

FLN Networker No. 286: August 28, 2019

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 Marek Smith.

News from the Field

California: With a \$5 million award from the **California Climate Investments** program, the **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership** has **started its pilot project**, the **Somes Bar Integrated Fire Management Project**. The collaboratively developed Somes Bar project is intended to reduce wildland fire risk, restore fire processes and ecosystem function, protect existing carbon stocks and increase carbon storage at the landscape scale. Read more in the WKRP [press release](#).

California: The **Karuk Tribe** formally released its [climate adaptation plan](#) this month, calling for more prescribed fire, and seeking the governor's support of that goal. See the [press release](#) for more.

California: The [post](#) "**California's First Prescribed Burn Association** Shows Why We Need More in the State" (on the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources website) gives a good quick overview of the introduction of the PBA model to the state. For more, contact **Lenya Quinn-Davidson** (lquinndavidson@ucanr.edu).

Georgia/South Carolina: Burn crew manager **Jennifer Houts** (jennifer.houts@tnc.org) has created a [storyboard](#) about recent **successes in the Southern Blue Ridge**, including highlights of the work of a seasonal crew this spring.

IPBN: The Conservation Coaches Network (CCNet) [post](#) "**Healthy Country Planning Training in Manitoba, Canada**" talks about a recent workshop intended to build understanding and skills to better support indigenous peoples in Canada. **Margo Robbins** (margo@culturalfire.org) and **Mary Huffman** (mhuffman@tnc.org) brought their experience—earned through training, and the development of the Yurok-Hupa-Karuk Healthy Country Plan—to the workshop.

TREX: **Tim Melchert** talks about [Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges](#) (with links to many of the efforts TREX are tied to) in a recent post on the **U.S. Department of Agriculture blog**.

PERFACT: The recently completed **annual report** on the work of the learning networks includes several **thematic handouts**—on [diversity, equity and inclusion](#) efforts; the [Women-in-Fire TREX](#); concrete actions that are [reducing risk](#) to communities and landscapes; and a look at the wide variety of work making a [big impact in California](#). There is also a brief [overview](#) of the **six strategies that guide the networks**.

Input Requested: Rx Insurance / Longleaf Fire Management

Rx Insurance: With support from the **FLN**, the **Forest Stewards Guild** is working to **find liability insurance solutions** to help more practitioners and organizations be able to implement prescribed fire. They are currently **conducting a survey** of organizations that practice prescribed fire—or would like to in the future—to help them better understand the insurance market across the country and work with brokers and underwriters to produce a better product. They are **seeking as broad of a sample as possible**, spanning all types of fire practitioner backgrounds, to get the best picture possible of what is needed. You can [read more on their website](#), and then [take the survey](#).

Longleaf Fire Management: The **University of South Carolina** is **conducting a survey** to better understand the **decision-making criteria and constraints** to the use of prescribed fire in longleaf pine management. Please [take the survey](#) if you are a fire practitioner working in longleaf ecosystems.

Resources: Engaging Landowners / Wildfire Basics for Professionals / Erosion Mitigation / Fuel Loading / LANDFIRE / Smoke / Biomass Ready

Engaging Landowners: The **Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively** site has a great [post](#) showing **how they reworked a postcard that alarmed some landowners** into one that clearly invited them to take some no-obligation **action** (which had been the intent of the first one). It's worth a look if any of your outreach pieces aren't getting the expected results.

Wildfire Basics for Professionals: The **Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization** has produced a pair of **easy-to-read quick reference guides** for key **fire adapted communities stakeholders**—one guide is for those who work in [community and land-use planning](#), and another for [landscapers and arborists](#). Virtually all of the information in the guides is widely applicable elsewhere.

Erosion Mitigation: The **Santa Clara Pueblo** shared some of its strategies at a recent **Fire Adapted New Mexico** workshop, and in the [blog post](#) “After the Fire: **Low Cost Flooding and Erosion Mitigation Strategies**.”

Fuel Loading: The **Forest Service Southern Research Station** has released a “**Photo Guide** for Estimating Fuel Loading in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.” The [general technical report](#), by **Adam Coates, Thomas Waldrop, Todd Hutchinson** and **Helen Mohr**, contains 74 reference photos with instructions for using them to aid in **planning prescribed burns**.

LANDFIRE: Remap products have been released for the South Central GeoArea, adding disturbance, vegetation and fuel for this GeoArea to the [Remap product suite](#).

Smoke: The 2019 revision of “Wildfire Smoke: A **Guide for Public Health Officials**” is now available. Its [webpage](#) also has links to a variety of brief **fact sheets** on related topics from indoor air filtration to protecting livestock from wildfire smoke.

Biomass Ready: While biomass may not yet be economically or logistically viable, over the lifespan of a new building, that may change. The Colorado State Forest Service has an **online tool** to help ensure that **new construction planning** allows for relatively **straightforward conversion to biomass fuels** in the future. In a form that can be used as a supplement to an RFP, [the tool](#) covers such areas as delivery access, onsite fuel storage and boiler and connection considerations.

Articles & Reports: Resilience / Community Fire Risk

Resilience: The *Nature Sustainability* [article](#) “Rethinking Resilience to Wildfire” discusses three perspectives on resilience—“**basic resilience**” (bouncing back), as well as “**adaptive resilience**” and “**transformative resilience**,” which require explicit changes to our socio-ecological systems. (A [story](#) about this paper in the *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* mentions that **FAC Net** is among the groups “advancing these sorts of ideas.”)

Community Fire Risk: The Arizona Republic and USA Today partnered to look at wildfire risk to small communities in the West, using the **Camp Fire** that struck Paradise as a **point of reference**. An [article](#) gives an overview of their report, and an [interactive feature](#) (“Where Will the West's Next Deadly Wildfire Strike? The Risks Are Everywhere”) goes into more depth, including a clear description of how they **defined risk factors**, videos and case **examples of several communities**. (Note: if either of these load wonky, try a different browser.)

Videos: Fire Belongs Here / TEK

Fire Belongs Here: A new [video](#) from the Klamath-Salmon Media Collaborative and **Karuk Tribe** eloquently makes the case for fire management rather than suppression.

TEK: The Humboldt State University [video](#) “**Traditional Ecological Knowledge** & Place-based Learning Communities” gives a good introduction to the what and why of TEK, and its place in a science education.

Jobs: FAC State Coordinator / Fuels Crew Lead / Regional Coordinator / Forest Health / Lead Forester

FAC State Coordinator: The Nevada Division of Forestry is seeking a **network executive coordinator** for the **Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities**. Details are on the state’s jobs site ([announcement number 37960](#)); applications are due by **August 29**.

Fuels Crew Lead: The **National Park Service** is filling a **forestry technician** position to lead a **prescribed fire and fuels crew**. The position is part of the Appalachian-Piedmont-Coastal Fire Management Zone, based at **Great Smoky Mountains NP**; its work covers 21 NPS units across four states. Details are on usajobs.gov ([control number 543763900](#)); the position is open until **September 13**, or when 50 applications have been received.

Regional Coordinator: The **Forest Stewards Guild** is seeking a **Southeast regional coordinator** with “a passion for ecosystem restoration, an appreciation for the role of working forests and conservation, and experience in project management,” to be based in Asheville, NC. Details are in the [position description](#); applications are due by **September 16**.

Forest Health: The **Flagstaff Fire Department** is seeking a **wildland forest health supervisor** to lead the **prevention and preparedness** functions of the department’s Wildland Fire Management program and manage selected **hazard mitigation** projects. Details are in the vacancy announcement ([no. 109-19](#)); applications are due by **September 27**.

Lead Forester: The **Lomakatsi Restoration Project** (Ashland, OR) is hiring a **lead ecological forester** to further develop and implement Lomakatsi’s **Ecological Monitoring and Restoration Forestry programs** and serve in a leadership and program management role within the organization. Details are in the [job announcement](#); candidates are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

Webinar

September 26 **Remap 2016: New LANDFIRE Products for the Southwestern United States**
10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern
[Details](#) are on the Conservation Biology Institute website.
Register: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2059595684534269708>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

September 11-12 deadline **Central Appalachians & Potomac Headwaters Workshop / McHenry, MD**
[Register](#) by **August 28**; rooms are being held at the [WISP Resort](#) (\$89 per night) through August 28 as well, with booking ID #4781.
For more information, contact Deborah Landau (dlandau@tnc.org)

November 4-8 **Annual FLN Leaders-TREX Coaches-IPBN Workshop / Mountain View, AR**
FLN leads, TREX coaches and IPBN leads will meet at a joint national workshop.

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX)

- September 10-24** **San Juan Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / southwestern CO**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- Sept. 24-October 5 deadline** **Yurok Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Weitchpec, CA**
See the [flyer](#) for details about this TREX; submit an [application](#) by September 10.
- Sept. 24-October 11** **Cascadia Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Cle Elum, WA**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- October 7-18** **Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Orleans, CA**
The deadline for this TREX has passed (but see the nature journaling workshop in the section below).
- October 14-27** **Intercambio y Entrenamiento en Quemas Prescritas en Español / Santa Fe, NM**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- November 1-21*** **Cal-TREX Butte / Butte County, CA**
This Cal-TREX will mobilize for a one-week event within the three-week window. Details and a link to the online application are in the [flyer](#); applications are due by September 20.

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- October 1-3** **5th Biennial Shortleaf Pine Conference / Van Buren, MO**
Information: <http://www.shortleafpine.net/shortleaf-pine-initiative/conferences>
- October 11-13 deadline** **Nature Journaling Prescribed Fire / Orleans, CA**
This field workshop will be held in conjunction with the Klamath River TREX. Applications are due by September 6.
Information: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Documents/KlamathRiverTREX-2019-NatureJournaling-Flyer.pdf>
- October 21-24** **3rd Annual Cohesive Strategy Workshop / Plymouth, MA**
Information: https://www.iawfonline.org/event/2019_cohesive_strategy_workshop/
- November 18-22 deadline** **Cultivating Pyrodiversity: The 8th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Tucson, AZ**
Abstracts for poster presentations must be submitted by August 30.
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Emily Hohman – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is at San Juan NF September 8-24.

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

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is out August 28-September 2; at San Juan NF September 8-24.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is out August 28-September 2; in Columbia, SC September 4-5; and in McHenry, MD September 11-12.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in northern NM August 26-30.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in the office.

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

Note: September 2 is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

News from the Field—CA—WKRP: https://lostcoastoutpost.com/2019/aug/12/local-alliance-awarded-5-million-help-protect-hist/?fbclid=IwAR2I4FPKAc5Nf5ogW3j38PW2e9_ACdLeVyZ2MeeA5DQreBy7SFQfXmB4UU

News from the Field—CA—PBAs: <https://ucanr.edu/News/?routeName=newsstory&postnum=31049>

News from the Field—CA—KaruK—Climate plan: <https://karuktribeclimatechangeprojects.com/climate-adaptation-plan/>
Press release: http://www.karuk.us/images/docs/dnr/19-08-15_Climate_Plan_release.pdf

News from the Field—GA/SC:

<https://tnc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=2a8a5b49eb1d4f569ccb29acd9a77bdc>

News from the Field—TREX: https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2019/08/23/prescribed-fire-training-exchanges?fbclid=IwAR0xEgaXpo23wB5VbiiU5jWKSiuatBB4P-i-S61ZYu9HkR_CuAy-ObXYRpQ

News from the Field—PERFACT:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/Pages/fact-sheets.aspx>

Input Requested—Rx insurance—Read more: <https://foreststewardsguild.org/prescribed-fire-insurance/>

Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DBKGRFH>

Input Requested—Longleaf: https://uofsc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_do1UT2uACMYr3IX

Resources—Engaging landowners: <https://www.engaginglandowners.org/NV-beforeandafter>

Resources—Wildfire basics for professionals—Planners: <http://www.hawaiiwildfire.org/fire-resource-library-blog/2019/8/5/wildfire-basics-for-professionals-resiliency-for-land-use-and-community-planners>

Landscapers: <http://www.hawaiiwildfire.org/fire-resource-library-blog/2019/8/5/wildfire-basics-for-professionals-hazard-reduction-for-arborists-and-landscapers>

Resources—Erosion mitigation: <https://facnm.org/news/2019/8/13/after-the-fire-low-cost-flooding-and-erosion-mitigation-strategies>

Resources—Fuel loading:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/546cbcc7e4b06ce240c13156/t/5d5bf04793ee81000166075b/1566306404395/Fuel+s+Guide-compressed.pdf>

Resources—LANDFIRE: https://landfire.gov/lf_remap.php

Resources—Smoke: https://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=topics.smoke_wildfires_guide_factsheets

Articles & Reports—Resilience—Paper:

<https://bloximages.chicago2.vip.townnews.com/bozemandailychronicle.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/e/75/e757fb45-5a8b-5288-8e9c-f849b35ca286/5d5b2ea9df0be.pdf.pdf>

Bozeman Daily Chronicle: https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/news/environment/living-with-fire-new-paper-suggests-rethinking-relationship-with-wildfire/article_e9e6b66e-9b8d-5e8b-bf81-fbfc17ac52b.html

Articles & Reports—Community fire risk—About the report: <https://www.azcentral.com/in-depth/news/local/arizona-wildfires/2019/07/22/wildfire-risks-ahead-of-the-fire-about-this-report/1784203001/>

Interactive: <https://www.azcentral.com/in-depth/news/local/arizona-wildfires/2019/07/22/wildfire-risks-more-than-500-spots-have-greater-hazard-than-paradise/1434502001/>

Videos—Fire Belongs Here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbNy52Ed-3k&feature=youtu.be>

Videos—TEK: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liKV74avPso&feature=youtu.be>

TREX—The latest application information for upcoming TREX is always listed at:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Pages/Upcoming-Training-Exchanges.aspx>

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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