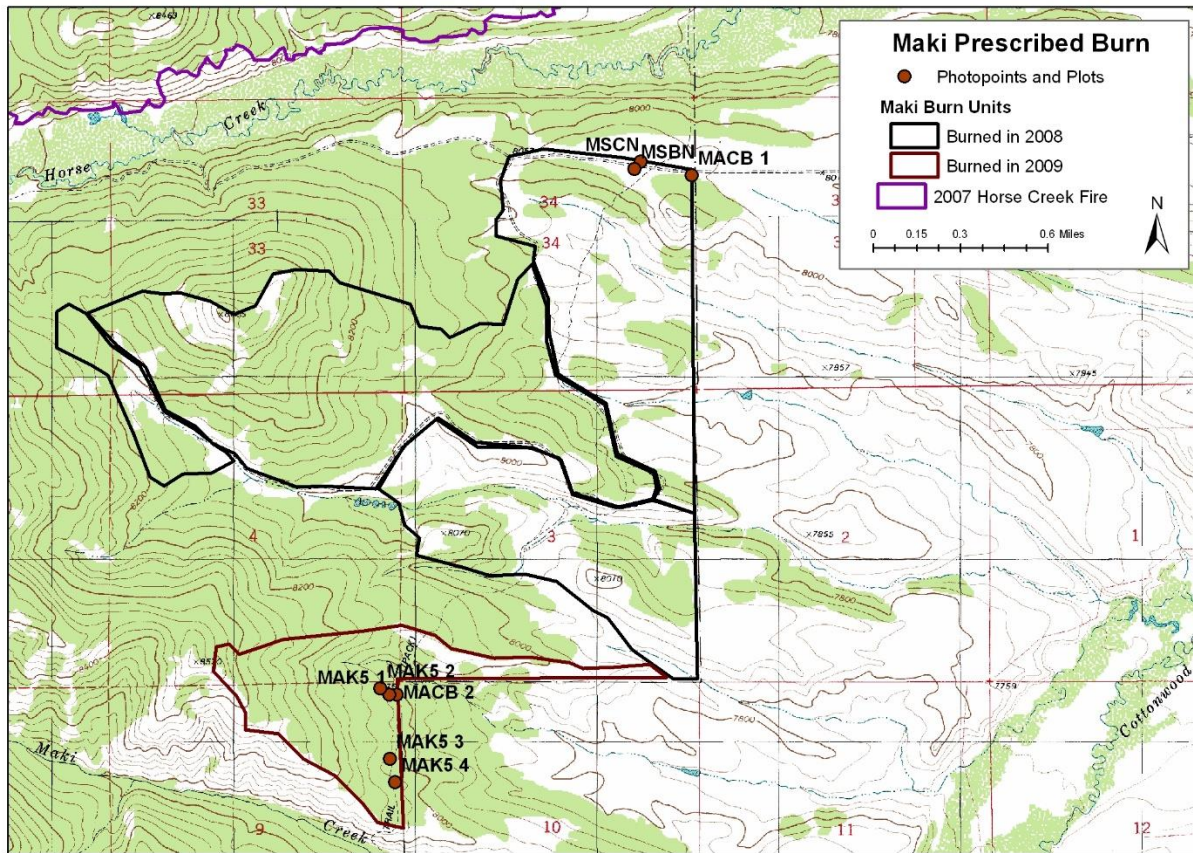


## Maki Creek Slashing and Prescribed Burn – Year 10 Post

The Maki Creek Project was a treatment to rejuvenate conifer-encroached aspen stands and adjacent sagebrush near the Jewett elk feedground on the BTNF Big Piney Ranger District. Conifers were slashed prior to burning in order to achieve desired burn severity and conifer mortality.

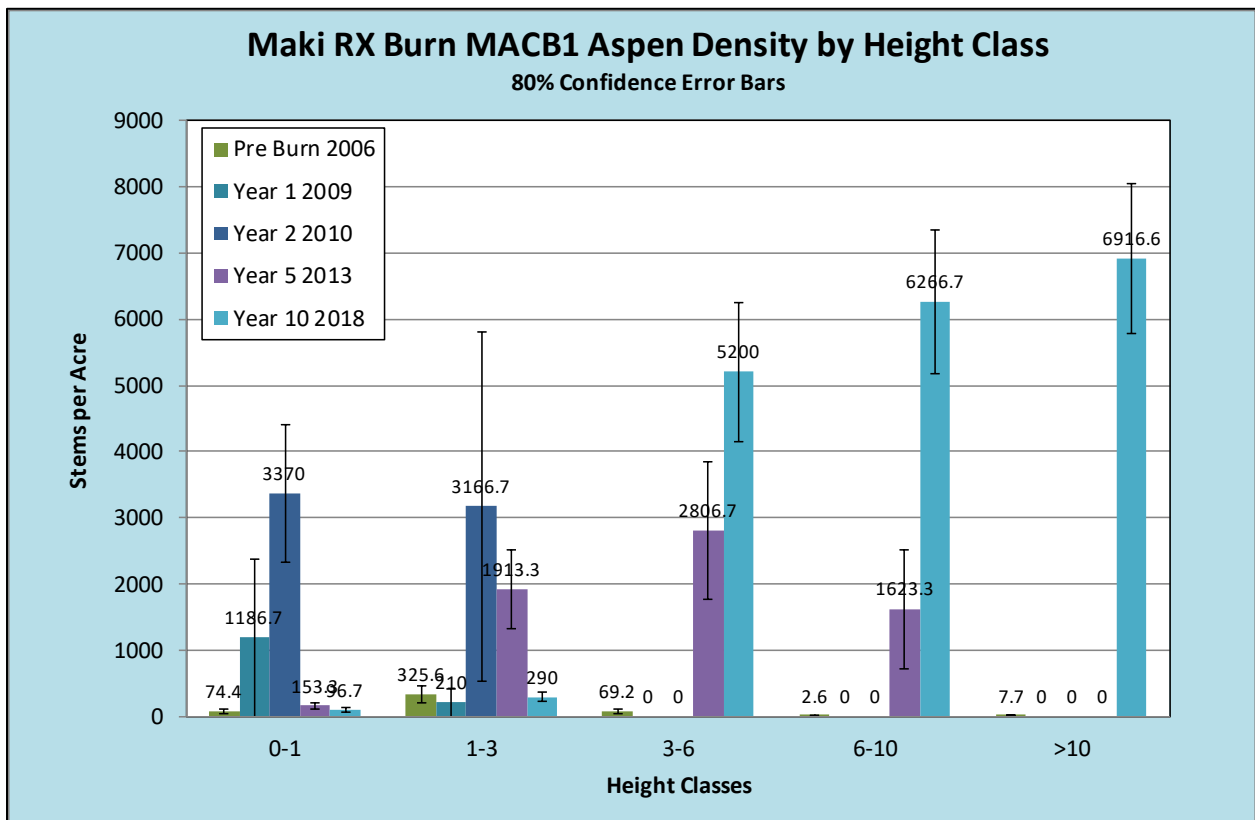
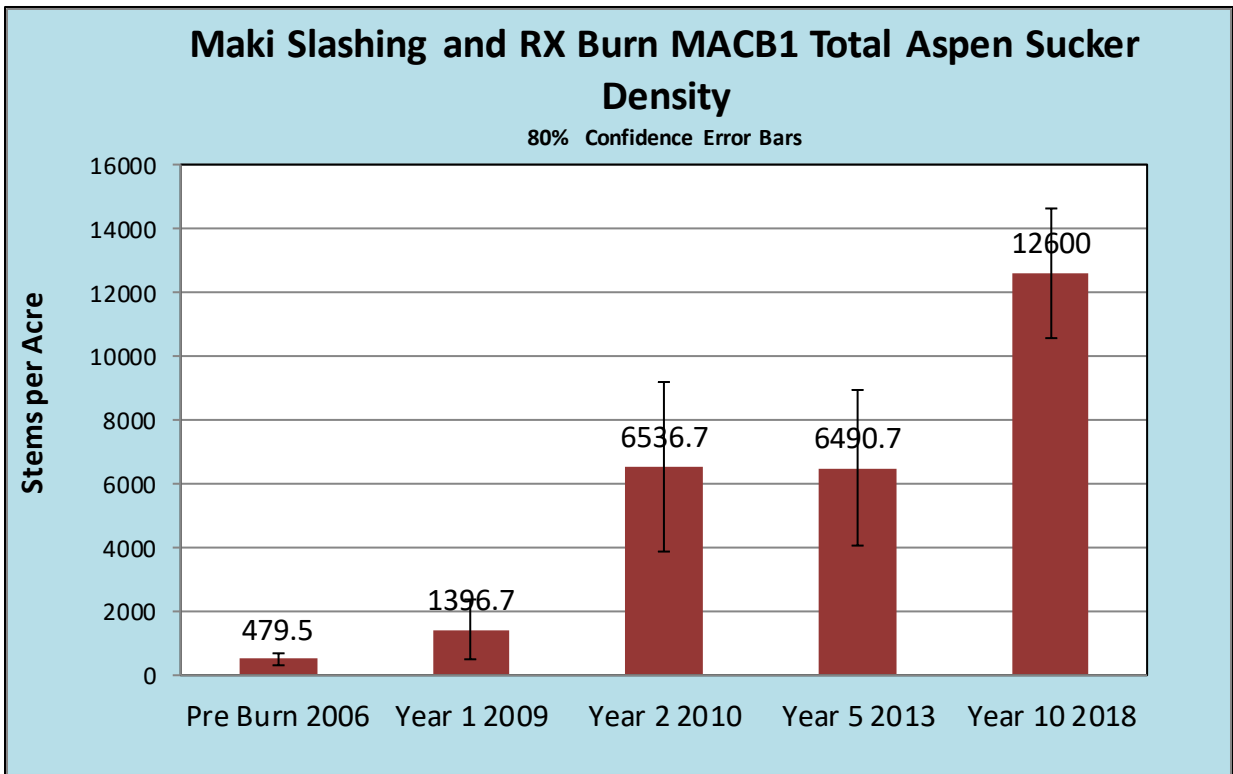


Four units (black outline) were burned in the late fall of 2008, and Unit 5 (red outline) was burned in July of 2009. These burns are located in an area heavily populated by elk, so it is important to monitor the recovery of aspen suckers. It is also located near the 2008 Horse Creek Wildfire.

### Aspen:

Aspen response was measured in the northeastern unit using nonpermanent circular plots and a photopoint (see below). Aspen objectives included killing overstory trees and conifers and burning them with sufficient severity to regenerate new suckers that survive to reach above elk browse height in 15 years with a density over 1000 stems per acre.

The burn took place in the fall of 2008 and fire effects were moderate to severe with slash consuming well. The initial aspen regrowth was patchy but locally dense (see higher variability in mean sucker estimates expressed in wide 80% confidence ranges). In 2018, the aspen sucker population has become very dense and tall, far surpassing the Year 15 Post objectives in Year 10 post burn. The Maki slash and burn has been one of the most successful prescribed burns in terms of aspen response, with results similar to those of an unplanned wildfire.

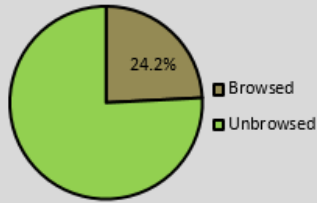


Browsing on aspen regeneration has also been quite low:

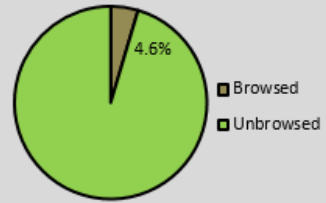
# Maki Creek RX Burn MACB-1

Browse Percentages on  
Aspen Suckers 2006-2018  
80% Confidence Error Ranges

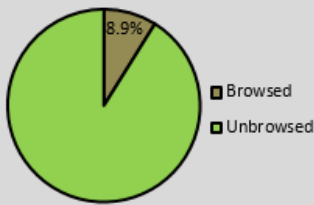
Pre Burn 2006  
24.2% +/- 6.2%  
Browsed



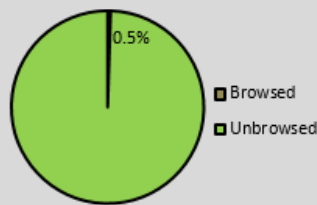
Year 1 Post 2009  
4.6% +/- 3.1%  
Browsed



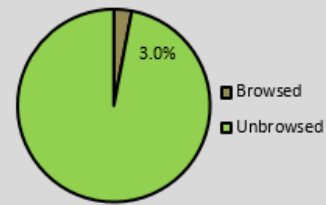
Year 2 Post 2010  
8.9% +/- 4.1%  
Browsed



Year 5 Post 2013  
0.5% +/- 0.3%  
Browsed



Year 10 Post 2018  
3.0% +/- 1.2%  
Browsed





# Maki Creek, MACB-1 @ 20m



@20 meter, Pre2006



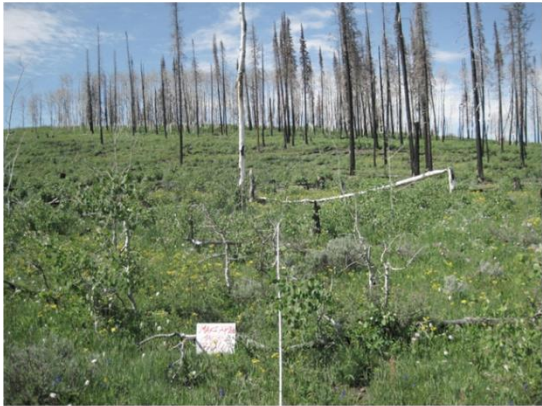
@20 meter, ImmPost2008



@20 meters, YR01 Post 2009



@20 meters, YR02 2010



@20 meter, Post2011



@20 meters, Post2013



@20 meters, Post2018



## Maki Creek Sage BFH Macroplot MSBN burn



MSBNb 2009



MSBNb 2011



MSBNb 2013



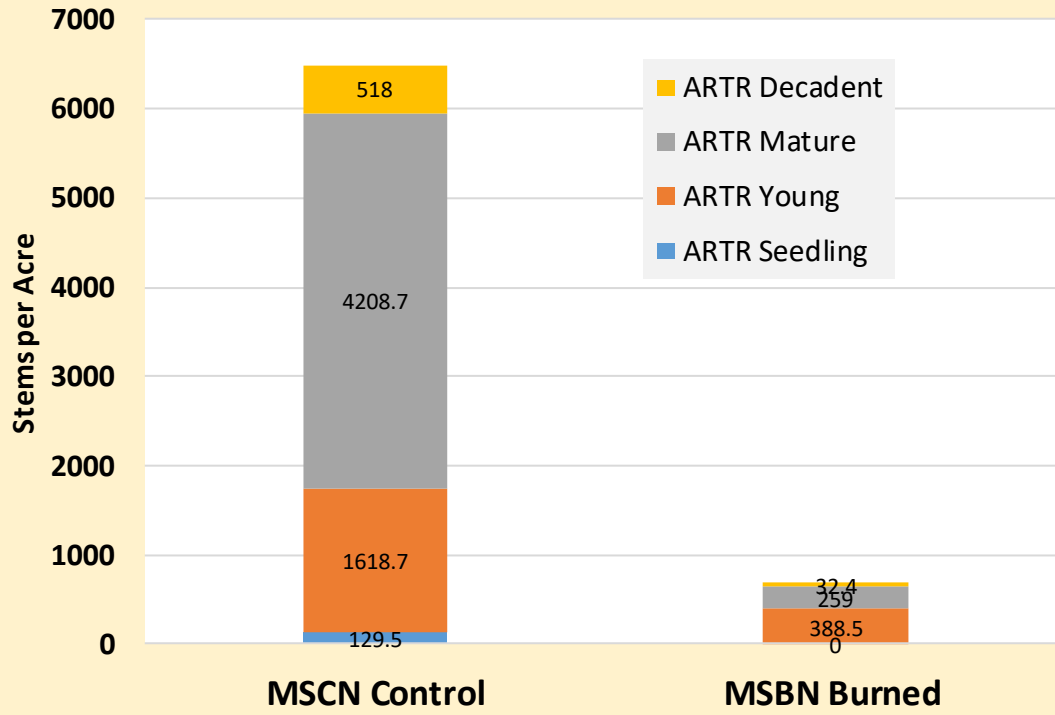
MSBNb 2018

### Sagebrush:

Sagebrush density was measured in 2018 at the BFH monitoring plots located in the northeast Maki Unit. The analysis results below are a comparison of the burned area 10 years afterward and the adjacent unburned control.

Young and mature sagebrush plants are returning to the site, with an average of 504.2 stems per acre based on the burned macroplot belt transects and 6831.1 stems per acre in the unburned plot.

### Maki RX Burn Live Sagebrush Density Year 10 Post



# Maki Creek Sage BFH Macroplot MSCN Control



MSCNb 2009



MSCNb 2011



MSCNb 2013



MSCNb 2018