FLORIDA CERTIFIED PRESCRIBED BURN MANAGER TRAINING MANUAL

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The Florida Certified Prescribed Burn Manager Training Course is the latest evolution of the Florida Interagency Basic Prescribed Fire Course. This course has been a successful and highly recognized course since its inception. For over 20 years dedicated professionals have set aside a significant portion of their time to serve as instructors and coordinators for course sessions held across the state. Thanks to all of these instructors and especially to those who have made specific contributions to course content. We are also grateful to the families of these instructors for sharing the time of their loved ones.

The basic concept of this course remains the same. Prescribed fire training should encompass all aspects of prescribed fire in Florida and this can best be accomplished by including active prescribed fire professionals from all agencies, organizations, and private landowners engaged in the art and science of prescribed fire. We also extend our thanks and gratitude to the following:

The Florida Forest Service has accepted a lead role in both the development and continuation of this course. The foresight of John Bethea and Earl Peterson to develop and maintain this course as an interagency effort has promoted participation by all stakeholders. Likewise Jim Karels has continued to insure that the resources of the Forest Service have been available to support training sessions across the state.

The sponsorship of individual courses represents a substantial commitment of resources and personnel not only for the sponsoring agency but also for local cooperators. Staff at Wekiwa Springs State Park, J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area, Withlacoochee State Forest, Lake Talquin State Forest and the Jacksonville District of the Florida Forest Service has consistently committed scarce resources to annual sessions.

Special thanks is given to the group of professionals responsible for this the current edition of the Manual: Jim Brenner, Amy Copeland, Barry Coulliette, Keith Mousel, Kevin MacEwen, Rosi Mulholland, John Pendergrast, John Saddler, James Schortemeyer, Shawn Stewart, David Sweetay and Duane Weis have dedicated many hours to update this course including presentation material and a new exam in addition to updating this manual.

The continued use of prescribed fire depends upon the support and active participation of those professionals dedicated to the suppression of wildfires. Most importantly we are forever indebted to the forest rangers and other suppression specialists who have ‘caught the ones that got away.’
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