# ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION NEWSLETTER

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ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION

COMPLIANCE MANAGER 843-228-3102

Air Quality Asbestos/Toxics 843-228-3400

Hazardous Waste 843-228-4698

Stormwater Water Quality 843-228-4293

Tank Program/Training 843-228-2611

RECYCLE MANAGER 843-228-3430

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION 843-228-3615

NATURAL RESOURCES Manager 843-228-3066

> Conservation Law Enforcement 843-228-3799

Wildlife Biologist 843- 228-2663

## **PRESCRIBED FIRE**

Did you know fire can be good for land management? After many years of fire exclusion, an ecosystem that needs periodic fire becomes unhealthy. Without fire, trees can be stressed due to overcrowding; fire-dependent species disappear; and flammable fuels build up becoming hazardous.



## What is a Prescribed Fire?

Prescribed fire is a **planned fire**; sometimes called a "controlled burn" or "prescribed burn," and is used to meet management objectives. A prescribed fire requires a set of conditions that considers the safety of the public, burn team, weather, and probability of meeting burn objectives. *Environmental Division staff are Certified Prescribed Fire Managers for MCRD Parris Island*.

### What are the benefits of prescribed fire?

- Assists with recruit training area management
- > Minimizes the spread of pests and disease
- > Removes non-native species that threaten native species in an ecosystem
- > Stimulates growth of new forage for wildlife
- > Improves habitat for threatened and endangered species
- > Recycles nutrients back into the soil
- > Promotes growth of trees, wildflowers, and other plants
- > Reduces hazardous fuels and uncontrolled wildfires

### Prescribed Fire Protocol on MCRD Parris Island:

- Examine weather conditions
- Burn areas determined based on recruit training schedule
- Approval from G4 and stakeholders
- All hands message distributed For Additional Support, Contact Natural Resources at 843-228-3066

