From:	Kevin Vander Maat
То:	Mason, Wendy, EMNRD
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Proposed rulemaking prescribed burn
Date:	Sunday, December 5, 2021 7:34:12 PM

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Hello,

I would like to comment on the proposed rulemaking for prescribed burn manager certification.

It is good to have rules in place for dangerous activities. I do, however see some problems. The rule will bring an additional cost to the landowner who wants to thin out his forest. This will discourage many landowners from doing anything. The cost of chipping or mastication of woody material is getting expensive. This activity, of thinning, has reduced wildfire for many areas. It has also brought up the water table and added water to the Rio Grande. This helps keep our promise to Texas. We have a required amount of water that we are supposed to send to them. If this rule goes as stated, it will cause more problems than it solves. Maybe a better solution would be to alert the local fire department when burning, advise the landowner of liability he or she has if the fire gets loose, and allow landowners more freedom to choose for the activities on their private land.

Thank you for the freedom to comment on this, Kevin