

Landowner _____



WHAT IS PRESCRIBED BURNING?

Fire applied to a predetermined area using prescriptions to meet specific objectives.

PURPOSES AND HOW IT HELPS THE LAND

Burning can control undesirable vegetation; prepare sites for harvesting, planting or seeding; control plant disease; reduce fuel hazards that lead to wildfires; improve wildlife habitat; improve plant productivity, health and vigor; remove slash and debris; enhance seed and seedling production; facilitate distribution of grazing and browsing animals; restore and maintain ecological processes and ecological site integrity; and protect air quality from wildfire smoke impacts.

WHERE THE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on all lands where applicable.

WHERE TO GET HELP

For assistance with this practice, contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service or your local Conservation District office.

APPLYING THE PRACTICE

Optimum dates and prescriptions depend upon specific objectives and desired outcomes. Seek the assistance necessary in gaining knowledge and experience needed to carry out a Prescribed Burn Management Plan that will address your specific objectives and desired outcomes.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Some plants, such as eastern redcedar and annual plants can be killed outright by a prescribed burn. However, many plants resprout following burning. The interaction of fire and grazing can create numerous combinations of optimum conditions for livestock performance and/or wildlife habitat.

MAINTAINING THE PRACTICE

Once the desired plant community is achieved, a management program consisting of proper stocking rates and repeat burning will be needed to maintain plant health and vigor. Generally, a fire return interval of every 3 – 5 years will maintain openings and suppress many resprouting woody plants.

PRESCRIBED BURNING MANAGEMENT PLAN

Client Information			
Name:		Phone:	
Ranch Name:			
Address:		County of burn location:	
City:	State:	Zip:	
Description of Area to be Burned			
Pasture Name and/or Number:			
Vegetation Type: (Grassland, Timber, Grass with scattered cedars, etc.)			Acres:
Legal Description:	Section:	Township:	Range:
GPS Coordinates (if known):			
Written Directions from nearest town: (Be <u>specific</u> so that these directions can be read to emergency personnel if needed)			
Projected Date of Burn:		Date of Previous Burn:	
Objective(s) to be Accomplished with the Prescribed Burn			
<input type="checkbox"/> Control Undesirable Vegetation	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Sites for Harvesting, Planting or Seeding		
<input type="checkbox"/> Control Plant Disease	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce Fuel Hazards that Lead to Wildfire		
<input type="checkbox"/> Improve Wildlife Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Improve Plant Productivity, Health and Vigor		
<input type="checkbox"/> Remove Slash and Debris	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhance Seed and Seedling Production		
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate Distribution of Grazing and Browsing Animals			
<input type="checkbox"/> Restore and Maintain Ecological Processes and Ecological Site Integrity			
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect Air Quality From Wildfire Smoke Impacts			
Provide further comments and / or list other objectives that may be accomplished from the Prescribed Burn:			

Notifications: (Responsibility of Client) Refer to Oklahoma Forestry Code Title 2, Section 16-28.2, et. Seq. for information and guidance regarding notifications. Forms can be obtained from State Dept. of Ag. <http://www.forestry.ok.gov/county-contacts>

When burning within Designated Forest Protection Areas, Contact Oklahoma Dept. of Ag. – Forestry Services at:		Location	Phone Number
Fire Departments	Phone Number	Date, Time and Person Notified	
Adjoining Landowners	Phone Number	Date, Time and Person Notified	
Others, as Needed (Sheriff, OHP, DEQ, Utility Companies, Oil and Gas Leases)	Phone Number	Date, Time and Person Notified	

Pre-Burn Preparations – Describe management needed prior to burn in order to successfully accomplish burn and meet objectives. (Deferred grazing to build fuel loads; prescribed grazing to reduce fuel loads; firebreak preparation; burning of brush piles; moving brush piles, etc.)

Firebreak Types (include locations on map) (Refer to Firebreak (394) Standards, Specifications and Job Sheets for details)	Dimensions	Preparation / Installation	
		Dates	Equipment needed

Smoke Management Considerations – Refer to Oklahoma’s Voluntary Smoke Management Guidelines, Oklahoma Dept. of Ag, Forestry Services

Sensitive Areas Identified	Direction from Burn Area	Distance to Area

Other Smoke Management Considerations
 (Category Day, hours of burning; local ordinances; dispersion conditions; applying various smoke control strategies such as avoidance (burn when the wind is blowing away from all smoke-sensitive areas, avoid burning if temperature inversions are present, etc.), dilution (reducing smoke concentrations by burning during good and rapid dispersion conditions, burning at slower rates, burning smaller areas, burning lighter fuel loads if the desired results can be achieved by doing so, burning mid-day rather than late afternoon or evening, etc.), emission reduction (minimize smoke output per unit area by utilizing effective firing techniques such as backfires, by proper scheduling for periods when duff and larger fuels are too wet to burn, by removing larger materials from the area to reduce emissions from residual smoldering smoke, etc.);burning under favorable moisture conditions; “mop-up” quickly to reduce residual smoldering smoke; etc.)

Category Day	Preferred Category Day	"Click" to Select Category Day	Actual Category Day (day of burn)
Dispersion Conditions	Preferred Dispersion Conditions	"Click" to Select Dispersion Conditions	Actual Dispersion Conditions (day of burn)

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Pre-Burn Checklist - The following items should be addressed prior to implementing burn and appropriate action taken. Protection of facilities and/or special areas should be documented and included on map.

	Present in burn unit	If Present - Action Needed / Recommended	ACCOMPLISHED (CLIENT CHECKS)
LIABILITY PROTECTION AND NOTIFICATIONS		REFER TO OKLAHOMA FORESTRY CODE TITLE 2, SECTION 16-28.2, ET. SEQ.) FOR GUIDELINES AND CLARIFICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pens/Barns	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Oil/Gas/Pipelines/Utility Structures	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Fences - with wood or plastic components	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Homes/Cabins	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Windmills	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Watering Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeding Facilities/Hay Storage	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Equipment/Vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife Habitat Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Critical Eroding Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Remnant Livestock	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Volatile Fuels	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Areas Desired for Protection	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Inspection of Firebreaks (Check all firelines for "fuel bridging" before starting the burn.	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>

Fuel Conditions Needed to Accomplish the Burn and Achieve Objectives – Planning should begin early enough to achieve adequate fuel conditions needed to accomplish the burn. Special management needed to achieve this should be addressed in pre-burn preparations.

	Prescription	Actual (day of burn)
Estimated Fine Fuel Amount (lbs/ac) ¹		
Continuity ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor	<input type="checkbox"/> Good <input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Poor
10 hour fuel moisture (% dry wt. Basis) ²		
Estimated Mulch Load (lbs./ac) ²		
Mulch Depth (inches) ²		
Estimated Mulch moisture content (%) ²		

1 – Required entry ; 2 – As needed

Weather Conditions - Prescription

Prescription	Blackline Firebreaks or Backfires		Prescribed Burn	
	Optimum	Maximum Range	Optimum	Maximum Range
Wind Speed				
Wind Direction				
Relative Humidity				
Air Temperature				
Duff and Soil Surface	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry <input type="checkbox"/> Damp <input type="checkbox"/> Wet		<input type="checkbox"/> Dry <input type="checkbox"/> Damp <input type="checkbox"/> Wet	
Soil Profile	<input type="checkbox"/> Dry <input type="checkbox"/> Damp <input type="checkbox"/> Wet		<input type="checkbox"/> Dry <input type="checkbox"/> Damp <input type="checkbox"/> Wet	
Risk of Spotfires (Refer to Table 1 in General Specification)	<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Med <input type="checkbox"/> Low		<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Med <input type="checkbox"/> Low	

Other Fuel or Weather Considerations (Fine fuel moisture, Days since last major rainfall event, any other special considerations)

Weather Forecasts – (Responsibility of Client) Timing of burning is dependent upon prescribed weather conditions. Both the 7 day and 24 hour forecasts should be checked and documented in order to plan burn according to prescription.

Forecasted Item	Seven (7) day Forecast	Twenty-Four (24) hour Forecast
Predicted Windshifts		
Wind Speeds		
Wind Direction		
Temperatures		
Relative Humidity		
Other as needed		
Source of Data		

Possible Sources of Weather Data

Fire Danger Model:

http://www.mesonet.org/index.php/agriculture/map/range_forest/fire_danger/burning_index1 and/or
<http://okfire.mesonet.org/>

Forecasts: http://www.mesonet.org/index.php/forecast/local_and_regional and/or
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/?n=fireweather>

Equipment Needs and Crew Member Responsibilities Checklist – Various types of equipment may be needed in order to have a safe and successful burn. The following checklist should be used to inventory available equipment and plan for needed equipment. All equipment should be tested prior to starting the fire. It is also a good idea to have back-up equipment on hand.

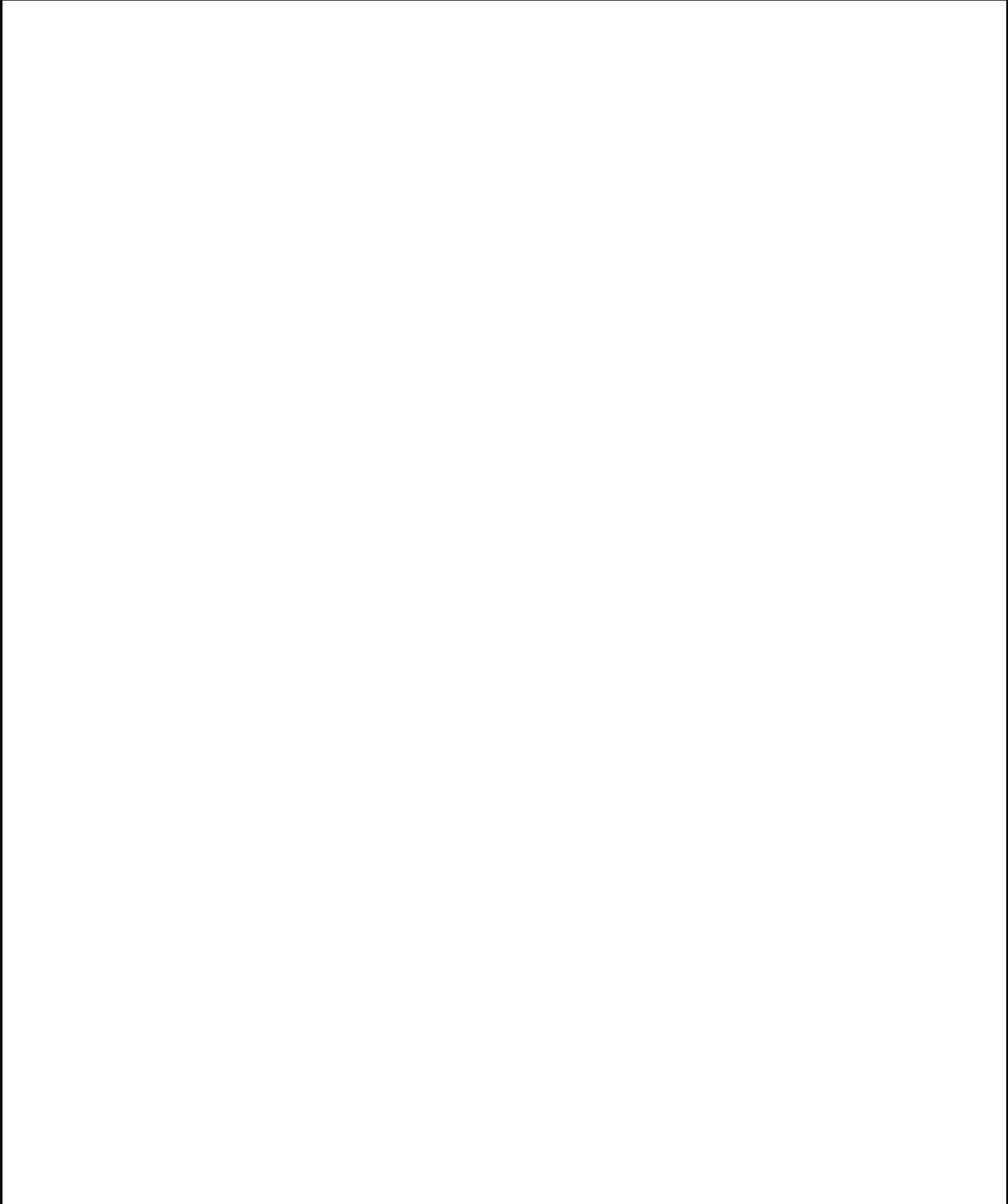
Equipment Items	Equipment Purpose(s)	Desired on burn	Amount On-Hand	Amount Needed	Comments / Other Considerations	Available Day Of Burn
HAND TOOLS	Drip torch(es)	For lighting the firelines. Air vent should be adjusted for fine fuel conditions and a walking pace. They should be held upright and extinguished when not in use.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Flapper(s)	Place and hold over fire or use like a mop over an area to smother flames – Do Not Flap Or Swat!	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Shovel(s)	Clear small areas of firebreak; smother flames; place dirt over flames.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Rake(s) (McLeod rakes, garden rakes, etc.)	Clear areas or widen firebreaks, especially in wooded areas; spread fire by dragging fine fuel; prevent fire from spreading by dragging fine fuel & fire back on itself.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Backpack pump(s) / Sprayer(s)	Used for putting fire out especially in areas where larger sprayers or equipment may be hard to get in.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Leaf Blower(s)	May be used in timbered areas to blow a clean line to bare soil through leaf litter; also used to blow out backfires or small flank fires.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Flags for flagmen	To regulate traffic on roads or highways when smoke reduces visibility.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Chainsaw(s) / Tree saw(s) / Axe(s)	Helpful for cutting down snags and hollow trees near firebreaks before or after the burn.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
			<input type="checkbox"/>			
LARGE EQUIPMENT	Pumper truck(s)	Helpful should the fire escape; source of additional water.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Tractor(s) / Maintainer(s)	Helpful to contain an escape by blading or covering small fires to put them out. May be used to move or push out burning snags.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	Large sprayer(s)/ (Slip in or Pull behind)	Helpful for putting out small escapes; can be used to lay down wetlines in areas where bare soil firebreaks can't be installed; source of extra water.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	ATV's, (4 Wheelers)	Helpful for large areas or rough terrain; can mount ATV water sprayers on them or light firelines.	<input type="checkbox"/>			
			<input type="checkbox"/>			
			<input type="checkbox"/>			

Equipment Items		Equipment Purpose(s)	Desired on burn	Amount On-Hand	Amount Needed	Comments / Other Considerations	Available Day Of Burn
SUPPLIES	Diesel & Gas mixture for torches	Fuel mixture is a 1:1 diesel:gas – on warmer days this can approach a 2:1 diesel:gas mixture.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Matches or lighters	Used for lighting the torches; may be needed in emergencies to burn out a black area around yourself should one get trapped inside a burning area accidentally.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Fuel (Mixed and Not mixed)	Needed for motors on pumps, sprayers, ATV's, chainsaws, leaf blower, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Drinking water	Needed to keep the fire crew hydrated and functioning.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Toolkit / Fencing pliers / Other tools	Pliers may be needed to cut fences to allow vehicles to get to an escape; other tools for repairs on equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
			<input type="checkbox"/>				
			<input type="checkbox"/>				
COMMUNICATIONS	Weatherkit	Obtain on-site weather information & monitor weather parameters during the burn.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Two-way radio(s)	Vital for communication between all crew members & the fireboss.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	NOAA Radio	Helpful to monitor weather especially if a front or wind shift is predicted.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Cellular phone	Fireboss should have a means of contacting emergency personnel if the need arises.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
	GPS	Coordinates can be useful for emergency personnel if site is in a remote area.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
			<input type="checkbox"/>				
			<input type="checkbox"/>				
SAFETY EQUIPMENT	Cotton / Nomex (fire retardant clothing)	Long sleeve shirts, pants - no cuffs, worn outside of boots; no rips, tears, or frays in clothing.	<input type="checkbox"/>			All crew members	
	Cotton cap(s) / Helmet(s)	Long hair inside.	<input type="checkbox"/>			All crew members	
	Leather gloves and boots	Gloves – no large cuffs; Boots – lace-up preferred; No sneakers.	<input type="checkbox"/>			All crew members	
	<u>Dust masks / Respirators</u>	<u>Filtering ash & some smoke;</u> Protect eyes from heat & smoke irritation or when using power tools (leaf blowers, chainsaws).	<input type="checkbox"/>			All crew members	
	Goggles / Face Shields		<input type="checkbox"/>				
	Face / Neck Protectors	Nomex fire resistant material for use on fireline to protect face and / or neck from heat.	<input type="checkbox"/>				
			<input type="checkbox"/>				

Application Of Burn	Projected Date Of Burn	From:		To:	
Ignition Plan – Describe sequence of ignition for both burned firebreaks and main fire. Include details of ignition plan on burn plan map.					
Plan of Action should the fire escape or wind changes directions (See Figure 1 for attacking spotfires)					

Burn Plan Map – (Include legend with north arrow, archaeological/cultural resource sites, roads, firebreaks, utilities, water sources, ingress/egress routes for emergency vehicles, ignition plan, areas not to be burned, facilities and other items as needed.)

Smoke Trajectory Map – (Include legend with north arrow, burn unit, wind direction, 30° angle on each side to account for the horizontal dispersion of the smoke, and then mark the critical distances downwind of 5 miles, 10 miles, etc.)



<p align="center">“Mop-Up” After Burning</p> <p>Maintenance shall include “mop-up” or monitoring of the burned site and adjacent areas. Items to consider are ash, debris stumps, snags, fence posts, and manure piles which may smolder for several days after the burn. “Mop-up” actions may include drenching with water or fire retardant, smothering with a covering of soil, flapping and raking the fuels apart, or moving burning fuels. “Mop-up” procedures need to continue until all burning or smoldering materials near the perimeter of the burned area are moved to a safe area.</p>		<p align="center">Responsibility</p>			
Maintain close observation of the burned area until the fire is extinguished.					
Monitor the weather until the fire is extinguished.					
Take immediate positive action to ensure safety of the fire should a dangerous change in the weather conditions occur.					
Check entire perimeter of the burn area for firebrand sources such as: snags, hollow trees, poles and posts, smoldering brush and log piles, cow chips, and heavy mulch areas. Make sure the entire area is “safe”.					
Post-Burn Notification: After the burn is completed and all “mop-up” has been accomplished, the list of people and agencies notified before the burn should again be notified that the burn is complete. This ensures if a wildfire or accidental escape (poor “mop-up”) occurs, help will be requested immediately.					
OTHER ITEMS:					
<p>Post Burn Management – Management needed after the burn in order to meet objectives. Include any recommendations or considerations needed for invasive species, prescribed grazing, follow-up brush management, etc.</p>					
<p><i>Actual Weather Conditions at time of Prescribed Burn – Record periodically during time of burn</i></p>					
Days Since Rain					
Time	Wind Speed	Wind Direction	Relative Humidity	Air Temperature	Source of Data

Fireboss's Go / No-Go Checklist: If the answer to any item below is "NO", DO NOT burn until corrected.

Fire plan prepared?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is all the necessary equipment onsite and operational?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Firebreaks prepared?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Adequate personnel available for burn?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have all notifications been made? (Neighbors, Fire Departments, Etc.)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Will smoke management be within prescription?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are all weather parameters within prescription?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Have all personnel been briefed on the plan, objectives, assignments, tactics, hazards, and safety?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are current and projected weather forecasts favorable?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Can the burn objectives be met?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have the necessary permits been obtained?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	In your opinion, can the burn be conducted safely according to the Prescribed Burn Plan?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

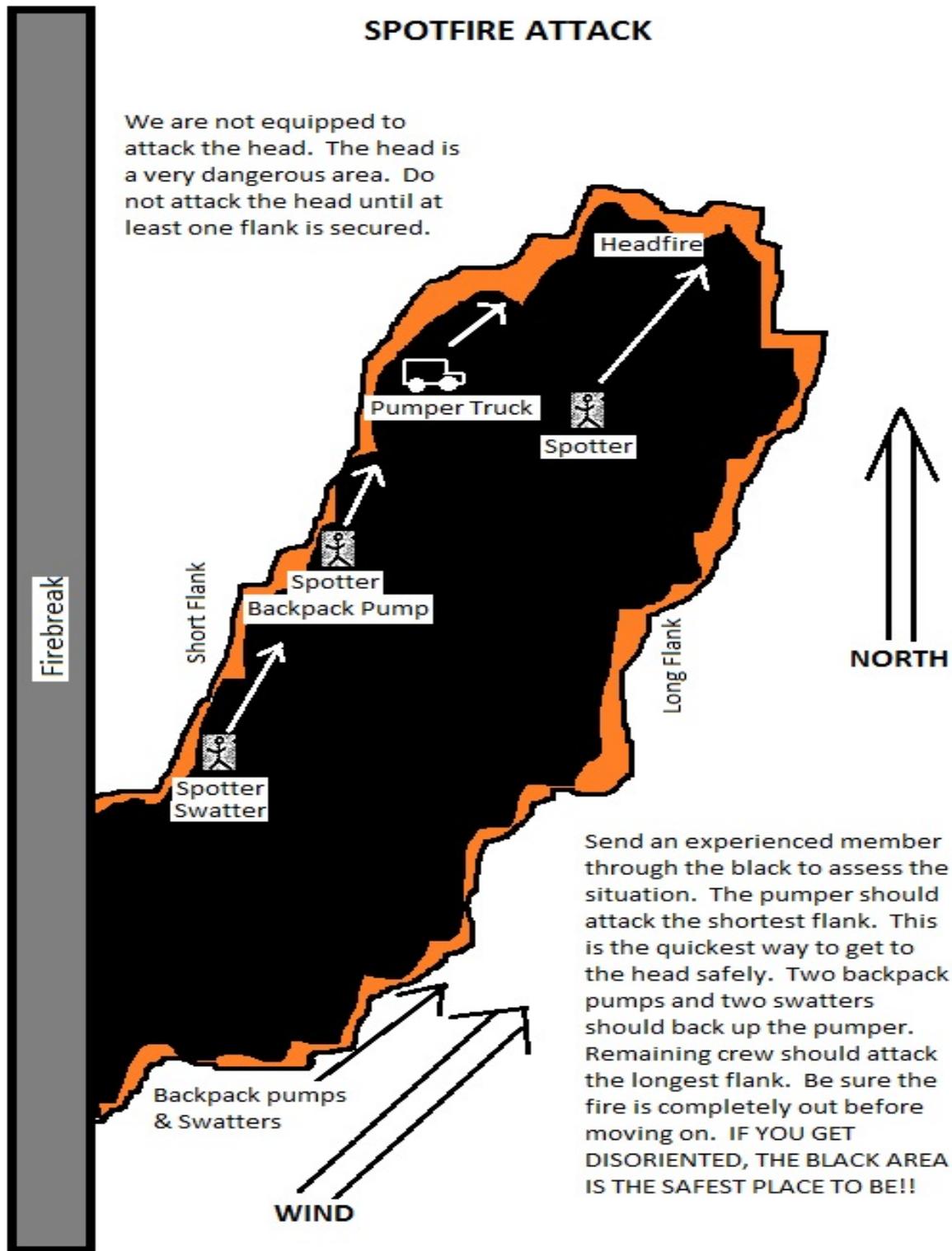
Provide additional notes or comments pertaining to any aspect of this prescribed burn:

This Prescribed Burn plan was designed / written by:		
Planners Signature		Date
If planner above is certified higher than "Apprentice", show certification levels below. If planner above is "Apprentice" certified, this plan was reviewed and approved by:		
Signature of Certified Conservationist (Show certification levels below)		Date
NRCS Certification Information – (Refer to General Manual 190, Part 413, Subpart B for NRCS Policy and Job Approval Authority. Planners should review their individual job approval authority for certification levels)		
Category	Select Appropriate Categories for Planned Burn	For each Category, select appropriate Certification Level of person planning burn
Fuel Type	"Click" to Select Fuel Type	"Click" to Select Certification Level
Fireguard Type	"Click" to Select Firebreak Type	"Click" to Select Certification Level
Terrain Type	"Click" to Select Terrain Type	"Click" to Select Certification Level

<i>Items within the burn plan that are in red are responsibility of client. Planner may assist where needed. Some items will be documented day of burn.</i>	
Client Certification	
This is to certify that the Natural Resources Conservation Service has informed me that I could be liable for damages resulting from this prescribed burn and the cost of fire suppression should the fire escape from the designated area. Damages could be from the fire burning something and / or from the smoke produced by the fire. I also certify that it is my responsibility to be familiar with and comply with state burning laws.	
Client Signature	Date

Separate prescribed burn plans must be developed for each prescribed burn. Prescribed burn plans are valid only for the location and time frame planned. If a client decides to change the location of the burn, or is unable to burn during the prescribed time frame and conditions, a new or revised prescribed burn plan must be prepared prior to conducting the burn.

Figure 1



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