

Academic Institutions & Fire Use

Panel Discussion

Panel Participants

- Stuart Allison, Knox College, Galesburg, IL
- Nancy Braker, Carleton College, Northfield, MN
- Daniel Godwin, University of Missouri - Columbia, MO
- Jon Kellerman, Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton, WI
- Joshua Martinez, Cofrin Center for Biodiversity, UW-Green Bay, WI
- Kristen Miller UW-Stevens Point, WI

Background - School Survey

17 schools participated

- Universities
- Liberal Arts Colleges
- Technical colleges

States represented:

- Iowa
- Illinois
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Ohio
- Wisconsin

Land Ownership

- Most own land for conservation and academic purposes
- Sizes range from 40-6000 acres
- Average of 1,260 acres



Land Management

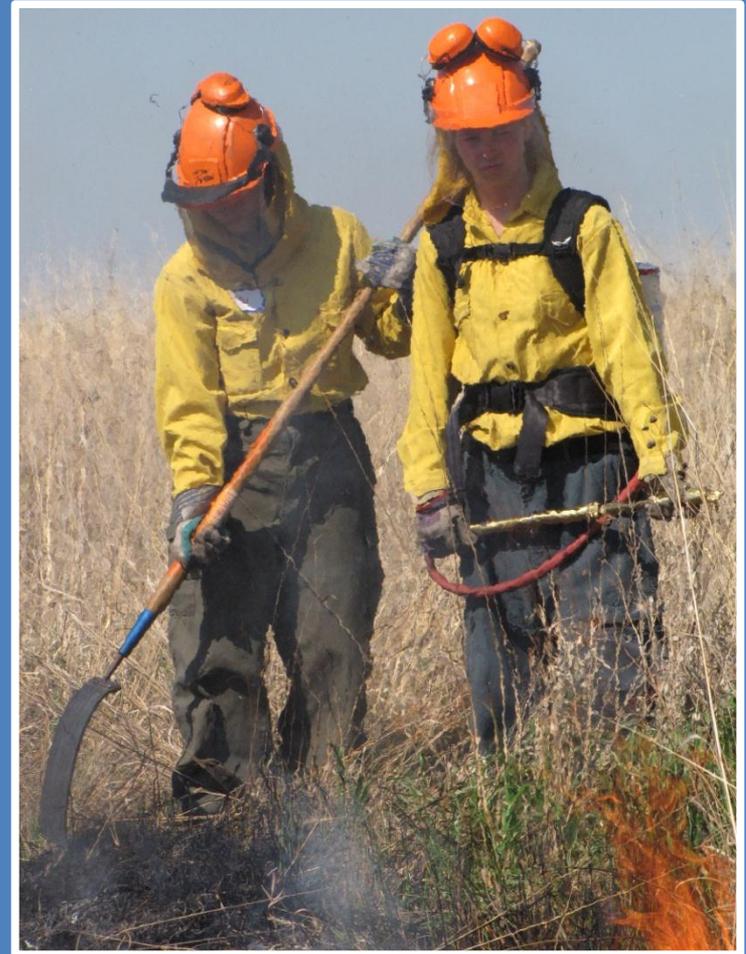
- Most schools utilize fire to manage their land
- Most implement the fire management themselves
- A few contract out or have agency assistance



Student Involvement in Fire Operations

Most of the schools include students in their fire operations including:

- Planning
- Fire break preparation
- Fuel reduction
- Implementation
- Monitoring weather or fire behavior



Training Provided to Students

- Most schools provide some training –
- Range from a few hours to NWCG courses
 - Various levels of basic and advanced NWCG courses offered



Research in Fire Adapted Systems

Most schools have faculty with fire related research interests and students have opportunities to be involved



- Fire effects on prairie and woodland ecosystems
- Effects of fire frequency on invertebrate communities
- Fire as tool to manage invasives
- Plant diversity with different fire regimes
- Use of fire in restorations of tallgrass prairie, savanna and wetlands
- Fire surrogates