Burning from the Bottom Up:
How UCANR is bringing fire back to the people

Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Area Fire Advisor
Humboldt/Trinity/Mendocino/Siskiyou counties
Many California landscapes are not only fire-adapted—they’re also human-adapted.
Fire problem #1: fire exclusion
Fire problem #2: Losing the human connection to fire
CAL FIRE private lands prescribed fire acres, 1981-2015

Historical private lands burning (widespread)

Current private lands burning (almost non-existent)
Agencies can’t do it on their own
Cooperative burning!
Learning from other places: the prescribed burn association model
Bringing the PBA model to Humboldt County

Hunt Burn, 6/29/2017

- Goals: provide training and reduce invasive grass cover (medusahead)
- 18 acres, 25 volunteers, 2 VFD engines
Bringing the PBA model to Humboldt County

Mazeppa Burn, 10/31/2017

• Goals: provide training and restore coastal rangelands (reduce Baccharis cover)
• 140 acres, 23 volunteers, 6 fire departments
Bringing the PBA model to Humboldt County

Chalk Mt. Burn, 12/14/2017
• Goals: provide training and maintain oak woodland restoration area
• 20 acres, 12 volunteers, 1 VFD engine
This is great, but what about all the barriers?

- Liability and insurance
- Permits and regulations
- Public opinion
- Narrow burn windows
- Funding
Call me – let’s work together!

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Upcoming workshops:
Mt. Shasta, April 23-24
Blodgett, May 14-15
Sierra Foothills REC, May 16-17
Ukiah, May 31