Appendix H

Appendix H: 15 Year Prescribed Fire Schedule

Chart: H-1

Planned Year	Rx Block Names	Acres	Burn Season	Resource Goal	Total Acres Per Year
2005	Big Hidatsa	203	Spring	Exotics Reduction	203
2006	Knife River East	140	Spring	Exotics Reduction	140
2007					
2008	Big Hidatsa	203	Spring	Exotics Reduction	203
2009	North Forest	64	Spring	Fuel Reduction	64
2010	North Prairie Big Hidatsa Running Deer	140 203 25	Fall Fall Spring	Prairie Restoration Prairie Restoration Exotics Reduction	368
2011	Deer Exclosure Peninsula	45 215	Spring Spring	Exotics Reduction Exotics Reduction	260
2012	Knife River East	140	Spring	Exotics Reduction	140
2013					
2014	Deer Exclosure Running Deer	45 25	Spring Spring	Exotics Reduction Exotics Reduction	70
2015					
2016	North Prairie	140	Fall	Prairie Restoration	140
2017	Big Hidatsa East North Terrace	78 46	Spring Fall	Exotics Reduction Habitat Improvement	124
2018	North Forest	64	Spring	Habitat Improvement	64
2019	Big Hidatsa	203	Fall	Habitat Improvement	203

The above chart (H-1) was created to simulate the historic fire regime experienced throughout the prairie ecosystems prior to large scale agricultural land management and complete fire suppression practices. The historic fire regime dictates that large scale uncontrolled wildfires frequented the prairies on intervals ranging from 1-25 years (Pyne, et. Al.), with some accounts claiming more frequent occurrences. In an effort to reproduce the historical fire regime, burn schedules for the grasslands/shrublands were randomly generated on a 1-15 year number generator. Taking into account, moisture levels and canopy shading, burn schedules for riparian/woodland communities were randomly generated by a 1-30 year generator. Using this methodology, it is possible to approximate and reproduce the occurrence of wildland fire.

Exact depiction and duplication of the historic fire regime will not be possible due to political and resource concerns relating to moratoriums placed on prescribed burning during times of extreme drought or severe weather, conditions which typically fostered large scale wildfires.

H-1 is meant to serve as a guide for fire program managers to approximate the historic burning intervals once encountered in the Great Plains. Many factors such as habitat maintenance, exotic species reduction and fuel reductions will play a crucial role as to when and how a burn unit is ignited. At the National Park Service's discretion, burn units may be fragmented or combined or burned more or less frequently in order to accomplish certain resource management objectives (exotic species control, fuel reductions etc.)