

FLN Networker No. 336: July 20, 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

California: **Sasha Berleman**, **Lenya Quinn-Davidson** and **Susie Kocher** were interviewed for the [story](#) “**Women in Fire Restoration**” that aired on CAPRadio last week. Congratulations are due to Sasha as the first graduate of the state’s new **burn boss certification** program.

Minnesota: **Dovetail Partners** created a [St. Louis County CWPP storymap](#) to give **residents** and **introduction** to the importance of **wildfire mitigation** in the county, what that mitigation might look like, and who should be part of **community wildfire planning**.

Southern Blue Ridge: **Recordings of presentations** from the joint **workshop** of the **SBR FLN** and **Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers & Scientists** in May are posted on the [CAFMS YouTube channel](#). Much of the workshop looked at the **2016 wildfires** and their aftermath.

National: The departments of **Agriculture**, **Interior** and **Homeland Security** have selected members of the **Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission**, which was set up per the **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law**. The [commission is tasked](#) with recommending “prevention and restoration strategies to tackle national wildfire crisis.” Several people associated with the **Fire Networks** will be [members](#) of the commission, including **Marek Smith** (representing the nonprofit sector), **Bill Tripp** (tribal governments), **Kelly Martin** (wildland firefighters) and **Neil Chapman** (alternate member, municipal governments).

Funding: Fuels Reduction

Fuels Reduction: The Ready, Set, Go! program, managed by the **International Association of Fire Chiefs**, is [accepting applications](#) from **career and volunteer fire departments** for fuels reduction project grants. Apply by **July 31**.

Resources: Well-Being / Climate & Wildfire / Rx Basics / Cohesive Strategy / WUI Buildings

Well-Being: The **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network** and the **Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center** recently co-hosted a **practitioner well-being learning group**, a four-session series that explored **individual, community and systemic** aspects of wellness. The [blog post](#) “**The Workforce We Have**” reflects on that experience, in the context of the importance of caring for the current workforce as the need for an expanded workforce grows. The post includes links to a variety of mental health resources.

Climate & Wildfire: A post on the [Hurteau Lab blog](#), “Warmer and Drier Atmosphere Increases the Amount of Fuel Available to Burn,” gives a **good, accessible explanation** of how warmer temperatures under climate change are driving the increase in wildfires we’re seeing, through increases in **fuel availability** from in both **vapor pressure deficit** and **insect outbreaks**.

Rx Basics: Oregon State University Extension Service has developed a [set of six concise guides](#) that introduce **prescribed fire basics for landowners** and others looking to better understand what prescribed fire is.

Cohesive Strategy: The National Association of Conservation Districts has developed a “Community Wildfire Desk Guide to **Accelerating Implementation** of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy.” The [guide](#) is designed for use by **conservation districts, resource conservation and development councils** and **extension professionals**, with strategic activities these stakeholders can use prior to, during and after wildfire.

WUI Buildings: The authors of the [article](#) “The Wildland–Urban Interface in the United States Based on **125 Million Building Locations**” created maps based on a [dataset of building locations](#) and compared them to existing maps, which are based on U.S. census housing data. “**Building-based maps** identified **more WUI area relative to census-based maps** for all but the smallest neighborhoods, particularly in the north-central states, and large differences were attributable to high numbers of non-housing structures in rural areas. Overall WUI classification accuracy was 98.0%”

Articles & Reports: Forest Atlas / Reforestation / Evacuation & Social Capital

Forest Atlas: The “**Forest Atlas of the United States**” from the **U.S. Forest Service** displays details on the nation’s **823 million acres** of forests and woodlands through numerous maps and charts. The [atlas](#) also addresses questions like where trees grow and why, what benefits forests provide, and what the future of forests looks like.

Reforestation: The [latest issue](#) of the *Science You Can Use Bulletin*, “Hitting the Target Plant: **Guiding Principles** for Post-disturbance Reforestation in a Changing Climate,” gives a thorough **overview of reforestation considerations**—from deciding whether rely on natural regeneration to the importance of husbandry practices in growing seedlings.

Evacuation & Social Capital: The [article](#) “Do All Roads Lead to Sapporo? The Role of Linking and Bridging Ties in **Evacuation Decisions**” explores the effects of social capital—the **ties among residents** and **between residents and local governments**—on long-distance evacuation, in this case, post-earthquake.

Podcast: WUI Fires

WUI Fires: The [latest episode](#) of the International Code Council’s ICC Pulse Podcast, “Living with Fire: How Wildland-Urban Interface Fires **Impact Everyone**,” looks at wildfire through the lens of a **building code audience**. (FAC Net member **Justice Jones** provides some **cultural perspective** at about the 25-minute mark.)

Jobs

Community Education: University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is seeking a **forest stewardship community education specialist**. Details are on the university’s jobs site ([job ID 36330](#)); applications are due by **July 22**.

New Fire Program: The **Washington** chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is launching a new programmatic effort focused on accelerating ecological fire to build wildfire resilience in frontline communities of Central and Eastern Washington. They are seeking a **collaborative fire director** to lead the program, with support from a **prescribed fire specialist**. Details are on the TNC careers page—see [job ID 51740](#) for the director position (closes **July 25**) and [job ID 51803](#) for the specialist position (closes **August 8**). Current TNC employees should apply through PeopleSoft.

Program Director: Sustainable Northwest is seeking a **forest program director** to advance its vision of forest health, resilience and rural economic development across Oregon and Washington. See the [job announcement](#) for details; applications are due by **July 28**.

Fellowship: The **U.S. Forest Service** is offering a **fellowship in post-fire reforestation**. Details are on the [AFE jobs page](#); applications are due by **July 29**.

Deputy Director: The **Rapid City Department of Public Safety-Wildland Fire** is seeking a **chief of operations/deputy director of wildland fire**. Details are in the position listing ([job ID 19674](#)); applications are due by **August 8**.

Education Coordinator: University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is seeking a **post-fire forest resilience education coordinator** to be based in Placerville. Details are on the university's recruitment site ([job 22-53](#)); applications are due by **August 12**.

Prescribed Fire Practitioners: The Nature Conservancy's North America Fire Team is hiring **up to 20 full- and part-time prescribed fire practitioners** for assignments across the U.S. between August 2022 and February 2023. Qualifications sought are **FFT2, FFT1, FEMO, SRB and RXB2**. See the attached flyer for details, including selecting the appropriate job ID for the position(s) you are interested in. The application period closes **August 14**, though some positions will be filled before then.

Mitigation: The **Wildfire Research Center** is seeking a **wildfire mitigation specialist**; this is a one-year, full-time contract position, with an option to review. Details are in the [position description](#) posted on the WiRē website; applications are due by **August 19**.

Community Education: University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is seeking a **post fire forest resilience staff research associate**. Details are on the university's jobs site ([job ID 37558](#)).

As-Needed Crew: The **Maryland** chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is filling a **Potomac Headwaters as-needed crew member** position. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 51627](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Crew Lead: Audubon Canyon Ranch is hiring a **crew leader** to join its **Fire Forward** team. Details are at <https://egret.org/jobs/>.

Program Manager: The **Forest Stewards Guild** is seeking a **Southwest fire and fuels project manager** to manage and coordinate projects in its fire and fuels program in New Mexico. See the [Guild's jobs page](#) for details.

Webinars

July 21

Western Drought and Heat

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

This NOAA webinar will provide the latest information on current drought, heat, fire conditions and forecasts, and serious impacts for western plains (in the Southwest, California, the Pacific Northwest, the Missouri River Basin and Alaska).

Details & registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6615149460110187023>

July 21

Southern Plains Drought and Heat

noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern (1.75 hrs)

This NOAA webinar will provide the latest information on current drought, heat, fire conditions and forecasts, and serious impacts for the southern plains (New Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas). Details & registration:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8386589136294574347>

July 27

LANDFIRE: Informal Office Hours

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

Office hours are held the last Wednesday of each month. Register:

<https://tnc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJl0cumupzMpEtN63X--Or1r6CJei683Bp5E>

August 9
new listing

Virtual Public Engagement Strategy for Underserved Communities: Challenges and Solutions

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

This webinar is offered by the Institute for Local Government.

Details & registration: <https://www.ca-ilg.org/webinar/virtual-public-engagement-strategy-underserved-communities-challenges-and-solutions>

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

September 19-30

Maine Prescribed Fire Training Exchange

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

Sept. 25-Oct. 8
deadline

Niobrara Valley Preserve Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Johnstown, NE

Prior fire experience is not required. For those with NWCG task books, 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**

Sept. 26-Oct. 7

Women-in-Fire Klamath Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (WTREX-Klamath) / Karuk Ancestral Territory, CA

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

October 10-21
new listing

Klamath Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Northwestern CA

This will be a traditional two-week TREX.

Details: see the [announcement](#); applications are due by **August 19**

Oct. 29-Nov. 12

Andalucía Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Spain

Junta de Andalucía and The Nature Conservancy are partnering on this training exchange.

Oct. 31-Nov. 13

Flagstaff Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

Nov. 11-Jan. 15
new listing

North Bay Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Bay Area, CA

This TREX will take place on weekends across this two-month period.

Details: see the [announcement](#); applications are due by **August 15**

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

August 10-11
new listing

North Carolina Prescribed Fire Council Annual Meeting / Ellerbe, NC

Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nc-prescribed-fire-council-annual-meeting-tickets-333008907607>

August 20
new listing

Private Lands Learn & Burn / Knoxville, PA

This workshop for private landowners is cosponsored by the PA Prescribed Fire Council, National Deer Association, TNC and Penn State University.

Information: <https://mailchi.mp/bcfdd26b68cb/pennsylvania-private-lands-learn-burn-workshop-registration-deadline-extended-to-august-5th>

- September 19-21**
new listing **Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Symposium / Gulf Shores, AL**
“Changing Fire Management in the Southeast” will be among the sessions at this symposium. Abstracts are due by July 25.
Information: <https://secasc.ncsu.edu/2022-secasc-science-symposium/>
- October 4-7** **Fire Ecology Across Boundaries: Connecting Science and Management / Florence, Italy & online**
Mary Huffman will be a moderator for a panel on Indigenous and local ecological knowledge.
Information: <https://fireacrossboundaries.org/>
- October 25-28** **14th Biennial Longleaf Conference: Rekindling Our Connections / Wilmington, NC**
Information: <https://www.longleafconference.com/>
- November 14-18**
new listing **5th National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop / Asheville, NC**
Information: <http://cohesivestrategyworkshop.org/>
- December 4-8**
new listing **10th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Monterey, CA**
Save the date for this event hosted by the Association for Fire Ecology.
Information: <https://fireecology.org/calendar-entries/firecongress23>
- December 6-8** **7th Fire in Eastern Oak Forests Conference / online**
Save the date for this workshop co-hosted by the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium and Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers & Scientists.
Information: <https://oakfirescience.com/events/7th-fire-in-eastern-oak-forests-conference/>
- April 11-14, 2023**
new listing **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Fort Collins, CO**
Save the date for this conference on “Accelerating Adaptation and Managing Expectations.” [Contact Fire Adapted Colorado](#) if interested in joining the planning team.

Send News, Links & Comments

Autumn Bjugstad – autumn.bjugstad@tnc.org – Autumn is in the office.

Emily Hohman – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is out August 5-8.

James Miller – james.miller@tnc.org – James is out August 5-12.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is out August 3-14.

Laurel Kays – laurel.kays@tnc.org – Laurel is in Ellerbe, NC August 9-11.

Lemaine Peo – lemaine.peo@tnc.org – Lemaine is in the office.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in the office.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is out August 1-9.

Miranda Flora – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is out August 4-5.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out Thursdays.

Full Links

News from the Field—CA: <https://www.caprario.org/news/insight/2022/07/11/wildfire-weather-research-women-in-fire-restoration-jazz-pianist-dave-bass-performs-at-auburn-state-theatre/>

News from the Field—MN: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/ca4c76260f4047ccb8f6a9dde7d82877>

News from the Field—SBR: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLe896VVvDfQlxHT1IFKYbLuBg5IC2Zx8r>

News from the Field—National—Tasks: <https://wildfiretoday.com/2022/07/07/members-announced-for-wildland-fire-commission/>

Members: <https://www.usda.gov/topics/disaster-resource-center/wildland-fire/commission/members>

Funding—Fuels reduction: <https://www.iafc.org/blogs/blog/iafc/2022/06/29/fuels-reduction-project-grant-funding-available>

Resources—Wellbeing: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/the-workforce-we-have-reflections-on-the-practitioner-wellbeing-learning-group/>

Resources—Rx basics: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/prescribed-fire-basics>

Resources—Climate & wildfire: <http://www.hurteaulab.org/blog/warmer-and-drier-atmosphere-increases-the-amount-of-fuel-available-to-burn>

Resources—Cohesive Strategy: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/c99d039f-b7e0-480c-af6c-f01da8d309cc>

Resources—WUI buildings—Article: https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2022/nrs_2022_carlson_001.pdf

Dataset: <https://github.com/microsoft/USBuildingFootprints>

Articles & Reports—Forest atlas: https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/fs_media/fs_document/Forest-Atlas-of-the-United-States.pdf

Articles & Reports—Reforestation: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/sites/default/files/documents/SYCU-Bulletin-HittingTheTargetPlant-July2022.pdf>

Articles & Reports—Evacuation & social capital: <https://ecologyandsociety.org/vol27/iss2/art3/>

Podcast—WUI fires: <https://iccpulsepodcast.libsyn.com/episode-47-living-with-fire-how-wildland-urban-interface-fires-impact-everyone>

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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The Nature Conservancy's North America Fire Team is currently recruiting and hiring **prescribed fire practitioners** for the fall and winter burn seasons (August 2022- February 2023). We anticipate nationwide prescribed fire assignments which will vary in length based on the employee's availability. Employees are not expected to move from their current residence but rather to travel on assignment to locations around the country to support ongoing prescribed fire work. TNC will cover employee's travel expenses when on assignment.

We are looking for people with a variety of skills and experience, and with either a high school diploma or bachelor's degree, and/or people who are qualified in any of the following NWCG positions: Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2), Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1), Fire Effects Monitor (FEMO), Single Resource Boss (SRB) or Burn Boss Type 2 (RXB2). Wages are hourly and will be \$18-\$32/hr based on experience, education and NWCG qualifications. We are hoping to hire as many as 20 people for the fall and winter burn season.

We are positing four job announcements. Each job announcement is designed to create a slightly different opportunity or has different qualifications—our intent is to create positions that will fit people's availability and desired seasonal work situation. Both full-time and part-time positions are available. Full-time employees will be expected to travel for up to three months with only a few return trips home. Part-time employees will only be expected to work for one or two two-week assignments.

- If you have a **high school diploma** and are **qualified as a FFT2 only, or have yet to achieve your FFT2 qualification**, you can apply for a full-time position using [Job ID 51842](#), or a part time position using [Job ID 51841](#).
- If you have a **bachelor's degree** in biology, ecology, natural resource management or related field, or if you are **qualified as a FEMO or FFT1 or higher**, you can apply for a full time position using [Job ID 51840](#), or a part time position using [Job ID 51837](#).
- **To find the job listing**, use the Job ID(s) listed above at our job posting site. Go to [Careers](#) at The Nature Conservancy (nature.org), then scroll down and press the green button labeled Current Job Opportunities, then enter your Job ID into the search at the top of the page. (Current Conservancy employees should apply through PeopleSoft.)
- We will begin reviewing applications and scheduling interviews as soon as submissions are made. The **first round of selected applicants will be notified Monday, August 1**, with additional selections made throughout August and September.
- The positions close August 14, 2022.
- **If you have questions** about the positions or if you need help deciding which positions you should apply for, please feel free to call or email either Jeremy Bailey or Miranda Flora.

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