

APPENDIX A

Mountain Counties Air Basin Smoke Management Alliance Charter

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CHARTER

1/14/00

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Mountain Counties Air Basin Smoke Management Alliance is established and maintained to provide coordination and uniformity in smoke management efforts in the Mountain Counties Air Basin (MCAB), recognizing the need for and role of fire in ecosystems management and fuel reduction while protecting the public health.

GOALS

- Minimize smoke impacts on smoke sensitive areas.

- Consistency and predictability:
 - Smoke Management Plan (SMP) forms.
 - Rules related to Title 17 Smoke Management Guidance.
 - Post-burn smoke management evaluation forms.
 - Permit conditions and application process.
 - Requesting 48-72 forecasts.
 - Ignition decisions.
 - Fees to recover district program costs.
 - Burn coordination procedures for determining timing and placement of burns.
 - Monitoring/surveillance of smoke.

- Communication, coordination, and cooperation:
 - Annual pre-season notification of upcoming projects.
 - Annual mid-season update of projects.
 - Post-season/post-burn smoke management evaluations, as needed.
 - Cooperation of burn project public notifications and cross jurisdictional notifications.
 - Burn authorization and burn project coordination procedures.
 - Complaint coordination.

- Development of tiered requirements based on potential for smoke impacts:
 - Information required in SMPs.
 - SMP review and inspections.
 - Cost recovery/fees.

MEMBERSHIP

- MCAB Air Districts
- State, federal, and private land managers (hereinafter, “land managers”) that conduct prescribed burns on lands within the MCAB.
- Interested parties: Neighboring jurisdictions with potential smoke impacts from burn projects conducted within the MCAB, and state and federal oversight agencies are welcome

to attend meeting to communicate concerns and share information, but will not be “voting” members.

MEETING FREQUENCY

Bi-annual (twice per year):

- January meeting: This meeting will have the primary purpose of providing each land manager’s annual pre-season notification of planned upcoming burn projects, Maps and big-picture information are requested.
- June (toward the end of the month): This meeting will have the primary purpose of providing each land manager’s update on completed and planned burn projects.

Note: Additional agenda items, as determined by the membership, will be included, with subject matter generally within the intent of the goals listed above.

MEETING HOST

The meeting host will alternate between the MCAB Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Chairman and a designated land manager member. The meeting host is responsible for developing the agenda (with membership input), distributing the agenda, making arrangements for meeting place, distributing the meeting minutes from the prior meeting with the agenda, chairing the meeting they host, and coordinating the completion of minutes for the meeting.

- January meeting: MCAB Technical Advisory Committee Chairman.
- June meeting: Land manager (rotation).

COMMUNICATION

The current MCAB TAC Chair will be the point of contact for the air districts. The land manager membership will designate a point of contact (initially Christie Neill). E-mail will be used to the greatest extent feasible to reduce communication costs. The points of contact will maintain and coordinate membership/interested party lists with mailing addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses. Lists will be updated at least annually. Points of contact will be responsible for communicating with their respective membership.