

An aerial photograph of the San Bruno Mountain area. The mountain is a large, brown, hilly landmass in the center. To its north is the city of San Francisco, to its west is Daly City, to its southwest is Colma, and to its south is South San Francisco. The San Francisco Bay is visible to the east. The text labels are overlaid on the image in various colors and sizes.

San Francisco

Daly City

Welcome to San Bruno Mountain
You are Living at the Base of
The Largest Urban Open Space
In the World

Colma

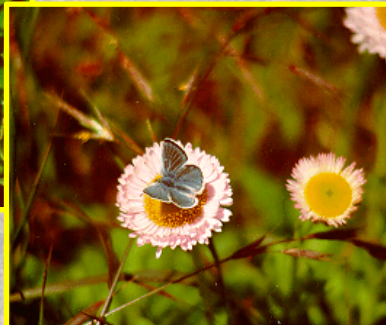
The Mountain is Home to Many
Endangered Plants and Animals
It is A Very Special and Sacred Place to
Many People

South San Francisco

Many Organizations and Individuals
Are Stewards for the Mountain and We
Hope that You Will Join Our Efforts



Viola pendunculata is the Host plant for the Callippe silverspot butterfly



Mission Blue Butterfly on a nectar plant



Wildflower-Footsteps of Spring

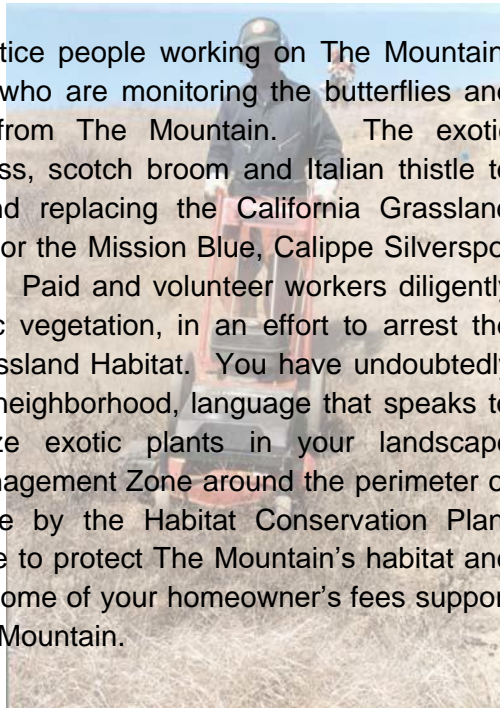
The natural ecological balance of The Mountain has been interrupted. Chemical and mechanical intervention is needed to help restore that balance. San Bruno Mountain, as well as much of California habitat, was maintained by grazing and fire. Denizens of the area remember a time when, prior to development at the base of The Mountain, portions of San Bruno Mountain burned nearly annually. The burns would help maintain the grassland habitat. Reaching further back in history, during the Ohlone Native American habitation of The Mountain, prior to European arrival, the Ohlone use of fire maintained the natural abundance of grassland habitat. The habitat was key to their survival. The Ohlone subsisted off the wildlife, predominately deer, elk and grizzly bear, that the grassland habitat attracted. Many environmental organizations, local and regional government and some local residents are working to re-introduce fire on The Mountain as a form of habitat maintenance and wild fire management.

The City of South San Francisco City Council and Planning Commission rezoned 26 acres of land on the eastern slope of San Bruno Mountain as "Open Space". The area is known as the Preservation Parcel. The zoning enables critical butterfly habitat and a 5,000 year old Ohlone Village site to remain protected from development in perpetuity. The land is owned by Myers Development Company who retains the services of West Coast Wildlands to remove exotic vegetation and plant the land with native vegetation. Myers Development Company and the City of South San Francisco are working together to both expand and restore wetlands on the property.

This Brochure was Made Possible by
The City of South San Francisco,
Allison Knapp Wollam, Planning and Environmental Consultant,
McHuron Geosciences, Doug Allshouse,
Friends of San Bruno Mountain, Myers Development Company
and Western Pacific Housing.

We Urge You to Become A Steward of The Mountain.

From time to time you may notice people working on The Mountain. These “workers” are biologists who are monitoring the butterflies and removing “exotic vegetation” from The Mountain. The exotic vegetation, fennel, pampas grass, scotch broom and Italian thistle to name a few, are invading and replacing the California Grassland Habitat, the home and habitat for the Mission Blue, Calippe Silverspot and San Bruno Elfin butterflies. Paid and volunteer workers diligently spray, mow and pull the exotic vegetation, in an effort to arrest the invasion of exotics into the Grassland Habitat. You have undoubtedly noted in your CC&Rs for your neighborhood, language that speaks to your responsibility to minimize exotic plants in your landscape plantings, maintain the Fire Management Zone around the perimeter of your neighborhood and abide by the Habitat Conservation Plan. These requirements are in place to protect The Mountain’s habitat and to protect your neighborhood. Some of your homeowner’s fees support the work efforts to preserve The Mountain.



Preservation Parcel - The green area is where a burn occurred restoring the native vegetation



Goats grazing to control exotic plant infestation in the linear park



San Bruno Mountain’s landscape began forming about 130 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period. At that time, much of California was underneath an ancient sea. The Mountain was formed from a buckling of the earth’s crust between fracture zones. The uplift began about 10 million years ago and formed the Coast Ranges and San Francisco Bay. One of the elevated fault blocks became San Bruno Mountain.

As The Mountain uplifted, the bedrock was subjected to weathering and erosional processes. These processes are active today and evidence of them can be seen on The Mountain.

San Bruno Mountain is the home to three rare species of butterflies, the Mission Blue, Callippe Silverspot and San Bruno Elfin. The Callippe Silverspot and San Bruno Elfin are now found only on San Bruno Mountain. The Mountain is a 3,600 acre wildlife refuge that is protected from development by a “Habitat Conservation Plan” which permits limited human development, such as the Terrabay and Mandalay neighborhoods, in exchange for preserving the remaining land for habitat protection and restoration, hiking and the enjoyment of nature.

San Bruno Mountain is bordered by the Cities of South San Francisco, Brisbane, Daly City and Colma. San Mateo County Parks and Recreation manage The Mountain. These cities (sans Colma) and the County are the “Trustees” of San Bruno Mountain and perform various activities to preserve the butterfly habitat. Many organizations help protect and enhance The Mountain and its habitat. Search under “San Bruno Mountain” on the internet for a listing of the various organizations and their interests, expertise and contributions. You may want to become a member.



Wildflowers in bloom –
Hummingbird
Sage on the
eastern slope of
The Mountain



Ridge Trail



There are beautiful hiking trails throughout The Mountain's biologically diverse landscape. A hiker will find native grassland along the Southeast slopes of The Mountain and Coastal Scrub, Riparian and Scrub Woodland plant communities on the Northwest slopes. At its peak The Mountain rises 1,314 Feet Above Sea Level.

California is home to 6,300 native plants. Of these about 2,100 are found no where else in the world. No other state matches California's plant diversity. San Bruno Mountain is the home of 18 of these rarities, including the San Bruno Mountain Manzanita, Mount Diablo Sunflower and Coast Rock Cress. The Mountain supports at least 166 species of birds. Interestingly, The Mountain forms the Northern-most and Southern-most distributions of many Pacific Coast plants that originate in Baja and Alaska. Hiking is great year-round and supreme from late February to June. San Bruno Mountain County and State Park offers over 10 miles of formal hiking trails. It is very important to use the trails as areas off the trails are habitat to the endangered plants and animals found on The Mountain.



School children hiking San Bruno Mountain and learning
about the flora with Doug Allshouse



Friends of San Bruno Mountain
Doug Allshouse
Kathy Manus

Eric McHuron
Allison Knapp Wollam
Lori Bastian, Western Pacific Housing



Western Pacific Housing/Knapp Consulting Sponsored a Native Plant Salvage Event for Earth Day 2002 on San Bruno Mountain and Local Students, as well as Friends of San Bruno Mountain Participated in the Event

Should You Have Any Questions About San Bruno Mountain, Your Beautiful Backyard, or Should You Desire to Actively Steward the Land Please Contact Friends of San Bruno Mountain, San Mateo County Department of Parks or Thomas Reid Associates At:

<http://www.supportparks.org/links.html>,

www.eparks.net/Parks/San%20Bruno or

<http://thecity.sfsu.edu/users/HCP/>.

You May Access Many Organizations Involved with the Mountain via the Internet.

