

# FLN Networker No. 288: October 9, 2019

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*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:** The work of the **Karuk** and the **Yurok** tribes in leading regional collaborative efforts to expand the use of fire underlies the research in the *Forest Ecology and Management* [article](#) “Effects of **Understory Fire Management Treatments on California Hazelnut**, an Ecocultural Resource of the Karuk and Yurok Indians in the Pacific Northwest.” Highlights from the work are also in the [media release](#) “Native Approaches to Fire Management Could **Revitalize Communities**, Researchers Find.” For more, contact **Frank Lake** ([frank.lake@usda.gov](mailto:frank.lake@usda.gov)).

**California:** “The Past, Present, and Future of California Wildfires,” an [essay](#) by **Humboldt State University** professor **Jeffrey Kane**, talks about **fire in California**, a “prescribed fire **renaissance**” (acknowledging the **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership**), and the university’s **hands-on fire** program—including student experiences with the **Yurok TREX**.

**Minnesota:** The **Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe** and **U.S. Forest Service**—partners in the **Sand Plain Pines FLN** landscape—signed a **memorandum of understanding** last week. The [MOU](#) “provides a **framework for consultation and collaboration**” for work on the Chippewa National Forest, which shares a significant geographical area with the Leech Lake Indian Reservation. For more on this FLN, contact **Andrea Brandon** ([abrandon@tnc.org](mailto:abrandon@tnc.org)).

**New Mexico:** **IPBN** work in New Mexico revolves around a group of **eight pueblos** that have forest restoration grants from the **Reserved Treaty Rights Lands (RTRL)** program of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This RTRL Working Group has identified limited opportunities for NWCG fire training as a bottleneck to completing projects, so the group is conducting a **fire training needs assessment** to quantify both short- and long-term training needs across their combined ancestral territories. The group has also identified administrative barriers to address in order to collaborate on prescribed burns across pueblo-Forest Service boundaries.

**Oregon:** Late last month, FAC Net members **Ed Keith** ([ed.keith@deschutes.org](mailto:ed.keith@deschutes.org)), **Alison Green** ([cocohesivestrategy@gmail.com](mailto:cocohesivestrategy@gmail.com)) and a partner from the Oregon Department of Forestry taught two sessions of a **new full-day course** to help people learn how to **prevent structural ignitions from wildfire**. The agenda covered the local wildfire context, defining the WUI, defensible space considerations and structure considerations (and the research behind them), how to assess a home (and a group assessment exercise), and local and national programs to be aware of. A total of **80 people**—including wildland and structural fire personnel, residents of Firewise USA® sites, homeowner association staff, and two of the county’s three commissioners—took part. The course will be adapted based on their feedback, and the organizers plan to offer it up to three times a year, in cooperation with a local community college.

**Washington:** The **Cascadia TREX** will be **wrapping up** soon after some good burning, including prairie burns with partners in the South Puget Sound region and forest burns near the community of Roslyn. You can follow along on the **Washington Prescribed Fire Council** [Facebook page](#).

**National:** A [report](#) covering work from 2014 to 2019 under PERFACT—the cooperative agreement that supports the **FLN, FAC Net, TREX and IPBN**—is now available. It briefly highlights the networks' **progress over the five-year period**, and includes examples of work undertaken in support of each of the six broad strategies shared by the networks.

**National:** In the *Science* [article](#) “Collaborations and Capacities to Transform Fire Management,” the **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership, Rio Grande Water Fund and Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges** were **called out as examples** of how “Congress could improve and create grant opportunities for state agencies, tribes, and community-based groups, which would enhance their ability to add capacity and advance solutions tailored to local conditions.”

## Resources: NWCG Fire Positions / Active Bystander

**NWCG Fire Positions:** The **October 2019 revisions** of the NWCG wildland fire position qualification [flow chart](#) and position standards ([PMS 310-1](#)) are now available.

**Active Bystander:** You've just overheard a hurtful or cringe-inducing remark—**what do you do?** Start by reading the FAC Net [blog post](#) “Don't be a Bystander. Be an Active Bystander!” by **Maria Estrada**.

## Articles & Reports: Networks / Water Yield / Climate Assessment / National Security / Biochar / Smoke

**Networks:** The [post](#) “Transformative Networks Are Multiscalar” on networkweaver.com (a loosely affiliated group of consultants) should resonate with those involved in the PERFACT networks, paralleling conversations many network leaders and members are having about **how to spark and spread innovation** to address systemic issues in fire management

**Water Yield:** The Southern Research Station [general technical report](#) “**Wildland Fire Impacts on Water Yield** Across the Contiguous United States” is a “first-time CONUS-wide assessment of **observed and potential wildland fire impacts** on surface water yield,” based on observations in 168 burned watersheds and simulations in 88,000 HUC-12 watersheds. The report includes a brief discussion of the role of prescribed fire; appendixes include detailed maps and tables for the burned watersheds included in the analysis.

**Climate Assessment:** The Pacific Northwest Research Station recently released the [general technical report](#) “Climate Change **Vulnerability and Adaptation** in South-Central Oregon.” For those not interested in the details specific to the region, the six-page table of contents outlining the **wide range of systems and resources to be considered** may still be of interest.

**National Security:** The [blog post](#) “Is the United States Prepared for Wildfires?” recently appeared on the website of the **Council on Foreign Relations**. Based on a new [report](#), “Impact of **Climate Risk on the Energy System**,” it highlights the underappreciated risks that wildfires can pose to national security through the national energy system, including the electric grid and oil and gas facilities, which in turn can affect both civilian populations and military operations.

**Biochar:** The [article](#) “Can Biochar **Link Forest Restoration with Commercial Agriculture?**” discusses the **technical and economic aspects** of the use of biomass from forest treatments as a soil amendment, using the Upper Klamath Basin (on the California-Oregon border) as an example. “Biochar offers the greatest opportunity where dryland food crops, limited water availability, existing energy transmission infrastructure, and high-fire hazard forests share the same landscape.”

And if you happen to be near Chadron State Park on October 11, the **Nebraska Forest Service** will be hosting a [biochar demonstration](#) nearby.

**Smoke:** The *ScienceDaily* [story](#) “Fire **Inversions**’ Lock Smoke in Valleys” summarizes the [article](#) “Modeling Wildfire Smoke Feedback Mechanisms Using a Coupled Fire-Atmosphere Model With a Radiatively Active Aerosol Scheme.” Short version: In a basin, a **positive feedback loop** can keep the smoke in place.

## Jobs: Conservation Coordinator / Seasonal Rx Crews / Fire Manager / Executive Director

**Conservation Coordinator:** The **Nature Conservancy** is hiring a conservation coordinator to provide administrative, research, project management and other assistance to a variety of projects in **New Mexico**, including the **Rio Grande Water Fund**. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 48035](#)); applications are due by **October 22**. (Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).)

**Fire Scientist:** The **Washington Department of Natural Resources Forest Health and Resiliency Division** is seeking a fire science lead responsible for conducting scientific analysis and research in support of the 20-Year Forest Health Strategic Plan, 10-Year Wildland Fire Protection Strategic Plan, the Forest Action Plan and other related plans and initiatives. Details are on [careers.wa.gov](#); applications are due by **October 23**.

**Seasonal Rx Crew:** The **Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **manager** and **crew members** to be based in southeastern **Kentucky** for the spring season (late January through April). Details are on the TNC careers site ([manager job ID 48064](#); [crew member 48063](#)); applications are due by **October 25**. (Current TNC employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([crew manager](#); [crew member](#))).

**Seasonal Rx Crews:** The **Nature Conservancy** is staffing **two crews** in **South Carolina** for the spring season (late December through May). Details are on the TNC careers site for crew manager positions ([TNC manager job ID 48049](#); [interagency manager 48051](#)) and crew member positions ([TNC crew 48048](#); [interagency crew 48050](#)). Applications for crew managers are due by **October 25**, and for technicians, **October 26**. (Current TNC employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([TNC manager](#); [interagency manager](#); [TNC crew](#); [interagency crew](#))).

**Seasonal Rx Crew:** The **Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **manager** and **crew technicians** for its **North Georgia Southern Blue Ridge Fire Management Crew** for the spring season (late January through May). Details are on the TNC careers site ([manager job ID 48073](#); [crew technician 48077](#)); applications are due by **November 1**. (Current TNC employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([crew manager](#); [crew technician](#))).

**Fire Manager:** The **Nature Conservancy’s** Wisconsin chapter is hiring a fire manager to lead the **Wisconsin prescribed fire program**. Details are in the attached position description and on the TNC careers site ([job ID 48078](#)); applications are due by **November 4**. (Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).)

**Executive Director:** **Northern Arizona University** is seeking an **executive director** for its **Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI)** to lead its “interdisciplinary staff ... advancing the **restoration of forest ecosystems** in order to regain natural ecological function, lower the risk of undesirable fire in forests and increase resiliency of our public lands and the human communities of the Intermountain West.” Details are on the university’s jobs portal ([job ID 604592](#)); review of applications will begin **October 30**.

**Fire Ecologist:** The **National Park Service** is seeking an **fire ecologist** for **Grand Canyon National Park**. Details are on usajobs.gov ([control number 548097300](#)); applications are being accepted through **November 1**, or until **50 applications** have been received.

## Webinars

October 17

### 2019 Hot Topics

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

The NWCG Advanced Fire Environment Learning Unit is hosting this webinar with presentations covering a Predictive Services tools comparison, an Alaska fire behavior case study, and information about smoke tools.

Register: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1202906804225399820>

October 17

### Preparing for Wildfires with Firescaping: A Master Gardener Training Designed to Help Protect Southeastern U.S. Communities from Wildfire

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

The University of Georgia, Southern Fire Exchange and University of Florida are hosting this webinar that will introduce participants to the day-long Master Gardener training and the online tools that support it.

Info: [https://ufl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_DCeZJZqWSwyr0uzt7mWHbg](https://ufl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DCeZJZqWSwyr0uzt7mWHbg)

October 17

new listing

### Southeast Drought Update

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

On this NOAA webinar Victor Murphy and Pam Knox will speak about the recent sharp increase in drought intensity and coverage across the region, including the outlook and impacts on agriculture.

Register: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3862877220399463692>

October 23

new listing

### Large-Scale Forest Restoration Stabilizes Carbon Under Climate Change

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

Lisa McCauley will be the presenter on this Southwest Fire Consortium webinar.

Register: <http://www.swfireconsortium.org/2019/06/05/oct-23-2019-large-scale-forest-restoration-stabilizes-carbon-under-climate-change/>

November 13

new listing

### Assessment of Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Arizona and the Western U.S.

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

Melanie Colavito will be the presenter on this Southwest Fire Consortium webinar.

Register: <http://www.swfireconsortium.org/2019/06/02/september-4-2019-assessment-of-community-wildfire-protection-plans-in-arizona-and-the-western-u-s/>

November 19

### Rivercane: A Culturally & Ecologically Significant Plant in the Appalachians

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern (1.5 hours)

David Cozzo will introduce the cultural and ecological importance of rivercane and Adam Griffith will speak on restoration projects in western North Carolina in this Southern Blue Ridge FLN webinar.

Details: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/SBR-FLN-webinar.aspx>

## Network Workshops & Field Tours

October 18

new listing

### Reserved Treaty Rights Lands Working Group (IPBN) / Santa Clara Pueblo, NM

Participants from eight pueblos will meet with collaborators from the U.S. Forest Service, New Mexico Forestry and BIA to discuss shared planning and problem-solving for current and proposed RTRL projects.

- November 4-8**      **Annual FLN Leaders-TREX Coaches-IPBN Workshop / Mountain View, AR**  
FLN network leads, TREX coaches and IPBN leads will meet at this joint national workshop.
- November 13**      **Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment Landscape / TBD**  
Save the date for the next workshop of this FLN landscape.
- May 19-21, 2020**      **Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Dillard, GA**  
**new listing**      Save the date for this regional FLN workshop hosted by the Balsam-Nantahala landscape.

## FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX)

- Sept. 24-October 11**      **Cascadia Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Cle Elum, WA**  
This TREX is in progress.
- October 7-18**      **Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Orleans, CA**  
This TREX is in progress.
- October 14-27**      **Intercambio y Entrenamiento en Quemadas 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.  
The application deadline has passed.

## Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- October 21**      **North Carolina Fire Management in Organic Soils / Holly Ridge, NC**  
This workshop is co-hosted by the Southern Fire Exchange, North Carolina Prescribed Fire Council and Southeast Regional Strategy Committee.  
Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fire-management-in-organic-soils-workshop-tickets-69874986967>
- October 21-24**      **3rd Annual Cohesive Strategy Workshop / Plymouth, MA**  
Information: [https://www.iawfonline.org/event/2019\\_cohesive\\_strategy\\_workshop/](https://www.iawfonline.org/event/2019_cohesive_strategy_workshop/)
- November 18-22**      **Cultivating Pyrodiversity: The 8th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Tucson, AZ**  
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>
- April 15-16, 2020**      **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Grand Junction, CO**  
Fire Adapted Colorado is presenting this conference focused on “Discover Your Role: Reducing Wildland Fire Risk.”  
Information: <https://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
- April 20-24, 2020**      **3rd International Smoke Symposium / Raleigh, NC and Davis, CA**  
Presented by International Association of Wildland Fire in partnership with NWCG Smoke Committee and the UC-Davis Air Quality Research Center, the symposium will have based in Raleigh, with a [satellite location at UC-Davis](#).  
Information: <https://www.iawfonline.org/event/3rd-international-smoke-symposium/>

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## Send News, Links & Comments

**Emily Hohman** – [emily.hohman@tnc.org](mailto:emily.hohman@tnc.org) – Emily is at Hart Prairie Preserve October 23-27.

**Heather Montanye** – [hmontanye@tnc.org](mailto:hmontanye@tnc.org) – Heather is in the office.

**Jeremy Bailey** – [jeremy\\_bailey@tnc.org](mailto:jeremy_bailey@tnc.org) – Jeremy is in Orleans, CA October 6-19; at Hart Prairie Preserve October 21-November 2.

**Marek Smith** – [marek\\_smith@tnc.org](mailto:marek_smith@tnc.org) – Marek is out October 14-17; in Plymouth, MA October 21-24; in Columbia, SC October 29-30.

**Mary Huffman** – [mhuffman@tnc.org](mailto:mhuffman@tnc.org) – Mary is out October 10-16; in northern New Mexico October 17-18; in Estes Park, CO October 23-24.

**Wendy Fulks** – [wfulks@tnc.org](mailto:wfulks@tnc.org) – Wendy is in Jackson, WY October 7-9; in Minneapolis, MN October 21-28

**Liz Rank** (editor) – [lrnk@tnc.org](mailto:lrnk@tnc.org) – Liz is out October 11.

Note: October 14 is a Conservancy holiday.

### Full Links

News from the Field—CA—Karuk & Yurok—Article: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112719306826>  
Media release: <https://news.stanford.edu/2019/08/27/traditional-fire-management-help-revitalize-american-indian-cultures/>

News from the Field—CA—Humboldt: <http://www2.humboldt.edu/magazine/fall2019/californiawildfires.html>

News from the Field—MN: <https://www.leechlakenews.com/2019/10/04/leech-lake-band-of-ojibwe-and-u-s-national-forest-service-enter-into-memorandum-of-understanding/>

News from the Field—NM: <https://www.bia.gov/sites/bia.gov/files/assets/public/pdf/idc1-030969.pdf>

News from the Field—WA: <https://www.facebook.com/warxfirecouncil/>

News from the Field—National—PERFACT I report:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/Documents/PERFACT-I-FinalReport-2019.pdf>

News from the Field—National—Collaborations: <https://science.sciencemag.org/content/366/6461/38>

Resources—NWCG fire positions—Flow chart: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/publications/pms308.pdf>

Position standards: <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/310-1>

Resources—Active bystander: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/dont-be-a-bystander-be-an-active-bystander/>

Articles & Reports—Networks: <https://networkweaver.com/transformational-networks-are-multiscalar/>

Articles & Reports—Water yield: [https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr\\_srs238.pdf](https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs238.pdf)

Articles & Reports—Climate assessment: [https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw\\_gtr974.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr974.pdf)

Articles & Reports—National security—Blog post: <https://www.cfr.org/blog/united-states-prepared-wildfires>

Report: <https://www.cfr.org/report/impact-climate-risk-energy-system>

Articles & Reports—Biochar: [https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw\\_2019\\_sessions001.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw_2019_sessions001.pdf)

Articles & Reports—Smoke—ScienceDaily: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/09/190912134354.htm>

Original article: <https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1029/2019JD030558>

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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## Wisconsin Fire Manager

Are you interested in leading Wisconsin's prescribed fire program for The Nature Conservancy? The Wisconsin Chapter is seeking a Fire Manager who will advance the use of fire as a management tool on Conservancy and partner lands. You'll join an established 35+ year burn program and an inspired team committed to utilizing fire as a management tool across the state. The Fire Manager will plan and execute prescribed burns, deliver fire training, and work with government agencies and partners on collaborative fire management. This position is based in Madison, WI, with anticipated travel of 30%. The salary range starts at \$58,000 and is dependent on experience.

Lead fire management operations including:

- Manage and maintain a safe and efficient fire program to accomplish ecological objectives
- Prepare and approve fire management plans and burn unit plans
- Hire, train, and supervise seasonal staff, volunteer crew members, and contractors
- Deliver fire training courses in Wisconsin and beyond
- Build strong relationships with public and private partners to expand the use of fire

Conduct land management activities including:

- Implement timber harvests, prairie restorations, and invasive species control
- Maintain a fleet of specialized equipment including trucks, UTVs, and chainsaws

The ideal candidate will have the following background and skills:

- Bachelor's degree and at least 4 years of experience in fire or natural resources management, or equivalent combination
- Must meet one of the following fire qualifications: 1) NWCG RXB2; or 2) NWCG ENGB working towards ICT4 (incident commander); or 3) Experienced state or agency burn boss
- Proven ability to work collaboratively with diverse partners
- Demonstrated experience with all aspects of fire management, including ability to safely carry out and supervise prescribed burns
- A champion for utilizing current trends in fire management and land management
- Multi-lingual skills and cross-cultural experience are appreciated
- Inspiring communication skills and ability to communicate positively and effectively
- Excellent supervisory and management skills and ability to lead effectively in stressful situations
- Experience in ecological management, restoration, and land stewardship
- Familiarity with ecological principles and biological systems
- Competency in interpreting maps and aerial photos; experience with GIS and GPS is helpful
- Experience in operation, maintenance, and repair of mechanical equipment

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The Nature Conservancy is a global, science-based conservation organization dedicated to conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends. In Wisconsin, the Conservancy has helped protect more than 234,000 acres since 1960. The Wisconsin chapter has an established burn program with a 35+ year history of using fire as a management tool on preserves across the state and a commitment to collaboration with partners.

*The Nature Conservancy is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
with a commitment to a diverse and culturally competent global workforce.*

**Apply now at [www.nature.org/careers](http://www.nature.org/careers) Deadline: November 4**

See full job description online (position #48078) and upload your resume and cover letter to apply.