

CHARTER
COLOR COUNTRY FUELS COMMITTEE

I. PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES AND AUTHORITY

The purpose of the Color Country Fuels Committee (CCFC) is to serve as an interagency forum for identifying and resolving wildland/urban interface, hazardous fuels and vegetation management issues which directly impact firefighter and public safety and effective management of the Color Country's ecosystems in accordance with the National Fire Plan, the National Cohesive Strategy, and local land management plan objectives.

The CCFC represents all timbered and range ecosystems within the Color Country area and strives toward the following objectives:

1. Assess issues encountered on the Federal and State administered lands related to managing fuels and vegetation in support of local communities and land management objectives.
2. Recommend fuels treatment opportunities to Interagency Fire Managers based on long range submissions (5 year fuels plans).
3. Maintain a network to encourage technology and information transfer between land management units.
4. Provide feedback through the Interagency Fire Managers to ensure consistency in developing or recommending fuels/vegetation management procedure, techniques, direction or policy in support of ecosystem management.
5. Provide ongoing assessment of the implementation of the Federal Wildland Fire Policy and National Fire Plan.
6. Provide input on selection, recommendation of projects, and status of interagency focus areas and communities at risk throughout the Color Country and provide coordination with Utah Interagency Fuels and Urban Interface Committee.
7. Assist in coordination of personnel needs, training opportunities, and equipment for wildland fire use and prescribed fire activities.
8. Coordinate, assess and be proactive in smoke management throughout Color Country and adjoining areas. Coordinates submission of annual burn schedule and map for CC annually. Monitors the effectiveness of Utah Smoke Management Plan and makes recommendations for improvements.

The CCFC operates under the authority from the Color Country Fire Management Board and the Color Country annual operating plan (CCAOP). This charter is approved annually as part of the CCAOP.

II. COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:

The CCFC is made up of representatives from the following ecoregions: Southern Utah and Northern Arizona. The CCFC reports to the Fire Management Board which functions as the liaison between CCFC and other resource managers.

The CCFC includes members with the following responsibilities:

Chairperson: The Chairperson is responsible for distributing information to Unit Representatives through the CCFC network and acts as the liaison with the CC Fire Management Board and Utah Interagency Fuels and Urban Interface Committee. The Chairperson is responsible for scheduling meetings, developing meeting agendas, facilitating meetings and developing required correspondence to meet the CCFC objectives. Meeting notes and pertinent CCFC correspondence are maintained by the Chairperson as historic documentation to be passed on to the next Chair.

Vice-Chair: The Vice-Chair serves to support the Chairperson in developing agendas and facilitating CCFC meetings, attending other group meetings where CCFC representation is required, and assists with other duties critical to meeting CCFC objectives. The Vice-Chair serves as an essential back-up to the Chairperson, and assumes direct leadership in the absence of the Chair.

Representatives: Land managers representatives are key to the success of CCFC. They provide the critical link between the committee and the field-level fuels/fire/vegetation managers. One Representative shall be assigned to represent their zone in the Color Country, with the option of a representative from each Unit attending. When the designated representative cannot attend a meeting, an alternate will be provided to represent their unit.

Representatives can be from any level within the organization but are expected to speak for their zone on CCFC issues. The zone Representative is expected to communicate with other interested parties within their zone about fuels/fire/vegetation management issues and must be willing to become actively involved with one or more CCFC task groups to help in meeting committee objectives. Involvement includes soliciting assistance from others on his/her zone to assist with task group assignments. The Representative is responsible for disseminating information back to the Fire Management Board and to field personnel within their zone.

Appendix C

In addition, the following are advisors to the CCFC:

Fire Management Board Representative: One or more representatives from the Fire Management Board shall be assigned to attend CCFC meetings as an advisor and liaison designated as a back-up to attend in the absence of the primary Fire Management Board representative.

Task Group: When needed Task Groups will be identified and selected by the CCFC. A Chairperson will be assigned to each Task Group and members will be determined by the CCFC and the Chairperson. These Task Groups are formed as needed, and membership on the CCFC Fuels Oversight Committee is not a requirement. Rather, participation by personnel not on the Committee is encouraged.

III. COMMITTEE TENURE

Chairperson - serves a one year term.

Vice-Chair - serves as Vice-Chair for one year, and assumes the role of Chairperson the following year when a new Vice-Chair is elected.

Representatives – serves a minimum term of two years. No maximum term with rotation left to discretion of the zone.

Fire Management Board Representative - rotation left to discretion of the Fire Management Board.

IV. MEETING STRUCTURE/FREQUENCY

The CCFC holds full committee meetings a minimum of two (2) times per year. The committee's planning year begins with the Fall meeting, followed by a spring meeting.

The yearly Program of Work is defined at the fall meeting. New issues are introduced at that time and any uncompleted issues are redefined as necessary and carried over into the next year's program.

Elections for a new Vice-Chair are conducted at the fall meeting which is organized and facilitated by the incoming Chairperson (previous Vice-Chair) with assistance from the outgoing Chair.

To facilitate travel and reduce costs for the majority of committee members, meetings will be held in Cedar City (or another equally centralized location) except when a Host zone field meeting is planned (see below). Hosts are responsible for supplying a facilitator and note taker for each meeting.

Appendix C

Host Concept

One meeting per year may be organized under the Host zone Concept. Under this concept, the committee will travel to a Host zone to observe fuels and vegetation management projects, issues, or concerns in the field.

The objective of these field meetings is to educate the committee on the wide range of vegetation types and issues found within Color Country to enable CCFC to better meet the needs of the field-level fuels/vegetation management specialist.

The Host zone will be responsible for planning the field trip, and arranging meeting room/lodging. Local training centers or zone facilities should be utilized whenever possible to minimize travel costs.

Local Fire Management Board's line officers and resource specialist should be encouraged to attend these meetings.