

Survey of individuals who participated in the Prescribed Fire Workshop (May 2019)

Host: Fort Union Ranch

Supporters: Western SARE, High Plains Grasslands Alliance, Forest Stewards Guild, American Forest Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, Gravitas Peak Wildland Fire Module, & NM Prescribed Fire Council

Total Participants: 40

Survey Questions and Results:

Question 1: How did this workshop improve your knowledge about prescribed fire?

78% of respondents chose “A lot (to a great extent)” and 22% chose “Some (to a fair extent).” However, the 22% that chose “Some” were wildland fire professionals while the 78% that chose “A lot” were landowners.

Question 2: Will the training help you make better decisions about implementing prescribed fire?

89% of respondents chose “A lot (to a great extent)” and 11% chose “Some (to a fair extent).” Again, the 11% that chose “Some” were wildland fire professionals.

Question 3: Because of this workshop, my knowledge about prescribed fire increased.

89% of respondents chose “A lot (to a great extent)” and 11% chose “Some (to a fair extent).” The 11% that chose “Some” were wildland fire professionals with existing extensive knowledge of prescribed fire.

Question 4: Because of this training, my confidence level in conducting prescribed burns improved.

67% of respondents chose “A lot (to a great extent),” 11% chose “Some (to a fair extent)” and 22% chose “A little (to a slight extent).” Respondents choosing “A lot” and “Some” were landowners or nonprofit participants, and those who chose “A little” were wildland fire professionals.

Question 5: Because of this burn I have learned specific strategies for applying prescribed burns.

78% of respondents chose “A lot (to a great extent)” and 22% chose “Some (to a fair extent).” Respondents who chose “Some” were wildland fire professionals.

Question 6: How effective were the presenters at helping you understand the material?

89% of respondents chose “A lot (to a great extent)” and 11% chose “Some (to a fair extent).”

Question 7: List at least one action you intend to take as a result of this training.

- Continue to design and implement more prescribed fire to improve our forest resource.
- Going to do it on my own land. Thanks for the inspiration.

- My answers are based on seeing that we can effectively host field days for private (non-professional) fire practitioners. I gained confidence in the model of neighbors helping neighbors and was reinvigorated that this is important and impactful work.
- To encourage other landowners to use prescribed burns to make improvements in their land.
- Conduct pile burns more regularly.
- Take an active role in researching the restoration of areas after burns.
- Promote private prescribed burns with other forest owners.
- Plan a prescribed burn on my land with local community outreach.

Question 8: As a private landowner, what is your biggest challenge in implementing forest restoration tools such as thinning and prescribed fire on your land?

- Money and manpower
- Education of neighbors
- Getting neighbors to understand and agree to using fire as a tool
- Manpower
- The why...and if the reason for doing a burn is realistic
- Bureaucracy
- Terrain/topography and access to resources (water)

Question 9: As a land manager, what types of tools or resources would enable you to better work with private landowners on prescribed fire and forest restoration?

- Funding. Since this was a workshop, I'm not sure how a typical prescription goes from pre-planning to pre-emptive thinning to the actual burn/mop up. If there was anything that could be done by landowners in advance of the fire team's arrival, that might be helpful.
- A video would help a lot
- Funding from sources that do not require NWCG (National Wildfire Coordinating Group) standards.
- More workshops like this one.
- Ability to utilize fire agencies and other resources such as time lapse cameras after a burn.
- Education/information and positive media exposure.

Question 10: Moving forward, what type of workshops, tools, resources, or engagement would you like to see or participate in?

- I'm interested in the public perception process. The change in people's attitude/fear was fascinating to witness. I'd love to help convey that shift from apprehensive to enthusiastic.
- I think this is an excellent example of the kind of workshops we should be delivering through our Prescribed Fire Council regularly.
- More prescribed fire workshops on both forest and grasslands.
- As a landowner bordering National Forest, I would like to understand their (the Forest Service) viewpoints/willingness to help with controlled burns on property that borders National Forest.
- I would like to see smaller scale burns on smaller lands and how much resources are needed for them.

- Any and all. Let me know and I will try to attend.
- More live burn practice, training towards certification, local community outreach.



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 FORT UNION
 RANCH, HIGH PLAINS
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PRESCRIBED FIRE WORKSHOP

MAY 17-19, 2019
 FORT UNION RANCH
 WATROUS, NM

This is a hands-on, operational training to provide landowners with exposure to the skills to responsibly implement a prescribed burn from start to finish on private property. This workshop builds on last year's classroom session, which introduced participants to the planning process of prescribed burning as a management tool. Attendance at last year's workshop is not a requirement to join this workshop.

May 17th: 9am – 5pm
 Introductory training &
 preparation

May 18th: 8am – 6pm
 Burn Day

May 19th: 8am – 4pm
 Fire Line Management &
 Mop Up

YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO:

- Construct fire lines
- Use a drip torch
- Appropriately apply the resources most ranches have on hand (e.g. UTVs, water tanks, etc.)
- Manage risk
- Scout, ignite, mop up and patrol burn units
- Learn firefighting tactics

Participant groups will be paired with an experienced firefighter & embedded in the process for hands-on experience and Q&A.

Please RSVP To: Katie (katie@ranchadvisory.com) and Kendal (kendal@forestguild.org)
Lodging will be available for those travelling from afar. Meals will be provided.