



## Pine Barrens and Prescribed Fires



Prescribed fire is the application of fire under particular weather and fuel conditions to achieve specific resource management goals. Also called “controlled burns” these fires are needed to preserve certain forest types, such as the pine barrens on Prudence Island.

Controlled burns are conducted for several reasons: to restore or preserve fire-adapted habitats by reintroducing fire; to maximize biological diversity by creating and maintaining a landscape mosaic; to manage threatened/endangered species; to reduce fire hazards by managing fuel levels; and to conduct safe prescribed fires.



**Narragansett Bay  
Research Reserve**  
[www.nbnerr.org](http://www.nbnerr.org)

*Left:* Photo by Reserve Staff

Using fire to maintain a pine barren habitat

*Above:* Photo by Reserve Staff

Many partners made the fires a success

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