

# How to Use IFTDSS to Prepare a Prescribed Burn Plan

Using the Red Bull Prescribed Burn Plan as an example

### Overview

### This tutorial covers the following topics:

- Setting up a project in IFTDSS.
- Creating and filling in the burn plan template.
- Establishing burn objectives and environmental thresholds.
- Using the Prescribed Burn Planning workflow to perform the following tasks:
  - Describe what modules can be used for specific burn plan elements.
  - Model minimum and maximum fire behavior and effects inside the burn unit.
  - Model worst-case fire behavior and effects outside the burn unit.
  - Download the inputs and output variables needed for the burn plan document.
- Generating the burn plan as a Microsoft Word document and customizing the plan.
  - Filling in the appendices with maps and modeling data.

**Note:** Before continuing with this tutorial, we recommend that you review <u>Tutorial B:</u> How to use hazard <u>analysis tools in the IFTDSS for prescribed fire planning.</u>

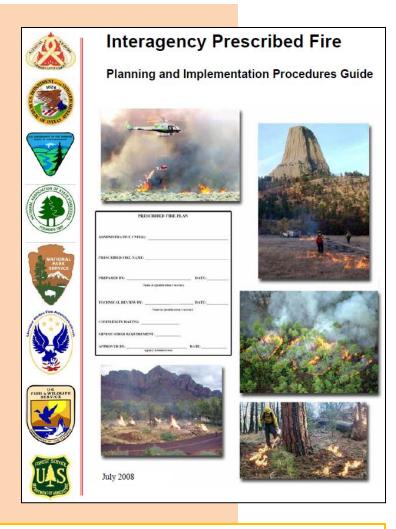
## Introduction

#### The Prescribed Burn Plan

- is a site-specific implementation document
- is a legal document that provides the Agency Administration the information needed to approve the plan
- provides the Prescribed Fire Burn Boss with all the information needed to implement the prescribed fire

Prescribed fire projects must be implemented in compliance with the written plan

(U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of the Interior [2008] <u>Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Guide</u>, p. 19. Citations for this guide will be in this form: USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008.)



**Note:** The main reference glossary for the *Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Guide* (IPFRG) is the <u>National Wildfire Coordinating Group</u> (NWCG) Glossary.

## Introduction

The tools provided under the IFTDSS prescribed burn planning workflow aid fuels treatment planners and prescribed fire planners in assessing fire behavior and effects for varying fuel and environmental conditions.

IFTDSS also contains tools for preparing and generating a burn plan document that is based on the guidelines in the

- Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference Guide (USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008)
- RX-341 Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation course. In this tutorial, we follow along with the Red Bull Prescribed Burn Plan example given in that course.

### Using the tools in IFTDSS, you can

- Model fire behavior and fire effects for different fuel models and environmental scenarios.
- Create a prescribed burn plan; as part of your planning process, you can save a Word file from IFTDSS that has a number of elements filled in from your model runs.

**Important:** Microsoft Word 2007 or later, or Word 2003 with the Microsoft Office Compatibility Pack, is required to open the burn plan document. You can <u>download the compatibility pack</u> at Microsoft.com.

## **Tutorial Objectives**

#### This tutorial

- provides users with the skills and tools needed to prepare a prescribed burn plan in accordance with agency policy and guidelines.
- is based on the 21 required elements of a prescribed burn plan identified in the Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference Guide (USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008).
- describes what is minimally acceptable for prescribed fire planning and implementation.
- uses the example burn plan in the RX-341
   Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation course (Red Bull Prescribed Burn Plan).

**Note:** Agencies may choose to provide more restrictive standards and policy direction, but must adhere to the **minimums** described in the *IPFRG* (USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 7).

Element 1: Signature Page

Element 2, Part 1: Agency Administrator Go/No-Go Pre-Ignition Approval Checklist

Element 2, Part 2: Prescribed Fire GO/NO-GO Checklist

Element 3: Complexity Analysis Summary

Element 4: Description of Prescribed Fire Area

Element 5: Objectives

Element 6: Funding

Element 7: Prescription

Element 8: Scheduling

Element 9: Pre-Burn Consideration and Weather

Element 10: Briefing Checklist

Element 11: Organization and Equipment

Element 12: Communication

Element 13: Public and Personnel Safety, Medical

Element 14: Test Fire

Element 15: Ignition Plan

Element 16: Holding Plan

Element 17: Contingency Plan

Element 18: Wildfire Conversion

Element 19: Smoke Management and Air Quality

Element 20: Monitoring

Element 21: Post-Burn Activities

Appendices

## **Getting Started**

Create New Project

Project Name

Description

-Burn Plan

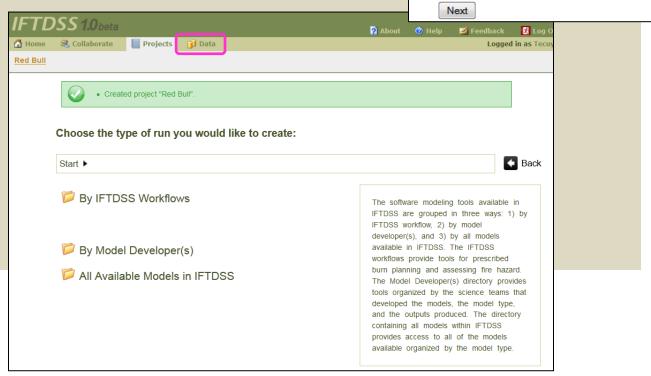
BIA Crow Creek Agency Buffalo County, South Dakota

-Fire Behavior and Effects Modeling

### Begin by creating a new project.

- After creating a new project, you will see the Create new run page.
- The next step is to acquire LANDFIRE data, so we are going to navigate away from this page.

#### Access the **Data** tab.



## **Getting Started**

Now, we will acquire data from LANDFIRE.

Choose Acquire Data from LANDFIRE.



## Selecting a Data Set Area

Navigate to your desired location by using one of these three options:

- A Using the navigation tools located in the top left portion of the map.
- B Using the mouse. Click and drag to move; double-click to zoom in.
- C Entering coordinates.

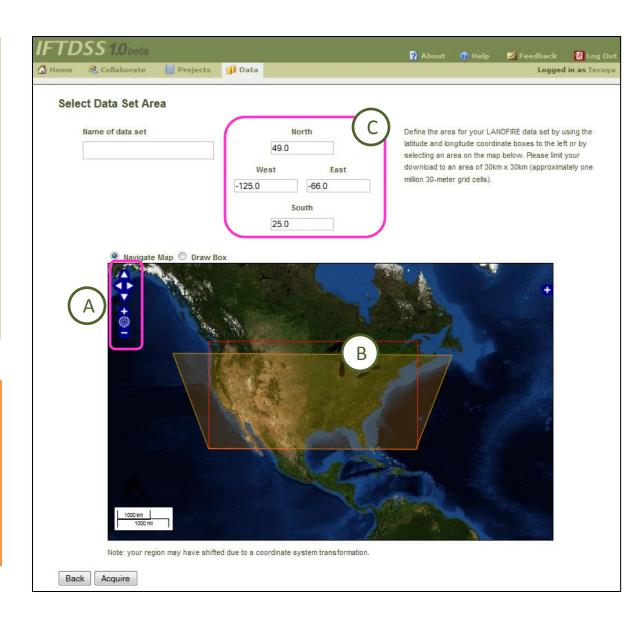
**Tip**: For this example, the coordinates are

• North: 44.0575942

• **East:** -99.4283515

• South: 44.0528583

• West: -99.4345037

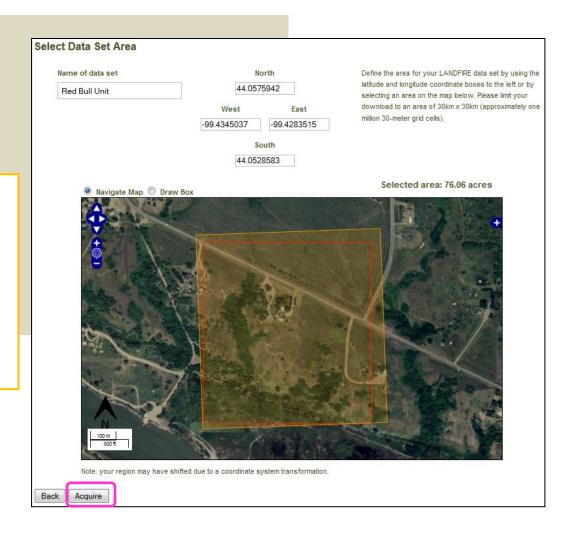


## Selecting a Data Set Area

Choose **Acquire** to import LANDFIRE data.

**Tip**: Select a large project area. By creating a large project area, you can view landscape data and model fire behavior and effects inside and outside the burn unit.

**Maximum area:** Acquisition of LANDFIRE data is limited to 250,000 acres.



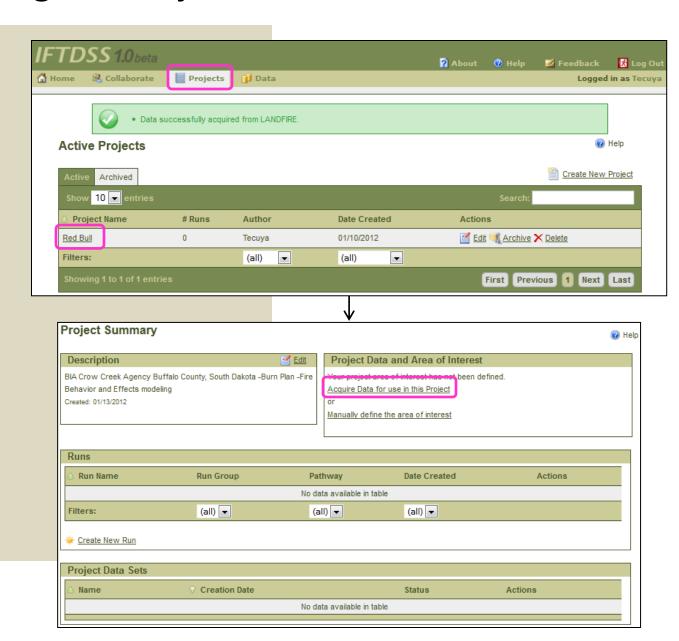
## Defining the Project Area of Interest

After acquiring the LANDFIRE data, click the **Projects** tab.

Choose the **Project** you are working in.

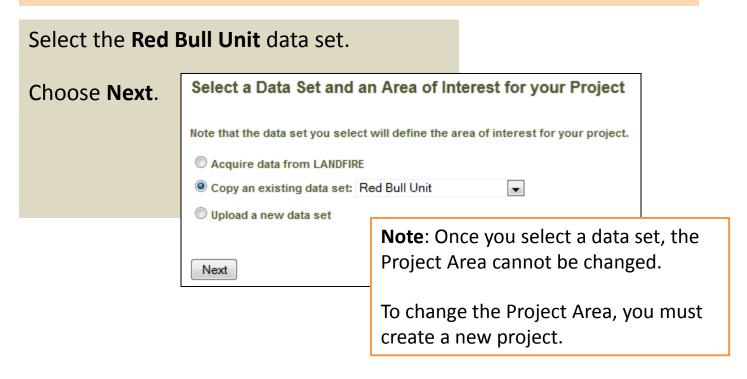
In this example, we are working in the **Red Bull** project that we previously set up.

Next, acquire data for use in this project.



## Defining the Project Area of Interest

There are three ways to define the project area of interest. In this example, we use the **Copy an existing data set** method.



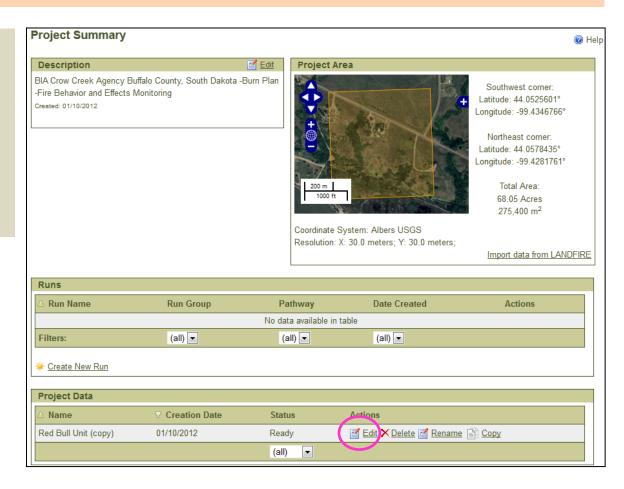
## **Reviewing Spatial Landscape Data**

Now that the project area is defined, review the landscape data for the project area.

At the bottom of the **Project Summary** page, under the **Project Data** section, select **Edit.** 

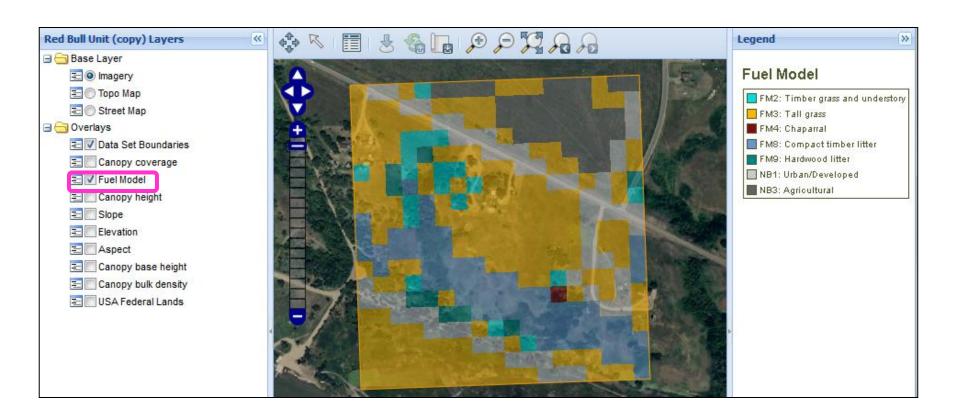
The Data Studio window appears.

**Note**: Pop-up blockers must be disabled in order to open Data Studio. See <u>Known</u> <u>Issues</u> in the help for other notes on Data Studio.



## Reviewing Spatial Landscape Data

Now you can review your spatial landscape data using the map in Data Studio. In this example, you can see the project area classified by fuel model.

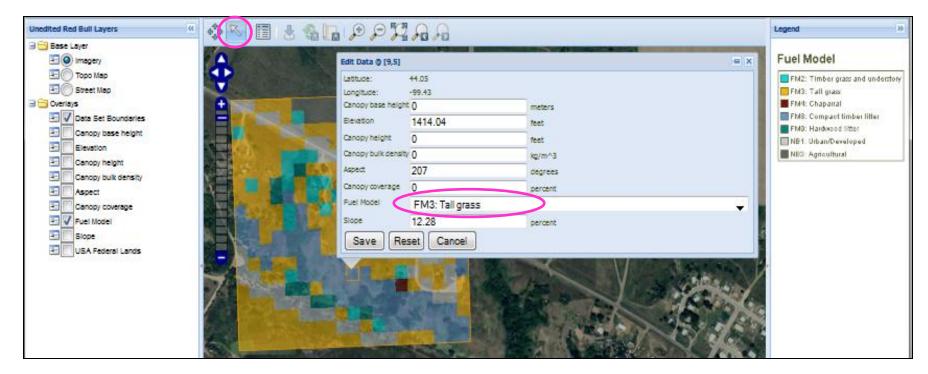


## **Editing Spatial Landscape Data**

After reviewing the data, several of the grid cells are labeled as FM8: Compact Timber Litter. These cells should be changed to FM3: Tall Grass.

On the upper toolbar, click the **Edit** tool solution and select the desired grid cell.

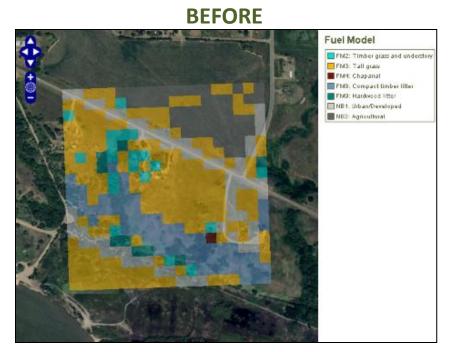
An **Edit Data** toolbox appears. From here, you can edit all input values. In this example, FM3: Tall Grass is selected from the Fuel Model drop-down list.

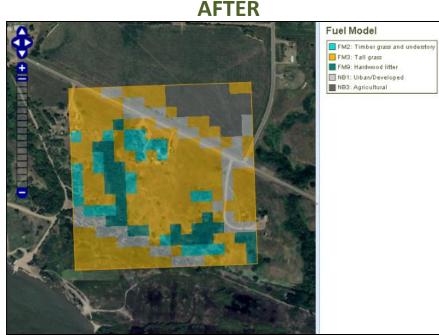


## **Editing Spatial Landscape Data**

There are also cells labeled as FM8: Compact Timber Litter, which should be labeled as FM2: Timber Grass and Understory or FM9: Hardwood Litter. These cells are edited one at a time.

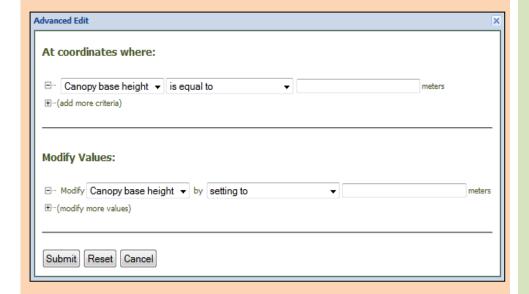
You can also edit the following landscape layers: canopy base height, canopy height, canopy bulk density, canopy coverage, elevation, aspect, and slope.





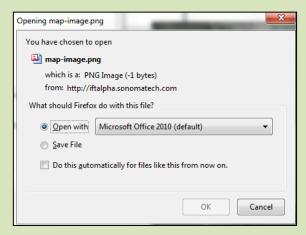
## **Editing Spatial Landscape Data**

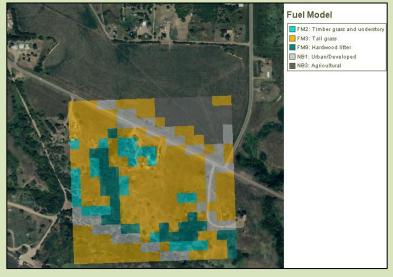
In the example, we showed how grid cells can be edited one by one. There is also an Advanced Editing tool that you can use to edit in query format so you can change multiple cells at once.



**Note:** When you are done editing, choose **Save** and close the Data Studio window.

With Data Studio, you can also save the map as an image .

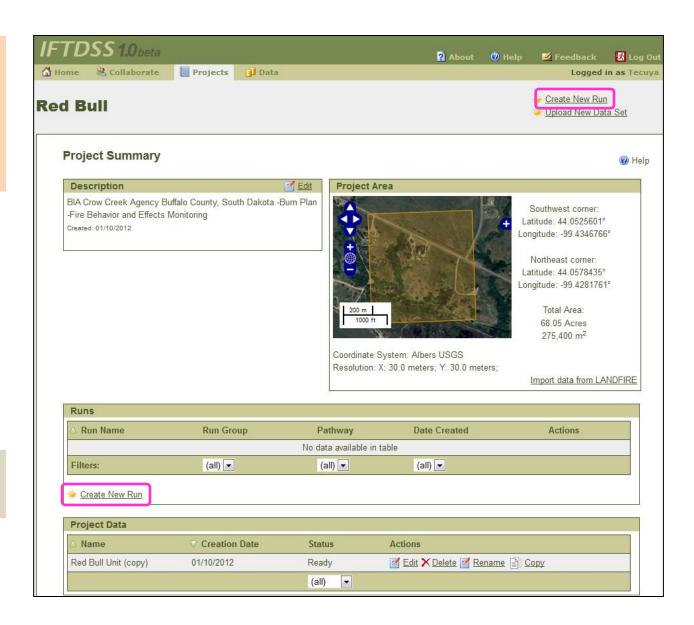




## Creating a New Run

Now that we have defined, reviewed, and edited our area of interest, we will create a new run.

Choose **Create New Run**.



## Creating a Burn Plan

The next step in creating a run is to choose the type of run you would like to create. In this tutorial, we are creating a burn plan, so that is the type we will choose.

To choose the type of run you would like to create, **click the following links:** 

By IFTDSS Workflows

Prescribed Burn Planning

Create a burn plan document

**Tip:** Open two windows (or tabs) in the browser. This way you can view and fill out the burn plan template in one window while conducting modeling in another window.

Window (or tab) 1: Burn plan template

Window (or tab) 2: Fire behavior and effects modeling

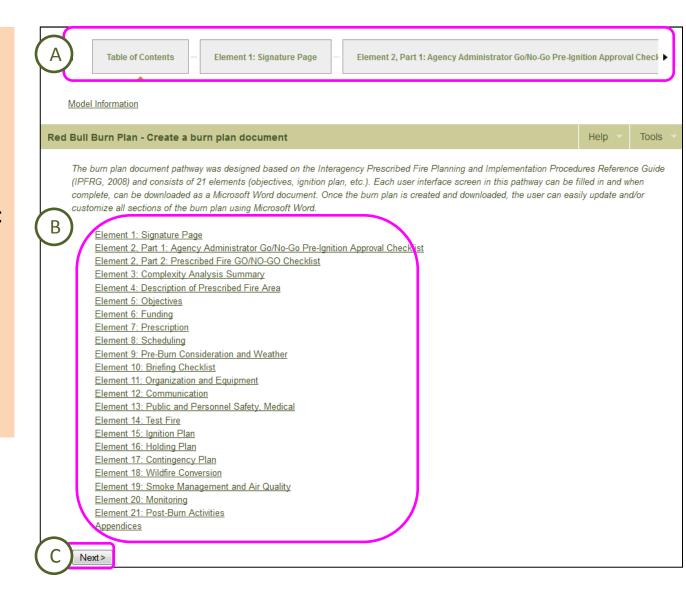


## Table of Contents and Navigation

This is the Table of Contents for the burn plan.

You can navigate from element to element by using any of the following:

- A The **bar** at the top of the page.
- B The **links** located in the Table of Contents.
- C The **Next** button.



### **Elements Overview**

The 21 Elements in a burn plan range in complexity (see the Element Complexity table).

### **Element Complexity**

Element Ranking	Burn Plan Element
Easy complexity	1, 2, 10, 12, 21
Low complexity	4, 6, 8, 14, 19, 20
Medium complexity	5, 9, 11, 13, 18
High complexity	2, 7, 15, 16, 17

Recreated from the RX-341 Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation course, page 0.9.

Some Elements cannot be completed until after the burn plan is finished (Elements 1, 2, 3, and 10).

IFTDSS contains tools for modeling fire behavior and fire effects; these tools are useful in obtaining information needed to address Elements 3, 4, 5, 7, 15, 16, 17, and 19.

The following pages step through each Element.

## Modules and Burn Plan Elements

The matrix on this page shows which modules can be used for specific burn plan elements. Most of the modules can be used for multiple elements. Refer back to this matrix when you are using the prescribed burn planning tools and when you are making a burn plan.

#### **CATEGORIES**

<sup>a</sup> As implemented in BehavePlus <sup>b</sup> As implemented in FCCS <sup>c</sup> As implemented in FlamMap		Fire Behavior					Fire Effects				Fire Containment				Probability of Ignition		and ping ols
As implemented in FlamMap  dAs implemented in FOFEM  eAs implemented in Consume  o = facilitate in decision making  • = outputs needed for burn plan  ELEMENTS	Surface fire behavior <sup>a</sup>	Surface fire behavior for FCCS fuelbeds <sup>b</sup>	Crown fire behavior <sup>a</sup>	Fire behavior for individual stands <sup>c</sup>	Fire behavior across a landscape <sup>c</sup>	Consumption and Emissions <sup>d</sup>	Tree Mortality <sup>d</sup>	Crown scorch height <sup>a</sup>	Natural fuels consumption <sup>e</sup>	Spotting distance <sup>a</sup>	Containment resources <sup>a</sup>	Safety zone size <sup>a</sup>	Fire size and spread <sup>a</sup>	Probability of ignition from a firebrand	Probability of ignition from lightning <sup>a</sup>	Data Studio (project area of interest maps)	LANDFIRE Data (Fuel Model & Topography)
Element 3: Complexity Analysis Summary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Element 4: Description of Prescribed Fire Area					•											•	•
Element 5: Objectives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0								
Element 7: Prescription	•	•	0	•	•	0	0	•	0	•				•			
Element 15: Ignition Plan	0																
Element 16: Holding Plan		0	0	0	0					0	0		0	0		0	
Element 17: Contingency Plan		0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0			
Element 19: Smoke Management and Air Quality						•			•								
Appendicies: Appendix A. Maps (Vicinity and Project)					•												•

# Signature Page (Element 1)

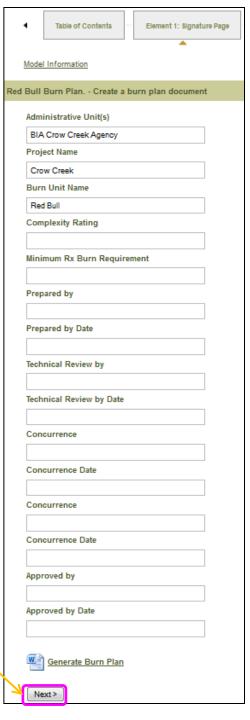
Navigate to Element 1: Signature Page.

The following information must be included on the signature page:

- 1. Administrative unit name.
- 2. Prescribed fire name.
- 3. At a minimum, three dated signatures are required:
  - Prescribed Burn Plan Preparer
  - Technical Reviewer
  - Agency Administrator
- 4. Final determined complexity rating.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 19)

**Important:** You can only save your work by choosing **Next** – this will save your progress.



# Go/No-Go Checklists (Element 2, Part 1 and Part 2)

### Part 1 – Agency Administration

This checklist evaluates whether compliance requirements, prescribed fire plan elements, and internal and external notification(s) have been completed.

Expresses the Agency Administrator's intent to implement the Prescribed Fire Plan.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 19)

### Part 2 – Prescribed Fire

Prior to all ignition operations, the Prescribed Fire Burn Boss will complete and sign this checklist.

For each day of active ignition on a prescribed fire, a separate daily Go/No-Go Checklist is required.

**Note:** The online burn plan template Go/No-Go checkbox lists cannot be used until after the burn plan is completed. Once the burn plan is generated, a Yes/No table replaces the checkbox list.

# Complexity Analysis Summary (Element 3 and Appendix C)

## The purpose of the complexity rating process is to provide

- assignment of a complexity rating of high, moderate, or low to the prescribed fire
- a relative ranking as to the overall complexity of a specific prescribed fire project for management and implementation personnel
- a process that can be used to identify Prescribed Fire Plan elements or characteristics that may pose special problems or concerns

The <u>Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating</u>
<u>Guide</u> was developed to assist personnel in determining a relative complexity of any single prescribed fire project

### **The Summary Complexity Rating Rationale**

- will clearly justify the summary rating for prescribed fire organization and Prescribed Fire Burn Boss level
- must identify those risks from the Complexity Analysis (<u>Appendix C</u>) that are rated high and cannot be mitigated and will provide a discussion of the risks associated

Element	Risk	Potential Consequences	Technical Difficulty
Potential for escape	Low	Moderate	Low
2. Number and dependence of activities	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
3. Offsite values	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
4. Onsite values	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
5. Fire behavior	Moderate	Moderate	Low
6. Management organization	Moderate	Low	Moderate
7. Public and political interest	Moderate	Moderate	Low
8. Fire treatment objectives	Low	Moderate	Moderate
9. Constraints	Low	Low	Low
10. Safety	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
11. Ignition procedures/methods	Moderate	Moderate	Low
12. Interagency coordination	Low	Low	Low
13. Project logistics	Moderate	Moderate	Low
14. Smoke management	Low	Low	Low

# Description of the Prescribed Fire Area (Element 4)

### **Physical Description**

The physical description provides information on the various physical aspects of the area where the prescribed burn is to be made.

#### Location

Narrative description of the location of the prescribed fire project, including a legal description, UTM and/or latitude/longitude, county, and state.

#### Size

Area, in acres, of the prescribed fire project, with a breakdown by prescribed fire unit and/or ownership if applicable.

#### **Topography**

Identies the upper and lower range of elevation, slopes (max/min/avg), and aspect(s).

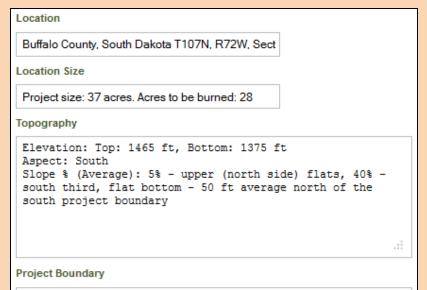
#### **Project Boundary**

Defines the area where fire will be ignited and may be allowed to burn.

Describes the physical, natural, and/or human made boundaries .

Defines through maps; may include narratives .

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, pp. 20 and 21)



The project boundary is 37 acres located north of the Missouri River, approximately .3 miles east of Gingway housing, and approximately .2 miles west of East housing (see attached map). Some portions of the unit are adjacent to resident properties and three structures are within the burn unit, with one being an abandoned, dilapidated house. The unit is bordered by predominantly U.S. Corps of Engineers land to the south, with the Missouri River to the south of that, private property to the east, tribal lands to the northeast, private property (cropland) to the north and northwest, with a 2.5 acre home-site in the northwest corner of the project area and predominately U.S. Corps of Engineers land on the west border of the burn unit. The entire project area is within the boundaries of the Crow Creek Reservation on Tribal lands.

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# Description of the Prescribed Fire Area (Element 4)

### **Vegetation/Fuels Description**

- Describe the structure and composition of the vegetation type(s) and fuel characteristics.
- Describe the percent of the unit composed of each vegetation type and the corresponding fuel model(s).
- Identify conditions (fuels, slope, aspect) in and adjacent to boundaries that may be a potential threat for escaped fire.

### **Description of Unique Features**

 List and discuss special features, hazards, regulations, issues, constraints, etc.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 21)

#### Onsite Fuels

Onsite fuels data: Fuel model 3 (over 75%) and 1, with grass as the primary carrier, and small inclusions of hardwoods, characterized as a fuel model 9. Fuel model 3 best represents fire behavior inside of the burn unit. The burn site is dominated by smooth brome, big bluestem, and other native grasses. Coverage is continuous with only minor breaks.

0-1/4 in. 1-hour fuels: ~3 tons/acre Fuel height: 3 ft.

Duff depth: % in.

#### Adjacent Fuels

Adjacent fuels data: Fuel models 1, 3 and 9, scattered along all the boundaries. On the lower edge are scattered stands of hardwood tree species and narrow wooded draws to the east and west, best described by fuel model 9. Fuel model 3 best represents fire behavior outside of the burn unit.

#### Unique Features

The burn unit has structures within it that will need to be protected prior to burning. A dirt road accesses the structures from the middle of the north side of the unit. A fence line runs in an east west direction thru the middle of the prescribed fire unit. Power poles, wooden fence poles, and old dump sites are areas that will be protected or excluded from the burn. Two archaeology sites are located along the east boundary and north, middle flat that do not require any special protection, other than to make sure that no equipment drives over these sites.

Special Considerations: The only smoke receptors of concern are the homes within and adjacent to the burn unit, adjacent communities and disbursed housing along nearby roads. According to Fire Management, local authorities and residents, smoke is not a concern with community members. Water sources are numerous and close by; hydrants, water at home-sites and the Missouri River.

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## Resource and Prescribed Fire Objectives (Element 5)

It is important to establish burn objectives prior to fire behavior and effects modeling.

Describe in clear, concise statements the specific measureable resource and fire objectives for your prescribed fire.

Objectives must be measurable and quantifiable so prescription elements can be developed to meet those objectives and the success of the project can be determined following implementation.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 21)

### **Red Bull Objectives**

In the Red Bull example, the objectives fall under two categories:

Resource Objectives

Reduce the risk of future wildland urban interface fire from destroying homes/structures or other special features.

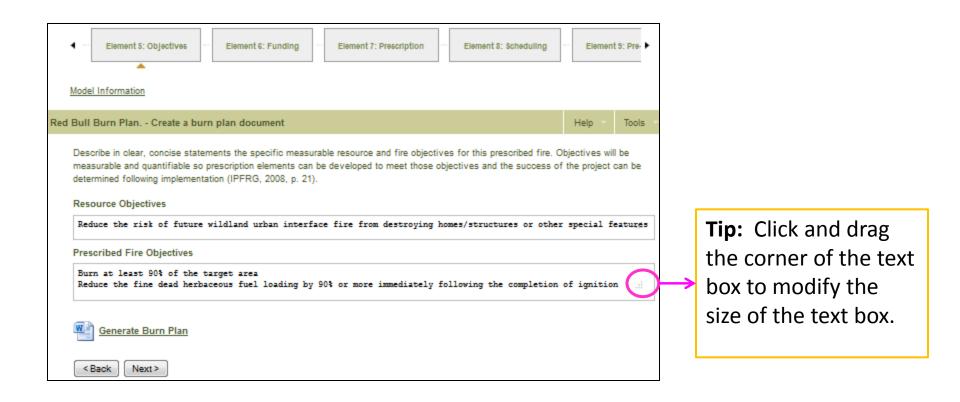
Prescribed Fire Objectives

Burn at least 90% of the target area.

Reduce the fine dead herbaceous fuel loading by 90% or more immediately following the completion of ignition.

## Resource and Prescribed Fire Objectives (Element 5)

Here, the objectives from the Red Bull example have been entered in IFTDSS.

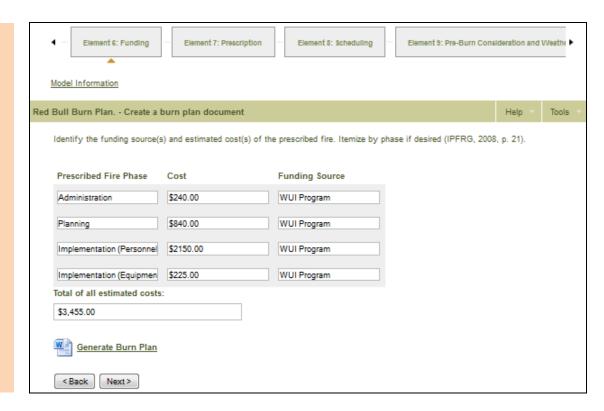


# Funding (Element 6)

Identify the funding source(s) and estimated cost(s) of the prescribed fire.

As shown here, some prescribed burns are conducted in phases; Element 6 can be itemized by phase if desired.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 21)



# Environmental Prescription (Element 7)

**Prescription** is defined as "the measurable criteria that define a range of conditions during which a prescribed fire may be ignited and held as a prescribed fire."

## The burn plan environmental prescription will describe

- a range of low to high limits for the environmental (weather, topography, fuels, etc.) parameters
- a set of "worst-case" parameters in case of escape
  - Hottest, driest, windiest prescription limits
  - Most extreme environmental conditions (slope, aspect)

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 21 and 22)

Now that the burn objectives are established, we can create a range of environmental parameters that will be used when modeling potential fire behavior and effects.

Each module has its own set of unique environmental input parameters.

The next step is to navigate to **Element**7: Prescription, in the "Create a burn plan document" template.

# Environmental Prescription (Element 7)

Once you navigate to **Element 7: Prescription**, fill in the Environmental Prescription.

Now that the objectives (Element 5) and Environmental Prescription are established, we can use the **Prescribed Burn Planning Workflow** to model potential fire behavior and effects.

**Note:** Burning when all environmental prescription variables are at or near the prescription extremes will likely exceed desired prescribed fire behavior characteristics, and should be considered out of the range of conditions that meet the prescription (USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 22).

	Minimum Fire Behavior (Within Unit)	Maximum Fire Behavior (Within Unit)	Worst-Case Fire Behavior (Outside Unit)
Temperature	50	80	80
Relative Humidity	70	25	25
Mid-flame wind speed	3	11	15
Mid-flame wind direction	Northerly, NE - NW	Northerly, NE - NW	Northerly, NE - NW
20-ft wind speed	7.5	27.5	37.5
20-ft wind direction	Northerly, NE - NW	Northerly, NE - NW	Northerly, NE - NW
Cloud cover	100	0	0
Fuel shading	100	0	0
Aspect	South (180 degrees)	South (180 degrees)	South (180 degrees)
Slope	5	5	40
1-hr fuel moisture	14	6	4
10-hr fuel moisture	16	8	6
100-hr fuel moisture	20	12	8
1000-hr sound fuel moisture	n/a	n/a	n/a
Live woody fuel moisture	180	170	160
Live herbaceous fuel moisture	100	90	80
Duff moisture	n/a	n/a	n/a
Soil moisture	n/a	n/a	n/a
KBDI (0 - 800)	0	500	500

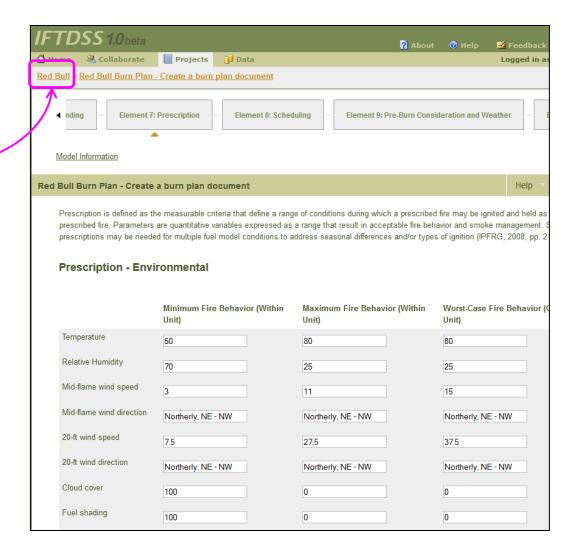
# Fire Behavior Prescription (Element 7)

There are several tools to choose from for fire behavior and effects modeling. In this example, we use Surface fire behavior and Crown scorch height for our Fire Behavior Prescription (Element 7).

<sup>a</sup> As implemented in BehavePlus <sup>b</sup> As implemented in FCCS <sup>c</sup> As implemented in FlamMap		Fire Behavior					Fire Effects				Fire Containment				Probability of Ignition		and ping ols
<sup>d</sup> As implemented in FOFEM <sup>e</sup> As implemented in Consume  O = facilitate in decision making		q S												e T	а	naps)	арһу)
• = outputs needed for burn plan		or FCCS fuelbed		idual stands <sup>c</sup>	landscape <sup>c</sup>	ssions <sup>d</sup>			otion <sup>e</sup>		s a			from a firebranc	of ignition from lightning	rea of interest m	Data (Fuel Model & Topography)
	Surface fire behavior <sup>a</sup>	Surface fire behavior for FCCS fuelbeds	Crown fire behavior <sup>a</sup>	Fire behavior for individual stands	Fire behavior across a landscape	Consumption and Emissions	Tree Mortality <sup>d</sup>	Crown scorch height <sup>a</sup>	Natural fuels consumption	Spotting distance <sup>a</sup>	Containment resources	Safety zone size <sup>a</sup>	Fire size and spread	Probability of ignition from a firebrand	Probability of ignition f	Data Studio (project area of interest maps)	LANDFIRE Data (Fuel N
Element 3: Complexity Analysis Summary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Element 4: Description of Prescribed Fire Area					•											•	•
Element 5: Objectives	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0								
Element 7: Prescription	•	•	0	•	•	0	0	•	0	•				•			
Element 15: Ignition Plan	0																
Element 16: Holding Plan	0	0	0	0	0					0	0		0	0		0	
Element 17: Contingency Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	0	0			
Element 19: Smoke Management and Air Quality						•			•								
Appendicies: Appendix A. Maps (Vicinity and Project)					•												•

## Modeling Potential Fire Behavior and Effects

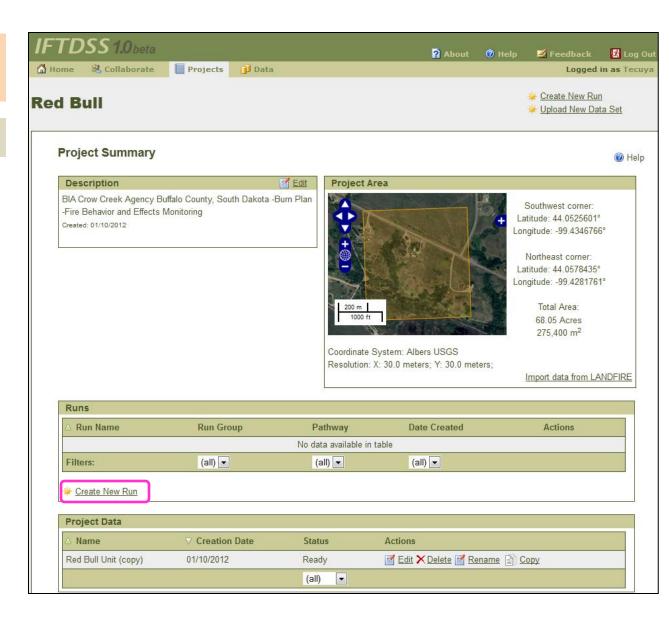
To start modeling potential fire behavior and effects, right-click on your Project link, Red Bull, and select Open a New Tab.



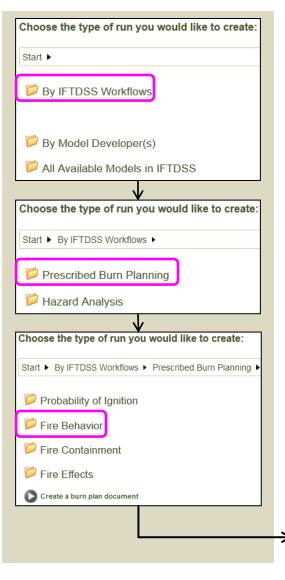
### Create a New Run

Now we are on the Project Summary page.

Choose Create New Run.



## Prescribed Burn Planning Workflow

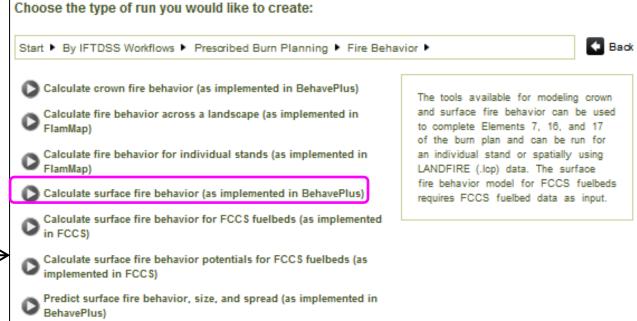


### **Workflows: Prescribed Burn Planning**

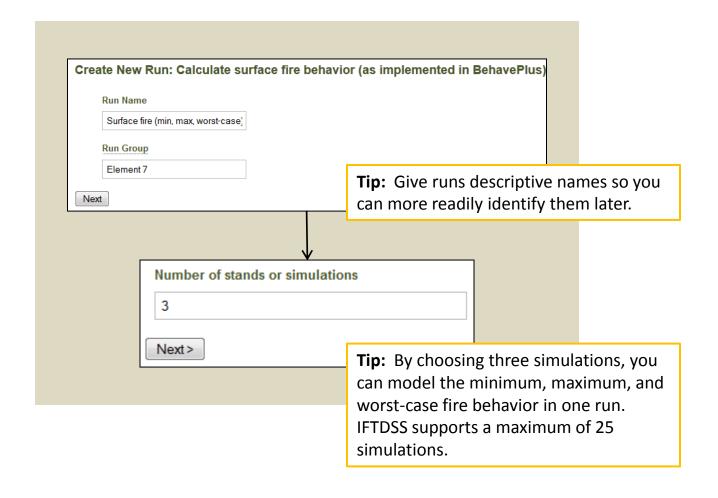
This workflow contains tools needed to model potential fire behavior and effects for the burn plan document.

These tools also facilitate in the decision making for ignition, holding, and contingency plans, as well as smoke management and air quality.

Follow the steps shown in the images, and choose Calculate surface fire behavior (as implemented in BehavePlus).



# Modeling Surface Fire Behavior (Element 7)

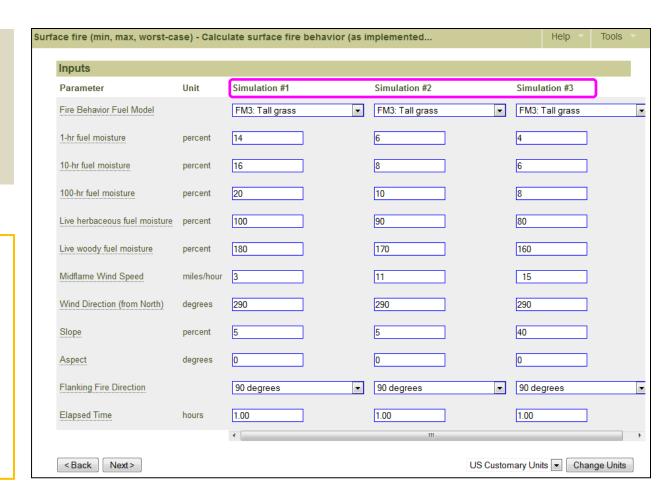


# Modeling Surface Fire Behavior (Element 7)

Insert data from your Environmental Prescription (Element 7) into the surface fire behavior inputs.

**Tip:** Run surface fire behavior **or** surface fire behavior for FCCS fuelbeds before running the other modules.

Some of the **inputs** for other modules are **outputs** from Surface fire behavior (e.g., the output flame length from surface fire behavior is needed as an input for crown scorch height).



# Modeling Surface Fire Behavior (Element 7)

Surface fire behavior reports head, backing, and flanking fire parameters.

Using the **Export to Table** link, you can modify the outputs table into Microsoft Excel format.

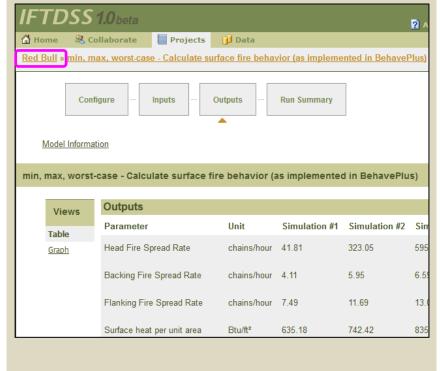
When you generate the burn plan (see page 67), IFTDSS creates the burn plan as a Microsoft Word document. You can paste the modified table into the appendices of the Word document.



### Creating a New Run

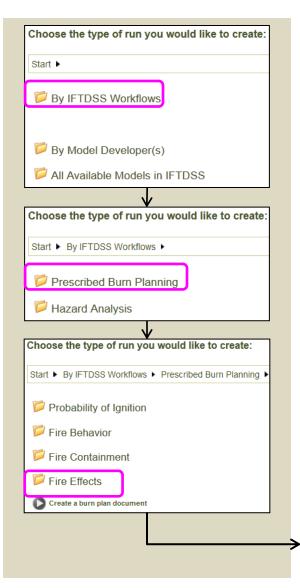
Next, we want to predict crown scorch height.

Choose the **Red Bull** Project link to return to the Project Summary page.



Then choose Create New Run. Create New Run Red Bull Upload New Data Set **Project Summary** W Help Edit Project Area Description Created: 01/10/2012 Latitude: 44.0526994° Longitude: -99.4344957° Northeast corner: Latitude: 44.0579827° Longitude: -99.4279951° Total Area: 68.05 Acres 275,400 m<sup>2</sup> Coordinate System: Albers USGS Resolution: X: 30.0 meters; Y: 30.0 meters; Import data from LANDFIRE Runs Run Run Group Pathway **Date Created** Actions Name min, max, Surface Fire Behavior Calculate surface fire behavior (as implemented in... 01/10/2012 Copy X Delete worst-case Copy X Delete Red Bull Burn 01/10/2012 Create a burn plan document Continue ▼ (all) (all) ▼ (all) Filters: Create New Run

## Prescribed Burn Planning Workflow

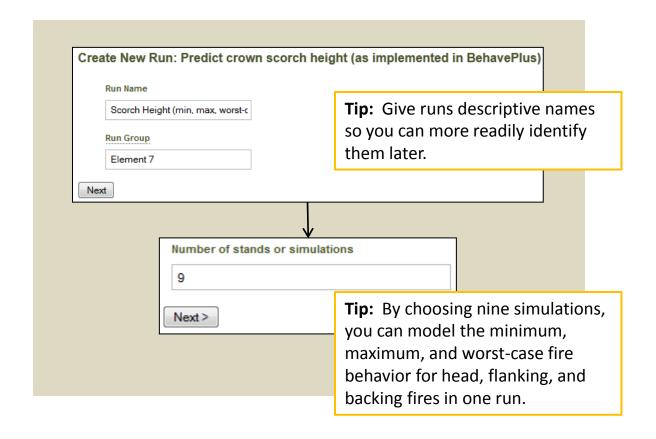


For this step, make the choices shown to the left.

Then choose Predict crown scorch height (as implemented in BehavePlus).



## Modeling Crown Scorch Height



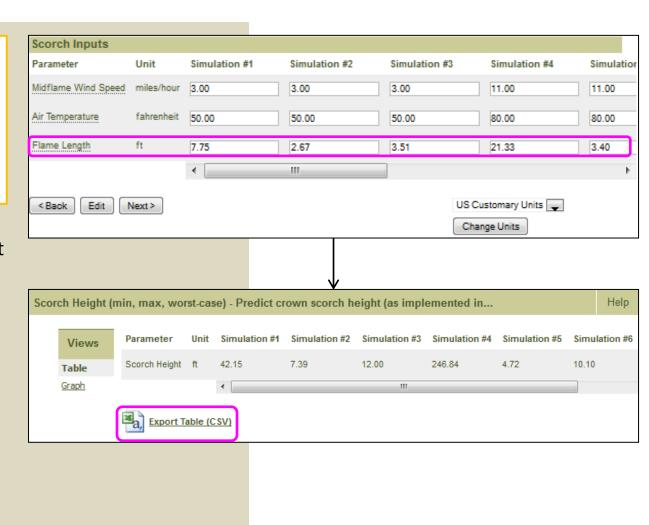
# Modeling Crown Scorch Height (Element 7)

Tip: In this example, we used the flame length outputs from the surface fire behavior (as implemented in BehavePlus) run as the inputs of the crown scorch height (as implemented in BehavePlus) run.

Export the crown scorch height results to Microsoft Excel format by using the **Export Table (CSV)** link.

Navigate to the **Red Bull Burn Plan** tab and fill in the Fire
Behavior prescription for
Element 7.

Continue modeling fire behavior and effects using the previous steps.



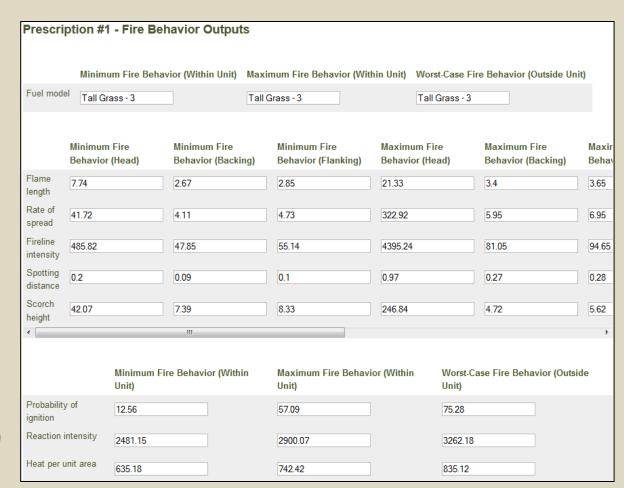
# Fire Behavior Prescription (Element 7)

- Navigate to Element 7: Prescription.
- Fill in the Fire Behavior Prescription.

If the burn unit is dominated by more than one fuel model, create multiple runs with descriptive names.

There are multiple Fire Behavior Prescriptions in the burn plan for extra fuel models.

**3. Important**: Choose **Next** (at the bottom of the page) to save your progress.



(Shown above is just the top section of this page.)

### **Modeling Considerations**

Models are based on simplified assumptions, such as uniform fuel and steady-state fire spread.

Rather than basing your burn plan prescription solely on modeling, the USDA and U.S. DOI (2008) allows for the use of empirical evidence (historical evidence or researched data) and judgment. These can be used to identify or corroborate prescriptions.

Weaknesses in modeling can be overridden, but must be justified with empirical evidence and/or verified actual fire behavior.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 22)

## Scheduling; Pre-burn Considerations and Weather; Briefing (Elements 8, 9, and 10)

### Scheduling

Identify the general ignition time frame(s) (i.e., time of day, duration of ignition) or season(s) and note any dates on which the project may not be conducted.

#### **Pre-burn Considerations and Weather**

Describe the onsite and offsite actions to be conducted and considerations to be addressed prior to implementation. Describe any fuel sampling and weather data that may need to be obtained.

The plan will include a list of organizations and individuals that are notified prior to ignition, with contact information for each organization and individual.

### **Briefing**

All assigned personnel must be briefed at the beginning of each operational period to ensure personnel safety.

Prescribed fire objectives and operations must be clearly defined and understood.

The briefing checklist should list briefing topics only, not re-state what is listed in the Prescribed Fire Plan for that element.

The Prescribed Fire Burn Boss is to ensure that any new personnel arriving at the prescribed fire site receives a briefing prior to assignment.

## Organization and Equipment; Communication; Safety and Medical (Elements 11, 12, and 13)

### **Organization and Equipment**

Specify the minimum required implementation organization needed to meet the capabilities (line production rates, etc.) by position, equipment, and the supplies needed for all phases of the prescribed fire until the fire is declared out.

#### Communication

Develop a communications plan specific to the project's implementation to address safety and tactical resource management needs.

### **Public and Personnel Safety, Medical**

Describe provisions to be made for public and personnel safety. Identify and analyze the safety hazards unique to the individual prescribed fire project and specify personnel safety and emergency procedures.

Identify and analyze the safety hazards unique to the individual prescribed fire project and specify personnel safety and emergency procedures.

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, pp. 23-24)

## Test Fire and Ignition Plan (Elements 14 and 15)

#### **Test Fire**

Provisions for a test fire are required and results must be recorded. The test fire must be ignited in a representative location and in an area that can be easily controlled.

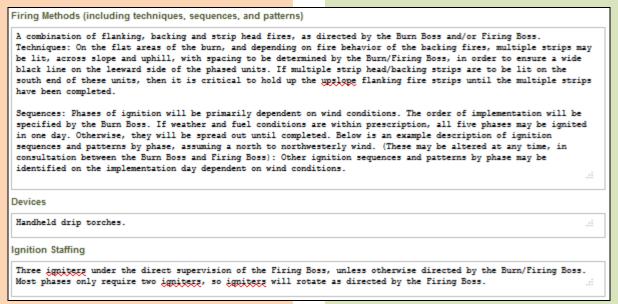
The purpose of the test fire is to verify that the prescribed fire behavior characteristics will meet management objectives, and to verify predicted smoke dispersion.

### **Ignition Plan**

Describe planned ignition operations.

Maps showing proposed firing patterns may be included.

Multiple prescriptions and ignition operations may require identifying and developing multiple ignition organizations.



## Holding and Contingency Plans (Elements 16 and 17)

**Holding** and **contingency** plans must be developed with the consideration of the predicted fire behavior outside the project boundary(s).

Holding Plan: describes general procedures to be used for operations to maintain the fire within the project area and meet the project objectives until the fire is declared out (USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 24).

Contingency Plan: considers the possible but unlikely events and the actions needed to mitigate those events (USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 25).

Fire behavior characteristics for fuel models within the maximum spotting distance and/or adjacent to the project boundaries must be considered and modeled.

These predictions must be modeled using the

- Hottest, driest, windiest prescription limits
- Most extreme environmental conditions (slope, aspect)

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 22)

## Wildfire Conversion and Smoke Management and Air Quality (Elements 18 and 19)

#### **Wildfire Conversion**

A prescribed fire must be declared a wildfire by those identified in the burn plan when that person(s) determines that the contingency actions have failed or are likely to fail and cannot be mitigated by the end of the next burning period.

Describe the actions to be taken when a prescribed fire is declared a wildfire. This description is to include

- Wildfire declaration
- IC assignment
- Notifications

### **Smoke Management and Air Quality**

Described how the project will comply with local community, county, state, tribal, and federal air quality regulations.

Identify what permits, if any, need to be obtained.

Identify smoke-sensitive sensors (population centers, recreation areas, hospitals, airports, schools, etc.).

Include modeling outputs and mitigation strategies and techniques to reduce the impacts of smoke production.

**Tip:** For more information on smoke management, visit the <u>National Interagency Fire Center website</u>.

## Monitoring and Post-burn Activity (Elements 20 and 21)

### Monitoring

Describe the monitoring that will be required to ensure that Prescribed Fire Plan objectives are met.

For the prescribed fire, at a minimum, specify the weather (forecast and observed), fire behavior and fuels information, and smoke dispersal monitoring required during all phases of the project and the procedures for acquiring this information (including who and when).

#### **Post-burn Activity**

Describe the post-burn activities that must be completed.

These activities include

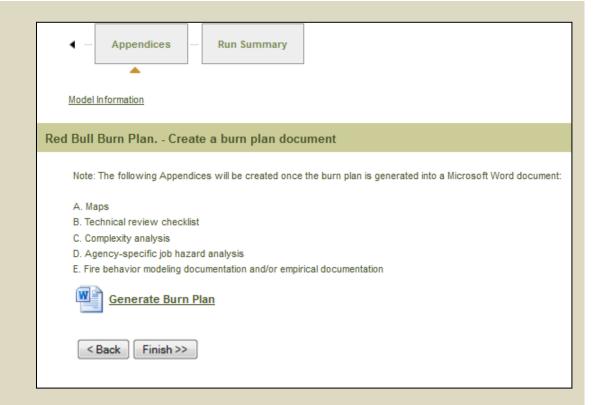
- The post-burn report
- Safety mitigation measures
- Rehabilitation needs

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, pp. 25-26)

### **Appendices**

The following **Appendices** are created once the Burn Plan is generated and exported into a Microsoft Word document:

- A. Maps
- B. Technical review checklist
- C. Complexity analysis
- D. Agency-specific job hazard analysis
- E. Fire behavior modeling documentation and/or empirical documentation

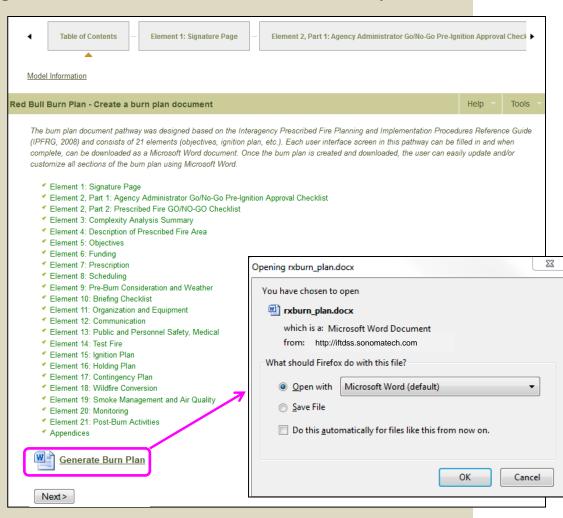


(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 27)

### Generating the Burn Plan

At the bottom of any Burn Plan page, choose Generate Burn Plan, then open the

document with Microsoft Word.



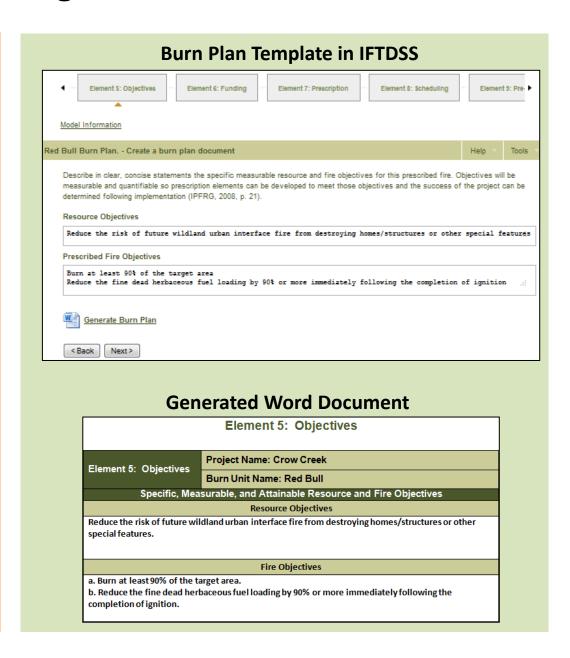
### Customizing the Burn Plan

After downloading the burn plan into a Microsoft Word document, you can easily customize the burn plan.

You can fill out Elements in the online burn plan template located within the IFTDSS website, and/or after generating the burn plan into a Word document.

Click here for an example of a generated and customized Red Bull burn plan.

**Note:** The online burn plan template has a 6,000-character limit per text box. If you need more characters, generate the burn plan into a Word document (which has no character limit), and continue editing.



## Maps (Appendix A – Maps)

### **Map Requirements**

At a minimum, the plan will include a **vicinity** and **project** map.

The number of maps, map size and scale, legend, and level of detail should be appropriate for the complexity of the project.

All maps will include the following standard map elements

- Title
- Name of Preparer(s)
- Date
- North Arrow
- Scale
- Legend

(USDA and U.S. DOI, 2008, p. 21)

### **Vicinity Map**

Map scale will be such that the burn units can be located on the ground and in sufficient detail to guide implementation.

### **Project Map**

Identifies features in sufficient detail to guide and assist in operational implementation of the prescribed fire.

**Note:** in the generated burn plan, maps are located in Appendix A.

The process of how to save a map image to your local computer and how to edit a map in the generated Burn Plan are discussed in the following pages.

## Appendices (Appendix A – Maps)

### The following pages show how to

- Open Data Studio to view your Project Area.
- Save a map image to your local computer.
- Paste a map into the generated burn plan in Microsoft Word.
- Edit a Vicinity Map in Microsoft Word.

For step-by-step instructions on how to export maps to Google Earth for advanced editing, refer to the tutorial: How to use Hazard Analysis tools in the IFTDSS for Prescribed Fire Planning.

# Appendices (Appendix A – Maps)

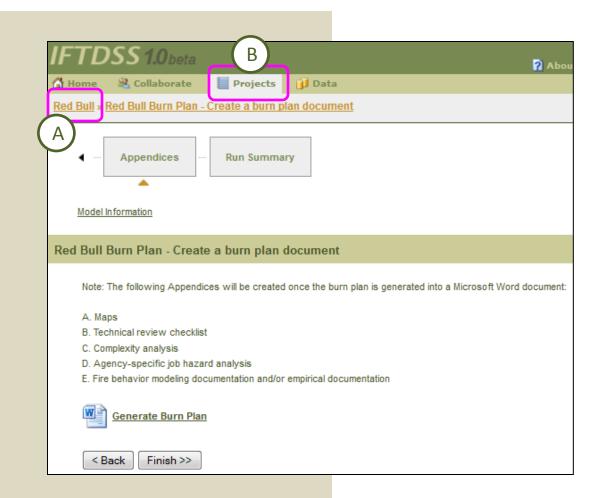
Navigate back to your Red Bull **Project Summary** page. To do so, you can either

A

Click on the **Red Bull** link at the top left of the page,

or

Access the **Projects** tab and navigate to your project (in this example, **Red Bull**).

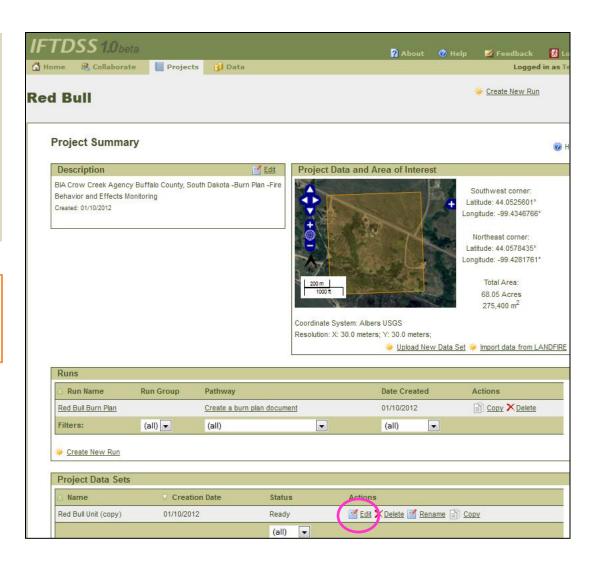


## Appendices (Appendix A – Maps)

At the bottom of the **Project Summary** page, under the **Project Data** section, select **Edit.** 

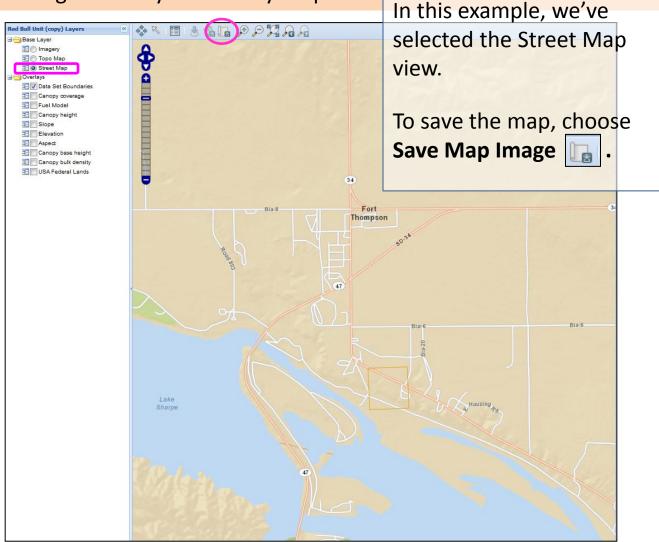
The Data Studio window appears.

**Note**: Pop-up blockers must be disabled in order to open Data Studio.



## Save a Map Image (Appendix A – Maps)

In Data Studio, you can save an image of your project area and the surrounding area for your Vicinity Map.

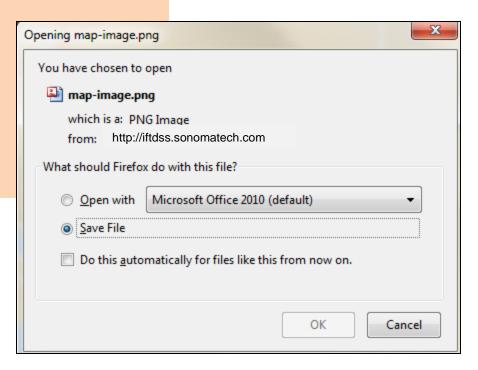


# Save a Map Image to Your Local Computer (Appendix A – Maps)

When you choose **Save Map Image**, you can open

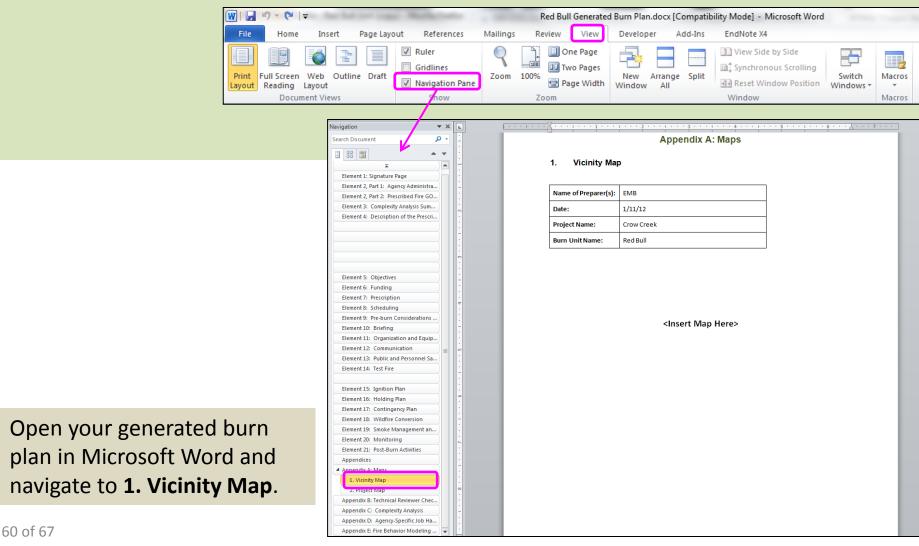
your image or save your image.

In this example, we are going to save the image and then paste it into our generated burn plan document.



### Navigate to the Vicinity Map in the Generated Burn Plan (Appendix A – Maps)

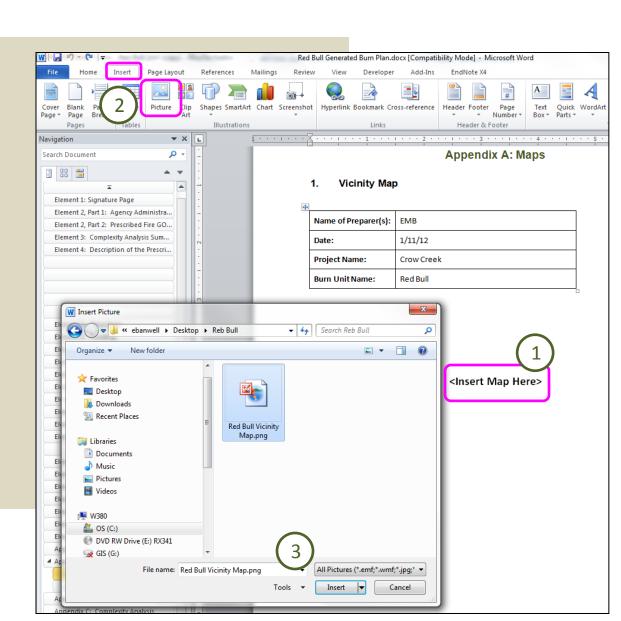
**Tip**: For easy navigation in Microsoft Word 2010, access the **View** tab and select **Navigation Pane**.



# Inserting a Saved Map Image into Word (Appendix A – Maps)

To insert a saved map image into a Microsoft Word document,

- Highlight the < Insert Map Here > text.
- Access the **Insert** tab and select **Picture**.
- Navigate to your saved map image and select Insert.



## Drawing the Burn Unit Onto the Map

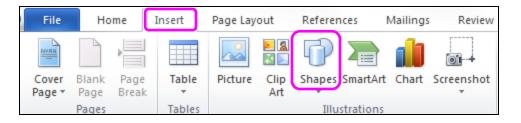
(Appendix A – Maps)

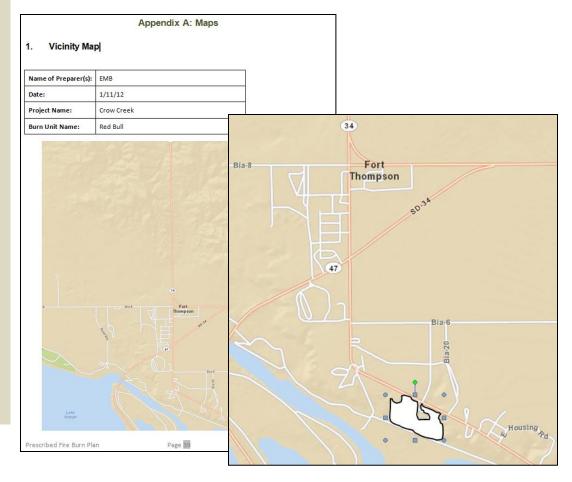
- Resize the image to fit on the Vicinity Map page.
- Right-click on the map, select Wrap Text, then select Behind Text.

This makes it easier to move the map around on the page.

- Access the **Insert** tab and choose **Shapes**.
- Under Lines, select the Scribble option.
- Using the **Scribble** feature, draw an outline of your burn unit.

Zooming in will help you accurately draw the burn unit.

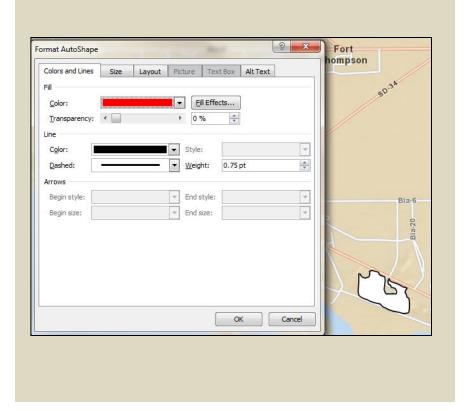




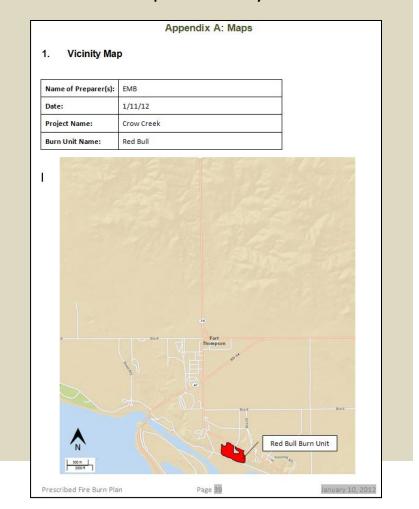
## Editing and Labeling the Burn Unit

(Appendix A – Maps)

- 1. Right-click on your burn unit and select **Format Autoshape.**
- Choose a red fill color and choose OK.



- 3. Click on **Shapes** again and select a **callout** shape.
- 4. Use this shape to label your burn unit.



# Appendices (Appendix B – Technical Reviewer Checklist)

#### The technical reviewer

- Ensures that prescribed burn plans meet policies.
- Ensures that the complexity analysis accurately reflects the project(s).
- Ensures that the prescription parameters meet the resource and control objectives.
- Ensures that the ignition, holding, and contingency plans are consistent with the predicted fire behavior.
- Completes and signs the Technical Reviewer Checklist and the <u>Prescribed Burn Plan</u> <u>Signature Page</u>.

Prescribed Fire Plan Elements	S/U	Comments				
. Signature page	S					
. GO/NO-GO Checklists	S					
. Complexity Analysis Summary	S					
. Description of the Prescribed Fire Area	S					
. Objectives . Funding	S	see objective additions				
	S	-1if				
. Prescription	S	clarify questions in narrative				
Scheduling	_					
Pre-burn Considerations and Weather	S					
0. Briefing	S					
Organization and Equipment	S	clarify tender operation question				
2. Communication	S					
3. Public and Personnel Safety, Medical	S					
4. Test Fire	S	see clarification				
5. Ignition Plan	S					
6. Holding Plan	S	see clarification				
7. Contingency Plan	S					
8. Wildfire Conversion	S					
9. Smoke Management and Air Quality	S					
0. Monitoring	S					
Post-burn Activities	S					
Appendix A: Maps	S					
Appendix B. Technical Review Checklist	s	subject to changes and answering comments -				
Appendix C: Complexity Applysis	S	plan signed by each tech reviewer				
Appendix C: Complexity Analysis Appendix D: Agency-Specific Job Hazard	3					
Appendix D. Agency-Specific Job Hazard Analysis	S					
Appendix E: Fire Prediction Modeling Runs	S					
or Empirical Documentation	5					
Other	S					
S = Satisfactory U = Unsatisfactory						
Recommended for Approval: Not Recommended for Approval:						

## Appendices (Appendix C – Complexity Analysis)

The Complexity Analysis contains 14 elements with three factors to consider for each element:

- Factor 1 is Risk: the probability an adverse event will occur.
- Factor 2 is Potential
   Consequences: the measure of cost/result of an adverse event.
- Factor 3 is **Technical Difficulty**:
   the skill needed to implement the
   burn and deal with potential adverse
   events.

Values are assigned for each of the factors: low, moderate, or high.

**Note:** Refer to the <u>Prescribed Fire</u> <u>Complexity Rating System Guide</u> for more details.

#### Appendix C: Complexity Analysis

Instructions: This worksheet is designed to be used with the Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating descriptors on Page 6 of the <u>Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide</u>.

#### 1. Potential for Escape

Risk	Rationale			
Preliminary Rating:  Low Moderate High	Although holding forces have access around the entire unit, PI is at 60% at the hot end of the prescription			
Final Rating:  Low Moderate High	Ignition procedures won't create intense fire until adequate buffer are in place. Grass fuels will not hold fire longer than the day of ignition. Fire behavior calculations and procedures for ignition, holding, mopup and patrol are outlined in the burn plan.			
Potential Consequences	Rationale			
Preliminary Rating:  Low Moderate High	Potential for multiple simultaneous spot fires can propagate at moderate rates of spread but can be held by skilled and prompt holding actions. Contingency forces must be available on call-up commensurate with local wildfire standards.			
Final Rating:  Low Moderate High	Mow lines and wet lines will be constructed around the burn unit. Fire control resources will be placed at key locations on and adjacent to residential property. Lookouts will be placed at key locations to watch for slopovers and spot fires. Slow methodical backfiring techniques will be used along all burn unit boundaries to reduce the risk of escape. Engines will patrol the area after ignition to extinguish any remaining hot spots.			
Technical Difficulty	Rationale			
Preliminary Rating:  Low Moderate High	Holding operations will be supervised at the Single Resource Boss level. The entire burn unit is accessible to holding resources. No abnormal weather is anticipated and all key implementation personnel will be from the local area or from within the Great Plains Region.			
Final Rating:  Low Moderate High	Ignition and holding procedures and organization are outlined in the burn plan.			

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Tip: Back to Element 3

## Appendices (Appendix D – Agency-Specific Job Hazard Analysis)

A job hazard analysis is a technique that focuses on job tasks as a way to identify hazards before they occur.

This analysis focuses on the relationship between the worker, the task, the tools, and the work environment.

Ideally, after you identify uncontrolled hazards, you will take steps to eliminate or reduce those hazards to an acceptable risk level.

JOB/ACTIVITY:	AGENCY NAME:	NAME OF ANALYST:	
Prescribed Burning	Crow Creek	Xxxxx Xxxxxxx	
JOB TITLE OF	DATE PREPARED:	NAME OF RX-BURN:	
ANALYST:			
Ign. Spec./	3/10/2004		
Burn Boss Trainee		Red Bull Prescribed Burn	
TASK	HAZARD\$	ABATEMENT ACTIONS	
Vehicle travel to, on and from the worksite.	Poor driving; mechanical malfunctions; shippery road surfaces; soft shoulders; unimproved or narrow roadways; inclement weather; improper backing or parking; obstructed visibility from crooked roads, heavy vegetation, time- of-day or smoke.	Drive defensively. Use seat belts and headlights. Identify road conditions prior to travel and during briefings. Post road guards. Mark hazards. Perform pre-use inspections on all vehicles. Scout ahead to identify vehicle turnouts. Maintain communication. Provide road system maps. Use backers and spotters. Leave keys in the ignition and park vehicles where and how they are most easily driven out in an emergency.	
Pre-burn briefing.	Lack of communications; reluctance to ask questions.	Conduct a thorough pre-bum briefing to clarify safety concerns, burn objectives, position assignments and responsibilities, expected weather and fire behavior.	
Functioning as qualified in any position on a prescribed burn.	Injury due to lack of experience and/or qualifications.	Employees must meet the physical and qualification requirements for their respective positions as established in Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1.	
Preparing drip torch fuel.	"Hot Mix" burns from improper fuel mixture ratio or unwanted ignitions; Fuel-saturated clothing from spills.	Use approved containers and pour spouts. Mix and fill on the ground in secure locations. Avoid fuel contact with skin, clothing and boots. Mix 4 parts diesel to 1 part gasoline. No smoking or cell phone use within 25 ft. of mixing and fueling area.	

# Appendices (Appendix E – Documentation)

You can paste the exported Microsoft Excel table(s) (see page 38) into the Word document in Appendix E. Fire Behavior Modeling Documentation or Empirical Evidence.

### Appendix E: Fire Behavior Modeling Documentation or Empirical Documentation

Table 1. Surface Fire Behavior (as implemented in BehavePlus) inputs and outputs

	Parameters		Units		
	Parameters	Minimum	Maximum	Worst-Case	Units
	Head Fire Spread Rate	41.81	323.05	595.36	chains/hour
	Backing Fire Spread Rate	4.11	5.95	6.59	chains/hour
	Flanking Fire Spread Rate	7.49	11.69	13.03	chains/hour
	Surface heat per unit area	635.18	742.42	835.12	Btu/ft^2
	Head Fire Fireline Intensity	486.89	4397.1	9115.31	Btu/ft/s
	Backing Fire Fireline Intensity	47.87	81.04	100.86	Btu/ft/s
	Flanking Fire Fireline Intensity	87.17	159.15	199.51	Btu/ft/s
	Head Fire Flame Length	7.75	21.33	29.83	ft
H s	Backing Fire Flame Length	2.67	3.4	3.76	ft
Outputs	Flanking Fire Flame Length	3.51	4.63	5.14	ft
õ	Reaction Intensity	2481.15	2900.07	3262.17	Btu/ft^2/min
	Head Fire Spread Direction	110	110	113	degrees
	Backing Fire Spread Direction	290	290	293	degrees
	Flanking Fire Spread Direction	200	200	203	degrees
	Head Fire Spread Distance	41.81	323.06	595.36	chains
	Backing Fire Spread Distance	4.11	5.95	6.59	chains
	Flanking Fire Spread Distance	7.49	11.69	13.03	chains
	Residence Time	0.26	0.26	0.26	min
	Effective Wind Speed	3.01	11	15.22	miles/hour
	Fire Behavior Fuel Model	FM3: Tall grass	FM3: Tall grass	FM3: Tall grass	
	1-hr fuel moisture	14	6	4	percent
	10-hr fuel moisture	16	8	6	percent
Inputs	100-hr fuel moisture	20	10	8	percent
	Live herbaceous fuel moisture	100	90	80	percent
	Live woody fuel moisture	180	170	160	percent
	Midflame Wind Speed	3	11	15	miles/hour
	Wind Direction (from North)	290	290	290	degrees
	Slope	5	5	40	percent
	Aspect	0	0	0	degrees
	Flanking Fire Direction	90 degrees	90 degrees	90 degrees	
	Elapsed Time	1	1	1	hours