



Texas Video Raises Awareness of Prescribed Fire

The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy is a national collaborative effort to bring a broad cross-section of stakeholders together to address wildland fire management challenges. The Strategy directs wildland fire planning activities and has three primary goals: restore and maintain landscapes, develop Fire-Adapted Communities, and improve wildfire response.

Activity	Impact
# Views of video on YouTube (2013-2017)	6770

For centuries, Texans have used prescribed, or “good”, fire to help manage the landscape. They relied on these low temperature, managed fires to clear brush, control vegetation, maintain wildlife habitat, and increase available plant nutrients in the soil.

Maintaining healthy landscapes while also keeping Texas citizens and communities safe from wildfires requires strategic stewardship of the state’s natural resources by a variety of partners, including first responders, local and state officials, landowners, and the public.

Prescribed fire can be used to achieve wildfire prevention and mitigation efforts while also meeting land management objectives, but fire can also be frightening. As a greater portion of the population moves into urban areas, the understanding of land management practices, like prescribed fire, decreases. As well, the destructive nature of wildfires on the news media blurs the line between “good” and “bad” fire.

To raise awareness on the benefits of prescribed fire and its essential role in the Texas landscape, the Texas A&M

Forest Service partnered with Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Oklahoma Forestry Services, and the Southern Group of State Foresters to produce the video, *A Land in Balance: Benefits of Prescribed Fire*. The fifteen minute video highlights the utility of prescribed fire across different regions of Texas, the methods for conducting a fire, and the benefits of prescribed fire.

Major contributors to the project include the Oklahoma Prescribed Fire Council, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, Texas Department of Agriculture, Great Plains Fire Science Exchange, Texas Prescribed Burning Board, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, City of Austin-Austin Water Utility-Wildland Conservation Division, and City of Austin Channel 6. The project was funded by the USDA Forest Service.

Success stories highlight regional wildland fire accomplishments that support implementation of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy in the Southeast. The stories demonstrate how the Southeast is improving its “fire resiliency” through technology, education and outreach, forest management, collaboration, and more. Success stories also serve as a model for other communities to follow.

Additional Information:

Prescribed Burn Alliance of Texas: <http://pbatexas.org>

Prescribed burning resources: <http://TexasPrescribedFire.com>

Video: <http://agrillife.org/blog/2013/08/21/a-land-in-balance-benefits-of-prescribed-fire/>

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Partners: Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Oklahoma Forestry Services, Southern Group of State Foresters, USDA Forest Service



Southern Regional
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