

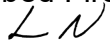
Memorandum

To: All CAL FIRE employees and
non-CAL FIRE Beneficial Fire Practitioners

Date: 01/14/2026

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From: Len Nielson, Staff Chief of Prescribed Fire
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Subject: Revision of CAL FIRE's Prescribed Fire Guidebook

CAL FIRE is pleased to announce that our internal **Prescribed Fire Guidebook** is being updated. The intention is to make this a more robust public resource for broad use by beneficial fire practitioners, regardless of affiliation .

As part of our commitment to Governor's Executive Order N-35-25 ([link](#)), we are revising this guidebook to better support all beneficial fire practitioners across California. While the guidebook was originally designed for CAL FIRE employees and CAL FIRE internal projects, it has been publicly available as a good resource to assist in developing non-CAL FIRE beneficial fire projects. Sharing the guidebook is intended to foster collaboration and collective expertise in beneficial fire management.

Primary Objectives of the Guidebook

- Fuel Reduction: Using fire at a landscape scale to significantly decrease wildfire risk.
- Ecological Health: Improving California's ecosystem resilience and safeguarding natural resources.
- Public Safety: Protecting lives and property through proactive, science-based fire management.

Looking Forward

The existing version provides a comprehensive look at the implementation and management of prescribed fire (Rx fire) activities. The upcoming revisions will broaden this scope, ensuring the guidance aligns with modern beneficial fire practices and state climate goals. The revised version will include publicly available resources to assist in beneficial fire management and project development.

Questions or concerns about the content should be directed to Staff Chief, Len Nielson (Len.Nielson@fire.ca.gov).