**Prescribed Fires and Accidental Forest Fires**

**Members:**

**Places to Start:** page in the booklet

SUMMARY: Setting a forest on fire on purpose is an example of humans affecting the biotic and abiotic factors in an environment

called a “prescribed burn”. Why do humans do these prescribed burns?

Words to Define:

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS ON BIOTIC & ABIOTIC FACTORS – speeds up succession (why would we want this?)

HARMFUL EFFECTS ON BIOTIC & ABIOTIC FACTORS – accidental fires can leave organisms without a habitat to live in.

**Format of presentation:**

**Deforestation (cutting down forests)**

**Members:**

**Places to Start:**

SUMMARY - Trees are a valuable resource. Does Manitoba (deciduous forest and coniferous forest) cut trees to sell and make money? Yes. Do other countries? Check out the Amazon forest (tropical rainforest).

Words to Define:

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS ON BIOTIC & ABIOTIC FACTORS –

HARMFUL EFFECTS ON BIOTIC & ABIOTIC FACTORS –

**Composting**

**Members:**

**Places to Start:**

SUMMARY: Whether we are composting banana peels using worms or composting trees by chopping them into wood chips, we are making sure that the cycles of the ecosystems are healthy. The nutrients that were used to grow the banana or the tree are being returned to the soil (thanks to decomposers).

Words to Define:

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS ON BIOTIC & ABIOTIC FACTORS -

HARMFUL EFFECTS ON BIOTIC & ABIOTIC FACTORS

**Climate Change**

**Members:**

**Places to Start:** page in the booklet, p.75 text. Also see the info posted on Ms Maxwells homework online

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