

CLOSING REMARKS

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I do apologize for going over a little bit, but we had a lot of information to get out there. And I think we were able to rush through most of it, but I do appreciate all the councils being here. I appreciate Tall Timbers' willingness to host us and have us as part of this conference. I hope that it was informative.

I want to leave you with two challenges, and these are going to prescribed fire councils. One, I hope that when you go back home and you will look at your neighboring states, and if you have a state that does not have a council, that it will become a priority for you in your council to work toward getting other councils established. I think today was a good demonstration of how much work is being done by councils in the region and across the country. I can envision that if we had 50 councils representing all the states, then a lot of the things that we're working on together will just kind of go away and become a nonissue. So I think it's important to reach out to your neighboring states.

The other thing is to provide us feedback as to where you would like to see the coalition go from here. I had hoped that we would have a little bit of time to discuss this question today, but we are out of time. I'll stick around. I can't speak

for Jim [Erickson] and for Dan [Smith] and for Keville [Larson], but we have four board members here, and we're interested in learning from councils about how we're going to work together. What's going to be the best format? Is it going to be this type of format? Do we need to go to the annual meetings or steering committee meetings or have regional meetings? What is the best platform? How do we need to interact together, and what are the issues, and what do we want to accomplish? So I'm interested in learning anything that I can from you, the councils. If we don't do that today, I challenge you to go back and talk among yourselves and give us some recommendations. With that, are there any other final comments or thoughts or questions?

Meeting adjourned. Thank you so much.

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