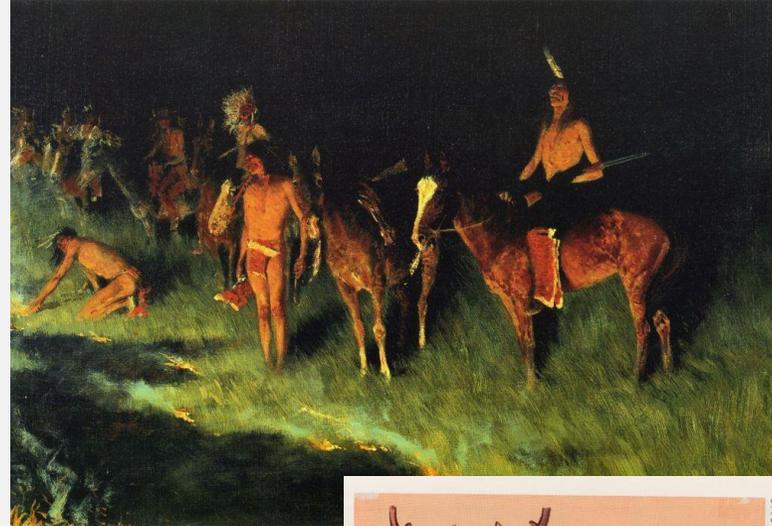


# PRESCRIBED FIRE – THE FLORIDA EXAMPLE

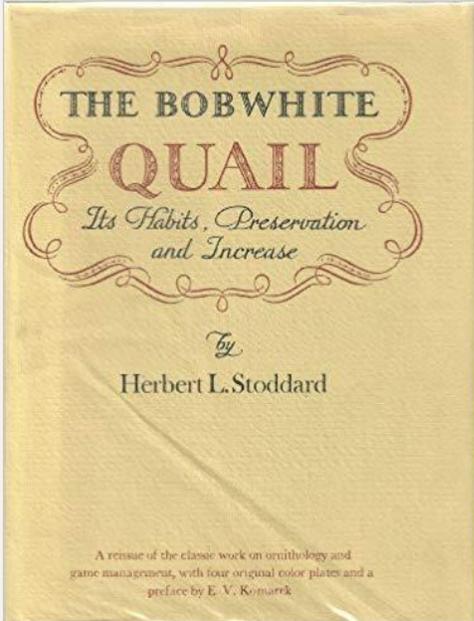


# HISTORY OF FIRE IN FLORIDA

- Pre 1600's - Low intensity fires
  - Hunting, land clearing, seed bed preparation, species propagation, etc
- 1600's to 1800's – European settler fire use
  - Similar uses to Native Americans
- 1800's to 1900 – Industrialization and Logging
  - High intensity fires
- Early 1900's to 1930/1940's – Fire Suppression



# WHEN FLORIDA DIVERGED



## Private Lands

- Late 1920's Southern plantation owners who had stopped burning noticed a decline in quail populations

## Public Lands

- 1943 fire season and mounting research lead to National Forests being given permission to use prescribed fire.



# CURRENT STATE OF FIRE

- ~2.1 million ac prescribed fire annually
  - average size ~25 ac
- Burning on Private and Public Lands
- Efficient and frequent



# HOW DID THEY DO IT?

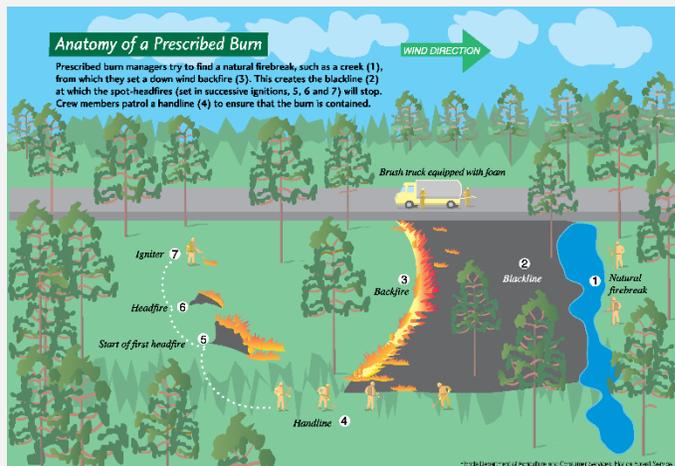


- Cultural acceptance and preservation of burning knowledge



# HOW DID THEY DO IT?

- Policy support that adapted to changing concerns
  - 1977 – Hawkins Bill
  - 1990 – Prescribed Burning Act
  - 1999 – Prescribed Burning Act Modified
    - Burning is in the public interest, not considered a nuisance.
    - Burning considered a property right when done according to law.
    - Landowner or contractor not considered liable for damage or injury unless gross negligence proven.
- Certified Prescribed Burn Manager



# WHAT FLORIDA TAUGHT ME

- Anyone can burn given the right tools and support
- Need to relearn knowledge that has been lost
- Fire is part of everyday life, get comfortable with it

