Question	Answer
1. Board Name	ODNR Division of Forestry
2. Point of Contact	Nathan Moffitt; nathan.moffitt@dnr.ohio.gov; 614-265-6836
3. Describe the board's primary purpose, goals and objectives, and licenses issued.	The ODNR Division of Forestry is responsible for promoting and applying sustainable management for the sustainable use and protection of Ohio's private and public forest lands. The certified prescribed fire manager certification to help reach those goals. The certified prescribed fire manager certification is granted by the Division of Forestry within the Department of Natural Resources. Certification is the primary basis for granting an individual a waiver to R.C. 1503.18 (c). Rules and requirements are located in OAC 1501:3-13. The department recognizes the equivalent national certification under the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) or from other states with substantially similar requirements. Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 2 is a NWCG recognized national standard that is recognized by wildland fire agencies. The department recognizes this as equivalent.
4. Describe the board's annual workload. How many staff are employed?	The ODNR Division of Forestry's workload in relation to occupational regulation and the issuance of prescribed fire certifications has remained stable in recent years. The division is active in many program areas, including state forest management, service forestry, urban forestry, forest health, and wildland fire management. The job types/classifications that perform these missions vary. There are currently over 200 active certifications for prescribed fire managers across the state. Annually approximately 500 individual waiver requests are submitted by these fire managers. As of June 2025, ODNR – Division of Forestry has 164 employees: 131 full-time, 1 part-time and 32 non-permanent employees. The workload to administer this prescribed fire certification program is primarily performed by 5 – 7 individuals but totals less than 0.5 FTE position.
5. How many new licenses does the board issue annually? How many renewed licenses are issued annually? How much does a new license cost? How much does a renewal cost?	25 are issued annually. 40 are renewed annually. There are no costs for initial certification or renewal. Eighty dollars ($80) is currently charged for the course that the division provides, but an interested party can obtain alternative training if it meets the requirements in OAC.
6. In the past 5 years, has there been any consideration to lower the licensure cost?	No.
7. How much revenue is procured from the licensure	No fees are charged for the exam, so there is no revenue. Approximately $1,600 is received every two years from the course

fees? What does this revenue fund?	the division provides. This revenue is primarily used for materials to support the course delivery.
8. Are there any federal regulations, or regulations required to be met outside of the existing licensure requirements that have to be complied with? Does federal law require the board to be renewed in some form?	There are no federal laws that require the state to regulate prescribed fire managers.
9. Does the board issue an examination prior to licensure? Does the board issue continuing education courses? If so, how often is continuing education necessary? If the examination or continuing education requirements are done outside the board then what determines the selection of an outside organization to host it?	30 hours of training in prescribed fire and wildland fire suppression is required, as well as ten days of experience on wildland fires. Division of Forestry administers the exam at the completion of the Ohio Prescribed Fire Manager course provided by the division. The state recognizes certifications from other states that are substantially similar based upon a curriculum review and relevant courses provided under NWCG standards.
10. How many other states regulate the occupation or occupations under the board's jurisdiction? Is a license required to engage in that occupation or those occupations in other states?	Alabama, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, Louisiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia all have similar licenses.
11. Has the operation of the board inhibited economic growth, reduced efficiency, or increased the cost of government?	No.
12. Are there any licenses that are no longer issued by the board?	No.
13. Is there anything that the board would like to see changed or implemented in regards to occupational licensing within the scope of this legislative review?	No.
14. Has the board recommended statutory changes to the general assembly that would benefit	No.

the public as opposed to the persons regulated by the board, if any, and have those recommendations and other policies been adopted and implemented?	
15. Is the preservation of the board and the board's licenses necessary to protect the public's health, safety, or welfare?	Yes. Every prescribed burn has the potential to escape and become a wildfire. Wildfires can damage property and put human life at risk. As such, requirements for training and application are necessary to prevent these outcomes.
16. Could the public be protected or served in an alternate or less restrictive manner? If applicable, please identify any licenses or functions of the board that could be eliminated or consolidated.	Given the risk to the public that is involved in prescribed fires, the division believes the current requirements are appropriate.
17. Any additional notes or comments the board believes the committee should be aware of?	This program has buy-in from key stakeholders. This includes government and non-profit land managing agencies, sister state agencies, and the Ohio Prescribed Fire Council. The Ohio Prescribed Fire Council is made up of prescribed fire practitioners and is consulted when any changes to the program are made. The department feels there are no changes currently needed.