

APAFR Wildland Fire Program September 2012



INRMP OBJECTIVES/PROJECTS

Goal 2: Maintain Or Restore Landscape Level Ecological Processes Using Prescribed Fire As The Primary Tool, While Enhancing Mission Sustainability Through Fuels Reduction. Enhance military mission capability and long-term range sustainment on APAFR through an adaptive wildland fire program that minimizes risk from wildfires, enhances ecosystem resilience through science based application of prescribed fire and provides key fire related information to decision makers.

Objective 2.1: Develop and implement a wildland fire plan that meets mission and ecological sustainability needs in FY 2012.

Project 2.1.1: Prescribe burn 30% (33,000 acres of dry prairie, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and pine flatwoods) of APAFR with 50% of acreage burned conducted during lightning season (April-July), on a rotational basis starting in FY 2012.

Project 2.1.2: Continue applying prescribed fire in dry prairie on a 1-2 year return during spring through mid-summer, mimicking nature fire regimes to the extent possible, to large blocks of prairie habitat (i.e. 1500 acres+) to reduce the concentration of livestock during the post burn period. Given the small size of the FGSP population remaining at APAFR, prescribed fires during the height of the nesting season (May through July) will be avoided in habitat occupied by FGSP to minimize the loss of nests. Ongoing

Project 2.1.3: Utilize prescribed fire to maintain scrub in suitable condition for FSJ by 2012 and monitor FSJ response. Modify prescribed fire tactics and strategies in oak scrub habitat as necessary.

Project 2.1.4: Apply prescribed fire to all units east of Echo Range as single unit, at roughly the same time beginning in FY 2013.

Project 2.1.5: Starting in FY 2012 re-establish natural fire effects along the margin of Kissimmee Marsh by allowing fire lines along the western edge of oak hammocks to fill in with ground cover and permitting prescribed fire to burn into the oak hammocks with high intensity, gradually thinning the hammock, reducing the negative edge effect on FGSP and re-opening historic gaps in the hammock to provide movement corridors for FGSP between Kissimmee Prairie Preserve and Echo Range.

Project 2.1.6: Integrate native seed production considerations into annual prescribed burn planning process starting in FY 2012.

Project 2.1.7: Burn approximately 5,000 acres within the dry prairie and flatwoods annually each year during the correct period (April 1 through June 30) to stimulate wire grass (*Aristida stricta*) seed production, starting in FY 2012.

Project 2.1.8: In areas with an abundance of lopsided Indian grass (approximately 3000 acres) burn on a three-year rotation by FY 2012.

Project 2.1.9: Starting in FY 2012, utilize wildfire suppression tactics that minimize impacts to natural resources and the military mission while still controlling potential damages from wildfire. When conditions do require invasive suppression tactics, every effort will be made to mitigate damages (i.e. plowlines) to the ecosystem.

Project 2.1.10: When mission/manpower allow, continue to use APAFR as a training center for interagency prescribed fire training. Ongoing

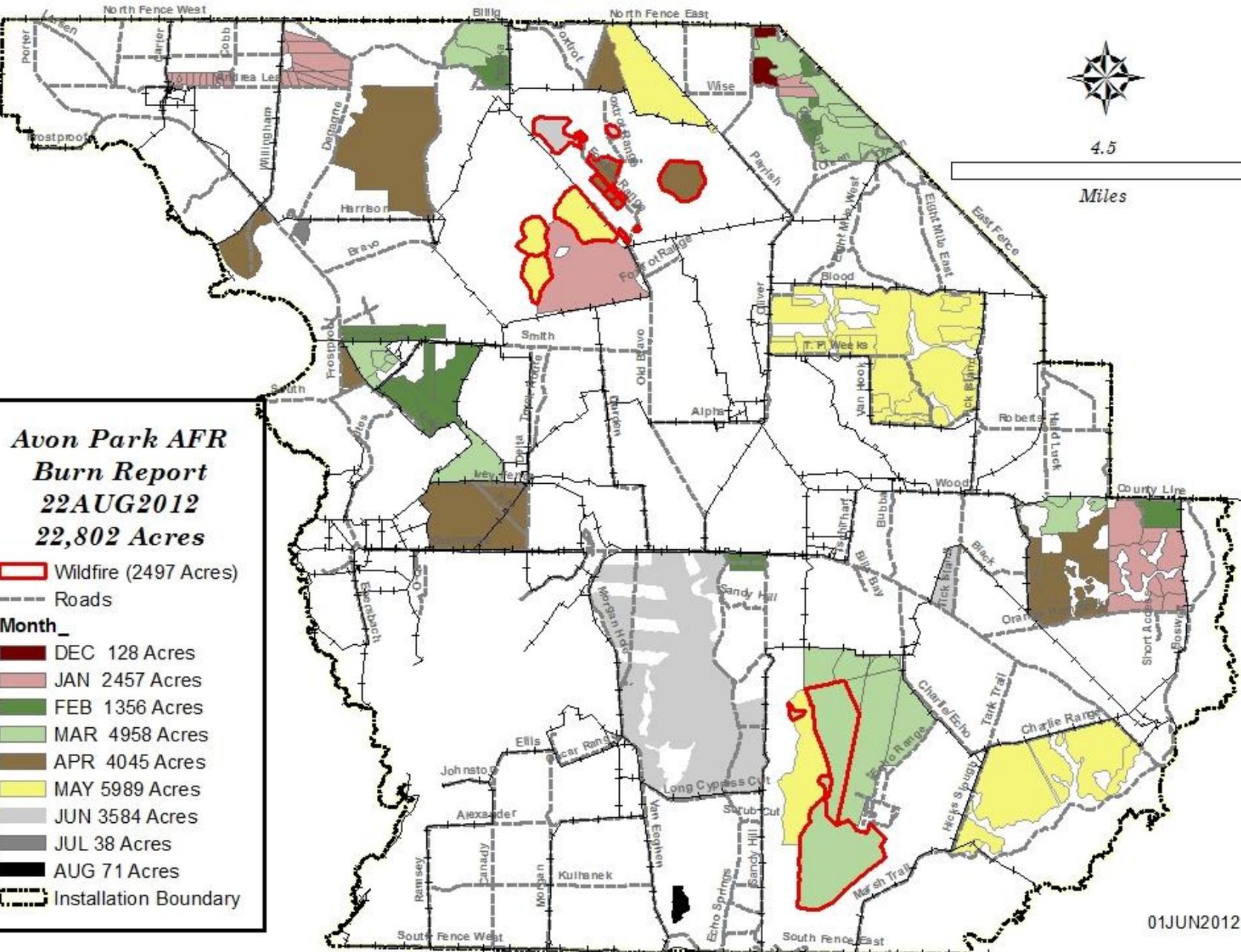
Project 2.1.11: Enhance mission capability by staffing an 8-man wildland fire ready response crew, able to respond anywhere on range within 2 hours of reported fire by FY 2012.

Project 2.1.12: Adopt National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group standards for employees engaged in wildland fire activities by FY 2012.

Project 2.1.13: Enhance wildland fire personnel safety through the adoption of available technologies. (i.e. real time weather abilities and redundant communication systems) by FY 2015.

Objective 2.2: Develop short and long term prescribed burn prescriptions that maintain habitat suitability for listed species.

Project 2.2.1: Include specific habitat conditions for listed species in unit burn prescriptions starting in FY 2012



**Avon Park AFR
Burn Report
22AUG2012
22,802 Acres**

- Wildfire (2497 Acres)
- Roads
- Month_**
- DEC 128 Acres
- JAN 2457 Acres
- FEB 1356 Acres
- MAR 4958 Acres
- APR 4045 Acres
- MAY 5989 Acres
- JUN 3584 Acres
- JUL 38 Acres
- Installation Boundary



4.5



Miles

01JUN2012

Key Numbers FY 2011 and FY 2012

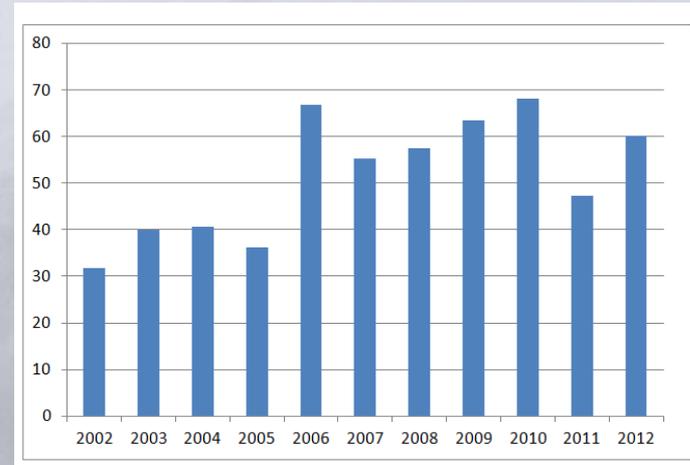
INRMP Project 2.1.1: Prescribe burn 30% (33,000 acres of dry prairie, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, and pine flatwoods) of APAFR with 50% of acreage burned conducted during lightning season (April-July), on a rotational basis starting in FY 2011.

Total Acres: 54,389

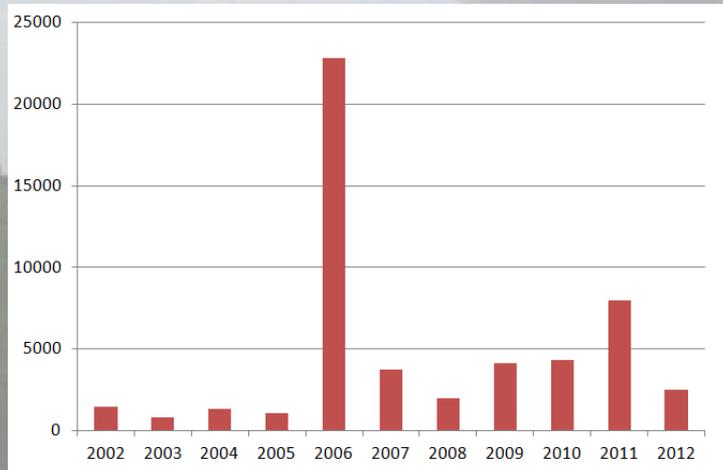
RX Fire: 43,946

Wildfire: 7946 + 2497= 10,443

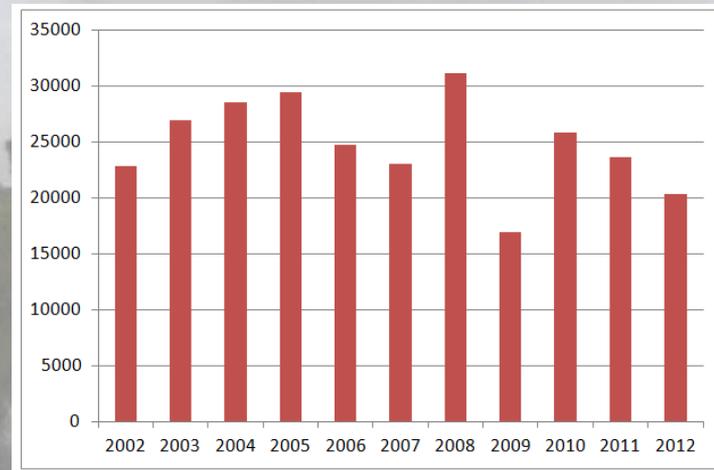
Seasonality: 58% Growing Season Burns (Apr-Jul)



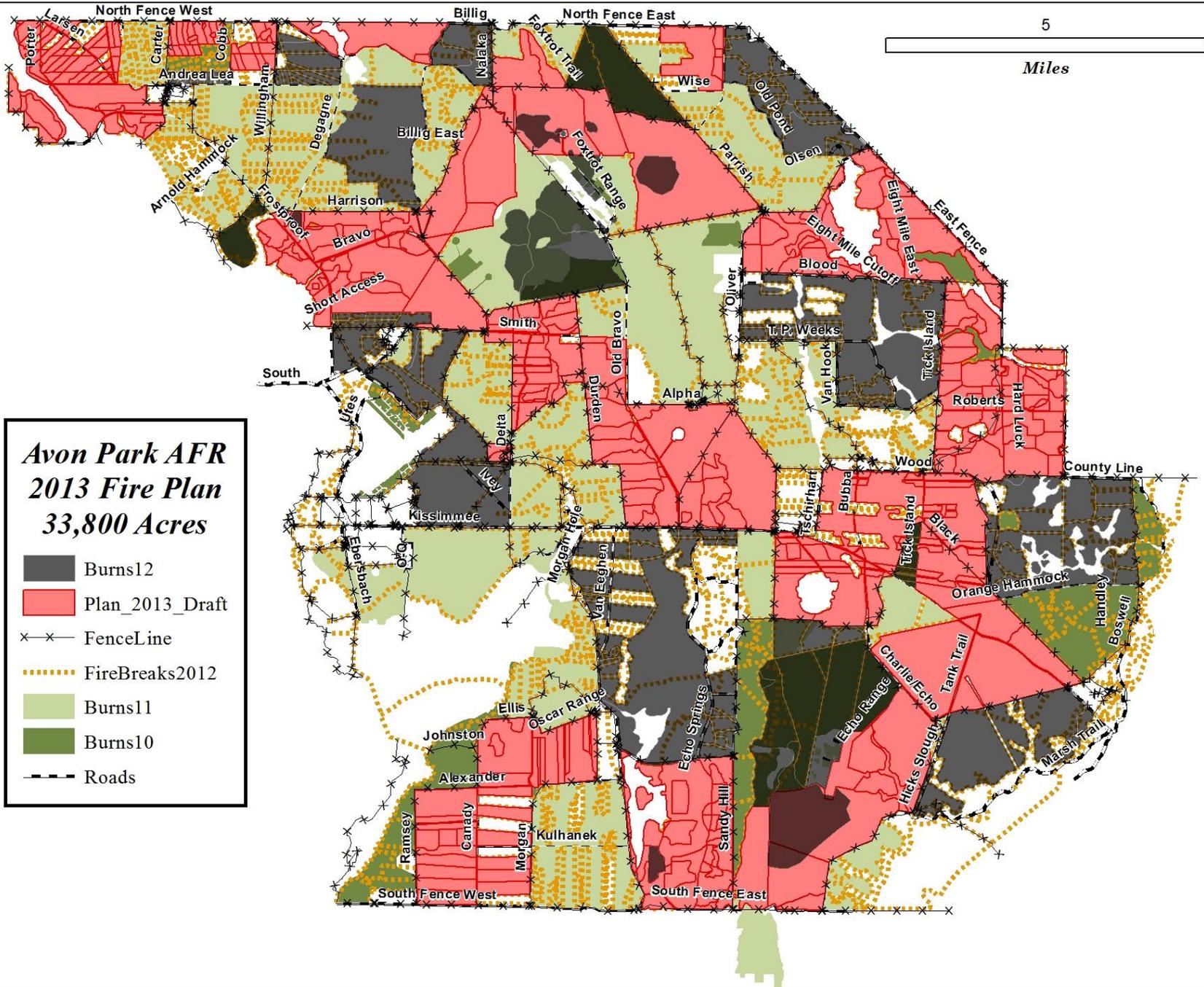
Seasonality % (APR-AUG)



Wildfire 2002-2012



Prescribed Fire 2002-2012



**Avon Park AFR
2013 Fire Plan
33,800 Acres**

- Burns12
- Plan_2013_Draft
- FenceLine
- FireBreaks2012
- Burns11
- Burns10
- Roads

