

FLN Networker No. 160: June 11, 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

Arkansas: A botanist with the **Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission** reported the **first species sighting** in Arkansas of the **ringseed rush** (*Juncus filipendulus*) on an NRCS tour of glade restoration projects a couple weeks ago. More than a hundred individual plants were found at a **restored glade** on the Sylamore RD in an area where FLN partners had removed eastern redcedar. For more information, contact **McRee Anderson** (wanderson@tnc.org).

New Mexico / Washington DC: A new **museum exhibit**—Designing for Disaster—at the National Building Museum (Washington DC) explores solutions for **communities to reduce risks from changes to our climate**. The main label of the wildfire part of the exhibit, “Protecting Water with Fire,” is taken from the **video about the Santa Fe Water Fund** produced by the **New Mexico chapter of the Conservancy**. That **video**, which is **playing at the exhibit**, was filmed in part at the September 2010 **prescribed fire training exchange**, and includes interviews with Jeremy Bailey, Mary Huffman and Laura McCarthy. The exhibit opened in May and will run through August 2015.

Virginia: The burning done during the **Central Appalachians FLN's prescribed fire training exchange** in April appears near the end of an **article** (also, **pictures**) in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* on conservation efforts on behalf of the red-cockaded woodpecker (“Scientists Work to Help Rare Virginia Bird”). The article was **picked up by the Associated Press** and reprinted in at least **nine other papers**, including the *Washington Post* and a number of small papers in Indiana.

Washington: An **article** in the *Yakima Herald* describes the **Forest Service** plan to begin **summer burning** there, with hotter burns to **reduce smoke impacts**; **Reese Lolley** (rlolley@tnc.org) got in a few words about how the treatments—and smoke mitigation—are an **aspect of fire adapted communities** work. The paper ran an **editorial** a couple weeks later, acknowledging higher wildfire risk from summer burning, but **supportive** of Forest Service plans.

Washington: “**Fires Don’t Wait...Neither Should We**” is the title of a **blog posting** in the *Wenatchee World* written by **Annie Schmidt** (director@chumstickcoalition.org), director of the **Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition**, the FAC Learning Network hub organization in central Washington. She got a lot of good information into a small space—contact her if you’d like to borrow some of those words.

National: Last week about **65 partners and leaders** from communities and landscapes across the country met in Colorado Springs as the **Fire Learning Network** and the **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network** held their workshops: The FAC Net started the week with thematic presentations by a number of their hub organizations, round table discussions on the themes, and an afternoon of work on planning for the next year. The FLN closed the week with an after action review of the last few years’ work, and a morning sketching some potential outcomes for the next cooperative agreement. Midweek, **the networks overlapped and intermingled** at a poster session and a field tour that introduced the members to each other—and each other’s work—and laid the groundwork for an **expanded network of connections**. The field tour was mentioned on the *Fire Break* **blog**, and an in-depth report will be available soon.

Feedback: Fire Shelter Survey

Fire Shelter Survey: The **Wildfire Lessons Learned Center** is conducting a [brief survey](#) of firefighters as part of the **Forest Service's** three-year **Fire Shelter Project**.

Resources: TEK / Burn Severity / Talking Climate Change

Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK): **Colleen Rossier** and **Frank Lake** have published "Indigenous Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Agroforestry," the latest [document](#) in the USDA *Agroforestry Notes* series. Their work also includes a collaboration between the **Karuk Tribe** and University of California at Berkeley that seeks to bridge **food security**, **climate change**, and **cultural forest and fire management** issues. For more information, contact the authors, or **Bill Tripp** (btripp@karuk.us).

Burn Severity: The Monitoring Trends in Burn Severity (**MTBS**) project has **completed mapping** of burn severity for all of the **2012 fires** that met its size criteria. The latest **JFSP Friday Flash** has more information, as well as **links to data** and other products.

Talking Climate Change: According to a report from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies—"What's in a Name? Global Warming vs Climate Change"—"**global warming**" is the phrase to use **for understanding**, **emotional engagement** and **personal and national action**. Report highlights are on a [summary page](#) with a link to the full report.

Video: Rx Fire 101

Rx Fire 101: The **Kentucky Prescribed Fire Council** and its partners have produced a nice 7-minute **introduction to prescribed fire**. The [outreach video](#) quickly covers a bit of fire ecology, the nuts and bolts of prescribed burning, and its beneficial effects in the words of both land managers and a homeowner.

In the News: Private Firefighters

Private Firefighters: An [article](#) in the *Coloradoan*—"Wildfires Fan Growth of Private Firefighting Crews"—covers some of the **benefits and potential drawbacks** of the trend of insurance companies hiring contract crews to defend homes.

Job: Wildland Fire Module

Wildland Fire Module: The **National Park Service** is conducting outreach for **two positions** on its Great Smoky WFM; among the module's tasks are the support of **prescribed fire** planning, preparation and execution in the Southeast Region. For more information, complete the attached outreach form.

Webinars

June 23

FLN webinar

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>

July 9
new listing

Forest Departure Analysis

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

In this webinar **Josh Kelly** will share some results from a LiDAR-based departure analysis of the Upper Warwoman landscape in the **Southern Blue Ridge** Escarpment of Georgia. Part of the analysis revealed differences in forest structure in burned vs. unburned areas.

Add to calendar: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=m35a58025e495f6796883ddebef283f74>

Log in: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=m331db5bef18114029f9e04ed44c78260>

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

September 16-30
deadline

Spanish-Language Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / northern NM

This training exchange will be conducted in Spanish, with an international roster of participants. This event, supported by Scaling-up to Promote Ecosystem Resilience (SPER), will combine capacity-building and strategic implementation of prescribed fire on lands in and around the Santa Fe National Forest.

Applications are due by **June 12**. Limited to 15 participants.

Information: see flyer attached to [FLN Networker #159](#)

Sept 23-Oct 4

Arizona Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ

The Arizona Prescribed Fire Council will host this training exchange, which will help build capacity near Flagstaff, a Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network pilot community. The 20 participants will stay at The Nature Conservancy's Hart Prairie Preserve and conduct controlled burns on strategic state, federal and private lands during this SPER-supported event.

Applications are due by **July 11**.

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

Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

June 13
new listing

Slide Fire Field Trip / Oak Creek Canyon, AZ

The Southwest Fire Science Consortium is offering a field tour of the (very) recent [Slide Fire](#).

Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/slide-fire-field-trip-registration-11888933119>

July 22
new listing

Butterflies and Fire Prairie Tour / Grand River Grasslands

The Great Plains Fire Science Consortium and Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savanna Fire Consortium are hosting a full-day fire and butterflies tour of northern Missouri and southern Iowa prairies. RSVP by **July 8**.

Information: <http://blogs.missouristate.edu/gpfirescience/2014/05/16/butterflies-and-fire-prairie-tour/>

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

Contact Us

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is in the office.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is out June 9-13.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in the office.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Mendocino, CA June 9-12; out June 16.

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

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in Mendocino, CA June 9-13.

Liz Rank (Networker Editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out June 12.

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—NM—Water fund video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f915kej2KvI>

News from the Field—VA (article): http://www.timesdispatch.com/news/state-regional/scientists-work-to-help-rare-virginia-bird/article_20a52a4c-bcd2-5d0d-b1b0-56b6fbb9bd0b.html

Pictures: http://www.timesdispatch.com/multimedia/photos/bringing-back-a-rare-red-cockaded-woodpecker/collection_7120e7fa-e4e4-11e3-8a1c-001a4bcf6878.html

News from the Field—WA—Summer burns article: <http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/fires/2165852-8/forest-service-hopes-summer-burns-will-keep-smoke>

Editorial: <http://www.yakimaherald.com/opinion/editorials/2214203-8/new-tactic-may-restore-natures-balance-in-forests>

News from the Field—WA—Annie Schmidt blog: <http://www.wenatcheeworld.com/blogs/community-connections/2014/jun/09/annie-schmidt-fires-dont-waitneither-should-we/>

News from the Field—National—Blog note: <http://wildfire.blog.nfpa.org/2014/06/good-firewise-examples-draw-national-crowd-in-colorado.html>

Feedback—Fire shelter survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z9DQNZ>

Resources—Traditional ecological knowledge: <http://nac.unl.edu/documents/agroforestrynotes/an44g14.pdf>

Resources--Burn severity: <http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=5f6de7b069a57255f980944b4&id=f30840220e&e=a0d720a5e9>

Resources—Talking climate change: <http://environment.yale.edu/climate-communication/article/global-warming-vs-climate-change/>

Video—Rx outreach: <http://www.kyfire.org/>

In the News—Private firefighters: <http://www.coloradoan.com/story/money/2014/06/01/wildfires-fan-growth-private-firefighting-crews/9744857/?from=global&sessionKey=&autologin>

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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Vacancy Outreach: Great Smoky Wildland Fire Module

Wildland Firefighter/Forestry Technician (Wildland Fire Module Crewmember) Series/Grade: GS-0462-04/05 (2 positions) Subject-to-Furlough 13/13

Contact information:

Shane Paxton, Module Leader at (865) 414-6460 or Travis Hartsburg, Assistant at (865) 210-9996.

Job Summary:

The Great Smoky Wildland Fire Module (W.F.M.) is one of six National Park Service Wildland Fire Modules. N.P.S. Wildland Fire Modules provide skilled operational and planning support in all areas of fire management. The Great Smoky Module supports prescribed fire planning, preparation, and execution within narrow prescription windows primarily in the Southeast Region and is a critical component of NPS fuels reduction programs. Additionally, the Module responds to wildfires, S.A.R.'s, and other interagency incidents as requested. Module crewmembers play a key role in interagency wildland fire support as the split fire season allows for details to western U.S. fire crews. Details can include supporting other W.F.M.s for extended periods of time, being available for individual fire assignments, or other opportunities sought out by the individual.

Crewmembers can expect to travel extensively throughout the fire season (October-May), with assignments lasting up to 14 days.

Host Unit Information:

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is located in Western North Carolina and East Tennessee and encompasses 800 square miles of which 95 percent are forested. Park headquarters is located near the city of Gatlinburg, TN. There are 16 peaks over 6,000' in elevation and up to 90" of rainfall spread throughout the year. The Park has 10 campgrounds, 800 miles of horse and hiking trails, and 750 miles of fishable streams. The Smokies is within one day's drive for about 1/3 of the U.S. population and thus attracts 9 to 10 million visitors annually; making it the most visited, national park in the system. Climate is moderate with average lows in the summer in the 60's and highs in the 80's and 90's and average lows in winter between 20 and 30 with highs in the 50's. Snowfall averages range from 5" in Gatlinburg, TN, to 11" in Bryson City, NC.

There is no government housing available. However, numerous rental and housing ownership opportunities exist in the surrounding areas (Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, Sevierville).



Outreach Reply Form
Great Smoky Wildland Fire Module
GS-0462-04/05 (Forestry Technician)
(WFM Crewmember)
Gatlinburg, TN
2 Positions

NAME:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

MAILING ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

CURRENT AGENCY/REGION/UNIT OR DISTRICT:

CURRENT SERIES AND GRADE:

CURRENT POSITION TITLE:

CURRENT RED CARD QUALIFICATIONS:

**Please return the completed form via email to shane_paxton@nps.gov
or travis_hartsburg@nps.gov**