Meeting Agenda – Growing Season Burn Objectives and Research Needs

Background

The goal of our initiative on growing season burns is to inform conservation planning and prescribed fire programs in the TPOS region. This includes collecting and summarizing research needs.

Anticipated products/outputs from the multi-step process

1. Summarize how ecologists and land managers describe growing season burn goals and objectives in the TPOS region, which will be based on stated goals and objectives of practitioners (this will include a summary of statements from participants who oppose the use of growing season burns);
2. summarize land managers' statements about information that would be support decisions about timing of prescribed burns (outcomes including managing for diverse plant communities, wildlife habitat and populations, and ecosystem dynamics);
3. inform TPOS knowledge-sharing activities (may include research briefs, webinars, field trips, organized sessions at conferences, or other activities defined by and supported by researchers, ecologists, and land managers); and
4. inform researchers and funders about research needs and opportunities.

Progress and next steps

We have completed an initial round of information gathering through the recent questionnaire.
We are organizing a 90-minute-long, web-based conference call as the next step.

Conference call objectives
- Topic 1 - Share what we have learned so far – present a summary of how participants are using growing season burns (including site characteristics, prescribed fire objectives, and suggested information and research needs)
- Topic 2 - Review and clarify the summary through discussion with participants
- Topic 3 – Request input on the future steps in the multi-step process
- Gather input to inform next steps (see Topics 3-6 below)

Topics and Schedule for 90-minute-long web presentation and conference call

Time	Topic	Outcome	Process
20 min	1 - Results	Shared understanding of the range of responses to the questionnaire	Presentation
30 min	2 - Review responses	Peer review – was the range of desired outcomes, management objectives, and research needs was as complete as possible?	Facilitated dialogue
20 min	3 - Input on next steps	Generate ideas for future work toward longer-term outcomes (see examples below in **Notes**)	Facilitated dialogue
5 min	4- Exit Poll	Identify if/how participants would like to be involved in the future	Online poll
5 min	5 – Review next steps	Shared understanding of responses to poll	Short summary of responses
10 min	6 - Group Evaluation	Identify strengths/areas of improvement for meeting	Round robin; written evaluation

Notes:

Review responses process: suggest all participants ask open-ended, clarifying questions to improve understanding of land manager's ecological contexts, goals, and objectives.

Input on next steps: Share opinions about information-sharing formats that would be valuable aids to your decision-making process.

Next steps poll: identify which participants, if any, would like to take an active role in working on future information-sharing activities, which may include but are not limited to:
- sharing contact information to support follow-up conversations
- volunteering for a planning team for a symposium, workshop, field trip, demo burns;
- volunteer as a presenter to provide information in one of those formats; or
- volunteer to write white paper summarizing current applications and concerns.

To join the webinar and conference call:

TPOS will hold two calls in December 2016 to accommodate as many participants as possible. Please feel free to join either one, but not both. The agenda and information will be the same for each date and time.

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 9-10:30 AM Central
Wednesday, Dec. 21, 9-10:30 AM Central.

All links and phone numbers to join either meeting are available at
http://www.tposfirescience.org/growing-season-burns.

If you have not used GoToMeeting before, please run a test session to ensure your web browser and audio set up are compatible: **http://help.citrix.com/getready**