Prescribed Burn Prescription

What is your objective(s)?

- CONTROL OF FIRE!
- Reduce fuels? And/or Restore forests/shrub/grasslands

What kind of fire can you control?

- **Beginner** low and slow, less than 1-foot flames
- Experienced lots of help and water less than 2-foot flames (occasional flares less than 3 feet).
- Very experienced/trained solid burn plan, lots of help and organization, and adequate water to all sides of unit- less than 4-foot flames (occasional flares less than 6 feet)

Setting a range of weather and fuel moisture = prescription

- What will meet objectives and make sure you can control
- What fire intensity/flamelength and speed/rate of spread will it cause?
- What are the conditions?
 - What fuel type, amount and height?
 - Low fuel amount and/or height higher maximum weather
 - Moderate fuel amount/or height lower maximum weather
 - Is it a hotter site
 - more sun? steeper? Exposed to wind- lower maximum weather
 - cooler
 - less sun, gentle slope or flat, sheltered from wind- higher maximum weather
- Windy don't burn!

EXAMPLE - NOT RECOMMENDED

Element	Minimum (cool)	Desired	Maximum (hot)
Temperature (F)	50	60	70
Relative Humidity (%)	50	35	25
Mid-Flame Wind Speed (mph)	<5	<3	<2
Fine Dead Fuel Moisture (%)	35	25, needles dry	15, crunchy
Probability of Ignition (%)	<1	<5	30
Live fuel moisture	high	moderate	low

^{*}Include other prescription elements as appropriate

Wind direction (acceptable range and optimal): se-sw (sw)

- Actual conditions may be any combination
 - Example in winter cool temperatures, moist fuels but dry humidity and north or east winds

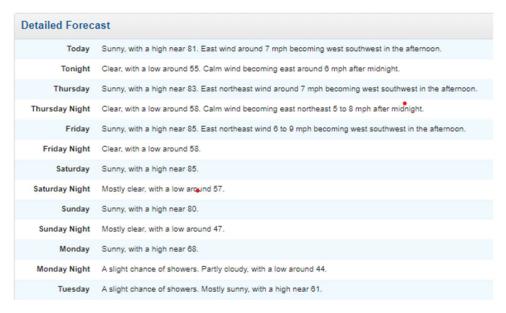
How do you know if the conditions are right?

• Walk on surface fuels—crunchy= dry

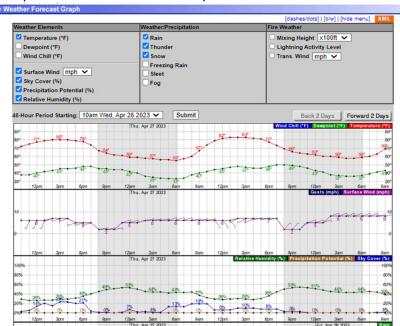
https://forecast.weather.gov/

Wunderground is a useful second site but the first is NOAA, US National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration

Look at weather predictions 2 weeks in advance



- Look at predicted hourly weather for rest of the day (will it get windier?)
- Look at predicted weather for next day



https://www.wunderground.com/forecast/us/ca/nevada-city

