

PARTNERSHIPS AT WORK:

Lake Greeson Prescribed Burning Partnerships

The Arkansas State Forestry Commission and Lake Greeson Field Office Personnel combined forces to complete a prescribed burn that would have not been feasible by one agency without the other. Billy Williams, County Ranger, for the Arkansas State Forestry Commission, contacted Marty Reynolds, Corps Natural Resource Specialist, with a request to construct a fire break on Corps of Engineers property. The Forestry Commission was planning to burn 40 acres of privately owned land that joined Corps property. The 40 acre burn would require an extensive amount of fire lane construction in order to keep the fire off of Corps property, but if allowed, two short firebreaks could be constructed on Corps property which would safely contain the fire. The request also included Corps personnel burning project owned property. The Corps gladly agreed to the request and offered to have a joint burn. The Corps would face the same obstacle in fire lane construction if the Corps land could ever be burned, due to the proximity of private land.

On 24 March 2008 the prescribed burn was successfully completed. The burn included 40 acres of private land and 120 acres of adjoining Corps project land. The Arkansas State Forestry Commission submitted the Burn Plan and Smoke Management Plan and constructed firebreaks. A safety meeting was conducted prior to the burn, with all involved personnel present. County Ranger, Billy Williams, monitored weather conditions for the duration of the burn. Corps personnel burned project lands while Arkansas State Forestry Commission personnel burned the private land. Both agencies monitored firebreaks. Future joint management practices were discussed. Both agencies agreed this was a positive venture.



Pictured from left to right: Billy Williams (Arkansas Forestry Commission), Danny Crews (Arkansas Forestry Commission), Gary Lammers (Supervisory Park Ranger, Lake Greeson)

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