

Prescribed Fire Training Center 2009 Annual Report

...EXCELLENCE IN PRESCRIBED FIRE...



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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.

Executive Summary

The Prescribed Fire Training Center marked another successful year in 2009 with the continuation of the Center's distinguished experiential learning sessions as well as an Administrators Workshop and NWCG courses. **The Center continues to be the BEST place in the country for fire practitioners to hone their practical skills while conducting landscape and wildland urban interface burns under the guidance of some of the most experienced prescribed burners anywhere.** The Center accommodated 105 participants from five federal agencies, local governments, non-governmental organizations and foreign countries during the sessions and workshops. Participants came from 27 states and 4 foreign countries. For the second year in a row, TNC sponsored, and PFTC trained a Spanish-language module with participants from Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

The Center worked with 9 different cooperating agencies/organizations on 49 different units. This year saw the addition of a new cooperator, the Georgia Forestry Commission. This new relationship produced immediate training opportunities for participants and great advantages for the host in the additional treated acres with experienced crews.

During the sessions and workshop, the PFTC, with their cooperative host units, applied prescribed fire to:

- ◆ 78,192 acres (80% federal),
- ◆ 38,631 acres of wildland-urban interface (49% of the total treated acreage, 80% federal).
- ◆ The most common task books addressed during the sessions included RXB2, RXB3, FIRB, ENGB, and FEMO, with a total of 419 assignments.
- ◆ There were 1,982 tasks accomplished with 33 individuals recommended for certification back to their home units.

All participants received instruction in fire behavior, firing techniques and high reliability organizing. The Center entered into a new cooperative agreement with the University of Florida and offered 3 upper division credits through the College of Forest Resources and Conservation. Fourteen (14) individuals took advantage of this opportunity and completed the work required to receive these credits.

Safety and the well being of the Field Coordinators and participants is the Center's number one priority. Unfortunately, incidents do happen. On Thursday, March 19, 2009, a Federal employee attending the March session was the firing boss (FIRB) on a prescribed burn with a cooperator and was injured while firing a QUICKFIRE Pistol. This employee was trained on the proper use and care of the QUICKFIRE Pistol, and this was the employee's fifth assignment as FIRB while at PFTC.

During the period of January through March, participants from the 21-day sessions and Agency Administrators Workshop drove approximately 82,000 miles. Burn assignments took the participants to Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and South Carolina.

A Participants' Perspective...

"The PFTC session is probably one of the best prescribed fire training opportunities in the world. For me it was the best training program I have ever done. Attending PFTC program will help me a lot on my career."

Juan Caamano, Junta de Andalucia – INFOCA, Granada, Spain



Cover



Parker Schuerman, TNC - Maine, igniting in longleaf pine/wiregrass sandhill community during February session.

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Summary of Participants 1998 thru 2009		
GACC Region	Participants	Percent
Western GACCs	986	77%
Eastern	148	12%
Southern	107	8%
International	34	3%
Total	1,275	100%

Note from the Director

Prescribed Fire Training Center (PFTC) and the New Federal Wildland Fire Policy

In the wake of the ever changing fire management policy within the Federal agencies, a new set of fire standards has emerged. As federal fire managers, we now have a new Federal Wildland Fire Policy (2/13/09). In order for ease and clarification with our non-federal partners, the new Federal Wildland Fire policy will categorize Wildland Fire as *Prescribed Fire or Wildfire*. The federal work force, in particular, must face the fact that they will be losing a tremendous amount of fireline expertise due to mandatory retirement.

Each home unit has the opportunity to step up and work on this fireline expertise gap at the local level. It is evident, when talking to participants that come through the Center each year, that the gap seems to get larger before it gets smaller. This is due to the fact that on each unit, there are employees with open task books, often multiple employees with the same open task book, with not enough burns or burn days, and assignments to offer each employee the opportunity to accomplish tasks and eventually complete a task book. This resulting "bottle neck" contributes greatly to the increased length of time for employees to build experience and benefit the home unit and agency.

PFTC is the only hands-on training center opportunity in the country. It is structured to allow the participant to build prescribed fire confidence in the planning and execution of a burn. The participant is provided an accelerated, broad-base field-experience training in an environment that allows for wide prescription windows as well as a diversity of burn objectives. PFTC has the capability to reduce the "bottle neck" on the home units, allowing task books to be worked on when the home unit is not able to provide the necessary opportunities to complete task books.

How can prescribed burn skills become beneficial in wildfire applications? The use of prescribed fire operations permits the employee to plan a burn (tools/equipment/personnel/burn techniques/weather/fuel types/last burned); execute the burn for objectives within the unit/station Fire Management Plan (FMP) or Land Management Plan (LMP); become pro-active and less re-active; conduct landscape scale burns; and most importantly - perform the operation safely and within time frames set forth by the local unit.

We encourage you to call a member of the staff here at PFTC if you have any questions. The staff and cooperators you will be burning with are extremely eager to assist you into becoming an active fire practitioner. The website has links to session accomplishments, videos, statistics, photos, session announcements, workshops and much more. We hope to hear from you in the near future.

Jim Durrwachter, Director

Narrative Summary

FY 2009 started with much activity and generated an energy that would carry over into the new year. Travel caps and reduced budgets are affecting all agencies this year and the result to the PFTC was a large number of last minute drops and reduced enrollment. Consequently we had to focus energy on shuffling individuals around to fill out crews and ultimately because of too many last minute drops the April session was cancelled. In contrast however, this was the first year in the Center's history to send seven modules to the field in January and February, and five modules in March. After feed-back from Field Coordinators and the end of sessions staff AAR, the Center will send six modules to the field in 2010 for the months of January, February, and March.

PFTC is glad to have Miranda Stuart, NPS, come on board as the new Fire Operations Specialist in January. She was indoctrinated into her new roles by complete immersion. No need to wade into the job but rather jump right in and go with the program. She was working with detailers Joe Ferguson in January and Hunter Wistrand in February to get her feet on the ground and see just how much time it takes to move crews and coordinate their field activities. In March she took the reins and survived the month without misplacing a crew. The job is demanding and she realized the importance of having a plan for the crews two to three days in advance as the key for success. The cooperators, were extremely helpful and professional and the heart of the program. Safety of the fire fighter and the public, professional integrity and accountability, skill and leadership in action, and scientific understanding of fire as an ecological process are the core values of the PFTC which the Center is committed to maintaining.

The Nature Conservancy again sponsored a Spanish-language module to attend the Center during the March session. The global economy had an impact on this module, as only four participants were able to attend: two from Mexico and two from the Dominican Republic. The two individuals from the Dominican Republic were especially engaged due in large measure to the exclusion of prescribed fire use in the country. They left with a better understanding of the positive role prescribed fire can have and the necessity of working to change the current policy prohibiting the use of prescribed fire. The purchase of head sets allowed the Conservancy interpreter to provide a translation of talks and field trip activities during the orientation.

The Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Forest Service (FS) funded the purchase of six crew cab 4X4 pickup vehicles that were delivered in late March. These vehicles replaced the six Bureau of Land Management (BLM) trucks located at the Center. The new vehicles have been outfitted with sprayed on bed liners, camper shells and bed slides for module gear. The purchase of these vehicles will reduce the cost of rental vehicles for the 2010 sessions. After the sessions, these vehicles along with the PFTC Type 6 engine have been made available to the FWS and FS within the southeast through October. Currently, the engine is on loan to the Osceola/Ocala National Forests. The afternoon the engine was dropped off with Pete Meyers, FMO on the Osceola NF, it was immediately put to use on a wildfire. In addition to purchasing vehicles, the Center's Ford Excursion and two long-bed Type 6 engines were put on the surplus list and sold. The dollars received from these sales helped to defray the cost of the three purchased FWS trucks.

Practitioner Sessions

Three 21-day practitioner sessions were held in January, February, and March. Due to agency travel caps, the April session was cancelled. Participants have the opportunity to experience the prescription process, planning a burn (logistics/equipment/personnel), obtaining weather forecast, burn permits, notifications, preparation of briefing documents, agency administrator involvement, execution of the burn along with follow up documentation procedures. Individuals also have the opportunity to build their confidence and skill in applying prescribed fire to the wildland urban interface, landscape, and a variety of different fuel types for different management objectives.

Narrative Summary Continued

Along with The Nature Conservancy-sponsored Spanish module in March, the Center hosted Antonio Patrao from Portugal in the January session, and Juan Azcarate from Crando Spain in February. These individuals are like sponges, as they are always asking questions, documenting in writing and with photographs. These international participants bring a wealth of information to share with their module members. This ends up being a win-win situation for all individuals.

University Credit

The Center has been able to offer up to five (5) lower division credits through Tallahassee Community College for the past several years. A number of participants have taken advantage of this during their 21-day sessions. However there has been a demand for upper division credit for the 21-day sessions that would meet GS-401 requirements. Through a working relationship developed over the past year, the Center was able to offer three (3) upper division credits through the University of Florida's Department of Forest Resources and Conservation. The cost for these credits is a reasonable \$210/credit. During the 2009 sessions sixteen (16) participants registered and fourteen (14) followed through and received the credits.

Agency Administrators Workshop

During the week of March 22-28, 2009, the Center held a 6⁺-day Agency Administrators Workshop. This workshop satisfies the USDA-USFS FSM 5140 requirements to approve Prescribed Fire Burn Plans. Beginning and ending in Orlando, Florida, the workshop also traveled to Ocala National Forest, Lake City, Florida, St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, the Prescribed Fire Training Center, Valdosta, Georgia, Gainesville, Florida, and Ordway Swisher Preserve. The workshop was attended by 11 participants from the US Forest Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. This workshop is intended for those agency administrators that have a limited knowledge of prescribed fire and what constitutes a successful fire program or are new to the position of Refuge Manager, District Ranger or Forest Supervisor. The attendees are interviewed early and often about their expectations and desires for the workshop. The results of those interviews resulted in a fluid agenda that covered such topics as how to increase their involvement in the prescribed fire process, making informed go/no go decisions, liabilities, succession planning, sharing resources, transitioning from a prescribed fire to wildfire, building a program, and understanding the Interagency Prescribed Burn Plan format. In addition the attendees participated on two prescribed burns, a Go/No Go simulation, and an involved sand table exercise. Field trips showcased successful programs and how they are built and maintained, the relationship built on trust between the agency administrator and the fire staff, and the ability of non-federal programs to maintain their fire programs with meager resources. Cadre and speakers represented multiple agencies and organizations as well as geographic areas. This year's workshop was highly successful as judged by the evaluations received from the participants.

Courses

The Center sponsored one NWCG course, Facilitative Instructor (M410) in January. The class was full and included a waiting list. In addition the Center hosted a number of other courses including RX-410 (Smoke Management Techniques), sponsored by The Nature Conservancy in November; L380 (Fireline Leadership), sponsored by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in November; and RX-341 (Prescribed Fire Burn Planning) sponsored by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in December. The training room was also used for USFS cross-sectional training in October, USFS ICT3 simulation training in January, and a USFWS FMO meeting in April.

Narrative Summary Continued

Staff

As noted above, Miranda Stuart is the new National Park Service, Fire Operations Specialist for the Prescribed Fire Training Center. Prior to joining the National Park Service Miranda worked for the USFWS at Texas Midcoast Refuge Complex as their Fire Effects Monitor and GIS Specialist. Her duties for the USFWS Complex included developing their fire effects monitoring program, vegetation monitoring and modeling and participating as a member of the fire crew. She spent six years working at the Complex before her move to Florida to join the staff at the Prescribed Fire Training Center.

Miranda started her career with the Winema National Forest in Oregon in 1995 as a Wildlife Biologist and active participant in the fire program, she was with the USFS for five seasons. She served on the wildlife, timber and fire crews and also conducted fire ecology research for one season on the Siskiyou NF during this period. Miranda transitioned to Fire full time when she accepted a position in 2000 with the Big Thicket National Preserve in Texas as their Fire Effects Monitor.

Miranda's experience also includes a B.S from Oregon State University in Biology specializing in Genetics in endangered species. Miranda has been a member of the Southern Area Red Team for two years and is working on her Division Supervisor Qualifications as well as her ICT3 qualification. She will be a valuable addition to the NPS Wildland Fire Program and share her knowledge and experience with the Prescribed Fire Training Center as well as working with National Parks in the SE Region.

Field Coordinators

Field Coordinators arrived two days prior to session in order to get the opportunity to participate in some local burning. Working on these burns gave Coordinators the opportunity to get back in the mode of burning and build relationships with our local Cooperators. Most of our Coordinators come from Regions where snow has been on the ground already so they were able to reset their minds and get ready for sessions. Our goal here at the Center is to make our participants think "outside the box" and by bringing on our Coordinators early they were able to expose themselves to different burn techniques, local factors that affect burns and prepare themselves to provide strong leadership and guidance to their module participants. Additionally it gave them the opportunity to meet the new Fire Operations Specialist, familiarize themselves with the changes to the program such as SOP's and for new Coordinators to get comfortable with their role prior to session starting.

The chance to participate on burns was well received by Field Coordinators and the Center and will continue to be a part of the program in FY2010. There will also be a Field Coordinators Workshop for two days this November to bring all of our valuable players to the table, both old and new Coordinators, and build this program to the next level. We continue to strive for excellence and our Coordinators are selected for Leadership, Prescribed Fire Operations, Safety and the ability to motivate new thinking and energy in our participants.

PFTC would like to extend our special thanks to Jack Benzillio who retires this December. Jack has been a part of the program for the past eleven years and has provided a great service as a Field Coordinator. To all of our Field Coordinators the Center extends our gratitude in your willingness to participate and accepting the challenge of building our future leaders in fire. Our success depends on the link you provide between PFTC, the Cooperators and our Participants and we thank you for your hard work, and dedication.

Narrative Summary Continued

The following were the 2009 Field Coordinators:

◆ **Session One**

- ◇ Greg Borgen - FS - Sumter NF, Andrew Pickens RD
- ◇ Keith Halloran - FS - Coconino NF, Mogollon Rim RD
- ◇ Paul Klasner - FS - Payette NF, Krassel RD
- ◇ Shawn Nagle - NPS - Natchez Trace Parkway
- ◇ Terry Severson - FWS - Wisconsin Private Lands Office
- ◇ Jeff Welsh - FS - San Juan NF
- ◇ Greg Zoppetti - FWS - Klamath Basin NWR

◆ **Session Two**

- ◇ Brooks Baker - FS - Kaibab NF, North Kaibab RD
- ◇ Forrest Behm - FS - Payette NF, McCall Smokejumpers
- ◇ Jack Benzilio - FS - San Juan NF
- ◇ Gary Bishop - FS - Caribou-Targhee NF, Westside RD
- ◇ Jason "Jake" Dollard - BLM - Alaska Fire Service
- ◇ Linden "Lindy" McNeilus - FWS - Detroit Lakes Wetland Mgmt. Dist.
- ◇ Jennifer Rabuck - FS - Chequamegon-Nicolet NF, Great Divide RD

◆ **Session Three**

- ◇ Rod Dines - FS - Payette NF, Krassel RD
- ◇ Joseph Flores - FWS - Browns Park NWR
- ◇ Victor Morfin - FS - Kaibab NF, Williams RD
- ◇ Daron Reynolds - FS - Manti-La Sal NF, Price RD
- ◇ Terry Tilford - BLM - Moab Field Office

◆ **Session Four (Cancelled)**

- ◇ Mark Musitano - NPS - Yukon Charley Rivers NP

Cooperators

The Center is pleased to announce a new Cooperator for the FY2009 sessions. An agreement was established with the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) and in January our crews headed to Waycross to put the first fire on the ground with their crews. Frank Sorrells lead the way in developing this relationship and provided strong opportunities across his District. Forrest Sumners picked up the lead in March and we successfully burned in three Counties across his District throughout the March session. We thank GFC for their efforts and are glad to have entered into another successful cooperative agreement. The Center looks forward to continuing and expanding this relationship across the State.

Narrative Summary Continued

PFTC would like to thank all of their Cooperators for their efforts and willingness to work with our crews, your support is what makes our program successful and for this we thank you. Our Cooperators have provided critical field experience on burns, guidance, shared their knowledge and provided additional exposure to fire in regards to the planning, implementation and monitoring. St. Marks NWR and the Apalachicola N.F. provided field day trainings for our International Crew and all of our Cooperators shared valuable knowledge with our Participants.



RXB2t discusses burn plans with Georgia Forestry Commission burn boss and local land owner during the March session.

From left to right: Sonny Caldwell, FS - Deschutes NF; Charlie Osteen, Plantation Manager for Good Hope Plantation, Naylor, GA; Buck Kline, GA Forestry Commission

Narrative Summary Continued

2009 Cooperators

Department of Defense

US Air Force - Avon Park Air Force Range, Florida
 US Air Force - Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
 US Air Force - Fort Stewart, Georgia

US Air Force - Holly Field, Florida
 US Air Force - Whiting Field, Florida

US Forest Service

National Forests in Florida, Apalachicola NF
 National Forests in Florida, Ocala NF
 National Forests in Florida, Osceola NF
 National Forests in Alabama, Conecuh NF
 National Forests in Alabama, Escambia Research Station

National Forests in Alabama, Talladega NF
 National Forests in Mississippi, De Soto NF
 National Forests in Mississippi, Tombigbee NF
 Francis Marion National Forests, South Carolina
 Sumter National Forests, South Carolina

US Fish and Wildlife Service

Blackbeard NWR, Georgia
 Lower Suwannee NWR, Florida
 Merritt Island NWR, Florida

Santee NWR, South Carolina
 St. Marks NWR, Florida

US National Park Service

Big Cypress National Preserve, Florida

Everglades National Park

Florida Division of Forestry

Belmore State Forest
 Blackwater State Forest
 Cary State Forest
 Jennings State Forest

Lake Talquin State Forest
 Tates Hell State Forest
 Tiger Bay State Forest
 Wakulla State Forest

Florida Water Management District

Northwest WMD

Department of Environmental Protection - Florida State Parks

Charlotte Harbor
 Myakka River
 Ponce de Leon
 St. Marks

St. Sebastian River
 Torreya
 Wakulla Springs

Georgia Forestry Commission

Southern Georgia Counties

University of Florida

Orway-Swisher Biological Research Station

2009 Burn Accomplishments - Federal Agencies

Agency	Cooperator	RX Burns	Total Acres	WUI Acres
DOD	Avon Park Air Force Range	7	2,628	0
DOD	Eglin Air Force Base	3	674	0
DOD	Fort Stewart US Army Base	3	1,249	100
DOD	Holly Field Air Force Base	1	50	50
DOD	Whiting Field Air Force Base	1	288	0
Total DOD		15	4,889	150
USFS	Apalachicola National Forest	7	11,290	2,829
USFS	Conecuh National Forest	3	825	745
USFS	De Soto National Forest	5	12,768	12,768
USFS	Escambia Research Station	1	5	5
USFS	Francis Marion National Forest	2	984	272
USFS	Ocala National Forest	3	717	717
USFS	Osceola National Forest	3	3,370	100
USFS	Sumter National Forest	6	5,826	2,241
USFS	Talladega National Forest	4	2,668	0
USFS	Tombigbee National Forest	1	1,224	1,224
Total USFS		35	39,677	20,901
USFWS	Blackbeard NWR	1	70	0
USFWS	Lower Suwannee River NWR	2	340	0
USFWS	Merritt Island NWR	6	4,237	2,680
USFWS	Santee NWR	1	265	265
USFWS	St. Marks NWR	1	379	379
Total USFWS		11	5,291	3,324
USNPS	Big Cypress National Park	7	7,420	6,365
USNPS	Everglades National Park	1	5,000	0
Total USNPS		8	12,420	6,365
	Total Federal Agencies	69	62,277	30,740

2009 Burn Accomplishments - Non-Federal Agencies

Agency	Cooperator	RX Burns	Total Acres	WUI Acres
FL State Parks	Charlotte Harbor State Park	1	110	0
FL State Parks	Myakka River State Park	1	61	60
FL State Parks	Ponce de Leon State Park	1	74	74
FL State Parks	St. Marks State Park	2	44	40
FL State Parks	St. Sebastian River State Park	1	202	202
FL State Parks	Torrey State Park	6	200	158
FL State Parks	Wakulla State Park	4	132	72
Total FL State Parks		16	823	606
FL Division of Forestry	Belmore State Forest	1	120	1
FL Division of Forestry	Blackwater State Forest	13	2,656	882
FL Division of Forestry	Cary State Forest	4	735	670
FL Division of Forestry	Jennings State Forest	1	100	100
FL Division of Forestry	Lake Talquin State Forest	13	1,282	252
FL Division of Forestry	Tate's Hell State Forest	12	5,057	3,930
FL Division of Forestry	Tiger Bay State Forest	1	140	0
FL Division of Forestry	Wakulla State Forest	3	423	423
Total FL Division of Forestry		48	10,513	6,257
Water Mgmt. District	Northwest Florida WMD	8	205	124
Total Water Mgmt. District		8	205	124
Georgia Forestry Commission	Southern Georgia Counties	27	3,949	666
Total Georgia Forestry Comm.		27	3,949	666
University of Florida	Ordway-Swisher Biological Station	4	425	238
Total University of Florida		4	425	238
Total Non-Federal Agencies		103	15,915	7,891

A Participants' Perspective...

"I would not have this type of training opportunity on my home unit. It often takes several years to get this many burns. Perfect for people that have other responsibilities on the home unit."

Doug Marolf, Payette National Forest, ID



2009 Program of Work Overview

21-Day Fire Practitioner Sessions/Workshop		
Session 1	January 4 - 23, 2009	7 Modules 7 Field Coordinators 35 Participants
Session 2	February 1 - 20, 2009	7 Modules 7 Field Coordinators 34 Participants
Session 3	March 1 - 20, 2009	5 Modules 5 Field Coordinators 25 Participants
Agency Administrator Workshop	March 22 - 28, 2009	11 Participants

Acres Treated		
Wildland Urban Interface	38,631	49%
Wildland	39,561	51%
Total Treated Acres	78,192	100%

Federal/Non-Federal Acres Treated				
	Total	% of Total	WUI	% of Total WUI
Federal	62,277	80%	30,740	80%
Non-Federal	15,915	20%	7,891	20%
Total Treated Acres	78,192	100%	38,631	100%

A Participants' Perspective...

"PFTC provided me with the opportunity to hone my RX fire operational skills: the exposure to different fuel types and different cooperators was very insightful. It also taught me that there are many more objectives than just hazard fuel reduction. Both the classroom at PFTC and at Tall Timbers broadened my understanding of successful program implementation."

Conlan Jones, Tahoe National Forest, CA



2009 Program of Work Overview Continued

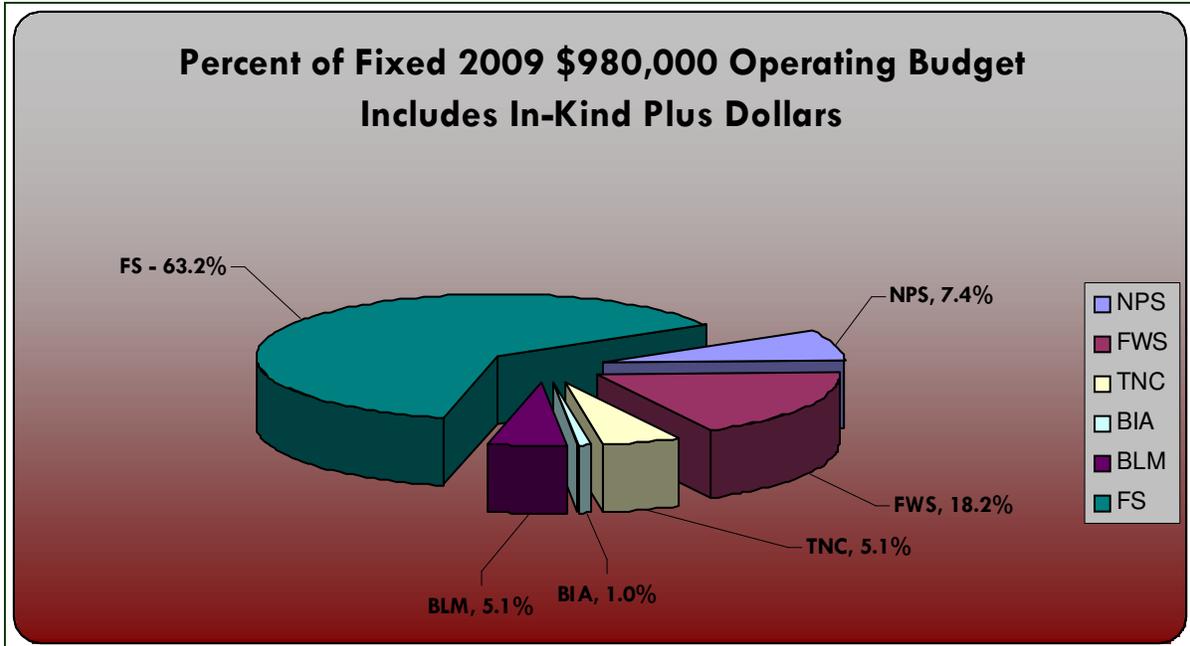
<i>Participants by Agency</i>			
Agency	Agency Administrator Workshop	21-Day Sessions	Total
Forest Service	10	61	71
Bureau of Land Management		5	5
Fish & Wildlife Service	1	6	7
National Park Service		6	6
Bureau of Indian Affairs		3	3
State/County/City		5	5
NGO		2	2
International		6	6
TOTAL	11	94	105

<i>Task Book Accomplishments</i>			
Task Book	Number of Training Assignments	Number of Tasks Accomplished	Number of Individuals
RXB2	146	1,106	29
RXB3	9	82	7
FIRB	172	271	45
ENGB	19	87	9
FEMO	67	391	25
SRB	5	126	5
CRWB	1	1	1
Total	419	2,064	121



Agency Administrator Workshop participant, Darius Truss, drags a drip torch during one of the field exercises in March.

2009 Program of Work Overview Continued



RXB2t briefs crew before burn during the March session.

From left to right: Jennifer Adams, FWS - SE Regional Office; Danny Cedenno, FS - Apalahciola NF; Oscar Domingues, Comision Nacional Forestal - Bosque Nacional o Refugio, Mexico; Joseph Flores, FWS - Brown's Park NWR; and Mark Rakestraw, FWS - Sacramento NWRC

Take Home Messages for 2009

For every session since its inception, Frank Cole, former USFWS fire director, has charged the participants to assemble a list of succinct messages that resonates lessons learned during their 21-day session. He has suggested these messages be brief and potent that emphasize an important thought similar to a “bumper sticker”. This exercise is intended to keep prescribed fire at the forefront of each participant’s thoughts and stress the Center’s motto: “Every Day is a Burn Day”.

Most of these messages can be slotted in a particular category, though many could be categorized in more than one. This year’s messages fell out into one or more of the subsequent groups: Flexibility, Planning, High Reliability Organizing, Cooperation, Outside Support, Objectives, Monitoring, Education, Ecological, Operational, and Training. The following contain an illustration of messages for each of these groups:

Flexibility

- Patience can be one of your best resources.

Planning

- Prep twice burn once.

High Reliability Organizing

- Deal with crisis before chaos arrives.

Cooperation

- Mind your manners, not everyone thinks like you do.

Outside Support

- Your positive actions as a fire practitioner will increase your community’s acceptance of prescribed fire.

Objectives

- The burn is the quickest part, the effects last much longer.

Monitoring

- Fire effects and post-burn monitoring are essential for land managers and RX burn personnel to understand and refine the practice of prescribed fire.

Education

- Promote education of fire ecology to help turn fire suppressors into fire managers.

Ecological

- Fire is part of the genetics of the landscape.

Operational

- Conduct test burn in representative fuels.

Training

- Every fire should be a classroom.

Cumulative Program of Work Overview

Accomplishments FY1998 thru FY2009							
Fiscal Year	Total Attendees	Total Field Coordinators	No. of Host/Cooperators	No. of Training Assignments	No. of Burns	WUI Acres	Total Acres w/WUI
1998 - 2008	1,170	179	290	2,917	1,623	143,221	602,150
2009	105	17	49	419	177	38,631	78,192
Total	1,275	196	339	3,336	1,800	181,852	680,342

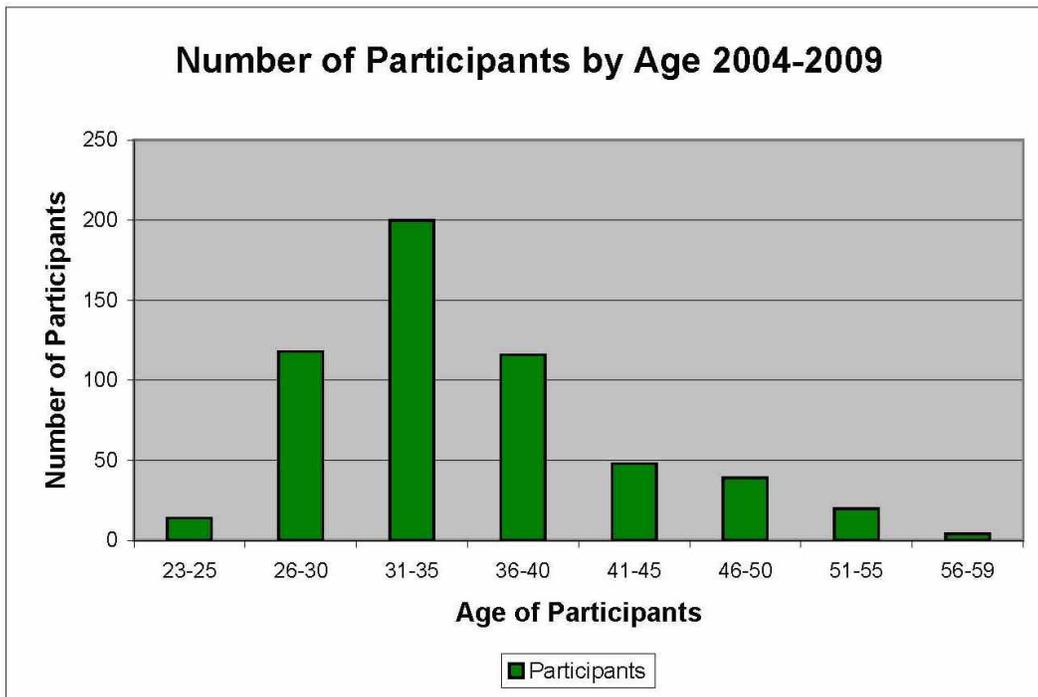
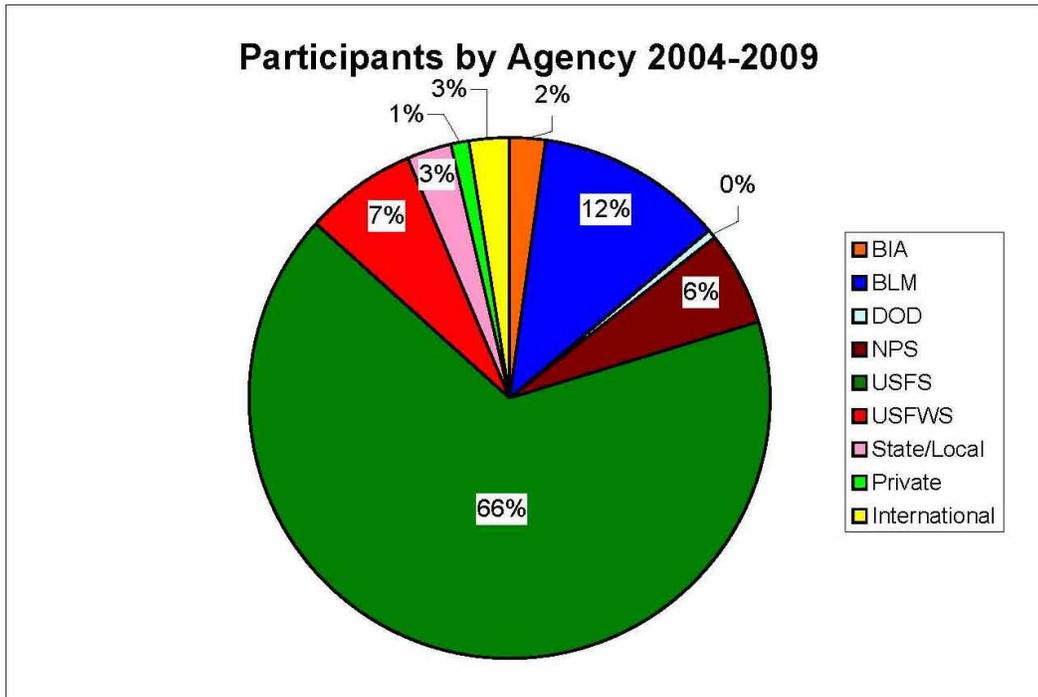


Module conducts After Action Review (AAR) during the February session.

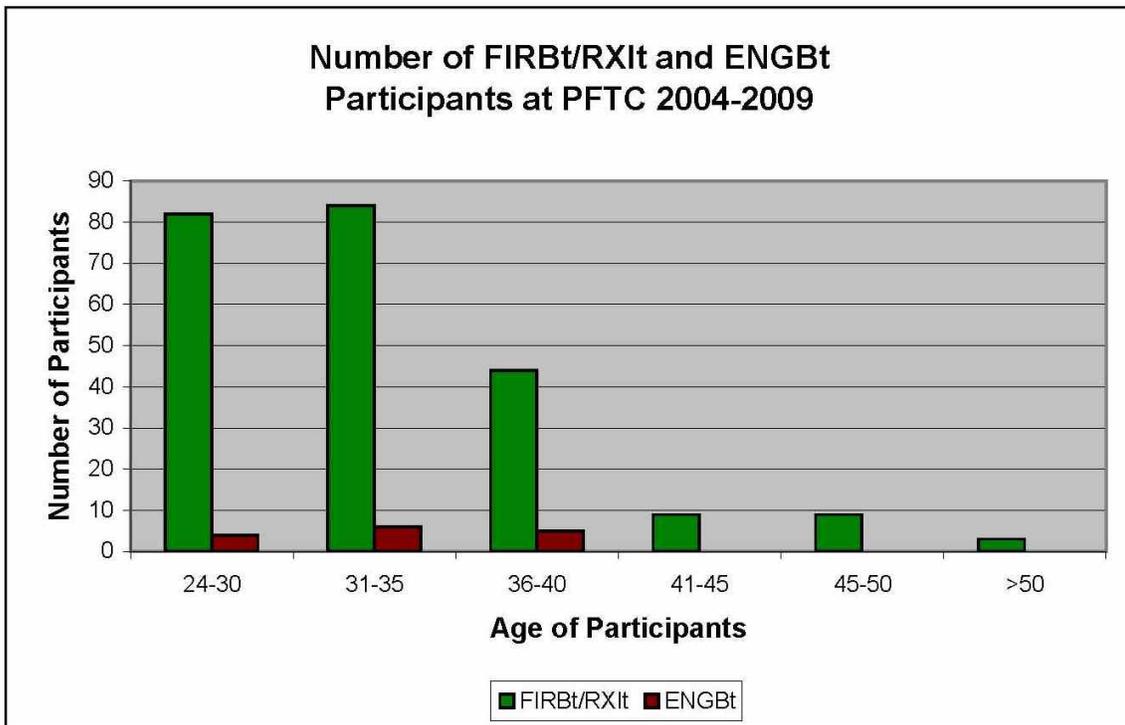
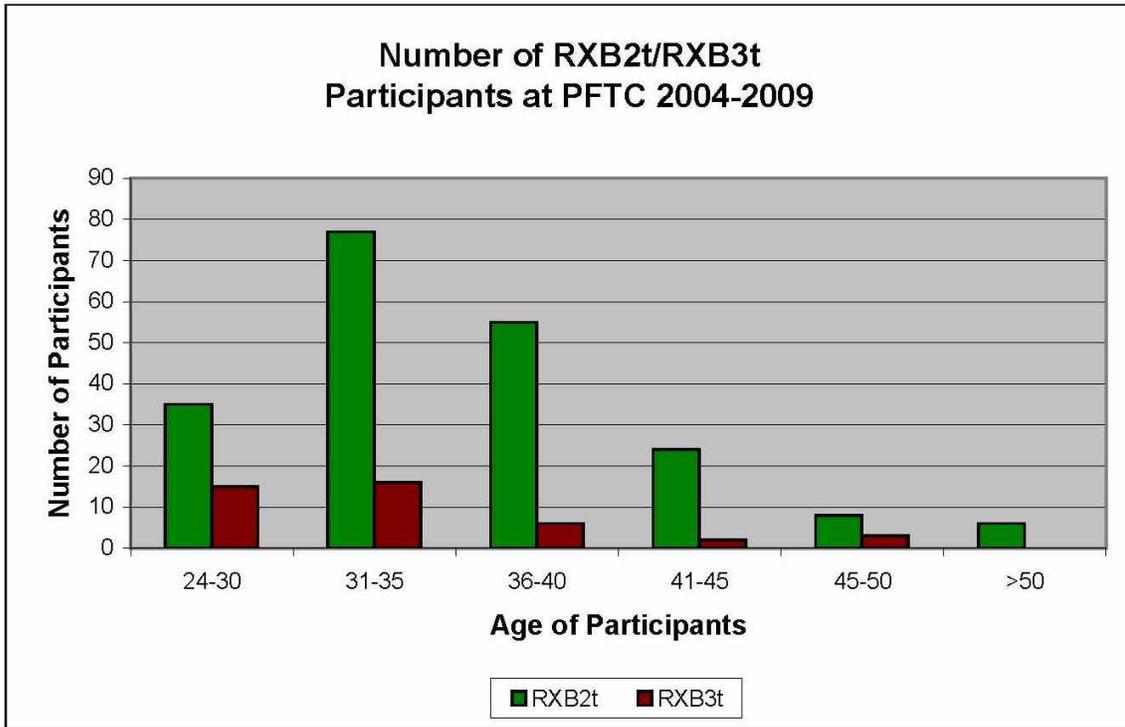
From left to right:
 Seth G. Odell, FS - Amanor RD;
 Jason Chappell, FS - South Platte RD;
 Brooks Baker, FS - North Kaibab RD;
 Eric J. Anderson, FS - Mio RD; and
 T. Parker Schuerman, TNC - Maine

Participants by Agency FY1998 thru FY2009		
Agency	Participants	Percent
Forest Service	769	60%
Bureau of Land Management	129	10%
Fish and Wildlife Service	118	9%
National Park Service	78	6%
Bureau of Indian Affairs	48	4%
State/County/City	54	4%
Department of Defense	23	2%
NGO	22	2%
International	34	3%
Total	1,275	100%

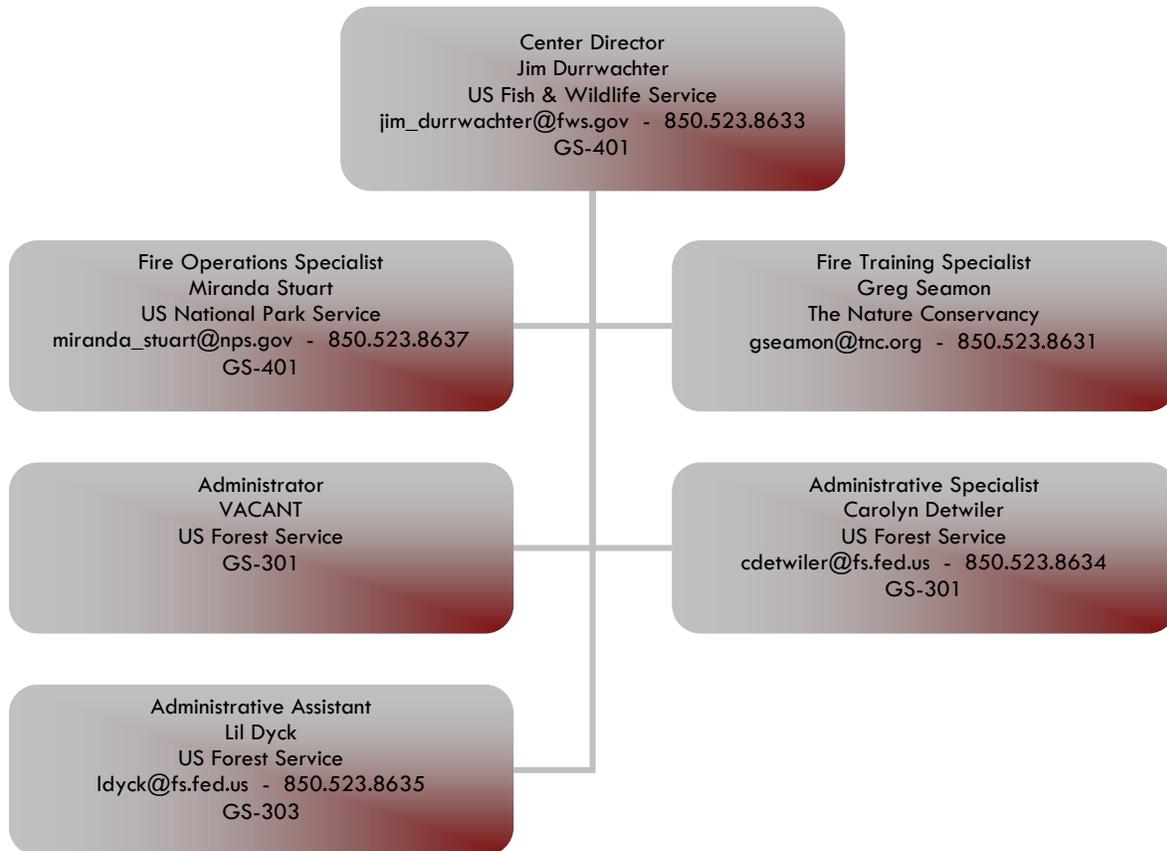
Cumulative Program of Work Overview Continued



Cumulative Program of Work Overview Continued



2009 Organization Chart



- ◇ The US Fish & Wildlife Service, Southeast Region, Atlanta, GA oversees the Center Director's position.
- ◇ The US National Park Service, National Interagency Fire Center, Boise, ID oversees the Operations Specialist's position.
- ◇ The three Administrative positions are supervised by the US Forest Service, National Forests in Florida, Tallahassee, FL. The Administrator position has been vacant since December 2004.
- ◇ The Nature Conservancy Director of U.S. Fire Training oversees the PFTC's Fire Training Specialist.
- ◇ The Center Director has day-to-day supervisory authority for all PFTC positions.

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FS Florida Rep Vacant

FS Western Rep Vacant

BIA Rep Vacant

(*) *Advisory non-voting member(s)*

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Participants' Perspectives...

"We are developing a Fire Management Plan, and with all the information discussed and gathered from the USFWS, USFS, and Florida DOF, it will be very helpful to consider many aspects to a successful program."

*Estuard Giron
Solola Regional Municipal Parks System
Panajachel, Guatemala*

"Absolutely one of the best courses (Agency Administrators Workshop) I have ever taken in 22 years with the FS. The cadre was tremendously experienced and professional. They also clearly had mastered the techniques of adult education. The course provided a mix of lecture, discussion, hands-on experience, modeling, and role-playing that could not have been better designed or implemented anywhere... The cadre made sure we met our individual objectives as well as the course objectives, and that everyone got direct hands-on experience."

*Jerry Ingersoll, Deputy Forest Supervisor
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF*

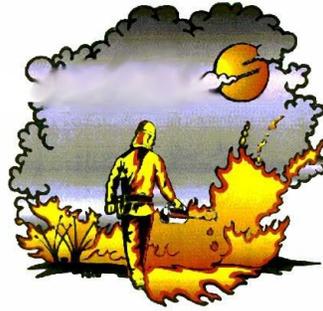
"This is the best workshop (Agency Administrators Workshop) I have attended in my 18 years in the agency in terms of meeting objectives and my needs. I would love to do this with my Ranger Team. I have already convinced one to attend."

*Spring Rosales, District Ranger
Chequamegon-Nicolet NF, Washburn District*



Agency Administrators discuss Go/No Go decision with Cadre during a field exercise in March at St. Marks NWR.

In this picture are:
 Jim Durrwachter, FWS-PFTC;
 Rowdy Muir, FS-Ashley NF;
 Melanie Fullman, FS-Bessemer RD;
 Spring Rosales, FS-Washburn RD;
 Darius Truss, FS-Regional Office, R8;
 and Jo Reyer, FS-Wayne NF



...Everyday is a Burn Day...



The Nature Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

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