

**Practice: 394 - Firebreak**

**Scenario: #1 - Vegetated, permanent, grass**

**Scenario Description:**

Establishing 2 acres (30 foot wide strip approximately 1/2 mile in length) of permanent vegetation that will serve as a green firebreak. Scenario includes clearing the site, preparing the seedbed, seeding (typically cool season grasses and/or legumes), and applying needed soil amendments. Clearing will be achieved with the use of a bush hog or similar equipment. Seedbed preparation and vegetation establishment will be accomplished with farm equipment. Soil amendments will be applied according to local FOTG guidance. This scenario does not include follow-up maintenance operations such as weed control, mowing, etc. Resource concerns include Wildfire hazard from excessive biomass accumulation, Soil erosion, and Excessive sediment in surface waters.

**Before Situation:**

Tract, field, or farm lacks adequate firebreaks to either reduce the spread of wildfires or contain a prescribed burn.

**After Situation:**

The property is adequately protected from wildfire or can be safely prescribe burned. Wildlife habitat will also be enhanced and the potential for erosion from the firebreak is minimized.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Length of firebreak

**Scenario Unit:** Linear Foot

**Scenario Typical Size:** 2,640

**Scenario Cost:** \$291.63

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$0.11

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Tillage, Primary	946	Includes heavy disking (offset) or chisel plow. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$16.36	1.8	\$29.45
Fertilizer, ground application, dry bulk	950	Dry bulk fertilizer application performed by ground equipment. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$6.71	1.8	\$12.08
Seeding Operation, No Till/Grass Drill	960	No Till drill or grass drill for seeding. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$21.04	1.8	\$37.87
<b>Labor</b>						
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$18.71	2	\$37.42
<b>Materials</b>						
One Species, Cool Season, Introduced Perennial Grass	2313	Introduced, cool season perennial grass. Includes material and shipping only.	Acre	\$32.72	1.8	\$58.90
Nitrogen (N), Urea	71	Price per pound of N supplied by Urea. Price is not per pound of total product applied, no conversion is needed.	Pound	\$0.62	72	\$44.64
Phosphorus, P2O5	73	Price per pound of P2O5 supplied by Superphosphate. Price is not per pound of total product applied, no conversion is needed.	Pound	\$0.66	108	\$71.28

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**Scenario: #2 - Mowing**

**Scenario Description:**

Installation of a short vegetative firebreak a minimum width of 30' around a 40 acre field/farm using a bush-hog mower. Generally water control devices such as water bars are not needed due either to the lack of steep terrain or the temporary nature of the firebreak.

Resource concerns include Wildfire hazard from excessive biomass accumulation, Undesirable plant productivity and health, Inadequate plant structure and composition, and Habitat degradation.

**Before Situation:**

Tract, field, or farm lacks adequate firebreaks to either reduce the spread of wildfires or contain a prescribed burn.

**After Situation:**

The property is adequately protected from wildfire or can be safely prescribe burned.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Length of firebreak

**Scenario Unit:** Linear Foot

**Scenario Typical Size:** 5,280

**Scenario Cost:** \$214.77

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$0.04

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$52.88	3	\$158.64
<b>Labor</b>						
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$18.71	3	\$56.13

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**Scenario: #3 - Constructed, tillage**

**Scenario Description:**

Use of medium equipment such as small dozers to blade, disk, plow, etc. to create a 30' wide bare-soil firebreaks on slopes less than 15% around a 40 acre field. Resource concerns include Wildfire hazards from excessive biomass accumulation, Undesirable plant productivity and health, Inadequate plant structure and composition, and Habitat degradation.

**Before Situation:**

Tract, field, or farm lacks adequate firebreaks to either reduce the spread of wildfires or contain a prescribed burn. Conditions such as topography, the presence of brush and trees, etc. make the use of typical farm equipment impractical.

**After Situation:**

The property is adequately protected from wildfire or can be safely prescribe burned and the potential for excessive erosion from the firebreak is negligible.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Length of firebreak

**Scenario Unit:** Linear Foot

**Scenario Typical Size:** 5,280

**Scenario Cost:** \$596.92

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$0.11

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Tillage, Primary	946	Includes heavy disking (offset) or chisel plow. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$16.36	14.6	\$238.86
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, small equipment	1138	Equipment <70 HP but can't be transported by a pick-up truck or with typical weights between 3,500 to 14,000 pounds.	Each	\$179.03	2	\$358.06

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**Scenario: #4 - Constructed, medium equipment, dozer**

**Scenario Description:**

Use of equipment such as small dozers to blade bare-soil firebreaks. Resource concerns include Wildfire hazard from excessive biomass accumulation, Undesirable plant productivity and health, Inadequate plant structure and composition, Habitat degradation, Soil erosion, and Excessive sediment in surface waters.

**Before Situation:**

Tract, field, or farm lacks adequate firebreaks to either reduce the spread of wildfires or contain a prescribed burn. Conditions such as topography, the presence of brush and trees, etc. make the use of typical farm equipment impractical. As slopes increase, the potential for excessive erosion increases from soil disturbances. Therefore the installation of water control devices such as water bars will be important in protecting the resource base.

**After Situation:**

The property is adequately protected from wildfire or can be safely prescribe burned and the potential for excessive erosion from the firebreak is minimized.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Length of firebreak

**Scenario Unit:** Linear Foot

**Scenario Typical Size:** 1,000

**Scenario Cost:** \$674.97

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$0.67

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Dozer, 80 HP	929	Track mounted Dozer with horsepower range of 60 to 90. Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$69.96	4	\$279.84
<b>Labor</b>						
Equipment Operators, Heavy	233	Includes: Cranes, Hydraulic Excavators >=50 HP, Dozers, Paving Machines, Rock Trenchers, Trenchers >=12", Dump Trucks, Ag Equipment >=150 HP, Scrapers, Water Wagons.	Hour	\$25.79	5	\$128.95
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, medium equipment	1139	Equipment with 70-150 HP or typical weights between 14,000 and 30,000 pounds.	Each	\$266.18	1	\$266.18

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**Scenario: #5 - Constructed, hand cleared**

**Scenario Description:**

Installing a bare-ground firebreak with a width of 8' or more on gently to strongly sloping slopes with hand tools and labor in timbered areas. Resource concerns include Wildfire hazard from excessive biomass accumulation, Undesirable plant productivity and health, Inadequate plant structure and composition, Habitat degradation, Soil erosion, and Excessive sediment in surface waters.

**Before Situation:**

Tract, field, or farm lacks adequate firebreaks to either reduce the spread of wildfires or contain a prescribed burn. Hand cleared firebreaks are needed due to vegetation, topography, high wildfire risk or to their use as down-wind breaks for prescribed burns. Conditions such as topography, the presence of brush and trees, etc. make the use of typical equipment impractical. As slopes increase, the potential for excessive erosion increases from soil disturbances. Therefore the installation of water control devices such as water bars will be important in protecting the resource base.

**After Situation:**

The property is adequately protected from wildfire or can be safely prescribe burned and the potential for excessive erosion from the firebreak is minimized.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Length of firebreak

**Scenario Unit:** Feet

**Scenario Typical Size:** 1,000

**Scenario Cost:** \$680.46

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$0.68

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Chainsaw	937	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$6.55	8	\$52.40
All terrain vehicles, ATV	965	Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Hour	\$31.90	8	\$255.20
<b>Labor</b>						
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$18.71	16	\$299.36
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, very small equipment	1137	Equipment that is small enough to be transported by a pick-up truck with typical weights less than 3,500 pounds. Can be multiple pieces of equipment if all hauled simultaneously.	Each	\$73.50	1	\$73.50

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**Scenario: #6 - Constructed, tree clearing**

**Scenario Description:**

Installation of a short vegetative firebreak a minimum width of 50' on the upwind side of unit and 100' on the downwind side of unit around an entire 160 acre field/farm using mechanical trees shears, chainsaws, and bush hog mowers. Vegetation is reduced in height but not down to bare mineral soil. Generally water control devices such as water bars are not needed due either to the lack of steep terrain or the temporary nature of the firebreak. Typical slopes are between 5 and 45%. Resource concerns include Wildfire hazard from excessive biomass accumulation, Undesirable plant productivity and health, Inadequate plant structure and composition, and Habitat degradation.

**Before Situation:**

Tract, field, or farm lacks adequate firebreaks to either reduce the spread of wildfires or contain a prescribed burn.

**After Situation:**

The property is adequately protected from wildfire or can be safely prescribe burned.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Length of firebreak

**Scenario Unit:** Feet

**Scenario Typical Size:** 10,560

**Scenario Cost:** \$9,720.58

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$0.92

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Equipment/Installation</b>						
Skidsteer, 80 HP	933	Skidsteer loader with horsepower range of 60 to 90. Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$44.93	20	\$898.60
Chainsaw	937	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$6.55	20	\$131.00
Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$52.88	10	\$528.80
Mechanical cutter, chopper	943	Masticator, flail shredder, hydro axe, brush cutter, etc. Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$133.70	40	\$5,348.00
<b>Labor</b>						
General Labor	231	Labor performed using basic tools such as power tool, shovels, and other tools that do not require extensive training. Ex. pipe layer, herder, concrete placement, materials spreader, flagger, etc.	Hour	\$18.71	24	\$449.04
Equipment Operators, Light	232	Includes: Skid Steer Loaders, Hydraulic Excavators <50 HP, Trenchers <12", Ag Equipment <150 HP, Pickup Trucks, Forklifts, Mulchers	Hour	\$22.38	70	\$1,566.60
<b>Mobilization</b>						
Mobilization, medium equipment	1139	Equipment with 70-150 HP or typical weights between 14,000 and 30,000 pounds.	Each	\$266.18	3	\$798.54