



1 **20.11.21.7 DEFINITIONS:** In addition to the definitions in Section 20.11.21.7 NMAC, the definitions in
2 20.11.1 NMAC apply unless there is a conflict between definitions, in which case the definition in ~~[this Part]~~
3 20.11.21 NMAC shall govern.

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5 ~~[F.] G.~~ **“Burn project”** means, in prescribed fires or in wildland fire use, a burn regulated by 20.11.21.15
6 NMAC ~~[regulated under this Part]~~ on an area that is contiguous and is being treated or managed for the same land
7 management objectives.

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10 **20.11.21.15 SMOKE MANAGEMENT; PRESCRIBED BURNS; WILDLAND FIRE USE; WILDFIRES**
11 **UNDER SUPPRESSION:** ~~[This section]~~ 20.11.21.15 NMAC applies to all ~~[users of]~~ persons who intend to use
12 prescribed fire ~~[that intend]~~ to burn ~~[or do burn]~~ more than 10 acres or more than 1,000 cubic feet of pile volume of
13 vegetative material per day. Specified portions of ~~[this section]~~ 20.11.21.15 NMAC also apply to the land manager
14 or owner of property on which a wildfire occurs.

15 **A. Materials allowed to be burned:** Only vegetative material shall be burned, with the following
16 exceptions:
17 (1) auxiliary fuel or incendiary devices may be used to start the burning authorized by ~~[this section]~~
18 20.11.21.15 NMAC, provided that:

- 19 (a) no oil heavier than No. 2 diesel shall be used; and
- 20 (b) no more than the minimum amount of auxiliary fuel necessary to start the fire shall be used.
- 21 (2) Polyethylene sheeting may be burned with the vegetative materials, provided that:
 - 22 (a) the sheeting has been covering piled vegetative material for at least one month prior to
23 burning; ~~[and]~~
 - 24 (b) the amount of sheeting burned is no more than the minimum necessary to cover the pile;
25 ~~[and]~~
 - 26 (c) removal of the sheeting before burning is impractical; and
 - 27 (d) the burner is able to provide evidence, such as purchase records or package labeling, that
28 establish the sheeting is polyethylene and not some other form of plastic.

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31 **20.11.21.18 ALTERNATIVES TO BURNING:** As required by Subsection C of 20.11.21.15 NMAC,
32 burners engaged in PB-II prescribed burns are required to consider the use of alternatives to burning, which include
33 department-approved alternatives, as well as those listed in ~~[this section]~~ 20.11.21.18 NMAC. An effort will be
34 made by the department to remove administrative barriers to the utilization of alternatives to burning.

35 **A. Manual/handwork** - Handwork involves picking up and moving limbs and brush, as well as
36 cutting downed and standing materials using hand tools or chainsaws. Manual work involves lifting, cutting, and
37 carrying forest materials, and is generally limited to materials of roughly nine inches or less in diameter. Larger
38 materials can be handled, but efficiency, production rate and safety decrease rapidly as size increases. If the fuels
39 requiring treatment exceed the nine-inch-diameter threshold, handwork is not a good option.

40 (1) **Cut and scatter** - Hand crews cut and scatter material to change the vertical and horizontal
41 continuity of the fuel load. This technique increases the surface fuel load by redistributing ladder fuels onto the
42 ground surface. It is appropriate where stand density is generally low and existing surface fuels are shallow.

43 (2) **Pile** - Cut material is piled, redistributing the fuel load rather than reducing it. Piling can be used
44 in denser stand conditions than ~~[can]~~ scattering can, because the piles can be situated to avoid fuel-loading problems.
45 Drawbacks to piling include: slower decomposition than when scattered, labor intensive and dense stand conditions
46 can result in a high number of piles.

47 **B. Mechanical treatments** - Employ equipment as the primary means of modifying or removing
48 fuels. Generally, treatment areas must be within one-quarter mile of a road and have slopes less than ~~[forty]~~ 40
49 percent.