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Introduction

Prescribed fire is a safe way to apply a natural process, ensure ecosystem health, and reduce wildfire risk. The Georgia Prescribed Burning Act (Section 12-6-145) defines prescribed burning as “the controlled application of fire to existing vegetative fuels under specified environmental conditions and following appropriate precautionary measures, which causes the fire to be confined to a predetermined area and accomplishes one or more planned land management objectives or to mitigate catastrophic wildfires.” Prescribed burning is listed as one of the highest priority conservation actions in the Georgia State Wildlife Action Plan. It is recognized as one of the most economical and important tools available to the Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) for managing terrestrial habitats and wildlife. The purpose of the WRD Prescribed Fire Policy is to guide the effective and safe use of prescribed fire as a tool for wildlife habitat enhancement and maintenance on state owned, leased, or managed lands. It is the intended purpose of this policy that all burns are properly planned and permitted, completed according to an approved prescribed fire plan, conducted by authorized and properly trained personnel, and follow local, state, federal, and tribal prescribed fire laws and regulations.

A. Training

Basic Wildland Firefighter Training (FFT2)

Basic Wildland Firefighter Training is required for all DNR employees and volunteers working on a prescribed burn. FFT2 training curriculum is coordinated by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) and includes: Introduction to ICS (ICS-100), Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service (L-180), Firefighter Training (S-130), Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior (S-190), and NIMS: An Introduction (IS-700). S-130 consists of a self-study portion and a field portion. The self-study portion is available through a CD or on-line. A field practicum is offered through Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) (2 day), WRD (3 day) and the Interagency Burn Team (IBT) (3 day).

All employees, especially those working with the IBT, are encouraged to pursue advanced levels of firefighter certification through NWCG standards. Interested parties can contact the WRD Training Coordinator for details. See attached flow chart, Appendix 1, for the suggested pathway. This includes FFT2 (Firefighter Type 2), FFT1 (Firefighter Type 1), ICT5 (Incident Commander Type 5), SRB (Single Resource Boss such as Firing Boss or Engine Boss), ICT4 (Incident Commander Type 4), and RXB2 (Burn Boss Type 2).

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Prescribed Burn Certification

Employees who want to pursue a supervisory role on prescribed burns must obtain certification through the Prescribed Burn Certification course administered by the GFC. Dates and times for courses offered each year can be found on the GFC's web page. ([GFC Prescribed Burn Certification Web Page](#)) This course consists of two days of classroom training and an exit exam. To obtain certification as a Prescribed Burn Manager per WRD policy, the employee must successfully complete the course, participate in at least five prescribed burns as the person in charge of execution of the burns and have at least two years of experience using prescribed fire. Once these criteria have been met, the employee can fill out the Prescribed Burn Certification Affidavit to become a Certified Prescribed Burn Manager, receiving a certification number.

An employee working toward obtaining their Prescribed Burn Certification can work under the direct supervision of the Burn Boss in the planning and execution of prescribed burns. This mentored position satisfies the criteria needed to meet the objective of being in charge of the execution of a burn for certification.

Annual Safety Refresher

WRD employees who participate in prescribed burning must attend an approved fire safety refresher course, such as the NWCG Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training (RT-130), annually. To maintain NWCG certification, an official RT-130 is required annually after first year as a FFT2. Courses are available through WRD as well as most of the IBT partners, including GFC, The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the US Forest Service (USFS). This training will recap issues uncovered during the previous burn season that need to be discussed. It will also include safety issues identified by the NWCG as well as fire shelter deployment training.

Annual Fire Safety Officer Training

Fire Safety Officers (FSO) must attend an annual fire safety training/coordination meeting, where fire safety refresher courses will be reviewed for approval. This training will provide the FSO with skills and knowledge to conduct annual safety refreshers for their respective regions or sections. Additionally, the training can be used as a platform for the FSO to share experiences relative to the application of prescribe fire on DNR managed lands.

Aerial Plastic Sphere Dispenser Operations

WRD employees operating the Plastic Sphere Dispenser (PSD) must be certified to run the PSD. Certification is obtained by completing a NWCG approved Plastic Sphere Dispenser Operations (PLDO) course. The PLDO course is provided by the US Forest Service on an annual basis, and training usually occurs in the late summer or early fall. Training dates and location will be determined by the US Forest Service. The Divisional Fire Safety Officer will coordinate this training with the US Forest Service.

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Helicopter Safety

A safety briefing and contingency plan for prescribed fires in which a helicopter will be utilized will take place on the day of and prior to the burn. Aviation Unit staff will conduct a pre-burn helicopter safety briefing at the burn site. This meeting should be attended by all persons who will be working in close proximity to or riding in the helicopter as well as the Burn Boss and those who are designated as team leaders. All personnel should refer to the Incident Response Pocket Guide's section on Aviation for safety and general information concerning burns that utilize aircraft. The Incident Response Pocket Guide can be found at: <http://www.nwcg.gov>.

Additional Training

See Appendix 1 for additional prescribed fire training opportunities for DNR staff.

B. Physical Requirements

Employees are responsible for informing their supervisor of any condition that may limit them in performing assigned tasks on a prescribed fire. In addition, it is the responsibility of the employee's supervisor or the Burn Boss to take preventative action in situations where an employee appears physically incapable of performing without risk of injury to the employee or to other staff working a prescribed fire.

Employees participating in prescribed burning are encouraged to successfully complete the Field Test-Moderate version of the Work Capacity Test (WCT) on an annual basis. The Moderate WCT consists of walking two miles with a 25-pound pack in less than 30 minutes. The Field Test-Arduous WCT (walking three miles with a 45-pound pack in less than 45 minutes) is substitutive and acceptable. WCT opportunities are available throughout the year through the IBT. Participants shall complete and sign the ParQ and You (PQY) prior to taking the WCT. See Appendix 2. WCT results remain valid for one year from the date the WCT was successfully passed.

Individuals who participate with the IBT and/or burn on partner lands must pass the WCT per IBT partner standards and attend a one-day NWCG-certified Safety Refresher Training annually (RT-130).

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C. Crew Member Levels on WRD Prescribed Burns

Helper:

- An individual who has no training in prescribed fire.
- An agency representative is appointed by and under the direct supervision of the Burn Boss.
- These individuals must remain in safety zones designated by the Burn Boss while they are in the immediate vicinity of the prescribed burn.
- These individuals may assist by transporting equipment and supplies and act as observers while in the vicinity of the prescribed burn. However, they shall not in any manner assist with fire ignition or suppression.
- These individuals must work under the supervision of an employee who has, at minimum, successfully completed Basic Wildland Firefighter Training.

Crew Member Trainee:

- An individual who has successfully passed the self-study portion of the Basic Wildland Fire Training but has not completed the field portion.
- At this level of training, individuals can assist in monitoring fire lines, transporting equipment and supplies, traffic control, etc., but not actively engage in fire ignition or suppression.
- These individuals must work under the supervision of an employee who has completed FFT2 or higher training.

Crew Member:

- An individual who has completed FFT2 training.
- At this level of training, individuals can execute tasks associated with fire suppression and be assigned a supervisory role pertaining to fire suppression.
- At this level of training, individuals can aid in fire ignition under the supervision of the Burn Boss or Burn Boss Trainee.

Burn Boss Trainee:

- An individual who has completed FFT2 training and has successfully passed the Prescribed Burn Certification course.
- At this level of training, individuals can assist in fire ignition and suppression.

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Burn Boss:

- An individual who has completed FFT2 training, is a Certified Prescribed Burn Manager (issued a certification number), and has been mentored on at least five burns by staff who are qualified as a Burn Boss.
- The Burn Boss is responsible for writing the Prescribed Fire Plan, or reviewing and approving a PFP written by others, and is responsible for the prescribed burn and directs all ignition and suppression activities.

D. Volunteers

Any person who wishes to volunteer during a prescribed burn must be at least 18 years old and adhere to the policies and procedures set forth in the DNR Volunteer Manual.

Volunteers are often engaged in strenuous work that may require some level of physical fitness for them to safely and effectively perform their assignment.

The waiver release form includes a statement regarding the volunteer's health and physical ability to perform the assignment. (Appendix 3)

As noted above, a waiver release form is required of each volunteer. A copy of the waiver release form should be provided to the appropriate Regional Fire Safety Officer. Prior to starting their assignment, the volunteer supervisor should have a conversation with the volunteer to ensure they are physically able to perform their tasks.

Volunteers must successfully complete and have documentation of the training required for their assigned tasks. Volunteers who wish to actively participate in prescribed fire ignition or suppression will successfully complete the appropriate Work Capacity Test (WCT) on an annual basis and must have completed the required training of a Crew Member or higher.

The Wildlife Resources Division participates in an interagency prescribed burn program known as the Interagency Burn Team (IBT) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Contact an IBT officer for current version of the MOU. Volunteers who assist with prescribed burns under the MOU are required to complete the appropriate WCT. In order to be consistent with the MOU requirement, all volunteers, regardless of whether they are operating under the MOU, will be required to meet these qualifications. This policy exceeds the current requirement for WRD employees engaged in prescribed burning.

The volunteer supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the volunteer completes the WCT on an annual basis. Typically, the volunteer would be given an opportunity to complete the test each year along with WRD employees. The fire safety officer for the

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Region will maintain, in a file (or online when made available), the list of volunteers who have passed the WCT, a copy of their training documents/certifications and a copy of their Volunteer Waiver Release form for a period of five years.

A Burn Boss should assign volunteers tasks that are compatible with their level of prescribed fire training. Volunteers shall not serve as Burn Boss on any DNR-WRD prescribed burn.

E. Personal Protection Equipment

Individuals who actively participate in prescribed burning shall wear the full complement of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) which must meet NFPA 1977 specifications. ([NFPA 1977 Standards](#)) This includes hardhat, eye protection, fire shirt and pants or coveralls, leather gloves and fire boots. Fire boots must meet the following specs: eight-inch minimum boot height, all leather uppers (no synthetic collars or panels), lace up (no zippers), defined heel, oil resistant soles with a rating of good or better on sole heat resistance, non-slip sole, and no steel toe. Employees utilizing an ATV or UTV during a prescribed burn must be certified to operate an ATV or UTV and must wear a fire-rated helmet (NFPA 1977) with chin strap or a helmet that conforms to the Snell SA 2005 standards.

F. Division and Regional Prescribed Fire Safety Officers

The Division Fire Safety Officer (DFSFO) is appointed by the WRD Director.

The DFSFO responsibilities are:

- Act as a liaison between WRD and other Divisions of DNR, as well as IBT partners, with respect to prescribed fire issues.
- Seek prescribed fire training opportunities and coordinate with Regional and Sectional Fire Safety Officers on training.
- Maintain current knowledge of prescribed fire techniques, equipment and technology and share this information with Regional and Sectional Fire Safety Officers.
- Conduct a review of any prescribed fire that has caused personal injury requiring a workman's compensation claim, death, or significant damage to or loss of WRD resources, the resource(s) of cooperators or the resources of adjacent properties. Agencies, other than DNR, with expertise in wildland firefighting, fire behavior, etc. should be utilized in the review process as deemed necessary.
- Coordinate the Division Fire Policy Committee which meets at least annually, to discuss the policy, Prescribed Fire Plan guidelines, training, and other prescribed fire issues that emerge.

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The Region Supervisor in each Game Management region shall appoint a Regional Fire Safety Officer (FSO) and will be responsible for ensuring that the FSO's duties are performed. The Chiefs of the Nongame Conservation Section and the Fisheries Management Section will designate a Section Fire Safety Officer (FSO) and will be responsible for ensuring the FSO's duties are performed.

Duties of the FSOs include:

- Maintain records on the prescribed fire training status of staff and volunteers. This may also include WCT status, training, taskbooks, and Incident Qualification System (IQS) standing with GFC.
- Coordinate prescribed fire training opportunities with the DFSD and provide these opportunities to staff state-wide.
- Maintain a record of all prescribed fires conducted within their respective region or area of responsibility.
- Ensure that region or section staff members participating in prescribed fires are properly equipped, trained, and have access to WRD prescribed fire policies.
- Initiate investigative procedures of any prescribed fire that has caused personal injury requiring a workman's compensation claim, death, significant damage, or loss of WRD resources, a cooperators resource or the resources of an adjacent property.
- Coordinate a review and conduct a Fire Incident Review Summary (FIRS) with the DFSD of any escaped prescribed fire that has caused significant damage to WRD resources, the resources of a cooperator or the resources of an adjacent property. Agencies other than DNR with expertise in wildland firefighting, fire behavior, etc. will be utilized in the review process as deemed necessary. Elements of the FIRS are attached (Appendix 4).
- Serve on the Division Fire Policy Committee which meets at least annually to discuss policy, Prescribed Fire Plan guidelines, training and other prescribed fire issues that emerge.
- Coordinate an annual meeting between Region, FMU and NCS personnel to discuss upcoming prescribed burns and other related management issues.

G. Prescribed Fire Plans

The enhancement of wildlife habitat is the overarching purpose for the use of prescribed fire by DNR. Thus, when Prescribed Fire Plans (PFP) are developed, the objective(s) of the burn should be clearly stated and consistent with established management goals for the property. When developing a PFP it is imperative that specific objectives are stated and considered.

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Spatial arrangement of burns should be considered when developing a PFP. Prescribed burns should be arranged in such a way to benefit the greatest number of wildlife species (i.e., enhance wildlife diversity). The burnable acres on a property should be broken up into burn units of appropriate size for overall management objectives and burned in a mosaic pattern when feasible. This type of burn pattern will benefit wildlife and decrease the likelihood of catastrophic wildfires.

All prescribed fires conducted on state-owned property administered by WRD shall have a Prescribed Fire Plan (PFP) approved by the Region Supervisor prior to being ignited. The template for PFPs is provided by the Division Fire Policy Committee (Appendix 5).

Prescribed Fire Plans may be valid for a period of five years. To facilitate planning for an extended time period, it is imperative that each section and FMU be involved in the prescribed burn planning process through the annual coordination meetings. Communication is critical to avoid conflicts with the prescribed burn (such as timber sales, research plots, rare species concerns, planned events, etc.).

Prescribed fires conducted on land managed by but not owned by WRD (in which WRD employees are to administer the prescribed burn) shall have a PFP approved by the landowner or an authorized representative of the landowner.

The DNR Prescribed Burn Agreement, used for privately owned lands, must be signed within 90 days of the prescribed burn with exception of lands with a previous agreement or MOU (Appendix 6). Prescribed fires conducted on private property must have a PFP approved by the landowner or landowner’s agent.

PFPs shall be driven by burn objectives and written with weather parameters appropriate for the fuel types and loading in the unit. Delineated stands with similar management objectives, timber types, habitat types, topography, fuel loads, and fuel types can be incorporated into one PFP.

Each Section and/or Region will retain a copy of the PFP for each prescribed fire for which they are responsible.

H. Firing Techniques

Various firing techniques can be used to accomplish the stated burn objective(s). The technique(s) chosen must be correlated closely with burn objectives, fuels, topographic features and weather factors to complete burn objectives. The following information is

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provided as general guidance for prescribed burn ignition. Fire planners must carefully consider burn unit history, local conditions, and management objectives for further refinement and implementation. Reference information can be found in the USDA Forest Service Publication [Introduction to Prescribed Fire in Southern Ecosystems](https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/su/su_srs054.pdf) (https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/su/su_srs054.pdf)

I. Burn Unit History

The burn history of the stand must be considered. Firing techniques implemented should consider the fuel load and the possibility of overstory damage resulting in significant economic liability to the department.

J. PFP Maps

All PFPs will include the following maps which follow the protocol set by the PFP Guidelines:

- 1) A tract location map showing the burn units for current burn plan.
- 2) Detailed aerial, topographic, and/or both individual burn unit map(s) showing property boundaries, firebreaks, smoke sensitive areas, critical areas, named roads to access burn units, utilities and other features important to the prescribed fire. The identification number and acreage of each burn unit should be shown on the map and listed on the "Stands" tab of the PFP.

K. Smoke Management

Smoke management is a critical component of the plan. Resources to aid in smoke management are found in the Prescribed Fire Plan Guidelines. Burn planners should take into consideration smoke sensitive targets in the area, such as proximity to highways, heavily populated areas, schools, hospitals, airports, etc. They should also plan to minimize residual smoke impacts as well as down drainage smoke impacts. Weather prescription should be selected to minimize impacts on smoke sensitive areas.

L. Prescribed Fires on Non-Forested Acres

As stated previously in this policy, all prescribed fires conducted on state-owned property administered by WRD shall have a Prescribed Fire Plan approved by the Region Supervisor prior to being ignited. The previous statement includes prescribed fires conducted on acres that are not timbered, such as agricultural fields, waterfowl impoundments, slash piles, areas around hatchery ponds and PFAs and areas prepared for artificial regeneration.

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Agricultural fields and waterfowl impoundments are managed for agricultural purposes due to the fact a crop is being produced or harvested.

For those WMAs located within the metro Atlanta non-attainment area, in which EPD has imposed a summer burn ban, when obtaining a burn permit for agricultural acres, the Burn Boss should inform the appropriate GFC representative that they are conducting a Type 2 Burn. A Type 2 Burn is a necessary agricultural procedure for production or harvesting of crops.

M. Conducting Prescribed Burns

In order to ensure the safety of personnel and volunteers, the Burn Boss designated on the PFP is the supervisor for all personnel and volunteers working the burn. The Burn Boss shall assign staff and volunteers to specific jobs, designate line bosses and other duties as needed. Assignments shall be based on the participant's observable or known physical condition, experience, level of training and observable leadership qualities. The Burn Boss is responsible for the prescribed burn, ensuring that all associates participating on a prescribed burn adhere to policy, and following all pre-burn, during burn and after burn check list items (PFP Checklist Tab, Appendix 5). Recommended follow-up procedures to declare a prescribed fire "out" can be found in Appendix 7.

N. Post Burn Evaluations and Audits

Post burn evaluations are a critical component of adaptive management, allowing managers to refine future prescribed fire prescriptions. The PFP contains the approved post-burn evaluation forms.

Burn Bosses shall inform the appropriate FMU staff member, within 7 business days of completion, that a prescribed fire has been conducted. FMU staff will contact region staff and inform them when site visits will occur. An initial post-burn evaluation, of a select number of burns, will be conducted by FMU. This initial evaluation will take place within 20 business days from the date of notification. The initial post burn evaluation is to evaluate the area for scorched trees, excessive charring and other timber stand health issues that may need to be addressed.

A final post-burn evaluation shall be completed for stands where undesired fire effects are experienced due to deviations from the PFP, approximately 4 to 6 months following such event(s) (excluding agricultural fields, waterfowl impoundments, piles, and site prep burns). This post-burn evaluation will be an assessment of the ecological impact of the burn under the conditions in which the fire was conducted. The evaluator will

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determine if the burn met the goals as stated on the PFP and provide additional comments as needed.

The approved PFP and the corresponding post burn evaluation are to be retained at the appropriate regional office. Region Supervisors are to ensure that post burn evaluations are conducted for prescribed fires on properties under their management authority.

O. Contractors

Contractors are required to abide by the parameters set forth in the WRD PFP. They must have successfully completed the Georgia Prescribed Burner Certification Course administered by GFC and their certification number should be provided as proof of completion. Contractors must provide proof of current liability insurance which meets the requirements set forth by State law before conducting any prescribed burn on state owned property. This documentation should be filed at the appropriate region office.

P. Failure to Follow Policy and Prescribed Fire Plans

All personnel involved in prescribed burning are expected to adhere to the Prescribed Fire Policy and the parameters set forth in the applicable PFPs. The parameters of the policy and PFP have been established for personnel safety and to ensure that the objective(s) of a prescribed fire are accomplished.

Any person determined to be conducting prescribed fire operations outside of the parameters set forth by the Prescribed Fire Policy or the PFP may be subject to disciplinary action(s).

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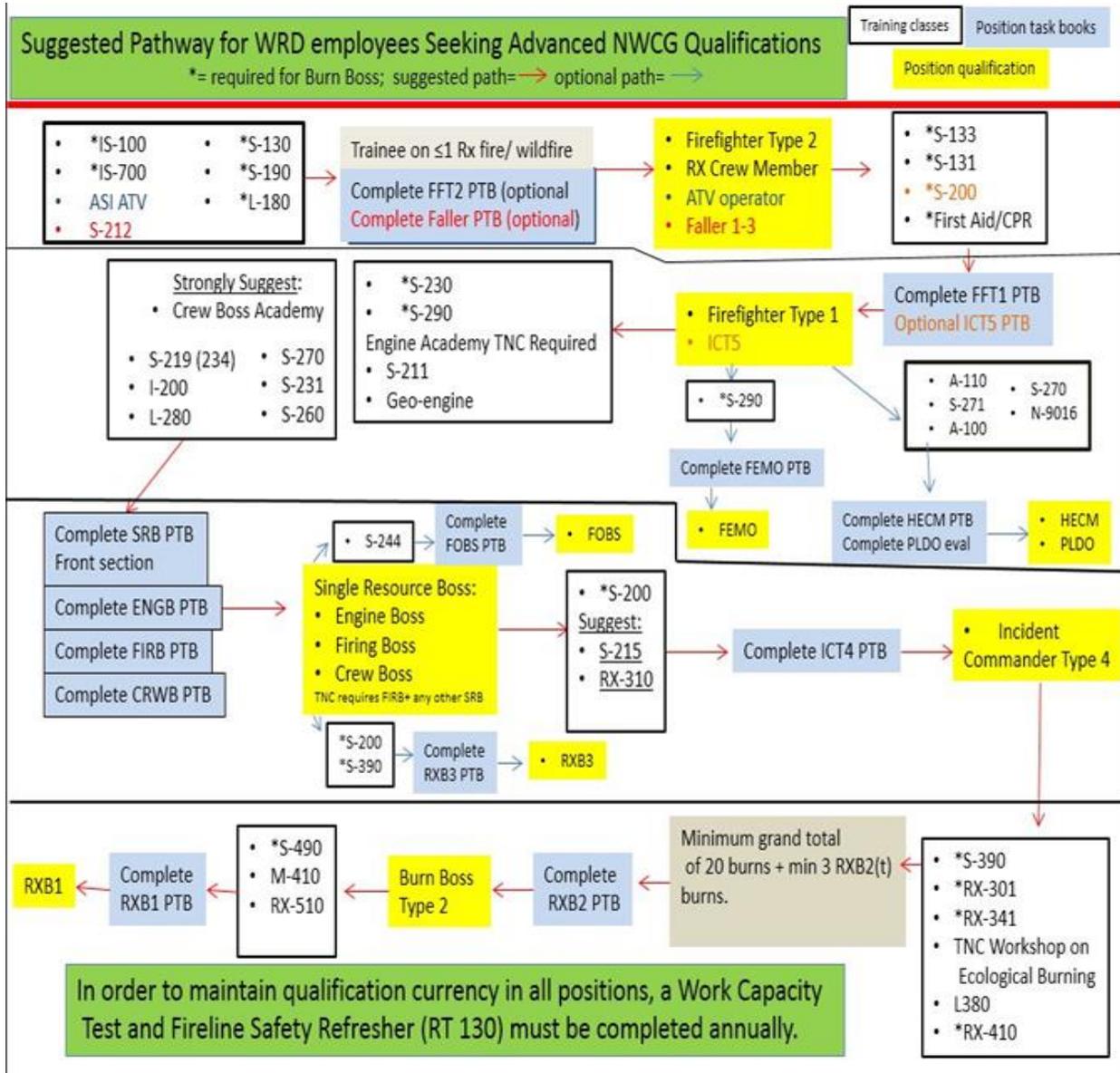
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Appendix 1



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Appendix 2

Physical Activity Readiness
Questionnaire – PAR-Q
(revised 2002)

PAR-Q & YOU

(A Questionnaire for People Aged 15 to 69)

Regular physical activity is fun and healthy, and increasingly more people are starting to become more active every day. Being more active is very safe for most people. However, some people should check with their doctor before they start becoming much more physically active.

If you are planning to become much more physically active than you are now, start by answering the seven questions in the box below. If you are between the ages of 15 and 69, the PAR-Q will tell you if you should check with your doctor before you start. If you are over 69 years of age, and you are not used to being very active, check with your doctor.

Common sense is your best guide when you answer these questions. Please read the questions carefully and answer each one honestly: check YES or NO.

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Has your doctor ever said that you have a heart condition and that you should only do physical activity recommended by a doctor?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Do you feel pain in your chest when you do physical activity?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. In the past month, have you had chest pain when you were not doing physical activity?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Do you lose your balance because of dizziness or do you ever lose consciousness?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Do you have a bone or joint problem (for example, back, knee or hip) that could be made worse by a change in your physical activity?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Is your doctor currently prescribing drugs (for example, water pills) for your blood pressure or heart condition?
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Do you know of any other reason why you should not do physical activity?

**If
you
answered**

YES to one or more questions

Talk with your doctor by phone or in person BEFORE you start becoming much more physically active or BEFORE you have a fitness appraisal. Tell your doctor about the PAR-Q and which questions you answered YES.

- You may be able to do any activity you want — as long as you start slowly and build up gradually. Or, you may need to restrict your activities to those which are safe for you. Talk with your doctor about the kinds of activities you wish to participate in and follow his/her advice.
- Find out which community programs are safe and helpful for you.

NO to all questions

If you answered NO honestly to all PAR-Q questions, you can be reasonably sure that you can:

- start becoming much more physically active — begin slowly and build up gradually. This is the safest and easiest way to go.
- take part in a fitness appraisal — this is an excellent way to determine your basic fitness so that you can plan the best way for you to live actively. It is also highly recommended that you have your blood pressure evaluated. If your reading is over 144/94, talk with your doctor before you start becoming much more physically active.

DELAY BECOMING MUCH MORE ACTIVE:

- if you are not feeling well because of a temporary illness such as a cold or a fever — wait until you feel better; or
- if you are or may be pregnant — talk to your doctor before you start becoming more active.

PLEASE NOTE: If your health changes so that you then answer YES to any of the above questions, tell your fitness or health professional. Ask whether you should change your physical activity plan.

Informed Use of the PAR-Q: The Canadian Society for Exercise Physiology, Health Canada, and their agents assume no liability for persons who undertake physical activity, and if in doubt after completing this questionnaire, consult your doctor prior to physical activity.

No changes permitted. You are encouraged to photocopy the PAR-Q but only if you use the entire form.

NOTE: If the PAR-Q is being given to a person before he or she participates in a physical activity program or a fitness appraisal, this section may be used for legal or administrative purposes.

"I have read, understood and completed this questionnaire. Any questions I had were answered to my full satisfaction."

NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT
or GUARDIAN (for participants under the age of majority) _____

WITNESS _____

Note: This physical activity clearance is valid for a maximum of 12 months from the date it is completed and becomes invalid if your condition changes so that you would answer YES to any of the seven questions.



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Appendix 3



**VOLUNTEER ADULT
WAIVER RELEASE**

Date: _____

Volunteer Assignment: _____

I understand that I am not entitled to remuneration or pay of any type for participation in the program and that there are risks of injury or death or damage to property involved in my participation as a volunteer, that it is my responsibility to ensure the safety of any equipment used and to see that it is operated properly, and that the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and its staff and representatives assume no responsibility for the condition of such equipment, its operations, or safety of the activities involved in this volunteer assignment. I waive and release the Department and its staff and representatives from any and all claims of damages against the Department and its staff and representatives for injury or death or damage to property that may occur as a result of or in connection with this agreement, and I agree to pay, protect, indemnify, and save the Department and its staff and representatives harmless from and against all liabilities, demands, costs, expenses, causes of action, suits, demands, judgments, and claims of any nature whatsoever arising from, by reason of, or in connection with injury or death of persons or damage to property arising from, by reason of, or in connection with my participation as a volunteer.

I further warrant that my health and physical condition are sufficiently good to allow me to perform this assignment without danger to myself or to others.

Full Name (please print): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

I have read this entire form, including the health acceptance of risk, waiver release, and indemnification provisions.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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APPENDIX 4

Fire Incident Review Summary

This Fire Incident Review Summary (FIRS) is to be used as an aid for preventing future incidents, to inform interested parties, and to serve as a training tool to strengthen the Department of Natural Resources' prescribed burn program. It is a compilation of relevant information, crew notes, interviews, notes from site visits, and photographs. As much thorough information should be gathered as possible; however, if more information comes to light the document is subject to revision.

Essential elements of the FIRS include but are not limited to the following. Other appropriate items might be a Wildland Fire Investigation or an Interagency Burn Team After Action Review.

Executive Summary
Summary of Prescribed Burn
Description of Incident
Timeline of DNR Presence on the Burn Unit
Cause Analysis
Lessons Learned/Recommendations

The following elements should be included in the Appendix as appropriate:

- Prescribed Burn Plan
- Landowner Agreements
- Weather Data
- Smoke Modeling
- AAR Statements
- IBT Statements
- Photographs

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APPENDIX 5

Prescribed Fire Plan

The Prescribed Fire Plan, associated pages, checklists, and evaluation pages are contained in a separate file in an Excel spreadsheet format. This file is to be provided to all appropriate staff and completed for each Rx burn consistent with this policy.

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APPENDIX 6



MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

RUSTY GARRISON
DIRECTOR

DNR Prescribed Burn Agreement

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) manages fire-adapted habitats for the benefit of wildlife species and natural communities. This agreement is made between the DNR and _____ (Landowner) to conduct a prescribed burn on approximately ___ acres of Landowner's property in _____ County (see attached map, which is incorporated herein by reference) for the purpose of _____. In signing this agreement, the Landowner does not accept any responsibility associated with management of the prescribed burn. Furthermore, the Landowner expects the DNR to use reasonable judgment when conducting the burn to minimize the damage to the Landowner's timber, but understands that damage may be possible.

THE DNR AGREES:

- To comply with all applicable laws for prescribed burning in the State of Georgia.
- To take reasonable precautions to minimize damage to the Landowner's timber outside and inside the burn area.
- To develop and follow a written Prescribed Burn Plan, which specifies weather conditions appropriate for burn objectives. This Plan will be made available to the Landowner upon request.
- To obtain weather forecasts immediately prior to conducting the burn to ensure that weather conditions fall within the parameters of the Prescribed Burn Plan.
- To secure all required burn permits from the Georgia Forestry Commission prior to burning.
- To have fire suppression equipment on site or readily available on standby to be dispatched on short notice (i.e. Type 6 engine or Georgia Forestry Commission fire tractor unit).
- To patrol the area or have the area patrolled during and after the burn to ensure that the fire has not spread outside the prescribed burn unit.

THE LANDOWNER AGREES:

- To allow the fire to be set in accordance with the Prescribed Burn Plan.
- That the DNR will not be held responsible for damages to the Landowner's timber
- To allow DNR and other authorized fire team personnel access to the area at any time within ___ days of the completion of the burn for the prescribed burning and for obtaining data and evaluating the results of the burn.

IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED that this agreement will terminate ninety (90) days from the date of the last signature hereto or 14 days from the completion of the burn, whichever first occurs.

Department of Natural Resources Representative

Date

Landowner or Authorized Representative

Date

Subject:	Policy Number:		
Prescribed Fire Policy	WRD-F-001		
Effective Date:	Revision Date:	Authority:	Page:
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APPENDIX 7

Recommended follow up procedures to declare a prescribed fire out:

The day of the burn. The burn will be mopped up as deemed necessary by the Burn Boss. All combusting materials will be extinguished or removed if possible from the designated mop up zone/perimeter of the burn unit, unless fuels across control line are not receptive (i.e. non-combustible, already black, etc.). Snags which are on fire will be extinguished or felled if they are within 2X their height of the exterior control line. Snags should only be felled if this task can be done in a safe manner.

Day one post burn. If at any time a minimum of 0.75 inch of rain falls after the initial mop up of the burn unit, then the burn unit may be considered out, unless slash piles or other unusually heavy debris was involved in the burn unit.

Unless the minimum 0.75" of rain falls then every burn will be checked the day after burn operations.

Follow up procedure - all control lines will be checked, both around the perimeter and any control lines within the unit.

Day two post burn and beyond. If fewer than 5 items with smoke or combusting material are found within 20' of the control lines the previous days follow up then the unit does not need to be checked again unless one of the following exceptions occurs. These exceptions will remain in place for all burned units until a minimum of 0.75" of rain occurs (meaning weeks after a burn these exceptions would still trigger a follow-up visit of 0.75" if rain has not occurred)

- i. Heavy debris such as slash a pile is involved in the burn and occurs within 100' of a control line
- ii. KBDI is above 450
- iii. Any wind event of greater than 25 mph occurs that is not associated with any precipitation
- iv. Any wind event of greater than 15 mph occurs that coincides with rH below 20