### PRESCRIBED BURN ASSOCIATIONS

A New Opportunity For Florida Landowners





Ginger Morgan, North Central Regional Coordinator
Arlo Kane, Northwest Regional Coordinator
Office of Conservation Planning Services
Landowner Assistance Program

# **Conservation Planning Services**

What do we do?

LUP

LAP

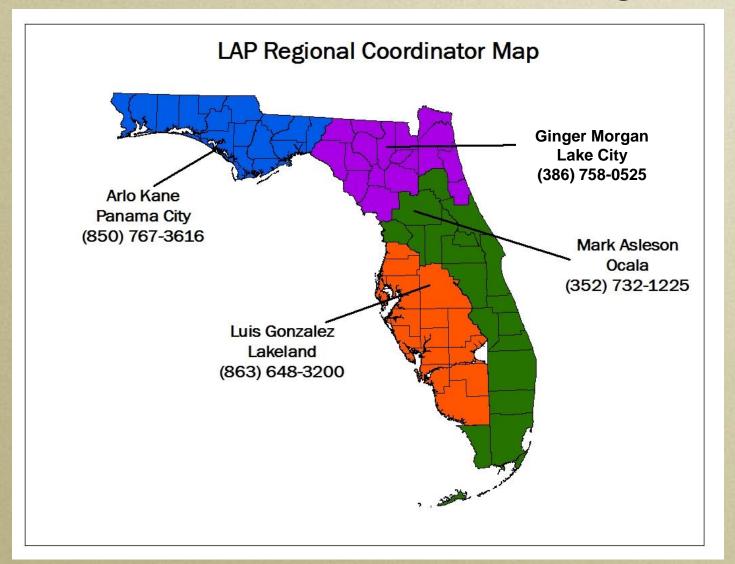
**Land Use Planning** 

Private Sector
State and Local Government
Review Wildlife Impacts
Avoidance and Minimization
Site Design

Landowner Assistance Program



# Landowner Assistance Program





## Landowner Assistance Program



- Provide fish and wildlife related technical assistance
- Support locally-led conservation efforts
- Develop and implement incentive programs
- Develop habitat-based management plans



Wildlife Best Management Practices Cost-Share Programs Conservation Easements









#### Conservation Stewardship Plan



#### James Landowner Tract:

Any County, Florida February 23, 2011



**USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service** 

Chris Conservationist, District Conservationist 12345 U.S. Hwy. Anytown, FL. 32xxx; (xxx)-xxx-xxxx



Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

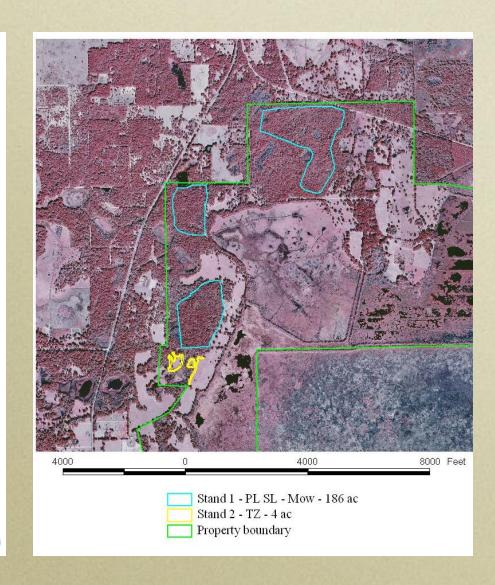
Ricky Biologist, Wildlife Biologist 1234 SW Main ST., Suite 101 Anytown, FL. 32xxx; (xxx)-xxx-xxxx x112



Florida Division of Forestry Brian Forester, County Forester 1234 123rd Road

Anytown, FL 32xxx; (xxx)-xxx-xxxx







# Prescribed fire is often one of our recommended practices. Why don't landowners burn more?

- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of experience
- Not enough people
- Not enough equipment
- Financial constraints
- Liability





# How do you overcome these obstacles?

- Attend workshops and training
- Hire people
- Buy equipment
- Apply for cost-share programs
- Insurance

Do these solve the problem? NO!



Then what is the answer??

PBA

A Prescribed Burn Association



## What is a Prescribed Burn Association?

Landowners helping other landowners implement prescribed fire for wildlife habitat, wildfire protection and forest health





# PBA: Goals and Objectives

- Share equipment (tractors, discs, sprayers)
- Share labor (and gain experience!)
- Train membership
- Foster good relations between neighbors





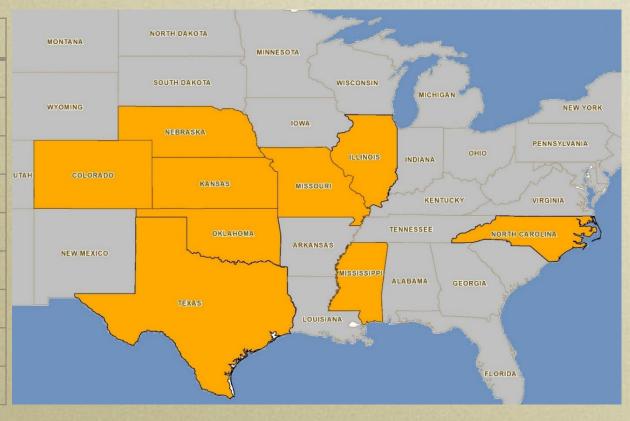
> Most importantly,



**Get More Acres Burned!** 

### PBA's have been around since the mid-90's

# PBA's
10
10
10
1
1
1
21
?
?





# Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission

### **Able**

- Pre-Burn Assistance
  - Habitat Assessment
    Habitat Management Plan
    Coordinate Training Opportunities
    Burn Plan
- Interagency Coordination
- Help Identify Funding Opportunities

### **Not Able**

- Pull the Burn Permit
- > Participate on the Burn
- Pay for the Burn
- Hold a Non-Profit Status (501c3)



### **FWC Efforts**

#### **Relationship Development:**

Network around the country with existing programs

#### **Regional Collaboration:**

Two pilot areas (Alachua/Marion/Putnam and Gadsden)

#### **Meeting Facilitation:**

Landowners and Partners

#### **Promotion:**

Florida Land Steward Newsletter, IFAS workshops, NFPFC, FWC website

#### Legal Research:

Volunteer status, equipment loans, liability

#### **Grant Application:**

National Wild Turkey Federation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation



# Establishing a PBA

- > Assemble a group of interested citizens
- Involve key players
  - Land Owners
  - ❖State & Federal Agencies
  - ❖County Extension
  - ❖Local Fire Departments
  - **❖**NGO's
- > Pick a leader
- > Set goals and geographic area
- > Accomplish a task





### PBA To Do's

- Elect officers president, vice president, secretary, treasurer
- Dues: \$25 per year is average, not required
- Organize annual fire training for members
- Assemble burn plans for each proposed burn
- Address landowner property or liability insurance
- Establish minimum burn participation activity requirements
- Explore 501c3 or LLC status
- Compile a list of equipment that is available for burning







# The Larger Picture

- NRCS Cost-Share Opportunities
- > FFS Prioritization for Rx Assistance
- Statewide PBA Non-Profit Organization
- Future Affiliation with a National Charter of State PBA's



## We Have Landowners!!

Landowners Interested in Forming a Prescribed Burn Association								
Name	County	Phone	E-Mail	Training/Experience or # Burns	Availability	Equipment	CPBM?	
Landowner 1	St. Johns	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	S130/190, 12 Rx's	Weekends	Hand tools, Drip Torch, PPE	Yes	
Landowner 2	Putman	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	assisted forestry service in two burns and completed tree farmer 2 training at extension office	Most days	atv/mule,kubota 30hp 4x w front loader and various emplements	No	
Landowner 3	Nassau	###-###-###	Landowner@email.org	Waiting Response				
Landowner 4	Alachua	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	S130/190/211/212, L180, I100, Southern Area Engine Academy, Inter-agency Rx Fire Course, Rx Fire for Wildlife Course; 100+ Rx, 35+ as the Certified Burn Manager.	Weekends/evenings; weekdays with advanced notice	Hand tools, drip torch, PPE	Yes	
Landowner 5	Alachua/Volusia	###-###-###	Landowner@email.org	Waiting Response				
Landowner 6	Putnam	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	Inter-agency Rx course, 12-15 Rx,	Most Days	2 ATV's with 25gal sprayers, 80hp tractor w/disk, Hand tools, PPE, Drip torches, Bull dozer w/fire disk and Lowboy.	No	
Landowner 7	St Johns	###-###-###	Landowner@email.org	S130/S190, Volunteer with FFS, Pile burner	Most days	PPE, radio	Yes	
Landowner 8	Alachua	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	50 FFS-authorized burns; includes mix of pile burns and area burns	variable; some flexibility	trailer-mounted 225 tank w/ pump, 1" hose, 5/8" hose; hand tools including drip torches	Yes	
Landowner 9	Levy	###-###-###	Landowner@email.org	40-50 burns over last 10 years	variable	Tractor+disk, no trailer	Yes	
Landowner 10	Levy	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	Waiting Response				
Assistant 1	Alachua	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	2 college courses, S130/190, 12 Rx	Weekends	N/A	No	
**Rx = prescribed burns, FFS = Florida Forest Service, PPE = Personal protective equipment  Interested Landowners that could not attend meeting.								
Landowner 11	Lafayette / Suwannee	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	No training, many burns	Flexible	N/A	No	
Landowner 12	Marion	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	Interagency Rx course, 15 burns	Depending	PPE, Driptorch	Yes	
Landowner 13	Putnam	###-###-####	Landowner@email.org	Waiting Response				
Landowner 14	Alachua	###-###-###	Landowner@email.org	Rx fire course/many small Rx burns	2-3 days notice	Hand tools	Yes	

# Invited Partners

- The Nature Conservancy / Longleaf Implementation Teams
- Florida Forest Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Alachua Conservation Trust
- St. Johns River Water Management District
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- UF IFAS / Florida Land Steward Program
- UF School of Forest Resources and Conservation
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection





# What can a PBA do for you?

- Provide locally-led support
- Reduce cost of fire management
- Reduce risk (experience, equipment, training, and technical assistance)
- Get more burning done on your land AND your neighbors' land

Frequent burning means more wildfire protection and better wildlife habitat!!





### Landowner Assistance Program

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Helping to Provide the Tools You

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