

FLN Networker No. 196: October 28, 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

Arizona: Good news for the **Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project**, as the Forest Service has given **final approval** for the **10,500 acres of thinning and burning** planned to protect the municipal watershed, including treatments in the habitat of the endangered Mexican spotted owl. Local **FAC Net** lead **Mark Brehl** (mbrehl@flagstaffaz.gov) was quoted in [an article](#) in the *Arizona Daily Sun*, noting that “Our success in this project has greater **implications nationwide** as other communities follow this model.”

California: More follow-up from the **Klamath River TREX**—first, a clarification from the last issue: this event was led by the **Karuk Tribe** and **Mid Klamath Watershed Council**, using a **unified command** approach (Type III Incident Management Team).

Shortly after the TREX wrapped up, **Bill Tripp** (btripp@karuk.us) and **Jeremy Bailey** (jeremy_bailey@tnc.org) were **interviewed on KMUD Redwood Community Radio** (the hour-long recording is [archived](#): see the October 20 entry under Environment Show). Also read Bill's **blog post** on FACNetwork.org for a summary of the TREX—and how we can **measure success** in something better than acres.

And see the **Western Cohesive Fire Strategy** [blog post](#) titled “**One of the Best Demonstrations of Implementing the Cohesive Strategy**—Klamath River TREX Lights Off This Week.”

California: The *Eureka Times-Standard* ran a good [article](#) on the burning done in the **second** of the three **Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges** in northern California this fall. “**Yurok Tribe** Holding Prescribed Burns in Weitchpec” covered some of the **cultural reasons behind the burning** done during that event.

California: And as of last evening, participants in the **NorCal TREX** had completed **about 230 acres** of burning on a combination of **private, tribal and federal land**, with many **more on the docket** for the next few days. Local **residents appreciate the work** being done, as noted by a member of a homeowners' association near one of the burns: “We want to **thank you** and everyone on your crews for the difficult, dangerous, and necessary work you all do. Please thank everyone involved on behalf of our neighborhood.... Speaking for myself, **my confidence increases each year** as the thinning, prescribed burn, and burn pile programs continue and **I observe the significant reduction in ground fuels**.” This TREX—the last of the season—runs through November 1.

Central Appalachians: Last week the **Central Appalachians FLN** hosted its annual workshop in conjunction with a **Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists** (CAFMS) Fire History Workshop in Pembroke, Virginia. **Forty participants** from ten agencies heard and discussed presentations on topics from **collaborative success** stories and **new tools** to northern long-eared **bats** and **fire effects monitoring**. The **Partnership Award** was presented to **Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries** for their tenacity and commitment to engaging with the FLN in collaborative planning and implementation across agency boundaries.

Colorado: A **media tour** of the at the Catamount burn site on Colorado Springs Utility's North Slope reservoir was held a couple weeks ago to share information about the **Pike Peak FLN's prescribed fire plans**. Organized by **Patrice Lehermeier** (CSU) and **Lindsay Schlageter** (TNC), the tour resulted in some good coverage, including the [story](#) "**Return of Prescribed Burns** to Colorado Could be a **Lifesaver**" in the Colorado Springs Gazette. For more information, contact **Paige Lewis** (paige_lewis@tnc.org).

New Mexico: About 150 acres of **prescribed burning** is taking place this week in northern New Mexico, in a **cooperative effort** between the **Forest Stewards Guild** (formerly Forest Guild), **The Nature Conservancy**, **Cibola National Forest** (Mt. Taylor RD), Cottonwood Gulch Foundation and the **Pratt Ranch**. A good [press release](#) gave local residents the **heads-up and general information** last week, and the Forest Stewards Guild has an [updates page](#) for more information (which also stresses the importance of controlled burns for **building fire adapted communities**).

Washington: KING TV in Seattle recently ran the [story](#) "**Forest Restored to Pre-Wildfire Suppression Conditions**" about the **Oak Creek** restoration project, a collaborative project under the auspices of the **Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative**. A more [in-depth article](#), "**Selective Logging** Provides Good **Work for Crews** and Renewed **Habitat for Wildlife**," also appeared in *Yakima Herald*. **Media efforts** in that landscape are stressing the **variety of forest restoration strategies** that can be used, and the **necessity of working across ownership** boundaries. For more, contact **Reese Lolley** (rlolley@tnc.org).

Call for Reviewers: JFSP

JFSP: The **Joint Fire Science Program** has put out a **call for peer reviewers** for the proposals they expect to receive in response to the FY 16 Funding Opportunity Notices. Details are in the attached memo. (**Beth Buchanan** pointed out that the panels will be made up of a number of reviewers, all of whom will have their own strengths when it comes to reviewing the proposals. This is not a call just for researchers—JFSP **needs manager input** as well. In addition, she notes the importance of having expertise in eastern systems on some of the panels.)

Resources & Reports: Fire Monitoring / Sage-Grouse / Wikipedia

Fire Monitoring: In a **Southern Blue Ridge FLN** webinar last week, **Cassandra Pallai** (cassandra.pallai@gmail.com) discussed her Master's project research in the **Linville Gorge Wilderness Area**. Her work was based on resampling plots originally put in during 1992 that have also been resampled by Waldrop and others in the intervening years. Pallai combined the results of multiple samples to **study compositional and structural changes** over time with **different fire regimes**. The webinar **recording**, a pdf of the **slides**, the full Master's project **report** and a **GIS fire severity tool** developed for the analysis are now [posted on the Conservation Gateway](#).

Sage-Grouse: The **U.S. Geological Survey** recently released the first of a three-part "**Restoration Handbook** for Sagebrush Steppe Ecosystems with Emphasis on Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat." The [first section](#) covers concepts for understanding and applying restoration. The subsequent sections will provide guidance for restoring habitat at a landscape level and at a site-specific level, respectively.

Wikipedia: This online resource should have more accurate wildland-fire information soon. The **Student Association for Fire Ecology** (SAFE) is sponsoring a "**Wiki-thon**" at the AFE conference in San Antonio next month ([flyer](#)), at which groups of **university students** will work together to **update and improve** these pages.

Article: Relative Risk

Relative Risk: Reliable information about the risks of prescribed fire used by private practitioners is not available. In the [article](#) “First Approximations of **Prescribed Fire Risks Relative to Other Management Techniques** Used on Private Lands” **Dirac Twidwell** and colleagues attempted to gauge the relative risk of fatality to **private citizens** using prescribed fire compared to other readily-available ecosystem management techniques. The article includes **comparisons of fatalities** between wildland firefighters and jobs similar to conducting mechanical treatments (e.g. logging, crop production), and between wildfire and prescribed fires, and includes discussion of **risk perception** and **biases**. They conclude that “increasing programs requiring the **use of heavy mechanical equipment** ... may actually **increase fatality risks** for landowner operators or contractors, not lessen them, and still does not address the long-term risks posed by increasing wildland **fuel loadings** on private lands.”

Jobs: Assistant FMO / Fire Prevention Specialist / Mitigation & Education / JFSP Manager / Wildland Fire Module / Regional Director

Assistant FMO: The **Karuk Tribe** is hiring an **Assistant Fire Management Officer / Fuels Planner**, to be based in Orleans / Happy Camp, California. See the [position announcement](#) for more information. (Open until filled.)

Fire Prevention Specialist: The **Forest Service** is hiring a **Fire Prevention Specialist** based in Vallejo, California to assist the program manager in the development, organization and administration of the **region-wide** fire prevention, **mitigation and education**, and **community wildfire protection / WUI** programs. Details are at usajobs.gov, announcement 16-FIRE-156036G-PRC ([current federal. etc.](#) or [other U.S. citizens](#)); applications are due by **November 2**.

Mitigation & Education: The **BLM** is seeking a **Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist** based in Moab, UT. Information is available on usajobs.gov (announcement [UT-Merit-2016-0008](#)); applications are due by **November 4**.

JFSP Manager: The **BLM** is seeking a **Joint Fire Sciences Program Manager** to supervise a small staff and work collaboratively with an interagency governing board to determine research priorities, fund the highest quality peer-reviewed science and implement a national knowledge exchange program. Details are on usajobs.gov site ([federal employees](#) or [other U.S. citizens](#)); applications are due by **November 12**.

Wildland Fire Module: The **Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison NF** is conducting outreach to fill an **Assistant WFM Leader** position. Information is in the attached notice; replies are due by **November 25**.

Regional Director: Conservation Legacy is seeking a regional director for its Salida, Colorado location. Details are at www.conservationlegacy.org and in the [position notice](#). Open until filled.

Webinars

**November 2
new listing**

LANDFIRE Data Applications for Research in Fire Ecology and Forest Management

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

Brandon Collins will present this webinar co-hosted by LANDFIRE and the California Fire Science Consortium.

Information: <http://www.cafiresci.org/events-webinars-source/landfirecollins>

November 4
new listing

Does Wildfire Likelihood or Severity Increase Following Insect Outbreaks in Conifer Forests of the Pacific Northwest?

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern

Dr. Garrett Meigs (University of Vermont) will be the presenter in the first of three offerings in the Northwest Fire Science Consortium series on insects and fire.

Information: <http://www.nwfirescience.org/events/does-wildfire-likelihood-or-severity-increase-following-insect-outbreaks-conifer-forests>

November 10
new listing

Mixed Conifer Forest Ecology: Emerging Science

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern

Four panelists will be part of this webinar hosted by the Southwest Fire Science Consortium and the Ecological Restoration Institute:

- Kyle Rodman, on assessing and analyzing spatial patterns;
- Judy Springer, on effects of tree cutting and fire on the understory;
- Amy Waltz, on treatment effectiveness in the Wallow Fire; and
- Andrew Sanchez Meador, on an overview of the LEARN project.

Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mixed-conifer-forest-ecology-emerging-science-registration-19174260730>

November 10
new listing

Climate-Informed Management of Oak Ecosystems in the Central Hardwoods Region

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern

Dr. Leslie Brandt (Climate Change Specialist, Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, USFS) will be the presenter in this Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium offering.

Information: <http://www.oakfirescience.com/events-webinars-source/2015/11/10/climate-informed-management-of-oak-ecosystems-in-the-central-hardwoods-region>

December 8
new listing

Juniper Encroachment as a Public Health Issue

12:30 Pacific / 1:30 Mountain / 2:30 Central / 3:30 Eastern

Estelle Levetin will talk pollen in this Great Plains Fire Science Exchange webinar.

Information: <http://www.gpfirescience.org/events-webinars-source/2015/12/8/webinar-juniper-encroachment-as-a-public-health-issue>

FLN and FAC Net Workshops & Field Tours

October 28-29

Western Klamath Restoration Partnership / Happy Camp, CA

Workshop 12 of the partnership will focus on one of the three geographic focal areas of the 1.2 million acre WKRP landscape, the Happy Camp area. Participants from the Forest Service, Happy Camp Fire Safe Council and others will present early-stage thinking about the design of a collaborative project on the order of 10,000 acres. The workshop will also include a panel discussion with scientists from the Pacific Southwest Research Station about needs for local research support.

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

December 2-3 **FireScape Mendocino / [site TBD, in the Paskenta project area], CA**
new listing Information: <http://mendocinofirescape.blogspot.com/2015/10/firescape-mendocino-nov-3-5-workshop-is.html>

December 3 **Georgia Blue Ridge FLN / Ellijay, GA**
The third meeting of this SBR FLN landscape will be held at the Emergency Ops Center. An agenda will be available soon.
Information: **Malcolm Hodges** (mhodes@tnc.org)

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

Oct. 20-Nov. 1 **NorCal Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Northern CA**
Forests and grasslands; international and U.S. fire practitioners will build their experience in prescribed fire practices, fire effects and other conservation efforts.

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

through October 31 **Art Exhibit: Fires of Change / Flagstaff, AZ**
This JFSP and NEA funded art exhibition features works created by 11 artists who took part in a week-long Fire Science Boot Camp last September.
Information: <http://flagartscouncil.org/2015/03/fires-change-exhibition/>

October 29 **Southeast New Mexico Prescribed Burning Workshop / Capitan, NM**
new listing This workshop for private landowners is being sponsored by the New Mexico Prescribed Fire Council and partners.
Information: <http://nmxfire.nmsu.edu/documents/se-rx-fire-workshop-flier.pdf>

November 3-5 **Natural Areas Conference / Little Rock, AR**
“Conservation through Collaboration” is the theme of this conference, co-sponsored by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Association, The Nature Conservancy and others.
Information: <http://www.naturalareasconference.org/>

November 4-6 **November Capstone Conference / Stockton University (Galloway), NJ**
deadline This North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange workshop will feature talks and field trip opportunities highlighting fire science in coastal pine barrens ecosystems. The call for posters is open through **October 30**.
Information: <http://www.firesciencenorthatlantic.org/events-webinars-source/2015/11/4/save-the-date-november-capstone-workshop-stockton-nj>

November 12 **Forest and Fire Ecology Teaching Tools for Wildfire Mitigation and Prevention Specialists / Colorado Springs, CO**
This training, intended for specialists who already have a wildland fire background, is co-sponsored by the Pikes Peak Wildfire Prevention Partners, Colorado State Forest Service and Project Learning Tree.
Information: <http://ppwpp.org/> (see “Inspire the Next Generation!”)

November 12-13 **Oak Woodland Ecology and Management Symposium / Eureka, CA**
Information: <http://cehumboldt.ucanr.edu/files/218366.pdf>

November 16-20 **AFE Fire Ecology & Management Congress / San Antonio, TX**
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>

- December 8-9** **Introduction to State-and-Transition Simulation Modeling of Landscape Vegetation Dynamics / Durham, NC**
 The TNC LANDFIRE team is sponsoring this two-day training using ST-Sim software, including modeling concepts, creating simple models of vegetation change, running the models and interpreting the results.
 Information: <http://wiki.syncrosim.com/index.php?title=Courses>
- January 19-27** **Crew Boss Academy / Wekiwa Springs State Park, FL**
 The Nature Conservancy is offering this 10-day academy, which includes the NWCG courses I-200, L-280, S-215, S-230 and S-231. Nominations are due by December 1.
 Information: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/CrewBossAcademy/Pages/crew-boss-academy.aspx>
- February 8-12** **Learning from Unintended Outcomes / Tucson, AZ**
new listing
 This workshop will illustrate concepts, technologies and methods to actively engage the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) and Coordinated Response Protocol (CRP) processes. (See also the April offering at the Forest Service, Region 2 Office.)
 Information: see attached flyer
- April 11-15** **5th International Fire Behavior + Fuels Conference / Portland, OR***
 The theme of this IAWF conference is "Wicked Problems, New Solutions: Our Fire, Our Problem."
 *The conference will be held concurrently in Portland and in Melbourne, Australia.
 Information: <http://www.firebehaviorandfuelsconference.com/>
- April 25-29** **Learning from Unintended Outcomes / Golden, CO**
new listing
 This workshop will illustrate concepts, technologies and methods to actively engage the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) and Coordinated Response Protocol (CRP) processes. (See also the February offering at NAFRI.)
 Information: see attached flyer

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is in DC October 26-30.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in northern CA October 19-November 2.

Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is in New York, NY October 27-30; out November 6-9.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in Grants, NM October 24-30.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Happy Camp, CA October 25-30.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is out October 30; in Galloway, NJ November 3-6.

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

Note: November 11 is a Conservancy holiday.

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—AZ: http://azdailysun.com/news/local/watershed-thinning-gets-final-green-light/article_26b1f619-a097-537e-956b-89bc1148a39b.html

News from the Field—CA—Klamath TREX: <http://archive.kmudfm.org/archive/index.php>

FAC Net blog post: <http://facnetwork.org/burning-together-and-learning-together/>

Cohesive Strategy blog post: <http://wildfireinthwest.blogspot.com/2015/10/one-of-best-demonstrations-of.html>

News from the Field—CA—Yurok TREX: <http://www.times-standard.com/general-news/20151016/yurok-tribe-holding-prescribed-burns-in-witchpeck>

News from the Field—CO: <http://gazette.com/return-of-prescribed-burns-to-colorado-could-be-a-lifesaver/article/1561360>

News from the Field—NM—Press release: http://www.cibolabeacon.com/news/cottonwood-gulch-pratt-prescribed-burn-scheduled-for-oct/article_e2571ae2-7774-11e5-83e9-c358ba6e2892.html

Updates:

News from the Field—WA—KING TV: <http://www.king5.com/story/tech/science/environment/2015/10/15/oak-creek-forest-restoration-wildfire/74023672/>

Yakima Herald: http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/local/selective-logging-provides-good-work-for-crews-and-renewed-habitat/article_f9a2bf5e-76e7-11e5-aaf7-1b83646048b0.html

Resources & Reports—Fire monitoring:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/SBR-Pallai-WildfireEffects.aspx>

Resources & Reports—Sage-grouse: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/circ/1416/cir1416.pdf>

Resources & Reports—Wikipedia: <http://files.ctctcdn.com/b6a47872101/334fae37-c2c4-4d06-9f26-29291907a0ab.pdf>

Article--Relative risk:

http://www.researchgate.net/publication/282854134_First_Approximations_of_Prescribed_Fire_Risks_Relative_to_Other_Management_Techniques_Used_on_Private_Lands

Jobs—Assistant FMO: http://www.karuk.us/images/AFMO_new_UPLOAD.pdf

Jobs—Fire prevention specialist—Current federal: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/419549300>

Other U.S. citizens: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/419550600>

Jobs—Mitigation & education: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/419346300>

Jobs--JFSP manager—federal: <https://blm.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/419490300>

Other U.S. citizens: <https://blm.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/419473900>

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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From: Jenison, Becky [bjenison@blm.gov]
To: Becky Jenison

Sent: Friday, October 16, 2015 5:03 PM
Subject: 2016 JFSP peer review volunteer **REPLY DUE 11/10/15**

The Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) needs your help to peer review the many proposals we expect to receive in response to our FY 16 Funding Opportunity Notices (FONs).

Recommendations from peer-review panels are critically important. The JFSP Governing Board uses recommendations from peer-review panels to help make funding decisions. Participation in a JFSP review panel is also a great way to improve proposal development skills.

Peer review is conducted in two stages: 1) individual reviews accomplished remotely, and 2) panel reviews accomplished via a one-day meeting in Boise. Panel reviews may be conducted via teleconference if a small number of proposals are submitted for some tasks. Also, some tasks will only have individual reviews. All individual reviews must be completed by the date indicated in the table below.

Proposals will be made available to reviewers through the JFSP web-based proposal review system, and reviews will be entered directly into the JFSP database through this system. Each reviewer will be asked to review approximately six to ten proposals.

Please consider your expertise, interests, and availability and let us know if you can conduct a review. It is critical that reviewers have substantial scientific or technical expertise in the scheduled FON topic area.

Panel reviews are pre-scheduled as follows:

Task	Topic	Individual Review Due	Panel Review Dates
FON 2016-4, task 1	FASMEE - Fuels and consumption	December 15, 2015	December 16, 17, 18, 2015 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-4, task 2	FASMEE - Fire behavior and energy	December 15, 2015	December 16, 17, 18, 2015 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-4, task 3	FASMEE - Plume development and meteorology	December 15, 2015	December 16, 17, 18, 2015 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-4, task 4	FASMEE - Smoke emissions, chemistry, and transport	December 15, 2015	December 16, 17, 18, 2015 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-4, task 5	FASMEE - Modeling leads	December 15, 2015	December 16, 17, 18, 2015 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-1, task 1	Implications of changing ecosystems	January 25, 2016	January 26, 27, 28, 2016
FON 2016-1, task 2	Social and regulatory barriers and facilitators to implementing prescribed fire	January 12, 2016	January 13, 2016
FON 2016-1, task 3	Maintenance and restoration of sagebrush habitat in the Great Basin	January 8, 2016	February 3, 2016
FON 2016-1, task 4	Effects of fire on tree mortality	January 19, 2016	January 20, 2016
FON 2016-1, task 5	Post-fire landscape management	January 8, 2016	February 10, 2016
FON 2016-1, task 6	Regional needs – Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientist: Season of prescribed burning to reach management objectives	January 22, 2016	January 26, 27, 28, 2016 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-1, task 7	Regional needs – Oak Woodlands and Forest Fire Consortium: Prescribed fire effects on wood products	January 22, 2016	January 26, 27, 28, 2016 – by phone if needed

FON 2016-1, task 8	Regional needs – Southern Fire Exchange: Prescribed fire smoke emissions	January 22, 2016	January 26, 27, 28, 2016 – by phone if needed
FON 2016-3, task 1	New Science Initiative – Ecological and social dimensions of resilient landscapes	January 15, 2016	February 17, 2016

Please refer to the FONs on the JFSP website (www.firescience.gov) for more information about each task.

Panelists are expected to complete their individual reviews prior to the panel review date. Panel reviews will start at 0830 of the scheduled day, and close out by 1700. JFSP will pay per diem and travel costs for panel review meetings, but not salary.

Please respond to Becky Jenison via email (bjenison@blm.gov), no later than **COB November 10** if you are available to help, or have questions. Please indicate what task statements and dates you are available to participate, and attach a short CV. If more than one date is listed for a task statement please indicate one or more of those days you're available.

Review panel participation notices will be sent by email in November or December. Once you confirm your availability, proposals will be made available for remote review. Orientation calls will be held on multiple dates in December and January, please plan to attend one of these calls.

Instructions on how to access proposals to complete reviews and travel arrangement instructions and will be provided after panel members confirm availability. Please note that it is likely that not all responders can be included on review panels, depending on the number of review volunteers and proposals received.

Investigators or collaborators are not eligible to review proposals for tasks if they submit a proposal for that same task.

Please forward this request to other qualified individuals who may be interested.

On behalf of the JFSP Governing Board, thank you for your contribution to this important task.

Becky Jenison

Program Analyst

Joint Fire Science Program

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www.firescience.gov

Outreach Notice



USDA Forest Service -R2 Rocky Mountain Region
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison NF
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO



Assistant Wildland Fire Module Leader
GSO-462-06/07, Permanent Seasonal 18/8
Reply by : 11/25/2015

Position:

The Lands End Wildland Fire Module (WFM) located on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison (GMUG) National Forest in western Colorado is outreaching to fill an Assistant WFM Leader position. This is a permanent seasonal position (18/8), which operates within the North Zone Fire Management organization which supports the Grand Valley and Paonia Ranger districts. This outreach notice is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of the upcoming opportunity and to identify the level of interest in this position.

This position will be filled off of the official website www.usajobs.gov. You must designate **Grand Junction, CO** as the duty station in order to be considered. Those that wish to be considered for this position, please respond to this outreach by close of business **November 25, 2015**.

Major Duties:

The incumbent's primary responsibility is assisting the module leader with the supervision of a 7-10 person Wildland Fire Module. The incumbent provides leadership and supervision to seasonal crew members during fire suppression, fuel reduction, prescribed fire and day to day operations. The incumbent assists with the training and mentoring of crew members to include, but not limited to; the use of specialized equipment, chainsaws, firing devices, pumps / hose lays, physical training, fire effects data collection and data entry. In the absence of the immediate supervisor, the incumbent will assume supervisor's responsibilities.

Operations:

- Performs all aspects of wildland fire management and prescribed burn operations, ensuring that preparation, ignition, holding and mop-up activities occur in a safe and efficient manner. Uses firefighting methods including air operations, and uses equipment and tools, such as pumps, engines, axe, shovel, Pulaski, McLeod, hand and chain saws in initial attack, fireline construction, and mop-up activities. Determines best method of control of fires, and makes judgments regarding location and width of fireline in relation to fuel types, topography and weather, etc.
- The incumbent is responsible for assisting with on-site evaluations of conditions, making tactical decisions, and determining appropriate responses. Responds to frequent shifts from one technical assignment to another or performs substantially different tasks. Recognizes, reacts to and communicates changes in predicted weather and fire behavior, topography and fuel types, and adapts planned strategies and tactics to identify and relocate firelines, escape routes and safety zones.
- Responsible for assisting in conducting several concurrently assigned projects to accomplish program objectives. This is accomplished by a physical dispersion of the crew resulting in work being carried out at one or more separate locations working on the same or different projects. Coordinates work with other disciplines to establish objectives and approved deviations in assigned projects. Uses judgment to schedule projects to account for; changes in

weather, suppression activities, training needs, and agency priorities. Projects may include facilities maintenance, pre-commercial thinning, range improvement, etc.

- Executes safe and effective wildfire and prescribed fire and aviation operations and serves in various functions, including Incident Commander, Task Force Leader, Crew Boss, Prescribed Fire Burn Boss, Firing Boss, Field Observer, and Fire Effects Monitor as qualified. Performs post burn evaluation and completes project documentation.
- Prepares and implements fuel treatment and fire management plans which entail field survey work in mapping and assessing fuels and vegetation. Participates on fire management products such as; fuels maps, fuel monitoring plots, fire perimeter maps, fire progression maps, and other products from field surveys, topographic maps, aerial photography and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).
- Performs site assessments, triage, and implements protection on incidents which may require other specialized training and qualifications.
- Uses technical equipment such as programmable two way radios, computers, GPS units, remote automated weather station, and other weather monitoring equipment, remote photography, fire modeling and mapping programs.
- Implements a comprehensive physical training program that enhances the ability of module members to perform their required arduous firefighting duties.

Planning:

- Participates on incidents involving wildland urban interface situations. Works with agency management officials identifying resource management and suppression objectives, including the full range of tactics and activities associated with wildfire management.
- Assists with implementing long term plans by understanding concepts of point protection, Management Action Points, and season ending events.
- Participates in the preparation of operational guidelines. Makes on-the-ground decisions regarding alterations or changes in completion of projects within guidelines set by supervisor. Implements and monitors safety procedures and practices.
- Assists with assigning resources, conducts safety meetings, monitors work quality and quantity, tracks budget expenditures, and reports work progress and project accomplishments.
- Works with other resource managers in the development and implementation of prescribed burn plans.
- Jointly develops training programs (mandatory, formal and informal) to comply with policy and regulations. Training sessions include initial refresher courses, fire weather, fire behavior, power saws, line construction, safety and first aid, air operations, water handling and pumps, hand tool use, and other related field courses.
- Plans and implements work activities such as setting priorities, identifying objectives, coordinating resources, vehicles, supplies and equipment, developing job hazard analysis, and conducting job skill training. Maintains records of production and project costs.
- Collects data on fire history, fuel loading, vegetation, topography and weather to be used in developing environmental assessments, fire effects plots, fuels treatment and fire management plans. Monitors the results and effectiveness of these and other resource management projects. Utilizes accepted resource-specific computer modeling programs to assist in these tasks.

Logistics:

- Assists with managing assigned property by procuring, maintaining an inventory of tools and equipment to meet individual module needs, including hand tools, chainsaws, firing equipment, food and water provision, and personal protective equipment, to ensure assigned personnel meet fire readiness standards on a daily basis. Exercises procurement authority by executing requisitions and charge card purchases.
- Assists with the planning Plan for module safety and health, securing medical attention for module members; coordinate travel logistics; manage module time and claims; establish appropriate lodging or bedding areas for off duty station assignments.
- Ensures the maintenance of crew fleet; secures temporary replacement of vehicles as needed. Fleet equipment may include crew carriers, fire engines, pick-ups, and ATV/UTV.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

WORK CAPACITY TEST (WCT) for Wildland Firefighters: This position participates in wildland firefighting activities. Based on the type of work performed, TAKING and PASSING the WCT at the ARDUOUS level is a "condition of employment." The Arduous fitness (Pack) Test requires completing a three (3) mile hike within forty-five (45) minutes, while carrying a forty-five (45) pound pack.

**Relocation expenses (transfer of station) are authorized for current employees with merit status. Government housing is not available.

About the GMUG Forest: The GMUG National Forest encompasses 5,000 square miles on the Western Slope of the Colorado Rockies, about 250 miles west of Denver, in west-central Colorado. This forest has five Ranger Districts: Grand Valley with offices in Collbran and Grand Junction, Paonia office is located in Paonia, Gunnison office is located in Gunnison, Ouray office is located in Montrose, and Norwood office is located in Norwood. The Supervisor's Office is located in Delta, Colorado.

The GMUG NFS contain 3,163,131 acres with some of the most spectacular scenery in the Rockies with elevations ranging from 6,000 feet to over 14,000 feet. The climate at lower elevations is warm and arid while the high country is cold in the winter and warm most of the summer months. The Forest is an ideal winter and summer recreation area. The Forest has three ski areas, 43 communities, and a 12,000 square mile area of influence that includes a 250,000 population. Cost of living is one of the lowest in the country in lower elevations and among the highest in the country near the ski areas. For additional forest information, visit the internal website: <http://fsweb.gmug.r2.fs.fed.us/> and external web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/gmug/>.

Community Information Grand Junction is the largest Community in Mesa County. It's located at the junction of the Gunnison and the Colorado rivers. Grand Junction is home to approximately 56,446 residents, and Mesa County has a population of approximately 147,522. Mesa County has about 3,313 square miles of land and Grand Junction is on 27 of those square miles. Two-thirds of the land is owned by the Federal Government and offers a great variety of outdoor recreation and entertainment.

There are 4 hospitals, with the Grand Junction VA Hospital being one of them. There is also an airport that offers many different flights to accommodate for easy traveling. For additional information on Grand Junction and the surrounding areas, please visit the Chamber of Commerce website at <http://www.gjchamber.org/index.asp> You may also want to visit <http://grandjunction.org/> or www.colorado.com/cities-and-towns/grand-junction.

Responding to Outreach: If you are interested in this position, complete the attached outreach form by November 25th and please e-mail to:

Contacts:

Joe Parr Lands End WFM Leader 970-242-8211 jparr@fs.fed.us

Or

Erick Stahlin North Zone FMO 970-263-5824 Ewstahlin@fs.fed.us
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Please note: The purpose of this Outreach Notice is to determine the potential applicant pool for this position and to establish the appropriate method and area of consideration for the advertisements. Responses received from this outreach notice will be relied upon to make this determination.

Outreach Response Form

Assistant Wildland Fire Module Leader, GS-0462-06/07, PPT 18/8

Grand Junction, CO / Grand Valley RD

USDA Forest Service, R2-Rocky Mountain Region

Please respond by 10/31/2015 to:

Joe Parr: 970-242-8211 Email: jparr@fs.fed.us

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Work, Home or Mobile?

Employer: FS Unit _____ Other _____

Location: _____

Tour: Permanent ___ Temporary ___ Student/Intern ___ Contractor ___ Other ___

Current Position Title: _____

Series/grade if Federal Employee: _____

How did you hear about this position? _____

Agency Contact _____ Other _____

If not a current permanent employee, are you eligible to be hired under any of the following special authorities?

- _____ Schedule A (Person with Disabilities)
- _____ Veterans Readjustment Act (VRA)
- _____ Veterans w/30% Compensable Disability
- _____ Veterans Employment Opportunities Act (VEOA) Of 1998
- _____ Former Peace Corps Volunteer
- _____ Pathways Program (Students and Recent Graduates)
- _____ Public Lands Corps (PLC)
- _____ Other _____

Submission of this form is voluntary – Thank you for your interest

Learning from Unintended Outcomes Workshop

National Advanced Fire & Resource Institute (NAFRI), Tucson, AZ – February 8 - 12, 2016

★ US Forest Service - R2 Regional Office, Golden, CO – April 25 - 29, 2016

Course Description

The Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) and Coordinated Response Protocol (CRP) are group learning processes that are critical for learning organizations. These processes can be utilized to review a broad spectrum of unintended outcomes ranging from fatalities, escaped prescribed fires, vehicle accidents, to close calls. This workshop will illustrate concepts, technologies and methods to actively engage the FLA and CRP processes. Participants will examine case studies that describe a paradigm shift from blame to learning in the wake of an accident. The workshop will explore the concept of storytelling to exploit accidents and other unintended outcomes for their high value as learning opportunities. A five part workshop simulation will provide students the opportunity to practice and apply concepts and techniques related to the FLA and CRP processes.

Instructors include nationally recognized safety and risk management professionals and subject matter experts.

Course Goal

- Prepare participants to serve as an FLA/CRP team member.

Course Objectives

- Illustrate concepts, technologies and methods to actively engage the FLA and CRP processes.
- Demonstrate the use of storytelling to exploit accidents and other unintended outcomes for their high value as learning events.
- Examine case studies that describe a paradigm shift from blame to learning in the wake of an accident.
- Describe a process for publishing FLA's and other learning products.

Target Group

The targeted audience is personnel interested and available to participate on review teams analyzing all types of accidents and near-misses. Course participation is not limited to Fire and Aviation Management employees. Preference will be given to individuals with experience in risk management, safety management and accident investigations; although these are not pre-requisites.

Nomination Process & Deadlines

Before the nomination deadline, follow the links provided and complete the online nomination form for the session you would like to attend. **Do not submit an NWCG nomination form** to the course coordinator. IQCS nomination workflow is not available. Letters will be emailed to selected participants approximately 2 weeks after the nomination deadline.

- Tucson, AZ - Registration Deadline: October 30, 2015
Follow this link to register for the Tucson session: <https://goo.gl/p6iUq4>
- Golden, CO - Registration Deadline: December 1, 2015
Follow this link to register: <https://goo.gl/nSc8Ga>

Course Coordinator:

Gary Luce (520) 799-8753; galuce@fs.fed.us

Course Tuition:

None.

★ For more information go to: www.nafri.gov

