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Project Proposal Form

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Submission Date:

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Proposal Number:

GNWT-ENR-15-01

Champion:

Larry Nixon, ENR, 867-872-7705 (or current Manager of Fire Science for ENR)

Background:

Looking at the original ICFME plots at CBCFS and the lack of info on fires in 'old burns' and/or regen areas and realising that we have a great opportunity to collect data on some well documented plots.

Issue:

Need data on fire behaviour/susceptibility and possible treatments in regen/'old burns'.

Objective(s):

-Susceptibility of regen/'old burn' to fire in various conditions.
-Fire behaviour in such fuels
-Spotting distances, smoke generation
-effects of varying levels of residual debris on fire behaviour/susceptibility
-effects on the forest soils
-possible treatments to reduce risks around VARS.

Approach:

The CBCFS north of Ft Providence has several burn plots from the original ICFME which are now getting close to 20 years old. They have all regenerated in thick Pj with debris (standing and ground) from the original fires.

These plots can be examined to collect data on present condition. Original stand conditions should be available from the ICFME records along with the burning conditions at time of the burns.

These plots represent well documented regen/ 'old burn' sites which can be burned to collect data on fire behaviour in these fuels. Development of new fuel types may be generated as well as a better understanding of susceptibility to fire in various conditions.

Apart from full reburn of the plots, they can also be evaluated for:
- Receptivity to ignition in various weather conditions by match tests to simulate embers . These should be done over the course of a few years and at various times of day in wet to dry cdx.
-treatments to reduce the risk in areas around VARS.

This information will be valuable to ENR as our policy is to allow fire to run its natural course where possible and so have large areas of regen/ 'old burns'.