

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
MONTANA CONSERVATION PRACTICE JOB SHEET

**PRESCRIBED BURNING (ACRE)**

**CODE 338**

LANDOWNER	FIELD / MANAGEMENT UNIT	DATE
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	CONTRACT ITEM NUMBER	AREA (ACRES)
		JOB CLASS

**PRESCRIBED BURN PLAN**

Parties igniting a prescribed burn may be liable for damages resulting from the fire and control cost, should fire escape the designated area.

**A. Description of Burn Area:** Land use: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Present plant cover

a. Woody Plants:

SPECIES	HEIGHT (FEET)	AVERAGE BASAL DIAMETER (INCHES)	% CANOPY	FUEL LOAD (LBS./ACRE)
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

b. Herbaceous Plants:

SPECIES	HEIGHT (FEET)	FUEL LOAD (LBS./ACRE)
Grasses	_____	_____
Forbs	_____	_____

c. Estimated Fuel Load:

SPECIES	TOTAL (LBS./ACRE)
Woody and herbaceous plants	_____

2. Slope \_\_\_\_\_ % Aspect \_\_\_\_\_ Soil Type \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Objective and Timing of Burn:**

1. Objective (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Control woody plants
- Distribute grazing
- Stimulate grass
- Remove litter
- Improve wildlife habitat
- Stimulate forbs
- Reduce wildfire hazard
- Other (define) \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) for Burning:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Timing of Burn (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Dormant - prior to plant growth (INCREASES HERBACEOUS PLANTS AND FORBS)
- 1-3" New growth stage (INCREASES HERBACEOUS PLANTS)
- Full leaf stage (REMOVES SOME WOODY PLANTS AND DAMAGES HERBACEOUS PLANTS)

Other (e.g., fall burn) \_\_\_\_\_

**MT338-JS2**

**C. Acceptable conditions for prescribed burns:**

RELATIVE HUM. (%)	WIND SPEED IN MILES							
	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	
25-34	A	A	A	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	A-Acceptable
35-39	A	A	A	A	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	
40-44	A	A	A	A	A	xxxxx	xxxxx	
45-59	A	A	A	A	A	A	xxxxx	
60-69	xxxxx	A	A	A	A	A	A	
70-79	xxxxx	xxxxx	A	A	A	A	A	
80-89	xxxxx	xxxxx	xxxxx	A	A	A	A	

1. Comments: (FIRING METHOD, STARTING TIME, WIND DIRECTION, SOIL SURFACE MOISTURE CONDITION, ETC.)

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2. Ignition plan and/or firing sequence (SEE PLAN MAP)

**D. Preparation of Area for Burning:**

1. Firebreak construction:

- a. Firebreak widths will be equal to or greater than **five** times the height of adjacent vegetation.
- b. Burned firebreaks—being essentially devoid of fuel and of the proper width—can provide protection from fire escape (width 5–30 feet).
- c. A combination of closely mowed vegetation and a bare ground strip firebreak can provide adequate protection, if combined widths are 130–200 feet wide.

KIND OF FIREBREAK	WIDTH FEET	LENGTH FEET	DATE TO APPLY
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

e. Existing firebreaks, streams, roads, tilled fields, etc. (SHOW ON PLAN MAP). Describe.

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f. Potential hazards are present within the burn area:  Yes  No

e.g.: power lines, snags, structures, etc. (SHOW ON PLAN MAP). If yes, explain precautions:

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**E. Adjacent Areas (OUTSIDE OF BURN AREA):**

1. Special precaution areas: e.g. leaf litter, dry grass, roads, structures, smoke dispersion, etc. (SHOW ON PLAN MAP).  
Precautions needed:

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2. Backup or secondary firebreak locations: (IDENTIFY)

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**F. Equipment/Personnel Needs:**

1. Safety equipment:

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2. Tools/equipment needed for burn (CHECK THAT APPLY):

rakes     swatter     torches     pumper truck     backpack pump     other

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3. Personnel needed for burn:

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4. Water needs (CHECK THAT APPLY):     filling source     portable tank

**G. Special considerations:**

1. Precautions to prevent fire escape:

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2. Suppression plan if fire escapes:

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3. Patrol and mop-up plan:

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**H. Emergency Phone Numbers:**

1. Local fire department: \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Sheriff: \_\_\_\_\_



## PRESCRIBED BURN APPLICATION

**A. Pre-burn Checklist:** (DAY OF BURN)

1. Weather forecast favorable  Yes  No
2. Necessary firebreaks constructed  Yes  No
3. Potential hazards accounted for  Yes  No
4. Special precaution areas noted  Yes  No
5. Backup/secondary firebreak locations noted  Yes  No
6. Safety equipment adequate  Yes  No
7. Tools/equipment onsite  Yes  No
8. Personnel needed available  Yes  No
9. Special considerations reviewed with crew  Yes  No
10. Actual weather at burn: Temperature \_\_\_\_\_ Humidity \_\_\_\_\_ Wind Speed \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cloud Cover \_\_\_\_\_ % Fronts or changes expected \_\_\_\_\_
11. Appropriate neighbors informed  Yes  No
12. Notification of units of government made:  Yes  No  
 Local fire department (PHONE) \_\_\_\_\_ USFS (PHONE) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sheriff (PHONE) \_\_\_\_\_ DNRC (PHONE) \_\_\_\_\_
13. Necessary permits obtained  Yes  No
14. Test burn performed as expected  Yes  No

Do not proceed if any of these responses are checked "no." \_\_\_\_\_

Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Post Burn Evaluation:** (DAY OF BURN)

1. Burning method used: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Start time of test burn BEGINNING TIME \_\_\_\_\_  am  pm  
 Mop-up completed ENDING TIME \_\_\_\_\_  am  pm
3. Observed change in weather conditions during the burn: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Fire behavior (check one):
  - a. Spotting  one  few  many
  - b. Difficult to control  Yes  No
  - c. Convection column  Yes  No
  - d. Fire whirls  Yes  No

5. Objective of burn met: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Post-burn management plan (ADDITIONAL TREATMENT NEEDS): \_\_\_\_\_

7. Future burn needed:  Yes  No ESTIMATE WHEN \_\_\_\_\_

8. Other comments:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Checked by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MT338-JS6**

**Installation Certification:**

Conservation Management Unit or Field Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Acreage: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Burn: \_\_\_\_\_ Beginning Time of Burn: \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Time of Burn: \_\_\_\_\_

Acres Burned / Treated: \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Firebreak Installed: \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Burning Method Used: \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Burn Plan Followed: \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Burn Evaluation Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Adequate: \_\_\_\_\_

**Certification Statement:**

I hereby certify that this practice has been installed in accordance with NRCS standards and specifications.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NRCS Conservationist

\_\_\_\_\_  
Job Approval Authority

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date