

IMPLEMENTING PRESCRIBED BURNING AS A TOOL FOR HABITAT MANAGEMENT ON PRIVATE LANDS

PRESENTED BY ASSISTANT REFUGE MANAGER
LARRY WILLIAMS

PLANNING AND PREPARATION

- Identify and define burn area and any associated hazards.*
- Acquire necessary air pollution control permits and burn permits.*
- Prepare vegetation, firebreaks and equipment.*
- Prepare a safety plan.*
- Obtain weather forecasts.*

BURN DAY ACTIVITIES

- Acquire acreage allotment from air pollution control office and notify local fire department.
- Obtain last minute weather forecasts.
- Perform last minute equipment checks.
- Conduct test fire.
- Conduct prescribed burn using planned ignition pattern.*
- Perform mop-up of burn area.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

- Continue to monitor burn area until fire is completely out.
- Conduct any further manipulation.

ACQUIRE NECESSARY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL PERMITS AND BURN PERMITS

BUTTE COUNTY:

Contact Air Pollution Control at 891-2882. You will need to purchase a burn permit from them ahead of time. Cost is \$25 for permit plus \$0.25 per acre. Call at 8:30 a.m. on the day you want to burn to get your acreage allotment for that day. They don't get their allotment from the state office until that time. They may want you to talk to an inspector before they give you the allotment. Rice burning takes priority from October 1 through November 30. Notify local fire department of your plans to burn.

COLUSA COUNTY:

Contact Air Pollution Control at 458-0590. Contact several days ahead of time so they can tell you which fire department jurisdiction you are in. You should acquire a burn permit from that fire department several days before conducting the burn. You will need to notify that fire department of your plans to burn (i.e. which day and where). You will need to contact Air Pollution Control at 8:30 a.m. again on the morning of the day you want to burn, so that you can get an acreage allotment. The Air Pollution Control Office can also give you weather forecasts as well as forecasted acreage allotments for the upcoming day.

GLENN COUNTY:

Contact Air Pollution Control at 934-6501. Prior to burning you must purchase a burn permit from their office. Prices are: ≤ 10 ac /\$15, 11-50 ac/\$35, 51-100 ac/\$55, 100-200 ac/\$105, 201-500 ac/\$155, 501-750 ac/\$255. On the day you want to burn you will need to contact their office again at 8:30 a.m. to get your acreage allotment for that day. Then you need to notify either Willows or Orland fire departments that you are burning. Air Pollution Control discourages burning in the fall because of competition with rice burning. They keep a first-come/first-served list from about September 15 to end of November.

PREPARE VEGETATION, FIREBREAKS AND EQUIPMENT

---Roll down vegetation if needed. Roll down vegetation over entire area or maybe just adjacent to perimeter.

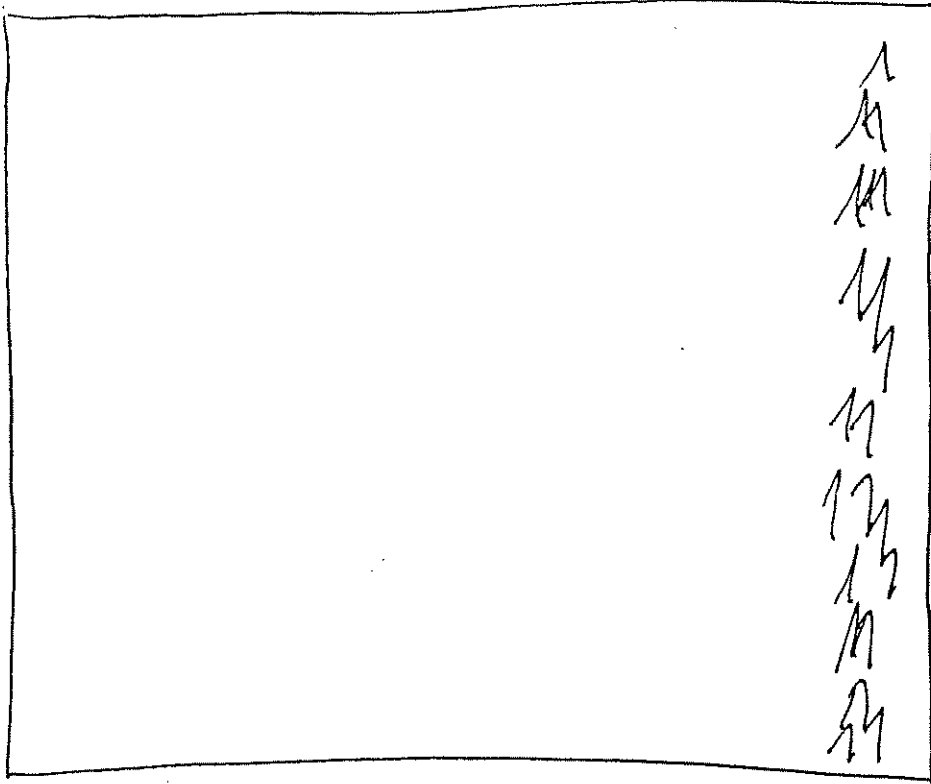
---Prepare firebreaks by discing, plowing, grading or scraping. May use roads, canals, ponds or bare dirt fields as firebreaks. Be sure to tie firebreaks together.

---Equipment:

- Tractor with disc or dozer.
- Water equipment, i.e. fire truck, tractor-mounted sprayer, ATV-mounted sprayer, backpack sprayer, etc.
- Handtools such as shovels, rakes, Mcclouds, flaps, etc.
- Protective clothing such as cotton shirt and pants, leather boots and gloves, goggles or glasses.
- Driptorch, burning fuel and matches.
- Cellular phone.
- Handheld radios.

BACKING FIRE DIAGRAM

Wind →

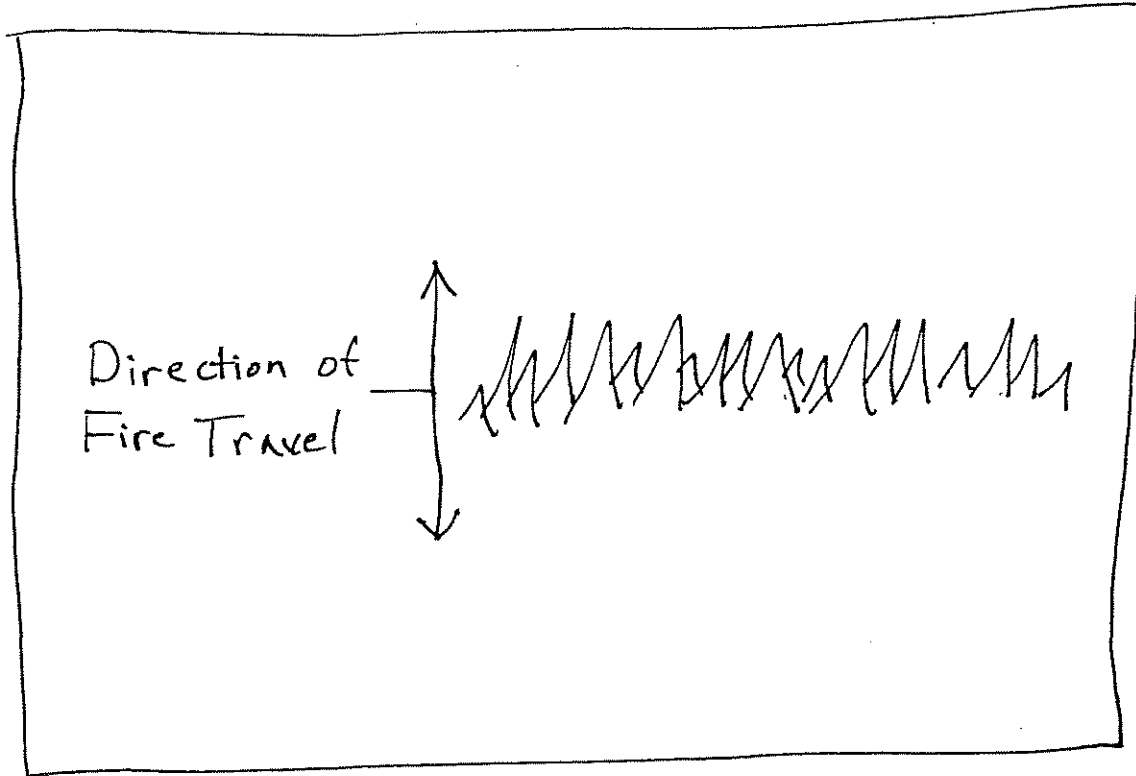


← Direction of Fire Travel

Burns slow, but very thoroughly.

FLANKING FIRE DIAGRAM

Wind →



Intermediate characteristics between head fire and backing fire.