

FLN Networker No. 210: May 11, 2016

The FLN Networker is a publication of the Fire Learning Network—a partnership of the USDA Forest Service, agencies of the Department of the Interior and The Nature Conservancy—intended to foster communication within the network and among its friends. Submit comments, information to share, and subscription requests to Liz Rank.

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

News from the Field

New Mexico: Earlier this week **Eytan Krasilovsky** (eytan@forestguild.org), **Zander Evans** and **Porfirio Chavarria** (pnychavarria@santafenm.gov) were **interviewed** on the **local radio show Santa Fe Radio Café**. They talked fire and promoted tomorrow's **public event**, "**What is a Fireshed?**"

North Carolina: The **Fire Learning Trail driving tour** near Linville Gorge (mentioned in the last issue) **officially opened** on May 7. The trail introduces visitors to the role of fire in the area and to wildland firefighters and local history, with signs placed along a scenic highway and an audio tour hosted by local fire professionals; people are encouraged to use the hashtag **#goodfire** when posting on social media about their visit. On the first day, more than **70 people visited the first stop** (which included an FLN booth that day), and there have been more than **200 downloads** of the **audio tour**.

Oregon: By the time the **Central Oregon TREX wrapped up** in Bend last week, about **50 people** had worked together to complete **10 burns**, treating 850 acres and getting out some good **messages about forest health and fire**. There was strong local representation, along with participants from nine other states; participants also represented a **wide range of experience** and **organizational affiliations**, including seven national forests, BIA, BLM, the Department of Defense, several chapters of TNC, universities, a local fire department and private contractors.

A little further south, the **Ashland Forest Resiliency TREX got started** over the weekend, and is providing capacity-building and treatment implementation support to efforts focused on the city's watershed. More on these events will follow.

Meanwhile, check out some of the novel, **beer-based outreach and funding efforts** in progress in Bend. **Pete Caligiuri** (pcaligiuri@tnc.org) and others in the **Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project** have been working with **Goodlife Brewing** to form a partnership around a **shared interest in healthy forests and clean water**. Last week the brewery hosted a **Prescribed Fire Open House** (see the [Facebook event page](#))—and on June 1 they will release a special edition **Wildland Session Ale** that will **benefit** the Deschutes partnership's restoration efforts.

South Dakota: The **East River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange** that had to be **called off last spring due to severe drought** is **now under way** under the leadership of local **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service** and **Conservancy** staff. The TREX is based at the Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Aberdeen and Waubay NWR in Waubay. Updates about this TREX are being posted on [InciWeb](#).

Washington: A **brief summary** of the March **conference** of the **Washington Prescribed Fire Council** is now **posted on their website**. The summary includes the **priorities or strategies** discussed by each of the three subject areas covered during the breakout sessions—training, certification and expertise exchange; policy influence and issue resolution; and public understanding, outreach and communication. For more about the council, contact **Kara Karboski** (wa.rxfirecouncil@gmail.com).

Online: On May 6, **Wendy Fulks**—tweeting as @Nature_Fire—helped host a **Twitter chat** (#TalkNature) on **prescribed fire** spearheaded by the Conservancy's Illinois chapter. Conservancy fire experts **Blane Heumann** and **Zach Prusak** helped field questions as well. To get a feel for the

conversation, check out the **log of posts** on nature.org. The analytics for the chat showed that **126 Twitter users** took part, and with re-tweets, the **messages spread to more than 777,000** people. Not on Twitter? Or even if you are—**contact Wendy** (wfulks@tnc.org) to have @Nature_Fire **share your fire-related content**.

National: An **interview** with **Jeremy Bailey** (jeremy_bailey@tnc.org) for the “**One of Our Own**” column is in the **current issue** of *Two More Chains*. His experience in developing Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges, mentoring others as they host TREX, and learning from innumerable peers is clearly woven through the interview. And he closed with a typically bold statement of need: “We’re failing to adapt. We’re failing to change the way we do business. In the past, our workforce had the ability to both fight fire and light fire.” But that being no longer the case, we now **need a workforce specifically dedicated** to “work at overcoming the **challenges of implementing prescribed fire**.”

National: Members of the **FLN, FAC Learning Network, Indigenous Peoples Burning Network** and **Burned Area Learning Network** met in Jacksonville, Florida the last week of April for several days of non-stop connecting and learning at the **annual national workshop**. Classroom sessions ran the gamut from **aligning efforts** across scales and Cohesive Strategy goals to **skill-building** sessions in collaboration, outreach, fire management agreements, award administration and more. Members also gave **flash presentations** to share their latest work or news, got together to work on community of practice business, and **met new and far-flung peers** through various exercises (and games). Midweek, everyone piled onto buses for an excellent day of **learning in the field**, with stops that included research plots and a prescribed burn in progress. See the FAC Net **blog post** “Florida Makes Fire Look Easy” for more about the day in the field—or the **local TV coverage**.

National: Chris Topik (ctopik@tnc.org) and **Nick Goulette** (nickg@hayfork.net) are among those who will take part in the **Wildfire in the Wildland-Urban Interface White House Roundtable** next week. Our **collective work and learning** will inform their remarks. The event is co-hosted by the National Security Council, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture and Department of Homeland Security.

Input Requested: Sagebrush Ecosystem Management

Sagebrush Ecosystem Management: As part of the **Department of the Interior Integrated Rangeland Fire Management Strategy**, the JFSP and Great Northern LCC are hosting a **series of webinars** to foster discussions about **science needs for management** of the Great Basin. Upcoming discussion topics and times are:

Fire and invasives	May 13	noon-2:00 MDT
Restoration	May 16	10:00-noon MDT
Sagebrush, sage-grouse and climate	May 18	11:00-1:00 MDT
Restoration	May 20	2:00-4:00 MDT

To take part, go to <https://meet39041854.adobeconnect.com/gnlcc> 15 minutes before a session and log in as a guest.

Resource: Open Standards

Open Standards: A post by **Bill Tripp** (btripp@karuk.us) on the **FAC Net blog**—“**The Western Klamath Restoration Partnership Uses the Open Standards Process**”—briefly talks about this collaborative’s use of the **Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation planning tool**. In addition to giving a look at one real-world application of the tool, it captures some of the **lessons learned** by the group.

Articles & Reports: Treatment Effectiveness / Stewardship Project

Treatment Effectiveness: The **Ecological Restoration Institute** [fact sheet](#) “Evaluating Treatment Effectiveness Following the 2014 San Juan Fire, White Mountains, Arizona” reports on a **wildfire** that **burned through a study area** where restoration treatments had recently been completed. The author concludes that “Results from this study show that **full restoration treatments** [thinning based on historical spatial patterns, plus prescribed fire] **increase ecosystem resilience to wildfire.**”

Stewardship Project: ERI has also released the **White Mountain Stewardship Project Final 10-year Socioeconomic Assessment report**. This stewardship contract began in 2004 with a goal of treating 150,000 acres of degraded federal forests over 10 years—at the time, the largest and longest running stewardship contract in the country.

In the News: Fort McMurray

Fort McMurray: Thanks to **Blane Heumann** (bheumann@tnc.org) for a couple of pieces that give **context**—one **historical** and one in terms of current **climate change**—to the Fort McMurray Fire in Alberta: “The Fort McMurray Fire and the Great Fire of 1919” (in the [Peeling Back the Bark](#) blog of the Forest History Society) and “Arctic’s Boreal Forests Burning at ‘Unprecedented’ Rate” (climatecentral.org).

Jobs: Wildland Fire Module / Fire Management Specialist / Ecosystem Support Team / Partnership Coordinator / Regional Fire Ecologist / Ecologist / Burn Crew

Wildland Fire Module: The **Conservancy’s** Colorado chapter is filling **two positions** on its Southern Rockies Wildland Fire Module—an **Assistant Module Leader/Fuels Technician** position ([job ID 44174](#); applications are due by **May 12**) and an **Assistant Fire Manager-Operations/Module Leader** ([job ID 44214](#); applications due by **May 24**).

Fire Management Specialist: The **National Park Service**, Northeast Region is hiring a **Fire Management Specialist (Planning and Ecology)**, to be based at Shenandoah National Park. Details are on usajobs.gov ([control number 436365800](#)); applications are due by **May 18**.

Ecosystem Support Team: The **Longleaf Alliance** is hiring a support team member to assist with **prescribed burns, exotic species** management, **monitoring** and **equipment maintenance**. Details are in the [job announcement](#) and [position description](#); applications are due by **May 20**.

Partnership Coordinator: The **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership** is hiring a partnership coordinator. Details are in the attached notice; review of applicants will begin on **May 24**.

Regional Fire Ecologist: The **U.S. Forest Service Southern Region** is conducting **outreach** for a position to be based in **Atlanta**, Georgia. Details are in the attached outreach notice; return the attached interest form by **June 3** if interested.

Ecologist: The **Gila National Forest** is conducting outreach for an ecologist to be part of the **core planning team** for an upcoming **Land Management Plan (Forest Plan) revision**. For more information, see the [outreach notice](#); responses are due by **June 7**.

Burn Crew: The **Conservancy’s** Arkansas chapter is hiring **Fire Management Technicians** for a crew that will work on wildland fire from September through April. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 44238](#)); applications are due by **June 14**.

A Note about Outreach Notices: For those not familiar with federal hiring processes, here are excerpts from a note (recently received from a hiring manager in an unofficial email) about why **responses to outreach notices are important:**

“... it is increasingly vital that if individuals are interested in federal jobs, if they are not a federal employee that works for the agency that is posting the job, they NEED to reply to the outreach in order to give the hiring manager the **information needed to appropriately post the job.**

Our agency's **default is now “agency wide”** To **support advertising it more broadly**—government wide (merit) or all U.S. citizens (demo)—I need to get the outreach response that suggests that a very strong applicant pool exists beyond (or in addition to) agency wide.

... since this has **changed a lot in the last six months**, I thought it would be worthwhile to share.”

Webinars

May 12

LANDFIRE Update and Biophysical Settings Review: Why You Should Care

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

LANDFIRE Program Manager Jim Smith will be the presenter for this webinar co-hosted with the Southern Fire Exchange. Includes a primer on BpS, example, and information on getting involved in the update.

Information & registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southern-fire-exchange-webinar-landfire-update-and-biophysical-settings-review-why-should-you-care-tickets-22905235175>

May 18

new listing

Finding the Best Available Science on Fire Effects and Fire Regimes in Southwestern and Southern Rocky Mountains Ecosystems

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

Ecologist Robin Innes will be the presenter on this webinar co-hosted by the Southwest Fire Science Consortium and Southern Rockies Fire Science

Network. Information & registration: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/finding-the-best-available-science-on-fire-effects-fire-regimes-in-southwestern-southern-rocky-registration-24881131133>

May 25

new listing

Southwest Fire Season: 2015 Overview and 2016 Outlook

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

Zander Evans (Forest Stewards Guild) and Brent Wachter (National Weather Service) will speak on this Southwest Fire Science Consortium webinar.

Information & registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/southwest-fire-season-2015-overview-and-2016-outlook-registration-25214482195>

FLN and FAC Net Workshops & Field Tours

May 11-12

Western Klamath Restoration Partnership / Forks of Salmon, CA

Information: Scott Harding (fire@srrc.org)

**was: May 13-14
updated**

Yurok-Hupa-Karuk Indigenous Peoples Burning Network / TBD, CA

This workshop has been postponed due to schedule conflicts.

Information: Mary Huffman (mhuffman@tnc.org)

May 17-19

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Johnson City, TN

This workshop will be held in the Great Smoky and Unaka Mountains Landscape, with a field tour of project areas in the Cherokee National Forest. (Registration is closed.)

- June 7-8** **Texas Shortleaf Pine Initiative / Rusk, TX**
The South Central FLN is a key partner in the growing multi-state Shortleaf Pine Initiative. For more about the SPI, contact McRee Anderson (wanderson@tnc.org). Information & registration for this workshop: mzavala@tfs.tamu.edu
- June 9** **Georgia Blue Ridge Field Tour / GA**
Partners in the Georgia Blue Ridge FLN landscape will tour Chestnut Mountain, where a history of several fires has resulted in a rich and diverse woodland. They will also visit a local community, and learn more about its efforts to prepare for fire. Information: Malcolm Hodges (mhodes@tnc.org)
- November 2-3** **Central Appalachians FLN / Wintergreen Resort, VA**
Save the date and stay tuned.
- November 29** **Georgia Blue Ridge FLN Annual Workshop / Blairsville, GA**
Information: Malcolm Hodges (mhodes@tnc.org)

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

- May 9-21** **Ashland Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Ashland, OR** – in progress.
- September 14-30** **Spanish-language Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Santa Fe, NM**
This TREX, conducted in Spanish, will again take place on and around the Santa Fe National Forest in northern New Mexico, with participants from numerous countries and U.S. states. The application deadline for this TREX has passed.

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- May 20-21** **Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone / Spokane, WA**
Offered by the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA for local fire departments (including VFDs); state fire employees are also eligible if space permits. Information: http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/wildfire-safety-training-and-conferences/assessing-wildfire-hazards-in-the-home-ignition-zone-courses?order_src=C365
- June 20-22** **Wood Utilization in the WUI / Colorado Springs, CO**
This workshop is offered by the Colorado State Forest Service in partnership with the Southern Rockies Fire Sciences Network, U.S. Forest Service, Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Tree Farm and the Society of American Foresters. Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wood-utilization-in-the-wui-csfs-partners-workshop-tickets-24110793031>
- July 17-20** **North American Prairie Conference—From Cemetery Prairies to National Tallgrass Prairies / Normal, IL**
Illinois State University is hosting this conference, with presentations on prairie ecology, restoration, management and some innovative ideas on working lands. Information: <http://nap2016.illinoisstate.edu/>
- November 14-17 deadline** **International Smoke Symposium / Long Beach, CA**
The IAWF and the NWCG SmoC (smoke committee) will be hosting this in-person / virtual symposium. The call for presentations is open; submissions are due by **May 16**. Information: <http://www.iawfonline.org/2016SmokeSymposium/>

Nov. 28–Dec. 2

Southwest Fire Ecology Conference / Tucson, AZ

“Beyond Hazardous Fuels: Managing Fire for Social, Economic and Ecological Benefits” is being hosted by AFE and the Southwest Fire Science Consortium. Submissions for special sessions, workshops and trainings, attached meetings, and oral and poster presentations are now being accepted.

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

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is out May 19-27.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in Forks of Salmon, CA May 9-15. He will be working part-time after May 20.

Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather will be out May 26-June 1.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in Ashland, OR May 7-22.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Forks of Salmon, CA May 9-15.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in Johnson City, TN May 16-19; Washington, DC May 23-25.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is in Golden, CO May 16-17.

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

Full Links

News from the Field—NM—Interview: <http://www.santaferadiocafe.org/environment/2016/05/09/11270/>
Event info: http://www.forestguild.org/SantaFe_Fireshed

News from the Field—NC—Opening: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD500501>
Audio tour: <http://www.appalachianfire.org/thefirelearningtrail/?platform=hootsuite>

News from the Field—OR—Open house: <https://www.facebook.com/events/705620822913538/>
Special edition ale: <http://www.goodlifebrewing.com/wildland-session-ale/>

News from the Field—SD: <http://inciv eb.nw.cg.gov/incident/4710>

News from the Field—WA: http://w.aprescribedfire.org/uploads/2016_Conference_Report.pdf

News from the Field—Online: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/talknature-prescribed-fire-may-2016.xml>
News from the Field--National--Jeremy Bailey: <http://www.wildfirelessons.net/communities/community-home/librarydocuments/viewdocument?DocumentKey=f3b4b5bd-71e3-4d35-b102-06e48e650ac1>

News from the Field—National—Workshop blog: <http://fireadaptednetwork.org/florida-makes-fire-look-easy-annual-workshop-2016-field-exchange-recap/>

TV news: <http://www.actionnewsjax.com/news/local/fire-experts-from-across-the-country-looking-to-florida-for-help/245885608>

Resource—Open Standards—Blog post: <http://fireadaptednetwork.org/western-klamath-restoration-partnership-uses-open-standards-process/>

Official site: <http://cmp-openstandards.org/>

Articles & Reports—Treatment effectiveness: <http://library.eri.nau.edu/gsd/collect/erilibra/index/assoc/D2016010.dir/doc.pdf>

Articles & Reports—Stewardship contracting: <http://library.eri.nau.edu/gsd/collect/erilibra/index/assoc/D2016008.dir/doc.pdf>

In the News—Fort McMurray: <https://fhsarchives.wordpress.com/2016/05/06/the-fort-mcmurray-fire-and-the-great-fire-of-1919/>
<http://www.climatecentral.org/news/arctic-boreal-forests-burning-at-unprecedented-rate-16278>

Jobs—Fire management specialist: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/436365800/>

Jobs—Ecosystem support team—Announcement: <http://www.longleafalliance.org/job-announcements/qcpep-ecosystem-support-team-member/ESTMemberJobAnnouncementFinal.pdf>

Position description: <http://www.longleafalliance.org/job-announcements/qcpep-ecosystem-support-team-member/PD%20LLA%20EST%20Member%202016%20Final.pdf>

Jobs—Ecologist: <https://fsoutreach.qdcii.com/?id=7097737A3CBA4B3BA618D41E8C86E828>

Jobs—TNC: https://careers.nature.org/psp/tnccareers/APPLICANT/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM.HRS_CE.GBL?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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Job Announcement

WKRP Partnership Coordinator



STATUS: Part-time, permanent, benefited (retirement, paid time off, sick leave). About 20 hours per week.

COMPENSATION: Competitive wages DOE, starting at \$19.09 per hour.

AVAILABLE: Immediately

DEADLINE: Position open until filled, first review of applicants on 5/24/16.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Required employment application available at Mid Klamath Watershed Council, 38150 State Highway 96, Orleans, CA 95556 or via email from mail@mkwc.org. Complete application, attach a resume and cover letter, and submit to mail@mkwc.org or PO Box 409, Orleans, CA 95556 or fax to 866-323-5561. The Mid Klamath Watershed Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Through the guidance and support of the WKRP Core Team, the position provides administrative support for the Western Klamath Restoration Partnership (WKRP). We are looking for a skilled person who is passionate about collaborative work and is willing to make a long term commitment. We are looking for someone who:

- Has experience working with collaborative groups and/or in the restoration field.
- Has grant writing skills
- Has experience facilitating NEPA/CEQA, and other permitting.
- Is able to work as part of a team, lead a team and/or work independently.
- Works well with people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives on fire and restoration.
- Has a vehicle (reimbursable mileage, vehicle must be registered and insured).
- BS in applicable field preferred.
- At least 1-2 years of professional experience
- Computer skills to include MS Word, MS Excel, Dropbox, Adobe Acrobat, cloud-based website development software and Internet.

Job Description

- Assist the WKRP core team with the guidance for the partnership
- Meetings:
 - o Facilitate meetings getting scheduled.
 - Work with professional facilitators on meeting scheduling, as needed.
 - o Assist with creating and distributing agendas in a timely manner
 - o Set up and clean up from meetings, including sign in sheets, projector, tables, etc.
 - o Take and distribute notes at meetings
 - o Follow up with people responsible for action items
- Outreach
 - o Community outreach that helps support WKRP and enables the group to be more effective on the ground;
 - o Manage mailing lists
 - o Draft outreach products with guidance from core team and outreach working group
 - o Create and maintain WKRP website
- Documentation
 - o File all partnership materials as needed (meeting notes, sign in sheets, drafts of documents/maps)
- Planning
 - o Development of action plans and/or strategic plans as a result of collaborative processes;
- Funding
 - o Development of project proposals to implement work identified in action plans and/or strategic plans
 - o Assist with leveraging funds from diverse sources to support all geographic areas of the WKRP planning area
 - Project planning, implementation, monitoring and research
- Training
 - o Organizes workshops and training related to facilitation, contracting, and other topics that will assist the group in building its capacity to meet its goals.
 - o Disseminates best practices and tools to assist WKRP in project development, implementation, and monitoring.



OUTREACH NOTICE

USDA-Forest Service Southern Region

Fire & Aviation Management

USFS Region 8

Regional Fire Ecologist

GS-0401-11/12 PFT

Merit or Demo

USFS Region 8 (Southern Region) will soon be filling a **GS-0401-Fire Ecologist PFT** position at the Regional Office in Atlanta GA. This notification is being circulated to inform prospective applicants of the upcoming opportunity and to determine interest in the position.

The position will be a permanent, full time position. The duty station is Atlanta GA.

Duties of the Position: This position serves as the GS 11/12 Fire Ecologist within Fire & Aviation (FAM). The incumbent will serve as subject matter expert in applied fire ecology, fire effects and the prescriptive use of fire for management purposes. The incumbent will also provide expert technical guidance on natural resources projects; and in the development of plans and projects, ensuring activities are consistent and compatible with agency direction and mission. Strong collaboration and interpersonal skills, and the ability to work independently, are essential.

Information about the Forests and Communities: Duty Station Specifics:

This position is located at the USFS Region 8 Regional Office, 1720 Peachtree Rd. NW, in Atlanta, Georgia. The location is highly desirable for its proximity to cultural and recreational opportunities and access to major city attractions. For 2016 the Atlanta area has a 19.6% locality rate pay adjustment.

The Southern Region is a dynamic collection of lands, cared for by people as a legacy for future generations. The Forest Service employs about 250 people at the Atlanta Regional Office, and about 2,400 throughout the Southern Region. There are 13.3 million acres of National Forest System lands in the Southern Region, and because of fragmentation and population pressures, State and Private Forestry is integral to the Region's overall program delivery.

The Southern Area is one of ten geographic areas throughout the United States. In addition to Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Southern Area includes 13 states. These range from Virginia in the north, south to the Gulf states, and west to Texas. In western Oklahoma and Texas, only private lands and state units participate as part of the Southern Area - federal lands in this area coordinate activities through the Southwest Coordination Center in Albuquerque, NM.

Within the Southern Area, there are 35 National Forests, 2 National Grasslands, 1 Forest Service Institute, 143 National Wildlife Refuges, 98 National Park units, 13 State Forestry organizations, one Commonwealth, one Territory, 27 Tribal/Bureau of Indian Affairs units, two Bureau of Land Management units, 12 Regional Agency units, one Government Law Enforcement Training Center, six Department of Defense units, and one State Authority area - for a total of 348 units supported.

The Southern Area annually experiences over 45,000 wildfires burning an excess of 750,000 acres. The USFS prescribed fire program is the largest accomplished in the nation at 950,000+ acres annually. The geographic area affords the unique opportunity to work closely with all federal wildland fire agencies, 13 state forestry agencies including two active state forest fire fighting compacts, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The region hosts two Type 1 and one Type 2 Interagency Incident Management teams that manage response to fire and other emergency incidents.

About the Atlanta Metro Area: The Greater Atlanta area spans 20 counties with approximately 3.5 million people. The population is diverse, with more than 100 languages spoken. Cable television networks broadcast in Spanish and multi-cultural newspapers are also available. Ethnic specialty stores abound, and an amazing variety of foods from around the globe are available at various world farmers markets located throughout the city.

HISTORY: Atlanta was founded in 1837 as the junction of 2 major railroad lines. Originally called Terminus, the town was renamed Atlanta in 1845. In 1864, citizens burned Atlanta in order to prevent Union Army General William T. Sherman from capturing the city during the Civil War. Determined citizens rebuilt their homes and businesses. Today, Atlanta is considered the hub of the Southeast and has become an international center, now hosting one of the world's busiest airports.

CLIMATE: Atlanta is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, so the topography is rolling to hilly, and slopes downward toward the east, west and south. Drainage of the major river systems is generally into the Gulf of Mexico from the western and southern sections of the city and to the Atlantic from the eastern portions of the city. Atlanta also has a mean elevation of about 1,060 feet above sea level. Average annual rainfall of approximately 50 inches keeps the rolling, wooded terrain a lush green from early spring until late fall. Called "America's Greenest City," Atlanta and its metro areas have an estimated 6 million trees. The city has a distinct change of seasons with mild winters (less than 1.5 inches of snow) and warm summers (approximately 30 days over 92 degrees). Average relative humidity is approximately 70 percent. A gardener's paradise, the city has a 10-month growing season. To see Atlanta in April is a visual treat, as nature sprinkles the city with pink and white dogwoods and azaleas.

HOUSING: Atlanta has it all! "In-town" or country living (just a short distance from downtown--Marietta, Conyers, Decatur, Kennesaw and Lawrenceville --just to name a few). Prices range from modest to millions! Median home prices start at about \$160,000. For more information, check out the Access Atlanta or Atlanta City Guide websites to gain an overview of what's current in the Atlanta area.

MEDICAL: A good selection of health care is available, including doctors, dentists, and specialists. A wide variety of home care, adult day care, nursing homes and mental health facilities are also available.

EDUCATION: Local area schools offer public and private educational opportunities for K-12. The metro area secondary school system represents some of the best schools in the state. There are also several colleges and universities located within the metro area: Clark Atlanta University, Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Morris Brown College, Oglethorpe University, Spelman College, Kennesaw State University, and many more. The Georgia Hope Scholarship, supported by the Georgia lottery, provides college tuition for resident high school graduates who maintain a B average.

SHOPPING AND DINING: Starting near the center of Atlanta with Lenox Mall, there are 7 generations of malls extending to the new Georgia Mall, the largest in the southeast. Neighborhood areas have unique shops. With hundreds of restaurants ranging from fine dining to ethnic cuisine and family-style restaurants, Atlanta is a foodie's paradise. For more information, check out the metro's website at www.accessatlanta.com

TRANSPORTATION: Atlanta/Hartsfield International Airport is one of the largest air transportation centers in the world. The MARTA (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) rapid rail lines is a nationally-acclaimed public transportation system, with 46 miles of track and 1,541 miles of feeder bus routes. There are county express bus commute options with potential for authorized transit reimbursement subsidy. Many regional staff have organized carpools- an environmental and economic transportation option. Commutes vary in time depending on where you decide to locate. Generally, you could expect to live approximately 26 miles away and have a 30-60 minute commute.

ATTRACTIONS: The following is a sampling of popular area attractions:

- Atlanta Botanical Gardens, an oasis of beauty minutes from downtown;
- Atlanta Civic Center, home of the Atlanta Ballet;

- Atlanta History Center, telling the story of Atlanta's past;
- Alliance Theatre, winner of the 2007 Regional Theatre Tony Award;
- Centennial Olympic Park, built for the 1996 Olympic Games and site of numerous festivals;
- Center for Puppetry Arts, a non-profit center hosting performances, exhibits, and programs, and home for an original Kermit the Frog and a proposed 700+-item Jim Henson wing;
- Chastain Memorial Park and Amphitheater, hosts casual outdoor concerts with audience picnics ranging from chicken buckets to silver service;
- Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area extends 48 miles along the river into Atlanta;
- Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center, new home of the Atlanta Opera;
- Coca Cola Lakewood Amphitheatre, site of big-name concerts;
- CNN Studios, daily tours showcase how news is broadcast to 1 billion people worldwide;
- Carter Presidential Center, featuring a museum detailing Jimmy Carter's life and presidency;
- Fernbank Museum of Natural History, sporting an IMAX theatre and special exhibits;
- Fox Theatre, a National Historic Landmark and nationally acclaimed theatre;
- Georgia Dome, home to Atlanta Falcons, NCAA football bowl games, and American Idol Auditions;
- Georgia Aquarium, the world's largest with 80 million gallons of fresh & marine water;
- Georgia's Stone Mountain Park, a 200-acre outdoor recreation area around the world's largest mass of exposed granite with the world's largest bas-relief sculpture;
- High Museum of Art, a leading art museum with more than 11,000 works in its collection and special exhibits ranging from The Louvre to Annie Leibovitz;
- Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, contains birth home, King Center, and final resting place of civil rights leader;
- Philips Arena, home of the Atlanta Hawks basketball team, live shows and sporting events including professional hockey and basketball;
- Six Flags Over Georgia, family theme park with more than 100 thrill rides;
- Turner Field, home of the Atlanta Braves major league baseball team;
- Underground Atlanta, with restaurants, specialty shops, and entertainment below the streets;
- White Water Park, water slides and water fun;
- Woodruff Arts Center, home of the Atlanta Symphony, theatres and art museum;
- World of Coca-Cola Pavilion, a tribute to the soft drink invented in Atlanta;
- Zoo Atlanta, founded in 1889, one of the US's oldest zoos with a new baby panda;

Contact Information:

If you have any questions regarding the position, please contact: Rachel Smith, Assistant Director of Fire & Aviation, at **678-822-3084** or rachelcsmith@fs.fed.us

Outreach Response:

If you are interested in the position, please complete the Outreach Interest Form and return it to Rachel Smith by COB Friday June 3, 2016. If you respond to this outreach, you will be notified when the position is advertised. Responses after June 3, 2016 will not be considered in identifying how to advertise the position.

**Outreach Interest Form
USFS Region 8 Southern Region
Fire Ecologist – GS-0401-11/12 PFT
Merit or Demo**

Please Respond by: COB on Tuesday May 31, 2016

The objectives of an outreach is to identify individuals interested in the position and to gather information on how to advertise the position. Please answer the questions if you are interested in the position to help inform us on how to best advertise the position to get the best applicants. Attaching your resume would be very beneficial to us.

Merit positions are to federal employees or individuals covered under a special authorities only. Demo positions are open to all US Citizens.

NOTE: This is not a job advertisement. All federal jobs are advertised at www.usajobs.gov. If you respond to this outreach, you will be notified when the position is open for you to apply. You may want to consider getting your job profile into www.usajobs.gov before the position is advertised.

Please complete this form and return it to Rachel Smith at:

Email: rachelcsmith@fs.fed.us

or Hard copy: Rachel Smith

1720 Peachtree Rd NW Suite 746N

Atlanta, GA 30309

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Are you a current permanent Federal employee or are you eligible for reinstatement?	
Current/Last Agency, Unit and Duty Station:	
Title/Series/Grade:	
If you are not a current permanent employee, are you eligible for appointment under a special authority?	
If you are eligible for appointment under a special authority, please list the authority. Special authorities include: Persons with Disabilities, Former Peace Corps Volunteer, Disabled Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability, Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1998, Other (please describe).	
Would you apply for this position if it was only offered "demo"?	