

2019
National Fire Plan
Prescribed Fire Grant Summary



TEXAS A&M
FOREST SERVICE

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2019 National Fire Plan Prescribed Fire Grant

Grant Funded Through USDA – Forest Service

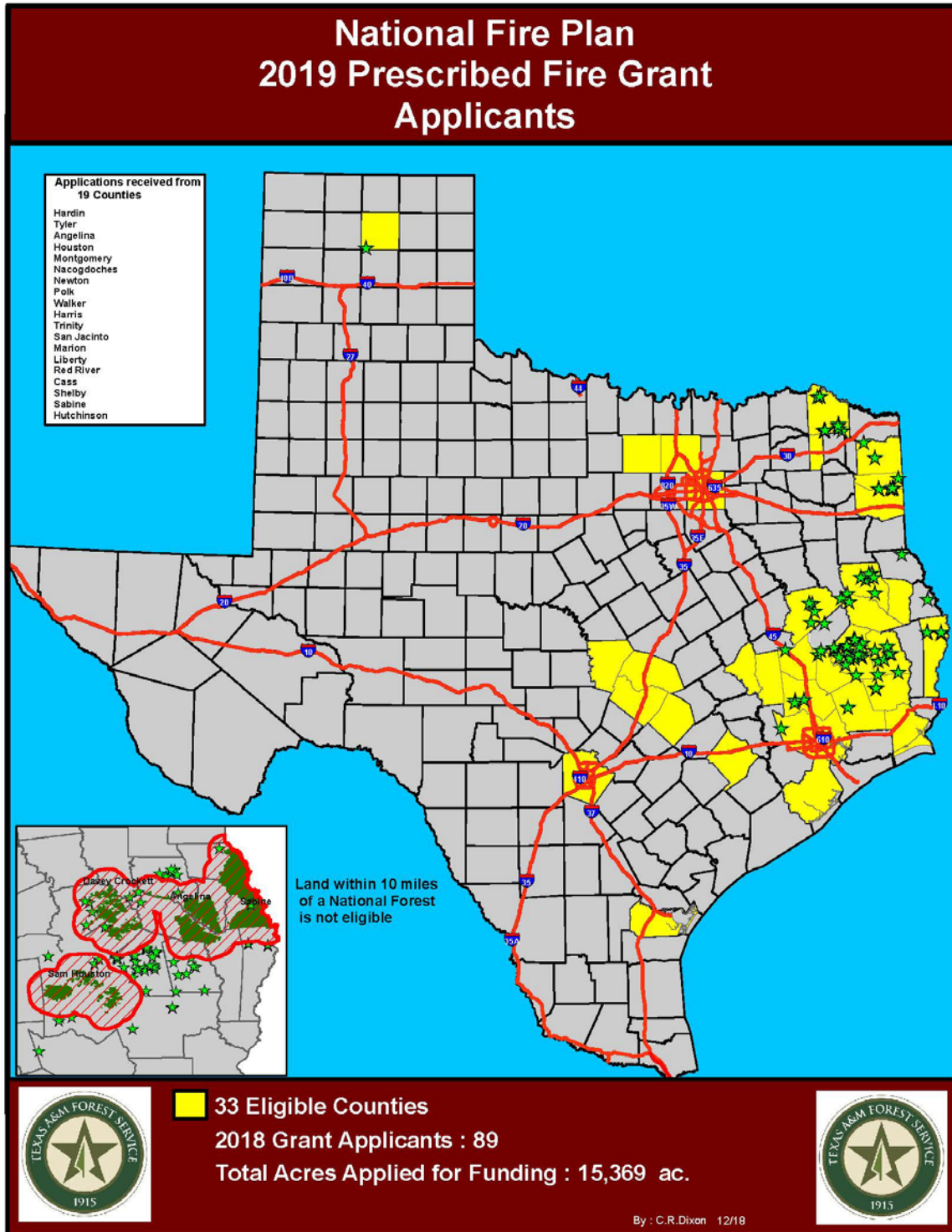
Award #17 DG-11083148-001 & #18-11083148-001, CFDA #10.664

The National Fire Plan Prescribed Fire Grant is intended to provide funding to private landowners in counties and communities that have taken steps to reduce their wildfire danger. In Texas there are 33 counties where public officials at the local level have written a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) to mitigate their wildfire risk. A CWPP requires identification of projects to reduce heavy vegetation loads and restore fire adapted landscapes that border the community. Prescribed burning is one of the most effective tools land managers have to achieve these goals. Each time there is a period of above normal rainfall, vegetation like grass and brush grow up quickly, then die out as the soil moisture decreases. The safe application of a prescribed fire can consume this fuel before it contributes to a wildfire. If these treatments are conducted within the mosaic of homes and open spaces known as the Wildland Urban Interface, they can reduce wildfire ignitions in the area and restrict the movement of a wildfire if it is moving toward the community.

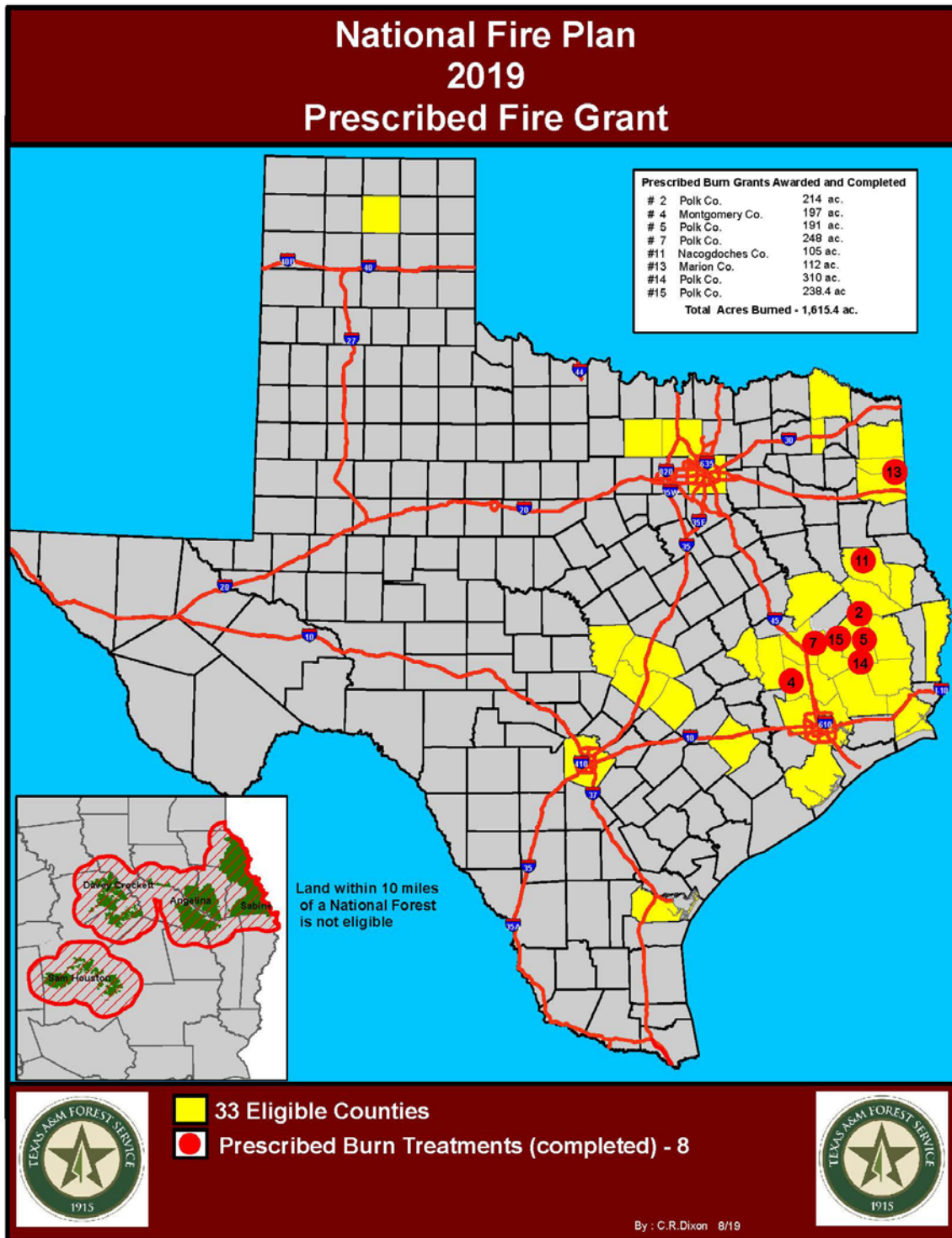
The Texas A&M Forest Service's (TFS) National Fire Plan Prescribed Fire Grant was available to private landowners in 33 counties in Texas. These counties have a CWPP in place county-wide or at one or more cities in the county. As part of the program, a ranking matrix was used to determine which prescribed burn treatments would be most effective at reducing wildfire risk to the local community. Major factors in this ranking included the use of the Texas Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal (TxWRAP) to determine the density of structures near the burn unit, proximity to a Firewise Community, and the submission of a comprehensive burn plan.



The National Fire Plan Prescribed Burn Grant opened for applications on August 21, 2018 with a deadline to apply on or before September 28, 2018. A total of **89 applications** were received. Of these, **15 applications were approved** based on the criteria in the ranking matrix. The approved landowners had until July 31st, 2019 to complete their prescribed burn treatment.



The National Fire Plan Prescribed Burn Grant accomplishments include **8 landowners** completing prescribed burn treatments for a total of **1,615.4 acres**. The grant program allowed these landowners to be reimbursed at a rate up to \$30.00 per acre, for a total of **\$48,080.00** paid through the grant funding process.



Detailed Breakdown of the Grant Program for 2019:

- 89 applications were received by TFS
- 15 prescribed burn treatment agreements were approved by TFS
- 8 of these 15 sites completed prescribed burn treatments
- 1,615.4 acres were successfully treated
- \$48,080.00 was paid to landowners for reimbursement of costs

List of Prescribed Fire Treatments Completed by County:

- Marion- 1 burn, 112 acres
- Montgomery – 1 burn, 197 acres
- Nacogdoches – 1 burn, 105 acres
- Polk – 5 burns, 1,201 acres

Contributors:

Andy McCrady
Fuels Coordinator II
Texas A&M Forest Service

Tammy Russell
Business Associate III
Texas A&M Forest Service

Bobby Dixon
Resource Specialist
Texas A&M Forest Service

Logan Scherschel
Wildland Urban Interface Specialist III
Texas A&M Forest Service

Project support provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Region, State and Private Forestry Program. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Pre and Post Treatment Photos



310 acre mixed pine hardwood stand in Polk County.



197 acre understory maintenance burn in Montgomery County.



105 acre pine plantation burned following 1st thinning operation, Nacogdoches County.