



Darci Schofield, Islands Director
The Trustees
Island Regional Office
860 State Road
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

March 8, 2023

WEST TISBURY TOWN OF
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PO BOX 278
WEST TISBURY, MA 02575

RE: Notice to Abutters of upcoming Prescribed Burn at Long Point Wildlife Refuge and Wasque

Dear WEST TISBURY TOWN OF,

The Trustees is writing to inform you of two upcoming prescribed burns at Long Point Wildlife Refuge and one at Wasque Reservation in partnership with The Nature Conservancy. The prescribed burns will occur over a week during a burn window that includes March through the first week of May as weather conditions permit. Public safety is our primary concern the prescribed burns are led by professional consultants and licensed staff with the assistance of the Edgartown and West Tisbury Fire Departments. Over the last month, we have been creating fire breaks as an additional safety measure.

This project is funded by the MassWildlife's Habitat Management Grant Program and with assistance from MA Department of Conservation and Recreation and both the Edgartown and West Tisbury Fire Departments. The burn will help foster the growth of globally imperiled sandplain grasslands and woodlands on Martha's Vineyard as one of the best tools for managing this ecosystem for the fire-adapted species. These fires are part of a larger effort to protect, restore and expand sandplain ecosystems across their range, increase biodiversity and secure resilient lands in the face of climate change.

We thank you for your support of The Trustees' conservation work. Look for guided tours this summer to learn more. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me a dschofield@thetrustees.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Darci Schofield
Islands Portfolio Director