

61.2. Prescribed Burning

61.2.1. Purpose

This section sets forth standards and regulations pertaining to the use of fire in controlled circumstances for vegetation management.

61.2.2. Applicability

The standards and regulations in this section apply to all intentional burning for the purpose of vegetation management, unless otherwise exempt from TRPA review under the provisions of Chapter 2.

61.2.3. Prescribed Burning ~~(Removed section B. Limitations because it was redundant.)~~

Formatted: Font color: Purple

A. Prescribed burning Allowed

Persons who own or manage forests or range lands may use prescribed burning, consistent with standards and regulations set forth in this section, to maintain forest health and diversity and to reduce the risk of wildfire.

~~B. Limitations~~

~~Prescribed burning shall be limited to the follow activities:~~

- ~~1. Seral Stage management~~
- ~~2. Fuels management~~
- ~~3. Wildlife habitat management~~
- ~~4. Silviculture; or,~~
- ~~5. Pest Control~~

61.2.4. Performance Standards

The use of prescribed burning for vegetation management shall comply with the standards provided below.

A. Location of Prescribed Burning

The use of prescribed burning shall be limited to those areas where the plan area statements designate as a permissible use on or more of the following use:

1. Nonstructural wildlife habitat management;
2. Range improvement;
3. Fuels management;
4. Prescribed fire management.

B. Extent of Prescribed Burning

Each prescribed burn shall be limited to the minimum area necessary to achieve the purpose of the prescription.

C. Timing of Prescribed Burning

Prescribed burning shall be limited to time periods for which TRPA finds that atmospheric conditions normally will allow complete dispersion of the smoke from the prescribed burn during each day of the burn.

D. Responsible Persons

A qualified expert, experienced in the use of fire for vegetation management, shall prepare a burning prescription for review, and if appropriate, approval by the TRPA. The expert shall certify that prescription meets the standards of this section. The expert shall oversee the conduct of the burn.

E. Standards of Other Government Agencies

All prescribed burning shall comply with applicable standards of other government agencies with appropriate jurisdiction, including but not limited to the follow agencies: the El Dorado County Air Pollution Control District; the Placer County Air Pollution Control District; the California Air Resources Board; the California State Water Resources Control Board; the California Regional Water Quality Control Board; the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection; the California and Nevada Departments of Forestry; and the US Forest Service. Where TRPA standards conflict with another agency’s standards, the most stringent standard shall control.

61.2.5. Compliance Program

To achieve compliance with the standards in subsection 61.2.4., TRPA shall apply the following provisions:

A. Consistency with Primary Use

TRPA shall review and, if appropriate, approve applications to conduct prescribed burns consistent with the provisions of Chapter 21: Permissible Uses, regarding allowed and special uses for those uses listed in subparagraph 61.2.4.A.

B. Burn Prescription (Number 7 was deleted)

All applications to conduct prescribed burning shall be accompanied by a burn prescription. A burn prescription shall include the following items:

1. Detailed statement of the purpose of the prescribed burn;
2. Description, including a map at an appropriate scale of the location and a real extent of the prescribed burn. Such a description shall allow TRPA to determine whether the proposed burn complies with subparagraphs 61.2.4.A. and 61.2.4.B.;
3. Description of the timing of the prescribed burn, and meteorological information that demonstrates that the timing of the prescribed burn will normally allow complete dispersion of the smoke from the burn during each day of the burn;

Formatted: Font color: Purple

4. A list of the applicable standards of TRPA and the other government agencies with jurisdiction over the burn, and a discussion of how the proposed prescription complies with those standards;

5. A detailed description of the proposed burning operation, including a description of all safety procedures that will be used to prevent wildfire;

6. A certification by a qualified expert experienced in the use of fire for vegetation management that the burn prescription complies with this section; and that the expert shall oversee the conduct of the burn to ensure that the prescription is followed; ~~and~~

~~7. Other information that the TRPA may require.~~