

FLN Networker No. 157: April 30, 2014

The FLN Networker is a publication of the Fire Learning Network—a partnership of the USDA Forest Service, Department of the Interior (BIA, BLM, National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service) and The Nature Conservancy—intended to foster communication within the network and among its friends. Submit comments, links and subscription requests to Liz Rank.

For more about the FLN, visit www.conservationgateway.org/fln or contact Lynn Decker.

News from the Field

California: Frank Lake (franklake@fs.fed.us) spoke last week as part of the **Smithsonian's A Cultural Planet** [lecture](#) series. His talk explored relationships between people and their environment as viewed through **scientific and American Indian cultural perspectives**, and included discussion of work in the **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership**. The slides and audio of the presentation should be posted soon.

Tomorrow, Frank will contribute to the **Forest Service Chief's Review** as part of a **panel** on "Landscape and Strategic Planning—Incorporating Indigenous Knowledge in Strategic Planning."

California: About 35 people—from numerous federal, state and local agencies, universities and NGOs as well as local landowners—attended last week's **fire science field tour** of **Redwood National Park** sponsored by the **California Fire Science Consortium**, **Northern California Prescribed Fire Council** and the park. Among the areas they visited was the site of the October 24 Eastside burn, conducted during last fall's prescribed fire training exchange. Some pictures from the event (including the "epic" lupine bloom) are on the [Council's Facebook page](#).

California: The **Klamath Fire Ecology Symposium** held in the middle of the month in Orleans drew **81 participants** for a fruitful three days of networking and exchange of information. For details, including **discussion highlights** and a list of presentation, see the attached *Notes from the Field*.

Georgia: Partners in the recently-established **Georgia Blue Ridge landscape** of the **SBR FLN** gathered for a **second workshop** on April 24. Nineteen participants hammered out **over-arching goals** for the landscape, chose **focal projects** for demonstrations and monitoring, and discussed means for **communicating with the public**. The team will report in detail at the May regional FLN workshop, and plans to hold its next landscape meeting around October. For more information, contact co-chairs **Malcolm Hodges** (mhodges@tnc.org) or **Jim Wentworth** (jwentworth@fs.fed.us).

Nebraska: There's been **more media coverage** of the spring **prescribed fire training exchanges**, with the [article](#) "Lighting—and Fighting—Fires Focus of Training Exchanges," appearing in the *Lincoln Journal Star* (Sunday circulation, about 85,000). This steady stream of getting-the-word out didn't just happen because fire is cool—it took a **dedicated media team** to plan, host reporters, provide information, respond to queries and generally shepherd things along. For more information, contact **Guy Duffner** (gduffner@tnc.org).

North Carolina: Partners in the **South Mountains landscape** of the **SBR FLN** recently completed a **1,200 acre prescribed burn**—details of that burn, as well as work in the **Central Escarpment landscape** are in the attached *Notes from the Field*.

Virginia: A slightly revised version of the **Central Appalachians FLN's Controlled Burning** [brochure](#) is now available on the Conservation Gateway.

Washington: One last *Notes from the Field* attached to this issue reports on the March **conference** of the **Washington Prescribed Fire Council**, which drew more than **40 participants from 21 agencies** and organizations from across the state (and from neighboring Oregon).

May 3: National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

Communities across the nation will be celebrating the **first National Wildfire Preparedness Day** on Saturday, with a variety of **work projects and informational activities**. Check the [NFPA website](#) for a variety of resources, as well as an **interactive map** (which can be used to find an event near you, or post your own).

Reese Lolley (rlolley@tnc.org) is quoted in an [article](#) in the *Yakima Herald* about the day's events being planned for the community of Nile.

Funding: Wood to Energy

Wood to Energy: The **Forest Service** is requesting proposals for two separate programs intended to **expand wood use in support of forest management**—the Statewide Wood Energy Teams cooperative agreement and Hazardous Fuel Wood to Energy grant. The [joint announcement](#) contains details on both, including information about a **pre-application webinar on May 1**. Application deadlines are **May 20** and **June 3**, respectively.

Reports & Resources: Local Risk Response / Rx Fire in Hardwoods

Local Risk Response: **Headwaters Economics** has completed a [report](#) on local community response to the **risk of wildfire**, based on **case studies of eight western communities**. In short, “communities are doing little to respond to dangers from future wildfires—compared to what they would need to do to enhance public safety and reduce future suppression costs.” Their website has both a quick summary of **lessons and policy implications**, as well as a link to the full report. The **case studies include three** communities that are part of the **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network**: Flagstaff (AZ), La Plata County (CO) and Santa Fe (NM).

Rx Fire in Hardwoods: The [pamphlet](#) *Prescribed Fire in Upland Hardwood Forests*, produced by the **Southern Research Station**, is a brief **synthesis of important research findings** along with a list of sources. It covers topics including fuels, wildlife, hardwood timber quality, ecosystem restoration and oak regeneration and may be of interest to land managers using prescribed fire for hazardous fuels reduction, wildlife habitat improvement, promoting oak regeneration or forest restoration.

Articles: Treatments, Landforms & Severity / Fire Ecology

Treatments, Landforms & Severity: The authors of the [article](#) “Fuel Treatments and Landform Modify Landscape Patterns of Burn Severity in an Extreme Fire Event,” found, in an analysis of the Tripod Complex Fires (Washington), that “fuel treatments that included **recent prescribed burning** of surface fuels were **particularly effective at mitigating burn severity**. Although surface and canopy fuel treatments are unlikely to substantially reduce the area burned ... this study suggests that they can be an effective management strategy for increasing forest landscape resilience to wildfires.”

Fire Ecology: A [new issue](#) of *Fire Ecology* is available this week. Articles include “Northern Rockies Pyrogeography: An Example of **Fire Atlas Utility**” (**Penny Morgan et al.**) and “Intercomparison of Fire Size, Fuel Loading, Fuel Consumption, and **Smoke Emissions** Estimates on the 2006 Tripod Fire, Washington, USA,” among others.

Just for Fun: Kids' Firewise Contest

Contest: Artists **6 to 18 years old** are [invited to submit](#) drawings or photos of **original artwork** on the theme “Wildfire Preparedness: Living Compatibly with Nature” for publication in **NFPA's 2015 Firewise calendar**. Submissions are due by **June 2**.

Jobs: Longleaf Restoration / Forest Reference Crew / Rx-Fuels Technician / Resource Conservation & Development Council

Longleaf Restoration: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is hiring a **longleaf restoration specialist**. For details, visit the [Virginia jobs site](#) and search for position 00419; applications are due by **April 30**.

Forest reference Crew: The Nature Conservancy's Oregon chapter is hiring a **seasonal forest reference crew leader** and **crew member** to collect data on historic forests of the Applegate and Illinois valleys in the southwestern part of the state (overlapping the **Rogue Basin FLN** landscape). For details, visit <https://careers.nature.org/> and search on key words "forest reference"; applications are due by **May 7**.

Rx-Fuels Technician: The BLM (Eugene District, Oregon) is conducting outreach for a **prescribed fire / fuels technician** GS-0462-6/7 (**seasonal**). Minimum qualification is ICT4 and either ENGB, CRWB or FIRB. For more information, contact **Eric Johnson** (ejohnson@blm.gov or (541) 683-6484).

Resource Conservation & Development Council: The **South Central Washington Resource Conservation & Development Council**—one of the hub organizations in the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network—is hiring for **two positions**: an **executive director** and a **project manager**. Position announcements for both are attached; applications are due by **May 15**.

Webinars

May 6
new listing

Understanding Fire Refugia and Their Importance to Conservation in the Rocky Mountains of the U.S. and Canada

9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern

In this webinar, Sandra Haire will introduce the concept of fire refugia and describe the multi-scale study design she and colleagues are employing to provide a [framework for quantifying fire refugia](#) and fire environments.

Information & registration: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/962923126>

May 7

Predicting Local Smoke Dispersion During Low-Intensity Wildland Fires in Forested Environments

noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern

This webinar, presented by Warren Heilman, is based on a JFSP-supported study focused on evaluating and adapting existing modeling systems for predicting the meteorological and air quality impacts of low-intensity wildland fires in forested environments.

Information & registration: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/463246376>

May 15

Remote Fire Monitoring

7:00 Pacific / 8:00 Mountain / 9:00 Central / 10:00 Eastern

In this webinar of the Cherokee NF Landscape Restoration Initiative, **Rob Klein** (regional fire ecologist, National Park Service) will discuss tools being used in the Smokies and explain the efforts to learn more about how best to put them to use. **Marek Smith** (Allegheny Highlands program director, The Nature Conservancy—VA) will share his FLN experiences with the tools on the George Washington NF. FLN members and partners are invited to join the webinar.

Log in: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=m8dad8817a781538ba837365ed5fe30c>

June 23
new listing

FLN Monitoring Analysis

noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern

In this webinar **Peter Bates** will share some results from analysis of monitoring conducted on FLN plots across the **Southern Blue Ridge FLN**.

Add to calendar: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=mb27b4ff99dfa7a4a30eed3e76d69a224>

Log in: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=m9719fcc51db36e5b7fe0ef1a5a079c67>

FLN Workshops

April 28-30

Western Klamath Mountains / Happy Camp, CA

In the sixth workshop in their Open Standards series, network participants will focus on implementation planning and monitoring for adaptive management

Information: **Mary Huffman** (mhuffman@tnc.org)

May 13

Parashant Partnership / St. George, UT

Partners will also meet by phone conference on June 3.

Information: **Eli Lauren-Bernstein** (eli.bernstein@nau.edu)

May 20-22
deadline

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Cashiers, NC

Register by **May 1** to reserve a space at this workshop, themed “Managing Lands with Multiple Objectives: How does Fire Fit in?”

Information: <http://sbrflnworkshop9.weebly.com/> or contact **Helen Mohr** (helen@cafms.org)

June 2-5
new listing

Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network / Colorado Springs, CO

Representatives from the 18 pilot communities will meet to exchange learning with each other, and with FLN leaders, who will be convening during the latter part of the week.

Information: **Michelle Medley-Daniel** (info@wrtc.org)

June 4-6
new listing

FLN Network Leaders / Colorado Springs, CO

Information: **Lynn Decker** (ldecker@tnc.org)

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

May 24-June 4
deadline

Yurok Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Weitchpec, CA

The Yurok Tribe will be hosting this FLN training exchange to develop the Tribe’s capacity to safely and effectively reintroduce fire onto the local landscape while providing participants with experience and training in conducting controlled burns. The Cultural Burn Council of the Yurok Tribe is leading the development of the agenda, with a focus on burning for cultural objectives and community protection. Tribal members and forestry employees, local contractors, federal and state firefighters, volunteer firefighters from the community, county/regional regulators, university students, NGO staff and volunteers—from the area, and beyond—are invited to take part. Applications are due by **May 5**.

Information: see the attached flyer and registration form

Sept 23-Oct 4

Arizona Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ

The Arizona Prescribed Fire Council will host this training exchange. The 20 participants will stay at The Nature Conservancy's Hart Prairie Preserve and conduct controlled burns on federal, state and private lands. Applications are due by **July 11**.

Information: <http://azprescribedfirecouncil.org/event/prescribed-fire-training-exchange/>

Conferences & Workshops

May 16-17

5th Northwest Regional Fire Safe Conference / Mt. Shasta, CA

The theme of this California Fire Safe Council conference is "Maintenance of Fuelbreaks, Shaded Fuelbreaks, and Related Fuel Reduction in the WUI." In addition to numerous presentations and a field trip, on Friday evening, there will be a screening of the video "**Catching Fire**," produced by partners in the **Western Klamath Mountains FLN**.

Information: <http://www.cafiresafecouncil.org/5th-northwest-regional-fire-safe-conference/>

May 19-21
new listing

Climate-Smart Conservation / Tucson, AZ

This class, hosted by the Desert Landscape Conservation Cooperative and Southwest Climate Science Center, is based on a forthcoming guide to the principles and practice of Climate-Smart Conservation. This publication is the product of an expert workgroup on climate change adaptation convened by the National Wildlife Federation in collaboration with the US FWS and other partners.

Information: <http://training.fws.gov/nctcweb/catalog/CourseDetail.aspx?CourseCodeLong=FWS-ALC3195>

May 19-23

Large Wildland Fires: Social, Political & Ecological Effects / Missoula, MT

This conference will be co-hosted by the Association for Fire Ecology and the International Association of Wildland Fire.

Information: <http://largefireconference.org/>

September 16-18

State-and-Transition Simulation Modeling Conference / Ft. Collins, CO

Co-sponsored by the USGS, TNC and Apex Resource Management Solutions, the event includes an optional one-day training on ST-Sim software and two days of presentations on a range of topics.

Information: www.stsm2014.org

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is out May 2.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in the office.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in Ely, MN May 5-7.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Happy Camp/Orleans, CA April 27-May 1.

Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is in the office.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in Happy Camp/Orleans, CA April 27-May 1.

Liz Rank (Networker Editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is in the office.

To stop receiving the FLN Networker, please reply to this message and include your request in the body of the message.

Full Links

News from the Field—NE TREX article: http://journalstar.com/sports/local/outdoors/lighting-and-fighting-fires-focus-of-training-exchanges/article_40fc0723-c9ab-51d3-915e-d9cdbc581f22.html

News from the Field—VA brochure: <https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/ControlledBurnBrochure.aspx>

May 3—NFPA website: <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/national-wildfire-community-preparedness-day>

Yakima Herald: <http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/latestlocalnews/2126579-8/nile-community-hoping-to-get-out-in-front>

Funding--Wood to energy: http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2014-08778_PI.pdf

Reports & Resources—Local risk response: <http://headwaterseconomics.org/wildfire/western-case-studies>

Reports & Resources—Rx in hardwoods pamphlet: http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/products/marketing/cards/prescribed_fire.pdf

Articles—Treatments, landforms & severity: <http://www.esajournals.org/doi/abs/10.1890/13-0343.1>

Articles—*Fire Ecology*: <http://fireecology.org/issue/?journal=29>

Just for Fun—Contest: <http://firewise.org/Firewise-Calendar-Contest.aspx?sso=0>

Jobs—Longleaf restoration: https://jobs.agencies.virginia.gov/applicants/jsp/shared/Welcome_css.jsp

The Fire Learning Network is supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency through Collaboration: Landscapes, Learning and Restoration*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

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Fire Learning Network Notes from the Field

Klamath Fire Ecology Symposium Orleans, California

April 15-17, 2014

The **Klamath Fire Ecology Symposium** takes place every three years in the small mountain town of Orleans, the heart of one of the most complex fire environments in the country, if not the world. It brings together scientists, managers, area residents, tribes and the conservation community to address restoring historic fire regimes in the Klamath Mountains in a manner that protects life and property, improves forest health and enhances resources. These symposia facilitate constructive dialogue on emerging themes in fire ecology and management in the Klamath Mountains and beyond. This year's symposium provided two and a half days of presentations and group discussions and a half-day tour of the 2013 Orleans Fire that burned through the town of Orleans, just behind the conference venue, as well as prescribed burns

The 81 symposium participants met at the Orleans Elementary School, behind which the Orleans Fire burned in the summer of 2013.

© Stormy Staats/Klamath Salmon Media Collaborative



conducted in 2013 during the fall Northern California Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TREX) and by the Forest Service.

The **2014 symposium** was another successful gathering of land managers, scientists, tribes, conservationists and community members for important sharing of current research and discussions regarding fire history and ecology in the Klamath Mountains. Nowhere else in the country are the social, cultural, and ecological realities of fire discussed with such candor and connection to place. Over the course of the three days, more than 80 participants gained a deeper sense of the past, present and future of fire in the Klamath Mountains.

Important discussion highlights of this symposium included:

- Fire exclusion has occurred simultaneously with a changing climate—the past 100 years have been the wettest in many centuries—which has produced fuel and vegetation conditions never seen before.
- The last time we have seen so little fire on the landscape in this region was when glaciers were retreating at the end of the last Ice Age.
- Fires are getting larger and more difficult to manage.



Top: The restoration coordinator for the Salmon River Restoration Council gave a presentation on the recently-tested Community Liaison Program that provides avenues of communication between the area residents and fire suppression teams.

© Stormy Staats/KSMC
Bottom: The cultural biologist for the Karuk Tribe presented information on the cultural impacts of continued fire suppression policies

© Will Harling/Mid Klamath Watershed Council

- “Fire severity” has been defined various ways in research, leading to confusion on the topic. “Fire severity” measures relative change, whereas “fire intensity” is an exact measure of the amount of energy released during a fire event. Every fire has some degree of mixed severity depending on the scale.



Among the breakout sessions was one on the topic “Research: What are our burning questions?”
 © Stormy Staats/Klamath Salmon Media Collaborative

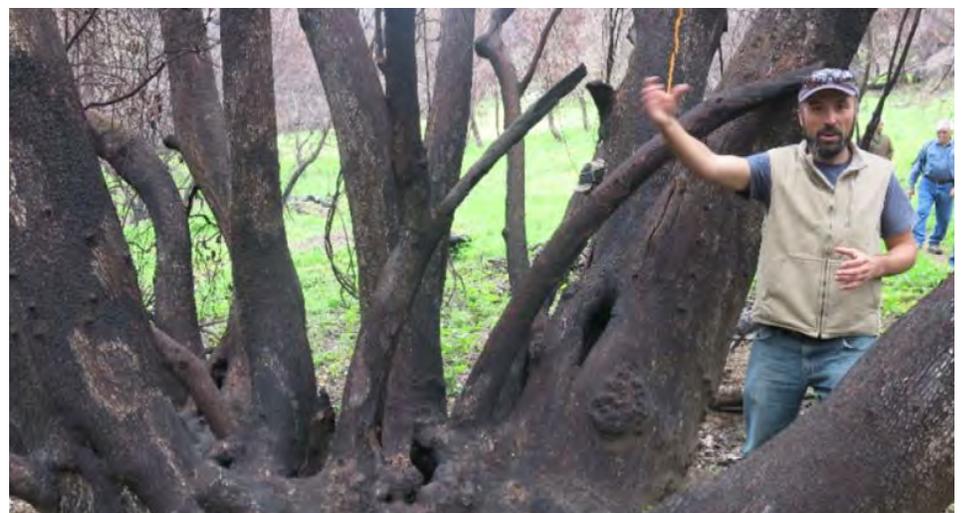
Participating Organizations

- California Fire Science Consortium
- Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)
- Happy Camp Fire Safe Council
- Hoopa Office of Emergency Services
- Humboldt County
- Humboldt State University
- Karuk Tribe
- Klamath Forest Alliance
- Mendocino Fire Safe Council
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- National Park Service—Redwood National Park
- Northern California Prescribed Fire Council
- Orleans Volunteer Fire Department
- Salmon River Restoration Council
- Southern Humboldt Fire Safe Council
- USDA Forest Service—Klamath National Forest
- USDA Forest Service—Pacific Southwest Research Station
- USDA Forest Service—Six Rivers National Forest, Orleans Ranger District
- USDA Forest Service—Six Rivers National Forest, Supervisors Office
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Watershed Research and Training Center

- The paradigm is shifting in wild-land fire management, especially concerning community collaboration. Community liaisons can be a critical asset during a wildfire. Local knowledge is being listened to. Giant steps are being made with regard to collaborative landscape planning.
- Traditional fire knowledge has much to offer regarding fire management for multiple resources. Fire managers are listening more carefully to tribal practitioners and resource specialists, but there is still room for improvement. Fire suppression has had significant impacts to the Karuk Tribe’s culture and ceremonies, including their ability to gather the food, fiber and medicine resources that require specific fire cycles at different places on the landscape.
- Post-fire salvage logging decisions involve a complex balance between habitat and hazard. Issues brought up by participants included road building, erosion, invasive species and economics. A landowner whose property

burned during the Orleans Fire last July asked the group to come on their field trip and offer specific advice regarding salvage logging in the burned area. As a result, his decisions will be better informed. Agreements on the scope and scale of salvage logging between diverse stakeholders are needed.

- Recent fire footprints—those that are less than 10 years old—can and should be used



The executive director of the Watershed Research and Training Center spoke at an ancient clonal madrone tree burned in the 2013 Orleans Fire during one of the stops on the symposium field tour.

© Will Harling/Mid Klamath Watershed Council

to manage future fires. They can be allowed to burn as part of maintenance and towards the long term goal of restoring historic fire regimes—or, given climate change, more resilient fire regimes.

- Science must inform policy. Policy must be flexible enough to incorporate adaptive management.

Fire managers and scientists will integrate the knowledge they gained at the symposium into their land management decisions and research choices. Local restoration organizations, conservationists and community members all gained perspective and offered insights regarding wildfire management, post-fire management strategies and fire resilient communities. As important, all participants made important connections and will be networking into the future as they continue these important conversations.

For more information on the Klamath Fire Ecology Symposium or Western Klamath Mountains FLN:

Will Harling
will@mkwc.org

Nancy Bailey
nancy@mkwc.org

The Fire Learning Network (FLN), Scaling-up to Promote Ecosystem Resiliency (SPER) and prescribed fire training exchanges (TREX) are part of the *Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency through Collaboration: Landscapes, Learning and Restoration*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior. For more information, contact Lynn Decker at ldecker@tnc.org or (801) 320-0524.



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PRESENTATIONS

Bowman, Crystal (Karuk Tribe)—2013 Wildfires and Water Quality on the Salmon River, CA

Cocking, Matt (Natural Resources Conservation Service)—Fire Effects in Conifer-Encroached California Black Oak Ecosystems: Implications for Restoration and Management

Engber, Eamon (Redwood National Park)—NW California Deciduous Oak Woodlands: Learning from 25 Years of Management and Restoration on NPS Lands

Goulette, Nick (Watershed Research and Training Center)—Klamath People, Communities, and Landscapes: Fitting In and Standing Out in the National Context

Greenberg, Karuna (Salmon River Restoration Council)—Community Liaison Program: Trial By Fire

Guzman, Ed (USFS Klamath National Forest)—A Collaborative Approach to Hazard Mitigation on the Klamath River

Harling, Will (MKWC)—Prioritizing Fuels Treatments in the Western Klamath Mountains Using Geospatial Data, Collaborative Planning, and Local and Tribal Knowledge

Kane, Jeff (Humboldt State University)—Klamath Mountains as a Learning Landscape to Engage Students in Fire Science Research and Management

Knapp, Eric (USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station)—Management in the Post High-Severity Fire Landscape: Balancing Wildlife Habitat and Future Fuels

Lake, Frank (USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station)—Evaluating the Effects of Fuels Reduction and Wildland Fire Management on Tribally Valued Resources and Habitats

Minton, Mike (USFS Six Rivers National Forest)—Landscape Level Fire Planning Efforts on the Six Rivers National Forest

Quinn-Davidson, Lenya (Northern California Prescribed Fire Council)—Fire Science and Management: Bridging the Gap in Northern California

Reed, Ron (Karuk Tribe) and **Kari Norgaard** (University of Oregon)—Social Impacts of Fire Exclusion

Sherriff, Rosemary (Humboldt State University)—Historical and Observed Wildfire Severity Examples in Montane Forests of Colorado and Other Western states

Skinner, Carl (USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station)—Trends in Wildfire Size and Severity in the Klamath Mountains and Implications for Management

Tripp, Bill (Karuk Tribe)—Bridging Science and Management with People and Place

Wageknecht, Louise (Author, *Light on the Devils*)—Hoedads, Herbicides & Hardwoods: Running the Red Queen's Race on the Klamath

Symposium organizers are working with presenters to post these presentations at: <http://mkwc.org/programs/fire-fuels/klamath-fire-ecology-symposium/>



Fire Learning Network Notes from the Field

Skull Knob Controlled Burn South Mountains Landscape

April 2014

Fire Learning Network partners in the South Mountains landscape recently conducted a 1,200-acre prescribed burn at Skull Knob on part of the state-owned area split between South Mountains Game Land and South Mountains State Park. The objectives of the burning included wildlife habitat improvement for early successional species, forest restoration in fire-adapted and fire-dependent oak and pine communities, and fuels reduction on the landscape. This was the second burn for most

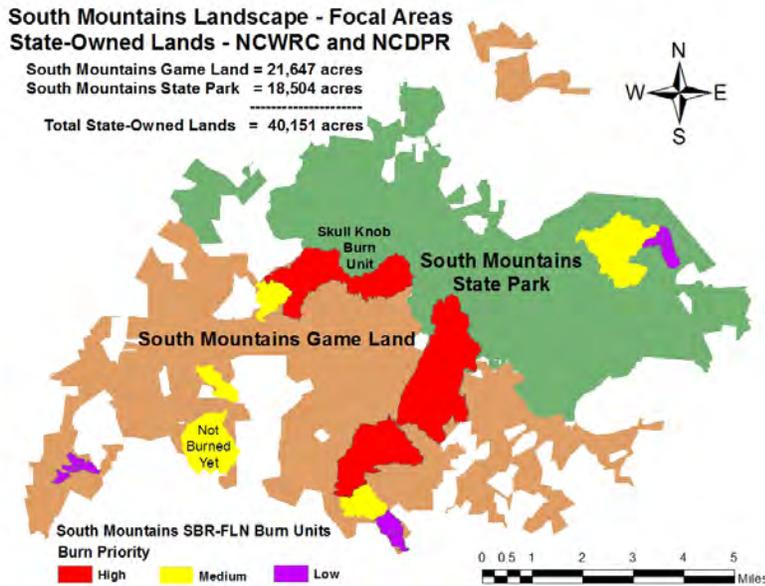
of the unit, which is important because the unit scored high in the burn prioritization modeling done for the landscape (see map). It is also clear evidence that the partnership is starting to make large collaborative and multi-ownership burns more routine, helping to restore fire-adapted systems on a larger scale: All but one of the established burn units in this landscape has been burned at least once and several have received multiple burn rotations.

Participating Agencies

- North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
- North Carolina Forest Service
- North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

The partnership in this landscape has allowed for larger, more efficient and effective landscape-level burning projects by removing the barrier of property boundary restrictions, increasing the resources available, and finding common ground for expanding prescribed burning programs to meet common goals and objectives in the South Mountains Landscape.

*Dean M. Simon
Wildlife Biologist / Forester
NC Wildlife Resources Commission*



For more information, contact:

Dean Simon
dean.simon@ncwildlife.org

More about the landscape: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/northcarolina/placesweprotect/south-mountains-game-land.xml>



Ryan Jacobs/NC WRC

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Fire Learning Network Notes from the Field

Washington Prescribed Fire Council Conference

Olympia, WA

March 2014

Strengthening Partnerships to Influence Policy

More than 40 prescribed fire practitioners and stakeholders from across the state came together for two days in early March to learn about fire policy and the ways we can communicate and collaborate with policy makers.

The first part of day one was filled with discussions on two collaborative frameworks and networks centered around fire management, namely the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network and the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. Then the Washington Prescribed Fire Council (WPFC) was honored to have the Washington State Commissioner

of Public Lands, Peter Goldmark, begin a dialogue with the group about the Washington Department of Natural Resource's fire policy and forest management priorities. The commissioner invited the WPFC to continue the discussion with him, and the WPFC is actively working on a unified message to identify common interests.

Later in the day participants separated into breakout sessions focused on each of the Priority Action Areas in the WPFC Strategic Action Plan that was developed by WPFC members over the past two years. This year's participants helped to

outline and initiate work on the goals presented in the Strategic Plan. Highlights from these fruitful discussions included developing a proposal for communicating and collaborating with DNR, creating an overall public communication strategy, and planning training exchanges.

On the second day of the conference, the Northwest Fire Science Consortium hosted two panels on building a successful coalition to influence policy, and on using effective tools to communicate with policy makers. These expert panels included great representation of diverse practitioners, academics and policymakers, and encouraged insightful questions and discussions from conference participants.

As the Washington Prescribed Fire Council moves forward over the next few years, tools for communication and collaboration will be essential to promoting the use of prescribed fire across the state and supporting WPFC members at the state level.

For more information, contact:

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Top: The conference drew participants from a wide range of agencies and organizations in the region, including the BLM, Center for Natural Lands Management, Joint Base Lewis-McChord (Dept. of Defense), Kitsap Conservation District, Northwest Fire Science Consortium, Olympic National Park, Oregon Prescribed Fire Council, Oregon State University, Skagit Conservation District, Sustainable Northwest, TNC, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, University of Washington, USDA Forest Service, Washington Cattleman's Association, Wild Fire Services Inc., Yakama Nation and several Washington state agencies (Conservation Commission, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Ecology and Department of Natural Resources).

Center: State Commissioner of Public Lands, Peter Goldmark, joined the group to speak on the DNR's fire policy and forest management priorities.

Bottom: Panel discussions and breakout sessions gave participants a chance to glean information from people with a range of expertise, and to contribute to problem solving in small groups.

Sarah Hamman/CNLM



South Central Washington Resource Conservation & Development Council

Job Description

Executive Director

The South Central Washington RC&D Council is a non-profit 501(c)3 serving 4 counties in south central Washington. The mission of the organization is “provide leadership on issues of regional significance by facilitating the planning, coordination, and implementation of initiatives which promote a sustainable rural lifestyle for current and future generations.”

The Executive Director reports to the Board of Directors and is responsible for the organization’s consistent achievement of its mission and financial objectives. The Executive Director implements the policy directives emanating from the Board of Directors and assumes the overall leadership role in guiding all administrative, fiscal and program activities. This is a full time position and salary is commensurate with experience and education.

Overview of Position:

- 1) Implement the strategic goals and objectives of the RC&D and collaborate with appropriate organizations to realize its mission and financial objectives
- 2) Oversee the day-to-day administration and operation of all programs and projects
- 3) Prudently manage the Council’s resources within budget guidelines according to current laws and regulations
- 4) Effectively manage the human resources of the organization (both staff and volunteers) according to authorized personnel policies and procedures that fully conform to current laws and regulations
- 5) Assure the organization and its mission, programs, products and services are consistently presented in a strong positive image to relevant stakeholders
- 6) Oversee fundraising planning and implementation, including identifying resource requirements, researching funding sources, establishing strategies to approach funders, submitting proposals and administering fundraising records and documentation
- 7) Establish sound working relationships and cooperative arrangements with local governments, community groups and organizations
- 8) Promote an organizational culture that fosters passion for the mission, cooperation, open and frequent communication, teamwork, and a common organizational vision

Responsibilities:

Marketing/Program Growth:

- 1) Make contact monthly with either the organization manager or commission/board chairman from each of the Council members.
- 2) Attend various regular project and program meetings in the Yakima Basin related to natural resource management, fish and wildlife recovery, watershed planning, economic development etc. in order to maintain cooperative working relationships and to seek opportunities for the RC&D.
- 3) Prepare newsletters and annual reports. Publicize the activities, programs and goals of the Council through the website.
- 4) Arrange for programs and hosting of bi-monthly Council meetings

Financial:

- 1) Generate annual budget for Board approval
- 2) Develop and maintain sound financial practices
- 3) Participate in annual financial audit
- 4) Ensure the compliance of all reporting and audit requirements of those agencies with which the RC&D interacts

- 5) Review bank statements and monthly financial reports
- 6) Ensure that adequate funds are available to permit the Council to carry out its work

General Oversight:

- 1) Serve as point of contact, respond to requests from local governments/organizations and follow up as appropriate
- 2) Monitor the progress of projects and assignments to ensure that appropriate schedules are maintained
- 3) Deliver Executive Director's report at monthly Executive Board meetings and bi-monthly Council meetings keeping the board fully informed on the condition of the Council and all important factors influencing it
- 4) Ensure that personnel policies are followed
- 5) Prepare or complete various forms, reports, correspondence, or other documents as necessary
- 6) Receive various forms, reports, correspondence, manuals, reference materials, or other documentation; and review, complete, process, forward or retain as appropriate.
- 7) Provide assistance to other employees as needed
- 8) Perform other related duties as required

Necessary Skills:

The ability to provide guidance, assistance, and/or interpretation to others regarding the application of procedures and standards to specific situations

Strong verbal and written communication skills, including public speaking and grant writing

The ability to exercise judgment, decisiveness and creativity in situations involving evaluation of information

Self-motivation and the ability to work with minimal supervision

Computer literate – accomplished in programs including but not limited to Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

Minimum Qualifications Required:

Experience in governmental administration, public administration, planning, economic development, or related field

Understanding of non-profits and experience working with boards of directors and volunteers

Background in direct personnel management and knowledge of the same

Knowledge of state and federal government, officials, programs, funding, etc., is also of great importance to this position

Experience with grant writing and group facilitation ideally with a background in natural resources management

Bachelor's degree or higher in natural resource or nonprofit management or equivalent work experience

Salary: Negotiable

The South Central Washington RC&D Council is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Submit the following information electronically to jobs@scwrcd.org, enter "application" in subject line:

Resume

- Three (3) Personal References
- Three (3) Work References
- One (1) brief (1-4 pages) sample of your writing (a grant application, an article, a letter, etc.)

Deadline for application – May 15, 2014

**South Central Washington
Resource Conservation & Development Council**



Project Manager - Job Description

The RC&D Project Manager is responsible for the efficient and judicious management of the Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Project (YTAHP) and other projects for the South Central Washington Resource Conservation & Development Council (SCW RC&D). The Project Manager reports to the Executive Director of the SCW RC&D. For YTAHP, the Project Manager is the point of contact between the primary funding source (Bonneville Power Administration) and local subcontracting entities. In managing the YTAHP and other projects, the RC&D Project Manager will:

Responsibilities to the RC&D:

1. Maintain accurate and complete supporting documentation for YTAHP and other RC&D projects.
2. Provide updates of projects at scheduled RC&D Board meetings.
3. Assist in providing input to the required annual audits.
4. Submit all reports and work items by dates requested to maintain the RC&D in good standing with funders.
5. Provide budget and activity reports to Executive Director needed for annual staff and budget projections, outreach, reports to the board, and other purposes.
6. Be familiar with, and apply, the policies and procedures of the SCW RC&D as well as applicable state and federal laws.
7. When applicable, provide supervision to project staff, maintain job descriptions, and hold annual evaluations, salary reviews, etc.

Working Responsibilities to BPA (specific to YTAHP):

1. Develop annual work plans and contracts for both the Capital and Expense categories. Annual plans will be developed utilizing the work elements as found in the BPA data base program called PISCES.
2. Develop annual budgets and monitor throughout contract period to maintain budget category integrity.
3. Maintain spreadsheets to monitor cash flow and to support the vouchering process.
4. Process work plan revisions during the contracting period.
5. Submit monthly vouchers to BPA for reimbursement of funds expended.
6. Maintain the data base monitoring system (PISCES) employed by BPA.
7. Provide quarterly updates and adjustments to the data base as required.
8. Responsible for facilitating and uploading the written annual report to BPA.
9. Provide project information to BPA as requested for publicity purposes.
10. Maintain project list and update the upcoming contracting period.
11. Assist in the updating and submission of the (3) year project Capitalization document.
12. Submit annual cost-share report as required.
13. Submit the accrual report by required date and proper format as the close of the fiscal budgeting year approaches.

Responsibilities to Local Partners (specific to YTAHP):

1. Schedule and conduct all monthly meetings of the local support group known as the YTAHP Core Team.
2. Develop agendas and assist in formulating the record of proceedings (minutes) of the meetings.
3. Provide notices of upcoming meetings of the Technical Work Group (TWG).
4. Maintain up to date contact lists for both the Core team and the TWG.
5. Assist in updating spread sheets for each contracting period.
6. Assist in data base (PISCES) requirements for contract revisions.
7. Develop updated interagency agreements with each of the subcontractors.
8. Facilitate and assist in the update of the YTAHP Strategic Plan.
9. Make sure projects brought to the program follow the flow chart process as published in the Strategic Plan.
10. Provide updated requirements as related to managing/participating in Federal contracts (drug free work place, Davis-Bacon rules etc.)
11. Assist in maintaining working relations with technical and funding support groups to the YTAHP.

Salary: Negotiable

The South Central Washington RC&D is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Submit the following information electronically to jobs@scwrcd.org; enter "application" in subject line

Resume

Three (3) personal references

Three (3) work references

One brief (1-4) pages sample of your professional writing (a grant application, an article, a letter, etc.)

Deadline for application May 15, 2014



Training Announcement

Yurok Prescribed Fire Training Exchange Weitchpec, CA May 24 - June 4, 2014

Objectives: To develop the Tribe's capacity to safely and effectively reintroduce fire onto the local landscape while providing participants with experience and training in conducting controlled burns.

Target Group: This training is designed to integrate a diverse group of fire practitioners with varying degrees of knowledge and experience. Participants include tribal members, tribal forestry employees, local contractors, federal and state firefighters, volunteer firefighters from the community, The Nature Conservancy staff and volunteers, university students, county/regional regulators, and out-of-region and international guests and fire workers.

Tuition: The regular fee is \$250. University students pay \$100. Waivers are available for participants who bring equipment (e.g. engines, UTVs, etc.) or who provide their own lodging and accommodations. Please note that tuition is not pro-rated based on the amount of time at TREX.

Description: The training is organized as an incident, using the Incident Command System. Participants will serve in qualified and trainee firefighting positions on a burn team and will assist with preparing, scouting, briefing, igniting, holding, mop-up, and patrol on numerous controlled burns in the area. We will also complete pre- and post-fire monitoring, train with equipment, practice fire line leadership skills, and learn about local fire ecology and fire management.

There will be field trips to areas burned in recent wildfires and presentations from local tribal elders, scientists, land managers, and practitioners. Participants will also present briefings about the fire regimes in their home region and discuss management challenges and opportunities there. In addition, participants will practice for local media interviews.

Requirements:

1. All participants must be **current and qualified**, or have **completed NWCG courses I-100, S-130, S-190 and FEMA IS-700**. Self-study materials for these courses will be offered to participants who need them.
2. Participants must complete an **arduous pack test** before arrival at the event. Completion of a moderate pack test is acceptable if coming as a TNC volunteer and serving in an RxCM (Rx crewmember) position.
3. Participants must have **insurance** (e.g., workers' comp, health or travel insurance) to cover any injury they may sustain during the training exchange.
4. Participants must bring **fireline-approved boots** (all leather work boots, 8-inches tall, non-slip soles and no steel toe). Participants should come with **all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**, including: a Next Generation Fire Shelter, a hard hat, Nomex clothing, all leather gloves, eye protection and canteens for drinking water. If you do not have proper PPE, please let us know. For an additional \$50, we will provide a complete set.

Meals & Travel: All meals, ground transportation and lodging will be provided during the training. Participants are responsible for their own travel to and from Weitchpec, California. Participants should **arrive at the Morek Won Community Center by 8:00 am on Monday, May 26th** (Saturday, May 24th, for burn bosses and incident management team). Although we encourage you to stay for the full assignment, we understand you may have time constraints and are happy to host you for the first or second week (full tuition still applies).

Registration: To apply, complete the registration form & submit to Guy Duffner (gduffner@tnc.org) no later than May 5.



This training is supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency through Collaboration: Landscapes, Learning and Restoration*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

An equal opportunity provider

YUROK PRESCRIBED FIRE TRAINING EXCHANGE REGISTRATION: MAY 24-JUNE 4, 2014

I. PARTICIPANT INFORMATION (PLEASE LEGIBLY PRINT OR TYPE RESPONSES)		
Full name (for course certificate):		
Organization and position:		
Work address (street, city, state, zip/postal code, country):		
Work phone:	Cell phone:	Email:
II. QUALIFICATIONS:		
Qualified positions (or indicate if you require introductory firefighting courses):		
Trainee position:		
Can you contribute equipment? If so, please explain.		
III. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:		
Name:		Phone number(s):
Relationship (family, supervisor, friend, other):		
IV. MEDICAL INFORMATION AND DIET		
Do you have any allergies, medical problems or other conditions that could affect your ability to conduct prescribed fire or take part in other field exercises? If so, please describe below (continue on reverse if needed).		
Are you vegetarian or vegan (be specific)? Do you have any food allergies or other dietary restrictions?		
V. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION		
Arrival date:	Travel method:	Details:
Departure date:	Travel method:	Details:
VI: COURSE EXPECTATIONS		
Briefly describe your expectations for the training. What do you expect to learn, to bring to the course, and to experience? How will this benefit your workplace, organization, and career?		
VII: SUPERVISOR INFORMATION		
Name:		Phone:
Job title:		
VIII: REGISTRATION FEE \$200 (NON-REFUNDABLE) – DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 17, 2014		
<input type="checkbox"/> Training exchanges require quality, dependable equipment from a variety of sources. If you or your organization can contribute a substantial firefighting apparatus such as an engine, tender, or UTV/ATV, please let us know.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Need-based registration fee waivers may be available. Contact Guy Duffner (gduffner@tnc.org) for more information.		
OFFICIAL TNC USE ONLY:	<u>Payment Received</u>	<u>Registration Notes</u>
	Amount: \$	
	Method:	
	Date:	

