

Portfolio 9

Russian Ridge Public Recreation, Grazing and Wildlife Protection Projects



Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve (Vaibhav Tripathi)

DESCRIPTION

- Open currently closed areas of preserve.
- Construct and extend trails.
- Improve fencing, corrals and water systems to reintroduce conservation grazing.
- Improve habitat for sensitive species; implement pond enhancement projects for garter snakes and red-legged frogs.

Portfolio Allocation: \$5,560,000

Portfolio Expenditures Through 6/30/2023: \$628,202

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

MAA09-001 Russian Ridge Grazing Infrastructure

Prior Years

Completed brush management of the south pasture at Mindego Ranch.

Upgraded the corral and water system at Mindego Ranch, installing two 5,000-gallon water storage tanks, 11,000 feet of buried pipe, six water troughs and solar-powered water pump for storage tanks. Selected a grazing tenant to manage the conservation grazing operation.

MAA09-003 Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement

Prior Years

Completed the final design, permitting and construction of the pond improvements.

The US Army Corps of Engineers authorized the Section 404 permit in April 2020.

The San Mateo Resource Conservation District Board of Directors approved a grading permit exemption for the 630 cubic yards of proposed grading work in February 2020.

Design-build entity completed project construction documents, basis of design, integrated pest management plan and vegetation management plan in September 2019.

The design-build entity applied for a grading permit exemption from County of San Mateo and a section 401 permit from the RWQCB.

Selected a design-build firm to improve the ponds to support endangered species' habitat.

MAA09-004 Mindego Hill Trail Construction

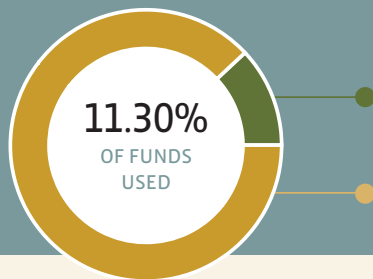
Prior Years

Constructed and opened an extension of Mindego Hill Trail to the top of the prominent Mindego Hill with 360-degree panoramic views.

Completed remediation of the Mindego Ranch area.

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Project	Expenditure Plan	Total Through Prior Period 6/30/22	Current Period 7/1/22 Through 6/30/23	Total Life-to-Date Through 6/30/23	Expenditure Plan Remaining	Percent Expended
Total Portfolio Allocation	\$5,560,000					
09-001—Russian Ridge Grazing Infrastructure		\$174,416	\$0	\$174,416		
09-003—Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement		\$448,106	\$387	\$448,493		
09-004—Mindego Hill Trail Construction		\$67,403	\$0	\$67,403		
09-006—Mindego Ranch South Pasture		\$0	\$106,475	\$106,475		
Subtotal	\$5,560,000	\$689,925	\$106,862	\$796,787	\$4,763,213	14.33%
09-003—Russian Ridge Mindego Pond Improvement Grant Income		\$0	(\$168,585)	(\$168,585)		
Grand Total	\$5,560,000	\$689,925	(\$61,723)	\$628,202	\$4,931,798	11.30%



Total Life-to-Date Through 6/30/23
\$628,202

Expenditure Plan Remaining
\$4,931,798

MAA09-006 Mindego Ranch South Pasture

Prior Years

Completed the addition of 98 acres of grasslands to conservation grazing program.

Completed fence and water infrastructure improvements to expand the conservation grazing program as a management tool to conserve the high biodiversity of the surrounding grassland habitat and prevent brush encroachment.

In Support of MAA09

Prior Years

Received board approval for the grazing tenant to perform fence and water infrastructure installation to support the conservation grazing program. Fence construction will be performed first and begin mid-summer. Based upon public feedback, water system improvements will include a water trough for public equestrian use.

The grazing tenant applied and was awarded partial funding for the water system improvements from the National Resource Conservation Service Environmental Quality Improvement Project program.

The grazing tenant completed coyote brush mowing in the planned pasture expansion area.

Completed year four of the San Francisco garter snake field study and ongoing bullfrog eradication work at Mindego Ranch in Russian Ridge Preserve.

PROJECT CHALLENGES

None.

PROJECT NEXT STEPS

None.