

Hello, my name is _____, at the University of Wyoming. On behalf of the USDA Forest Service we are conducting a voluntary survey about Florida, New Mexico, Oregon, and Texas forest fire management. The purpose of this study is to help agencies with fire protection responsibilities to evaluate public understanding of prescribed burning and mechanical fuels reduction projects and programs, and the public's willingness to pay for implementing such programs. Can you hear me okay? Are you the head of the household or over 18 years old? This survey will take a few moments of your time now, and then we will send you a survey in the mail to respond to a later date.

Before starting let me inform you that according to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information, unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid control number for this information collection is 0596-0189. The time required to complete this information collection during this phone survey is estimated to average 15 minutes per response. After this, we will mail or email you a survey, which we estimate will take you 25 minutes to respond to.

Your participation in this is completely voluntary. We want to assure you that the information collected from this survey is kept confidential. Personally identifiable information is not included in any manuscripts, reports, or presentations and there will be no direct link between any personally identifiable information and your responses.

1. Are you familiar with or have heard of the Firewise Program in Florida, New Mexico, Oregon, or Texas? (State name will depend on where survey is being conducted)

Yes No

2. Do you own or rent your place of residence?

Own Rent

2a. If Rent – Thank them and terminate interview; otherwise go to Q3.

3. Is the house you own a condo, townhouse or a mobile home?

3a. If yes to any the three choices - Thank them and terminate interview; otherwise go to Q4.

4. Have you read or heard about the use of prescribed burns or prescribed fires to manage wildfires?

Yes No

4a. If No – Read them the following definition and skip to Q5:

A prescribed fire or prescribed burn is a fire purposely and carefully set in a designated area by fire management personnel to accomplish one or more specific objectives such as removal of underbrush and dead wood to reduce available fire fuel and increase the ability to control future wildfires.

4b. If Yes - What does a prescribed burn or prescribed fire mean to you?

(Do not read list, check closest definition)

A fire set by fire officials to remove fuels in the forest to reduce the risk of wildfire and provide habitat for wild animals.

A fire set by fire officials to slow or stop the spread of wildfire by removing fuel in its path.

Other

4c. If Yes- From what sources did you hear about prescribed burns or prescribed fire (Check all that applies):

Newspaper; Radio; TV; Neighbors; School;

Other (Please Specify _____); Don't know

I would like to ask you whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:

5. All fires, regardless of their origin, should be put out as soon as possible.

Agree Disagree Don't know

6. Prescribed fire is too dangerous to be used.

Agree Disagree Don't know

7. Do you think prescribed burning or prescribed fire effectively reduces the amount of excess fuels in the forest?

Yes No Don't Know

8. Has your house or other property ever been damaged by a wildfire?

Yes No

9. Has property in your neighborhood ever been damaged by a wildfire?

Yes No Don't Know

10. Have you ever been asked to evacuate your house because of a wildfire?

Yes No

11. Have you ever evacuated your house because of a wildfire?

Yes No

Thank you for your time in answering these questions.

Would you prefer a paper or online survey questionnaire?

If paper survey questionnaire selected:

To send the booklet to you we need your name and mailing address. May I ask for your name (repeat name), street address, city, and zip code?

Look for the booklet in the mail in the next few days.

If online survey questionnaire selected:

To send you the survey electronically we need your e-mail address. May I ask for your e-mail address?

Look for the e-mail with the survey link in your inbox in the next few days.

Thank you for your time. Have a nice day.