

FLN Networker No. 169: October 15, 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: The **Northern California Prescribed Fire Training Exchange** got **underway** Monday with burns planned in Redwood National Park, Whiskeytown National Recreational Area, Weaverville Community Forest and on private land near Hayfork. That afternoon there was a **shelter deployment** by an experienced firefighter, which resulted in minor injuries. Participants are **assessing and learning from the experience**, and the incident command team is moving the TRES ahead with safety, as always, being the primary consideration.

California: Held the first week or so of October, the **Klamath River TRES** was remarkable for its active use of **social media** to engage and **communicate with local communities**. They posted **daily** to two Facebook pages (together reaching 1,500+ people) with a nice personal touch, highlighting many of the 50+ participants. They also **answered questions** as they came up—and got a lot of **praise** for making communities safer and forests more resilient. The postings are in the attached *Notes from the Field*.

Nebraska: The summer issue of the [newsletter](#) of the **Northern Arizona University** School of Forestry has an article (front page!) about student participation in the **Spring Break TRES** in the Niobrara Valley. Six students from the NAU chapter of the Student Association for Fire Ecology (SAFE) took part in that TRES—and according to the article, they're hoping to send even more students next year.

New Mexico: In the wake of the **Black Lake TRES** near the community of Angel Fire and an improvement in the local VFD's insurance industry rating, the *Sangre de Cristo Chronicle* ran an [editorial](#) titled "**Balance is Key** to Fire Safety." It notes that "we need to put in as much effort into **reintroducing fire** into our forests as [fire departments] do into stopping devastating fires at our homes and businesses." For more information, contact **Eytan Krasilovsky** (eytan@forestguild.org).

Southern Blue Ridge: The paper "The **Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network: A Collaborative Partnership to Restore Fire-Adapted Ecosystems and Build Resilient Forests and Communities in the Southern Blue Ridge**" (**Margit Bucher, Beth Buchanan, Wendy Fulks, Josh Kelly, Peter Bates, Gary Kauffman, Steve Simon** and **Helen Mohr**), which outlines the **history and successes** of this FLN, is among those in the recently-published [proceedings](#) from the October 2013 "Wildland Fire in the Appalachians" conference.

Washington: Representatives from the **Forest Service**, state agencies and seven collaborative groups—including the **Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition** and the **Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative**—held a summit last month to begin to share learning, identify shared goals and opportunities, and increase the pace and footprint of restoration in the state. They are now working on formalizing this **network of collaboratives** to carry out that work. For more information, contact **Patrick Shannon** (pshannon@sustainablenorthwest.org) or **Lloyd McGee** (lmcgee@tnc.org).

Washington: **Reese Lolley** (rlolley@tnc.org) is **quoted** in the *Yakima Herald* [article](#) "Snag Canyon Fire Shows How Logging Can Help Stop Wildfires." The article is more nuanced than the headline suggests—the logged area referred to still had 35 or 40 large trees per acres and the story focuses primarily on how timber harvest (plus controlled fire) can benefit the forest. As Reese noted, it's not quite the "living with fire" article we'd like to see, but a step in that direction.

TREX: Yesterday's **Western Region Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy** [newsletter](#) ran a story—"TREX Spells Success for Resilient Landscapes and Fire Adapted Communities"—that highlights how **this work supports and embodies** the major tenets of the **Cohesive Strategy**: restoring resilient landscapes, creating fire adapted communities and responding to wildfires.

Resources: Fire & WUI / Science Video

Fire & WUI: The latest **Southern Fire Exchange** [newsletter](#) has a number of articles and resources about **fire in the wildland-urban interface**. Among them are the Southern Group of State Foresters' [Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal](#), which has tools for both professionals and members of the public, and a number of Firewise fact sheets.

Science Video: A [video](#) on "The **Science of Wildfires**" was recently put out by SciShow. Fast-paced, and not your usual fire-professional presenter, it **covers a lot of territory** pretty accurately in 8 minutes.

Articles & Reports: Ecology & Society / Past Fires

Ecology & Society: The [new issue](#) of the journal *Ecology & Society* has a number of articles of interest, including the [article](#) "Examining Fire-Prone Forest Landscapes as **Coupled Human and Natural Systems**" (with a south-central Oregon case study) and several on **indigenous ecological knowledge**.

Past Fires: The **Northern Rockies Fire Science Network** has released its **first science review** (congratulations!). "The **Effect of Previous Wildfires** on Subsequent **Wildfire Behavior** and Post-Wildfire **Recovery**" ([link](#)) addresses the concepts of landscape memory, self-regulation and resilience, and summarizes case studies from around the West.

In the News: Wood-Fired Planes / Modeling Fire

Wood-Fired Planes: Southwest has contracted to buy 3 million gallons a year (alas, a drop in the proverbial bucket) of **jet fuel produced from woody biomass**, according to an [article](#) in the *Dallas News*.

Modeling Fire: *The Idaho Statesman* ran an [article](#) about how **modeling is used in firefighting**, highlighting the work of **Mark Finney** at the **Rocky Mountain Research Station**.

Jobs: Fire Program Coordinator / Watershed Protection Ops / Seasonal Burn Crews / Program Coordinator

Fire Program Coordinator: The Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands is hiring a **wildland fire program coordinator** for **Eglin Air Force Base**. See the [announcement](#) for details; applications are due by **October 19**.

Watershed Protection Ops: The City of Flagstaff is hiring an **operations specialist** for the **Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project**; the position reports to the wildland fire management officer. For more information, see the attached flyer; applications are due by **October 31**.

Seasonal Burn Crews: The **Conservancy's Georgia** chapter is hiring a seasonal burn crews—positions include **burn crew managers, burn boss, crew members** and as-needed crew members. For more information, visit the Conservancy [careers page](#) and search on "Georgia" (current Conservancy employees, apply through PeopleSoft); applications are due by **October 31** or **November 5**.

Program Coordinator: The **Ecological Restoration Institute** at Northern Arizona University is seeking a program coordinator to support a **variety of landscape-scale forest restoration projects**, including regional monitoring initiatives, CFLRP project networks and 4FRI small group coordination. Details are available on the NAU [HR page](#)—search job title "program coordinator"; the job ID is 601074.

Webinars

October 29

LANDFIRE: Customizing Data

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

Webinar will be co-hosted by the Tallgrass Prairie & Oak Savanna Fire Science Consortium and Lake States Fire Science Consortium.

Information: <https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/LANDFIRE/news/Pages/ConsortiaSeriesLandingPage.aspx>

November 17
new listing

Modifying Data—Leveraging LANDFIRE for the Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment

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

This Southern Fire Exchange webinar will be presented by Curt Stripling and David Buckley of SouthWRAP.

Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/landfire-webinar-modifying-data-leveraging-landfire-for-the-southern-wildfire-risk-assessment-tickets-13675039411>

FLN Workshops & Field Tours

November 5

Central Appalachians FLN Annual Workshop / Warm Springs, VA

Colleagues from Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Kentucky will discuss the state of fire management as a tool for eastern forests; plans for 2015 controlled burns; updates on monitoring programs; communications, outreach and education; and ecological zones mapping, vegetation assessment tool and other resources.

Information: **Laurel Schablein** (lschablein@tnc.org)

December 2-3

California Prescribed Fire Conference / McClellan, CA

The **Northern California Prescribed Fire Council**, **Southern Sierra Prescribed Fire Council** and other partners will be hosting this conference focused on increasing the pace and scale of fire-based treatments—both managed wildfire and landscape-scale prescribed fire—in California. An agenda and other information will be available soon.

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

October 13-26

Northern California Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Arcata, CA

This TREX, hosted by the Northern California Prescribed Fire Council and supported in part by Scaling-up to Promote Ecosystem Resilience (SPER), will reprise last fall's very successful event, integrating a diverse group of participants to support conservation, community safety and capacity-building in the northwest part of the state.

Feb 15-28, 2015

North Carolina Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Ellerbe, NC

The North Carolina Prescribed Fire Council, Southern Blue Ridge FLN and numerous other partners will host this TREX in the sandhills and piedmont region of the state. Applications are due by **November 10**.

Information: see the flyer attached to [Networker #168](#)

Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

- October 21-24** **Longleaf Conference & Eastern Native Grass Symposium / Mobile, AL**
Information: <http://www.cvent.com/events/our-roots-run-deep/event-summary-e7799b2b1c014d61a029c82d19126b05.aspx>
- October 23-24** **National Workshop on Large Landscape Conservation / Washington, DC**
Information: <http://www.largelandscapenetwork.org/2014-national-workshop/>
- January 18-23, 2015** **Wildland Urban Interface: Fire Adapted Communities / Emmitsburg, MD**
The National Fire Academy is offering this course (R0614) for persons with organizational responsibility for WUI risk reduction operations in their agency or jurisdiction (federal, state, tribal and local governments).
Information: see the flyer attached to [Networker #168](#)
- Feb 17-19, 2015**
updated **Midwest Fire Conference: Keep Fire Working for the Land / Dubuque, IA**
This Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savanna Fire Science Consortium conference will focus on fire in the tallgrass prairie, savanna and oak woodland region of the Midwestern United States and adjacent regions of Canada. Submissions for oral and poster presentations are encouraged from all fire practitioners—researchers, natural resource managers, students, contractors, and private landowners; abstracts are due by November 7.
Information: <http://www.tposfirescience.org/mwfire15-overview/>
- March 22-27, 2015** **Wildland Urban Interface: Fire Adapted Communities / Emmitsburg, MD**
See the January 18-23 listing.
- April 20-24, 2015** **Managing Fire, Understanding Ourselves: Human Dimensions in Safety and Wildland Fire / Boise, ID**
13th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit & 4th Human Dimensions of Wildland Fire Conference.
Information: <http://www.iawfonline.org/>
- May 2, 2015** **International Wildfire Community Preparedness Day**
Various events will be taking place. Check <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/national-wildfire-community-preparedness-day> for details as they become available.
- May 5-7, 2015**
new listing **11th Symposium on Fire and Forest Meteorology / Minneapolis, MN**
The American Meteorological Society is hosting this conference; the abstract deadline is January 12.
Information: <http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/fainst/201511fireforest.html>
- October 22-24, 2015** **Backyards & Beyond: Wildland Fire Education Conference / Myrtle Beach, SC**
The deadline for abstracts for next year's NFPA conference is December 15.
Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/training/backyards-and-beyond>
- Nov. 16-20, 2015** **Fire Ecology & Management Congress / San Antonio, TX**
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is in Albuquerque October 26-28.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is at CA TREX October 8-28.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in New York October 21-23, Boise October 27-30.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in the office.

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

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is at CA TREX September 29-October 17, in Atlanta October 20-24, in Arlington (VA) October 27-31.

Liz Rank (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—CA—Press release: http://www.times-standard.com/breakingnews/ci_26727726/firefighter-takes-shelter-after-being-cut-off-from

News from the Field—NE TREX article: <http://nau.edu/CEFNS/Forestry/Forms/News-Events/ForestSeasons201408/>

News from the Field—NM—Black Lake TREX: http://sangrechronicle.com/opinion/article_2f0b970c-4e70-11e4-a5cb-4fc6776a05dd.html

News from the Field—ABR—Proceedings: http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs199/gtr_srs199.pdf

News from the Field—WA: <http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/2529519-8/snag-canyon-fire-shows-how-logging-can-help>

News from the Field—TREX: <http://us7.campaign-archive1.com/?u=b4052ed78560498da372b666f&id=e600c35cab>

Resources—SFE newsletter: <http://www.southernfireexchange.org/newsletters/v4-5.pdf>

Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal: <http://www.southernwildfirerisk.com/Map>

Resources—Science video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F8OrmGAlqI4>

Articles & Reports—*Ecology & Society*: <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol19/iss3/>

Articles & Reports—Past fires: <https://gallery.mailchimp.com/86ca80b729f35593df087eace/files/LayoutForReburn.pdf>

In the News—Wood-fired planes: <http://www.dallasnews.com/business/airline-industry/20140924-southwest-airlines-to-power-some-flights-with-biofuels.ece>

In the News—Modeling fire: http://www.idahostatesman.com/2014/10/05/3411043_employing-science-to-work-with.html?sp=/99/1687/&rh=1

Jobs—Eglin AFB: <http://www.cemml.colostate.edu/Jobs/810.pdf>

Jobs—TNC careers: https://careers.nature.org/psp/tncareers/APPLICANT/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM.HRS_CE.GBL?SiteId=1

Jobs—NAU HR: https://hr.peoplesoft.nau.edu/psp/ph90prta/EMPLOYEE/HCM/c/HRS_HRAM.HRS_CE.GBL?Page=HRS_CE_HM_PRE&Action=A&SiteId=1

The Fire Learning Network is supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together: Collaborative Engagement, Collective Action and Co-ownership of Fire*, 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 River TREX October 2014

Community Engagement through Active Use of Social Media



Comments on MKWC September 30 posting

The Klamath Prescribed Fire Training Exchange took place October 1-11, treating lands near and between communities along the Klamath River in northern California. The Mid Klamath Watershed Council (MKWC) led the social media way with great daily (or nightly) updates about TREX burning—and got good community response from the residents of an area that spends much of each summer smelling the smoke of wildfires.

These updates were posted to the MKWC’s Facebook page. Most were also re-posted to the “Salmon and Orleans Complexities” page, which was started during the 2013 wildfire season and has continued as the go-to source for information about local fire, with over 1,400 members.

September 30

MKWC and a diverse array of local, tribal, state and federal partners are preparing to bring fire back in a good way to the Middle Klamath region. Starting tomorrow, we will be conducting controlled burns here and there down the river. We will be moving around to not concentrate the smoke for any period of time in one neighborhood. There will be evening presentations and a community potluck on Sunday October 5th, and Friday, October 10th at 6pm at the MKWC office in Orleans for folks to hear about what’s going on and meet the diverse team of folks that is implementing the Fall 2014 Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TREX). For more info, call MKWC at 530-627-3202.

October 2

The Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange successfully implemented about 30 acres of pile burning yesterday around Orleans on Day One of TREX. Tomorrow we are going up to Godfrey Ranch and Blue Ridge on the Salmon River to conduct broadcast burns near mid-slope homes impacted by the ‘77 and ‘87 fires. Friday we will be burning at Horn Field and Bull Barn in Forks of Salmon and Rainbow Mine near Sawyers. For those of you following the Salmon River and Orleans Complexities webpage during this year’s fires, this is the same Rainbow Mine that had fire on all sides and lost two structures a couple months back. There is a 20 acre unburned piece right below the main structures that was unburned in the fire. This weekend we will be returning to Orleans to burn the 90+ acre Tshanik unit that runs from Gold Dredge Road to the mouth of Camp Creek. This is the site of the 2001 and 2013 Orleans

Fires that threatened the town of Orleans. We will be having a community potluck on Sunday, October 5, around 7 pm with presentations from Margo Robbins from the Yurok Cultural Fire Management Council, Bill Tripp from the Karuk Dept of Natural Resources, and myself. Come down and meet the amazing group of firefighters that are helping us bring fire back to this country in a good way.



Photo: Thomas Dunklin

October 3

Day Two of the Fall 2014 TREX was one of my best burning days ever. Sam Berry burning his own place with the support of the TREX team was a model for the future of fire management. As I get to know the amazing group of 50+ firefighters who were crazy enough to sign up for TREX, I am inspired more than ever by their dedication to restoring the process of fire to these hills, and having a good time doing it. So much learning and sharing and burning today, all in a big horseshoe below the Berry home, which itself was built by the Red Cross after the original home burned in the the 1987 Fire. Tomorrow we will burn up at Rainbow Mine, patrol the burns at Godfrey and Blue Ridge, and finalize the lines and the burn plan for the 85 acre Ta-shun-ik unit in Orleans for burning Saturday (if we get all the permits in place...) Big shout out to Calfire, USFS, and air quality supporting this TREX as much as they have!



Tom Fielden, our fearless leader and Incident Commander. His experience burning on the Salmon River through the years is evident through his application of fire to the ground. He takes the time to teach the how and why of prescribed fire like few folks I have worked with.



Heather Rickard, one of the many talented women that are part of the Klamath River TREX. Bill Tripp encouraged us to recruit women to participate since historically much of the burning was done by women in these hills. Their understanding of the balance between making and taking life with fire may just be what we need to restore a healthy relationship to fire.

October 4

Successful 20 acre burn at Rainbow Mine this afternoon and evening. Lots of cured heavy fuels and deep duff layers dictated that we take our time and burn into the night. Small but amazing crew. Hats off to all of them: Jim Wills, Jose Duce, Adam Hickl, Scott Harding, Sam Commarto, Ken Staples, Brock Luedthe, Tomorrow it appears is a go for the 85 acre Ta-shun-ik burn in Orleans. We will have several engines, 42 firefighters, a water tender, and other local contingency resources. Nancy Bailey went door-to-door today to check in with folks about the burn. Chris Root finalized the many permit docs to get the necessary permits and variances (with a team helping).

Guy Duffner and Jose Duce keep cranking out solid Incident Action Plans in the wee hours. Jim Wills is keeping an eye to the proverbial backdoor, those units already burned that are waiting for drier fuels to be receptive. Daily patrols have been visiting each burn site, putting in line and watering things down. Time for bed and some rest.

October 4 (on the Salmon River & Orleans Complexities page)

It feels so good to live in a place where landowners, even ones who have had fire on all sides but one, who have lost homes only months before to wildfires, realize the opportunity of that "good black" to implement larger prescribed burns below their homes to prevent future wildfires from burning up more structures. Dick and Heather Watts up at Rainbow Mine were happy to host the Fall 2014 Klamath Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TREX) to do just that.



Not only were photos regularly uploaded to the Facebook page during the event, many were captioned with useful and engaging information.

All photos in here are from the MKWC Facebook page.



Making fresh deer browse in a masticated black oak/madrone stand.



Sam Berry finishing up lighting the masticated unit below his home around 10 pm last night.



Evening planning meeting in the field with the jefes, Jose Luis Duce and Jim Wills.



Brock Luedthe having some late night fun. This unit was actually brutal on the lighters.

October 4

There will be a Community Potluck/Mixer for folks to come and mingle with the 50+ fireworkers participating in the Klamath TREX this Sunday at the Panamnik Building in Orleans. Salmon and refreshments will be provided. Please bring a side dish. There will be presentations on cultural fire management and expanding the use of prescribed fire to protect communities and increase the resources we depend on for our sweet lives in the hills. 7 pm Dinner, 8 pm Presentations. Hope to see you there!

October 5

Here's just some of the fiery Klamath River TREX folks you will meet if you come down to the Panamnik Building tonight for a salmon dinner (7 pm - bring a potluck side if you can) and some short presentations on why we are burning all over the place.



October 6 (late pm)

Day 6 of the Klamath River TREX! Whilst one crew burned about 20 acres at the Nichols residence and Horn Field in Forks, and others mopped up at the Godfrey, Blue Ridge, Rainbow, Tshanik, and Nix units, we went on a tour of sacred mountains waiting for ceremonial fire, holes filled with salmon, and others for swimming, and ended up tying in with the Forks burn crew late in the day. To date, we have burned about 170 acres on 11 burn units. Morale is high after we got the porta-potties, local laundry service (special thanks to Malcolm Terence), and a pallet of water (courtesy of Karuk Tribe). Last night we heard songs and stories from Margo Robbins and Bill Tripp of how the Yurok and Karuk people use fire as a tool at the community potluck. And then we had an impromptu dance party until way too late at night! Good people, good fire. Couldn't ask for more.



From left to right:

Brock Luedthe has been rocking it on so many levels. As a firing boss and holding boss, scrambling up and down mountains spreading fire and sharing his knowledge with others. Jill Beckmann blushing after getting a raucous applause for her mad skilz as a firing and holding boss today. Jackie Goodwin is leaving the TREX to attend to her real job with the tribe, but it has been a pleasure watching her develop some serious chops with a drip torch. Come back next year! Andy Goldman and landowner Scott Harding "putting the monkey" to an oak woodland downslope of Scott and Lyra's place. They had to work fast so the heat would help drive the right level of consumption.

Fall 2014 Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange
October 1-11, 2014

Community Potluck / Mixer / Presentations

Sunday, October 5th - Panamnik Building
7pm – Salmon Dinner (Bring a Side Dish)
8pm – Presentations

Presentations by:
Margo Robbins – Yurok Cultural Fire Management Council
Bill Tripp – Karuk Department of Natural Resources
Will Harling – Mid Klamath Watershed Council



44 people like this.

Pimm Allen So amazing ... Big shout out to all involved ... My great-great grandma would be proud!
October 6 at 11:58pm · Like · 4

Greg J. Bennett Great pictures Will Harling ... forwarded link to my brothers and Dad and told them that this is in our future ... looks great.
October 7 at 8:17am · Like · 1

Donna Brucker It's looking good here at Blue Ridge. Great to get fire back on the ground by choice..... Thanks everybody
October 7 at 6:56pm · Like · 4





Gabriel Calahen, TNC burner from the far south who drove a whole truckload of radios, Nomex, tools, and other TNC Fire Cache gear from New Mexico to Nor Cal to make this TREX happen. A good man.

October 8

Day 7 of the Klamath River TREX saw one burn team implementing a 14 acre controlled burn on Slate Creek and another team burning a 12 acre piece near the mouth of Clear Creek. Both were very successful burns with great consumption but minimal damage to the canopy. Today we have started implementing burns at Peach Creek and above Sandy Bar on Ishi Pishi Road. Tomorrow we will be burning up Ti Bar Road, and then this magical fire experience will be wrapping up Friday with documenting training assignments and a final community potluck/after action review. Josh Saxon will be cooking salmon on sticks, and Frank Lake, Will Harling, and TNC TREX program coordinator Jeremy Bailey (who rolls into town tonight) will be giving short presentations. We hope to shoot for dinner at 6pm with AAR and presentations to follow.



Left: Tobey Behr, Firestorm engine captain and snag faller extraordinaire. Above: Mark Dupont blowing the upper line at the Clear unit.

October 9

Day 8 of the Klamath River TREX: We implemented burns in Orleans above Sandy Bar on Ishi Pishi Road and in the Peach Creek neighborhood across the Klamath River. These were large, steep units that truly tested both trained and beginner firefighters alike. After eight days straight of burning with intermittent night shifts, folks are feeling the effects of fatigue, or as Firestorm IC / Burn Boss Jim Wills puts it, "they're broke off". So far we have burned about 220 acres on 11 different parcels from Weitchpec. All these units have been adjacent to homes for WUI protection, and some have been for cultural resource enhancement. Today the team is mopping up the burns from the past couple days, and implementing prescribed burns at several units up Ti Bar at the Strouss property. Tomorrow we take time to fill out task books and document all the training that has occurred during the TREX. We will have an after action review (AAR) to document lessons learned with agency partners, and with TREX participants, so TREX'es in the coming years go a little more smoothly.

October 9

Tomorrow (Friday) there will be a free community potluck dinner with salmon cooked on sticks by Josh Saxon and Frank Lake, and short presentations by Frank Lake (PSW Research Station) on the use of fire to improve cultural resources, Jeremy Bailey (US Fire Learning Network TREX Program Director) on TREX across the country and the world, and Will Harling on how the Klamath River TREX is being scaled up to the landscape scale and accomplishments from this TREX. Dinner at 6pm. Presentations at 7pm. Hanging out with all the cool TREX participants - 8pm on!

For more information this TREX:

Will Harling
will@mkwc.org

For more on other TREX:

Jeremy Bailey
jeremy_bailey@tnc.org

TREX are supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together*, 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.



All star burn team at Peach Creek unit: Aja Conrad, Skip Lowry and Jill Beckmann.



Jose Luis Duce, the man, the myth, the legend. Burning at Peach Creek last night.



An equal opportunity provider



CITY OF FLAGSTAFF VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

“Service at a Higher Elevation”

Date Posted: October 10, 2014
Vacancy No: xxx-14
Position Title: Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project Operations Specialist
Division / Section: Fire/ Wildland Fire
Closing Date: October 31, 2014
Position Status: Full-time, FLSA Non-Exempt, Tenure and Benefit eligible
Work Week: Monday- Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 pm
Salary Range: \$19.6068- \$22.5675 per hour doe
Recruitment: Daily Sun (10/12, 10/19,10/26), NAU, CCC, Govtjobs.com, AZLeague

Additional Information:

Actively supports and upholds the City’s stated mission and values.

Under direct supervision of the Wildland Fire Management Officer (WF - FMO), the incumbent independently performs technical field and office work related directly to implementation of the Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project (FWPP). Work includes coordination with various stakeholders, organizations, and other partners, as well as contract supervision, associated decision-making, and reporting. The incumbent will also periodically participate, as able, in other non-FWPP activities, to include Prevention and Preparedness programs, select Hazard Mitigation projects, and Response and Recovery efforts.

This position is a contracted temporary position, renewable on an annual basis, for up to the life of the FWPP bond (expected duration 5-7 years). Extension beyond this period is dependent upon successful performance, availability of funding, and staffing needs of the Fire Department. The position is FLSA non-exempt.

ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES

- **Supervisory:** As needed, coordinates FWPP implementation and/or monitoring work with the City’s Wildland Fire Management crew and/or partners. On occasion, oversees interns and/or volunteers engaged in specific FWPP activities. May lead the seasonal crew on a periodic basis dependent upon individual certifications and qualifications to do so.
- **Budgetary:** This job provides input on equipment, materials, and supply needs and associated costs; and reviews/recommends action on reimbursement invoices related to FWPP activities.
- **Strategic Planning:** This job provides input on both long and short-term goals.
- **Policies/Procedures:** This job has partial responsibility for recommending and interpreting policies and procedures at the program level including assisting with training employees on Citywide and Fire Department related policies and procedures and explaining same to partners as needed.
- **Compliance:** This job has full responsibility for following and ensuring compliance with Federal, State, and Local laws, rules, regulations, FWPP Agreements, and City policies and procedures including in the areas of Wildland Urban Interface Code, OSHA, Federal and State Wildland Fire and All-Hazard standards and guidelines, and Payroll.

- Council Communications: This job carries out daily and project activities in accordance with Council's adopted priorities and direction, and on occasion, assists the WF-FMO by providing information and material that will be used during Council discussions and presentations.
- Reporting: This job has partial responsibility for internal and external reporting on the FWPP activities.

EXAMPLES OF THE WORK PERFORMED (ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY)

- Provides excellent customer service to both internal and external customers.
- Performs FWPP unit set-up; develops land-management, forest treatment, and prescribed burn plans and directs/assists with implementation; monitors stream flow stations and precipitation gauges; and tracks and reports on project accomplishments.
- Assists with the development and delivery of FWPP outreach efforts.
- Assists with application of the City's Forest Stewardship Plan and Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Code, as well as other plans, standards, and guidelines related to FWPP.
- Supports the Dept's Firewise neighborhood and Fire-Adapted Community program by assisting with community outreach efforts.
- Researches and assists with equipment and supply purchases and utilization.
- Periodically exposed to hazardous duty assignments, to include responding to wildfire and other emergency incidents as a Single Resource, or a member of a crew, as necessary, and engages in other planned and emergency response efforts, to include staffing the City/County Emergency Operations Center activations, as qualified and available.
- Completes P-Card Purchase Log, develops grant applications and completes required reports, and reviews and recommends action related to FWPP partner Agreements.
- Prepares fire invoices and other reimbursement requests to include preparation of required documentation packets.
- Operates all assigned equipment in a safe and efficient manner.
- Routinely prepares and presents oral and written reports.
- Serves as Contracting Officer representing the City on forest treatment projects, and reviews contractor or consultant fieldwork for acceptance and recommends action related to payment.
- Interacts with Department personnel (all ranks), City officials, stakeholders, home-and-property owners/associations, civic organizations, partners, and agencies.
- Represents both the City and the Dept in public settings, in partnership and collaborative efforts, and other venues as assigned.
- In the absence of the Wildland Fire Supervisor, may temporarily supervise the seasonal crew on wildland fire assignments and during implementation of Hazard Mitigation projects (including thinning, debris disposal, and prescribed burning operations), to include project oversight and safety, personnel accountability, documentation of daily attendance, submitting status reports, and completing payroll.
- Assists with development and delivery of training in wildland fire management, equipment use, fire fighting, and forestry techniques, practices, and standards.
- Provides on-site coordination with leaders from other agencies and organizations during joint fire response and mitigation operations.
- Other duties as assigned.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's Degree in Forestry, Fire Ecology, Fire Science, or a related field.
- Two years of experience in Forestry and/or Wildland Fire Management specific to the fields of Fuels Reduction, Hazard Mitigation, and/or Forest Restoration, to include various harvesting systems.
- One year of computer experience Microsoft Office products and the Internet.
- Firefighter 2 certification as defined by the National Wildfire-Coordinating Group (NWCG).
- Faller A Sawyer certification as defined by the National Wildfire-Coordinating Group (NWCG).
- Or any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the above Minimum

Requirements.

DESIRED EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

- Knowledge of the Flagstaff Fire Department (specifically the Wildland Fire Management program).
- Familiarity with Greater Flagstaff Community Wildfire Protection Plan (www.gffp.org) and the FWPP (www.flagstaffwatershedprotection.org)
- Experience in working with/providing oversight to logging contractors and agency field crews.
- Experience in working for or in partnership with the US Forest Service and/or any State Forestry agency.
- Firewise Assessor certification from any State, jurisdiction, or Firewise.org
- Development and implementation of Fuel Reduction, Hazard Mitigation, Restoration, and Prescribed Burn plans.
- Demonstrated ability to create and maintain effective working relationships with stakeholders, agency staff, and other partners.
- Basic Emergency Medical Technician certificate.
- Awareness and understanding of forest contractor issues, to include equipment terminology and technologies, operational constraints and opportunities, market conditions, etc.
- Knowledge of logging systems, equipment capabilities, logging safety and resource protection measures.
- Demonstrated successful participation in a small team, both during planned and emergency events.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Must possess, or obtain upon employment, a valid Arizona driver's license.
- Regular attendance is an essential function of this job to ensure continuity.
- Per NWCG standards:
 - pass the Wildland Fire physical fitness qualification test (work capacity test – arduous level) within two weeks of appointment and maintain fitness qualification on an annual basis;
 - Qualify as Prescribed Burn Boss III (Rx3) within 24 months of hire;
 - Qualify as a Single Resource Boss (Crew, Engine, or Heavy Equipment) or another non-operations Command or General Staff Officer, Manager, or Unit Leader within 48 months of hire.
- Ability to obtain:
 - State certification as a Firewise Advisor within 18 months of hire;
 - Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certificate within 24 months of hire;
 - Check Cruiser Certification within 24 months of hire.
- All emergency service employees shall maintain their principal residence within a prescribed area. The prescribed area shall be defined as a 12-mile radius from City Hall or 35 miles eastbound, westbound, and southbound from the I-17 and I-40 exchanges with a five mile wide corridor (2 ½ miles on each side).
- Subject to recall based on departmental need and subject to assignment to city and/or interagency incidents.
- Willingness and ability to attend other training (not all related to Wildland Fire) to improve individual skills, knowledge, and abilities and department capacity.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES (ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY)

- Language Skills: Ability to read, interpret, and apply documents such as land and resource management plans, contracts and agreements, directives, safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, budget sheets, and procedure manuals. Ability to collect and decipher information, and write/and/or develop/briefings, reports, correspondence, news releases and/or other publications. Ability to speak effectively before groups of stakeholders, partners, or city employees.
- Mathematical Skills: Ability to calculate figures and amounts such as discounts, interest, commissions, proportions, percentages, area, circumference, and volume. Ability to apply concepts

of basic algebra and geometry. Ability to calculate cost impacts and trends/projections based on use. Ability to accurately prepare and/or review invoices.

- Reasoning Ability: Ability to solve problems and deal with a variety of variables in situations where only limited standardization exists. Ability to interpret a variety of instructions furnished in written, oral, diagram, or schedule form. Ability to anticipate needs and deliver desired outcomes based upon the current and projected situation.
- Ability to operate computers including compiling and completing reports using Microsoft Office products, enter data into Firehouse record keeping system, compose emails, conduct internet research, operate social media platforms, and create/format and post website materials.
- Ability to operating GPS technology and utilize/navigate GIS platforms.
- Knowledge of fire resistive construction practices and materials commonly encountered in the WUI.
- Knowledge and understanding of WUI issues (wildfire, forest health, infrastructure needs, development practices and standards, etc) and solutions.
- Knowledge and understanding of Environmental Impact Statements, Environmental Analysis, Categorical Exclusions, Biological Opinions, etc (process, format, standards, and application/utilization).

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

- While performing the duties of this job, the employee is routinely required to sit, stand, walk, use hands or fingers to handle or feel, reach with hands and arms, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl, and talk and hear.
- The employee must periodically lift up to 25 pounds, occasionally lift up to 50 pounds, and rarely lift up to 100 pounds.
- Vision requirements for this position include: close, distance, and peripheral vision as well as depth perception and ability to adjust focus.
- Working conditions include: periodic exposure to outdoor weather conditions, vibration, and working near moving mechanical parts. The employee will periodically be exposed to fumes or airborne particles and toxic or caustic chemicals, wet or humid conditions, working in high, precarious places, extreme heat, and risk of electrical shock.
- The noise level in the work environment is sometimes very loud.

For application materials:

Visit: Human Resources
Monday – Friday 8 AM – 5 PM at:
211 W. Aspen Ave., Flagstaff, AZ 86001
Call: (928) 213-2090 or
1 (800) 463-1389
Fax: (928) 213-2089
Website: www.flagstaff.az.gov
Email: human.resources@flagstaffaz.gov

Applications are due to Human Resources by
5 PM on the closing date
regardless of the postmarked date.



The City of Flagstaff is an EEO/AA
employer.