

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Iowa Prescribed Fire Council is:

- to promote the use of *safe and effective* prescribed fire,
- to *encourage the exchange of information, techniques, and experiences* among Iowa Prescribed Fire practitioners,
- to *increase public understanding* of the importance and benefits of prescribed fire,
- to *affect policy* thru advocacy as an organization, especially as it relates to protecting *the right to prescribe fire* on both public and private lands

GOALS

Goal 1. *Promote safety* as the highest priority

- Objective 1.1: *Establish minimum training & physical guidelines* for paid natural resource managers, including IRVM and private landowners
- Objective 1.2: *Advocate training*
- Objective 1.3: *Monitor different standards* for conducting prescribed fire
- Objective 1.4: *Address smoke management issues*
 - Incorporate smoke management as an essential component of Prescribed Fire
 - Participate in development of an Iowa Smoke Management Program
 - Assist in drafting air quality policy

Goal 2. *Increase the use of prescribed fire* on public and private land in Iowa

- Objective 2.1: *ID and eliminate the barriers that limit prescribed fire*
 - Burn bans:
 - window too narrow,
 - show how to mediate risk,
 - develop scientific method to call bans
 - Liability: Establish affordable insurance opportunities for practitioners and contractors
 - Landowner issues:
 - Coordinate local groups
 - Need incentives to do burns
 - Financial
 - environmental
 - Need education
 - Need equipment
 - Urban rules and restrictions

- WUI - Fire easements, legal issues
 - Local firefighters – education & additional resources
 - Conflicting responsibilities and rules in different agencies
- Limited equipment & personnel: work to increase funding
- Review new Prescribed Fire issues as they arise and suggest courses of action
- Objective 2.2: Coordinate different Prescribed Fire techniques with the *understanding that some private lands may be treated differently than public*
- Objective 2.3: *Encourage the sharing of Prescribed Fire expertise and resources between agencies, organizations and contract burners*
 - to increase ability to participate in multi-agency burns
 - to encourage training opportunities
 - to seek consistent policies

Goal 3. Provide a *framework for communications* in relation to prescribed fire objectives, techniques and issues

- Objective 3.1: *Support and fund the Iowa Prescribed Fire Council*
- Objective 3.2: *Disseminate technical information* about Prescribed Fire
- Objective 3.3: Promote the development and utilization of Prescribed Fire practices commensurate with *desirable environmental resource management*
- Objective 3.4: *Educate the general public* about Prescribed Fire
 - Benefits to habitat
 - Fire hazard reduction

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Goal 4. Periodically *evaluate our status and goals*

- Objective 5.1: Maintain the organizational focus