

Prescribed Fire Council Minutes from 12/5/13

Attendees: Bob Boyd, Bryan Nowell, Wendy, Zack, Jim, Chase, Erin, Andy, Sabrina, Tom

New Members: Meredith Lund (Fire Academy), Dave Walker, (Fish & Wildlife Service), Shawn Drake New Boston Air Station)

Meeting: Called to order @ 9:06

Council did introductions for new members.

Minutes: Members were asked to read the minutes from the 9/25/13 meeting.

Zack moved to accept the minutes, Jim O. seconded.

AGENDA:

Display materials for the Fire Trailer

- Sabrina has some grant money that needs to be spent by 12/31/13. This \$\$ can be spent on outreach or other 'fire' related materials.
- Bryan showed several different poster types that can be displayed in the trailer. There is enough room for 8 posters.
- Bryan would like each agency to send a Rx Fire poster draft by the next meeting. He also suggested that ALL of the cooperators be listed on each poster.
- Andy has some materials for the fire trailer.
- Chase said he has some information on a "success story"; the prescribed fire done in Freedom, NH.

Suggestion for getting 'fire' materials to other events

- Farm & Forest Expo
- NH Wild Days at Fish & Game in April
- Set up a display at the Fire Academy in Concord
- Get a stamp made so other fire brochures can get a "Council" stamp on them
- Fire Learning Network – Getting out info about our work here in NH
- SAF meeting - Andy is looking for information to display at their winter meeting. Andy will resend email about display suggestions needed by early January
- Andy also has some concerns about making progress on the Rx Burn Council Agendas; suggested keeping the expectations smaller so projects can be completed.

Fire Logo

- The Fire Logo will be temporary; it will change over time: Consensus of the Council was to go ahead with current design.

Interagency cooperation & training

- Need a Good email system to notify all cooperators of pack test dates and sites.
- Jim would like to see more movement as far as getting actual fire on the ground as compared to public awareness.
- Arin suggested a script or boiler plate questionnaire be sent around and filled in by each organization. When completed, they could be sent to the Council for distribution.

Planning & Reports

- *Sabrina*: There are goals for Pine River but no \$\$ to get it implemented.
- Request made that every agency fills in the fire assessment form and brings to the next meeting.

Training

- get out better information in a timely fashion
- *Zack*: will make up the questionnaire for needed *pre-season* information
 - People
 - Equipment
- *Chase*: Would like to know (*priority trainees*).
 - (Pre-season), who is working on NWCG training.
 - Who will be burning and the proposed date
 - What is the location of the burn
 - How much acreage will be burned
 - Season the burn will take place
 - How many people will be needed
 - What is the burn window for each burn
 - What equipment will be needed for the burn
 - Can multiple burns be done
 - What backup equipment is available

ALL MEMBERS WILL BRING OUR FIRE NEEDS TO NEXT MEETING!

Opportunities

- Bob Boyd spoke about the Town of Eaton and their efforts to maintain their Town Forest and existing blueberry fields.
- Town would like to work on 50 acres / broken into different areas.

AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING: 3/6/14, Meeting is at the Forest Service HQ in Campton.

1. Get priorities for burns from each agency, (plans, trainees, equipment)
2. Writing workshop: Get training together
 - a. Host a training course?
 - b. Possibly at the Fire Academy?
 - c. Do it as a seminar
 - d. Invite other States?
3. Big issues:
 - a. Is the Council aware of other BIG issues
 - b. Discuss Long Eared Bat and how burning affects them
 - c. Possible vote by Council and their stance on the “bat” issue