DURATION

Preferably 2 weeks during July/August including trip to Kruger National Park KNP and visit to the research burn plots around Pretoriouskop. Please note this is a real "hands on" prescribed burning practical course. Fire suppression tactics and fire safety rules will be discussed and implemented where required.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Interested **fire fighters and fire managers** who have limited prescribed burning experience and wish to gain experience from skilled fire practitioners.

- Fire management **students**

LOCATION

South Africa, Mpumalanga Province, Gunyatoo (Lat 25°12'17.99"S, Long 30°40'31.26"E) Gustav Kliinbiel Nature reserve (Lat 25° 6'11.68"S, Long 30°29'8.96"E) and Kruger National Park boundary fire breaks.

COST

The actual costs per person are depending on number of participants and exchange rate. For a two-week training seminar, the approximate costs are around € 3000, for a one-week training seminar around € 2000 per person. This is excluding the international flight to Johannesburg International Airport, but includes everything else, from transport, accommodation, food, tools, training, instructors and materials. An international medical travel insurance is advisable.

CONTACT

Participants via the European Forest Risk Facility can contact **alexander.held@efi.int**
The Forest Risk Facility "Wildfire Node" participants, please address the Pau Costa Foundation **nprat@paucostafoundation.org**

Collect - Connect - Exchange

SURE

SUstaining and Enhancing REsilience of European Forests

2019
Prescribed Burning Practical Training for fire practitioners

Exchange of Experts (EoE), South Africa
Fire Management Capacity Building

EFI

with the support from
Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture

2019
Prescribed Burning Practical Training for fire practitioners

CONTENTS

1. **Orientation workshop** to discuss course contents and safety. Contributions from all participants would be welcome and included in practical training if applicable.

2. **Fire Safety and Discipline**. Discipline of fire practitioners on the fire line is necessary for, safety, fire suppression and prescribed burns.

3. Participate in and conduct **prescribed burns**, we will also do small burns in well secured area so students can each use the drip torch, hand tools and slip on fire fighting unit on actual controlled fires.

4. Burning of **traditional fire breaks**, open ended fire breaks, patch burns, perimeter burns, under canopy burning (forestry plantations) and spot ignitions.

5. Practical **burn boss training**.

6. **Hand tool use maintenance** and repair. Knapsacks, Rake Hoes, Rakes, Beaters, Bakkie sakkie, Drip Torch, Kestrel.

7. **Aerial Ignition** device and application.

8. **Fuel measurements**, grass curing, fuel moisture and soil moisture.

9. **Fire Weather**.

10. **Topography**.

11. **Firewise community assistance** if practical.

South Africa has excellent training opportunities in a variety of fuel types. Developing burn plans, preparing the burn areas and applying the plan is providing a comprehensive learning exercise.

Fire as a tool both in land management, fire prevention and nature conservation will be covered. So called “tactical fire” i.e. use fire for suppression through back-burning or burn-out operations including aerial ignition is part of the course.

The course will be presented by **Ben Potgieter**, **Bob Connolly**, **Brian Shield** and **Mike Dehrman**. Together these 4 fire practitioners have in excess of 125 years experience in fire management and are likely the most qualified prescribed burn managers in Africa.

OBJECTIVE

Expose European Fire Managers / Fire Fighters and fire ecology students to practical use of fire in theory and practice.

In cooperation with Nelson Mandela University, George Campus, Forestry Faculty.

Safety and Discipline
Any participant who endangers other participants due to ignoring instructions or safety rules could be expelled from the training and forfeit any moneys paid.