

WDFW Reply to Ecology on Chesaw Aspen Burn DNS

**From:** Dupont, Bryan K (DFW)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 03, 2013 3:36 PM  
**To:** Clear, Gwen (ECY); Jedel, Andrea (ECY)  
**Cc:** Olson, Jim (DFW); Guse, Ray D (DFW); Zeigler, Robert C (DFW);  
Leuschen, Tom J (DFW)  
**Subject:** Chesaw Prescribed Fire  
**Attachments:** Aspen Bowl\_SEPA\_DRG\_15Aug2013.jpg; Aspen  
Draw\_SEPA\_DRG\_15Aug2013.jpg

Gwen and Andrea

Thanks for providing comments on the Chesaw aspen burn. I have attached two maps for your review.

WDFW fire crews will be using two methods for fire line construction. Wet lining and the conventional method of mineral soil. Wet lining will be the primary method of containment, only the southern sections of line on the Aspen draw will use the conventional method of bare soil. Wet lining is using water as the barrier, in our situation we will mow the fire lines with an agricultural mower and remove all the mulch through blowing or raking. At the time of ignition, the wet line will be laid down by use of an atv sprayer and fire will be set adjacent to the wet line. This is a very low impact method of line construction and causes little if any impacts to the soil.

The conventional method that will be used on the southern line of the aspen draw as depicted on the attached project map for the Aspen Draw Unit, will only be approximately 1 foot wide and 400 feet long. Vegetation will be cleared from the line with fire hand tools, down to bare soil. Removal of vegetation from the line will be more from a scraping action, than a digging action. While this method of line construct is more invasive than wet lining, its really the only safe option, when terrain and fuel loads are taken into consideration. After the prescribed fire project is completed, the line down to mineral soil will be smoothed out and replanted with seed from native species.

Thanks again for providing comments on the burn and hopefully we have addressed your comments. If you need more clarification please let me know.

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