

FLN Networker No. 333: May 18, 2022

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.

News from the Field

Arkansas: During the last week in April, the Arkansas chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** hosted **nine international participants** from **Colombia**, **Guatemala** and **Zambia** for a learning exchange on fire ecology, fire management planning and specific skills associated with controlled burning and application in **woodland and savanna ecosystems**. The agenda included a **prescribed burn** at the Grandview WMA managed by the **Arkansas Game and Fish Commission** and TNC, and opportunities to **meet with FLN partners** on the Pine Bluestem and Pine-Oak Ecosystem restoration projects. For more, contact **McRee Anderson** (wanderson@tnc.org).

Arkansas: If you missed it last week, also check out the **webinar recording** of “**20 Years of Partnership: Lessons Learned from the South Central Fire Learning Network**,” in which partners shared their remarkable history of accomplishments together.

Colorado/New Mexico: Members of the **Northern Colorado Fireshed Collaborative** ([website](#)) and **Greater Santa Fe Fireshed Coalition** ([website](#)) took advantage of the Medio Fire Learning Exchange supported by the **Fire Adapted New Mexico Learning Network** to engage in some **peer learning**. Some common themes are shared in the FAC Net [blog post](#) “**Collaborative Implementation in Fireshed Management: Insights from the Medio Fire Learning Exchange**.”

Oregon: **Katie Sauerbrey** (katie.sauerbrey@tnc.org) [spoke with](#) The Weather Channel in a few weeks ago. In the excellent live interview she described how **treatments at Sycan Marsh Preserve** dramatically **changed the behavior of the Bootleg Fire** on the preserve, and also spoke about how those treatments were informed by their **partnership** with the **Klamath Tribes**, and about the important **ecological fire** more generally.

Oregon: Jefferson Public Radio recently [interviewed](#) **Aaron Krikava** (**Rogue Valley PBA**) and **Chris Adlam** (Oregon State University, and a member of the **Rogue Basin TRES** planning team), published as “Getting to Know the Elements of ‘Good Fire’ From Prescribed Burning Proponents.”

Texas: The **Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas** and **The Nature Conservancy in Texas** have produced a [video](#) about their **partnership in prescribed burning** for cultural and ecological purposes. “From the Fire: A Legacy of Longleaf” explains how **fire, longleaf pine and culture are intertwined** for the tribe. This partnership started with an introduction by the USFS-R8 Office of Tribal Relations. For more, contact **Gesse Bullock** (bullock.gesse@actribe.org) or **Shawn Benedict** (shawn_benedict@tnc.org).

IPBN: **Margo Robbins** was among those interviewed for the [story](#) “When You **Start Fires to Prevent Fires**,” in a recent installment of *The Planet You Save* newsletter.

Funding: NFWF

NFWF: The **America the Beautiful Challenge** is a public-private [grant program](#) for locally led ecosystem restoration projects that invest in watershed restoration, **resilience**, equitable access, **workforce development**, corridors and connectivity, and **collaborative conservation**. An applicant webinar will be held on May 19 at 2:00 Eastern ([register](#)). Proposals are due by **July 21**.

Input Requested: Wilderness & Fire Management

Wilderness & Fire Management: A [survey](#) is being conducted as part of a research study being conducted by **Western Colorado University** to understand **barriers and opportunities** for different types of **fire management in wilderness**. Land management personnel involved in research, planning, decision-making, or implementation related to wilderness and/or fire management are invited to take part.

Resources: Learn-and-Burn / Smoke / Air Quality / Natural Climate Solutions / Firesheds / California Rx

Learn-and-Burn: The FAC Net [blog post](#) “Weather or Not to Burn: Steps to Organizing Learn-and-Burns” shares some **lessons learned** by the **Forest Stewards Guild** hosting these events in North Carolina.

Smoke: The [recording](#) of the recent Oregon State University Extension **webinar** “Smoke Ready Oregon: **Preparing for Wildfire Smoke**” is now available. There are also links to the numerous resources (for Oregon and beyond) mentioned during the webinar.

Air Quality: The **U.S. EPA** is piloting an **air monitoring technology loan** program for **state, local and tribal air organizations** in areas where there are data coverage gaps. For details and a link to the request form, see the Wildfire Smoke Air Monitoring Response Technology (WSMART) Pilot [page](#) on the EPA website.

Natural Climate Solutions: U.S. Nature4Climate, a coalition of conservation, environmental and sustainable business organizations, has developed a **decision-makers guide** to natural climate solutions. The [guide](#) is intended to help those in the **policy, corporate and NGO sectors** navigate the complex information landscape of **conservation, restoration and improved land management strategies** that help remove carbon dioxide from the air while also keeping air and water clean and soil healthy and productive.

Firesheds: The **Rocky Mountain Research Station** has a “**Firesheds at a Glance**” [fact sheet](#) that gives a quick introduction to this spatial product being used to inform implementation of the Forest Service’s **Wildfire Crisis Strategy**. “Firesheds are containers that **delineate areas where fires ignite** and are likely (or not) to **spread to communities** and expose buildings.”

California Rx: California has recently adopted a **state-certified prescribed fire burn boss** program. A new [flyer](#) summarizes the intent, prerequisites and steps to certification.

Articles & Reports: Fuel Treatments / Oak Regeneration / Liability

Fuel Treatments: The JFSP [final report](#) “Can Landscape Fuel Treatments Enhance **Both Protection and Resource Management Objectives?**” is based on **fire modeling** on two large landscapes (northern New Mexico and the southern Sierra in California). The authors found that “treating on federal lands to reduce federal transmission was highly effective at reducing exposure from federal fires and at expanding opportunities for beneficial fire but contributed comparatively little to reducing housing exposure from all fires.”

Oak Regeneration: The **Southern Fire Exchange** has release a new [fact sheet](#), “**Using Fire to Manage for Oak** Regeneration in Eastern and Southeastern U.S. Oak-Hardwood Ecosystems.”

Liability: **Jennifer Fawcett** (North Carolina State Extension) collaborated with a couple of lawyers to produce the [document](#) “**Prescribed Fire Liability** Report for the **Southern United States: A Summary of Statutes and Cases.**” The report includes an overview of concepts followed by **state-by-state examples** of key cases.

Videos & More: Indigenous Fire / Adapting Western Forests

Indigenous Fire: The **Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes** in Montana have produced a new [video](#), “Returning Fire to the Land: **Stewardship Through Traditional Practices** of the Séliš, Qlispé and Ksanka Peoples.”

Adapting Western Forests: Sustainable Northwest has created the [storymap](#) “Adapting Western U.S. Forests to Climate Change & Wildfires: **Ten Common Questions**,” based on the 2021 article of the same name by **Prichard** et al.

In the News: Wildfire Risk

Wildfire Risk: The *New York Times* [story](#) “Here Are the **Wildfire Risks to Homes Across the Lower 48 States**” is based on work by the First Street Foundation. The data are based on Forest Service estimates of risk and climate projections, but do not take into account housing yet to be built. “Half of all addresses in the lower 48 states face some degree of wildfire risk, according to First Street’s model, a number that will rise to 56 percent by 2052. In some rural states, including Wyoming and Montana, more than 90 percent of properties already face some risk.”

Jobs & Contract Opportunity

Project Manager: The **Plumas County Fire Safe Council** ([PCFSC](#)) is seeking a **mitigation assistance project manager** to oversee defensible space assistance, chipping and home hardening incentive programs. Details are in the attached job description flyer; applications are due by **May 20**.

Rx Program Manager: The **Washington Department of Natural Resources** is seeking a **prescribed fire program manager**. Details are on the state’s [careers site](#); applications are due by **May 22**.

Fire Management Specialist: Two **Bureau of Land Management** fuels jobs (**prescribed fire and fuels specialist—moderate complexity**) have been posted in the Western Montana District, one in Missoula, one in Dillon. Details are on [usajobs.gov](#) ([652489700](#)); applications are due by **May 25**.

Extension: The **University of Maryland** is seeking a **forest management specialist** to provide leadership for educational program development, delivery and evaluation on a variety of forestry and natural resources topics. Details are on the university’s jobs page ([position number 103582](#)); apply by **May 31**.

Ecologist: The New Mexico chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **stewardship ecologist** to provide technical leadership and support, and plan and direct preserve management programs, ecological restoration projects and stewardship. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 51540](#)); applications are due by **June 19**. Current employee should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Partnerships: The **West Region Wildfire Council** is seeking a **partnership and collaboration director** to provide leadership for initiatives that enhance connections among stakeholders, promote coordination and collaboration, and increase the pace and scale of **wildfire and watershed resilience** outcomes. See the WRWC [employment page](#) for details.

Crew Manager: The **Amah Mutsun Land Trust** ([AMLT](#)) is seeking a manager for its **Native Stewardship Corps**; the manager will live on-site at the Corps’ community house and lead the day-to-day work of the crew. See the [job description](#) for details.

Program Manager: The **Tahoe Resource Conservation District** is looking for a new **fire adapted communities program manager** to manage the Lake Tahoe Basin’s FAC program. See the [job description](#) for details.

Planning: The **Ember Alliance** is seeking a **planning operations specialist** ([details](#)) and a **planning assistant fire management officer** ([details](#)), based on the Colorado Front Range.

Contract Opportunity: The **Watershed Research and Training Center** has issued a **request for proposals** (attached) for training specialists to deliver basic a **NWCG Firefighter II curriculum** (S-130, S-190, L-180, I-100 and IS-700) and S-212, with an **equity and career development emphasis**. Proposals are being accepted on a rolling basis, but should be submitted by **May 30** for fall trainings.

Webinars

May 18

Pre-Planning for Fire Operations And Response—PODs

5:00 Pacific / 6:00 Mountain / 7:00 Central / 8:00 p.m. Eastern

Kit O'Connor and Tyler Beeton will be the speakers on this public webinar hosted by Fire Adapted NM in celebration of National Wildfire Preparedness Day.

Details & registration: <https://facnm.org/new-events/2022/5/18/webinar-pre-planning-for-fire-operations-and-response-pods>

May 24

Climate-focused Strategies and Opportunities for All-Lands Practitioners

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern (1.5 hrs)

This webinar is one of the virtual sessions of the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition's annual meeting. Details & registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pmOXDJAMR8i8F5DbjUMs5Q

May 25

new listing

Infrastructure Law and Forest Collaboratives: Overview and Program Potential

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern (2 hrs)

A half dozen Colorado partners are presenting this webinar, with seven presentations on a range of existing federal programs.

Details & registration: <https://mailchi.mp/colostate.edu/infrastructure-law-and-forest-collaboratives>

May 26

Accelerating the Use of Prescribed Fire Through Policy and Partnerships

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

This webinar is one of the virtual sessions of the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition's annual meeting. Details & registration:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ArpfRnPFQ2eedDGjyTM2ag

May 31-June 2

new listing

Wildland Firefighter Health Series: Current Knowledge for Body, Mind and Well-being

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern (2.5 hrs)

Hosted by several of the JFSP fire science exchanges, brief presentations and panel discussions will cover physical health, mental health and supporting a healthy workforce over the course of three days.

Details & registration: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/event/wildland-firefighter-health-series-current-knowledge-body-mind-and-well-being>

July 13

new listing

An Indigenous Framework to Guide Research & Restoration in Fire-Adapted Landscapes

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

Marianne Ignace and Sarah Dickson-Hoyle will be the presenters on this webinar from the Society for Ecological Restoration. Details & registration:

<https://www.ser.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1626669&group=>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

- May 24-27** **Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Dillard, GA**
An [agenda](#) for this workshop has been posted, and [registration](#) is open.
- June 6-10** **Fire Learning Network / Wintergreen, VA**
FLN leads and key partners will gather at this national workshop.

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

- ongoing** **Lake County Cal-TREX / Lake County, CA**
Details: <https://www.tribalecorestoration.org/lake-trex>
- ongoing** **Plumas Cal-TREX / Plumas County, CA**
This training, hosted by the [Plumas Underburn Cooperative](#), will continue with on-call opportunities for burning throughout the spring.
- ongoing** **Rogue Basin Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Rogue Valley, OR**
Local participants are part of an on-call, all hands-all lands crew.
- ongoing** **Northeast Washington Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Spokane, WA**
This event, originally scheduled for April 16-24, was converted to on-call cooperative burning, due to inclement weather throughout the original window.
- ongoing** **On-Call Cascadia Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Roslyn, WA**
Beginning in mid-April, participants will be notified when units come into prescription to take advantage of burning and training opportunities. Burns are expected to be mainly in the Roslyn and Cle Elum areas.
Details and sign-up form: <https://waprescribedfire.org/trex>
- September 19-30** **Maine Prescribed Fire Training Exchange**
The Maine Prescribed Fire Council will be hosting the first TREX in the state.
Details: see the [event website](#); applications are due by June 15
- Sept. 25-Oct. 8**
new listing **Niobrara Valley Preserve Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Johnstown, NE**
Prior fire experience is not required. For those with NWCG taskbooks, the trainee positions most applicable at this TREX include prescribed fire crewmember, FFT2, FEMO, FFT1, FIRB, ENGB and RXB2.
Details: see the [announcement](#); applications are due by July 25
- Oct. 31-Nov. 13**
new listing **Flagstaff Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ**
The Flagstaff Fire Department and Summit Fire & Medical are hosting this training for a diverse group of fire personnel from city, county and other agencies, departments, and NGOs.
Details: see the [announcement](#); applications are due by July 15

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

- May 23-27**
new listing **S-290: Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior / online**
Tall Timbers, The Ember Alliance and University of Idaho are partnering to offer this course. Register by May 20 for this session, or use the registration form to indicate interest in later offerings.
Information: see the attached agenda for details and a registration link

- May 23-27** **Fire & Climate: Impacts, Issues and Futures / Pasadena, CA**
 This conference hosted by IAWF will help practitioners also be held in Melbourne June 6-10.
 Information: <https://fireandclimateconference.com/pasadena/>
- May 25** **LANDFIRE Informal Office Hours / online**
 Office hours take place the last Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm Eastern.
 Register: <https://tnc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlocumupzMpEtN63X--Or1r6CJej683Bp5E>
- June 6-10** **Fire & Climate: Impacts, Issues and Futures / Melbourne, Australia**
 This conference hosted by IAWF will also be held in Pasadena, CA, May 23-27.
 Information: <https://fireandclimateconference.com/melbourne/>
- June 9** **Georgia Prescribed Fire Council Meeting for North Georgia / Jasper, GA**
 Information: <http://www.garxfire.com/index.php/events>
- June 16**
new listing **Reintroducing Fire In Mixed and High-Severity Fire Regimes: Prescribed Fire Planning, Implementation and Effects in Lodgepole and Subalpine Forests / Missoula or Whitefish, MT**
 Two full-day field trips are being hosted by the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network. (The Missoula trip will be in the Blackfoot watershed, an FLN landscape.)
 Information: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/event/reintroducing-fire-mixed-and-high-severity-fire-regimes-prescribed-fire-planning>
- October 4-7** **Fire Ecology Across Boundaries: Connecting Science and Management / Florence, Italy & online**
 Information: <https://fireacrossboundaries.org/>
- October 25-29** **14th Biennial Longleaf Conference: Rekindling Our Connections / Wilmington, NC**
 The call for proposals presentations, panels, posters, etc. is open; submissions are due by May 23.
 Information: <https://www.longleafconference.com/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Emily Hohman – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is in Dillard, GA May 23-27; in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10.

James Miller – james.miller@tnc.org – James is in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in the office.

Laurel Kays – laurel.kays@tnc.org – Laurel is in Dillard, GA May 23-27; in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Fairbanks, AK May 15-20.

Miranda Flora – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in Wintergreen, VA June 6-10.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out May 19, 26 and June 2.

Note: May 30 is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

News from the Field—AR: <https://tnc.box.com/s/i5jcpmqg7r5gv4mo3fleiju6z7agqv9g>

News from the Field—CO/NM: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/collaborative-implementation-in-fireshed-management/>

News from the Field—OR—Weather Channel: <https://api.criticalmention.com/app/#/clip/slim/986791d8-c38f-479d-b843-96df0120f99b>

News from the Field—OR—Rogue Basin: <https://www.ijpr.org/show/the-jefferson-exchange/2022-05-02/tue-8-am-getting-to-know-the-elements-of-good-fire-from-prescribed-burning-proponents>

News from the Field—TX: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8X1vQZTn7uk>

Funding—NFWF—Grant program: <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/america-beautiful-challenge>

Webinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5202734414284389387>

Input Requested—Wilderness & fire management: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=nyf2DoKg50-3pEeRye1tHK--Qz7FqrZMjtOXQ3llas9URExLS1pFT0dGRU1WOFVXSFpZUEw5TjhBRS4u>

Resources—Learn-and-burn: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/steps-to-organizing-learn-and-burns/>

Resources—Smoke: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/smoke-ready-oregon-preparing-wildfire-smoke-recorded>

Resources—Air quality: <https://www.epa.gov/air-sensor-toolbox/wildfire-smoke-air-monitoring-response-technology-wsmart-pilot>

Resources—Natural climate solutions: <https://usnature4climate.org/decision-makers-guide/>

Resources—Firesheds: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/sites/default/files/documents/Firesheds-AtAGlance-April2022.pdf>

Articles & Reports—Fuel treatments: https://mcusercontent.com/5f6de7b069a57255f980944b4/files/934ef9d4-4a60-faba-b5f1-7fe10e11083c/landscape_fuel_treatments.pdf

Articles & Reports—Oak regeneration: <https://southernfireexchange.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-2.pdf>

Articles & Reports—Liability: https://serppas.org/media/101645/rx-fire-liability-report-final_single-pages.pdf

Videos & More—Indigenous fire: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2k5-IVNUUpP4>

Videos & More—Adapting Western Forests: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/64f55848f690452da6c58e5a888ff283>

In the News—Wildfire Risk: https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2022/05/16/climate/wildfire-risk-map-properties.html?unlocked_article_code=AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAACEIPuomT1JKd6J17Vw1cRCfTTMQmqxCdw_Plxfs9gGPzNiGeVTdcwgNPW9LavB-QlvM9INA33jGSWNIGL74rSPJz1OlaJU12SEyTq4PBgl4COygvTYO-RSU2w5fJF_gewAPdU1OYeq151aHt-FWHNiS9G_SOIC1lcBA1pZNNj1yvjWhcwarHDuli04FhjvkqD4QrQW9WYiGKvKbjXhVuKZ7ROEGnnwozXe9aWDHUm8fNgO5TNVUPVi-VCS938m0-69hDOd8IPKmZLxAoe8P2g7I5GXU_Zc7yRMV3H96I4u0s5b3dqhWMy960woE1EMhXurDEs2W7MDU_WSu4AC8Iq_bL_GFMWg90fAts&smid=url-share

FLN Webinars—Information about upcoming FLN webinars and recordings of previous ones is at:

<http://conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/webinars.aspx>

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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May 4, 2022

Plumas County Fire Safe Council Mitigation Assistance Project Manager

Plumas Corporation is seeking candidates for a Project Manager position for the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PCFSC). The employee will work closely with local residents, contract operators, the PCFSC Board of Directors, Plumas Corporation staff, Firewise volunteers, Plumas County Planning & Building Departments, USDA Forest Service, CAL FIRE, and other state and federal agencies.

Project Management Duties

Senior/Disabled Defensible Space Assistance Program management duties:

- Outreaching/advertising the program
- Contacting new and returning program participants to develop an annual client list; returning phone calls and email inquiries
- Conducting pre-project site visits to provide initial consultation and information to clients
- Developing and soliciting operator contracts for program implementation
- Ensuring operations are conducted according to specifications
- Conducting post-project inspections and approval of operator invoices
- Documenting before and after photos and other program metrics
- Grant reporting and administration

Chipping Program assistance:

- Online application software management
- Documenting program metrics and grant reporting

Home Hardening Incentive Program development:

- Reviewing state developed BMPs and other home hardening incentive models
- Developing program guidelines and budget
- Writing grant proposals to establish the program; grant reporting and administration

General Tasks:

- Updating website and social media, preparing press releases, providing radio content
- Coordinating and attending public and/or partner meetings and events

The Project Manager will be expected to travel throughout Plumas County for meetings, landowner outreach activities, and other field duties providing their own transportation. All mileage is reimbursable at standard IRS rates.

Expected Skills & Knowledge

- Working knowledge of home hardening practices, defensible space concepts, fire behavior, and fuel management
- Fully conversant with MS Office, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Ability to work without close supervision and meet deadlines

Desired Skills & Knowledge

- Familiarity with Plumas County
- Grant writing
- GPS/GIS skills

Plumas Corporation, a 501 (c) 3 private non-profit, is offering this grant-funded opportunity as an “at will” position. This position is offered at 40 hours per week based out of our Quincy office. Wages will be commensurate with experience (up to a starting rate of \$29/hour DOE). Available benefits include: ten paid holidays, two weeks paid vacation leave, accrual of 8 hours per month for sick leave, medical insurance coverage with options to opt into additional vision, dental, and life insurance, and a Simplified Employer Plan that contributes 7% of gross pay per pay period to a recognized tax-free retirement fund account of the employee’s choice. Annual cost of living allowances (COLA) are given, as well as merit wage increases as earned, and as budgets allow. We also provide a dog and kid-friendly office environment.

Please submit letter of interest and resume to: Plumas Corporation, Attn: Hannah Hepner, P.O. Box 3880, Quincy, CA 95971 or plumasfiresafe@plumascorporation.org by 5:00 pm, May 20, 2022.

Please contact Hannah Hepner at (530) 927-5281 with any questions.



The Watershed Research and Training Center

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www.thewatershedcenter.com

Equitable Workforce Development Fire Training Specialists Request for Proposals

Continuous Interest – Responses Open Through January 1, 2023

****Must Respond by May 30, 2022 to be considered for our summer/ fall 2022 offerings****

Overview

The Watershed Research and Training Center is releasing a Request for Proposals for fire and career development training specialists. This opportunity is to deliver contractually led trainings. The trainings we seek to offer include basic NWCG Firefighter II curriculum (S-130, S-190, L-180, I-100 and IS-700) and S-212 – Wildland Fire Chainsaws (or other chainsaw use, safety, or maintenance curriculum). These trainings will be equity-focused, respondents with experience working with priority populations will be prioritized. Proposals **are accepted continuously through 2022**.

Trainings will be completed no later than June 30, 2023, and scheduling depends on our partners' availability.

We are currently scoping needs and interests with our partners statewide, and pursuing additional grant funding. We do not yet know how many trainings we seek to offer, or when/where. Your proposals will help us inform grant applications. If selected, you will be able to modify, or withdraw, your proposal once more details are known.

The WRTC's RFFC program is working to advance equity in the wildfire resilience workforce by providing training opportunities and mentorship to priority populations. [You can learn more about our approach in this video.](#) To this end, we require a diverse cadre of instructors who can deliver multi-day, in-person trainings, from established curriculums, to a diverse audience of Conservation Corps members. This is a diverse audience; many of our partners receiving the trainings are educationally or financially disadvantaged.

This equitable workforce development effort seeks to:

- Offer trainings meeting the standards of NWCG for all prerequisites of the FFT2 qualified position to Priority Populations (S-130, S-190, L-180, IS-700, I-100, Field Day and Work Capacity Test)
- Facilitate learning success among a diverse cohort that may be very different from the typical 'firefighter' audience
- Encourage career development in the greater resiliency field, highlighting opportunities in prescribed fire, fuel management, reforestation, outreach/communications, planning, etc.
- Break patterns of generational trauma through an empowering and facilitative instruction style
- Increase access and opportunities for prescribed or cultural burning

Proposals should relate to instructing one or more of the following modules:

1. **Workforce Development.** Explores pathways to entry level careers through case studies of real job postings from USFS, CALFIRE, RCDs and nonprofits. Interprets on-paper requirements into real world resume building activities. Explains the need for this work in terms of basic forest ecology and industry workforce gaps. Builds awareness of what types of jobs the FFT2 certification can lead to. 6-hour course.
2. **Navigating Barriers to Employment.** Opens discussions on how certain life histories impact the ability for people to get jobs, then examines those perceived barriers to find solutions to making a career. Subject matter includes legal history such as convictions, medical history such as phycological medical holds, or how history of drug abuse can be addressed to make new start. 6-hour course.
3. **Basic Fire Training.** Includes NWCG Curriculum of S-130, S-190, L-180, IS-700, and I-100. A hands-on field day that includes fire shelter deployments and a work capacity test is also provided. Provides hands-on field work training in use of fire and forest worksite equipment such as portable pumps, hand tools, water handling equipment, and communications. Explains basic fire behavior and weather. 5 days X 6 hours = 30-hour course.
4. **Chain Saw Operations.** Includes NWCG Curriculum of S-212, or other chainsaw use and training. Provides hands-on fieldwork in chainsaw operation and maintenance, tree felling and bucking skills, and first-aid response to worksite accidents. 4 days X 6 hours = 24-hour course.

You will note in your application which courses you are applying to instruct, details below. The courses are based on 6-hour days based on scheduling preference of our partnering organizations but may be flexible in some cases.

Any costs related to provision of the above, and the costs of transportation to bring equipment to project sites should be considered in your submitted budget.

Requirements and Qualifications

To complete these trainings, we are seeking various levels of instructors. Please see the table below regarding desired and required qualifications specific to each level.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| All Instructors | <p>Desired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fluency in language other than English, especially Spanish or Indigenous Languages of the Americas. • Ability to work with priority populations and tailor instructional style to deliver curriculums from a critical and/or trauma-informed perspective. • Experience navigating barriers to employment such as legal or medical history. • Experience teaching/instructing diverse groups of people. |
| | <p>Minimum Requirements for All:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to assure a safe working environment, including meeting all safety standards set forth by NWCG, CalOSHA, Federal OSHA or any other relevant governing body. |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant experience in fire, forestry, arboriculture, education, or relevant academic fields. Temporary workers or seasonal can consider each season or period of employment as 1 year. Experience as an incarcerated firefighter or conservation worker is accepted and preferred. |
| Lead Instructor (for Basic Fire Training - FFT2 and/or S-212) | <p>Desired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to provide all necessary instructional materials for ad hoc outdoor classroom settings such as projector, screen, and shade canopy. • NWCG Advanced Faller (FAL1/FALC) and experience in training sawyers. • Fire use experience especially WFM, burn boss or IC. • Able to provide demonstrational equipment such as fire hand tools, chainsaws, pump/apparatus, weighted vests for pack tests. and appliances |
| | <p>Minimum Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified as any NWCG Single Resource Boss (CRWB, HEQB, ENGB, FELB, FIRB, or HMGB) • Meet NWCG standards for course delivery (see PMS 901-1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>This includes the ability to issue NWCG certifications by having a formal agreement established with an NWCG member agency, or</i> ○ <i>Through NWSA as a certified NWSA lead instructor</i> • Able to independently host a 32-hour training program that results in the qualification of successful participants as NWCG FFT2. • Experience creating and issuing training record and/or certificates. • Provide leadership to the unit and adjunct instructors |
| Unit Instructor | <p>Desired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Instructor qualifications above. |
| | <p>Minimum Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualified NWCG Firefighter Type I (FFT1) |
| Adjunct Instructor | <p>Desired:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject matter expert on course-related materials • Knowledge of hiring and recruitment of major employers such as USFS or CAL FIRE. • Experience navigating bureaucracies, especially human resources. • Understanding of legal systems especially CA state laws and penal system. |

Selected contractors must read and follow the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program Guidelines, found here: <https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/grant-programs/Documents/2021%20Regional%20Forest%20and%20Fire%20Capacity%20Program%20Guidelines.pdf>. Budget and actual expenditures must adhere to eligible costs provisions (as outlined on page 14 of the guidelines linked here).

Proposal Process & Required Attachments

All proposals must be submitted through [this google form](#), including submission of necessary attachments by midnight May 30, 2022 to be considered for our upcoming summer/fall 2022 offerings. Proposals may be submitted after this date for consideration in future offerings.

The following attachments must be uploaded during the online submission process; details are in the corresponding Google Form.

- **CVs for instructor(s).**
- **One PDF or document that contains your: Scope of Work, Itemized budget, or menu-style price sheet for your proposal.**
- **2-3 References**, including at least one person you instructed, supervised, or otherwise mentored

Selection Process

Proposals will be reviewed for initial scoping interest on the morning of May 31st. References may be contacted as this process; please only list references that we may contact.

Successful proposals will be funded using a subcontract under the Watershed Research and Training Center's Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program's Prime Award. The contractor must be willing and able to comply with their guidelines and financial policies which will be outlined in awarded contracts and agreements.

Reporting: Selected contractors will be required to complete project deliverables and submit a final invoice by June 30, 2023. Reports on training outcomes, training records or certificate issuance expected within 2 weeks of the conclusion of each training. A close-out one-page project summary will be due at the time of the final invoice, using the form provided. Please build time for this reporting into your budget.

Chuck Ervin
Pronouns: They/Them
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California
Department of
Conservation



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S-290 COURSE INFO

When: May 23rd to May 27th
Where: Wildland Fire Learning Portal
Pework: 6 hours -available May 9th
Cost: \$300
Coursework: 32-36 hours

- Coursework is interactive and self-paced
- Optional office hours (0800 to 0900 MT)
- Live group exercises (1300 to 1400 MT)
- Live panel discussions with experts (1400 to 1500 MT)



SIGN UP FOR THIS OFFERING OR GET ADDED TO THE LIST FOR THE NEXT ONE!

The Fire Roundtable is excited to offer S290 – Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior

Course Objectives (NWCG):

- Identify and describe the characteristics of fuels, weather, and topography that influence wildland fire behavior.
- Describe the interaction of fuels, weather, and topography on wildland fire behavior, fireline tactics, and safety.
- Describe the causes of extreme fire behavior conditions (long-range spotting, crowning, and fire whirls) that develop due to weather, fuels, and/or topography.
- Interpret, communicate, apply, and document wildland fire behavior and weather information.

Sign up **HERE** to be added to the list for taking this or future offerings:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfHrTYXb2Q41lwMnBUwjAsf7s8tAMyrLThZ4GwdTiiXXr_dQ/viewform

You will be contacted with instructions on how to pay for the course.

Once you have paid you will receive an access code to the class on the wildland fire learning portal:

<https://wildlandfirelearningportal.net/>

Deadline to register for this session of the class is **May 20**.

S-290 Course Agenda

May 23rd to May 27th 2022

This schedule may be subject to change

Course components

- **Live** – Office hours are encouraged but not required. ALL other live sessions are required.
- **Self-Study/Portal** – Complete the interactive self-paced lessons either prior to the class or at the recommended time on the schedule. Each lesson is associated with a practice assessment that will prepare you for the final assessment.
- **Exercise** – Complete within assigned modules.

Times are in Mountain Time

Day 1 – Topography

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 0800 to 0900 | Introduction | Live | Cadre |
| 0900 to 1300 | Unit 1 & 2 | Self-Study/Portal | |
| 1300 to 1400 | Exercise 1 - Topography | Exercise | Modules |
| 1400 to 1500 | Guest Speaker/Panel | Live | TBD |
| 1500 to 1530 | End of Day Wrap-up | Live | Cadre |

Day 2 – Fuels

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 0800 to 0900 | Office hours | Live | Cadre |
| 0900 to 1300 | Unit 3/10 & 4/5 | Self-Study/Portal | |
| 1300 to 1400 | Exercise 2 - Fuels | Exercise | Modules |
| 1400 to 1500 | Guest Speaker/Panel | Live | TBD |
| 1500 to 1530 | End of Day Wrap-up | Live | Cadre |

Day 3 – Weather

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 0800 to 0900 | Office hours | Live | Cadre |
| 0900 to 1300 | Unit 6 & 7 | Self-Study/Portal | |
| 1300 to 1400 | Exercise 3 - Weather | Exercise | Modules |
| 1400 to 1500 | Guest Speaker/Panel | Live | TBD |
| 1500 to 1530 | End of Day Wrap-up | Live | Cadre |

Day 4 – Fire Behavior

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 0800 to 0900 | Office hours | Live | Cadre |
| 0900 to 1300 | Unit 8 & 9 | Self-Study/Portal | |
| 1300 to 1400 | Exercise 4 – Fire Behavior | Exercise | Modules |
| 1400 to 1500 | Guest Speaker/Panel | Live | TBD |
| 1500 to 1530 | End of Day Wrap-up | Live | Cadre |

Day 5 – Decision Making

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| 0800 to 0900 | Office hours | Live | Cadre |
| 0900 to 1300 | Unit 11 & 12 and Final Assessment | Self-Study/Portal | |
| 1300 to 1400 | Exercise 5 – Decision Making | Exercise | Modules |
| 1400 to 1500 | Guest Speaker/Panel | Live | TBD |
| 1500 to 1600 | Course Wrap-up and AAR | Live | Cadre |