

Prescribed Prairie Burns: an Introduction

I. Goal of Prescribed Burns

- A) Part of restoration process

- B) Habitat management
 - i) Whole ecosystem approach

 - ii) Species or taxon specific approach

II. Preparing for the Prescribed Burn

- A) Permits

- B) Communication and Precautions

- C) Crew Preparation

- D) Burn Plan

- E) Site Preparation

III. Understanding Fire Behavior

- A) Fire triangle

- B) Fuel locations in natural areas

- C) Habitat and fuel types

D) Atmospheric conditions
i) Stability and smoke dissipation

ii) Relative humidity

iii) Wind

E) Topography

IV. Conducting a Prescribed Burn

A) Fire components

i) Head fire

ii) Spot fires

iii) Black line/area

B) Burning Techniques

i) Back burning

ii) Strip burning

iii) Perimeter burning

C) Fire suppression

i) Fire breaks

ii) Wetting agents or retardants

iii) Hand tools

D) Burn completion and clean-up

E) Post-burn reports