this great city is the amount of public lands and parks. My family has spent countless hours on the trails of the East Bay hills from Tilden down to Leona Canyon. Please do not allow this plan to go forward. It is a travesty that will not protect us, but expose us to more danger, and destroy a healthy ecosystem. Thank you.

Dr. Laura Balestreri MD
Oakland, CA 94602
May 20, 2013

Introducing toxic chemicals into our environment is not the way to solve this problem. I know so many humans and animals who spend every weekend in these redwoods because we are already surrounded by toxins living in an urban environment. We need to preserve clean spaces and animal habitats wherever possible.

Kyla Danysh
Kensington, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

We should be providing a model for sustaining forests in our ecosystems, and sustaining ourselves, not a model for destroying both. . .

Dean Elias
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 20, 2013

Ann Strong

Ann Strong
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

I am in favor of responsible removal of non-native invasive species, and the planting of native specimens. It is not clear that the pesticides are needed; the money would be much better spent on the careful removal of non-natives, and the planting of native species. If it was done over a period of years, all the better to minimize negative impact on wildlife.

Carol Bier
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

No herbicides, no wholesale deforestation, no destruction of raptor habitat. I lived through the Oakland fire. It was very scary to be sure. However, the danger is mostly lack of cleared defensible area in backyards, and dropped dead tree material, not the living trees. Those tend NOT to go up in smoke. Driving through the grapevine about a month ago, we saw evidence of a recent fire, but the trees were still there. Some needed to be cleared as they were dead, but they had not been consumed. The stories of exploding eucalyptus, is of heated steam exploding the trees. Is there a real picture of one that exploded in flames?

Nancy Caton
Oakland, CA 94602-1922
May 20, 2013

Stop this senseless cutting !!!

George Petri
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

Don't cut down OUR trees, not yours, from a fellow person on this planet.

Andrea Woloschuk
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

I do not at ALL accept nor do I support Fema's proposal in the Oakland hills.

Robb Hedges
Oakland, CA 94619
May 20, 2013

i love the trees on the east bay !

FELIPE ORELLANA
BERKELEY, CA 94720-4767
May 20, 2013

Do not deforest the Berkeley/Oakland Hills -- for whatever your reason.

Laura Brown
San Jose, CA 95112
May 20, 2013

Please stop this, our earth is sacred

Paloma
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Barbra Blake

barbra blake
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

I support fire hazard reduction and restoration of native plants, but this plan goes about it in the wrong way.

Farley J Gwazda
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

Absolutely NOT!!!

Janina Bain
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

Herbicides in Berkeley! Outrageous. Let's adopt programs that preserve urban trees, not destroy them wholesale.

Ben McClinton
Kensington, CA 94708-1103
May 20, 2013

I am Ok with removing non native trees but am not wanting to see Round UP and poisonous chemicals poured into our fragile water table. We spend many hours every week in our beautiful parks and want to continue to go there knowing they are pure and not contaminated!

Marissa LaMagna
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Stop cutting down our forests!

Spencer
Tahoe City, CA 96145
May 20, 2013

Please save our trees! Get rid of Eucalyptus which is the major fire hazard.

Carie Lee
Oakland, CA 94602
May 20, 2013

As a former resident of the Bay Area this was one of my favourite places to walk. I'm horrified it will be destroyed. Please save this beautiful woodland.

Joe Doyle
Norwood, Australia
May 20, 2013

Use of known hazardous pesticides, destruction of an entire habitat, controlled fires increasing green house gases and carbon in the Bay, lives of millions of wildlife ruined, and one my favorite hiking spaces utterly destroyed. Private interest have the gall to ask for public money to destroy public land. F them!

Ethan Ramirez
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 20, 2013

This is a devastating project, both spiritually and environmentally. It must be stopped!

Jasmine Moorhead
Oakland, CA 94612
May 20, 2013

FEMA is going way to far! Extremes are what get us in major trouble!

vincenza j baldino
Vallejo, CA 94590
May 20, 2013

I'm intersexed and transgender

Lauren Hansch
Carlsbad, CA 92011
May 20, 2013

I hike in these hills on a weekly basis, and it would be truly heartbreaking to see the devastation this would cause. Not to mention the death of bees, butterflies and probably birds because of the cutting. Not to mention the fact that it seems it would actually pose a greater fire RISK than leaving things the way they are.

Katie Rose
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 20, 2013

Don't do it, it's not right.

Doug Kearney
Oakland, CA 94619
May 20, 2013

No deforestation!!

Jennifer Winston
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

No clear-cutting of Berkeley Hills. We need community generated plan.

Katherine Day
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

save the trees.....

Clem
berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

There are better ways to deal with this situation than the proposed plan.

Lee Tempkin
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

invest in people taking care of their own forests, not marketing toxic chemicals for inappropriate use where they will injure community members for generations.

Michael Warburton
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Absolutely not!

Bridgette Hageman
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Please leave the trees be!!!!

Jann Kiesel
Fort Branch, IN 47648
May 20, 2013

We need a forest management plan - one that gives entry level jobs to unemployed youth to begin a continuing oversight of our hills. Keep big machinery and chemicals off of "our" hills.

Curtis Manning
Berkeley 94710, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

Cutting Eucalyptus opens the area to allow more to grow. It has never worked and is poor use of badly needed funds. We love these trees in our hills!

Liz Lawhun
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Eucalyptus has roots here since the 1800s! stop building in the hills!

uHugo
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills.

REV.Dr.PETER ADUBA
Torrington, CT 06790
May 20, 2013

Sandy Spiker

Sandy Spiker
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

clear only Eucalyptus, not other trees

jill chesler
Aptos, CA 95003
May 20, 2013

Stop destroying the earth!

Bérangère Maïa Parizeau
Roberts Creek, Canada
May 20, 2013

No more herbicides and short-sighted forest management practices!

Gary Skupa
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Stop poisoning and destroying our natural resources

Andrew Hasse
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

Only eucalyptis, not other trees.

John Iversen
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

This deforestation plan is simply unacceptable! I agree that Eucalyptus is a non-native species and flammable, but this plan is not complete without funding to replant the area with native trees and plants.

Gabriel J. Prindle
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

let's do it right. sensible, conserving of our green zones.

Eileen Keller
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

What sense does it make to increase risk of wildfires?? Think about what your doing - Fires!!

Wanda Blake
Oakland, CA 94605
May 20, 2013

No Clear Cut our Forests!

Matthew Connolly
Albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

Please reconsider?

Jennifer Randt
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

Please don't destroy and poison our environment. I am strongly against this hideous idea.

Juliette Monheit
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

I can not support this poorly thought out plan to clear cut our hills. Without a long term strategy to get native trees well established, we will simply end up with different flammable invasives. We will trade a perceived fire hazard reduction for a massive mudslide and erosion hazard by clear cutting, rather than a long term managed transition to different trees. Go back to the drawing board and come up with a thorough solution, not this bad clear-cutting plan.

Aimee Baldwin
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

This is a disasterous not a proper use for Funds.

Carolyn Rice
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Havent we yet learned that taking such drastic measures for our security creates many environmental disasters. Let's think this through and find a better solution.

Wini Williams
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

Nancy Bennett

Nancy Bennett
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

Man, this is stupid and horrifying. So sorry to have missed the 'last' community meeting with FEMA and Oakland about this.

Sabrina Turgon
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Clear cutting tall trees, using toxic herbicides, destabilizing the steep slopes will increase the risk of fires, and just because the native plant restoration community despises eucalyptus, pines, and acacia and wants them all gone is not reason enough why they should be. I consider the deforestation of the Berkeley /Oakland hills as a crime against nature. Who will profit from this action? It will not be the people, their families, or the community. I revere the trees and do not consider them our enemies, To me it is the people who dream up these crazy ideas that are the enemies. They are all mad, infected by a lack of common sense. This is a bad idea, more about money ill spent that protecting the area against fire and I for one strongly oppose it.

Nicole Savage
San Francisco, CA 94121
May 20, 2013

I am very concerned that UCB does not consider the health of the residents. The herbicide use is unacceptable. Clearcutting does not sound like intelligent beings are involved. It seems UC once embraced fire prevention and even had a demonstration garden over at the Richmond Field Station. What has happened to a once respectable university? I am shocked and dismayed. My grandfather played the campanile in the 1920s. Our family history goes quite a way back here. Wendy Weikel

wendy weikel
berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

i love our trees

alexandria wright
oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Preserve nature in the Berkeley Hills!!!

Walt Kleine
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

Whoever thought to clear cut any trees is a total idiot. What are you thinking, or better yet you is paying you off?

Pamela
Lafayette, CA 94549
May 20, 2013

STOP!!!!!! In the name of love!!!

Elinor Simon
Los Angeles, CA 90066
May 20, 2013

stop poisoning our water and land

ellen mills
kensinton, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

As a citizen of the East bay I implore FEMA to revise plans for the East Bay Hills EIS for Hazardous Fire Risk Prevention. It is not necessary to kill all those trees to greatly reduce the fire risk. The general rules for fire prevention are clearly laid out by the Oakland fire department.

<http://www.oaklandnet.com/wildfireprevention/Compliance.asp> Simply following the same guidelines asked of every homeowner in the fire zone would be a more than effective preventative policy and spare the lives of so many precious beautiful trees and landscapes. Besides the oxygen and moral imperative issues it'd be cheaper and easier to boot!

Kerith Pickett
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

I am opposed to the clear-cutting and excessive herbicide near -sided focus. I do support efforts to suppress fire danger in a more thoughtful way. Although I would like to see the re-introduction of more native plants, it should be understood that they, too can burn, and will require thinning and future management.

Verna Winters
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Stop this phony environmental business already. The 'Neo' Environmentalists are taking orders from private funders who have an agenda against nature and the citizens of this country and are coming up with ridiculous solutions for "non" problems. It's the environmental version of "disaster capitalism". Are Eucalyptus, pine and acacia now considered "terrorists" by these folks who have lost their common sense and are obeying orders from their corporate masters? Sincerely, Wanda Warkentin

Wanda Warkentin
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

For shame! The University is taking such a boneheaded approach? And FEMA is allowing it?

Paul Cooley
Culver City, CA 90232
May 20, 2013

A university with no soul....

Wyn Skeels
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

We need as many trees on our earth as possible or we are all going to die

Ellen Faulkner
San Francisco, CA 94109
May 20, 2013

It's so crazy I can't think of anything to say. I just want to scream!

Jean Mullen
Vancouver, WA 98665
May 20, 2013

I agree with the statement in this petition. There must be a less destructive alternative for this forest's ecosystem and the land.

Judy Baker
Los Altos, CA 94022
May 20, 2013

This is not the way, from any sensible point of view.

Jaan Carter
Alameda, CA 94501
May 20, 2013

I have lived in Berkeley for over 50 years, and feel a deep connection to the local landscape. I am stunned and shocked to learn of a plan so reckless, so ill-conceived and so heedless of healthier alternatives. Unfortunately, this is not the first time that the University of California has tried to impose its antiseptic vision of convenience on an environment it may legally control, but utterly disrespects.

Dan Marlin
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

i live in the oakland hills and i love the trees!

Reya Lynch
Oakland, CA 94506
May 20, 2013

First they came for the schools, then they came for the Post Office, then they came for the Gill Tract, and now they come for the trees. Give 'um the Ax, Lorax, Lorax!

Gar Smith
berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

This CAN not be permitted. Toxic herbicides are poisonous. Many species, including humans, depend on trees for life.

Sita R Davis
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Elizabeth Van Bellinghen

Elizabeth Van Bellinghen
Kensington, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

Stop this! No toxic herbicide, no clear cutting.

CB North
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

stop this insane plan

Donna Argentina
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Deforestation also includes Wildlife, Birds and other critters. Confirm the need for a "species-neutral" approach

Faye Antaky
Oakland, CA 94618-2414
May 20, 2013

Like too many proposed cures, the side effects are worst or just as bad as the conditons.

Hardin Jones, Jr.
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Please rethink this approach and do not poison our hills!

Christine Wishon
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Do not cut down our trees!!!

Heather
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Are you serious? Evil, evil bastards. Get in a grave, would ya? TREES ARE FRIENDS ! TREES ARE FRIENDS !

Alexander Greenbaum
San Francisco, CA 94130
May 20, 2013

this needs to stop!

gabrielle mervae
stockton, CA 95209
May 20, 2013

Having lived in Berkeley 1979-1995 and my husband's family still living there, I cannot believe this absolute outrage. Stop. Now.

Margaret Sumner-Wichmann
Questa, NM 87556
May 20, 2013

We are environment!

Claudia Betz
Großmehring 85098, Germany
May 20, 2013

JUDY GREEN MICHAEL GREEN KELLI GREEN KATIE GREEN KIMBERLY GREEN

JUDY GREEN
OAKLAND, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

I am looking for this DRAFT EIS. Seems many good suggestions here in the comments and other sites. One would hope FEMA would require the best plan before funding approval. But, as I live one mile south of the '91 fire, no one can forget this:
<http://www.berkeleyside.com/2011/10/10/no-warning-a-sense-of-crisis-outrunning-the-firestorm/> It seems this has been studied up and down. Please make the best plan possible.

William Blessing
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

Absolutely needless and despicable.

Alison Kim
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Cutting down the oaks and other trees in the Berkeley Hills is an act of madness. Do not replace these beautiful trees with poison!

David Enelow
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Absolutely an abominable idea. Berkeley should be ashamed of itself and we should all be weary of FEMA.

Tracy Burnham
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

Savannah Lees-Haley

savannah lees-haley
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Are you out of your minds? The planet and our species NEEDS trees. Thin them out, cull the old and weak but clear-cutting all of them. Retract this eis. Thank you.

hue simpson
mountain view, CA 94040
May 20, 2013

Our green space is what makes life here special and healthy. Please stop this outrage from happening! No clear cutting please!!

Linda Ostro
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

Unacceptable!

Skot Brown
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

No!!!! Don't cut down the trees & poison the soil!

suzie cidal
Alameda, CA 94501
May 20, 2013

With all the scientists in Berkeley, couldn't anyone find a more intelligent solution?

Alessandro Boggian
Cairo, Egypt
May 20, 2013

also this will harm the amphibians--newts deserve better than this.

Barbara Judd
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

The trees are the beauty of Berkeley Hills. They help our mental and physical state. They help maintain both beauty and the ecosystem. This balance is irreplaceable and I think this would be a big mistake to destroy them. We need to find more awareness to prevent fires.

Anna
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
May 20, 2013

This is just a ridiculous and unhealthy plan, on so many different fronts. At a minimum, you can at least offer a less aggressive and invasive, non-toxic plan.

Nance Wilson
Oakland, CA 94611-1237
May 20, 2013

This is wrong and just a little bit crazy, no!

celia jackson
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

if trees need to be cut, do so without the use of pesticides/herbicides - I'm sure there are ways, they may just be more labor intensive

irene
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

I don't think any trees should be cut. To protect the hills from fire, lots of redwoods should be planted to increase moisture. Teams of goats should be used to eat unwanted brambles & plant debris. No trees cut, no herbicide, no erosion, no ill effects to raptors or any other creatures.

Susan Danis
Kensington, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

Please do not lie to us. Your whole plan is to sell toxic herbicides. Do not poison the American people of Berkeley for to do so is treasonous and a crime against that which supports our lives.

Robin Somerville
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

As an Oakland resident, I am very concerned about the environmental impact of this plan. Please keep Berkeley and Oakland green and consider less hazardous approaches.

Jen Gray
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Please do not even think about using RoundUp. It is dangerous and will kill animals.

William Fulton
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

The native trees have died out due to fungus and these non-native trees are resistant to it and are needed to attract moisture, shade the area and put roots down to keep the hillsides from falling down. We also have to be aware that we are not the only species that inhabit this area and they need the trees. Marcia Poole

Women Against Sexual Slavery
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Round Up is a hazard to the health of our community. Consider a strategy that does not undermine health and destroy the beautiful hills of Berkeley.

Jennifer Kern, Esq.
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Maybe this is too late, but why are you doing this massive clearing? Why did it just happen without any warning.

gail marell
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

Unbelievable that Berkeley is even considering allowing such toxic and ill advised environmental devastation.

Patricia carroll
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

not acceptable.

Cari R Jelen
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

I understand the need to clear the Eucalyptus trees but to use all the toxic herbicides and not replant with other trees, or to do it in such a way as proposed, is wrong, wrong, wrong. I live in the Albany Hill in the park area and have the same Eucalyptus tree problems and potential fire hazard. Eventually we will have to get rid of these trees too, but in a way that is eco-sensitive and doesn't use toxic herbicide. Tens of thousands of wildlife and people depend on these sensitive ecosystems. We must help these ecosystems and not be stupid about the process to decrease forest fires in these areas.

Eileen M. Harrington
Albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

I hike in those hills frequently and desperately hope you will not clear-cut the tall trees. I understand there are less drastic measures that can be taken to reduce fire hazard.

Susan B. Morton
Oakland, CA 94602
May 20, 2013

Don't kill the beauty!

Caitlin Flom
Kensington, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Unnecessary and wasteful use of resources.

Daphne Tooke
Richmond, CA 94804
May 20, 2013

Let's be Good Guardians and PROTECT OUR TREES. Deforestation may protect locally against fires in the short term, but anyone with vision can see the BROADER CONSEQUENCES: More Fires, Less Livable Habitat for Humans and Other Living Things.

joyce cochran
San Francisco, CA 94118
May 20, 2013

Because we have family who live and work in the area,including our granddaughter, we sign with them.

Randall Mishoe
Huntersville, NC 28078
May 20, 2013

We could lose the eucalyptus.

Jeffrey Ernst Lindemann
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Clear cutting is not good forest management.

Nikki Sachs
Berkeley, CA 94712
May 20, 2013

Do not rely on false information from UC Berkeley, re deforestation. Native trees coastal redwoods were clear cut by the 1890's .

Arthur Stopes, III.
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

Remove the invasive European-Americans before you remove the eucals.

Maris Arnold
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Our state is full of immigrants - plants and people. We all came here from other places. Please safeguard our environment by keeping our old trees that suck up carbon, create habitat for animals and make the East Bay beautiful!

Keren Stronach
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Alas, this simply another horrible chapter in UC's environmentally destructive story--the most recent of course being the removal of old oak trees where they wanted to build a new football stadium. I am so shocked and saddened by their plan. Whither raptors? Whither songbirds? Whither? Whither?

Sharon L. Osmond
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

FEMA and UC Berkeley are the real 'vandals'. They need to have more respect for Nature and the people who are renewed by it. I'm surprised they aren't using Agent Orange.

Harold Heim
Oakland, CA 94602
May 20, 2013

I have known UC Berkeley to be a very environmental conscious University. Hearing about this made me rethink that. And the plan to use the devils product in Monsanto's Round-Up is unforgivable!!!!

Thomas Leahy
Big sur, CA 93920
May 20, 2013

I love Berkeley and Oakland. Please don't let them deforest our hills.

Frances Nowve
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

This is a rash and simplistic approach to a complicated issue that will have disasterous effects - yet another heartbreak for our local community and the planet.

Sandra Barlow
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

As a resident of Oakland with a degree in environmental science, I view the recommendations of the draft EIS as short sighted, dangerous and environmentally irresponsible. The massive application longterm of herbicides in the midst of residential and recreational communities is reason enough to stop and rethink this approach. We will be watching and following up to protect our communities' health and the health of the avian and other species supported by the ecosystems created by these trees.

Beth Schoenberger
Oakland, CA 94618-1313
May 20, 2013

It seems that in the name of protective measures the powers that be have no thought either to water retention and physical beauty.

Renee Renouf Hall
San Francisco, CA 94115
May 20, 2013

Although, I am concerned about fire danger, I don't think this plan makes sense. Clear cutting opens up the potential for erosion and the use of herbicides should not be encouraged!

Diana Rossi
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

This is NOT the right way to accomplish this goal.

Anita Watkins
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

We can't continue to destroy "Mother Earth"

Shirley Guggenheimer
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

One of the things that sets apart this very urban area of Northern California is the beauty of its forest, redwoods and and greenery. Let these trees & plants continue to clean our air - do you want a brown smog filled, barren skyline like LA????

Alison Schoenbeck
San Diego, CA 92116
May 20, 2013

I support the consideration of less-toxic means of reducing the fire threat in the Berkeley hills. Although it might cost more in the short run, the long-term benefits of lower-toxicity for humans, plants and other fauna, and protecting animal habitats, are likely to far outweigh the temporary cost savings.

Laura Nelson
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

We can't be killing trees with the rate of climate change currently happening. This is very irresponsible!

Kim Mattheussens
Village, CA 90024
May 20, 2013

Nicole Newnham

Nicole Newnham
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

David Klotz

David Klotz
Berkeley, CA 94707-1714
May 20, 2013

An appalling proposal! I strongly urge the EIS be retracted and amended as in the petition. I am a former resident of 33 Canyon Road.so I know the terrain well.

Katherine Pope
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

The goal of this project seems to be restoring native forests rather than reducing wildfires risk per se. These two issues should not be conflated. Though native habitat restoration is a worthy long-term goal, I think the proposed approach is unnecessarily destructive and has major negative consequences. As an ecologist, I oppose this plan.

Amber Kerr
Mountain View, CA 94040
May 20, 2013

Save The Trees!

Glen Ocampo
San Leandro, CA 94577
May 20, 2013

I do not want the habitat of owls and wild life clear cut.

ilsa bartlett
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

FEMA proposes using tons of ROUNDUP when the trees are downed, to keep them from resprouting new trees. ROUNDUP is an herbicide that could cause cancer, Parkinson, & others diseases. See the recent articles on Roundup on the web.

Ann Krooth
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

I understand the need to start getting rid of the eucalyptus, but not by clear cutting and not with massive amounts of herbicide.

Timothy Lynch
Kensington, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

I am a Berkeley student and do not support the removal of trees. I would encourage UC Berkeley and its partners

Amir Salehzadeh
Berkeley, CA 94720
May 20, 2013

This plan sounds like something Bush's "Brownie" would have come up with when he headed FEMA.
Probably cheapest in the short run...but what about the long run costs?

Rachel Kahn-Hut
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Use the money instead for school teachers.

Jason Winnett
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Please stop the plan for deforestation! and Keep our and and residents healthy by not using pesticides!!!

Sarah Bolton
Oakland, CA 94606
May 20, 2013

Raised in the Oakland - Berkeley Hills. Family still there. Please re-consider all possibilities.

James Foster
Austin, TX 78701
May 20, 2013

Quit wreaking environmental degradation NOW~!!!

Gail Camhi
Novato, CA 94949
May 20, 2013

What are you THINKING??

Griffith Torres
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Unacceptable.

Jeff Symonds
berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

I would sign this petition if it was more clearly drawn up. Blanket statements can, unfortunately, appear to be uninformed. I'm all in favor of clear cutting eucalyptus and acacia. (I lived through the '91 Oakland Hills fire). I am not "anti-species." These two species grow so rapidly that what works for other trees is not effective for even minimal forest management. Why is anyone talking about roundup and herbicides when there are alternatives such as grazing, cutting and burning? And there is nothing wrong with saltpeter to kill stumps.

Walter Ratcliff
Piedmont, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

Very destructive

Mary
Oakland, CA 94612
May 20, 2013

It's not just the Berkeley Hills it's the Oakland Hills too with 85,000 planned to be chopped down and then gallons of herbicide sprayed that will poison plants/earth/water KPFA reports: KPFA Weekend News at 24:58 <http://www.kpfa.org/archive/id/91701>

Anne Novak
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Stop! the Earth can't only be for humans!

Kelsey westphal
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

Please keep an ecological awareness as the basis for all actions uphill from my home downhill in Berkeley.
Thanks.

David Miotke
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

I agree with Mr Strong: The current plan is not even acceptable to those of us who approve of removing the eucalyptus. Clearcutting and herbicides are both even more harmful to the ecosystem than eucalyptus. (Herbicides will harm endangered species of animals.) Deep mulch and the brush and weeds that will move in, both INCREASE fire risk. And non-native tree species other than eucalyptus are neither very harmful to the ecosystem, nor any more flammable than native trees. The project could be done in a way that is both more ecologically sound AND more effective

connie Cronin
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

I say no to cutting down the trees. We can reduce wildfires in other ways.

Jean Tokarek
Oakland, CA 94619
May 20, 2013

the risks are greater with this plan

cecile moochnek
albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

Elizabeth Du Val

Elizabeth Du Val
Berkeley, CA 94712
May 20, 2013

This is a very important petition. We must stop mass removal of trees and thus oxygen and air quality. Not to mention the thousands of pounds of round up to be used to keep the eucalyptus from regenerated. This is a disaster in the making for our local ecosystem. We can't let this happen.

chalyn newman
albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

Maicaf@earthlink.net

maica folch
san francisco, CA 94110
May 20, 2013

alexandra barrows

alex
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Deforestation, now! You have got to be kidding!

Phoebe Ackley
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

Do not DESTROY and harm the East Bay

Joanna Folino
Berkeley, CA 94707-1611
May 20, 2013

Lived at two places on Canyon Rd, but now living in Spain. Destroying that wild place would be a sin.

Patty Stratton
La Vila Joiosa, Spain
May 20, 2013

This is really bad for the environment!!!!!!

David Colby
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

I can punderstand removal of Eucalyptuss trees, but replace them with native redwood and by no means use Roundup anywhere in our soil. Especially as this drains into Lake Temescal , Oakland's oldest reservoir

Earl Price
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Please don't use Roundup

Faith Fuller
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Please don't let this happen, for the sake of the next seven generations!!

Helen
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

We need: a 300 foot wide firebreak. No herbicides. Remove eucalyptus AND replant/reseed with natives.
Thin underbrush.

David Levy
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Use the goats to clear the brush and leave the land in healthy shape. Don't cut our fabulous, oxygen-giving trees!

Lisa Bullwinkel
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

I went to school at UC in Berkeley and so enjoyed walking through the hills. I cannot imagine Berkeley without them. So many trees have been destroyed, so many natural habitats. Also, trees are so important in taking CO2 out of the atmosphere and giving us fresh oxygen to breath. Please read the Petition Statement that accompanies these comments and do not kill the trees.

Franette Roschuni
Bowie, MD 20720
May 20, 2013

This is beyond disgusting behavior.

Anita Carswell
Richmond, CA 94804
May 20, 2013

No herbicides!!

John Hanson
Dublin, CA 94568
May 20, 2013

This is my home. I have lived in Berkeley since I was five years old and I can't imagine the hills without these trees!!

Katherine Douglas
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

This is disgusting. I hope you can get some press coverage showing the motives of the native plant restoration people.

Vici Casana
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

This is a disastrous and unacceptable plan, that takes a serious problem and makes it much, much worse. Don't do it, just drop this stupid and ridiculous mischief.

Eric Dinwiddie
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

Clear cutting is not the answer!

Laurie Ann Doyle
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Don't destroy our canyons

Karen Zumhagen-Yekple
Cambridge, MA 02138
May 20, 2013

Very concerned with tree removal without careful consideration. Area in Claremont canyon has served for many years as an owl breeding habitat among other things.

kathryn Burns
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

This strategy will cause more fires in the short run as fires start in grasses. The only fires that start in trees are caused by lightening. There is no plan for replanting. We are removing the habitat of raptors, owls and other creatures. People need to remember that forest fires happen in forests that have no eucalyptus or acacia - try the Sierras.

Cathy Fisher
Piedmont, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

I never know why so many people seem to enjoy cut down trees. They all have their reasons for doing it but there has to be a better way. Save the trees!

Nancy Lieblich
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Aletha McGee

Aletha McGee
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

We need to stop blanket deforestation -- in the framework of global climate change, clear cutting cannot be a responsible approach to fire mitigation.

Robert Romano
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

I can't think of a worse way of preventing hillside erosion than the proposed clear-cutting approach.

linh nguyen
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

In addition to the dangers you've already cited, this will also close the fire trail for long periods of time. I'd wager the first El Nino year will lead to a number of bad mudslides. And what would be the effect of turning everything to wood chips and leaving it layered on the soil? Won't that drastically alter the Ph and content of the existing soil? I know the eucalyptus post a fire threat and I lived through the 1991 hills fire and those things went up like match sticks, but this still seems like a half-baked plan. PS: I think they tried to "back door" this thing to avoid Berkeley's avid protesters.

Carl Rose
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

I am a Berkeley resident and I hike in the Berkeley hills regularly. This forest space is a major reason that I live in Berkeley it is existential to our culture and the environment. Cutting trees down does not prevent fires and it is asinine to claim that it does. This is a fight that FEMA will not win.

Tara O'Flaherty BSN, PHN, RN
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

This is a very destructive project. Clearing underbrush and cutting down dead trees is one thing. Clear-cutting is very wrong, wrong, wrong. Do not do this deforestation project.

mary breunig
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Please consider alternatives! Clearcutting is rarely a solution to any of our problems. The hills will actually be more vulnerable to wildfire if you disrupt the ecosystem so profoundly.

Hannah Kopp-Yates
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

This is the wrong way to deal with the fire danger. Please don't destroy our great green hills.

Jane Ellis
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

this plan is careless and destructive and greedy. do the right thing.

Deborah Cowan
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

Angela

Angela Hunkler
BERKELEY, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

Don't cut the trees!! It's folly.

Lorri Holt
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Please no herbicide

Steve Gere
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

I live in the hills and strongly hope for mitigation against the fire danger without trading that for toxic chemicals. Let's do this the right way!

Joanna Biggar
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

Stop it!

Thomas Dolan
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

The deforestation of the Berkeley and Oakland hills is an uninformed and dangerous decision!

Hannah Russell
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

NO NO NO, My only home. I was born here, and the character and draw of it will be destroyed.

kelsey harrison
purchase, NY 10577
May 20, 2013

This is ridiculous. Don't implement this haphazard plan.

Zachary Norris
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

I oppose all programs that destroy healthy trees, spray herbicides and disrupt healthy ecosystems.

Ron Proctor
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 20, 2013

real estate: the true original sin!

rufous herrick
oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

This is so wrong in so many ways!! Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years will have disastrous effects on this beautiful and healthy ecosystem, and cannot be allowed to happen. Not to mention contamination of ground water and run off but what about land slides in the future! SO WRONG!!!

MARY PELLEGRINI
MOUNT HOOD PARKDALE, OR 97041-0474
May 20, 2013

As a mother and as a resident of the Oakland hills, I urge you to look into your hearts and choose a more environmentally responsible solution to reduce fire danger.

Carol Sue Richardson
Oakland, CA 94611-3332
May 20, 2013

We don't need round-up and we don't need a clear-cut of our treasured resource. We need careful targeted fire prevention plans that are not worse than the problem they are trying to solve. Thanks!

Lainey Feingold
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Eucalyptus should be removed to give space to more native species, but don't use Roundup to keep everything dead! This seems like a terrible idea.

Celeste Roschuni
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Not technology only, but common sense and integrity of purpose.

Daryl Williams
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Please protect one of our most valuable resources here in East Bay.

Jason Snell
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

I am a resident of the Berkeley Hills and am appalled at the carrying out of this disastrous plan. Let's be the environmental advocates that our city is known for.

Eileen Adams
Kensington, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Cut the Eucalyptus, but DON'T USE POISONOUS SPRAYS on anything!

Nancy Gorrell
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

Why has UC and the city of Oakland dismissed better options than deforestation, such as fire mitigation strategies that would be cheaper, use fewer herbicides, and be more effective in lessening fire risk.

Inda Luciano
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

This is complete OVERKILL - there are more measured, eco-friendly, less toxic ways to deal with fire hazards. Slow down and DO IT RIGHT!!!

Sonja Fitz
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

Let's be smart about this, not destroy a habitat wholesale.

Tim Cull
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

This is a disgusting affront to nature.

Alicia Franklin
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Please don't take our trees and spread toxic chemicals. I have an immune related illness and toxins in the environment might have been the cause, please, please don't add to this, there are better ways.

JoAnne Burlison
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Have you ever seen pictures of the Oakland/Berkeley hills taken in the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. It looks like Saudi Arabia. The original Redwood forests were stripped bare by the logging industry in the middle of the nineteenth century. Now FEMA is being asked to permit a repeat of this atrocity. Only now we live in an overly-industrialized environment already infested with herbicides and suffocating from growing levels of carbon gas resulting in part from world-wide deforestation. Get real.

E Haberkern
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

The owls have lost nesting locations and the erosion is so bad now. STOP cutting down the trees

Deborah Thompson
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Please start caring about people and this earth instead of how much money you might get or who is lining your pockets. Enough is enough. You are endangering lives and our earth.

Jo Green
El Cerrito, CA 94530
May 20, 2013

Please don't use these harmful methods to control wild fires!

MacKenzie Moore
Berkeley, CA 94703-1930
May 20, 2013

Lee Micheaux

lee
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

I am very concerned about the health of our ecosystems and our communities. There are other options to handle the fire danger in this area and FEMA should not move forward with proposed EIS.

Alison Fischman
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

Melissa Lago

Melissa Lago
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

Please reconsider the clear cut strategy.

Marian Wolfe
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Are you serious! Trees are essential to life.

Aziza Bahati
Oakland, CA 94609
May 20, 2013

Clear the ground fuels but leave the trees to do their job: stabilizing the ground, detoxifying the air, and refreshing our eyes with beauty.

Elizabeth Cook
BERKELEY, CA 94704
May 20, 2013

This is an environmental disaster in the making and completely in conflict with the values of our community.
Don't do this.

Catherine Lerza
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

I would only support eliminating all the Eucalyptus trees if it were done completely organically (no herbicides, etc.) AND there was a FUNDED plan to restore the Redwood forests in harmony with the homes (NOT a token plan -- I can smell those things a mile away).

Lloyd Ferris
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

There must be other ways to lower the fire risk!

Ellen Levine
Hayward, CA 94546
May 20, 2013

very scary! even the herbicides alone!

Tehan Carey
Sausalito, CA 94965
May 20, 2013

This will not make our neighborhoods safer - only less beautiful.

David Seegal
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 20, 2013

If the Feds can come into the supposed liberal heartland of Berkeley and create urban deforestation, your town could be next.

Lynn
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 20, 2013

FEMA should retract this EIS and remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires.

Michael Taylor
Albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

STOP IT

Richard Rizzo
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

We live here. Please listen to us.

Sherrin Loyd
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

The trees are not the problem. Clear cuts are the problem.

David Downie
Kensington, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Cecelia Mariscal

Cecelia Mariscal
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

Aaron Scheffler

Aaron Scheffler
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

I run and bike in the Berkeley hills every morning. The turkey vultures and hawks I see are part of my daily wake-up ritual. And I know so many people with cancer, I REALLY really really don't want to have toxic herbicides poured into my pores, or anyone else's. I like a nice hot shower after my runs, not a bath of poison along the way.

Casondra Sobieralski
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Something more nuanced needs to be developed to manage the trees. Pesticides are simply not ok, not for people or birds.

Mary Burmester
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Bureaucratic decisions, no matter how well intended, are removed from their consequences. This thoughtless act on the part of the UC bureaucracy, an entity known for placing the salary requirements of its administrators well above the welfare of its students along with the Oakland City Bureaucracy whose incompetent oversight continues to lead to third party intervention should not and cannot be trusted with the welfare of the Berkeley Hills.

Stephen Kane
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

It's not clear cutting, it's fire protection. Ask the folks in the Oakland hills about it .

Eric Riess
Kensington, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

nan phelps

nan
Kensington, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

PLEASE don't deforest our ecosystem!

Kamala Asher
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

As long time Berkeley residents, my wife and I are **TOTALLY** opposed to this destruction to protect us. Not only will the plan be expensive and ugly, it will not keep us safer.

Anthony Somkin
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 20, 2013

Trees are an integral part of my life, being from the Oakland Hills. There are other non-ham fisteds ways of dealing with fire mitigation, and cheaper ones too. Start over and try something else.

Eric Lindberg
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

Have people heard of global warming and what trees contribute in the fight against it? Only hazardous trees should be removed: diseased, weak and/or leaning ones. To remove large old trees will change our Berkeley microclimate noticeably.

Eva Hecht
Kensington, CA 94707
May 20, 2013

Yet another example of the arrogance of UC Berkeley.

martha wallner
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

This is an absolute outrage! Who would be so foolish to cut down those trees. And for what?! This draft is unacceptable and needs to be stopped.

Koryn Johnson
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

I walk every day in these hills and it would be devastating to lose these beautiful trees and disrupt the ecosystem. I already had a dog who died from herbicide poisoning due to his sensitivity and the over use of it. Haven't we learned anything about poisoning our earth and how it leaks over to all other creatures as well as us not to mention the earth

fiona mauchlan
berkeley, United States 94709-1532
May 20, 2013

Please, think again. Please, please: think again. Yes? Of course, yes. Respectfully, Margaret E. Darby

Margart E. Darby
berkeley, CA 94709-1512
May 20, 2013

NO publicity, no notification, no real process, this is unacceptable, at best.

Stephanie Zappa
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

We need a better plan for the hills!

Susan Penner
Oakland, CA 94608
May 20, 2013

This action is not the way to save the hills from wild fires. It will create more problems in the future and destroy the ecosystem. Using toxic chemicals to check underbrush growth is unacceptable!

Christine Rossi
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 20, 2013

I live at the bottom of the Berkeley Hills and don't want this hideous, dangerous, and stupid approach to the fire problem to proceed.

Gayle Feyrer
Albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

Please use the cut & tarp method instead of herbicides.

celestemclean-reid
berkeley, CA 94705
May 20, 2013

Keep the trees!!

Danielle Pelletier
Oakland, CA 94606
May 20, 2013

We need MORE trees, not less.

Carl Kelley
Albany, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

I lived in the Berkeley hills from 1980-1986 and ran in Strawberry canyon weekly. Please do not deforest the Berkeley hills. They are beautiful forests providing homes for many living beings that help support the whole environment. This is a travesty! Please stop. Diane Tredway Stroud

Diane Stroud
Arlington, VA 22204
May 20, 2013

As an integrative medicine physician, I find the current draft unsafe, toxic and unacceptable for the Berkeley and Oakland citizens.

Poorvi Shah
Oakland, CA 94618
May 20, 2013

It was our park as children, and should stay 'our park'

Angela
Bollnas, CA 94924
May 20, 2013

I support selective cutting of invasive species like eucalyptus but using round up is ineffective. The only way to eliminate the is to grind the stumps and annually manually cut sucker growth

Jen Komaromi
San Pablo, CA 94530
May 20, 2013

This is a disastrous plan, especially when much better options are available.

Gary Foltz
Kensington, CA 94706
May 20, 2013

Please rethink this terrible plan.

Kyrina Johnson
Oakland, CA 94611
May 20, 2013

I am totally opposed to the use of herbicide and especially of Roundup which is responsible for killings bees and butterflies and for damaging and sickening human beings. It is an attack on [rople living on or near the hills.

D Chang
Honolulu, HI 96822
May 20, 2013

Clear-cutting thousands of "tall" trees and pouring thousands of gallons of poison into the environment might be the cheapest option in terms of up-front cost, but it's also short-sighted and irresponsible. Consider the cost to people, wildlife, and the environment. Wouldn't the money be better spent on species-neutral selective thinning, eliminating ground fuel (more goats!), and helping people create and maintain defensible space, not to mention repairing and maintaining the roadways so fire crews can respond when necessary? Have you considered what will grow and thrive after you kill the trees? Do you think pouring that much poison into the ground won't have any consequences? Don't destroy our beautiful, vibrant East Bay hills!

Christy Simons
Oakland, CA 94602
May 20, 2013

re MoveOn Note: NO, I do NOT "agree to receive email messages from MoveOn.org Civic Action and MoveOn.org Political Action." I am the only one who decides what i agree to - not you!

R Belsher
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 20, 2013

Stop clear-cutting OUR trees. Not in our backyard. Do this in your own back yard. Where do you get these ideas? From the lumber companies, by any chance? Or do you just make these things up in our own teensy little minds?

Carol Haskell
Oakland, CA 94602
May 20, 2013

Please don't destroy my very favorite hiking area in the East Bay!!!

Ray McCrea
Oakland, CA 94610
May 19, 2013

This is a ridiculous thought out idea - leave the Oakland and Berkeley trees ALONE!!!!

Marie Switkes
Lafayette, CA 94549
May 19, 2013

As residents of Montclair we hear great horned owls and red-tailed hawk calls on the regular basis. These magnificent birds need the trees that are currently serving as their breeding grounds. Cutting down the trees and poisoning (!) the soil with round-up will destroy the nesting opportunities, disrupt the food chain, by killing rodents that currently serve as raptor food. Please also keep in mind that Lindsay Wildlife Museum and Hospital appeals to residents to not do tree and bush trimming between April and October, as this is the season when many trees have bird or squirrel nests in them, and babies are being raised. Thousands of birds are coming to Lindsay Wildlife during this time of the year, because tree trimmers cut down trees with baby song birds and raptors. Please do whatever trimming may be necessary during the winter months, when harm to wild life would be less devastating.

Varia Walle
Oakland, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

Our local trees are outside the purview of FEMA. I intend to stand with & on behalf of the trees when moves are made to take their lives. Our lives depend on the oxygen the trees create. I will stand with the trees.

patricia cohn
Kensington, CA 94708
May 19, 2013

Outrageous. These trees aren't diseased. FEMA has other work it should be doing, and dumping toxic pesticide to prevent regrowth? Are you guys out of your minds?

Susan
Pinole, CA 94564
May 19, 2013

Years ago FEMA conducted a study on how the mail should be delivered after a nuclear war. I seems FEMA is still on the cutting edge of insanity.

tony wilkinson
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 19, 2013

this is a ridiculous plan. I am stunned and disgusted that FEMA would consider such nonsense.

laura
Oakland, CA 94605
May 19, 2013

I am saddened by this attempt to permanently destroy much of the beauty of this region and my alma mater.

Michael Manous
Upland, CA 91784
May 19, 2013

I do see the need to remove eucalyptus and Monterey pine, but it should be done gradually. Clearcutting is a very bad option. Please leave native trees alone, and DO NOT USE ROUNDUP! Clearing ground fuels is a workable option, clearcutting would be a disaster.

Paul Belz
Oakland, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

This is absolutely ridiculous!!!! As a former Oakland AND Berkeley resident, I found great comfort in the close proximity to these very forests. Cutting this is a violation of our responsibility to care for our Earth. DO NOT LET THIS GO FORTH!

Rick Pickett
Escondido, CA 92025-4720
May 19, 2013

Ruth Frassetto

Ruth Frassetto
Richmond, CA 94707
May 19, 2013

This is a disaster !!! Stop the deforestation.

Holly Wallace
Kensington, CA 94707
May 19, 2013

Stop acting like you can just do whatever you want without care for what the people who live here want.
Grow up and recognize we have to stop clear cutting and poisoning our environment.

Ann Moorhead
Oakland, United States 94602-1320
May 19, 2013

Stop clear cutting the tress along highway 13 and poisoning the ground to prevent further growth. You are killing the environment!

Erica Riggs
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 19, 2013

This money should be spent on creating defensible spaces around homes, not on destroying our parks and recreational areas.

Jamie McGrath
San Pablo, CA 94803
May 19, 2013

Save the trees and east bay natural beauty

Nicole Ghiglieri
Oakland, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

do not destroy trees and ecosystems.

Susan Oehser
Oakland, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

Please stop this very misguided plan, which will permanently change the character of the East Bay, as well as seriously affect wildlife.

deborah bullock
oakland, CA 94602
May 19, 2013

Was any common sense used in coming up with this plan? What a truly awful and destructive plan. The dangers of Roundup have been well proven and to clear cut and clear vegetation from this beautiful area is criminal.

Teresa McBride
Mountain Ranch, CA 95246
May 19, 2013

It's insane.

Barry Wright
Gilroy, CA 95020
May 19, 2013

Don't cut the trees.!!!

nic bacon
oakland, CA 94609
May 19, 2013

Don't take these trees.

Jessica C. Waters
Oakland, CA 94602
May 19, 2013

The FEMA plan to clean up the Oakland Hills sounds very short-sighted and dangerous for the generations to come.

Charlton Tarver
Oakland, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

Leave the trees alone!!!! Have the workers fix the roads instead!!!

Alex Levy
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 19, 2013

Need more information on this decision before it makes sense to carry out!

Ashley Thomas
Oakland, CA 94618
May 19, 2013

When will people realize, if for no other reason, we need trees to clean the air we breathe?!

LCelico
Issaquah, WA 98027
May 19, 2013

Why? Rich people want it?

scott rittenburg
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 19, 2013

I oppose this plan as too damaging to our environment and as unsound and short sighted. this is not the right way to reduce fire danger in our community,

Susan Schickman
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 19, 2013

I am 100% opposed to removing 85,000 trees from Oakland and Berkeley hills.

lisa lomba
oakland, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

Since Rachel Carson started the environmental movement we have known of the significant negative impacts of the widespread and indiscriminate use of pesticides and herbicides. As an environmental health scientist, a graduate of UC Berkeley and a 15 year Berkeley resident I am appalled that this is the solution that FEMA, the cities of Oakland and Berkeley, and UC Berkeley has come up with. The environmental impact, loss of habitat and recreational areas is not acceptable. We cannot afford to hurt our already fragile ecosystem our water sources and our bay from toxic run off. The short term "benefits" of clear cutting and using toxic chemicals will be overshadowed by the long term ecological and health consequences of such a heavy handed and inappropriate approach for fire control. I urge FEMA the cities of Oakland and Berkeley and the UC Berkeley campus to find other solutions that do not involve the use of toxic chemicals.

Jessica Trowbridge
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 19, 2013

Please STOP this insanity!

Kathleen Dargis
Oakland, CA 94618
May 19, 2013

please don't let them do this. I have been to this place many times with my daughter. It is such aa beautiful place.

becky duffy
Cottonwood, AZ 86326
May 19, 2013

How did we allow the dumbest 30% of our elementary school classes to end up running things?

Jennifer Booth
Oakland, CA 94605
May 19, 2013

Healthy ecosystems means healthy humans, healthy wildlife. Your current plant is unintelligent, destructive, mindless, foolish, wasteful. Get a grip on reality in 2013.

Christine waddell
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 19, 2013

Don't waste our tax dollars on this proposal that is obviously flawed and so destructive to the Land, Animals and Humans now and in the future

Lisa Sumiyoshi
Las Vegas, NV 89129
May 19, 2013

Let local experts handle this problem. Because we understand the ecosystem. Thanks but no thanks!

Robbie Brandwynne
Oakland, CA 94608
May 19, 2013

Please stop the deforestation in Berkeley and Oakland!

Gwen Ferguson
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 19, 2013

Think before we sink

John Athanasious Pachivas
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 19, 2013

Deforestation and herbicides do not sound like a good long term plan.

Albert Reinhardt
Albany, CA 94706
May 19, 2013

Restore the Natives

Ken Katz
Oakland, CA 94610
May 19, 2013

I live here and I've seen what is being done and it's really terrible. Cleaning out some underbrush is one thing; denuding the hillsides is another. And toxic herbicide is just unacceptable. What is FEMA doing here anyway... get them out of here!!!

Jon Seidel
Oakland, CA 94602
May 19, 2013

We really need to stop this thing until more study of this issue is done. Refer to the comments done by the conservation director of the East Bay chapter of the California Native Plant Society.

david drummond
Richmond, CA 94804
May 19, 2013

Berkeley and Oakland need a rational plan for fire control. It is time to consider alternative plans like the one proposed by the HCN which does NOT require clear cutting tall trees!

Lynn Horowitz
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 19, 2013

This approach, as stated by Dan Grasseti, "The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires." is the method used in the Sierra Foothills where fire hazard is very high. I've just come from visiting this area and watched the removal people come in and use this method. This is the method advocated by UC Davis ag/tree people and it works. Fear of fire in the Berkeley/Oakland hills is great but let's not let fear keep us from finding a truly "workable for all" outcome, a compromise.

Elizabeth
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 19, 2013

This is a seriously wrong approach to solving fire risk in the Berkeley and Oakland hills. Destroying critical bird habitat; increasing erosion and sedimentation in the entire watershed and the Bay; using large amounts of herbicides that will reverberate through the ecosystem for decades to come is very heavy handed and completely unnecessary. There are more cost effective methods to reducing fire risk.

Thomas Rosenberg
Oakland, CA 94619
May 19, 2013

Leave the trees alone

Anthony poshepny
San Francisco, CA 94121
May 19, 2013

Please don't cut down the trees or use herbicides. That will really mess up the watershed down stream. I'd appreciate it if UC focused on educating students. Thank you.

Claudia Castro
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 19, 2013

Any approach MUST include re-forestation with the REAL natives: redwood trees.

Barbara Werum
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
May 19, 2013

I am beyond outraged by the current Draft EIS. I am mortified by the complete inability of FEMA, Oakland and UC to do the necessary research to determine the actual impact of what is being proposed. Just looking at the issue logically, how is it possible to clear cut an entire healthy and established forest of tens of thousands of century old trees without devastating the entire Berkeley/Oakland hills ecosystem? When rainforests are cleared, for example, what emerges in its place is a bizarre and useless landscape that has no relationship to what was there before. The rain forest never returns and one of the most important eco systems in the world is permanently destroyed. Why is the assumption being made that the elimination of the current eco-system will lead to its replacement with native plants. It will not happen by itself. Not naturally. Weeds, scrub and thistle will take over long before trees can reestablish themselves. Human intervention would have to be immediate, deliberate and efficient to save the land from becoming desolate. Who exactly is going to step forward to organize, implement and pay for a native plant restoration of the entire Oakland-Berkeley Hills? With no forest, there are several obvious ramifications that are all deleterious; Soil erosion, the resulting flooding, the adverse effects on the local climate by the release of sequestered CO2 and the destruction of a complex wildlife habitat. I know from personal experience growing up in the midwest that with the disappearance of hawks and owls due to the destruction of a forest, the predators most responsible for controlling the rodent population is removed. What is even more alarming is the proposal to dump 30,000 gallons of toxic pesticides to deal with the problem of all of the weeds and underbrush that will come with the loss of forest's canopy. Not only will this poison the soil and in all likelihood prevent the regrowth of any trees for years, how can it not also seep into the watershed as well? The desire to protect against the threat of a fire similar to what was experienced in the Oakland Hills is quite natural. However, to destroy entire forests miles away from any residences, devastate a healthy and vital ecosystem and toxically endanger the population is morally wrong. It is a gross over reaction and is by no means even remotely in the public interest. My understanding is that HCN has proposed an alternative that is less expensive, less environmentally destructive, and more effective at reducing the risk of fire. This and any other existing proposals that posit constructive options to dealing with these issues should be studied and weighed seriously by FEMA. The course currently proposed needs to be abandoned. It is ill conceived, potentially devastating and quite possibly irreparable.

Steven Fisdell
Kensington, CA 94706
May 18, 2013

This is another mistake. Don't do it.

Trisha Lee
Eureka, CA 95501
May 18, 2013

The plan is far too aggressive and will cause more damage than it supposedly prevents.

Deborah O'Grady
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 18, 2013

Please allow for the ecology of the wildlife in the Berkeley Hills to maintain by preserving the forests....their home.

Juliet Mevi-Shiflett
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 18, 2013

As a Berkeley resident, I am writing to object to the removal of so many trees by UC Berkeley in the Berkeley Hills. The rationale for this removal is supposedly fire suppression so that native trees will grow there instead. It takes a long time for trees to grow after so many are chopped down and when herbicides are used to prevent future growth. Native trees in the Strawberry Canyon area are suffering from the beetle -fungal blight and so the natives, Oaks and Bay Laurel, are dying at an alarming rate. If you want to see a fire hazard, all one has to do is walk the Strawberry Canyon trail to see the dying trees which are skeletons of their former selves and make great food for fires. What this means is that if the University really cared about fire suppression, the University would cut those dead and almost dead NATIVE trees to prevent fires there. This would be very sad, but truth is, they aren't thriving. Why does the University think that natives will thrive in the Berkeley Hills when they have no means to control this blight? I can see that the new growth of these native trees are also infected. Cutting down thousands of trees is harmful to the environment due to soil erosion and the fact that the trees are no longer helping to create oxygen to purify our air. We need those trees. In the areas where UC has already chopped down many trees, they never replanted new ones. It is unsightly and worse: there is erosion that has to be held back by tarps and other weird contraptions which are not very effective. It would be a far healthier approach to thin the Eucalyptus trees to prevent fires and leave the other non natives. But the University has a vendetta against non natives that leads to bad policy: soil erosion and loss of our air purifiers when there is no assurance that native trees can survive under the current environmental conditions that make the beetle/fungus blight so pervasive and destructive. Please do not allow this bad policy to proceed using FEMA funding. Thanks for your attention to this matter. Sincerely, Dorothea Dorenz

Dorothea Dorenz
Berkeley, CA 94706
May 18, 2013

I'm shocked and outraged by this plan. If we want to stop wildfires, organize controlled fires. Who could possibly approve roundup soaking in the ground throughout the Oakland and Berkley Hills amidst our homes?!

Loren Hadassah
San Francisco, CA 94109
May 18, 2013

Replacement of large swaths of non-native forest species to native species, but be done gradually to not destroy ecosystems and the habitat that many species rely on. Moreover, the use of toxic herbicides must not be allowed because it pollutes the air, soil and water especially with the runoff that will occur. It will also pollute wildlife. This plan is extremely destructive.

Barbara Beth
San Francisco, CA 94119
May 18, 2013

It actually sounds like there are secret fundamentalist Christians among the ranks of FEMA who are awaiting the Rapture. Rapturists believe that if every tree is cut down that Jesus will return. May I remind those in positions of government power in this case : this country was founded on the sound idea of NOT mixing church with state and federal policies. An EIS is supposed to be based on science, NOT superstition. WHAT ARE YOU THINKING ?? Even if you as a decision maker in this backwards plan are not a Rapturist, your plan is just as shortsighted. The cradle of Creation & Life ~ IS the Earth, the Natural World. Our compassion and care for this Original Mother is critical for our survival AND the survival of our Beloved Community of the Creatures with whom we share this Eden. Among the MOST IMPORTANT members of this Beloved Community are the Tree People. Scientifically TREES are the Frontline in our battle against Climate Change. If the Trees Go ~ Human Life will Suffer. If you think adding injury to trauma by coating the ground with herbicides is somehow a positive step, then please move your family to this watershed... Or better yet just have a pitcher of iced herbicider on your picnic table and drink it straight away. This should be no problem since you think it's a good idea to feed it to the Berkeley & Oakland Hills and waterways, wildlife and to our children. If you do not retract this insane plan that will have the OPPOSITE EFFECT of your STATED INTENTION (unless your hidden agenda is to offer a no bid contract to your chemical cronies), then we will stand in your way. Let the chaining begin.

Rev Alexandra Childs
Alameda, CA 94501
May 18, 2013

FEMA is an organization that has a poor track record...please let the community and the organizations that are familiar with the community be a real voice for how we should approach solving problems, whether environmental, social, political, etc.

Angel Ryono
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 18, 2013

Please DO NOT kill these trees

Heather Young
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 18, 2013

I am a native of Berkeley, and I find this plan just wildly skewed. What are they thinking? It flies in the face of science and aesthetics both.

John Tenney
lafayette, CA 94549
May 18, 2013

Do not clear cut trees as it creates fires, ruins habitats, and destroys the natural environment to sustain the local ecosystem of animals and living creatures!

Connie Arnold
Elk Grove, CA 95758
May 18, 2013

In protection of our tree friends, the environment and all the other risks involved!

chris
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 18, 2013

The Oakland forestry is beautiful (and safe) just the way it is. I love the native and non-native trees. Please don't ruin my weekly hike by butchering these preserves.

Angela Carlo
Oakland, CA 94605
May 18, 2013

Are they inSANE?! We need those trees to live!

geoffrey albertson
Piedmont, CA 94610
May 18, 2013

Don't cut down anymore trees in my city!

Anjali Rojas
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 18, 2013

This has been tried many times before and has never worked -- we get years of denuded hills and then the eucalypts come back. Eg, Strawberry Canyon was stripped of eucalyptus after a freeze in the 1970s, and look at it now. This is absolutely the wrong approach.

Gary Fitts
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 18, 2013

leave the trees and stop poisoning the land.. p l e a s e

linda perme
Hayward, CA 94541
May 18, 2013

Biodiversity is essential to our survival. Let's not hurt ourselves anymore than we have already, please.

Peter Aguirre
Bremerton, WA 98312
May 18, 2013

This flawed EIS must be retracted and alternatives for healthy and fire safe ecosystems presented.

sylvia sykora
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

There's a reason we live in the hills -- the trees and the beauty they provide. You kill them off in such a destructive, hazardous way and you put us at risk, too.

Amy
Kensington, CA 94708
May 18, 2013

I do not support the proposed draft EIS. This must not be allowed.

Jill Kaplan
Oakland, CA 94608
May 18, 2013

Please save our hills and preserve the natural integrity of the land as it is now

Amy Glazer
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

Eucalyptus stumps can be successfully "killed" with physical means-carpets, black plastic, etc. to avoid toxic chemicals. Brush can be controlled by goats, wild horses and people who need the jobs. Every clear cutting should be connected to planned restoration, replacing Eucalyptus with Redwoods, Bucheyes, Toyons, etc. the native trees of the area, which do not contain the flammable oils nor shed like Eucalyptus do. Erosion prone slopes need to be planted with soil holding plants. This project needs a more constructive, not just destructive focus.

Emily Benner
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 18, 2013

This is an extreme proposal with negative implications which far outweigh any impact on fire prevention.

Jackie Care
oakland, CA 94602
May 18, 2013

Your proposed actions are so misguided with all the knowledge that we have so far about climate change.
What are you thinking?

Gloria Milhoan
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 18, 2013

Among other issues such as destroying the habitat of raptors and thousands of other living creatures; causing a fire hazard AND by cutting down 100,000 trees destroying the real estate value of all the homes in the East Bay. The hills are our refuge, whether we live up there, have views of them from our homes; bike, hike and spend wonderful times there. What on earth is FEMA thinking? This is insane that we even have to spend our precious time and energy to combat such an outrageous proposed action.

Nancy Maloney
Oakland, CA 94602
May 18, 2013

the plan sounds extreme and more dangerous than beneficial to the environment

louise clubb
berkeley, CA 94705
May 18, 2013

THEY AREN'T YOUR TREES TO CUT!!!

Dave Mellish
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

Please research a less toxic option.

Kevin Gianni
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 18, 2013

This is an outrage! It's like Angelina Jolie cutting off her breasts because she 'might' get cancer... only worse!

Leah
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

Since when filling an area with chopped (soon dry) wood is reducing a fire hazard?

Massimo Barbagallo
Van Nuys, CA 91401
May 18, 2013

Please, learn from the way this has failed across the nation in the past. Think beyond only the next couple of years.

Brennan Martin
Iowa City, IA 52245
May 18, 2013

This is too much tree removal in too short of period of time. There needs to be a plan for replanting trees in the decimated areas plus no use of herbicides.

CAROLYN MAHONEY
OAKLAND, CA 94618
May 18, 2013

A native of El Cerrito.

Carter West
Malden, MA 02148
May 18, 2013

I used to live near that neighborhood. There has to be a better way of achieving fire safety than this plan.

John Vigran
Fairfax, CA 94930
May 18, 2013

No round up!!!

Pam Fischer
Concord, CA 94518
May 18, 2013

Please keep the Bay Area beautiful and healthy! Our lives depend on it!!!

Stacey Sobel
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 18, 2013

www.moreTreesclothing.com

meghan clifford
sf, CA 94107
May 18, 2013

This this so gross! Stop this!

Ingrid Pollyak
San Leandro, CA 94577
May 18, 2013

We don't want this project to take place. It is not well thought out and includes spraying a huge amount of an herbicide that will be terribly harmful to the environment. Stop now!

Kathy Ottesen
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

As an Oakland resident, I strongly oppose the clear-cutting of 25,000 trees in Berkeley and 60,000 more in Oakland. This project is a irresponsible and inappropriate use of our government's limited resources. After reviewing the project, it is clear this project will not achieve its stated objectives but rather increases the risk to the environment and the public.

Chelsea Loveall
Oakland, CA 94605
May 18, 2013

This is a terrible plan. How is the massive use of herbicides restoration?

Robin Wells
Oakland, CA 94610
May 18, 2013

What is wrong with government! This is a short cut to fire hazard, instead of an important approach that would require more work, clearing dry grasses, trimming tress, etc. They want a quick fix, cutting down trees. Well established trees that are helping to reduce pollution, soil retention and so much more for the environment!

morgan monet
El Cerrito, CA 94530
May 18, 2013

Ecologically responsible planning, please.

Duncan Gibbs
Seattle, WA 98122
May 18, 2013

This deforestation measure must be halted. I disagree with this move.

kaellyn moss
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 18, 2013

this would be rape of nature and outright murder of beauty, health, nature, and people (through poisons)....how can humans become this disconnected from mother earth?

Linda Johnson Walker
San Leandro, CA 94709
May 18, 2013

RoundUp is not a part of any sound ecological plan.

Tanisha Lopes
Philatelic Center, CA 94612
May 18, 2013

I completely agree with this petition statement. Please DO NOT follow through with this plan.

Judy Levit
Oakland, CA 94602
May 18, 2013

Hello, Can we see maps of current tree population distribution, and what is been proposed. What the ecology norm is for restoration, function of the watershed systems in place. Where are the reports? Thanks! Luigi

Luigi
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

Public health is at stake, not to mention the hills' health itself!

Katherine Terhune
Redwood City, CA 94061
May 18, 2013

Save the trees!

Kristina McVay
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 18, 2013

Stop cutting the trees!!!!

Curtis Overcash
Charlotte, NC 28211
May 18, 2013

WHAT is WRONG with you people??? We need MORE TREES, not FEWER!!! Why are you intent on destroying our country and making it a wasteland? This is a terrible idea and you should be legally prosecuted for even thinking of it!

C. Benedict
Renton, WA 98059
May 18, 2013

PLEASE STOP the deforestation in Berkeley/Oakland Hills....

Bonnie Lou Johnson
Dunsmuir, CA 96025
May 18, 2013

if ucb is really interested in fire prevention maybe they could get rid of the mountain of wood chips near the abandoned building on clark kerr right at the foot of claremont hills as the fire dept asked them to last year.

autumn dann
berkeley, CA 94705
May 18, 2013

This is an obscene use of public funds. Please retract this EIS.

Aaron Juchau
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 18, 2013

Are you nuts!

JB
Oakland, CA 94603
May 18, 2013

I hike in these canyons all the time and they hold value to me that is beyond measure. If they are clear cut, I will feel like a little part of my soul has died. Furthermore, your collusion with Monsanto to poison our canyons is unacceptable and an alternative must be reached. Think of the families who enjoy these public spaces every day, the children who will be poisoned by this herbicide. Wake up to the destruction you are about to unleash on the heart, soul and body of the east bay.

Damian Sol
Oakland, CA 94602
May 18, 2013

We live in the hills because of the trees. It is part of my family heritage. Clearcutting is bad for the stability of the hillside. If the government offered financial assistance for homeowners to manage the fire safety of their land to the benefit of all, then this would be a more sensible step in the right direction. By the way, it's nearly impossible to remove eucalyptus, so you'd use up all your money trying and then fail. We went through this in the 70's after the big freeze. Those trees are still there, despite the fact that we cut them all down.

Christina Weiland
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

Don't cut them down. There is so little forestry in the Bay Area, we want and need all we have.

Dane Williams
Alameda Pt, CA 94501
May 18, 2013

Please consider less destructive alternatives that achieve the same goal. Our future generations depend on it.

Deborah Butler
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 18, 2013

Outrageous on so many level's. Taking away habitation for wildlife, beauty for the environment, exposure to damaging toxins, human interference creates environmental hazards increasing risk of wild fires and landslides.

tracy taguchi
alameda, CA 94501
May 18, 2013

"Native" from when? Is there a plan to create oak forests in place of what we have now? If so, how to keep the oaks from dying from "sudden oak" death? How to maintain animal habitat and ecological stability in the meantime? If not oaks, then what? "Native" trees should not be the only criteria for survival, especially because conditions have changed. We need a plan that takes into account the complex, present-day realities of environment, ecosystem, climate and human population, and all of this in the most resource-efficient way. No easy task, but one that obviously requires the best minds from many different disciplines working together. This dramatic plan to de-nude hillsides and douse them with pesticides seems a bit shortsighted and simplistic.

Nancy Ragle
Piedmont, CA 94602
May 18, 2013

SAVE THE TREES!!! SAVE NATURE!!

Samie Blasingame
Lakewood, CA 90712
May 18, 2013

FEMA or the federal government should not pay to clean up after the UC regents. UC in their infinite wisdom planted eucalyptus trees and the financial burden should be on Cal Capital projects not taxpayers. Feds ought to investigate UC administration for misappropriation of taxpayer funds.

Michael Eli
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 18, 2013

Stop destroying my city

John butterfield
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 18, 2013

I have asthma and will be greatly effected. I work in Berkeley and the smoke will harm my health!!

Tamara Reyes
El Sobrante, CA 94803
May 18, 2013

The pine forest near my home is a thing of beauty, really a rain forest, creating rain from the fog. I have enjoyed it since I was a child; I am 68 years old. It is full of many creatures, lots of owls and hawks, foxes, coyotes and pumas; many species of trees (watered by the rain from the pines). I have photos. Trim it but don't cut it down.

Warren Chick
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

What else can be done to stop this atrocity!?

Julie Denison
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 18, 2013

I grew up in the Berkeley hills, and spent every day after school in Tilden Park. There have been no fires in the 50 years that I have spent wondering through this wonderful and wild woodland. These parks are homes to thousands of wild creatures; all of whom support our fragile ecosystem. There are even rare and endangered species like the red legged frog who have survived here, and who would be threatened with extinction with this proposed destruction of their ecosystem. I am sure the Audubon Society would be greatly concerned about the migratory birds who seek shelter there on their way up and down the coast as well. This proposal is an outrage, and has total disregard for the true environmental impacts of such a massive deforestation project. I am also sure that Silvia McGlaughlin who spent years cleaning up our Bay would strenuously object to all the planned pesticides entering and polluting our waterways. I will do everything in my power to halt this environmentally destructive proposal. I will stand up for the trees and creatures who have no voice in this debate
Melissa Waahburn

Melissa Washburn
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 18, 2013

Habitat destruction does not equal habitat improvement.

Catherine Tyler
Oakland, CA 94608
May 18, 2013

No Round Up in our hills! Don't do this. I am STRONGLY OPPOSED!

Rhonda Collins
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

I object to the EIS as written. The CO2 analysis as I read it talks about the impact created by the project and the potential impact in the event of a fire. There is no analysis of the impact of tree removal and conversion to grassland, which is the plan for a lot of the EBRPD properties, e.g. carbon sequestration. In addition, there is no discussion of the difference in fire hazard of grassland versus forest, it seems to be grassland is more, not less, susceptible. It seems to me that there are large ecological changes planned which are not adequately covered impacting both the social use of these areas as well as plant and animal life. I would support the elimination of Eucalyptus and Monterey Pine and their replacement by native forest, especially a plan which included reforestation with native redwood which was in much greater abundance in these hills prior to logging to construct San Francisco in 1847-49, and prior to the Eucalyptus planting in the 1880s.

Joe Van Steen
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 18, 2013

Destroying our forests cannot be undone, and is much broader than just the forest itself.

Jan Santos
Alameda, CA 94501
May 18, 2013

I urge FEMA to retract the EIA clear-cutting, toxic dispersal of ROUNDUP or any other insecticide on our beautiful hills in Berkeley and Oakland.

janet lenihan
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 18, 2013

This is outrageous!! And TOTALLY unacceptable.

Leora Lange
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 18, 2013

Although I would support transitioning these areas to native forest and reducing fire hazard I do not support a removal with out replanting plan and can't support the chemical use

Kimberly Chilvers
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 18, 2013

I am outraged by this plan.

beate lohser
Oakland, CA 94619
May 18, 2013

Keep the trees

Christopher Cook
Oakland, CA 94618
May 18, 2013

The worst part is the secrecy of the meetings to take public comment. I live in the neighborhood and there were no signs posted, etc.

Marilyn Singleton
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

We are against this deforestation. Other options should be considered first. Too toxic.

Joanne judt
Oakland, CA 94611
May 18, 2013

Our hills do not deserve to be flooded with toxins whatever the cost. There are so many consequences to this, not the least of which is the fact that now the land will be primed for any hardy herbicide resistant invador to take over anyway! Please find a better more sustainable way. This impacts people.

Jennifer Henry
San Diego, CA 92116
May 18, 2013

Just plain dum and wrong :(((

Josh Bevelacqua
Piedmont, CA 94166
May 18, 2013

This won't work!

Susan Carter
Merced, CA 95340
May 18, 2013

Strongly oppose for all the stated reasons. In addition, this does not take into account the changing climate - we are experiencing increasing death of "native" conifers due to bark beetle infestation and pollution and ozone layer depletion. Many areas of our beautiful native oaks are succumbing to sudden oak death. It is very likely that the healthy, vigorous species may be the only species that will survive within the near future. Second, the areas which have already been treated are a blight. Ugly stumps and logs and horrible and flammable opportunistic weeds have grown. Deforestation is a short-sighted plan which will benefit no one except those companies supplying the herbicides. This is a truly horrible idea and must not be allowed.

BarbRoberts
Piedmont, CA 94618
May 18, 2013

These projects would permanently alter the Berkeley/Oakland hills ecosystem. UC and Oakland will clearcut tens of thousands of mature, healthy trees, some more than 100 feet tall and more than 100 years old. You won't see tall trees in the hills any more. What you will see, as soon as the rain stops, will be weeds and highly flammable brush, brown, dry, and ready to burst into flame.

Jennifer Krishnan
Richmond, CA 94805
May 18, 2013

Dont do it.

Oliver Maddox
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 18, 2013

Obviously, all of us need as many trees in the world as possible...

Michael Brückner
Ober-Olm, Germany
May 18, 2013

Don't you dare spend my tax money on this!!!

Cheri russell
Oakland, CA 94607
May 18, 2013

50,000 trees clean tons of carbon from our air helping to combat global warming. FEMA needs to wake up and not destroy our environment.

Richard K Bacon
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 18, 2013

Please save our trees and do not pollute the environment for our children. There are much better ways for FEMA to spend money and also to prevent fires. p

Michael Sondin
Oakland, CA 94601
May 18, 2013

I am an Oakland resident and I grew up in Berkeley and I am vehemently opposed to the proposed clear cutting of 85,000 trees in the Berkeley and Oakland parks. This is an outrage! Please reconsider this short sighted and environmentally damaging plan. Using an herbicide such as round-up in our hills is unacceptable! This is a beautiful wilderness area that is not a danger to the people or animals who inhabit this land. In the 30 years I have lived here there has been only ONE major fire that destroyed homes in these hills. These are not bad odds and it seems much less safe to be cutting down the trees and ruining countless habitats and poisoning the earth and ground water. This is an outrage and the timing of it (while the students who might protest this decision are in finals and/or on summer break) is SHAMEFUL.

Rainbow Schwartz
Oakland, CA 94610
May 17, 2013

This is an atrocious idea.

tim johnson
davis, CA 95616
May 17, 2013

Surely, FEMA, you must know all the detrement this will cause to the hills, erosion, the animals, and all living things in the area!! Don't do this drastic thing.

Jay Krohnengold
Oakland, CA 94606
May 17, 2013

poor judgement, and likely ineffective we need other alternatives submitted.

ellis gold
el sobrante, CA 94803-2409
May 17, 2013

This is an extremely harmful "plan" -- don't do it!

Jenna Gomez
Sunol, CA 94586
May 17, 2013

I think perhaps we ought to subject ideological predilections to some sort of cost-benefit analysis. Benefit to the community as a whole, that is.

Charles Stuart Coolidge
santa rosa, CA 95403
May 17, 2013

I grew up in this area and I can't imagine it without the trees.

Martha Ramirez
Garden Grove, CA 92843
May 17, 2013

This is misguided and extremely unwise. If for no other reason, the use of this herbicide alone would call for a halt to this project.

Elaine Lee
Alameda, CA 94501
May 17, 2013

This tactic will certainly add to the co2 problem and harm the ground and water run off

Margaret mulligan
Oakland, CA 94618
May 17, 2013

We need a more balanced plan, and one with very gradual implementation to give animals and birds and people time to adapt and adjust.

Nancy Carleton
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 17, 2013

Trees are a natural resource. Eucalyptus trees in particular, while not native to the Berkeley Hills, are fire-RESISTANT, especially compared to native chaparral. Please save these trees!

Debbie Notkin
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

Are you kidding? Why would you cut down 100 year old trees?

Andrea Pinkerton
Petaluma, CA 94954
May 17, 2013

As an alumni from the Department of Integrative Biology at UC Berkley and lifelong resident of Berkeley, I am appalled by this proposal. Fire danger will only increase with clear-cutting the non-native trees and harmful runoff to Strawberry Creek and ultimately the Bay will only increase.

Maya deVries
Kensington, CA 94707
May 17, 2013

'native plant' is relative. All species were introduced sometime into an environment where they didn't exist before. Stop this nonsense! Listen to the folks who live where this destruction will be carried out!

John Wagner
Princeton by the Sea, CA 94019
May 17, 2013

The lack of transparency that has characterized this program is alarming and wrong. The plan as it stands would do more harm than good. It should not go forward in its current state.

PAUL JACOBS
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 17, 2013

Bad use of money. Causes environmental damage. Could cause erosion and more probability of fire.

Jean M. Rains
Oakland, CA 94618
May 17, 2013

This also applies to Wildcat Canyon in the Richmond hills. This plan will lead to more fires that the wind spreads to nearby homes, not fewer.

Indigo Dutton
Oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

Stop this waste and devastation! There are better ways to stop fires, and more safely at that! Linda

Linda Jacobs
Oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

please don't destroy the trees that are our elders. please respect their lives just like you value yours. we have immigrants in this country that are valuable citizens, just like trees who found a new home - local people and animals love and need them. Thank you

Dasha Segal
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 17, 2013

I used to live in Berkeley and spent many happy days wandering around Strawberry Creek and Wildcat Canyon. The FEMA EIS as is represents really poor planning. Clear-cutting this area will probably give us mudslides every time there is heavy rain, doing more harm than good, and will likely result in the long run in an even worse fire hazard as scrub and invasive species move in. Manage the land properly. You could, for example, consult with local California Indian groups (such as the Coast Miwok), who have been managing this land with controlled burning and other methods for millenia.

James Flexner
Turner, Australia
May 17, 2013

This is insanity! Please keep poisons out of the environment! This could cause many more problems than it could ever solve, it needs to be shut down.

Diane Starner-Gillespie
Valley Springs, CA 95252
May 17, 2013

I hike often in the Regional Parks and Claremont Canyon. I understand these regions have non-native trees, but I don't know how realistic it is to attempt a return to an earlier ecosystem in one fell swoop. How many years will there be only wood chips and no tree canopy in these areas? Can a more balanced approach be developed that removes these trees gradually, maintaining an appealing forest in the process? I also know that eucalyptus poses a fire hazard but destroying the canopy also poses a fire hazard...

Margaret Rossoff
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

FEMA... Eh, not so surprised by yet again another one of your evil schemes. UC... I'm appalled to hear you have your hands in this and are dipping them in round-up to rip up the trees and choke the cute little critters? Horrible and how will that stop fires? Find another way!!!!

Shannon Magee
Benicia, CA 94510
May 17, 2013

Respect our natural trees resources. Northern California is beautiful please keep her that way.

Elidia Juarez
Pomona, CA 91766
May 17, 2013

Please stop this senseless destruction of Berkeley's beautiful landscape.

April Topfer
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 17, 2013

No herbicides, and no clear cutting, and let nature take its course -

Arend Thomas
Weed, CA 96094
May 17, 2013

The project is bizarre, destructive, misguided, and defies common sense and modern science. The native plant movement is a strange cult.

Morley M Singer
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 17, 2013

Please do not cut down the d oaks and then be spraying roundup kinds of herbicides to control weed. People choose to live in the hills because of the scenery the fresh air and the wildlife in the hills. It sounds like the decimation of the clear cutting in Amzonia

Maria Nunes
Roseburg, CA 97470
May 17, 2013

Clearcutting our trees and poisoning our land with Round Up is unnecessary, heinous, and unacceptable!

Esther Malke Singer
Oakland, CA 94602
May 17, 2013

What a waste of money!

Alex Hughes
Forest Knolls, CA 94933
May 17, 2013

This is where I live and hike - these trees create our clean air, our beautiful weather, and our amazing trails. A mistake to take them away. Very very sad. Also mad. Jessie who lives really near them

Jessie ortiz
Oakland, CA 94619
May 17, 2013

I lived in and hiked these hills for five years with my son and dogs. Don't destroy them!

John Eppley
Hopdale, MA 01747
May 17, 2013

How are native species supposed to return if all this RoundUp is going to be in the soil and if they are not being planted?

Janet Flemer
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 17, 2013

PLEASE DONT DO THIS.

Tom Ferguson
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 17, 2013

This is the MOST costly in terms of ecosystems damage and funding possible. Lets review actual solutions before moving toward poor decisions.

lynn schooler
tacoma, WA 98404
May 17, 2013

there are more thoughtful ways of removing non-natives while protecting residents from fires. We need to think about those hills and our fisheries as well. This plan is a quick, cheap, and dirty "fix" that will affect our hills and waterways for a generation. Let's get the eucalyptus out -- but in a way that we won't regret come next rainy season.

Michael Small
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 17, 2013

Do not destroy what is natural and what nature truly intended. These trees is what helps us stay healthy and alive.

Danielle
Oakland, CA 94607
May 17, 2013

I am stunned and appalled that this plan is even being considered. It will wreak devastation on habitats for wildlife for years to come and spread poison throughout the hills as well as cause erosion.

Betsy Levine
Oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

I live adjacent to Tilden and the UC acreage and do not want to see the beautiful land decimated nor do I want to be exposed to the herbicides. Stop this III

Rick Giachino
Orinda, CA 94563
May 17, 2013

insanity

Kevin Cole
San Jose, CA 95110
May 17, 2013

Please no clear cutting!! People need the space and land to connect to the environment and to the earth.
Haven't we devastated our natural environment enough???

Resa Williamson
Underhill, VT 05489
May 17, 2013

Trees are the best way to prevent landslides and other expensive things

Carol Wolf
Seattle, WA 98101
May 17, 2013

This is clearly against the public will, I have not met a single bay area resident who thinks this is not absurd.
STOP FEMA

nima torabi
San francisco, CA 94103
May 17, 2013

Cheri Dutiel

Cheri Dutiel
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 17, 2013

save the trees!

Lindsay Taylor
San Jose, CA 95138
May 17, 2013

This is a terrible proposal and should not be implemented under any circumstances!

Daniel Mason
Oakland, CA, CA 94618
May 17, 2013

Please don't destroy this area.

Michael Rasmussen
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 17, 2013

This is the most ridiculous proposal I've ever heard.. Shame on UC Berkeley!

Benjamin Smith
berkeley, CA 94702
May 17, 2013

Please do not destroy the habitat and the landscape! There are other options!!!! This is NOT the way to stop hill fires!!

Janet Smith
Oakland, CA 94618
May 17, 2013

Stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills

Rebecca Novak
Groveland, CA 95321
May 17, 2013

This is not the way to stop fire. Talk to Salloy about bringing in Cattle.

Laura Daughenbaugh
Vashon Island, WA 98070
May 17, 2013

FEMA should totally revise and reduce their plan, with no clear-cutting of tall trees, no Roundup, no burning - just focus on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder. Their current plans are a disaster waiting to happen.

Margaret Christoffer
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

There has to be another "agenda" behind this stupid idea! One issue that hasn't been brought up is that without trees, all living things will be even more weakened by the relentless purposeful poisonings via Chemtrail toxic stews dumped into the air in that area. Trees work to filtrate the air giving us oxygen. The herbicides will certainly increase cancers. This stupid idea will terraform the area into deserts devoid of life. FEMA continues to digress deeper into anti-life actions rather than promote life actions.

Pat MacKey
Sulphur Springs, TX 78654
May 17, 2013

The forest on the hills surrounding our city is very important: for our watershed, for the slope stability and for the habitat of the animals and all organisms that inhabit the area. They also improve our air quality, mitigate sediment runoff into the bay and it is imperative that they are protected.

Lucas Oshun
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

I would rather live with the risk of fire in the hills than the assured destruction that will be caused by this ill-conceived scheme!

Phil Brown
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 17, 2013

This is an I'll advised plan that will damage the environment.

Ross Charney
Alameda, CA 94502
May 17, 2013

My dogs and i hike this canyon every weekend. Its paradise. Dont you dare touch it.

Sara Strong
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 17, 2013

As a life long tree lover I can't imagine this action being considered in the public interest. Since when does cutting down thousands of trees and spraying a toxic chemical serve anyone's best interest except perhaps those getting paid to do this. Not my idea of good government policy or practice.

Anne E. Walker
Tecumseh, MI 49286
May 17, 2013

bring it on.

Jonathan Cooksey
San Francisco, CA 94130
May 17, 2013

I'd rather have a potential fire hazard that hasn't caused any harm than a clear cut doused in chemicals that WILL cause harm.

Matthew Sigurd Law
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

you cannot do that and not think about the repercussions, on birds, insects and other wild life and humans.
Any huge changes such as this, will alter life for animals and us. Do not cut down these trees

anne bossert
pinole, CA 94564
May 17, 2013

No clear cutting and certainly NO Roundup!

Rebecca Stewart
Sacramento, CA 95833
May 17, 2013

I urge you to halt any clear-cuts in the Berkeley-Oakland Hills, California, and to review the Draft EIS use of herbicide and a bludgeoning approach to habitat destruction in an ecosystem that is over 150 years old.

Sherry Fuzesy
El Sobrante, CA 94803
May 17, 2013

Sequestration of Federal funds appears already to be starving the National Parks. Where did they find the money for this proposed devastation?

William Sharp
Oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

It's unbelievable that we're even considering deforesting one of the most beautiful hillsides in the world!

Jesse Gibson
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 17, 2013

PLEASE consider the devastating long-term costs of deforestation in your analysis of which is truly the more expensive option.

Sara Taylor
Oakland, CA 94607
May 17, 2013

We like our trees just fine that you.

Amy Law
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

Stop deforestation

kevin hsieh
Woodside, CA 94061
May 17, 2013

Stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills

Edwin Chavez
Panorama City, CA 91402
May 17, 2013

Oakland (and Berkeley) need MORE trees, not less trees! We have more urgent funding priorities, we don't want toxins spread in our region and we value our trees and habitats.

Mark Fritzel
Oakland, CA 94612
May 17, 2013

Selective cutting and no chemicals!

Robyn Duffy
Oakland, CA 94608
May 17, 2013

It's okay to cut down invasive non-native species, just don't use chemicals and replant native species.

Jimena Saravia
San Francisco, CA 94115
May 17, 2013

I understand the impulse to control non-native plants, but this plan seems scientifically shaky and dangerous in the extreme. the similar procedure on Angel Island certainly dire long-term effects as the last 60 years have demonstrated. if this plan is enacted, we can expect erosion, greater fire risk from spreading grasses, more aggressively invasive non-native species, unkown and potentially dire threats to health and ecology. it is a terrible idea and it is hard to see who benefits from it besides vendors of Roundup. Please, please call off this horrible plan.

Ezra Buchla
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 17, 2013

I want to raise my voice against the current draft EIS of FEMA's. It would be a travesty for many reasons. These are just a few: the risk of wildfires will more than likely be increased, not reduced; by distributing tons of dead wood onto bare ground, you will be creating dangerous conditions; by eliminating shade and fog drip which moistens the forest floor, you will be making ignition more likely; by destroying the windbreak that is a barrier to wind driven fires typical of , you will be creating just the situation you want to avoid; by expanding the oak-bay woodland being killed by Sudden Oak Death, you will be adding more dead wood * These projects will damage the environment by releasing hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from the destroyed trees, thereby contributing to climate change. * These projects will endanger the public by dousing our public lands with thousands of gallons of toxic herbicides. * Erosion is likely on steep slopes when the trees are destroyed and their roots are killed with herbicides. * Non-native vegetation such as broom, thistle, and hemlock are more likely occupants of the unshaded, bared ground than native vegetation which will not be planted by these projects.

sue Hammond
redlands, CA 92374
May 17, 2013

Are you people insane? What will you do without trees? Build more houses that are too expensive for 99% of the population? Yeah, great!

Lindsey Sampson
San Francisco, CA 94121
May 17, 2013

I was a Berkeley resident for forty years, and know how backwards the Berkeley idea of progress can be sometimes.

Nathan Stout
Vallejo, CA 94590
May 17, 2013

If this permitted it will set a precedence for more such destruction at a time we have a global warming causing severe climate change.

Charles Ling
San Francisco, CA 94121
May 17, 2013

There must be a better way. This is heavy handed and unnecessary.

Jon-Paul Kelly
San Francisco, CA 94134
May 17, 2013

We need to do the careful, small steps to protect our precious hills. Especially we need to cut down on use of toxic herbicides and destroying habitats. Cutting the tallest trees is folly.

Mary Prophet
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 17, 2013

BOOOOOO YO00000000U

marissa
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 17, 2013

This FEMA effort belies their very name. The plan is sure to create emergencies. In the grand, sudden, "we know best" manner of the Army Corp of Engineers, terrible things are done in huge proportion that result in exactly what they claim to be preventing.

David Dresser
Berkeley, CA 94707-1816
May 17, 2013

Absurd and only winner is Monsanto (major influence on UC Berkeley policy). How about more goats...

Theodora Crawford
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 17, 2013

When I heard this week that the federal government would be funding the clear-cutting of 85,000 beautiful Berkeley and Oakland trees, including 22,000 in historic Strawberry and Claremont Canyon, my initial reaction was disbelief. The trees in Strawberry and Claremont Canyon have been there for decades and hardly constitute a "hazard." But pouring 1400 gallons of herbicide on the currently pristine hills will create a real hazard, and UC Berkeley even plans to use the highly toxic herbicide "Roundup" to squelch the return of non-native vegetation. PLASE do NOT let FEMA do this.

emily davis
Berkeley, CA 94710
May 17, 2013

Have you people lost your minds?

Christopher Cisper
m, CA 95460
May 17, 2013

Don't do it!!! Trees are key!

Alys
Mendocino, CA 95460
May 17, 2013

Stop deforestation everywhere, not just Berkeley. We already have so many vacant homes, apartments and commercial buildings. Stop the insanity.

jung wi
san jose, CA 95136
May 17, 2013

Dumping RoundUp everywhere is the opposite of intelligent. I thought this was California, where people think....

Nathan Wong
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 17, 2013

I am absolutely sickened by this. Round up kills plants so what do you think it does to people??? 1400 gallons of it is going to DESTROY our health.

Carmen
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 17, 2013

Oakland needs trees!

kelsie hubik
Mendocino, CA 95460
May 17, 2013

Stop destroying the trees.

Martin Anthony Cicalla Junior
oakland, CA 94605
May 17, 2013

Please guys and girls. This is not worth whatever crazy scheme you are all trying to pull off. Dont destroy this (our) land...

Ajmal Nawabi
Antioch, CA 94531
May 17, 2013

We love our trees!

Darby Ruggeri
Oakland, CA 94612
May 17, 2013

Please reconsider what the public has to say. No one that has heard about this agrees that it is smart to poison our environment.

Lauren
Stockton, CA 95219
May 17, 2013

Don't deplete our beautiful oxygen and destroy future growth!

Kaycee Mills
Oakland, CA 94612
May 17, 2013

Trading in fire hazard for landslide hazard. Killing beautiful trees. Poisoning the water through seepage into the groundwater and streams via storm run off. This is an insidious way for UCB to clear for future development on the tax payers dollar. MONSANTO ROUND UP NOT WELCOME. No replanting schedule. This plan stinks all around!!!!!! Not to mention the destruction and further encroachment of wildlife habitat.

Claudia Cinelli
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 17, 2013

At the very least this program should be slowed down to allow for alternative proposals / timetables.

Josh Simpson
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 17, 2013

Do NOT take these trees down. I drive and bike up in that area on the regular, and it's one of the last few places in Oakland that actually has any wildlife! Please do not make this more of a concrete urban jungle!

Richard Carlson
oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

DO NOT DO THIS TO OUR CITIES FORESTS!!!!!!!

Annette Musick
Oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

despicable project

linda stout
vallejo, CA 94590
May 17, 2013

Please do not cut down these trees. Leaving millions of pounds of dead wood on the ground actually increases fire risk, defaces the environment and increases erosion. This is a totally inappropriate use of funds by FEMA and completely out of sync with the will of the people that live in the area.

David Keenan
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 17, 2013

Certainly UC Berkeley would want to protect itself against wildfire, but the current Draft EIS seems an egregious overkill. The petition suggests a much more reasonable approach. Plus, as the University built its football stadium directly upon the Hayward earthquake fault, I wonder just how really genuine their safety consciousness is, and whether there may be some additional agenda involved in clearing that land. This latter comment is merely speculation, as I have no real knowledge of their motives.

Diane Winters
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

This is a horrible idea , and wasting taxpayer dollars in this way is really unthinkable ! There are much better ways to control and thin vegetation !!!

Nancy Aktas
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
May 17, 2013

We need to keep our environment sustainable for as long as possible. Nothing good will come of this deforestation.

Bonny Lew
San Francisco, CA 94122
May 17, 2013

This is totally unacceptable.

heather
oakland, CA 94606
May 17, 2013

no way.

karl bartlett
Sausalito, CA 94966
May 17, 2013

This is unacceptable and it is appalling that Berkeley wouldn't have the mind to see that.

Krystal Smith
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 17, 2013

Cutting thousands of trees eliminates carbon sequestration that we need. This is short-sighted and incredibly arrogant and destructive.

Charlene Woodcock
Berkeley, CA 94709-1315
May 17, 2013

This plan to try and solve a few problems is going to create a lot more.

Kenneth Samreuang
San Lorenzo, CA 94580
May 17, 2013

There's no way to return to the world as it was before both Europeans and European plants came to California. Selective elimination, where possible, of aggressive weed species like Scotch Broom, or their diminishment, is all that should be attempted.

James Sweeney
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 17, 2013

Leave the trees alone!!! It will cause so much Damage!! Erosion, smoke pollution, roundup is awful, the city needs it's trees! the heat index will rise causing more fires! When has there been crazy fires caused by trees in Oakland? For such an "environment friendly" city, this is such a shock. Leave em be!

Chelsea Merritt
Santa Cruz, CA 95062
May 17, 2013

These projects are more likely to increase the risk of wildfires than to reduce that risk. By distributing tons of dead wood onto bare ground By eliminating shade and fog drip which moistens the forest floor, making ignition more likely By destroying the windbreak that is a barrier to wind driven fires typical of wildfires in California By expanding the oak-bay woodland being killed by Sudden Oak Death, thereby adding more dead wood * These projects will damage the environment by releasing hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from the destroyed trees, thereby contributing to climate change. * These projects will endanger the public by dousing our public lands with thousands of gallons of toxic herbicides. * Erosion is likely on steep slopes when the trees are destroyed and their roots are killed with herbicides. * Non-native vegetation such as broom, thistle, and hemlock are more likely occupants of the unshaded, bared ground than native vegetation which will not be planted by these projects. * Prescribed burns will pollute the air and contribute to the risk of wildfire, endangering lives and property. * These projects are an inappropriate use of the limited resources of the Federal Emergency Management Agency which are for the expressed purpose of restoring communities destroyed by disasters such as floods and other catastrophic events and preparing communities for anticipated catastrophic events. Most of the proposed projects in the East Bay are miles away from any residences.

Ellen Gierson
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

I think removal of some select eucalyptus could be appropriate, but not with clear cutting whole plots and not with the use of pesticides. I oppose removal of all other trees. Fire management must be taken seriously, but this is not a good plan.

Elizabeth Garfinkle
Oakland, CA 94611
May 17, 2013

Please don't do this!

Julie wolk
Oakland, CA 94618
May 17, 2013

Roundup, In Berkeley? Really? I understand the need to reduce fire risk, but this is not the way. Clear out the dead wood, remove eucalyptuses selectively and don't forget to plant redwoods, or other natives where they were once were.

Deborah Esters
San Francisco, CA 94115
May 17, 2013

Please stop the deforestation of the Berkeley Oakland Hills!

Cristina
Valley Center, CA 92082
May 17, 2013

This is outrageous! As an Alameda county resident and homeowner, I am appalled that the county has made such a careless plan. My family frequents these hills weekly and this is absolutely heartbreaking!

Nick Pace
Alameda Pt, CA 94501
May 17, 2013

This is just gross! Cut a few at a time and replace with native trees. Only cut when birds are not nesting!

Sharon Muczynski
La Mesa,, CA 91941
May 17, 2013

Why do you continue to destroy our enviroment? Leave the trees alone.

NANCY BENJAMIN
San Francisco, CA 94116
May 17, 2013

I think the science is flawed on this one. Cutting down these trees in this way will not help prevent fires, and as a local resident I highly object to having millions of gallons of herbicide dumped in my back yard (or anywhere for that matter).

Laura Bellon
Oakland, CA 94618-1040
May 17, 2013

gross

Dana Westmoreland
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

This is outrageous, unnecessary, and deceptive. These trees have been around for decades and will continue to be absent policy that aims to destroy them.

Nick Stewart
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 17, 2013

While I understand the need for preventative measures against wildfires in the hills, is massive clear-cutting the best solution? Surely there are less drastic alternatives. In terms of ecological damage, the eucalyptus tree presence is debatable. But even granting that, is the erosion caused by 5-10 years of strongly limited regrowth worth it? At the very least, I strongly urge alternatives to the herbicide triclopyr. It is mildly to highly toxic to insects and fish, and Berkeley's Strawberry Creek would be vulnerable. There are aesthetic motivations, too. The Oakland and Berkeley hills are beautiful, and as an avid trail runner, hiking enthusiast, and bicyclist along Skyline Drive and Grizzly Peak Blvd, I hate to think of the eyesore caused by destruction of hundreds of acres of beautiful forest.

Nate Hanson
Oakland, CA 94607-3430
May 17, 2013

This proposal will create more long-term fire danger than protection. What a waste of FEMA funds.

Monika Tippie
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 17, 2013

Hard to believe that anyone would consider eliminating our beloved landscapes, and that FEMA would provide the funds for such an endeavor. Why not use goats to clear the underbrush regularly? And why hasn't this plan been publicized? This is outrageous, and needs to be stopped.

Joan Lichterman
Oakland, CA 94609
May 17, 2013

This plan is hazardous to the health and lives of trees, humans, and animals living in that habitat.

Robin Earth
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 17, 2013

Find another way rather than clearing away the forest and spending tons of money doing it.

Kurt Schwartz
San Francisco, CA 94132
May 16, 2013

To kill what we love? I pay quite a lot to control and shape my trees. Who is it wants to cement it all over? I'm a tree hugger partly because I like to breathe. Others please move away! Kathleen E. Sullivan

Kathleen E. Sullivan
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 16, 2013

Cutting down all these trees in the Bay Area is insanity.

Gina Hall
San Francisco, CA 94114
May 16, 2013

Please do not cut down the trees.

Jacob Lindsay
Oakland, CA 94609
May 16, 2013

This is outrageous and just not acceptable.

Julie Twitchell
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 16, 2013

Leave the hills with their trees except to minimize fires.

Sylvia Hope
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 16, 2013

This plan would cause great damage to the ecosystem because of loss of habitat, harm to the environment and to our population because of the herbicides. It is not an effective way to plan for fire reduction, is much too costly and will rob us of the integral beauty of how nature has worked to create a living habitat. I wonder who benefits w/ such a plan.

Stephanie Thomas
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 16, 2013

This is horrific and must NOT be allowed

Jan galt
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 16, 2013

This makes no sense and is not only an insult to residents but also a squandering of our tax dollars when so many other much more important issues need those funds

Chia Hamilton
Oakland, CA 94609
May 16, 2013

Are they trying to build another San Francisco?

Stephen Vance
Oakland, CA 94607
May 16, 2013

Everything in the petition statement is clear and concise; I completely agree with all of it. There would be so many animal deaths...so much unnecessary mutilation and destruction--the real words to describe this "plan"--please stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills. It is simply stupid to think this plan would create something positive; in any way, shape or form. Cynthia Gecas

Cynthia Gecas
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 16, 2013

As a long time Oakland resident, I must say, our natural areas are beautiful and **MUST** be conserved. Enough of the wetlands and Oaks have been destroyed for the development of the city, we should do whatever is necessary to retain those wildlands.

Patrick Fry
Oakland, CA 94611
May 16, 2013

I am urging you to support a less destructive policy that will preserve the beauty of the hills, as well as habitat for wildlife and the prevention of increased greenhouse gases.

Jonathan Rousell
Berkeley, CA 94703
May 16, 2013

I agree completely with the premises of this petition. Add to the downside the air and noise pollution caused by extended and extensive chain saw and chipper use.

Gertrude Weil
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 16, 2013

This is outrageous and short-sighted. Not to mention short on understanding of the value of trees to the general environment.

Nancy Snedden
Oakland, CA 94611
May 16, 2013

Don't clear cut the tree and Do not use toxic poisons.

D. Arbuckle
Alameda, CA 94501
May 16, 2013

It is absurd to destroy/poison 50,000 trees. For what? fire control??? I totally oppose the EIS program because of the massive destruction it would impose on the eco system in the Oakland/Berkeley hills. Please adhere to the program that the Hills Conservation Network is proposing for fire control. Their proposal makes infinitely more sense!

Meri Lea
Oakland, CA 94609
May 16, 2013

This is an obscene use of our tax dollars to destroy one of our greatest assets. It is also deeply offensive that this campaign has been conducted with such stealth that many of us local residents are hearing about it for the first time this morning, on the eve of the LAST community meeting on the subject. Call a halt to this warfare on the locals and our quality of life now.

Mary Eisenhart
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 16, 2013

Words fail. THIS is what FEMA is doing when we're not focused on them?!

Laurie Trippett
Silver Spring, MD 20910
May 16, 2013

Let local government, and the local people, handle their own issues. FEMA should stick to federal issues and let the states and local governments handle issues like this.

Beverly Rubik
Oakland, CA 94602
May 16, 2013

Please stop listen to with your heart =>

priscilla
Santa Ana, CA 92704
May 16, 2013

What kind of idiot proposed THIS idea??? NO!

David Menefee
Hayfork, CA 96041
May 16, 2013

I used to live next to Tilden Park. It is filled with many non-native species. I think it is naive to think that it can be returned to its previous state at all, much less by mass destruction. Also, I was lucky enough to have a large live oak in my backyard, but disease has been attacking that species for years. It sounds as though this is a long-term plan for expansion of UDB property, as wood chips belong in urban environments.

TIMOTHY MORGAN
BENICIA, CA 94510
May 16, 2013

* These projects are more likely to increase the risk of wildfires than to reduce that risk. By distributing tons of dead wood onto bare ground By eliminating shade and fog drip which moistens the forest floor, making ignition more likely By destroying the windbreak that is a barrier to wind driven fires typical of wildfires in California By expanding the oak-bay woodland being killed by Sudden Oak Death, thereby adding more dead wood * These projects will damage the environment by releasing hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere from the destroyed trees, thereby contributing to climate change. * These projects will endanger the public by dousing our public lands with thousands of gallons of toxic herbicides. * Erosion is likely on steep slopes when the trees are destroyed and their roots are killed with herbicides. * Non-native vegetation such as broom, thistle, and hemlock are more likely occupants of the unshaded, bared ground than native vegetation which will not be planted by these projects. * Prescribed burns will pollute the air and contribute to the risk of wildfire, endangering lives and property.

Andrew Cheyne
RICHMOND, CA 94804
May 16, 2013

The dude abides

Ali

Piedmont, CA 94611

May 16, 2013

This is a terrible plan to manage the forest, and will create blight, distraction, and will damage biodiversity. I spend quality time in the forest in the hills, it is essential for quality of life in the East Bay, in addition to providing habitat.

Veronika Cole
Oakland, CA 94609
May 15, 2013

The current Draft EIS is unacceptable as it will inflict enormous environmental damage, expose the public to thousands of gallons of toxic herbicide, destroy raptor habitats, destabilize steep slopes, and actually increase the risk of hazardous wildfires. FEMA should retract this EIS and remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees. The EIS should instead support a far less destructive methodology that would focus on a "species-neutral" approach, focusing on eliminating ground fuels and the fire ladder, thinning where appropriate, and limbing up as needed to ensure minimal risk of crown fires. Killing more than 50,000 trees and poisoning them for up to 10 years will have disastrous effects on this beautiful and healthy ecosystem, and cannot be allowed to happen.

Mary Jorgensen
Kensington, CA 94708
May 15, 2013

As a frequent hiker around these parks I have seen first hand the effect of taking out these trees, it does not have the intended effect!

Jeridso
Oakland, CA 94609
May 15, 2013

You are going to deforest by spreading herbicide??? Think about the physical harm you will be doing to yourselves (cancer) never mind the damage to wildlife, the aquifer.. run off into the ocean...

elisabeth. handel
brewster, MA 02631
May 15, 2013

FEMA must reject their disastrous plan to destroy our beautiful trees and poison our parks with herbicide!

Carolyn Tipton
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 15, 2013

Beth Fain

beth.h.fain
Berkeley, CA 94707
May 15, 2013

a critical issue for the preservation of strawberry Canyon habitats.

phila rogers
berkeley, CA 94708
May 15, 2013

Victoria Carepenter

Victoria Carpenter
Oakland, CA 94609
May 15, 2013

I am appalled at the massive plan to remove thousands of trees in the Berkeley hills. It is an unconscionable plan that has been devised out of the view of the very citizens that will be affected by it. Let's look more deeply at the motivations for this absurd and destructive plan. Where will the owls roost? They do perform the service of keeping the rodent population in check. I think this is an extreme example of short sighted thinking in terms of environmental impact. But, of course if there is some hidden agenda ,that's another question, Isn't it?

Maryanna Heginbottom
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 15, 2013

There is no excuse for this stupidity. Redraft the EIS for land and forest management. A MUCH better approach within a six year window can and should be proposed. There have been many examples cited in this petition and many more easily accessible through examples and experience around the world that doesn't use clear cutting or herbicides - either approach is COMPLETELY unnecessary and does not address the presenting issue.

Margaret Weiss
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 15, 2013

Evolution seems to agree that eucalyptus trees belong in the Bay Area.

Elizabeth Rotter
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 15, 2013

This hills are dangerous as they are but we will not tolerate any toxic herbicides or a lack of a plan to replace the trees with hill stabilizing plants.

Mary Engle
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 15, 2013

Stop killing off the trees and poisoning the land.

Dan Clurman
Piedmont, CA 94618
May 15, 2013

I agree demonizing pines, eucalyptus & acacia won't prevent fires. They are only a small part of the Oakland/Berkeley ecosystem. This is a phony battle that will help no one. Ridiculous use of any funds, never mind government emergency disaster funds! What a fraud. Save the trees.

NANCY MCCOY
Oakland, CA 94062
May 15, 2013

I live in Berkeley. I'm not that inclined to believe that what UC Berkeley, the cities of Oakland and perhaps Berkeley are often in the best interests of those of us who live here. I don't want more than 50,000 trees destroyed.

Steve Golden
Kensington, CA 94707
May 15, 2013

Gayle Tantau

Gayle Tantau
Oakland, CA 94618
May 15, 2013

NO herbicidal clearing with toxic chemicals. But do cut down the eucalyptus that are potentially lethal.

Richard Hirsch
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 15, 2013

The old eucalyptus trees are a fire danger. Herbicides are also dangerous and should not be used even if the alternatives cost more.

John G. Mackinney
Albany, CA 94706-2125
May 15, 2013

I have witnessed this ill-informed approach in other places. It is unnecessary, aesthetically and environmentally harmful, and short-sighted.

Martin Verhoeven
Kensington, CA 94708
May 15, 2013

FEMA should stop their plan to clear-cut and clear underbrush, not 100 year old trees.

Barbara Voinar
Kensington, CA 94707
May 15, 2013

Trees release CO2 and help alleviate some of the dangerous effects of carbon pollution in addition to being spectacularly beautiful and providing refuge for people and birds in particular. Do not destroy our Berkeley and Oakland hills. Trees can be strategically cut in places they may pose dangers to electric lines etc.

Christine Brigagliano
Oakland, CA 94611
May 15, 2013

I sure hope this petition is successful.

John Danek
Oakland, CA 94611
May 15, 2013

Please don't cut down the tree's. That area have endured so much since the massive fire years ago. It's bounced back and it's a characteristic of that area of the Bay!

Kate Yanov
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
May 15, 2013

Use the methods successfully used by LBNL

Christopher Adams
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 15, 2013

There is another way...

Verona Fonte
Berkeley, CA 94707-1618
May 15, 2013

This is our community!

Meghan Connolly Haupt
Oakland, CA 94611
May 15, 2013

Has anyone given any thought to the enormous erosion problems being created by this wholesome destruction?

Terry Shames
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 15, 2013

This is no time to be cutting down trees. Think carbon.

Andrew Jamieson
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 15, 2013

You have got to be kidding! A child knows deforestation will increase wild fires. What is going on!!!

Aziza Bahati
Oakland, CA 94609
May 15, 2013

Please reconsider your plan.

Deanne Stone
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 15, 2013

This is a disgraceful plan that must be stopped!

Susan Silber
Kensington, CA 94706
May 15, 2013

Dana DeFranco

Dana DeFranco
Piedmont, CA 94618
May 15, 2013

The ecological effects of removing the trees outweighs the need for more development. Save any natural open spaces we have left. These trees will not be back or planted somewhere else in our life time.

Tehran Clark
Emeryville, CA 94608
May 15, 2013

Dear city folks, Let us not let "purism" lead us to a place that is worse than where we started. Natives are preferred but not if it means clear cutting.

Penny Bartlett
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 15, 2013

don't cut the trees, we need them

jeffrey gonnella
santa rosa, CA 95405
May 15, 2013

Ridiculous use of any funds, never mind government emergency disaster funds! What a fraud. Save the trees.

Harry Carpenter
San Francisco, CA 94122
May 14, 2013

I support slow eradication, first planing redwoods and Monterrey pines letting them grow and then cutting down the undesired trees one by one as the other trees have grown large enough to hold the hillside, p

Jacquelyn Evans
Berkeley, CA 94708
May 14, 2013

I cannot see any wisdom to the idea of eradicating these beautiful trees, even if they are "non-native." They have grown in California for a long time and are, to all intents and purposes, native anyway. But even if they aren't, killing them is a very bad idea and very dangerous to the ecosystem.

Patricia McCambridge
Austin, TX 78759
May 14, 2013

save the trees!

Robert Fehr
San Jose, CA 95110
May 14, 2013

There is fire season, but it needs to be remedied with something more complicated than clear-cutting. Experts need to be consulted, and local labor can do the work.

Ardys DeLu
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 14, 2013

Overkill and the science is out of date. You're burning down the village in order to "save" it.

Jack Kessler
San Francisco, CA 94114
May 14, 2013

Clear cut and herbicides are not healthy choices for our Bay Area forests.

Debbie Viess
Oakland, CA 94605
May 14, 2013

Remove those portions of the EIS that call for clear-cutting tall trees.

James Baker
EL CERRITO, CA 94530-2661
May 14, 2013

trees = erosion control and air quality leave the poison out of the water table...

Jack Johnson
richmond, CA 94804
May 14, 2013

It is called a rain forest for a reason...

Jeff Michel
Oakland, CA 94609
May 14, 2013

Stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills

christopher vetrano
elmont, NY 11003
May 14, 2013

I don't want any clear cutting.

jewels stratton
san francisco, CA 94133
May 13, 2013

There are far better fire prevention methods than clear-cutting, which will just cause erosion and eliminate CO2-trapping ability of the forests.

Robert Bruce
Ukiah, CA 95482
May 13, 2013

SAVE THE TREES!

Irma G. Lopez
Tucson,, AZ 85711
May 13, 2013

The plan needs a much more thorough and CONSCIOUS review of the complete environmental impact. I can't believe that the DEIS was approved knowing the enormous amount of severely toxic chemicals that were intended to be used. These chemicals, which leach down into ground water tables and also end up cause cancer in humans and animals. These chemicals will leach down into ground water tables and also end up in the air causing harm to our respiratory systems.

Francis Donnelly
Alameda, CA 94501-3402
May 13, 2013

his is a decades long established, naturalized, forest, providing habitat for many species.

susannah bruder
san francisco, CA 94107
May 13, 2013

This EIS is unacceptable.

Maxine Daniel
Castro Valley, CA 94546
May 13, 2013

This is not a sustainable proposal, and the herbicide to be used is toxic to all living things (especially young children).

Suzanne Ludlum
Oakland, CA 94619
May 12, 2013

I realize that non native species like Eucalyptus trees are an extreme fire hazard, but exterminating through extreme means like using toxic chemicals (like round-up) will have long lasting environmental effects on the environment, which is worse than the actual problem to start with.

Timothy Larkin
San Francisco, CA 94109-5337
May 12, 2013

WE SAW THE ERROR OF CUTTING DOWN THE HILLS EUCALYPTUS A FEW DECADES AGO. IS THIS A REPEAT OF PAST ERRORS? IT CERTAINLY SOUNDS LIKE IT.

James Koss
Point Richmond, CA 94807
May 12, 2013

It is no longer useful to use "non-native" species designations as selection criteria. All the named species of trees, for example, have lived in their respective areas for decades and have become integrated with pre-existing species to create a new stable ecosystem. These proposed projects will destroy these relationships with some known and clearly many unknown consequences. The goals of these projects need to be reevaluated to determine the actual best way to reach them. Or if they are valid goals at all.

melissa mandel
Oakland, CA 94606
May 12, 2013

Do NOT destroy our hills!

Linda Moore
United States 94704-3315
May 12, 2013

Please stop this horrible plan!

Daniel Stern
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 12, 2013

Why are our policy makers so out of touch with science. This plan sounds terrible.

Kathy Anne Woodruff
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 12, 2013

We have had some effect on reducing the destruction of Mt. Davidson trees in SF by these leeches at the public trough. They are establishing themselves as legitimate public servants in order to take money from tax payers for their financial gain and counterproductive long term access to tax payer money.

Kristin Brigham
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 12, 2013

Along w/supporting the petition statement, removing large areas of substantial growth, could potentially subject the locality to land slides and erosion, which it is already prone to. I know, because when growing up in the Oakland hills, my home was nearly destroyed by a land slide. I ask you to think again, and if necessary, submit a revised plan that addresses the issues brought up in the petition!

Eve Surls
San Andreas, CA 95249
May 12, 2013

What don't these planners get about climate change and the fact that trees absorb carbon dioxide? How irresponsible and stupid can they get?

Felicia Zeiger
United States 94132-2625
May 12, 2013

Please leave our forests alone whether native or non-native species. Deforestation will only worsen our problems in the bay area!

Justin Seeley
berkeley, CA 94709
May 12, 2013

UC Davis has developed an extensive acacia grove for its many redeeming and beneficial qualities (e.g. draught tolerance, among many others), quite suitable to California including East Bay. FEMA should consider the UC Davis' rationale for acacia cultivation as well as the devastating damages of this project's massive deforestation to land and ecology of East Bay especially when a proactive, sensible reforestation is not a part of this project. Do not repeat the short-sighted mistakes of depleting trees of the past at the expense of taxpayers and residents, irreparably destroying the quality of life for generations.

Okhoo Hanes
Piedmont, CA 94611
May 12, 2013

Leave our trees alone!

L. A. Feldman
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 12, 2013

I know there are fires looming i n our world... but keep the trees free, watered, healthy≥ We need trees in our world

Patricia Goldberg
San Francisco, CA 94122
May 11, 2013

Comment

sharyn white
richmond, CA 94806
May 11, 2013

Absolutely unacceptable plan.

Michael Pinkerton D.C.
Petaluma, CA 94954
May 11, 2013

Let's develop better strategies to cope with these wildfire issues.

Gina Papen
Berkeley, CA 94704
May 11, 2013

Everything I've read about the Draft EIS tells me it is egregiously wrong. Is it a pork barrel project? It's not sound science. I love the Berkeley/Oakland Hills. Destroying the trees will ultimately hurt development!

Myra Traugot
Grass Valley, CA 95945
May 11, 2013

this old fashioned approach to land management should not be supported with federal money. if it takes pesticide to do it how can this be right approach?

kasey asberry
San Francisco, CA 94112
May 11, 2013

The plan to remove these trees shows a profound lack of intelligence, ignorance of science, and a lack of basic regard for life. The individuals responsible for moving these plans forward need to be removed from their positions and replaced by intelligent, forward thinking individuals who understand environmental and ecological science.

Mary Baxter
Montara, CA 94037
May 11, 2013

I have family in this area. Please do not damage their health with horrible herbicides, and don't damage other beings' habitat!

Megan Mackin
Galesburg, IL 61401
May 11, 2013

Fighting the SF Natural Areas Plan--how can this be?

Erin Caughman
San Francisco, CA 94116-1125
May 11, 2013

Obviously FEMA has too many over-salaried parasitic employees with too much time on their hands, to come of with such cockamamie idiotic and merit free plans such as this one. Fire their asses and save the trees!

David Ross
San Francisco, CA 94133
May 11, 2013

As a former resident of Berkley the argument to cut down trees in the Berkley, Oakland hills is repugnant. The massive use of herbicides to control undergrowth is foolish in the extreme. I would be alarmed about my health with the use of poisons in the environment. We know from the reports in Amazonia the clear cutting and burning of trees destroys the ability for the environment to heal itself.. The destruction of this environment which is so beautiful is a travesty no matter this illogically and misinformed plan. All this is the name of fire reduction while elsewhere in our land where people are being forced with easements to transport shale oil. These kinds of policy are foolish and without merit.

Maria Nunes
Roseburg, OR 97470
May 11, 2013

The trees are what make the East Bay a desirable place to live.

Kimberly Jordan
Oakland, CA 94612
May 11, 2013

I can see that this destruction will leave a barren, ugly place with no thought for the life within.

Diane Woods
Napa, CA 94558
May 11, 2013

These people are hand in glove with Monsanto and Dow. The chemical companies really benefit from deforestation. Same with San Francisco's public parks--always being sprayed.

Allie Light
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 11, 2013

This draft Is WRONG! There is so much more to loose than gain and it's origin is rooted in bias against non native species. Destroying existing eco systems in order to fulfill the wishes of native plant extremists MAKES NO SENSE AND IS DETRIMENTAL TO EXISTING HABITATS. Find another plan not this one.

Barbara Oplinger
San Francisco, CA 94133
May 11, 2013

Whose insane "idea" is this? Lock 'em up and get them some professional help.

Michael Kemper
San Francisco, CA 94109
May 11, 2013

There is a strange rising of activity concerning trees. Some vitriolic group out there is making severe trouble about the existence of TREES! they ust be stopped!

Dolan Eargle
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 11, 2013

Stop the madness and the environmental damage that will result from the plan to clear cut 50,000 trees!

Cindy Cobb
San Francisco, CA 94114
May 11, 2013

This is a deeply flawed and essentially horrible idea.

Julie Long Gallegos
san francisco, CA 94131
May 11, 2013

Prune, don't fell, healthy trees!

Dee Seligman
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 11, 2013

DON'T TOUCH THESE TREES.

Lisa Huftel
Saint Paul, MN 55117
May 11, 2013

Leave the trees alone! Roundup is a horrible thing to inflict on the soil and the eucalyptus trees are no more a fire hazard than any other dry tree. remove the brush instead.

Catherine Sutton
Albany, CA 94706
May 11, 2013

I understand the desire to reduce fire hazard but the use of Roundup and other toxic herbicides seems extremely misinformed and dangerous. Please slow this process down and ensure a very thorough environmental review of these plans, and I urge you to take a slower, more scientifically and environmentally informed approach.

katrina child
san francisco, CA 94110
May 11, 2013

Non of the humans living in these hills are native, either, ecologically speaking. Should FEMA clear-cut them as well?

Allen Foster
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 11, 2013

You should read the lorax

Shirley
San Francisco, CA 94132
May 11, 2013

If we remove trees, there has to be corresponding planting already funded with a plan in place to plant them.

James frank
San Francisco, CA 94114
May 11, 2013

The war on trees continues. Stop it now. Trees are some of the most beautiful living things on earth. Let them live and give us joy.

Robert Finley
San Francisco, CA 94116
May 11, 2013

If you are to move forward with this plan, at least replant all trees that are cut down. The use of these dangerous pesticides seems unnecessary.

Christopher Kincaid
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 11, 2013

Not only are you killing trees but you're assisting in the global pollution and the last thing we need is more filthy air, water and land. Save the trees.

char laughon
montara, CA 94037
May 11, 2013

Big mistake doing this cutting..give it up before you begin

louis B. Gagliardi
San Francisco, CA 94114-1184
May 11, 2013

Replacing eucalyptus makes sense; denuding hillsides is merely stupid.

Michael Treece
United States 94122-2406
May 11, 2013

Make a better plan - one that is good for trees and people.

Joy-Lily
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 11, 2013

consider naturalization

Rose
San Francisco, CA 94117
May 11, 2013

STOP!

Julian V Simeon
San Francisco, CA 94112
May 11, 2013

This would be a very bad move!! Do not cut the trees,there are better things to do.

Jacqueline Bolles
San Francisco, CA 94116
May 11, 2013

The idea of cutting down magnificent groves of mature trees because they are not native is idocy

George Wynns
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 11, 2013

Leave the trees alone. Cutting down trees will lead to erosion and increased winds and possibly heavier, low-lying fog.

Mari Eliza
San Francisco, CA 94110
May 11, 2013

Stop!

Peter Lee
San Francisco, CA 94118
May 11, 2013

I am a 28 year Bay area resident, and spent the first few years in Berkeley and Oakland, in Elmwood and Rockridge in the foothills. To this day, I hike with my dog over in the East Bay, and share the trails with many people, weekdays and weekends. Please consider the ramifications of this clearcut plan, how it will affect millions of people on both sides of the Bay and into Contra Costa. These policies spell disaster for the hills!

Tod Elkins
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 10, 2013

Trees create beauty, oxygen, absorb carbon emission pollution, and prevent sight and sound pollution. Trees have beneficial properties for humans and are an important part of our Ecosystem. Please stop the slaughter and deforestation of our precious trees.

John
Daly City, CA 94015
May 10, 2013

Leave our trees alone!

Janet Kessler
San Francisco, CA 94114
May 10, 2013

I used to live in the Berkeley Hills, and LOVE THE TREES

Greg Malmberg
Wenatchee, WA 98801
May 10, 2013

Please help save over one million trees that are planned for killing in the East Bay hills in the name of fire prevention, but really is about making money. This planned environmental devastation will make the East Bay far more vulnerable to fires. Most of the people who will be affected by this plan have no idea it is even being decided. Those who do know have been inundated with propaganda that is not true. Most people have no idea that, except for a few small areas with redwoods and oaks and bay, the majority of the East Bay hills parkland is non-native forest. Not one pine in the hills is native. The pines alone create beautiful habitat for plants (including mushroom species) as well as animals, from their beginnings to the dead snags that raptors and acorn woodpeckers love. The beautiful tall exotic Monterey pines, Eucalyptus, Acacias, etc., are NOT only not a fire hazard, they precipitate inches of water from the fog during the dry season, preventing fires, and providing moisture for native animals and plants. Some people whose homes were in danger during the 1991 firestorm saw the flames come right to their eucalyptus and stop, with the trees protecting their homes, while the nearby homes without eucalyptus protection burned. (Go under these trees even in the summer and see how green the ground is with plants supported by the non-native trees.) Fires typically begin in grasslands, which is where the 1991 firestorm started. This project will result in extensive new dry non-native, highly flammable grasslands in the East Bay hills, instead of the million beautiful trees. The erosion and resulting landslides will be catastrophic. At that point, FEMA money really WILL be needed. We have an established eco-system that our native animals have adapted to. Once the trees are destroyed, the already-burdened wildlife will die, from hunger and loss of habitat. We are also not seeing any mention of the harm done to the environment from eliminating so many oxygen-producing trees, and how much sequestered carbon will be released by their corpses. The plan to chip and mulch the hills will also effectively eliminate the bare ground needed by native bees. We're not only horrified by the plan to kill extensive acres of trees in an environment that desperately needs more trees, but also by the apparent lack of awareness of our local eco-system. Most of the few people who know of the plan believe that only a few dead or dying trees will be eliminated, and do not know the actual plan is to clear cut much of our beautiful wilderness, so close to our cities in the East Bay hills. The devastation from the heavy equipment that will be used is being ignored also. The effects of a planned decade or more of highly toxic herbicide spraying is also being ignored. (I'm guessing Monsanto is thrilled at this project.) Most people also don't even seem to know the plants involved or the local environment. They haven't seen how raptors, woodpeckers, and other birds use the dead trees for their survival. They haven't watched how young pines are growing up from the base of their dead mothers, keeping the hills green with new trees. (Some say the Monterey pines are short-lived, yet I've known pines who were full grown and enormous more than forty years ago and who are still alive. They live to a hundred years at least, and their babies grow up as they die, completing the ecosystem. I have not heard one of the myths about the tree dangers that are true.) People also seem to not be remembering that many native trees are dying from Sudden Oak Death and that we should be grateful for having these resistant, beautiful exotic trees. We need more tree diversity, not less. Most people also don't know that large sections of our parks in the East Bay hills are almost entirely exotic trees and that their clear-cutting will leave bare, ugly hillsides with poisoned stumps, impending erosion and landslides, the wildlife left homeless, many native plants destroyed, the topsoil damaged, and the beauty gone forever. Few urban areas have such amazing wilderness. What a tragedy to mindlessly destroy it. We've seen re-planting of native trees in parks, but have yet to see these trees doing very well. Many die, wasting more money and creating more habitat for exotic broom that people so hate. I believe most people would object to this clear-cutting plan as well as the plan to continuously apply herbicide to the stumps of the butchered trees, if they knew the details. Eucalyptus will take an enormous amount of poison to stop its attempts to stay alive and resprout. And what about the acacias? You cut one down, and you have dozens sprouting along the ground, yards away from the original tree. They continue to try to live years after their mother tree was killed. Many of us do not believe any herbicide or the other petrochemicals added to it are safe. Every banned pesticide was once declared safe from studies funded by the pesticide industry. Some Bay Area counties refuse to use herbicides, while others still do, ignoring the hazards. We've seen California Newts dying horrible deaths after crawling through roadside areas sprayed with "safe" herbicides. We believe that "applying" herbicides across the hills will result in incalculable deaths of native animals, including protected species, as well as contaminating the earth, reservoirs, groundwater,

streams, and bay. Some of the poison will evaporate into the air, adding to our air pollution problem. How many cases of cancer, auto-immune and other illnesses will result from the use of these poisons? We also believe this plan won't work, knowing the amazing regenerative capabilities of these magnificent trees. So the use of poison will be far more continuous than planned. It's also being ignored that many native species have become dependent on and prefer non-native trees, shrubs, herbs, etc. We ask, "Why the selective logging?" For those who want our parks and UC Berkeley lands clear-cut, I suggest they start with the expensive ornamental non-natives that are the majority trees at the UC Botanical Gardens, Oakland Zoo, and people's private gardens and yards – which, like the hills, would leave almost no vegetation since most of the green we see are from non-natives. (Hypocrite UC even has a book about their many exotic trees on campus.) Why the inconsistency – why are those businesses being spared? At the East Bay Regional Park headquarters where the meeting with FEMA was held, there were many introduced ornamentals. Those olive trees, *Arbutus Unedo*, etc, aren't going to be eliminated, so why destroy the trees on trails that many of us know personally and love? Why doesn't the plan include annihilating all the non-native trees in people's yards in the hills, or even elsewhere? Before one wild animal loses her or his home and food, I suggest those who advocate killing non-native plants should first start with killing all that are in their own yard, all the street trees, all the billions of dollars of business and city, county, federal, state landscaping with non-natives. Eliminate all orchards. Most people have no idea the cities are predominantly non-native. I personally love the non-natives, but want the double standard of human versus wild animals to stop. Why should only the native animals suffer? No non-native human should be giving a death sentence to the native animals who will die as a result of this planned environmental devastation. There will be many persuasive arguments for committing this irreparable environmental devastation, but please don't believe them. We've seen terrible harm already done in the name of environmentalism in the Bay Area, such as when UC Berkeley "experts" told Audubon to cut down every plant (they didn't know native from non-native) in the tiny Burrowing Owl habitat at Cesar Chavez Park in Berkeley. Those of us who had been watching the owls for years knew that directive was the opposite of what the owls need and want. When the owls arrived for the winter, one left immediately, while the other two stood forlornly by the stumps of their shrubs from the previous year. (The last two burrows have since been destroyed by being paved over and covered with an "art project" bench, while the ground squirrels who create the burrows are being harassed into making fewer burrows.) Weeding the water plants in the Japanese pool at the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens several years ago resulted in almost the entire year's eggs of California Newts being killed. We have yet to see the numbers of newts there as there were previously. A few hours of well-intentioned work can result in permanent ecological damage. For those in the hills who do want the trees cut, I suggest we trade houses and they live in the tree-denuded wasteland that is much of the East Bay cities. For those who insist on eliminating non-native plants, I suggest we start with the humans, dogs, and cats. (Each cat is capable of killing 800 small animals a year, which is why many species of small animals are missing from neighborhoods and even the parks where cats hunt.) And why not kill all the honeybees as well since they're from Europe? The animals, as well as the trees, are not just "things" in humans' territory. They are planning the killing of living, feeling beings. When people are often depressed from the dark and rain in winter, the gorgeous acacias bloom brilliant golden for two months. The broom with their yellow, exquisitely fragrant blossoms bloom for months during winter and spring. Please learn who this project will actually benefit. Find out the details before it's too late. Please know that if this "project" begins, it will be far more destructive than they have told anyone. Expect the worst. Expect to look up into the hills and see burnt grass where we now see extensive woodlands. Recognize the trees in the parks you love and realize some parks will be completely empty of trees. Expect catastrophic fires and terrible landslides when the trees are gone. Expect damage to the waterways from the erosion. The FEMA money is desperately needed elsewhere. Please do not waste this money by making a few people rich at the expense of the people, animals, environment, beauty of our parks. Please don't create a new environmental disaster under the guise of preventing one. Bev Von Dohre 510-482-9494 Slakewings@aol.com

Bev Von Dohre
 Oakland, CA 94602
 May 10, 2013

jennyjennyadele@yahoo.com

Jenny Josephian
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 10, 2013

Scientific research has shown that the removal of eucalyptus trees in the Oakland hills would have had no effect on reducing the fire damage. Scrub brush, dry ground fuel and unprotected wood framed structures were the problem

Gary Molitor
San Leandro, CA 94577
May 10, 2013

Stop this insane attack on trees

Joel Schipper
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 9, 2013

The trees belong to the Earth! Mother Gaia not us! They are not ours to destroy and we are not entitled to hurt her!

Rozyve
Canada
May 8, 2013

Please stop scapegoating eucalyptus and letting native plant extremists do damage to our environment.

Lu Rehling
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 8, 2013

SAVE THE TREES!

Jan Robitscher
Berkeley, CA 94709
May 8, 2013

I do not want to look up the hill and not see any trees. Please preserve the Oakland Hills forestation as it is.

Janet Moore
Oakland, CA 94619
May 8, 2013

Clear cutting and toxic chemicals is not the answer! That's like using a hacksaw to fix a bruised foot. Or giving a kid poison to cure a sore throat. A sane, reasonable approach to mitigate fire risk and maintain the ecosystem is what is needed.

margaret mcallister
el cajon, CA 92020
May 8, 2013

Stop the deforestation of the Berkeley/Oakland Hills!

Kerstin Feist
Albany, CA 94706
May 8, 2013

Destroying hundreds of thousands of healthy trees that are storing thousands of tons of carbon at a time when climate change should be our highest environmental priority is irresponsible. To add insult to injury, our public lands will also be sprayed with thousands of gallons of herbicide in places where children play.

Mary McAllister
Oakland, CA 94611
May 8, 2013

These non-natives are not as flammable as low growing bush and scrub, especially after they become unprotected and dried when the overstory is removed!

Georgia Wright
Berkeley, CA 94705-1605
May 8, 2013

This is a totally unbalanced approach to the local environment. We have experienced the effects of poor air quality due to intense auto and other air pollutants throughout the East Bay Area. The proposal for such a drastic de-forestation of miles of terrain is irresponsible and will lead to enduring problems related to health issues and environmental desecration. Please please do not rubber stamp this proposed approach!

Rae Vasconcellos
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 8, 2013

Killing more than 50,000 trees in our beautiful hills? And then adopting a 10-year poisoning program? NO!

Judith
Piedmont, CA 94602
May 8, 2013

It is shocking to find out that our precious disaster relief dollars would be spent on this ridiculous and unnecessary project instead of helping people in need.

Jacque Proctor
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 8, 2013

I don't have high expectations for the scientific sophistication of Oakland, but this Old Blue is distressed by the anti-scientific position of the University of California, Berkeley. UCB should be thoroughly embarrassed by their claim that native plants will automatically, without any planting, fill in the wide areas where non-natives will be removed. Nonsense!

Keith McAllister
Oakland, CA 94611
May 8, 2013

Just in case I haven't already signed this.

Robert Doublin
University, WA 98105
May 8, 2013

The EIS draft's identity approach to conservation is just like the Republican's identity politics. It is out of date and is based on ideology and not data!

Mark Davis
Saint Paul, MN 55105
May 8, 2013

This is unsafe for everyone. Those who seek to poison and destroy our environment/ecosystem and further contribute to global warming should be stopped. I cannot imagine how anyone could be so naive about dangerous chemicals and the effects of destruction of our parks and forests can even get *this* far with all this nonsense. The Native Plant Nuts out there are going way overboard in their misguided enthusiasm. This plan can only do harm and should be nipped in the bud.

Tony Holiday
San Francisco, CA 94108
May 8, 2013

Please don't cut down the trees.

Pamela Walatka
Los Gatos, CA 95033
May 8, 2013

This mindless destruction of the ecosystem must stop immediately. No more Garlon. No more Roundup. No more felling. We need all the trees we can get.

Alicia Snowi
San Francisco, CA 94117-4236
May 8, 2013

I do not believe FEMA should be spending money on removing tall trees.

kathleen daniel
New York, NY 10028
May 8, 2013

This plan is unacceptable. Though, non-native, invasive, highly flammable trees like euc's are a prob, before removing (without any herbicides!), non-flammable natives like redwoods need to be cultivated.

Commissioner Phoebe Sorgen
Berkeley, CA 94708-1445
May 8, 2013

This is a waste of tax payer money and will decrease home values. It's not a reasonable solution.

Peter Sorcher
Mill Valley, CA 94941
May 8, 2013

Absolutely no toxic herbicides should be used at all. In 2005 and 2006 East Bay Pesticide Alert handed toxicology of the pesticides UC, EBRPD, and other agencies, use in the hills and were pushing the city of Oakland to use. There is no need for any pesticide use at all and these trees, our local lungs, must be left standing until their natural deaths bring them down. There is no question of the danger of releasing the sequestered carbon in these old and young trees, and there is no question about the danger of the pesticides which are planned for use in this disastrous program.

Maxina Ventura
San Leandro, CA 94577
May 7, 2013

First it's deforestation, which makes it easy for developers swoop in after the public loses interest in using the area.

Barbara
San Francisco, CA 94127
May 7, 2013

The proposals to cut thousands of trees, if allowed to go forward, will result in an environmental disaster. When the tall trees are cut down, weeds, tall grass and shrubs will replace them; this type of vegetation is much easier to ignite and more flammable than trees.

Madeline
Berkeley, CA 94705
May 7, 2013

Do not cut down the tall trees. The hills are not an asphalt highway. Please come to your senses. Emily Hancock

Emily Hancock
Berkeley, CA 94708-1841
May 7, 2013

There are better ways to improve this area as pointed out in the petition.

Don Forrester
Sacramento, CA 95864
May 7, 2013

What people don't realize is that these taller trees are the only habitat for many species, such as owls and raptors since many of their traditional nesting sites, native trees, have been removed. These species won't just nest anywhere and even if they do the nesting will probably not be successful. You can't cut essential nesting sites down and plant saplings. The money should be spent on replacement trees to be planted and tended until they provide the equivalent habitat for these species. Then they have alternatives when you cut down these trees. This is the typical approach to a human-caused problem. It is not so simple.

Anna Ransome
Graton, CA 95444
May 7, 2013

California is turning into one of the ugliest States in America due to all the tearing down of what is natural and beautiful. When I go to Oregon I am amazed at all the trees and natural beauty. This type of mentality needs to be quashed. Try to think: If it ain't broken, don't fix it!

Bonnie Schindhelm
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 7, 2013

Stop robbing us of our trees! We need more trees than ever with the current climate crisis. We also don't want more toxic herbicides poured over our neighborhoods - these get on people and pets, kill wildlife, get tracked into our indoor environments, and wind up in the bay.

Lu Carpenter
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 7, 2013

Please keep the hills intact and do not poison the wildlife!

Claudia Delman
Berkeley, CA 94702
May 7, 2013

This widespread action against trees would be shocking at any time, but is particularly so in a time of climate change.

Rupa Bose
San Francisco, CA 94131
May 7, 2013

I'll support any lawsuit or legislation to stop FEMA. This is simply insane!

William A Lofft
San Diego, CA 92131
May 7, 2013
