

BENEFITS OF PRESCRIBED FIRE TO LANDOWNERS

Prescribed Fire Workshop for Private Landowners

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(serving clients of USDA, NRCS and VA DGIF)

BENEFITS

Hazardous Fuel Reduction

Seeding and Planting Preparation

Manage Vegetation Competing with Trees

Wildlife Habitat Improvement and Maintenance

Insect and Disease Control

Grazing Improvement

Aesthetic Appearance Enhancement

HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION

Is the most practical way to reduce dangerous accumulated combustible fuels.

Reduces the threat of a wildfire destroying forests and homes.

Burning interval of 3 years is ideal.

PLOWING A FIREBREAK



PREScribed BURN



SEEDING AND PLANTING PREPARATION

Removes logging debris for safer hand planting.

Exposes stumps for machine planting.

Exposes mineral soil for natural regeneration of trees.

Removes debris to facilitate grass and wildflower germination and sprouting.

LOGGING DEBRIS



MANAGE VEGETATION COMPETING WITH TREES

Controls seedlings and saplings less than 3 inches in diameter less expensively than herbicide application.

Removes understory plants that may be draped with pine needles and serve as ladder fuel for wildfires.

Burning interval of 2-3 years is required for effective control.

MANAGE COMPETITION



WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT AND MANAGEMENT

In forests, combined with thinning to a 50% crown closure to stimulate the native seedbank of grasses and wildflowers.

In fields, removes dormant residue in March, prevents smothering of grasses and wildflowers, and stimulates germination of annuals and biennials by exposing mineral soil.

Burning interval of 3 years is ideal.

WILDLIFE HABITAT IMPROVEMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Quail and grassland songbirds will occupy both forest understories and open fields if the native grasses and wildflowers are maintained by fire to keep the stands open.

Red-cockaded woodpeckers nest in older pine trees, but they forage in understories of native grasses and wildflowers with adequate insect populations.

WILDLIFE HABITAT



BOBWHITE QUAIL



GRASSLAND SONGBIRDS



RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER



MICHAUX'S SUMAC



SMOOTH CONEFLOWER



INSECT AND DISEASE CONTROL

Controls diseases such as:

brown spot disease of longleaf pine and
annosus root disease of all southern
pines.

Controls insects that infest trees and insects
that infest humans.

BROWN SPOT DISEASE



ANNOSUM ROOT DISEASE



GRAZING IMPROVEMENT

In forests, combined with thinning to a 50% crown closure to stimulate the native seedbank of grasses and wildflowers.

In fields, removes dormant residue in March, prevents smothering of grasses and wildflowers, and stimulates germination of annuals and biennials by exposing mineral soil.

Removes debris that poses tripping hazards to cattle.

Controls ticks and other parasitic insects.

SILVOPASTURE



AESTHETIC APPEARANCE ENHANCEMENT

Improves appearance to neighbors.

Makes the area more appealing to prospective hunters for leasing.

Produces vegetative changes for hunters, birdwatchers, and nature photographers.

Creates vistas for the surrounding area.

Improves access to all users of the forest.

BASAL AREA 120, NOT BURNED



BASAL AREA 70, BURNED

