

AZPFC NAZ TREX Working Group meeting

1-7-14

Members present: Mark Shiery – Chair, Neil Chapman, Blair Foust , Barb Satink-Wolfson, Bruce Greco, Kevin Boness, Vic Morphin

Objective: Create prescribed fire training and learning opportunities on lands in the Northern AZ area emphasizing the appropriate use of prescribed fire to meet resource objectives, creation of partnerships to facilitate fire management across jurisdictional boundaries, and providing opportunities to enhance prescribed fire awareness.

Discussion:

1. The group determined that conducting a training exchange is worthwhile endeavor while keeping the participation and duration to a smaller group and a shorter time frame to focus on a quality initial event to ensure success.
 - a. max group size 20 participants – may break into modules depending on burn opportunities
 - b. event duration of 7-10 days – includes orientation, site visits, prescribed burning, educational opportunities
 - c. TREX timeframe – end of Sept. to early Oct. 2014

2. Organize the event under the ICS system
 - a. IC – Mark Shiery
 - b. Other C&G staff to be filled locally with potential to combine positions as need. Primarily for planning purposes, daily briefings and resource deployment to burn sites, logistical support for meals and lodging.
 - c. A coordinator(s) will be assigned to the burn module(s)
 - d. Burn unit agency will have responsibility for resources at each burn site.
 - e. Once the ICS organization is established, they will meet along with TREX Working group members to assist with overall planning

3. Participation will focus on AZPFC membership with outside participation on a limited basis.
 - a. Each agency of participant will be responsible for employee salary, equipment and travel expenses. This may include some meal expenses depending on burn location and duration.
 - b. A centralized lodging, cooking, and meeting location is being discussed with participants expected to share in the cooking and clean-up tasks.
 - c. Training and shadowing opportunities in various positions will be available to increase qualifications.

4. Burn unit sites are being discussed with various agencies. Opportunity to burn across jurisdictional boundaries will be explored to focus on cooperation and maximize effectiveness.

- a. Responsible agency will provide qualified burn boss and other leadership or request they be provided.
- b. Responsible agency will provide a burn plan for review along with a site visit prior to the burn.
- c. Participants will meet the qualification requirements of each burn unit agency or will be placed in an observation role – requirements and any forms will be sent to participants prior to arrive and documentation will be collected at initial TREX check-in.
- d. Multiple burn opportunities will be available in case burning conditions don't meet prescriptions at burn sites

5. Other educational opportunities explored:

- a. Southwest Fire Science Consortium presentation – Scientist/practitioner information exchange pathways
- b. Trends in prescribed fire presentations from local professionals/scientists
- c. Discussion on how to overcome prescribed fire challenges/obstacles

Tasks:

1. Neil/Blair – explore use of Hart Prairie preserve as lodging/staging facility and potential to burn at Hart Prairie preserve in cooperation with USFS adjacent units; check on existing TNC agreements for burning on other jurisdictions
2. Vic – research burn site opportunities with Coconino, Kaibab, and NPS agencies
3. Kevin – check on Stafford Act language for State resources to burn on federal lands
4. Mark – explore burn opportunities with City of Flagstaff, Camp Navajo and potentially a local ranch
5. Barb – provide update on potential travel grants from SWFSC
6. All – discuss with respective personnel the opportunity to fill one of the ICS Command and General Staff functions – provide names/contact info, and invite them to come to the next meeting

**Next TREX Working Group Meeting: February 4, 2014 @ 0900 in room 35 at School of Forestry Bldg.
(contact Bruce Greco 928-814-2427 or Mark Shiery 928-699-5683 if you need a Parking Pass)**