



Prescribed Burning Training Course South Africa



Introduction

Prescribed Burning (RX) Training is providing a very solid base for all other fire management tasks. It offers the trainees to become familiar with fire behavior, weather, technique, skill and tools starting at the low end of the scale under mild and controlled conditions. With RX as foundation, future fire management and fire suppression will be safer, more efficient and more cost effective.

Through the network of the Global Fire Monitoring Center (GFMC) – the coalition of the [IWPM](#), the EFI [FRISK](#) initiative and the [WoF](#) programme, the 12 day course described below can be offered to interested trainees at a very reasonable cost. Minimum group size should be 10 participants. Dates can be arranged based on trainees request.

The course will be offered in one of the two training facilities of WoF in the Freestate or Mpumalanga, South Africa. The course is very comprehensive and includes a lot of practical burning to install self confidence in the trainees.

The course certificate will also bear the NWCG logo of the USA, as WoF was and is developing the training standard in close cooperation with the US Forest Service .

The trainees would need to fly into Johannesburg and from there connecting to Bloemfontein. WoF will collect them at Bloemfontein airport.

With a minimum group size of 10 participants, we are able to offer this 12 day training course for a cost of **€ 150 per person per day**. That includes all training, training material, the practical exercises and burns, accommodation, food, transport, basically everything except the flight and alcohol. The costs do depend on the exchange rate, but will not change dramatically.

It is an exceptional training site with grassland, savannah, bush land, and some forestry plantations.

Of course all other wildland fire training is available there as well, from dry firefighting, aerial firefighting, tactical fire, etc.

Contact and Coordination:

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Overview

Prescribed burning is a thoughtful and skillful application of fire under selected weather conditions to achieve specific land management objectives. Many have used controlled burning as a cost effective method to maintain clearings and encourage the growth of plants for later harvest or to reduce hazardous fuel loads or utilize it to maintain early successional habitats for a wide variety of wildlife species.

The Working of Fire Training Prescribed burns course has been specifically designed for managers working in the forestry, conservation, agricultural and environmental sectors.

Key Content Areas

This intense course expose managers to a variety of safe burning technologies and strategies that will allow them to master critical fire management skills under the watchful of experienced instructors.

- Fire Behaviour
- Burn Techniques
- Crew Management
- Burn Plans + Site preparation
- Productivity
- Operational Management

Duration and Type

Duration: 12 days

Type: Instructional and practical burning

The course format is well balanced and combines theory with practical training sessions as well opportunities for student interaction.

Detailed Course Plan

Day	Time	Subject	Content	Medium	Duration
Day 1 - Monday	08:30	Introduction	Course introduction – prescribed burning	Lecture	15
	08:45	Effects of fire on ecology	Impact of fire on soil, air, water and vegetation resources	Lecture	45
	09:30		Group experience about the impact of fire	Discussion	15
	09:45		Specific impact to forestry, conservation and agriculture	Lecture	15
	10:00	Tea time			15
	10:30	Fire Behaviour	Prescribed burns – What & why?	Lecture	45
	11:15		Group experience of prescribed burns	Discussion	15
	11:30	Smoke Management	Effects of smoke – on people, communities and electricity	Lecture	30
	12:00		Group experience of smoke and its management	Discussion	15
	12:15	Lunch			60
	13:15	Fireline safety	Fire safety at prescribed burning	Lecture	45
	14:00		Common concerns and unforeseen occurrences	Discussion	15
	14:15	Fire equipment	Types of equipment and management thereof	Lecture	45
	15:00	Tea time			15
	15:15	Fire equipment	Function, application and maintenance	Practical	60
	16:15		Common concerns and maintenance issues	Discussion	15
16:30	End of day				
Day 2 - Tuesday	08:30	Rx burn techniques	Ignition and burning techniques	Lecture	60
	09:30		Fire manipulation – getting fire to do what you need	Discussion	15
	10:00	Tea time			15
	10:15	Burns plan	What is a burns plan?	Lecture	45
	11:00		Putting together a plan	Practical	90
	12:30	Lunch			60
	13:30	Burns plan	What else is needed?	Discussion	30
	14:00		What if the fire escapes?	Lecture	45
	14:45		Contingency planning	Discussion	15
	15:00	Tea time			15
	15:15	Resource management	People and equipment under your control	Lecture	45
	16:00		The human factor, expect the unexpected	Discussion	30
16:30	End of day				
Day 3 - Wednesday	08:30	Productivity	Setting realistic objectives	Lecture	90
	10:00	Tea time			15
	10:15	Productivity	Measurement – area, man-days, costs and effectiveness	Lecture	45
	11:00		Motivating your team to be productive	Discussion	15
	11:15		Reporting on accomplishments and usages	Lecture	45
	12:00	Lunch			60
	13:00	Planning	Site inspection of tomorrow's burn area	Practical	60
	14:00		Planning tomorrow's burn, including a sand table	Practical	60
	15:00		Equipment – preparation for tomorrow's burn	Practical	60
16:00	End of day				

Day	Time	Subject	Content	Medium	Duration
Day 4 - Thursday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Planning	After Action Review of today's burn, area burnt & lessons learned	Discussion	60
	15:30		Site inspection of tomorrows burn area	Practical	30
	16:00		Planning tomorrows burn, including a sand table	Practical	30
	16:30	End of day			
Day 5 - Friday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Planning	After Action Review of today's burn, area burnt & lessons learned	Discussion	60
	15:30		Site inspection of tomorrows burn area	Practical	30
	16:00		Planning tomorrows burn, including a sand table	Practical	30
	16:30	End of day			
Day 6 - Saturday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Planning	After Action Review of today's burn, area burnt & lessons learned	Discussion	60
	15:30		Site inspection of tomorrows burn area	Practical	30
	16:00		Planning tomorrows burn, including a sand table	Practical	30
	16:30	End of day			
Day 7 - Sunday	Day off				

Day	Time	Subject	Content	Medium	Duration
Day 8 - Monday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Planning	After Action Review of todays burn, area burnt & lessons	Discussion	60
	15:30		Site inspection of tomorrows burn area	Practical	30
	16:00		Planning tomorrows burn, including a sand table	Practical	30
	16:30	End of day			
Day 9 - Tuesday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Planning	After Action Review of today's burn, area burnt & lessons	Discussion	60
	15:30		Site inspection of tomorrows burn area	Practical	30
	16:00		Planning tomorrows burn, including a sand table	Practical	30
	16:30	End of day			
Day 10 - Wednesday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Planning	After Action Review of today's burn, area burnt & lessons	Discussion	60
	15:30		Site inspection of tomorrows burn area	Practical	30
	16:00		Planning tomorrows burn, including a sand table	Practical	30
	16:30	End of day			
Day 11 - Thursday	08:00	Burning	Mobilization to site, with all equipment and crew	Practical	30
	08:30		Briefing on yesterdays plan	Practical	30
	09:00		Burning for 4.5 hours	Practical	270
	13:30		Demobilization back to base	Practical	30
	14:00	Lunch			30
	14:30	Review	After Action Review of today's burn, area burnt & lessons	Discussion	60
	15:30		Summary of the weeks work and questions	Discussion	60
	16:30	End of day	Study for tomorrow's exam		
	Day 12 - Friday	09:00	Assessments	Theory exam - 2 hour paper	Practical
11:00		Tea time			30
11:30		Documentation	Portfolio of evidence completion	Practical	30
12:00		Lunch			60
13:00		Departure			