**Prescribed Fire Plan**

PLACER PRESCRIBED BURN ASSOCIATION

PLACER COUNTY, CA

Name of Landowner or Land Manager: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Landowner Phone # (same phone number used for burn day): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Burn Boss (if different from landowner): \_\_\_\_\_\_

Burn Boss phone #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Burn Boss Phone # on Burn Day: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Plan Developer:

Date Created: Date Re-Evaluated\* (if applicable):

*\*Burn plans should be re-evaluated as needed to account for changes in fuel/site conditions or project objectives.*

*\*\* It must be understood that “the individual who lights the fire, is responsible.” In most cases, the landowner will be responsible for the burn unless there is another designated individual(s) identified above. To learn more about liability, please visit* [*Placer RCD’s website*](https://placerrcd.org/projects/placer-prescribed-burn-association/) *and watch this* [*video*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=on4lfPLcMhg&feature=emb_logo)*.*

# 1. Project Area Description

Location of Prescribed Fire (APNs): \_\_\_\_\_\_

Location of Prescribed Fire (Address/Cross street(s)):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***Latitude and longitude*** *(in decimal degrees):* Latitude: Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit name/#s, with acreage(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*If utilizing this plan for multiple units, the prescription, resource needs, and plan must address specific unit needs.*

***Unit Description:***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Within the Unit** | **Adjacent to Unit** |
| Fuel type/model (i.e., timber, brush, grass) |  |  |
| Slope (%) |  |  |
| Aspect |  |  |
| Special features (i.e., structures, utilities, assets to protect) |  |  |

**Prescribed fire objectives** *(include overarching project goals as well as specific project objectives. Objectives should be S.M.A.R.T. (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-bound))*. *Examples: control invasive weeds (how much reduction?), enhance native grasses (how much improvement?), reduce 10-hour fuels (what % reduction?), training, cultural objectives, how many operational periods is the burn? etc.).*

# 2. Pre-burn Considerations

***Plan for unit preparation*** *(describe line type/construction on all unit sides (i.e., permanent roads, lawn, or construction of containment lines and width), pre-treatment of fuels (ladder fuel reduction, pile burning, mastication).*

* *Examples:*
  + *Describe line construction on all unit sides*
  + *Prep work (i.e., reducing ladder fuels)*
  + *Identify values at risk (i.e., structures, large mature trees, cultural or biological resources, powerlines, water lines)*
  + *Describe water supply, suppression equipment, location (map)*
  + *Describe unit access (signage, etc.)*
  + *Is there cell service? If not, where is the nearest service area?*

# 3. Prescription

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Element** | **Minimum (cool)** | **Maximum (hot)** |
| Temperature (F) |  |  |
| Relative Humidity (%) |  |  |
| Mid-Flame Wind Speed (mph) |  |  |
| Fine Dead Fuel Moisture (%) |  |  |
| Probability of Ignition (PIG %) |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| Wind Direction and Range |  | |

*\*Include other prescription elements as appropriate*

*\*\* Online resources for weather predictions are listed in* [*Appendix 1*](#_Appendix_1:_Weather)*. The most accurate weather readings are made on-site using a Kestrel or belt weather kit. Landowners may request access to Kestrel weather meters through the Placer PBA.*

*\*\*\*Operational decisions will be made based on observed fire behavior.*

# 4. Smoke Management Plan

**Smoke Management:** Placer County Air Pollution Control District requires **all** broadcastburners, even private landowners, to obtain [a prescribed burn permit](https://placerair.org/1885/Outdoor-Burning-Requirements). Piles do not generally require a burn permit if piles are located on a property with a residential structure. Placer County APCD may require a Smoke Management Plan, especially if (a) you are burning more than 10 acres in one day, (b) your burn may negatively affect a vulnerable population (i.e., hospital, school, etc.), or (c) your burn emits more than 1 ton of particulate matter. If you live within incorporated city limits, smoke restrictions may be in place. For more information on Placer County prescribed fire permits, please watch this [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_pNSXOLj2c) from Placer RCD’s [website](https://placerrcd.org/projects/placer-prescribed-burn-association/).

My burn requires a Smoke Management Plan, which I have completed

□ Submitted through PFIRS

□ Submitted in hard copy to air district

My burn does not require a Smoke Management Plan. My smoke management tactics are:

*List tactics to minimize smoke-related issues (i.e., if smoke will impact roads, note that signage and traffic control will be present; are ignition tactics that minimize smoke impacts being used (i.e., backing fire)?; which direction will wind be pushing smoke? Is it impacting vulnerable communities?).*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# 5. CAL FIRE Burn Permit

* My burn does not require a CAL FIRE burn permit based on [PRC 4423](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4423)
* I have obtained my CAL FIRE burn permit and the prescription in my burn plan reflects the prescription requirements of the permit.
* I need a CAL FIRE burn permit but have not obtained one yet.
  + **DO NOT BURN.** Contact your local CAL FIRE unit to obtain a permit.

*A Cheat Sheet of relevant CA Public Resources Codes and Health & Safety Codes for prescribed burning are outlined in* [*Appendix 2*](#_Appendix_2:_Cheat)*.*

# 6. Ignition and Holding Plans

*Note: Landowner/Burn Boss must complete a Go/No Go checklist prior to igniting a test fire. A Go/No Go Checklist is included in* [*Appendix 3*](#_Appendix_3:_Go/No)*. The test fire will be conducted in a location that is representative of the burn unit. Location to be determined on the day of burn based on environmental conditions.*

***Firing and holding plans***

* *Firing plan (describe sequence, patterns, techniques, and devices)*
* *Holding plan (describe total number and type of resources needed to implement burn safely including personnel)*
* *Plan for onsite weather ops*

***Resources***

* *Examples:*
  + *Describe personnel and roles of personnel- TBD on day of burn by landowner/Burn Boss*
  + *List equipment available and mark gear cache on map (i.e., hand tools, water access, suppression equipment, etc.)*

# 7. Post-Burn Activities

**Mop-up and patrol plan** (describe activities, timeframes, and standards):

* *Examples:*
  + *Patrol area for hotspots and extinguish, continue to check perimeter for smoke or hot spots*
  + *Landowner, or designated individual is responsible for mop up for next 72 hours or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The following resources will assist \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

# 8. Notifications

**Pre-Burn Notifications:**

*Adjacent Landowners and all permit requirements (e.g., Placer APMD, CAL FIRE).*

□ Name: Phone:

□ Name: Phone:

□ Name: Phone:

□ Name: Phone:

**Day of Burn Notifications**

*It is required that landowners notify CAL FIRE and Placer County APMD prior to implementing a broadcast burn. Residents who see smoke and may not understand prescribed burns may call to report a wildfire. To reduce the risk of unnecessary dispatch and improve community outreach for prescribed burns, it is important that fire suppression and air quality agencies are aware of prescribed burns happening in their district. Placer APMD and CAL FIRE NEU Unit supports the use of safe prescribed fire.*

* ***CAL FIRE Emergency Command Center (ECC):*** 530-477-5761
* ***Placer County Air Pollution Control District:*** Before burning, landowners must always verify BURN DAY STATUS. Burn day information is usually updated daily by 8 AM. Based on the location of your burn, call the following numbers, or visit [www.placer.ca.gov/1671/Burn-Days](http://www.placer.ca.gov/1671/Burn-Days)

Auburn Area Phone: 530-889-6868

Outside of Auburn: 800-998-2876

*Other Fire Agency Having Jurisdiction (if applicable):*

□ Name/Title: Phone:

*Other (if applicable, i.e., Sheriff/ law enforcement, tribal partners, etc.):*

□ Name/Agency: Phone:

□ Name/Agency: Phone:

# 9. Risk Management Activities

**Contingency Plan**:

*Example: If there is a slop-over or spot fire onto any area outside the burn unit and if all other parameters are within prescription, attack with resources at the site of the slop-over or spot fire. Firing operations will cease until the slop-over or spot fire is contained unless continued firing is needed to keep fire within burn unit. If a slop-over or spot fire occurs, the first priority shall be to contain the slop-over or spot fire at the minimum size. If the slop-over cannot be contained with resources at the site of the slop-over or spot fire, additional resources from other areas of the burn unit will be assigned as available. Additional resources will be called for suppression support.*

**Risk management Plan (edit as needed):**

*Conduct a headcount of all participants before firing operations begin. During initial briefing, identify:*

* *Location of all first aid kits*
* *Identify escape routes, safety zones, and protocol in case of wildfire declaration*
* *Any medically trained participants who are willing and able to assist as needed*
* *Allow any participants with a medical condition that they want publicly known to identify themselves (e.g., severe bee sting allergy, etc.)*

*Before firing, walk the unit as a group to identify hazards. Assign participants to groups and have group leader keep track of the location of all their group members during firing operations. Have group leaders conduct headcount of participants at AAR (after-action review) or dispersal to ensure that everybody is accounted for.*

*Location of first aid kits:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Nearest hospital: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Directions to nearest hospital: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

# 10. Attachments

***Check boxes for other pertinent attachments included with the prescribed fire plan:***

□ Project and area maps (required): Depending on complexity and size of burn, maps should demonstrate:

* Property boundaries
* Unit boundaries (include name/# of unit)
* Locations of water tanks, engines, or primary water source
* Locations of planned hose lays or water access
* Locations of gear caches
* Locations of barriers or values at risk (i.e., fences, large valued trees, other infrastructure); *remember to give gate codes or unlock gates/fences if necessary*
* Roads, trails, or checklines – access roads and well-known trails should be labeled by name
* For more remote burns, township/range/section may be helpful if you need to call for additional support

□ Go/No Go Checklist ([Appendix 3](#_Appendix_3:_Go/No))

□ Other (describe):

# 11. Signatures

Landowner: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Burn Boss (if not landowner):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix 1: Weather Resources

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Agency** | **Details** | **Link** |
| National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) | Use map to determine fire weather in your zone | [Fire Weather website](https://www.weather.gov/fire/) |
| Northern California Geographic Area Coordination Center (GACC) | Use map to determine fuels/fire danger under Predictive Services; Use metrics such as the Energy Release Component (ERC) and Drought Index to evaluate local weather conditions and trends | <https://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/> |
| Windy App | Live wind speed and direction by location. Only captures broader trends in wind speed and direction, not micro-site wind patterns. | <https://windy.app/> |
| Local RAWS station | “Remote Automatic Weather Stations”; Give hourly weather updates at locally remote stations | <https://raws.dri.edu/wraws/ncaF.html> |
| Weather Underground | Reliable weather data by location | <https://www.wunderground.com/> |
| Placer PBA Gear Library | Placer PBA Gear Library includes **Kestrel weather meters** that may be borrowed at no cost for PBA members. | Contact representative at Placer RCD to reserve equipment.  Phone: 530-390-6680 |

# Appendix 2: Cheat Sheet of CA Public Resources Codes (PRC) and Health and Safety Codes (HSC):

[**PRC 4103**](https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/public-resources-code/prc-sect-4103.html)**:** Definition of “forest fire”: a fire burning uncontrolled on lands covered wholly or in part by timber, brush, grass, grain, or other flammable vegetation

[**PRC 4103.4**](https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/public-resources-code/prc-sect-4103-4.html)**:** Definition of “open fire”: any fire, controlled or uncontrolled, including a campfire, burning outside of any structure, mobile home, or living accommodation mounted on a motor vehicle. Does not include portable lanterns designed to emit light resulting from a combustion process.

[**PRC 4104**](https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/public-resources-code/prc-sect-4104.html)**:** Definition of “uncontrolled fire”: Any fire which threatens to destroy life, property, or resources and either: (1) is unattended by any person, (2) is attended by persons unable to prevent its unrestricted spread, or (3) is burning with such velocity or intensity that it could not be readily controlled with those ordinary tools available to private persons at the fire scene.

[**PRC 4170**](https://codes.findlaw.com/ca/public-resources-code/prc-sect-4170.html)**:** Uncontrolled fire burning through flammable material without proper precaution to prevent spread is a public nuisance

[**PRC 4421**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4421#:~:text=California%20Public%20Resources%20Code%20Sec.%204421%20A%20person,of%20the%20owner%20or%20lessee%20of%20the%20land.)**:** Person setting fire must own the land or have permission of owner, lessee, or agent

[**PRC 4422**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4422)**:** A person shall not willfully or knowingly allow uncontrolled fire on land they own or control (whether or not set by that person), or allow it to escape to other ownerships

**PERMITS:** [**PRC 4423:**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4423) You cannot burn any natural flammable material in any SRA, area that CAL FIRE is responsible for fire protection on, or federal lands without a written permit during fire season (in Zone B). Agency may require permittee to contact them to determine permit suspension status.

[**PRC 4427**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4427): When burn permits are required, you cannot use any potential ignition device (engine, motor, etc.), excluding gas-fueled internal combustion engines, in forest, brush or grass covered land without first clearing 10ft around and maintaining one round point shovel and one ready backpack pump.

**PERMITS:** [**PRC 4491**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4491): Department cooperation with prescribed burning is for a public purpose, and advisory service shall be provided to permit applicants to prevent damage, as well as standby fire protection if available.

[**PRC 4493**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4493): When CAL FIRE receives permit application, they will inspect the land and prescribe prep work and precautions. Availability of non-departmental contingency resources will also be considered when issuing permits. Department will limit burn suspensions to the unit level when feasible, instead of state or regional.

[**PRC 4494**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_pub_res_code_section_4494): After 4493 examination, if permit issued, it will specify site prep requirements and required precautions. Issuance of the permit does not relieve the permit holder of exercising due diligence during implementation. Compliance with permit shall constitute prima facie evidence of due diligence.

[**HSC 13007**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_health_and_safety_code_section_13007)**:** Anyone who willfully, negligently or in violation of the law allows fire to burn another’s property is liable to property owner for any damages.

[**HSC 13008**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_health_and_safety_code_section_13008)**:** Liable for damages if fire escapes and **due diligence** to control fire is not exercised. *Learn more about how to demonstrate due diligence* [*here*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=on4lfPLcMhg)*.*

[**HSC 13009**](https://california.public.law/codes/ca_health_and_safety_code_section_13009): If you let fire escape negligently or in violation of the law and fail to correct hazard in time allotted (more details about issuance of hazard violation), you’re liable for the department fire suppression costs and rescue or emergency medical services costs.

# Appendix 3: Go/No Go Checklist

Landowner/Project Name:

Unit Name/#:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Preliminary Questions** | **Circle YES or NO** |
| 1. Have conditions in or adjacent to the ignition unit changed, (for example: drought conditions or fuel loadings), which were not considered in the prescription development?   If **NO**, proceed with the Go/No Go Checklist below. If **YES**, go to Item B. | YES NO |
| 1. Has the prescribed fire plan been reviewed and an amendment been approved; or has it been determined that no amendment is necessary?   If **YES**, proceed with checklist below.  If **NO, STOP**. **Implementation is not allowed. An amendment is needed.** | YES NO |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **GO/NO GO Checklist** | **Circle YES or NO** |
| Have ALL permits and clearances been obtained? | YES NO |
| Have ALL the required notifications been made? | YES NO |
| Have ALL the pre-burn considerations and preparation work identified in the prescribed fire plan been completed or addressed and checked? | YES NO |
| Have ALL required current and projected fire weather forecast been obtained and are they favorable? | YES NO |
| Are ALL prescription parameters met? | YES NO |
| Are ALL smoke management specifications met? | YES NO |
| Are ALL planned operations personnel and equipment on-site, available, and operational? | YES NO |
| Has the availability of contingency resources applicable to today’s implementation been checked and are they available? | YES NO |
| Have ALL personnel been briefed on the project objectives, their assignment, safety hazards, escape routes, and safety zones? | YES NO |

If all the questions were answered “**YES**,” proceed with a test fire. Document the current conditions, location, and results. If any questions were answered with “**NO**,” **DO NOT proceed with the test fire; Implementation not allowed.**

Document conditions

After evaluating the test fire, in your judgement, can the prescribed fire be carried out according to the prescribed fire plan and will it meet the planned objectives? **Circle YES NO**