

COUNTY OF YOLO

Department of General Services
Parks Division



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Grasslands Regional Dog Park Foxtail Abatement Plan

Yolo County General Services Department & Yolo County Resource Conservation District

Winter 2023-Fall 2025

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Summary:

In the winter of 2022-2023, Yolo County and surrounding areas experienced varying climate conditions and extreme rainfall causing unprecedented growth of invasive weeds, specifically fox tails. This is apparent at the Grasslands Regional Park Dog Park, a 10-acre fenced off-leash dog park located at 30475 County Road 104, Davis CA 95618. To address this issue, Yolo County General Services Department (GSD) and Yolo County Resource Conservation District (YCRCD) collaborated to identify management strategies through timed combinations of field discing, herbicide application, broadcast seeding, mowing, and flash grazing. The purpose of this plan is to increase public utility of the Dog Park while providing specific treatment to foxtails through adaptive management strategies. The design of the management plan is such to support a “Plan – Do – Check – Act” framework.

Plan:

Half of the dog park will be fenced off to split the treatment in two cycles to keep a portion of the dog park open for the public (see Attachment A). The dog park will be seeded with a custom mix identified by YCRCD composed of annual grasses to include annual ryegrass and soft-chess brome. Cycle 1, defined below, will apply the first treatment to the first half of the dog park, and Cycle 2 will flip the treatment plan and repeat. This plan will take place over the course of two years and at the end, call for further evaluation from YCRCD to evaluate the Dog Park status and identify other adaptive management strategies based off those observations.

The following outlines Cycle 1 of the general treatment plan:

- Fence off half of the dog park: Fall/Winter 2023
- Disc half the dog park: post 1st Rain, October-December 2023
- Apply herbicide to emergent weeds: 2-4 weeks post discing
- Broadcast Seed: post 2nd Rain, November 2023 – February 2024
- 3 month maintenance period on seeded field: closed to human and dog traffic
- Flash Graze on unseeded area to target emergent fox tails: Late Winter/Early Spring 2024*
- Apply herbicide (spot treatment only): April-May 2024
- Mow as needed: Summer 2024

*When the dog park is being grazed, the entire dog park will be closed to the public for an approximate week in order to safely apply treatment and prevent injury, stress, or death of the sheep. The closure will be communicated through Yolo County Parks social media outlets and physical posted flyers at the park.

Please refer to the Attachment A for the site layout and timeline visual.

Attachment A: Site Layout & Timeline Visual

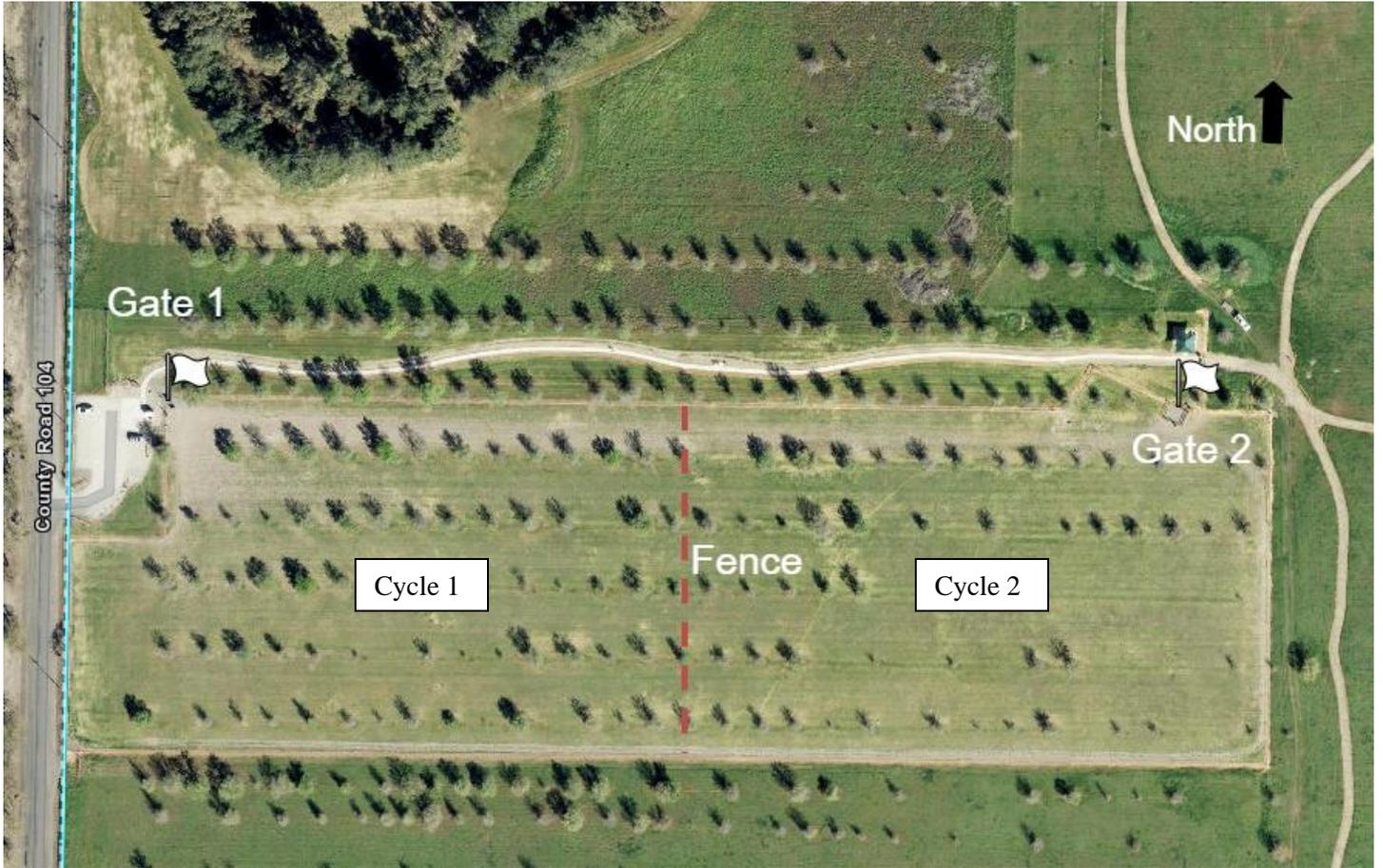


Figure 1: Site Layout

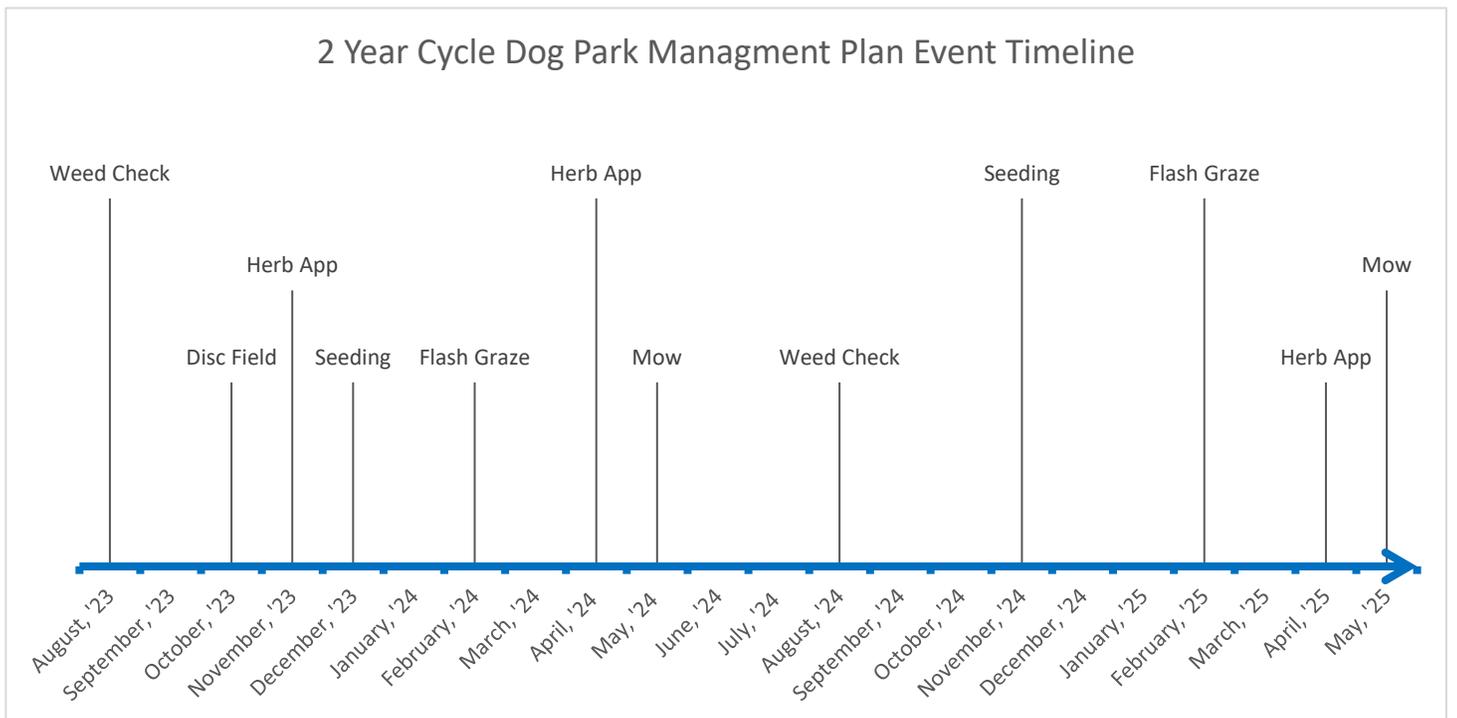


Figure 2: Timeline, weather dependent