

Texas Alliance of Prescribed Burn Associations (TAPBA)

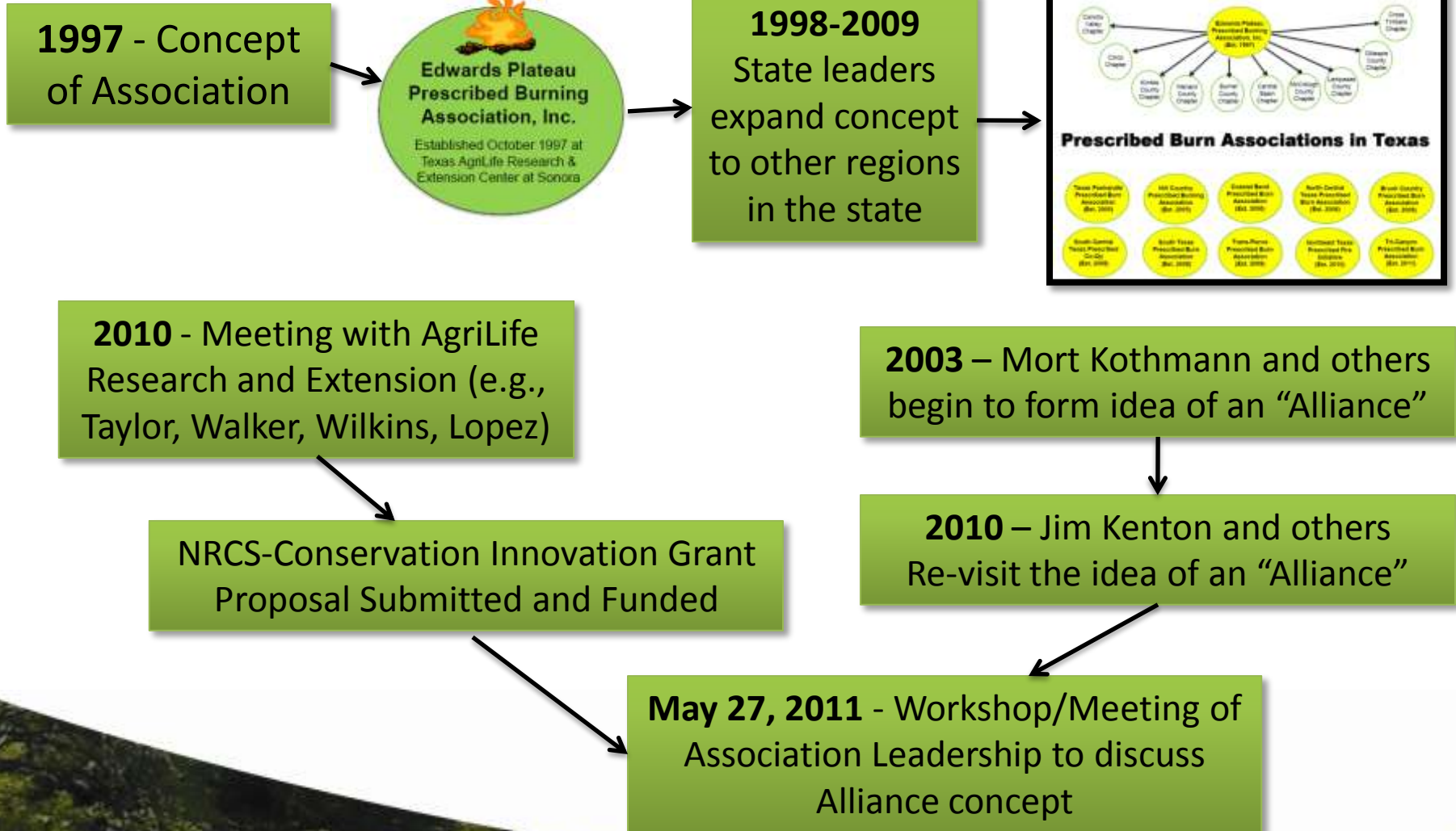
Saturday Workshop

May 28, 2011

PBA Overview

- Prescribed Burn Associations (PBA) are an effective means of promoting use of prescribed fire on private lands in Texas
- Currently, nearly 11 associations with approximately 900 members in Texas.
- Concept of an “Alliance” of associations to promote communication and cooperation has been discussed over the last several years.

“Confluence” of Interests



NRCS-Conservation Innovation Grant

- **Goal:** Increase prescribed fire use through an Alliance of burning associations, and integration of web-based technology, particularly for education and training.
- **Objectives:**
 - Facilitate the establishment of a state-wide Prescribed Fire Alliance (meeting yesterday) – initial steps.
 - Develop a web-based clearing house or “portal” for supporting Associations/communication.
 - Develop web-based training modules to support burning certification.

Presentation Outline

- Report results of yesterday's meeting with leadership of 9 of 11 associations.
- Describe the topics that were covered:
 - Do we want an Alliance?
 - Value/issues/priorities
 - Goals and objectives
 - Alliance structure
 - Roles and responsibilities
- Next steps/actions

Do we want an Alliance?

- Strong interest in forming an Alliance of PBAs.
- Several benefits of having an Alliance:
 - Single-voice of PBAs to address issues of mutual interest (e.g., insurance coverage).
 - Increased communication and sharing of common resources (e.g., education, training, experiences, etc.)
 - Improved efficiencies in delivery of prescribed burns on private lands.

Key Issues/Priorities

- Increased communication/sharing of resources for issues of mutual interest.
- Addressing insurance liabilities for PBAs via a state-wide “voice”.
- Increased education and training for Association members and target stakeholders (e.g., commissioners courts).
- Improved data collection on prescribed fire applied by PBAs.

Goals and Objectives

- Explore “umbrella” or improved insurance coverage for PBAs.
- Increase communication material for use in education and training (both internal and external).
- Facilitate the sharing of resources among PBAs.
- Mentoring of new or younger landowners.

Target Audiences

- Prescribed Burn Board
- Commissioners Court
- Natural resource agencies (e.g., TFS, NRCS)
- Volunteer Fire Departments
- Private Landowners
- General Public

Mission (Draft)

Promote and protect the right of Texas landowners to use prescribed burning as a safe, economical, and effective habitat management practice. TAPBA will facilitate communication among member prescribed burning associations (PBA) on issues of local, state and national interest.

Name of Alliance

- Texas Alliance of Prescribed Burn Associations (TAPBA).

Alliance Functions

- Type of Alliance?
- *Cooperative* is a shorter term, informal relationship for sharing information only.
- *Coordination* is a longer term effort around a project or task, with some planning and division of roles. Some resources, rewards, and risks are shared.
- *Collaborative* is a mutually beneficial and well-defined relationship entered into by two or more organizations to achieve results they are more likely to achieve together than alone. Several resources, rewards, and risks are shared.

Alliance Structure

- Two representatives from each PBA; steering committee. Leadership for Alliance – TBD.
- Workgroups:
 - Organization
 - Insurance
 - Finances
 - Education and Training
- Constitution or charter that captures the function, roles and responsibilities, structure, etc.

Communications Network

- Method of communication.
- Prescribed Fire website
 - <http://pfire.tamu.edu>

Prescribed Fire Portal

Texas Alliance of Prescribed Burning Associations



Associations

Training

Resources

Contact

Log In



“Happiness is smoke on the horizon.”

News

Events/Training

News

- 2/16/2011 [Test News Article with a Longer Title](#)
- 2/16/2011 [Another Test News Article with a long title](#)
- 2/15/2011 [Test News Article 3](#)
- 2/15/2011 [News Article 4](#)
- 2/14/2011 [Test News Article 2](#)
- 2/13/2011 [Test News Article 1](#)
- 2/10/2011 [News Article 5](#)

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Portal Framework

The Prescribed Fire Management (PFM) Portal provides convenient access to information and resources on general concepts and applications of prescribed fire management. Portal users (students, landowners, land managers, extension agents, and contractors) will be acquainted with prescribed fire best-management practices to achieve desirable land management goals.

<http://pfire.tamu.edu/>

Wrap-up and Next Steps

- Summarize Workshop Notes (in next month).
- Identify Alliance Steering Committee members (meeting in 1-2 months).
- Draft Constitution/Charter (via workgroup) for Alliance consideration (draft in 1-2 months).
- First meeting of Alliance (TBD via teleconference) in next 1-2 months.
- Launch and refine Alliance Portal.
- Support of Texas AgriLife/IRNR during transition.