Like a doctor prepares a prescription for a patient, a prescribed fire has a science-based prescription prepared for it.

**WHAT IS IT?**

Prescribed fire is the use of fire to meet a specific objective, using a specific plan, to restore or maintain the health of a specific ecosystem. The prescription includes specific weather and fuel conditions required to carry out the fire.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The South prescribe burns more acres annually than any other region. In fact, several ecosystems of the South are dependent upon periodic fire to sustain healthy animal and plant communities.

**7 BENEFITS OF A BURN**

1. **Removing Hazardous Fuels**
   - Prescribed fire reduces or removes fuel that can fuel a wildfire, while leaving a potential wildfire’s littoral. By reducing fuel available for wildfires, fire managers can maintain fuel management policies to protect timber investment from more catastrophic wildfires.

2. **Forest Health**
   - Fire returns nutrients to the soil creating healthy landscapes with benefiting some species, reducing, and removing pests that can affect the health. Periodic fire can improve water quality by reducing acid deposition.

3. **Economic Gain**
   - Prescribed fire can aid re-vegetation of Southern pines, by creating seedbeds for proper germination. Prescribed fire also helps establish seedlings by controlling competing vegetation.

4. **Community Risk Reduction**
   - Well planned prescribed fires help protect and reduce wildfire risks to communities where wildfires pose the greatest threat to life and property.

5. **Aesthetics**
   - Prescribed fire increases the occurrence and stability of wildlife, which attract pollinators, and natural open spaces and blue skies that improve the scenic quality of a forest.

6. **Farm, Range, and Brush Management**
   - Perennial forage can be replenished by improving the availability of land and use of grazing larger while reducing needs for fertilizers.

7. **Wildlife Habitat Improvement**
   - Prescribed fire can attract wildlife and songbirds by creating plant diversity within and outside a variety of food.

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?**

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- **2.** Fire returns nutrients to the soil creating healthy landscapes.

- **3.** Prescribed fire can aid re-vegetation of Southern pines, by creating seedbeds for proper germination.

- **4.** Well planned prescribed fires help protect and reduce wildfire risks to communities.

- **5.** Prescribed fire increases the occurrence and stability of wildlife.

- **6.** Perennial forage can be replenished by improving the availability of land.

- **7.** Prescribed fire can attract wildlife and songbirds by creating plant diversity.