National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve
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Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve News Release

Release Date: March 25, 2014

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Prescribed Fire at the Preserve

Strong City, Kansas – Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve announced its prescribed fire season beginning now through April. Prescribed fire is a preserve management tool used to promote a healthy prairie by removal of woody and non-native vegetation. Fire promotes native plant and animal diversity and maintains an important natural and cultural landscape. Prescribed fire at

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the preserve is a partnership operation. The Nature Conservancy, the preserve's primary landowner, will work closely with neighbors to ensure safe and efficient fire operations. Learn more about fire by going to the preserve's website www.nps.gov/tapr and clicking on the Nature and Science section.

Weather conditions must be optimal before prescribed burns can occur. Due to the unpredictability of weather patterns, wind speed and direction, and relative humidity, there is usually not much advanced notice leading up to a prescribed burn. Some trails and areas may be closed during prescribed fire operations (on short notice). Visitors who are hiking or fishing may have their plans interrupted as a result of the burn activity, but this typically does not last more than a day. Historic buildings (that are currently open) and the Visitor Center will be open. Please call the rangers at 620-273-8494 for daily updates, check our website at www.nps.gov/tapr or check out the Facebook page for Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve. For safety, visitors are asked to not cross fire lines or venture beyond barricades and signs.

Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve is located two miles north of Strong City on Kansas State Highway 177 (the Flint Hills National Scenic Byway). For more information or to make group reservations, visit the preserve's website at www.nps.gov/tapr, email tapr_interpretation@nps.gov, go to our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/NPS.TallgrassPrairie or call the preserve at (620) 273-8494.

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