



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL AIR STATION
22268 CEDAR POINT ROAD
PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND 20670-1154

NASPAXRIVINST 11015.8D
N45

AUG 05 2013

NASPAXRIVINST 11015.8D

From: Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Patuxent River

Subj: PRESCRIBED BURNING

Ref: (a) NAS Patuxent River Installation Wildland Fire
Management Plan

1. Purpose. To publish procedures governing the use of prescribed burning on the Naval Air Station Patuxent River.
2. Cancellation. NASPAXRIVINST 11015.8C.
3. Definition. Prescribed burning shall be defined as fire applied in a skillful manner to fuels of the forest and grassland in a definite place, for a specific purpose, and under exact weather conditions to achieve a conservation management objective.
4. Responsibility. The Conservation Branch Head, Public Works Department, Environmental Division or contracted burn crew shall carry out a program of prescribed burning, per reference (a), to maintain a diverse and proper habitat per the Installation Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.
5. Time Frame. Winter burns will generally take place between January and April, with February and March being the preferable months. Summer burns will generally take place between August and October.
6. Conditions. The following conditions must be met before burning is initiated unless the burn boss determines conditions will allow for the goal of the burn to be met without an increase risk of fire escaping the site:
 - a. Wind speed of 15 mph or less with gusts no higher than 20 mph.
 - b. Storm front no less than four hours distant.

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c. Reduced flight operations or wind direction such that smoke is not blown across any active runway(s).

7. Action

a. Public Works. The Conservation Branch of the Public Works Department, Environmental Division shall:

(1) Develop an annual burn plan, including a map with acreages, and ensure that adequate firebreaks are in place.

(2) Meet with Air Operations Air Traffic Control, Public Works Air Quality Program Manager and Fire Department representatives to review and discuss the plan prior to burning.

(3) Submit plans for the prescribed burning program to the Public Affairs Officer and the NAS Administration Officer (Plan of the Week) for public announcement prior to conducting the prescribed burns.

(4) Provide fire control equipment including backpack and slip-on water pumps, fire rakes, fire swatters, drip torches and fuel, backfire flares, and first aid kit. Provide at least four personnel to monitor the burn.

(5) Review burning conditions with the Fire Department and coordinate burn site selection with the Fire Department and Air Traffic Control on day of burn.

(6) Notify the following parties prior to and immediately after burning:

(a) Command Duty Officer

(b) NAS Security

(c) Air Operations Control Tower

(d) Fire Department

(e) Public Works Air Quality Program Manager

(f) St. Mary's County Health Department

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(7) Establish the fire chain-of-command and crew responsibilities. Maintain a list of call-back telephone numbers in case of emergency.

b. Air Operations

(1) Fire Department

(a) Review the burn plan and assist in daily burn site selection.

(b) Evaluate and approve/disapprove burning conditions on day of burn.

(c) Notify county Emergency Operations Center prior to each day's burning.

(d) Provide standby fire crew in case of emergency.

(e) Release burn crew from site when all open flames within 25 feet of the burn perimeter are extinguished.

(f) Make hourly site inspections for three consecutive hours after personnel have secured from the site.

Note: The Assistant Fire Chief on duty will evaluate all fire reports called in after the burn crew is secured. Burn crew personnel should be called back only if fire escapes the burn perimeter or open flames persist with 100 feet of the burn perimeter during winds over 20 mph.

(2) Air Traffic Control Branch

(a) Review the burn plan and assist in daily burn site selection.

(b) Provide portable radios to burn crew.

(c) Monitor smoke patterns for interference with flight activity. Notify burn crew if smoke creates a flight hazard.

c. NAS Security. Provide traffic control in the event of an emergency (e.g., smoke reduced visibility, fire jumps road).

d. Public Affairs. Provide public announcement through the installation and local news media prior to burning.

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e. Public Works Air Quality Program Manger. Obtain installation burning permit and notify the Conservation Branch of air quality conditions and regulations that apply prior to each day's burn.

8. Emergency Action. In the event of an emergency (such as another fire, aircraft crash, severe weather change, etc.) these options are available and will be evaluated at the time of incident:

a. Put fire out.

b. Stop lighting new sections but let the existing fire continue to burn.

c. Continue normal burning procedures.

9. Review Authority. The Public Works Officer shall review this instruction annually, making changes as necessary.



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