

FLN Networker No. 184: May 13, 2015

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

Georgia: Mike Davis (Georgia Blue Ridge FLN landscape) and Frank Riley (FAC Learning Network in Towns County) will be **panelists** on an upcoming IAFC **webinar on fire adapted communities**. (See the listings below.)

Nebraska: For a **student's eye view** of the Niobrara Valley Prescribed Fire Training Exchange—also known as the **Spring Break TREX**—see the [video montage](#) by University of Idaho student **Natan Barbosa**.

New Jersey: John Cowie, part of the **Barnegat Township FAC Learning Network** team, is [quoted in a story](#) about the effects of a snowy winter on the upcoming fire season (not good, with a much-reduced window for prescribed fire). "We have serious fires in New Jersey, and that's what everybody's realizing," said Cowie. "It's **not just a West Coast problem**."

Oregon: "Today is a day to celebrate," according to **Darren Borgias** (dborgias@tnc.org). Rather, April 30 was, when the **Ashland Forest Resiliency** Stewardship Project got its **first underburning** done as part of its work in the Ashland **watershed**. There was a [good story](#) about it on local TV.

Washington: From the [South Sound Prairies Facebook page](#)—"Thanks to warm dry weather and having **Mason [McKinley]** as our **new local burn boss**, we have been able to get an early start on our burn season at JBLM.... Yesterday, we even **got into a prairie** in the Central Impact Area we have been **trying to burn for more than 10 years!** So far, we have completed almost 100 acres in oak, ponderosa pine and prairie habitat."

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges: While the **Central Oregon Prescribed Fire Training Exchange** is a **first for the Northwest FLN** and its partners, it's a milestone of a different sort as well. The event, which begins in earnest tomorrow, is the **40th TREX** offered since they began in 2008. These TREX have provided participants with **nearly 1,300 opportunities** to strengthen their skills and relationships, and together they have completed more than **75,000 acres** of good ecological fire in the process.

Southern Blue Ridge FLN: This regional network has now **collected information** on much of its work in one easy-to-find place. Visit the [SBR FLN landing page](#) on the Conservation Gateway for links to information about individual landscapes; network **publications**, products, **webinars**, **brochures**, etc. and *FLN Notes from the Field* about the SBR, as well as links to their **annual conference website**, and websites from **others working in the region**. The page is being managed by **Jennifer Lamb** (jlamb@tnc.org).

Funding: NFF Matching / Regional Conservation Partnership Program

NFF Matching: The **National Forest Foundation** has grant opportunities under its **Matching Awards Program**, with a focus on "**on the ground or citizen-based monitoring projects** that improve forest health and outdoor experiences." Details are available on the [NFF site](#); the deadline for the current round of awards is **June 24**.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program: The **Natural Resources Conservation Service** RCPP will be investing up to \$235 million to help local **coalitions** “improve the nation's **water quality**, combat **drought**, enhance **soil health**, support wildlife **habitat** and protect **agricultural viability**.” [Details](#) are available on the Washington NRCS website; pre-proposals are due **July 8**.

Resources: Turkeys / Idaho Fire Site

Turkeys: A [story](#) in *Georgia Outdoor News* by **Lynn Lewis-Weis** of the **National Wild Turkey Federation** is **addressed to hunters** concerned about the **effects of growing season burns** on turkeys. It clearly and thoroughly makes the case for such burns, covering various aspects of turkey habitat needs, and making clear the difference between managing for individuals and **managing for populations**.

Idaho Fire Site: **Agencies throughout Idaho** have partnered to create a [single website](#) for **all things wildfire** related, from current wildfires and fire restrictions to Firewise.

Articles & Reports: Wildfire Feedback Loop / Forest Canopies

Wildfire Feedback Loop: Few surprises for this audience in the [article](#) “**Negative Consequences of Positive Feedbacks** in U.S. Wildfire Management,” but it does lay the issue out fairly succinctly, and with a **conceptual model graphic**.

Forest Canopies: [ScienceDaily reports](#) on the recent *Global Ecology and Biogeography* article, “Forest Canopies **Buffer against Climate Change**.” In short, models should take into account **differences between juvenile and mature trees** when projecting regeneration potential.

In the News: Rx in Santa Fe NF Wilderness

Rx in Santa Fe Wilderness: The **Santa Fe National Forest** has signed a **decision notice and finding of no significant impact** for developing and implementing prescribed burning in the wilderness portion of the **Santa Fe Watershed** ([media release](#)). The 17,000-acre watershed (10,000 acres of which is wilderness) provides about 40 percent of the City's water. Since 2002, the Forest has treated over 5,500 acres in the lower (non-wilderness portion); now, about **2,100 acres will be treated** in the watershed's designated wilderness portion..

Job: Preserve Manager

Preserve Manager: The **Nature Conservancy** in **South Dakota** is seeking a manager for the **S. H. Ordway Prairie Preserve**. Details are available at www.nature.org/careers (job ID 43123); applications are due by **June 8**.

Webinars

May 14
new listing

NWS Fire Weather Resources for the South

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern

Angela Enyedi (National Weather Service) will present this Southern Fire Exchange webinar covering products for predicting wildfire and smoke behavior.

Register: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/southern-fire-exchange-webinar-nws-fire-weather-resources-for-the-south-tickets-16939364094>

May 28
new listing

Fire Adapted Communities: Do You Have the Tools You Need?

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern

Caitlin McGuide, Mike Davis and Frank Riley will be the panelists on this Ready, Set, Go! program webinar.

Information:

<http://iafc.informz.net/informzdataservice/onlineversion/ind/bWFpbGluZ2luc3Rhb mNlaWQ9NDc2NTM0NiZzdWJzY3JpYmVyaWQ9MTA1MDU5OTE4MQ==>

May 28
new listing

An Introduction to the AdaptWest Database for Climate Adaptation Conservation Planning

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern

This Conservation Biology Institute webinar will look at a newly released dataset that portrays (at 1 km resolution) velocity of climate change for North America under alternative future scenarios.

Information: <http://www.consbio.org/newsroom/events/webinar-introduction-adaptwest-database-climate-adaptation-conservation-planning>

FLN and FAC LN Workshops & Field Tours

May 12-14

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Morganton, NC

May 19-21
new listing

Western Klamath Restoration Partnership / Somes Bar, CA

Participants will tour the Ti Bar area, part of one of the group's pilot sites, to discuss oaks, commercial thinning in natural stands, and resilience. They will also have a session on crafting a good purpose and need statement for NEPA.

Information: Mary Huffman (mhuffman@tnc.org)

June 1-4

National FLN Workshop / Santa Fe, NM

Leaders will meet with their counterparts in the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network and help shape the FLN's upcoming work. The FLN will meet from Monday evening through 5:00 Thursday.

June 1-5

National FAC Learning Network Workshop / Santa Fe, NM

Leaders will meet with their counterparts in the Fire Learning Network, share learning, and help plan the network's upcoming structure and work. The FAC network will meet from Monday evening through Friday noon.

June 10-11

FireScope Mendocino Workshop 6 / Covelo, CA

At this workshop, participants will hear from subgroups set up at the last workshop about progress made to date, build shared learning on a field tour, and continue to work on topics such as landscape-scale vegetation management, creating fire-ready communities, air quality issues and increasing tribal involvement in the FireScope.

Information: see the announcement at <http://mendocinofirescape.blogspot.com/>

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

May 11-20
cancelled

East River TREX—Session II / eastern SD

This TREX supported by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, SD Wildland Fire Division, TNC and other partners has been cancelled due to **drought conditions**.

- May 14-21** **Central Oregon Ecological Fire Training Exchange / Bend, OR**
 This **Northwest FLN TREX**, aimed at prescribed fire partners in the state, will focus on the ecological, social, communications, monitoring and operational dimensions of planning and implementing ecologically-based prescribed fire for restoration goals. (The application deadline has passed.)
- Sept. 15-Oct. 5** **Spanish-Language TREX / northern NM**
 This training exchange will be held in and around the Santa Fe National Forest, and will bring together participants from several countries and across the U.S. (The application deadline has passed.)

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- May 27-29** **5th Fire in Eastern Oak Forests Conference / Tuscaloosa, AL**
 Information: <http://easternfire.as.ua.edu>
- June 7-12** **Fire Ecology Institute for Educators / Durango, CO**
 Information: see July workshop, below; the registration deadline is May 22
- June 17** **Seeding Rate Study / Lamar, MO**
 Participants on this field tour will visit a study site assessing differences in amount of seed used in prairie reconstruction. Register by May 25.
 Information: <http://blogs.missouristate.edu/gpfirescience/2015/04/26/seeding-rate-study-field-trip/>
- July 6-12** **Fire Ecology Institute for Educators / Florissant, CO**
 This workshop for grade 3-12 educators has sponsors and presenters, including the Colorado State Forest Service, Coalition for the Upper South Platte, The Nature Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Research Station and others. The registration deadline is June 19.
 Information: scroll through the listings at <http://coloradoplnt.org/workshops/>
- July 28-29** **Best Practices for Communication and Delivery of Prescribed Fire Messaging / Tall Timbers Research Station, FL**
 This course is aimed at increasing the use of prescribed burning in fire maintained ecosystems on private lands through more effective, coordinated communications.
 Information: <http://www.ncsu-feop.org/RxFire/communications/>
- July 29-30**
new listing **Shortleaf Pine in the Appalachians—A Workshop to Discuss Threats, Barriers and Successes in the Restoration of Shortleaf Pine / Asheville, NC**
 The Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists and The Nature Conservancy will be hosting this workshop, which will include facilitated discussions and a field tour of the Sandymush Game Land.
 Information: https://gallery.mailchimp.com/e2093863b4879c06a3bdd3e72/files/CAFMS_newsletter_vol_5_issue_1.pdf
- August 26-27**
new listing **Patch Burn Grazing Meeting / Pratt, KS**
 The call for abstracts for the Great Plains Fire Science Exchange meeting is open through July 10.
 Information: <http://blogs.missouristate.edu/gpfirescience/2015/04/28/call-for-abstracts-2015-patch-burn-grazing-meeting/>

- September 24-26** **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference: Creating Fire Adapted Communities / Snowmass Village, CO**
The conference theme will be “Fire adapted communities—who owns the risk?”
Information: <http://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
- October 22-24** **Backyards & Beyond: Wildland Fire Education Conference / Myrtle Beach, SC**
Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/training/backyards-and-beyond>
- November 16-20** **AFE Fire Ecology & Management Congress / San Antonio, TX**
The call for proposals (oral & poster presentations, attached meetings) is open.
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is at SBR FLN May 11-15; out May 21-22.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in Somes Bar, CA May 18-22.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is at Oregon TREX May 12-21; out May 25-June 12.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is at SBR FLN May 11-15.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Somes Bar, CA May 18-22.

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

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

Note: May 25 is a Conservancy holiday

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Full Links

News from the Field—Nebraska—TREX video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUIAcVKQZjM>

News from the Field—New Jersey: <http://www.app.com/story/news/local/southern-ocean-county/barnegat/2015/03/31/will-snowy-winter-mean-nj-forest-fires/70754354/>

News from the Field—Oregon: http://kobi5.com/news/local-news/item/first-prescribed-under-burn-takes-place-in-ashland.html?category_id=3#.VVEbyZrnaot

News from the Field—SBR FLN:

<https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/RegionalNetworks/Pages/SBR.aspx>

Funding—NFF matching: <https://www.nationalforests.org/grant-programs>

Funding—NRCS: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wa/programs/farmland/rcpp/>

Resources—Turkeys: <http://www.gon.com/article.php?id=4191>

Resources—Idaho fire site: <http://idahofireinfo.blogspot.com/>

Articles & Reports--Wildfire feedback loop: <http://www.treeseearch.fs.fed.us/pubs/48164>

Articles & Reports—Forest canopies: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/04/150429182436.htm>

In the News--Rx in Santa Fe Wilderness: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/santafe/news-events/?cid=STELPRD3837423>

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