

New Hampshire Prescribed Fire Council By-Laws

ARTICLE I Objectives

Section 1. The Mission of the New Hampshire Prescribed Fire Council is to promote the safe use of prescribed fire on the New Hampshire landscape by:

- Promoting public understanding of the benefits of prescribed fire.
- Promoting the development and utilization of prescribed fire practices to achieve desired environmental and ecological resource management goals.
- Anticipating prescribed fire issues and concerns and suggesting courses of action.
- Providing a framework for communication and cooperation related to prescribed fire objectives, techniques and issues.
- Disseminating technical information and training on prescribed fire and its application.
- Promoting the long term viability of prescribed fire as a management tool in New Hampshire.

ARTICLE II Participation

Section 1. The New Hampshire Prescribed Fire Council, hereafter referred to as the “Council,” is an informal coalition of Council members.

Section 2. Council members shall be any agency, agency bureau, organization, corporation, group or institution with interest and objectives that coincide with Article I. An individual from each agency/agency bureau/organization/corporation/group shall be designated to serve as a representative at Council meetings.

Section 3. The Council is currently composed of the following members:

NH Adjutant General's Department
NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources - Division of Forests and Lands
NH Fire Academy
NH Fish and Game Department
The Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests
The Nature Conservancy in New Hampshire
University of New Hampshire
University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension
USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
US Air Force 23rd Space Operations Squadron
US Forest Service – White Mountain National Forest
US Fish and Wildlife Service – North Country Fire Management

Other technical resources include:

NH Department of Environmental Services - Air Resources Division
NH Fire Academy

Section 4. In the event that a Council member must be absent from a meeting, he/she may designate an alternative representative.

ARTICLE III Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Council shall be the Chair and Vice-chair who will be members and determined by the Council.

Section 2. The term of the office for the Chair will be for one year. The term of office for the Vice-chair will be one year followed by a one year term as Chair. The one year term will be from the date that the office is assumed.

Section 3. The Chair shall preside at all meetings and see that all resolutions approved by the Council are acted upon.

Section 4. The Chair may appoint committees as needed.

Section 5. In the event that the Chair must be absent from a meeting, the Vice-chair will serve as Chair.

Section 6. The Vice-chair shall see that the minutes of each meeting are kept and that a copy is provided to each representative soon after the meeting.

ARTICLE IV Meetings

Section 1. At least one Council meeting will be held annually.

Section 2. Notices of Council meetings shall be provided to representatives prior to all such meetings. Notice of Council meetings will include a meeting agenda.

Section 3. Decisions will be reached based on consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, decisions will be reached based on a majority vote with more than 50% of the Council present.

ARTICLE V Amendments

Section 1. These By-Laws may be amended by a majority of the Council.