

# FLN Networker No. 263: May 23, 2018

*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](http://www.conservationgateway.org/fln) or contact Marek Smith.

## News from the Field

**California:** In a show of support for its growing partnership with the **Cultural Fire Management Council** (CFMC), **CAL FIRE** recently issued a **three-week permit** to CFMC for controlled burning. The burns are part of the **family-led burning** program of the Yurok-Hupa-Karuk IPBN, and burns enable cultural fire practitioners to **revitalize traditional fire practices**. Multiple **TREX** in the area have prepared CFMC to work with families to safely complete these burns.

**New Jersey:** Last week, 22 participants from two counties, two municipalities, and the New Jersey Forest Fire Service and U.S. Forest Service held their first **multi-jurisdictional table-top exercises** for WUI areas in the Pine Barrens. The exercise area included about 900 homes surrounded by 1,400 acres of highly flammable pitch pine, with the housing development having one way in and one way out. The exercise revealed several problems with the ingress and egress (for both apparatus and residents) as well as potential communication problems. It **allowed participants to work through combining the tactics** of structure protection and the **decision-making process** of a wildfire (with a scenario of direct attack, the wildfire breaking containment, and then an indirect attack and burnout plan), a process unfamiliar to many members of the local fire departments. For more contact **Bill Brash** ([bill@njfiresafetycouncil.org](mailto:bill@njfiresafetycouncil.org)).

**Oregon:** There was a [good story](#) on Bend station KTVZ about the **Central Oregon TREX**. The participants interviewed gave a good **overview of the range of benefits** they get from TREX—from learning from those who work in different fuels elsewhere in the country (and abroad), to having an extra 30 people available to get good fire on the ground, to bolstering “our capacity to think through our processes and **learn while teaching**.”

**Oregon:** The **Ashland TREX** also wrapped up last week. Among the work completed by the participants—along with teams from the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, The Nature Conservancy, City of Ashland, Grayback Forestry and the Lomakatsi Restoration Project—were a couple of **ecological restoration burns** on the **Ashland Forest All-lands Restoration Project**, framing Ashland Creek Canyon, in the municipal watershed.

There was an **overnight smoke intrusion** in Ashland, when forecast winds failed to materialize, with the Air Quality Index peaking in the lower part of the “moderate” range. This resulted in some **complaints** from the community; these were **addressed**—the source of the smoke, its health implications, and the **rationale for using prescribed fire** to prevent more severe fire (and smoke) issues later—in a good [opinion column](#) (“Controlled Burns Vital to Maintain Fire Resilience”) by **John Stromberg**, **Sandra Slattery** and **Chris Chambers** ([chris.chambers@ashland.or.us](mailto:chris.chambers@ashland.or.us)).

**National:** About 120 network members and partners are gathered for a **workshop** in Wenatchee, WA this week. The **FLN**, **FAC Net**, **TREX Coaches Network** and **Indigenous Peoples Burning Network** are all well represented at the workshop, since a key goal is to **create and strengthen relationships** between the networks, and **further integrate** all aspects of the work, to **spark more innovation** and see even **greater impact**. Recognizing what it takes to do this work, day in and day out, over the months and years, inspiring and energizing participants is also an explicit goal of the workshop.

News from the workshop will follow. In the meantime, check out the pre-workshop [reading assignment](#), “Network-ing Does Not Equal Network WEAVING,” for some network **inspiration**.

## Articles: Restoration Effects / Forest Futures

**Restoration Effects:** The [article](#) “Collaborative **Restoration Effects on Forest Structure** in **Ponderosa Pine** Dominated Forests of Colorado” examines early treatment outcomes from the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (**CFLRP**) project managed by the Front Range Roundtable multi-stakeholder collaborative group.

**Forest Futures:** The [article](#) “North American Forest Futures 2018-2090: **Scenarios for Building a More Resilient Forest Sector**” explores four qualitatively different scenarios for thinking about forests and their management in the coming decades. Roughly speaking, these include one based on **conventional expectation**, one on growing **desperation**, and a couple of **aspirational scenarios**, one based on technology, the other on indigenous values.

## Resource: Wildland Fire Modules

**Wildland Fire Modules:** A **revised edition** (May 2018) of the “**NWCG Standards** for Wildland Fire Module Operations” ([PMS 430](#)) is now available, along with its associated documents (mobilization and certification review checklists).

## Video: Scrub & Fire

**Scrub & Fire:** In the [video](#) “**Surviving Fire: In the Florida Scrub**” from the Archbold Biological Station, **Dr. Eric Menges** takes a 16-minute trip through his three decades of work in this habitat.

## Jobs: Research Ecologist / Stewardship Technician

**Research Ecologist:** The Restoring and Managing **Longleaf Pine** Ecosystems Research Work Unit of the **Southern Research Station** is conducting outreach for a **research ecologist/research forester** position. Details are in the attached flyer; if interested, the outreach response form should be submitted by **June 1**.

**Stewardship Technician:** **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a stewardship technician based in the **Southern Blue Ridge** office in Asheville, NC. The position will include a wide range of field work, including assisting on the **Grandfather CFLRP project**. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 46535](#)); applications are due by **June 15**.

## Network Workshops & Field Tours

**May 21-25**

### **National Fire Networks Workshop / Wenatchee, WA**

Representative members from the FAC Net, FLN, IPBN and TREX Coaches Network are meeting this week to share, coordinate and plan together to optimize the effectiveness of their work at all scales.

**June 26-28**

### **Mapping Community Assets to Build Wildfire Resilience / Santa Fe, NM**

This Fire Adapted New Mexico community workshop will feature [community asset-mapping](#), a strategy for finding and connecting community strengths to build local capacity to live well with fire; it will be facilitated by **Jana Carp**.

Details: <https://facnm.org/new-events/2018/6/26/mapping-community-assets-to-build-wildfire-resilience>

## FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX)

- May 29-June 3**      **Butte Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Chico, CA**  
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- Oct. 15-Nov. 2**      **Spanish-language Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Santa Fe NF, NM**  
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- Oct. 29-Nov. 9**      **Southern Blue Ridge Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Pickens, SC**  
Save the date for the first TREX with planned aerial ignitions to be held in the Appalachians. The base camp will be adjacent to Table Rock State Park, site of a large fall 2016 wildfire; TREX burning is planned for GA, NC and SC. #SBRTrex
- November 5-16**      **Calaveras Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Wilseyville, CA**  
Save the date for the first TREX to be hosted in Amador and Calaveras counties. Burns are planned for a diversity of landscapes including mixed conifer, hardwood, grasslands and redwood forest. Details for this CAL-TREX will be available soon.

## Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- May 30-31**      **Targeting the Triple Threat: Cheatgrass, Medusahead, and Ventenata—Ecological Impacts, Interactions, and Current Management / Ft. Collins, CO**  
The symposium portion of this two-day event hosted by the Southern Rockies Fire Science Network will **also be available via webinar**. Details: [https://gallery.mailchimp.com/2263fe298f4df255d22b80097/files/8c1f6512-14d1-4ced-a352-45725f23da6a/Targeting the Triple Threat Symposium Final Agenda.pdf](https://gallery.mailchimp.com/2263fe298f4df255d22b80097/files/8c1f6512-14d1-4ced-a352-45725f23da6a/Targeting_the_Triple_Threat_Symposium_Final_Agenda.pdf)
- June 11-13**      **Long-Term Vegetation Recovery and Reburn Potential Workshop / McCall, ID**  
The Northern Rockies Fire Science Network, University of Idaho, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Pacific Northwest Research Station and University of Washington are partnering on this workshop to bring together local and regional managers and scientists. Information: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/event/long-term-vegetation-recovery-and-reburn-potential-workshop>
- July 17-19**  
**new listing**      **Longleaf Academy: Fire & Longleaf 201 / Windsor, SC**  
Information: <https://longleafalliance.org/events/longleaf-academy-fire-longleaf-201-3>
- September 18-20**      **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Crested Butte, CO**  
“People, Places and Perceptions—Wildfire and the Human Condition”  
Information: <http://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
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## Send News, Links & Comments

- Heather Montanye** – [hmontanye@tnc.org](mailto:hmontanye@tnc.org) – Heather is out May 25; June 1-8.
- Jeremy Bailey** – [jeremy\\_bailey@tnc.org](mailto:jeremy_bailey@tnc.org) – Jeremy is in Wenatchee, WA May 21-25.
- Marek Smith** – [marek\\_smith@tnc.org](mailto:marek_smith@tnc.org) – Marek is in Wenatchee, WA May 21-25; in Boulder, CO June 5-6.
- Mary Huffman** – [mhuffman@tnc.org](mailto:mhuffman@tnc.org) – Mary is in Wenatchee May 21-25; Ocean Shores, WA June 3-8.
- Wendy Fulks** – [wfulks@tnc.org](mailto:wfulks@tnc.org) – Wendy is in Wenatchee May 21-25; out May 29; in Boulder June 5-6.
- Liz Rank** (editor) – [lrnk@tnc.org](mailto:lrnk@tnc.org) – Liz is in Wenatchee, WA May 21-25.

Note: May 28 is a Conservancy holiday.

## Full Links

News from the Field—CA—Executive order: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/5.10.18-Forest-EO.pdf>  
Press release: <https://www.gov.ca.gov/2018/05/10/governor-brown-issues-executive-order-to-protect-communities-from-wildfire-climate-impacts/>  
News from the Field—OR: <http://www.ktvz.com/news/fire-professionals-from-around-world-in-c-oregon/739343747>  
News from the Field—National: <http://greaterthanthesum.com/not-networking/>  
Resources—Wildland fire module: <https://www.nwccg.gov/publications/430>  
Articles—Restoration effects: [https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs\\_journals/2018/rmrs\\_2018\\_cannon\\_j001.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_journals/2018/rmrs_2018_cannon_j001.pdf)  
Articles—Forest futures: [https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2018/nrs\\_2018\\_bengston\\_002.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2018/nrs_2018_bengston_002.pdf)  
Video—Scrub & fire: <https://vimeo.com/268222179?bblinkid=94582190&bbemailid=7998378&bbejrid=617949275>

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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US Department of Agriculture  
**Forest Service**  
Southern Research Station



## **Position Outreach Notice**

### **Research Ecologist/Forester, GS-0408/0460-12**

Restoring and Managing Longleaf Pine Ecosystems Research Work Unit

<https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/longleaf/>

Duty Station: Auburn, AL

The Restoring and Managing Longleaf Pine Ecosystems (hereafter, Longleaf Pine) Research Work Unit (RWU) (SRS-4158) of the Southern Research Station plans to advertise a vacancy for a permanent, full-time, Research Ecologist/Research Forester position. The position will be filled at the GS-12 (\$73,375/yr to \$95,388/yr) level, plus standard Federal benefits. The duty station is the G. W. Andrews Forestry Sciences Lab in Auburn, AL. The lab currently houses researchers and support personnel from several work units in the Southern Research Station. In addition to the Longleaf Pine RWU, the lab houses individuals or teams from the Forest Operations RWU; the Utilization of Southern Forest Resources RWU; Forest Inventory and Analysis; and Partnerships and Strategic Initiatives.

The Longleaf Pine RWU's mission is to provide knowledge and strategies for restoring, managing, and sustaining longleaf pine ecosystems in the southeastern United States. The Unit operates under the broader Science Area of Resource Management and Use within the Southern Research Station. Our web page (<https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/longleaf/>) provides more information about the research unit.

#### **Duties**

The scientist develops study proposals that address research needs related to the mission of SRS-4158 across the range of longleaf pine. Research is needed within the longleaf pine forests of the Atlantic Coastal Plain, Sandhills, and Piedmont, mountain longleaf sites in Georgia and Alabama, and the coastal longleaf pine forests of the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plains. The incumbent will work with other scientists from this unit, SRS, and collaborators in the academic community to develop appropriate research initiatives for new work in these longleaf pine-dominated forest types. In addition, the scientist will also maintain a number of existing long-term studies (e.g., regional longleaf pine seed crop estimates) as well as adapting these studies for new purposes as appropriate. The scientist will plan and conduct research on the ecology and silviculture of longleaf pine forest ecosystems in the southern U.S., focusing on the consequences of silvicultural treatments such as stand thinning, reproduction cutting, and prescribed burning (plus herbicide application and tree planting when necessary) to achieve desired habitat conditions in managed longleaf pine ecosystems. Since prescribed fire is a complex process with varied effects across space and time, the incumbent's research will necessarily address questions at spatiotemporal scales from the local site to broad landscapes. Fire-related research themes could include developing a better understanding of historical, present-day, and future fire regimes; local- to landscape-scale prescribed burning design and effectiveness; and the development and refinement of prescribed

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fire behavior in unrestored and restored longleaf pine ecosystems. In addition, the scientist may develop improvements to thinning treatments for longleaf pine stands; refinements in reproduction cutting methods in longleaf pine stands especially in quantifying multi-aged and uneven-aged methods; methods to restore longleaf pine-dominated stands both through planting and through conversion of stands with a manageable longleaf pine component using natural regeneration; definition of desired future conditions in longleaf pine ecosystems under changing climatic conditions; and other scientific contributions to inform longleaf pine ecosystem restoration.

Additionally, the scientist will be an active liaison with the other federal researchers, university faculties, the National Forest System, other federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations, forest industry and non-industrial private forest landowners involved in improving forest management practices, to disseminate research findings and obtain guidance concerning candidate research that promotes scientific forestry. A key component of this research program will include contributions to improve the ability of land managers to restore longleaf pine ecosystems across multiple spatial and temporal scales using information derived from integrating retrospective and experimental research. The scientist will have responsibilities for determining key aspects of the experimental design and will act as an expert in the field of the ecology and silviculture of longleaf pine for the SRS.

The scientist will also exercise the full range of supervisory duties for a Research Support Team, including a GS-9 Forester and a GS-7 Forestry Technician. These supervisory and administrative responsibilities constitute 5 percent of the scientist's time. The successful applicant will also be the Scientist-in-Charge for the Escambia Experimental Forest (EEF), a public-private partnership located in Brewton, Alabama. The scientist is responsible for all planning, management and reporting related to research work at the EEF and maintains an active liaison with cooperating partners, including Auburn University, faculty of other regional universities, and staff of T.R. Miller Woodlands (landowner of the EEF).

TYPE OF APPOINTMENT: One permanent full time position

DUTY STATION: Auburn, AL

TELEWORK ELIGIBILITY: No

WORK SCHEDULE: Full-time 40 hours per week

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Those who are interested must meet the qualification requirements for the 0408 or 0460 series for scientist positions. The OPM Qualification Standards Handbook Manual is available at <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/>. **Current U.S. Citizenship is required for employment in this position with the USDA Forest Service.**

### **Community Information**

The city of Auburn is conveniently located in Lee County in eastern Alabama along the Interstate 85 corridor, less than 60 miles northeast of Alabama's capital city of Montgomery; about 30 miles northwest of Columbus, Georgia; and 100 miles southwest of Atlanta. Alabama's Gulf Shores can be reached in less than four hours. The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is 1.5 hours away. The population of Auburn is 62,059, the city of Opelika (pop. 27,828) is immediately to the east of Auburn, and when the surrounding area is included, the Auburn metro area population climbs to 150,933.

Auburn is home to Auburn University, one of the largest universities in the South and a member of the SEC. Auburn remains in the educational forefront with its traditional blend of arts and applied science, and the university offers a number of continuing education, professional development and community

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outreach courses. The university is also Auburn's largest employer. Nearby Opelika is home to Southern Union State Community College, and there are many other colleges and universities within a 50 mile radius. Auburn City Schools consists of eight elementary schools, one middle school, one junior high school and one high school. The system is recognized as a trailblazer among public schools, not only in Alabama, but in the nation--several of the Auburn City Schools have received national recognition. In 2015, Nerdwallet listed Auburn as "One of the 100 Most Educated Cities in the U.S."

The Auburn area boasts unique dining, a variety of shopping choices, several golf courses, historic sites, museums and parks. The area is known for both large and small game hunting, with spring turkey hunting opportunities attracting enthusiasts from across the U.S. There are opportunities for fishing, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, camping, picnicking, and most other forms of outdoor recreation. Most religious denominations can be found locally. A variety of housing types and prices are available across the area. Industrial parks within Lee County include businesses such as large distribution centers, vitamin manufacturing, and automotive manufacturing. Cities in the Auburn area have received awards such as the Forbes 2015 "9th Best Small Place for Business and Careers in the US." and "7th Best Small City for Jobs in the US." East Alabama Medical Center in Auburn serves as the principal source of primary and referral services for the residents of Lee County. This 340-bed hospital consistently receives awards of excellence and frequently ranks in the top 10 percent of hospitals when it comes to patient satisfaction. Fort Benning is located in nearby Columbus, Georgia and offers additional educational, cultural, recreational and shopping venues.

#### **How to be Considered**

The purpose of this outreach notification is to determine the potential applicant pool that may be interested in the position. Current Forest Service employees are encouraged to respond. If interested, please complete the attached Outreach Response Form and send it to Dr. Don C. Bragg, Project Leader, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 3516 UAM, Monticello, AR 71656 or email it to [dbragg@fs.fed.us](mailto:dbragg@fs.fed.us) by June 1, 2018. If you wish, please include a brief narrative, or resume, describing your experience and/or qualifications for the position. Those interested will be sent a copy of the announcement with duties, qualifications required, and application instructions. We anticipate officially announcing the position in the near future, with an anticipated starting date of October 1, 2018. For more information, contact Dr. Bragg at (870) 367-3465.

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# Outreach Response Form

## Research Ecologist/Forester, GS-0408/0460-12

*Duty Station: Auburn, AL*

If you are interested in this position, complete this form and send it via email, by **June 1, 2018**, to [dbragg@fs.fed.us](mailto:dbragg@fs.fed.us). If you are not a current Forest Service employee or do not have access to e-mail please complete this form and mail to: Dr. Don C. Bragg, Project Leader, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 3516 UAM, Monticello, AR 71656.

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **EMPLOYMENT**

Are you currently a Federal Employee? ☐ Yes ☐ No

#### **If Yes:**

Name of your Agency & Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current title/series/ grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment: ☐ Permanent ☐ Term ☐ Temporary

#### **If No:**

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current Position \_\_\_\_\_  
Title & Salary: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Appointment: ☐ Permanent ☐ Term ☐ Temporary

If you are not a current permanent federal (career or career conditional) employee, please indicate below if you are eligible for other appointments under any of the following special authorities:

<input type="checkbox"/> Former Peace Corps/Vista Volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Employment Opp. Act of 1998
<input type="checkbox"/> Person with Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/> Veteran's Readjustment Act
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Employment Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement Eligibility
<input type="checkbox"/> Veteran with 30% Compensable Disability	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Thank you for your interest

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