

Practice: 394 - Firebreak

Scenario: #1 - Vegetated, permanent, grass

Scenario Description:

Establishing a 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: \$243.41

Scenario Cost/Unit: \$0.09

Cost Details (by category):

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
Equipment/Installation						
Seeding Operation, No Till/Grass Drill	960	No Till drill or grass drill for seeding. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$20.28	1.8	\$36.50
Fertilizer, ground application, dry bulk	950	Dry bulk fertilizer application performed by ground equipment. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$6.44	1.8	\$11.59
Tillage, Primary	946	Includes heavy disking (offset) or chisel plow. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$15.77	1.8	\$28.39
Labor						
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	\$18.99	2	\$37.98
Materials						
One Species, Cool Season, Introduced Perennial Grass	2313	Introduced, cool season perennial grass. Includes material and shipping only.	Acre	\$30.44	1.8	\$54.79
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	\$0.30	108	\$32.40
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	\$0.58	72	\$41.76

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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: \$209.88

Scenario Cost/Unit: \$0.04

Cost Details (by category):

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
Equipment/Installation						
Mower, Bush Hog	940	Equipment and power unit costs. Labor not included.	Hour	\$50.97	3	\$152.91
Labor						
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	\$18.99	3	\$56.97

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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: \$230.24

Scenario Cost/Unit: \$0.04

Cost Details (by category):

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<i>Equipment/Installation</i>						
Tillage, Primary	946	Includes heavy disking (offset) or chisel plow. Includes equipment, power unit and labor costs.	Acre	\$15.77	14.6	\$230.24