



## Northeast-Midwest Regional Prescribed Fire Council Coordinating Group (NE-MW RPFCCG)

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### *Virtual Networking Forum*

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022  
2:00 to 3:30 PM EASTERN / 1:00 – 2:30 PM CENTRAL**

*The mission of the NE-MW RPFCCG is to coordinate and advocate on behalf of the NE-MW Prescribed Fire Councils, state fire management organizations, and other partners to identify opportunities and issues affecting communities and develop solutions to pressing issues that impede putting more prescribed fire on the landscape.*

### Agenda

Topic	Presenter	Time allotted (min)
Introduction	<b>Jonathan Stober</b> , USFS, Chair of NE-MW RPFCCG	5
Legislating the right to burn: An overview of prescribed burning statutes and regulations	<b>Carissa Wonkka*</b> , Attorney and Research Ecologist, USDA ARS Northern Plains Agricultural Research Lab	45
Q&A session	All	40
TOTAL TIME (min)		90

***Here is the Zoom Meeting Room for the Forum on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> – NO registration is required.***

**Northeast-Midwest Regional Prescribed Fire Council Coordinating Group Zoom Meeting Room**

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/94738970595?pwd=VFRjTnZBdlRpZVI1b0RDZkVYOEgyZz09>

**Meeting ID: 947 3897 0595**

**Password: 972712**

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+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 947 3897 0595

Password: 972712

Find your local number: <https://osu.zoom.us/u/afbjIQos>

## Presenter Bio

**\*Carissa Wonkka** is a research ecologist with the USDA ARS Northern Plains Agricultural Research Lab in Sidney, Montana, focused on developing ecological-based restoration strategies that improve the resilience and invasion resistance of native plant communities. Her current research focuses on understanding the role of fire and grazing in restoration and management of native rangelands. Prior to joining the ARS, Carissa completed a JD in environmental and land-use law from Suffolk University in Boston, MA, a masters and PhD in ecosystem science and management from Texas A&M and a postdoctoral appointment in rangeland ecology at the University of Nebraska. She has used her background in legal scholarship to bridge gaps between ecology and policy, often focusing research on identifying social barriers to effective land management. She has and continues to research legal and regulatory impediments and incentives to prescribed burning for private landowners.

**NOTE:** The session will be recorded and posted on the NE RSC website at [www.northeasternwildfire.net](http://www.northeasternwildfire.net)

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