

Carla Kacmar

From: Abby <abbywords@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 5:33 PM
To: René Voss
Cc: Alexis Fineman; Brian Colbert; Carla Kacmar; Dave Donery; Eileen Burke; Ford Greene; Jonathan Braun; Maxwell Pritt; Megan Acevedo; Sean Condry; Steve Burdo; brian@briancrawford.info
Subject: Re: tree cutting in Faude Park (today)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: External Sender

Are they union contractors? I believe the PG&E EVM contractors are required to be union contractors by the state of California. Someone can double check.

A

On Tue, May 24, 2022 at 2:49 PM René Voss <renepvoss@gmail.com> wrote:
From Brian Crawford. This happened just this afternoon. The tree company is Rancho Tree Services out of Bakersfield, hired by PG&E....

Guys,

I heard chainsaws start up outside my house and found a tree crew cutting down trees in Faude Park. I asked them if they had permission from the town to remove trees from a town park. They knew nothing about it. They gave me their boss' number and I called and asked him. He said PG&E hired some other contractor to mark the trees and they were told to take them out. He didn't know it was a park and wasn't told he needed permission. I told him to stop and call Sean, which he said he would do.

This is the second time in the last few months that a tree crew has started cutting trees on public property without asking permission. Rene Voss and I confronted them and succeeded in getting it stopped last time and I thought we had an understanding with Sean that there would be no non-emergency tree work in the park without consulting the Open Space Committee.

I saw them cut down a large tree at least 60 feet back from Oakland Avenue, so it was not a threat to the power lines. They have stopped for now, but I want to see this practice stopped permanently. I know we're all concerned about wildfires and power outages, but no one should be removing trees from our public open spaces without permission.

Brian Crawford

[415-407-5776](tel:415-407-5776)

René Voss
renepvoss@gmail.com

----- Original message -----

From: René Voss <renepvoss@gmail.com>

Date: 5/24/22 11:13 AM (GMT-08:00)

To: Steve Burdo <sburdo@townofsananselmo.org>, Alexis Feinman <afineman@townofsananselmo.org>, Brian Colbert <bcolbert@townofsananselmo.org>, Eileen Burke <eburke@townofsananselmo.org>, Ford Green <fgreene@townofsananselmo.org>

Cc: Sean Condry <scondry@townofsananselmo.org>, Megan Acevedo <macevedo@epsteinlawyer.com>, Carla Kacmar <ckacmar@townofsananselmo.org>, David Donnery <ddonery@townofsananselmo.org>, Maxwell Pritt <mpritt@bsfillp.com>, Abby Cunningham <abbywords@gmail.com>

Subject: State Enforcement Against PG&E for Riparian Tree Cutting

Town Council Members,

For your council meeting tonight, I am attaching an example of an enforcement action taken by the state against PG&E for unpermitted tree cutting in NAPA county. Similar actions by PG&E in and along our creeks are starting to happen here in Marin County.

I have been working with Cal. State enforcement staff at the Water Boards and Cal. Fish and Game regarding PG&E's rampant tree cutting in certain sensitive areas, such as creeks, riparian areas, and redwood stands, which serve as critical habitat for federally threatened and endangered coho salmon and steelhead, as well as northern spotted owls, all protected under the ESA and CESA. I expect that they may be taking action against PG&E soon based on my reports of tree cutting or tree marking along creeks in San Geronimo Valley, all without permits.

The creeks in San Anselmo and Fairfax also contain critical habitat for both coho and steelhead, and state law prohibits tree removal in or along our creeks without the necessary permits and mitigations.

Please review the letters and the photos near the end. I would be happy to help answer any questions.

Thank you,

René Voss

Attorney at Law

415-446-9027

