

WILDERNESS PERFORMANCE MEASURE – ELEMENT TEMPLATE

Element Title:	Natural Role of Fire
Element Description:	Wildfire and/or prescribed fire has been managed to allow for the natural role of fire in wilderness.
Element Outcome:	Fire has been allowed to play its natural role in this wilderness.
Element Type:	Natural Quality – Optional Selection
Key Terms & Definitions:	<p><u>Appropriate Management Response (AMR)</u>: <i>Any specific action suitable to meet Fire Management Unit (FMU) objectives. Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical options (from monitoring to intensive management actions). The AMR is developed by using Fire Management Unit strategies and objectives identified in the Fire Management Plan.</i></p> <p><u>Fire Management Direction</u>: <i>Strategic direction that defines a forest's or grassland's program to manage wildland fire and prescribed fire. This may include the Forest Land Management Plan (LMP), an amendment to the LMP, the Fire Management Plan (FMP), and individual operational plans or other required documentation (including risk analyses), as dictated by national policy, regional policy, etc., for implementing specific fire management strategies.</i></p> <p><u>Prescribed Fire</u>: <i>Any fire intentionally ignited by management under an approved plan to meet specific objectives.</i>¹</p> <p><u>Wildfire</u>: <i>An unplanned ignition caused by lightning, volcanoes, unauthorized, and accidental human-caused actions and escaped prescribed fires.</i></p>

Get in touch with Fire to make sure I'm using the most up-to-date definitions – check against NIFC Redbook 2014 Chapter 9 (filed)

Scoring	
2-Points	Fire management direction has been developed in the Land Management Plan and provides objectives, guidelines, or standards to manage wildfire and/or prescribed fire to allow for the natural role of fire in wilderness.
4-Points	Fire management direction has been developed in the Fire Management Plan, incorporating the appropriate items from the "Wilderness Fire Management Planning Checklist."
6-Points	Each wildfire that occurred in this wilderness received the appropriate management response, per fire management direction.
8-Points	Fire has been allowed to play its natural role in this wilderness, as defined by the historic average for annual acres burned. Based on a rolling 3-year average, the acres burned in this wilderness are within 25% of the historic average.

2-Point Checkbox	A post-season review of wilderness fire management practices has been conducted this fiscal year by Wilderness Program Managers and Fire Management Officers to evaluate how wilderness fires were managed, the effectiveness of the Fire Management Plan and to identify modifications to plans or practices that may be needed.
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Note:

- 1 Per current policy, use of prescribed fire in wilderness is limited to very specific circumstances, as outlined in FSM 2324.2.
 - The Wilderness Fire Management Planning Checklist was developed to provide wilderness and fire managers with a checklist of wilderness topics and issues that should be considered when revising Land Management Plans and Fire Management Plans.
 - The most recent version of the checklist may be found at → <http://www.wilderness.net/toolboxes/documents/fire/Wilderness%20Fire%20Management%20Planning%20Checklist.doc>