

National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center



PFTC Mission Statement

To Maintain a National Interagency Center of ***Excellence for Prescribed Fire***, with an Emphasis on ***Actual Field Experience***, in Order to Increase Skills and Knowledge and to Build Confidence in the Application of Prescribed Fire.



PFTC Staff

Director

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Fire Operations Specialist

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Fire Training Specialist

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Administrative Specialist

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Why Come to PFTC ?

Yr	# Days/ Session	# Burns/ Yr	Avg Burns/ Session	Avg Burns/ Module
04	21	159	40	9
05	21	138	46	11
06	21	147	37	10
07	21	161	40	9
08	20	178	45	10
09	20	172	57	9
10	20	162	41	9
11	20	176	58	10
12	20	96	32	10
13	20	172	34	11

Participants by Agency SINCE 1998

Bureau of Indian Affairs	57
Bureau of Land Management	156
Department of Defense	34
USDA Forest Service	1,088
US Fish and Wildlife Service	166
International	46
NASA	1
National Park Service	130
Private	30
State	83
Tribal	5
Total:	1,796

Background of Participants

- 70% come from west of the Mississippi River
- 90% work for a Federal Agency and attend to meet an agency qualification requirement
- Majority work in fire suppression positions
- Increase in the number working in fuels positions
- Average participant age 30 with 5 years or more of wildland fire experience

PFTC Accomplishments SINCE 1998

- Conducted 2,412 prescribed burns
- Burned in 6 states (MS, AL, FL, GA, SC, NC, and TN)
- Burned 883,484 acres (260,032 WUI)
- 4,917 training assignments (since 2003)
- Participants from 49 states and 16 foreign countries

Session Orientation

2.5 days at beginning of session

– Presentations on

- Safety in the Southeast
- Smoke Management
- Ignition Techniques
- Driving Safety
- AARs

– Field Trips on

- Fire Planning and Implementation
- Fuels
- Research and Ecology
- Wildlife and Fire

– Sand Table Exercise and Fuels Homework

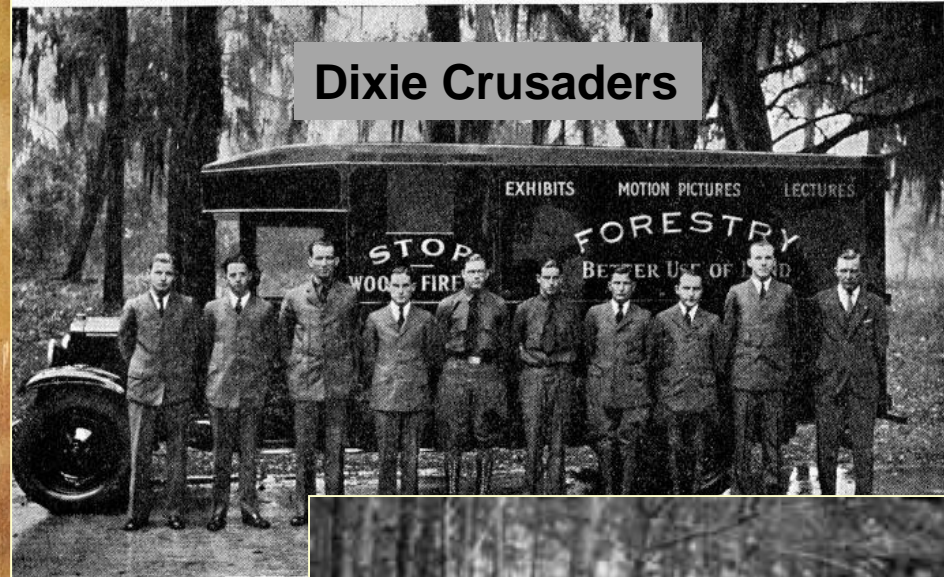
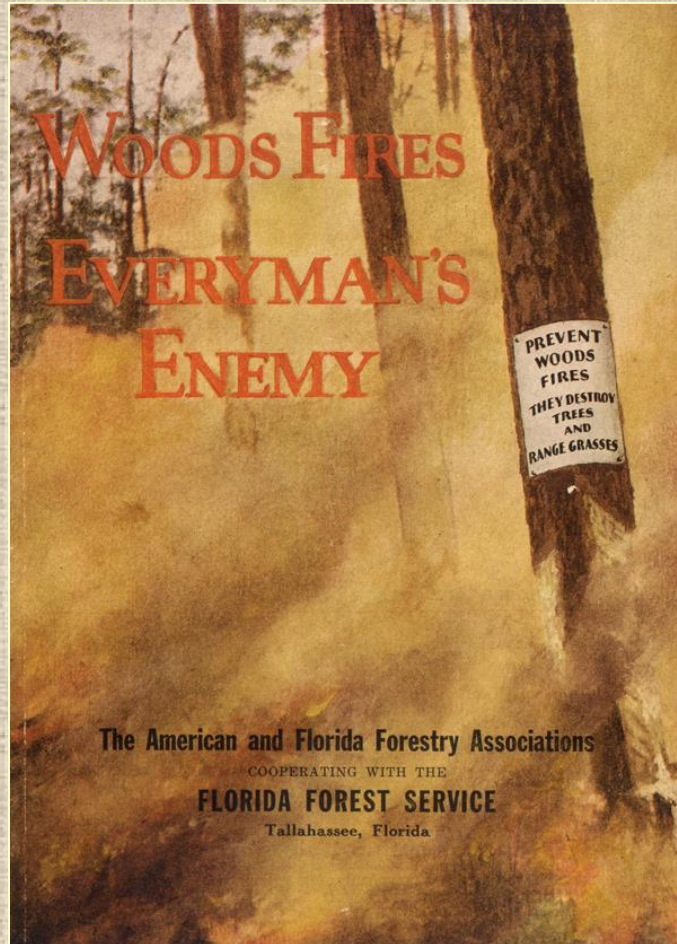


History of Southern Fire

- “...the light and sound and odor of burning woods provide excitement for a people who dwell in an environment of low stimulation and who naturally crave excitement....Their explanations that woods fires kill off snakes, boll weevil and serve other economic ends are something more than mere ignorance. They are the defensive beliefs of a disadvantaged culture group.”

John Shea, USFS psychologist 1940

History of Southern Fire



Ignition Techniques

Focus on How and Why

What is used on their home units?

Pros and Cons of Firing Patterns

What Devices












Monitoring

Agency Policies

- All federal agencies require at a minimum:
 - Weather observations
 - Fire behavior observations
 - Smoke observations
 - Assessment of whether treatment objectives have been met
 - Post burn report with map

A Publication of the
National Wildfire
Coordinating Group



NWCG Task Book for the Positions of:
**PRESCRIBED FIRE BURN BOSS TYPE 2
(RXB2)**
**PRESCRIBED FIRE BURN BOSS TYPE 1
(RXB1)**

PMS 311-74

Trainee's Name: _____
Home Unit/Agency: _____
Home Unit Phone Number: _____

Official's Name: _____
Home Unit Title: _____
Home Unit/Agency: _____
Home Unit Phone Number: _____
Home Unit Address: _____
Date Initiated: _____

The material contained in this book accurately defines the performance expected of the position for which it was developed. This task book is approved for use as a position qualification document in accordance with the instructions contained herein.

A Publication of the
National Wildfire
Coordinating Group

Monitoring Responsibilities

- Document onsite weather
- Ensure prescription variables are measured and documented
- Provide for monitoring and documentation of smoke emissions
- Document results of the burn
- Evaluate smoke, ignition patterns, fire behavior, tactics, and fire effects to ensure objectives are met



Monitoring Forms



Prescribed Fire Training Center Prescribed Fire Organizer

Agency/Org:	
Burn Unit:	
Size:	
Complexity:	

County:	
Lat/Long:	
Legal Location:	
WUI:	
Burn Boss:	
Date:	

Contact Information

Name	Name / Phone #s	Time

Spot Weather Forecast

Time	Temp	RH	Wind	Direction	PIG	Sky

Notes:



Prescribed Fire Training Center Prescribed Fire FEMO Organizer

Agency/Org:	
Burn Unit:	
Size:	
Complexity:	

County:	
Lat/Long:	
Legal Location:	
WUI:	
Burn Boss:	
FEMO:	
Date Burned:	
Date Monitored:	

Spot Weath

Time	Temp	RH	Wind

Notes:

Weather Observations

ID	Weather (Wx) Observations						Weather Calculations					
Observer	Wx Loc	Dry Bulb	Wet Bulb	Wind Dir	Wx State	Front Model	RH	RFM	DPM CC	Air-Wet Bulbure	PIG	
Time	Map Ht	Tbl 1	Tbl 2	Tbl 3	Tbl 4	Tbl 5	Tbl 6	DFMCC	Tbl 6			
Source	Map Ht											
	W1											
	W2											
	W3											
	W4											
	W5											
	W6											
	W7											
	W8											
	W9											
	W10											
	W11											

Fire Observations

Fire Observations			Comments
Fire Loc	Fire Type	Flame Length	Report column
Map Ht	Tbl 7	ROS	
F1			
F2			
F3			
F4			
F5			
F6			
F7			
F8			
F9			
F10			
F11			
F12			
F13			
F14			
F15			
F16			
F17			
F18			
F19			
F20			

IMMEDIATE POST BURN FIRE EFFECTS

Community Type	Fuel Model	Dominant Tree Type	Scorch Height Class	% Canopy Scorch Class	Char Degree

Scorch Height Class

0	1	2	3	4	5
No Scorch	0-6 ft.	>6-15 ft.	>15-30 ft.	>30-50 ft.	>50 ft.

Percent Canopy Scorch Class



Char Degree

- 0: no char
- 1: Light - spotty char with scattered pitting of bark
- 2: Medium - continuous charring with areas of minor reduction in bark thickness
- 3: Heavy - continuous charring, pronounced reduction in bark thickness with underlying wood sometimes exposed

2013 Accomplishments

Five 20-day Sessions



Session Accomplishments

- 35 RXB2t = 164 assignments
- 1 RXB3t = 1 assignment



Session Accomplishments

- 45 FIRBt = 187 assignments



Session Accomplishments

- 6 ENGBt = 9 assignments



Session Accomplishments

- 24 FEMOt = 74 assignments



Session Accomplishments

- 4 FFT1t = 74 assignments



College Credit

- 3 participants registered for and received 3 hours of upper division credit from the University of Florida at a cost of \$210/credit hour.



2013 Operational Accomplishments

- 70,279 acres burned (26,079 WUI acres) during 172 burns
- Burns conducted in FL, GA, and SC
- 88% of acreage burned occurred on federal property
- 73% of burns occurred on non-federal property



2011 Resource Specialist Workshop

- 19 participants representing 5 federal agencies (NPS, BIA, USFS, FWS, DOD) and Tribes, NGOs, Local and State Agencies.



2013 Agency Administrator Workshop

31 participants representing the USFS and
the USFWS.



FY 2014 Plan

Agency Administrator Workshop:
November 13-19, 2013

20-day Sessions:

January 12-31, 2014

February 9-28, 2014

March 9-28, 2014

April 6-25, 2014

June 8-27, 2014



Participant Accomplishments

- Ten Take Home Messages

- Module Videos

<http://www.youtube.com/user/rxpftc>

- Module Photos

- Session Quotes



PFTC



Website –

<http://www.fws.gov/fire/pftc/>

Facebook -

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Prescribed-Fire-Training-Center/696906933668849>



Where Every Day is a Burn Day



**We have a lasting impression
on some of our participants**

