



Colorado Fire Commission

Quarterly Meeting
21 October 2024
Keystone

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Background on Workshops



- **Joint effort** between CFC and Forest Health Council
- **Six total** strategic planning workshops:
 - Four **in-person** across DFPC regions
 - Two **virtual** catch-all options
- Workshop registration survey resulted in **7 key barrier themes** for small group discussion
- Full group discussion on **legislative recommendations** (claims fund and training reciprocity) and whether to set **pile-burning targets** for non-federal lands

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Background on Workshops



7 Key barrier
themes turned
into workshop
discussion
groups



Liability



Training and
Certifications



Local Restrictions



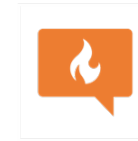
Permitting



Funding



Treatment
Coordination



Public and
Political Outreach

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee General Approach: Prioritization and Discussion



Topics Discussed at Each Workshop

“X” indicates participants discussed this topic during either of the two rounds of discussion.
“XX” indicates that all workshop participants discussed the topic during a single round.

Topic	Southwest	Northwest	Northeast	Southeast	Virtual #1	Virtual #2
	Liability	XX	X	XX	X	X
Public and political outreach	X	X	X	X		X
Treatment coordination	X	X	X			X
Permitting	X	X				
Funding						
Training and certification		X			X	X
Local restrictions	X		X	X		

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic

Most urgent and most important items listed first.



Liability



**Public and
Political
Outreach**



**Treatment
Coordination**



Permitting



**Training and
Certification**



***MOST URGENT / MOST
IMPORTANT IDEAS***

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Liability



- Establish a Colorado prescribed fire claims fund that offers coverage for certified burners, trainees, and landowners for prescribed fire on non-federal lands. (Legislative)
- Clarify definitions and coverage for existing liability coverage. (Legislative)



Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Liability



- Establish a legal framework to allow for shared or pooled insurance and liability coverage. (Legislative)
- Enable qualified agency employees (public and private) to plan and implement prescribed fire on non-federal lands. (Legislative? Administrative?)



Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Treatment Coordination



Establish an annual DFPC budget line item and funding to support expanded prescribed fire planning and implementation by and in cooperation with collaboratives, local agencies, and prescribed burn associations (PBAs). (Legislative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Treatment Coordination



Create and distribute reference resources to support and facilitate coordination of treatments, such as cross-agency agreement templates and sample burn and mitigation plans that account for participation by multiple entities. (DFPC/Administrative)



Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Treatment Coordination



**Establish a Colorado prescribed task force to support prescribed fire implementation by others and to provide rapid response to implement prescribed fire when and where opportunities and weather align.
(DFPC/Administrative)**

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Public and Political Outreach



Develop and make widely available a database and map of completed and planned prescribed fire events, as well as a living map of active and near-future events with anticipated smoke impact areas. (DFPC/Administrative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Permitting



- Establish a maximum timeframe for issuance of permits—smoke? air curtain? (Legislative)
- Establish exemptions from permitting requirements for prescribed fire burns of a certain maximum size or in locations that are within federal air quality attainment standards. (Legislative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Training and Certification



Establish a research program to identify why people do or do not burn after they have received the Colorado certified burner class. (DFPC/Admin)

IDEAS THAT ARE LESS
URGENT / LESS
IMPORTANT

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Treatment Coordination



Provide funding, a template, and a deadline for local collaboratives in each DFPC region to do a rapid assessment of opportunities for prescribed fire and create 3-year burn plans to guide coordinated treatments on non-federal lands, building on existing CWPPs where available and engaging local fire partners including fire districts, sheriffs, and county and municipal staff.
(DFPC/Administrative)



Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Treatment Coordination



Prioritize prescribed fire implementation funding for projects implemented by collaboratives, prescribed burn associations (PBAs), and cross-boundary or cross-agency efforts.
(DFPC/Administrative)



Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Treatment Coordination



Establish a multi-agency prescribed fire working group to discuss ongoing challenges to and opportunities for prescribed fire and make annual recommendations for change; include insurance entities and local elected officials to increase understanding about and engagement in prescribed fire efforts. (DFPC/Administrative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Training and Certification



Establish a Colorado cross-agency certified burn boss training that leverages the strengths and expertise of relevant State agencies to ensure that there is comprehensive training content and statewide awareness of training opportunities. (DFPC/Administrative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Training and Certification



Enable easier transfer to Colorado of prescribed fire certifications from federal agencies and from states with similarly robust training standards; streamline training recertifications for individuals who have already received Colorado training certification or inter-agency equivalent.
(DFPC/Administrative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Public and Political Outreach



Develop a living statewide prescribed fire messaging reference document for collaboratives, local agencies, and others to use and augment that provides templates, timelines, lessons learned, and recommendations for success in creating community acceptance of prescribed fire events and use overall. (DFPC/Administrative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Public and Political Outreach



Establish one or more demonstration units each year in all DFPC regions to showcase prescribed fire implementation and impact and invite local officials, collaboratives, and others to participate in events and/or visit these instructional sites. (DFPC/Administrative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Major Ideas by Topic: Permitting



- Establish science-based weather conditions, fuel standards, and allowable thresholds of “marginal conditions” for local governments to reference when making decisions on permits for prescribed fire events. (DFPC/Administrative)
- Preclude homeowner associations (HOAs) from blocking prescribed fire by a certified burn boss on private land. (Legislative)

Update: Prescribed Fire Subcommittee Rx Fire Strategy Timeline



We welcome your feedback!

What do you like about the preliminary strategies?

What questions or concerns do you have about the preliminary strategies?

Is there anything you definitely could not support?

Is there anything missing?