

Information for CEAs about the **Prescribed Burn Alliance of Texas**

Many of you may have heard recently about the newly formed Prescribed Burn Alliance of Texas. In an attempt to keep you informed we have put together this FAQ document to answer common questions about the Alliance and Prescribed Burn Associations. Additional questions may be directed to the contacts provided below.

Internal Contacts:

Charles R. Hart, PhD
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Sonora Research Station Superintendent
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1. What is the Prescribed Burn Alliance of Texas?

The Prescribed Burn Alliance of Texas (PBAT) is a state-wide alliance formed in December 2011. The state-wide alliance concept was first discussed at a state-wide alliance workshop in May 2011 with 21 key leaders from Texas Prescribed Burn Associations (PBA) attended meeting. The official Alliance formed and officer elections were held.

The specific purpose of PBAT is to promote the common good and general welfare of the people in Texas by educating, training and practicing safe prescribed burn techniques that reduce or eliminate fuel load build-up in open spaces, thereby providing fire protection and/or prevention from wild or unexpected fires in and near these burned open spaces. In addition to improving public safety, prescribed burning is a useful tool for improving wildlife habitat and improving quality of vegetation to support native species in open spaces. PBAT will also facilitate communication among member PBAs on issues of local, state, and national interest.

2. Who were the key stakeholders in forming the Alliance?

Texas Forest Service –Tom Boggus, Rich Gray, Bill Oats and Tom Spencer

Texas Dept. of Agriculture-Prescribed Burn Board – Representatives from 8 State Agencies and 5 Commissioner appointed positions; includes Texas AgriLife Extension (Charles Hart) and Research (Butch Taylor)

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department –David Sierra, Glen Gillman, Jay Whiteside, Jason Hardin, Rusty Woods, and Linda Campbell

USDA-NRCS –Kent Ferguson, Jeff Goodwin and Susan Baggett.

Texas Grazing Lands Conservation Initiative – Matt Kraus and Rooter Brite

Recent prescribed fire video produced by GLCI:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/USDANRCSTexas>

Texas A&M Institute of Renewable Natural Resources- Roel Lopez, Maria Gutierrez, Amy Hays and Brian Hays

3. What is a Prescribed Burn Association?

Prescribed burning associations (PBA) are organized landowner cooperatives that are user owned, controlled and operated. Burn associations empower and equip landowners by providing education, experience, political clout and equipment among contributing members to increase the application and safety of prescribed fire as a management tool. A prescribed burning association can significantly reduce risks through increased experience, knowledge and available resources. Experience has shown that locally run burn associations are more efficient in accomplishing prescribed burns because they can organize the required labor and support quickly within the often narrow window of desired weather conditions.

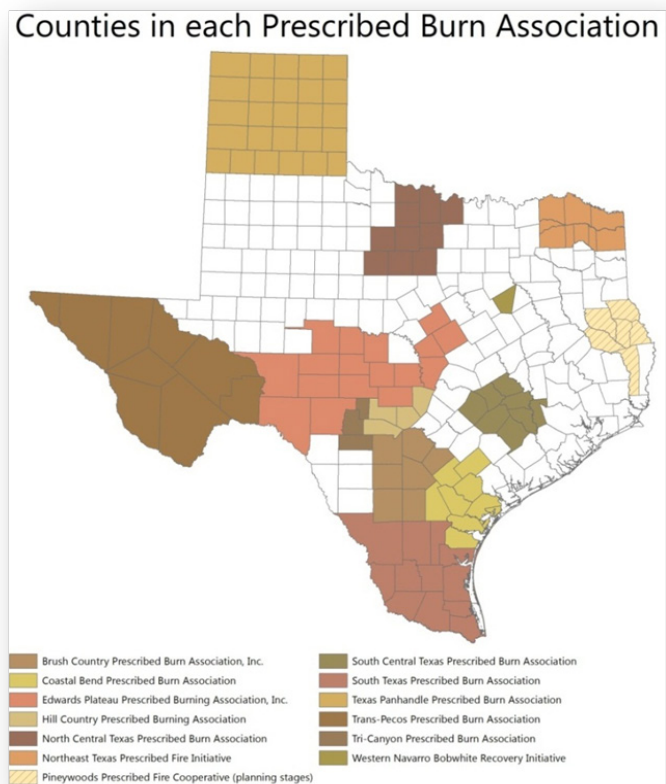
For more information download this brochure:

www.tpwd.state.tx.us/publications/pwdpubs/media/pwd_br_w7000_1019.pdf

4. How can I find out if there is one for my County?

Visit <http://pfire.tamu.edu> , click on “Associations” link at top of page.

There are currently 13 Prescribed Burn Associations in Texas with almost half the counties in Texas included in an association. Included here is a general map of PBAs in Texas, available on the web site. Also on the website is a contact for each Prescribed Burn Association.



5. How can I find out more information about the PBAT?

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

Current PBAT Officers:

Office	Name	Burn Association	Email	Phone
President	Larry Joe Doherty	South Central Texas	ljdlaw@texasbb.com	(979) 289-9078
Vice President	Jim Kenton	Edwards Plateau	jimkenton@hotmail.com	(254) 386-3591
Secretary	Dave Redden	South Central Texas	dredden00@gmail.com	(979) 218-0493
Treasurer	Stan Graff	Northeast Texas	graffboomer@aol.com	(214) 951-7434

Office Address

Texas A&M Institute of Natural Resources

2632 Broadway, Suite 301 South

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6. What are the laws related to Burn Bans and Prescribed Burning in Texas?

The laws governing prescribed burning in Texas are complex. For an overview document, click on the link below to download a pdf document (Outdoor Burning in Texas) provided by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

http://www.tceq.texas.gov/publications/rg/rg-049.html/at_download/file

Also all rules listed in the Natural Resources Code (§153.001 - § 153.104; Prescribed burning), and Local Government Code (§ 352.081 Local Government Code) should be read and understood.

Distributed with this document is a summary of fire related rules, statutes and laws in Texas as compiled by Brandon Belt, Coryell County Attorney.

County Extension Agents can get more information on prescribed burning, Texas AgriLife Extension Service policy on prescribed burning and these documents at the web site below:

<http://essmextension.tamu.edu/agents>