

# **New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council**

**Wagon Mound Presentation July 2015**

**Don Kearney**



# Agenda



- ❑ *State Laws and How They Pertain to RX Burning*
  - ❑ *New Mexico Smoke Requirements*
- ❑ *Basic Weather Issues Related to RX Burning*
  - ❑ *Basic Burn Plan Requirements*
- ❑ *Liability Issues and Insurance Avenues*
  - ❑ *Funding Assistance- Opportunities*
    - ❑ *Tour of private land ranch*

# Your Family Tree !

The discovery of fire, or, more precisely, the controlled use of fire was, of necessity, one of the earliest of human discoveries. Fire's purposes are multiple, some of which are to add light and heat, to cook plants and animals, to clear forests for planting, to heat-treat stone for making stone tools, to keep predator animals away, to burn clay for ceramic objects. Undeniably, there are social purposes as well: as gathering places, as beacons for those away from camp, as spaces for special activities.

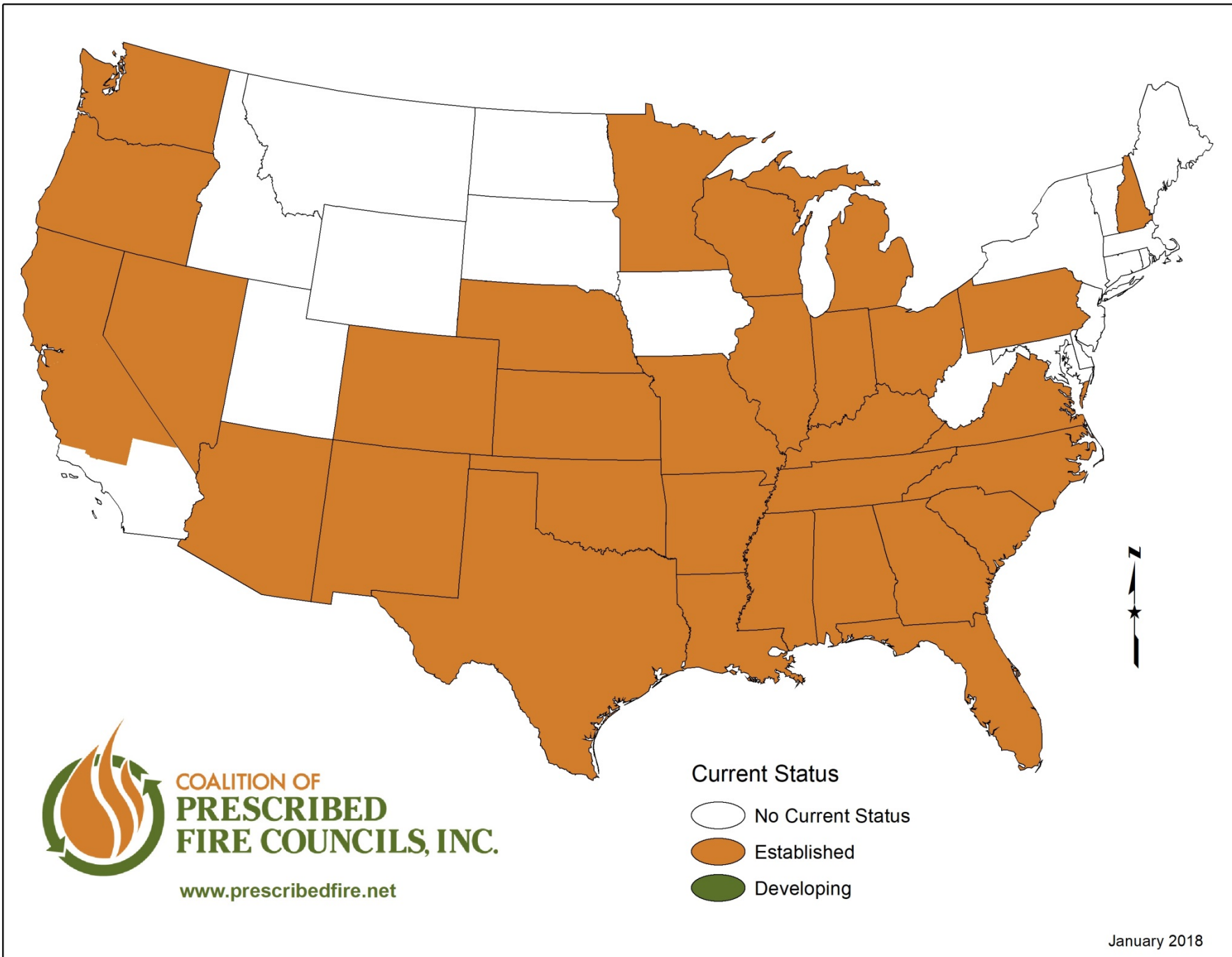




- Today's prescribed fire managers face new and increasingly complex challenges.
- Concerns about public safety and health, ecological stewardship, liability, public education, and air quality regulation are greater than any one individual, agency, or state can address.
- If the concerns and misapprehensions that generate those challenges are not responded to in a collaborative manner they might limit or threaten the use of prescribed fire as a management tool.



- To more effectively address the issues and to better meet these challenges, a diverse group of public and private leaders formed a “National Coalition of Prescribed Fire Councils” in 2007.
- In 2009, the Coalition of Prescribed Fire Councils, Inc. was formally developed into a non-profit corporation.



# NM Prescribed Fire Council Mission

“To encourage the exchange of information, techniques, and experiences among practitioners of prescribed fire in New Mexico, and to promote public understanding of the importance and benefits of safe use of prescribed fire.”



# NM Rx Fire Council Purpose:

1. Provide a framework for communications in relation to prescribed fire objectives, techniques and issues.
2. Review prescribed fire practices, regulations and policy.
3. Disseminate technical information, planning, execution, and evaluation of prescribed fire.
4. Promote the development and utilization of prescribed fire practices commensurate with desirable environmental resource management
5. Promote public understanding of the benefits of prescribed fire.
6. Promote and facilitate an increase in acres burned annually by prescribed fire in New Mexico.





# WHO CAN JOIN?

- Council members can be any agency, organization, corporation, institution, or individual with an interest in the safe use of prescribed fire in New Mexico.
- Encourage private landowner participation.



# Prescribed Burn Association



# New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council

☐ Statewide and National Perspective

## Prescribed Burn Associations

☐ Local to specific geographic area

