



## **Neches River and Cypress Basin Watershed Restoration Program**

### **2017 Prescribed Fire Grant Application**

**Grant Funded Through U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Award #F16AP00822  
CFDA #15.631**

**Scope of Project:** To provide assistance to landowners in utilizing prescribed fire for ecological improvement to the Neches River and Cypress Basin watersheds. This program will benefit the public and natural resources through improvement of water quality and quantity, control of invasive species, and enhancement of wildlife habitat. Treatment areas will be private property in the Neches River and Cypress Basin Watersheds. Priority will be given to prescribed burn treatments that promote native ecosystem restoration, are in priority watershed protection zones, and near public land. The total funding for these grants is \$78,125.00.

Grant recipients will be reimbursed actual per acre costs associated with conducting the prescribed burn, not to exceed the maximum reimbursement rate of \$22.50 per acre with a total limit of 800 acres per recipient.

TFS will supply the grant recipient with an approval to burn letter when all TFS required paperwork has been completed by recipient. Any burning on an approved project prior to receiving this notice is not eligible for reimbursement.

Application packages post marked on or before September 30, 2016 will be accepted and considered for funding. **No faxes or e-mailed applications will be accepted.** Please return the completed and signed application packages by mail to:

**Texas A & M Forest Service  
Mitigation & Prevention Department  
2127 S. First Street, Lufkin, Texas 75901  
Attn: Fuels Coordinator**

All applicants will receive a notification of decision letter of either approved or denied no later than December 9, 2016. TFS will also publicize the listing of approved recipients on our website. The grant funding period is from December 9, 2016 to July 31, 2017. No application deadline extensions will be granted.

We will be happy to help with any questions. Please call Andy McCrady, Fuels Coordinator, at (936) 689-9393 or [wmccrady@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:wmccrady@tfs.tamu.edu) or Tammy Russell, Business Associate III, at (936) 273 2261 or [trussell@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:trussell@tfs.tamu.edu).

### **Applications Must Include:**

- Complete all information on page 1.
  - Texas Department of Agriculture Certified and Insured Prescribed Burn Manager License Number. (If missing, this information will be requested before application can gain final approval)
- Complete all information on page 2.
- A comprehensive burn plan along with the “Burn Unit Location” information requested on page 2 of the application. A landowner may produce the burn plan and location information or use the services of a consulting forester or contracted burn vendor. See the Texas Department of Agriculture web site for details of a comprehensive burn plan:  
<http://www.texasagriculture.gov/Home/ProductionAgriculture/PrescribedBurnProgram/SampleBurningPlanDocuments.aspx>
- The prescribed burn plan itself must be signed and dated by the preparer
- Location map displaying proximity of burn unit to roads and communities
- Map displaying boundary and acreage of burn unit

### **Additional Information for Applicant:**

- Multiple applications may be submitted per individual, but grant is competitive and selection will be based on the goal of promoting native ecosystem restoration. All applications will receive a notification of decision by mail by December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.
- **The completed application package must be received by TFS or post marked on or before September 30, 2016. Deadline for applications is firm. No fax or e-mailed applications will be accepted.** Selection process will begin immediately.
- Name on application, grant subrecipient agreement (if applicable), and invoice for payment must match.
- TFS personnel may contact and speak directly with recipient’s burn vendor about burn dates after the recipient has received the approval to burn notification letter from TFS.
- **The burn vendor must be a Certified and Insured Prescribed Burn Manager that is currently licensed by the Texas Department of Agriculture.**

- Grant is to be used only for the reimbursement of costs to landowners for a private contractor to conduct a prescribed burn (maximum of \$22.50 per acre and maximum of 800 acres of total burns). All costs incurred above \$22.50 per acre are the sole responsibility of the landowner, and will not be reimbursed. Landowners with treatment sites larger than the total acreage limit can still fill out an application, but will only receive reimbursement for up to 800 acres.
- Grant funds will not be provided to reimburse for administrative charges for completing the application or creation of burn plans by applicant or a private contractor.
- TFS may complete an on-site assessment prior to approval of recipient's application.

**If you are selected:**

- TFS will mail a notification of decision letter to the applicant containing all grant documents including Grant Subrecipient Agreement (if applicable), Terms and Conditions of Individual Grant Award (if applicable) and any other certifications required by the USFWS. All required forms must be completed and signed by applicant and approved by TFS before the prescribed burn can take place.
- **TFS will supply the recipient with an approval to burn letter when all TFS paperwork has been completed by recipient. Any burning on approved project prior to receiving this notice may forfeit recipient's prescribed burn funding.**
- TFS staff member will make a short site documentation visit and take pre-burn photos of vegetation condition along with a final post burn inspection and photos of vegetation.
- No exchange of land tracts will be allowed. Reimbursement made only upon approved contracted land tract. The grant funding period is from December 9, 2016 to July 31, 2017.
- **Burn contractor should notify TFS at least 24 hours prior to the prescribed burn taking place. Contractor should call Andy McCrady at the TFS Lufkin Office at (936)689-9393 with this notification.**

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### Landowner/Applicant Information:

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**Landowner Name or Third Party Land Manager – Please Circle**

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<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>City, State</b>	<b>Zip Code</b>
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<b>Home/Business Phone Number</b>	<b>Cell Number</b>	<b>E-Mail Address</b>
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<b>Landowner/Applicant Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
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Note: Signatory must be allowed to sign legal documents for applicant.

### Contractor Information:

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<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>Certified &amp; Insured Prescribed Burn Manager License Number</b>
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<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>City, State</b>	<b>Zip Code</b>
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<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Cell Number</b>	<b>E-Mail Address</b>
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**Burn Unit Location:**

**Latitude:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Longitude:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical address of burn unit or nearest intersection:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Is longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris*) the dominant tree species on the site?**

**NO YES**

**Is shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*) the dominant tree species on the site? (This is not referring to Loblolly pine)?**

**NO YES**

**Is there currently a federally listed endangered species present on this treatment site?**

**NO YES Identify:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pages 1 & 2 of application must be completed.**

**Please attach the following with your application:**

- Comprehensive Prescribed Burn Plan- **Signed by Preparer.**
- Property Location Map
- Burn Unit Boundary Map