

Social Perceptions of Prescribed Fire

This questionnaire is evaluated automatically. Please use a pen to fill in your answers as follows:

- ☐ Multiple-choice (select all applicable options)
☐ Single-choice (select only one option)



Selected
Selected



Undo select
Undo select

- For this survey, **prescribed fire** and **burning** refer to *the intentional application of fire to an area of land for management purposes*.
- Most questions will ask if you agree or disagree with one or more statements. Some questions will simply ask you to respond Yes or No. For all questions, mark your answer with an × symbol in the appropriate space.
- If you do not know the answer to a question, select **DK** for “Don’t Know”
- If you feel a question does not apply to you enough to provide an answer, select **NA** for “Not Applicable”

1 Land Management

1.1 Please identify whether you believe the following uses of prescribed fire are appropriate or not, and mark whether you have or have not yourself used fire in that manner.

	Appropriate	NOT appropriate	I HAVE done	I have NOT done
Burning to clear ditches or sloughs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burning to manage crop field residue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burning to reduce woody vegetation in a rangeland pasture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burning to improve livestock forage in a rangeland pasture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burning to enhance wildlife habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.2 Feel free to describe any other uses of fire, whether you think they are appropriate, and if you have used them:

1.3 Rate the following statements based on the extent to which you agree or disagree:

I make management decisions based on what previous generations taught me.	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
My management decisions are based on how my neighbors manage their land.	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Advice of professionals (e.g. NRCS or Extension personnel) influences my management decisions.	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Scientific research or university publications influence my management decisions.	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Being a good steward of the land is important when I make management decisions.	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA

1.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree that each environmental concern is important to you?

Restoring prairies and grasslands	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Increasing vegetation diversity/heterogeneity	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Controlling invasive species	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Reducing wildfire hazards	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Protecting wildlife habitat	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA



2 Prescribed Fire

2.1 Who do you believe should be allowed to use prescribed fire? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Fire Professionals
☐ Land Management Professionals
☐ Private land managers with training
☐ Any person who wishes to burn
☐ No one

2.2 Rate the following based on the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements provided.

Burning is a poor management option that shouldn't be used	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Burning can be used in a limited set of instances	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Fire should only be used by professionals	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
Burning is a good option for anyone with training	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
People should be able to burn as frequently as they want for management	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
I believe that prescribed fire is a beneficial tool for managing rangelands	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
I am prepared to use prescribed fire if I choose to	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA
My ranch management plan includes using prescribed fire	Disagree	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Agree	DK	NA

2.3 Rate the following based on the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements provided.

My friends and family would support me burning to manage my land.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
My neighbors would support me burning to manage my land.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I would support my neighbors' burning to manage their land.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
People in my community use prescribed fire to manage their land.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Local governmental officials support the use of prescribed fire in my community.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
In general, people in my community support the use of prescribed fire.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

2.4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about whether or not you would apply prescribed fire?

I am less likely to burn because I don't have the proper training.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because the necessary labor is not available to me.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because the necessary equipment is not available to me.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because of the potential legal liability I would face if my fire escaped.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because it is too time consuming.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because I don't think it is cost effective.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because burn restrictions, such as burn bans, limit my ability to use fire.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
I am less likely to burn because I don't understand it well enough.	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2



Social Perceptions of Prescribed Fire

Do you agree or disagree that the following potential effects of prescribed fire are beliefs held by others in your community (left), or are your own beliefs (right)?

2.5 My community generally believes this

Rx fire poses a risk to nearby property	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx fire poses a risk to human safety	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx fire produces harmful smoke	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx use results in a loss of forage	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx use results in soil erosion	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx use results in negative impacts on wildlife	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

2.6 I believe this

Rx fire poses a risk to nearby property	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx fire poses a risk to human safety	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx fire produces harmful smoke	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx use results in a loss of forage	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx use results in soil erosion	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Rx use results in negative impacts on wildlife	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

3 Landowner Associations:

3.1 I have been/currently am a member of an association of fellow landowners (ex. Stockmen's Association, Lamb and Wool Producers Association, Grazing Association)

- ☐ YES
☐ NO

3.2 Rate the following based on the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement provided. I believe it is beneficial to belong to an association of fellow landowners.

-2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2

Prescribed Fire Association (def.) coalitions of land managers who come together to share knowledge, equipment, and labor to conduct prescribed fire

3.3 I am familiar with prescribed fire associations.

- ☐ YES
☐ NO

3.4 I would be interested in more information about prescribed fire associations.

- ☐ YES
☐ NO

4 Public Grazing Lands:

Public Grazing Lands (def.) Multiuse public lands that include livestock grazing

4.1 What is your proximity to public grazing lands?

- ☐ 0 to 15 miles ☐ 15 to 30 miles ☐ 30 to 45 miles ☐ 45 to 60 miles ☐ 60 + miles

Social Perceptions of Prescribed Fire

4.2 On public grazing lands I often...

Go hiking	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Go biking	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Go horseback riding	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Go hunting	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Go camping	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Go bird watching	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Other	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

4.3 If 'other' please explain:

4.4 Rate the following based on the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement provided. I support grazing on public lands.

-2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2

4.5 Have you ever/ do you currently use public grazing land as a portion of your operation?

- ☐ YES
☐ NO

4.6 What percent of your operation's revenue is derived from grazing public lands?

4.7 Which public grazing lands have you used? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ US Forest Service ☐ US Fish and Wildlife Service ☐ Bureau of Land Management
☐ State Trust / School Trust lands

4.8 Why did you select the public grazing administrator of your choice? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Location ☐ Price ☐ Availability ☐ Tradition
☐ Conservation ☐ Other
Attitude

4.9 If 'other' please explain:

4.10 Rate the following based on the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statements provided.

I think that public grazing land administrators do a good job managing the land. -2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2

I think that public grazing land administrators should manage the land according to the best available science. -2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2

I think that public grazing land administrators should manage to meet user needs or preferences. -2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2

I believe that there is an appropriate amount of prescribed fire being used on public grazing lands. -2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2

I believe that there should be more prescribed fire being used on public grazing lands. -2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2



5 Agency and Organization Interactions:

Resources (def.) personal interactions, visits, field days, print resources, and electronic resources

On the left side of the chart rate how much you agree that you trust resources from the following agencies and organizations. On the right side of the chart, rate how much you agree that you use resources from those agencies and organizations.

5.1 I trust resources from

County Extension	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
State Game and Fish	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
NRCS	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Forest Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Fish and Wildlife Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Bureau of Land Management	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
The Nature Conservancy	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Audubon	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Pheasants Forever	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

5.2 I use resources from

County Extension	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
State Game and Fish	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
NRCS	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Forest Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Fish and Wildlife Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Bureau of Land Management	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
The Nature Conservancy	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Audubon	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Pheasants Forever	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

On the left side of the chart rate how much you agree that you associate the following agencies and organizations with prescribed fire. On the right side of the chart, rate how much you agree that you trust those agencies and organizations to use prescribed fire.

5.3 I associate with Rx fire

County Extension	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
State Game and Fish	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
NRCS	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Forest Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Fish and Wildlife Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Bureau of Land Management	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
The Nature Conservancy	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Audubon	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Pheasants Forever	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

5.4 I trust to use Rx fire

County Extension	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
State Game and Fish	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
NRCS	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Forest Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
US Fish and Wildlife Service	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Bureau of Land Management	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
The Nature Conservancy	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Audubon	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2
Pheasants Forever	-2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	+2

5.5 I have attended a workshop or program on prescribed fire use.

- ☐ YES
☐ NO

5.6 If no, please rate the following statement. I would be interested in attending a workshop or program on prescribed fire use.

-2 ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ +2



Social Perceptions of Prescribed Fire

5.7 Why did you select the public grazing administrator of your choice? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Classroom-style presentations (speaker facing an audience) ☐ Small group discussions (shop talk, cafe talk) ☐ Demonstrations (on-site or hands-on opportunities to witness or participate)
- ☐ A combination

5.8 What concerns or issues regarding prescribed fire would you like to be addressed in a workshop or demonstration? (Please select your top 3)

- ☐ Forage quality ☐ Effect on woody plants ☐ Effect on soil ☐ Ugly landscapes after burn
- ☐ Safely conducting burn ☐ Preventing unintended outcomes

6 Demographics and Operational Characteristics:

To understand differences between landowners regarding their concerns and interests, we ask you to provide some information about your operation and yourself. YOUR RESPONSES WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

6.1 What County is your operation primarily located in?

6.2 Do you own or lease the majority of the land you manage?

- ☐ OWN
☐ LEASE

6.3 How many acres do you manage?

Crop Land: Improved pasture or hay: Rangeland:

6.4 Using percentages of your revenue, describe your operation by land use activity.

Percent from grazing: Percent from cropping: Percent from wildlife production:

Percent from mineral sales: Percent from other (please describe):

6.5 In which year were you born?

6.6 What is your gender?

6.7 Select the highest level of education you have completed:

- ☐ Some High School ☐ High School ☐ Bachelor's Degree ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Ph.D. or higher ☐ Trade School



Social Perceptions of Prescribed Fire

6.8 How many years of farming/ranching experience do you have?

6.9 Do you live on the property for which you provided answers?

☐ YES

☐ NO

☐ N/A

6.10 If yes, how many years have you lived on the property?

6.11 If no, how many miles do you live from the property?

☐ 0 to 15 miles

☐ 15 to 30 miles

☐ 30 to 45 miles

☐ 45 to 60 miles

☐ 60 + miles

6.12 About what percent of your annual income comes from your rural property?

6.13 Please check the category that best describes your total household income in 2021.

☐ Less than 25,000 ☐ 25,001 to 50,000 ☐ 50,001 to 75,000 ☐ 75,001 to 100,000 ☐ 100,001 to 500,000

☐ Greater than 500,000

