

## WILDLAND HAZARDOUS FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

There are four parts to the Wildland Hazardous Fuels Prescription.

- I. Project Identification – Basic information regarding the project.
- II. Plot Data Sheet – To be completed for each plot.
- III. Prescription Summary – This is to be completed once for the entire project area.
- IV. Prescription Sign-Off and Submission – To be completed for the entire prescription and requires the sign-off of the registered forestry professional who has supervised or completed the prescription.

Note: Completion and submission of this form does not constitute approval of the prescribed activity. All approvals from the appropriate land and natural resources management agencies must be obtained prior to the commencement of any hazardous fuels management activities. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all approvals are in place.

### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name	
Date	
Latitude/Longitude	
Distance (km) and Azimuth (degrees) from Project Boundary to Nearest Occupied Dwelling	
Total Area Treated (ha)	

#### PLOT IDENTIFICATION

1. Plots are to be marked with a stake and ribbon.
2. GPS coordinates are to be taken at plot centre.
3. To allow future data gathering at the plot location, a minimum of two trees in the plot are to be marked with a vertical stripe of fluorescent paint. These trees must be ones which will be left standing post treatment.
4. If the prescription involves 100 percent canopy removal, the above (3) does not apply.

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### II. PLOT DATA SHEET (COMPLETE FOR EACH PLOT)

PROJECT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PLOT \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ PLOTS

#### 1. PHOTOS

Photographs North, South, East and West are to be taken from the plot centre. A representative photograph of the forest floor in the plot is to be taken. Photos are to be labelled with the project name, date, plot number and direction. Photos are to be tagged with their latitude and longitudes and have an accuracy of +/- 3 metres from the plot centre.

#### 2. PLOT TALLY

A 3.99 metre plot cord tally of all trees that fall within the plot boundary are to be recorded. One representative height, live crown base height and one representative diameter (DBH) for each tree species in the plot is to be taken.

Tree Species	Tally	Height (m)	Live Crown Base Height (m)	Diameter (cm)	Tree species	Tally	Height (m)	Live Crown Base Height (m)	Diameter (cm)
Trembling Aspen (Aw)			N/A		Jack Pine (Pj)				
Balsam Poplar (Pb)			N/A		Lodgepole Pine (Pl)				
White Birch (Bw)			N/A		Balsam Fir (Fb)				
Black Spruce (Sb)					Subalpine Fir (Fa)				
White Spruce (Sw)					Douglas Fir (Fd)				
Tamarack (Lt)					Engelmann Spruce (Se)				
Other:					Other:				

Note: Tally is to be in dot format. Height is to the nearest metre. Live crown base height is to the nearest 0.5 metre for coniferous species only. Diameter is to be in centimetres to the nearest 2 cm class (If trees are 10 cm or under, to the nearest 0.1 cm) and taken at DBH (1.3 metres) from ground level.

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### II. PLOT DATA SHEET CONTINUED

PROJECT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PLOT \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ PLOTS

3. PLOT AVI (Include understory if present.) AND CANADIAN FOREST FIRE BEHAVIOUR PREDICTION (FBP) FUEL TYPE.

AVI: \_\_\_\_\_ FBP Fuel Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Example: mB21Sw9Aw1  
87-M

Where moisture regime (m), crown closure (B), height (21 metres), Sw species composition is 9 = 90% and AW species composition is 1 = 10%, stand origin 87 = 1870-79 and timber productivity rating = M.

To review documents on AVI type calls, see:

<https://open.alberta.ca/publications/alberta-vegetation-inventory-standards>

To review the Field Guide to the Canadian Forest Fire Behaviour Prediction (FBP) System for fuel types, see:

<https://cwfis.cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/background/fueltypes/c1>

4. GROUND COVER DATA

Estimate percent ground cover for coarse woody  $\geq 7$ cm in diameter. Tally the number of pieces within the 3.99 metre plot which are  $\geq 7$ cm in diameter.

$\geq 7$  cm \_\_\_\_\_ % Tally \_\_\_\_\_ Pieces

If a coniferous understory layer is present, provide the percent ground coverage of the understory layer.

Dominant Species \_\_\_\_\_ Ground Coverage \_\_\_\_\_ %

Forest floor / litter, upper duff and lower duff layers – Provide the depth of each layer.

Forest Floor / Litter Layer (fine woody debris, undecomposed matter, green moss) \_\_\_\_\_ cm

Upper Duff (brown moss layer, partly decomposed matter) \_\_\_\_\_ cm

Lower Duff (decomposing/organic layer to a maximum of 20 cm) \_\_\_\_\_ cm

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### 5. ECOSITE CLASSIFICATION AND SITE EVALUATION

Based on the appropriate Field Guide to Ecosites of Southwestern Alberta, Northern Alberta or West-central Alberta. These guides are available at <http://cfs.nrcan.gc.ca/publications>.

Natural Sub Region	
Ecosite Plant Community Type and Name (example: i1, b3, h1)	

## II. PLOT DATA SHEET CONTINUED

PROJECT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PLOT \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_ PLOTS

Rutting Hazard, Soil Compaction Potential and Comments:

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Potential Watercourse/Water Table Issues:

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General Forest Health (Insects, Diseases and Weeds) Comments:

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### III. PRESCRIPTION SUMMARY

#### 1. RECOMMENDED TREATMENT

To include type of treatment (logging, thinning, pruning, mulching, selective harvest, etc. and mechanical or non-mechanical) Include suggested equipment (mechanical) and recommended ground conditions for treatment (frozen or non-frozen). Refer to [Canadian Wildland Fuel Management Knowledge Base](#) for recommendations for fuel management and treatment options. Refer to [Protection Your Communities from Wildfire: Chapter 3 Solutions and Mitigation](#) for treatment strategies and thin/prune standards.

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#### 2. DEBRIS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Include debris management method (mulch, pile/burn, haul off site, lop/scatter, etc. and recommended post treatment debris levels (percent ground cover).

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#### 3. EXPECTED POST TREATMENT VEGETATION RESPONSE

Comment on potential regeneration (deciduous and coniferous) as well as grass/shrubs/forbs.

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#### 4. PROPOSED MAINTENANCE STRATEGY AND SCHEDULE

Hazardous fuels management treatments will at some point require maintenance. Identify the maintenance method and the approximate time intervals for the maintenance.

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### IV. PRESCRIPTION SIGN OFF AND SUBMISSION

#### ATTACHMENTS (Check)

- ☐ Map (mandatory)
- ☐ All plot data sheets completed (mandatory)
- ☐ Photographs (mandatory)
- ☐ Land titles search (mandatory if not previously completed and submitted to AF)
- ☐ Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

#### SIGN-OFF AND SUBMISSION

Prescription Completed By (print name)	
Signature	
Registered Professional Forester or Registered Professional Forest Technologist Registration Number or Stamp (signature required if different from the individual who completed the prescription).	
Date	

## WILDLAND HAZARDOUS FUELS MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION

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Please submit this prescription to:

Wildfire Forest Management Specialist  
Forestry Division  
Forest Management and Wildfire Mitigation Branch  
Suite 302, J. G. O' Donoghue Building  
7000 – 113 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5T6  
Telephone: 780-370-0263  
Email: [jarret.whitbread@gov.ab.ca](mailto:jarret.whitbread@gov.ab.ca)

### **DISCLAIMER**

This Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescription was prepared or supervised by a Registered Professional Forester or Registered Professional Forest Technologist.

The users of this information acknowledge that it is impossible to eliminate all the risks. Wildfire conditions are highly variable and can rapidly change with little to no warning. This Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescription does not guarantee safety or that a wildfire will not spread.

The accuracy and reliability of this Wildland Hazardous Fuels Management Prescription is not guaranteed or warranted in any way and Alberta Agriculture and Forestry disclaims liability of any kind whatsoever for damages including but not limited to discomfort, injury, death or loss of property.