

FLN Networker No. 355: August 23, 2023

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

Colorado: Three members of the **Northern Colorado Fireshed Collaborative**—**Corrina Marshall** (corrina@emberalliance.org), **Matt Jones** and **Rob Addington**—spoke at the **Wildfire Matters Review Committee** of the **state legislature** on July 18. You can [listen to their testimony](#) (starting at 1:59:10) or read the [notes](#) they used. Visit their website to [sign up for the newsletter](#).

New Mexico: The **Forest Stewards Guild** recently [reported](#) on the **Southwest Tribal Fire and Climate workshops** held this spring. The Guild, Southwest Fire Science Consortium, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, and Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals came together to host this Indigenous-planned, -led and -centered knowledge exchange. A few weeks later, the **Pueblo of Tesuque** hosted the inaugural meeting of the **New Mexico Tribal Fire Working Group**.

Oregon: In the FAC Net [blog post](#) “**Good Fire** Returns to Oregon’s Willamette Valley,” **Mike Beasley** (greenfire.mike@gmail.com) shares his experience working with a **crew of young Indigenous fire practitioners** as they balanced the technical demands of burning with the cultural and spiritual elements.

Virginia: The [spotlight](#) is on **fire ecologist Beth Buchanan** (suzanne.buchanan@usda.gov) in the latest issue of *Ignis*, the newsletter of the **Oak Woodlands and Forests Fire Consortium**, where she talks about **prescribed fire and oaks** (a topic also featured in a research brief in that issue).

Requests & Such: IRPG / Art

IRPG: If you have strong feelings about what should (or should not) be in the **Incident Response Pocket Guide**, take note. The NWCG Incident Operations Subcommittee is soliciting **input to inform the next version** of the guide, expected to be distributed by January 2025. Suggestions are being accepted through **October 31**. See the [memo](#) for details and a link to the submission form.

Art: The **FireGeneration Collaborative** is holding an **art contest**, asking those **under 35** to respond to the prompt “What does a **future with Good Fire** look like?” See the [announcement](#) for details; [submissions](#)—in **any medium**, from visual to dance to poetry to audio—are due by **August 31**.

Resources: Forestry Costs / CWDG

Forestry Costs: The **Forest Landowners Foundation** has a [new tool](#) for sharing results of its biannual **Cost and Trends Survey of Southern Forestry Practices**. An **interactive dashboard** lets you explore costs of various forestry practices, including prescribed burning, in the southeastern U.S. Data can be filtered by region and survey respondent type.

CWDG: The **FAC Net** blog has a [special post](#)—“**Community Wildfire Defense Grant** (CWDG) Round 2 Funding Opportunity Now Available”—that **highlights changes** from the first round and has links to a **variety of resources** applicants for this funding may find useful.

Articles & Reports: Rx Strategy / Public Health / Smoke & Climate / Rapid Assessment / Structure Loss / Lodgepole / Spot Fires

Rx Strategy: The **U.S. Forest Service** released its **National Prescribed Fire Resource Mobilization Strategy (FS-1216)** in June as part of the **prescribed fire program review** initiated last year. Among other things, the strategy “recommends building a **prescribed fire implementation team (RxIT)** for each Forest Service region with landscapes identified in the Wildfire Crisis Strategy or similar areas identified elsewhere.”

Public Health: The **National Environmental Health Association** has released its “**Wildfire Response Guide** for Environmental Public Health Professionals.” The [guide](#) covers the role of public health agencies **before, during and after** wildfire, as well as key areas of concern.

Smoke & Climate: The *ScienceDaily* [post](#) “**Wildfires Emit Potent Climate-Warming Organic Particles**” summarizes the research [paper](#) “Shortwave Absorption by Wildfire Smoke Dominated by Dark Brown Carbon.” The **dark brown carbon** is likely to “form similarly to soot in the **high-temperature flames** along the leading edges of wildfires,” according to one of the paper’s authors.

Rapid Assessment: The *Science You Can Use* [bulletin](#) “Sometimes Simple Works: The Value of **Rapid Parcel-Level Wildfire Risk Assessments**” focuses on how the rapid assessments conducted by a **WiRē** for a Colorado neighborhood team held up when the **East Troublesome Fire** burned through the area.

Structure Loss: The [article](#) “**Shifting Social-Ecological Fire Regimes Explain Increasing Structure Loss From Western Wildfires**” looks at patterns that account for a **nearly 250% increase in structures lost** to wildfire in 2010-2020 compared to the previous decade.

Lodgepole: The *Science You Can Use* [issue](#) “**Beetle/Fire Double Whammy: Even Tough-as-Nails Lodgepole Pine May Struggle to Recover After Wildfires**” notes that “high bark beetle mortality may not provide enough viable seed to reach the minimum density of seedlings needed for recovery” after wildfire.

Spot Fires: The [article](#) “Spot-Fire **Distance Increases Disproportionately for Wildfires** Compared to Prescribed Fires as Grasslands Transition to *Juniperus* Woodlands” is based on work in the Loess Canyons Experimental Landscape in Nebraska

More: Next Generation / Colorado Wildfire / Sustainable Ranch

Next Generation: Read about the founding of **FireGeneration Collaborative**—and get some **inspiration**—in the FAC Net [blog post](#) “My Unexpected **Journey into Fire and Leadership**” by **Bradley Massey**.

Colorado Wildfire: **Rocky Mountain PBS** aired the half-hour **documentary** “CO-Existing With Wildfire” last month. It’s [available to stream](#) now.

Sustainable Ranch: The Cornell Lab [post](#), “After the Fire: How A Sustainable Ranch Survived a Natural Wildfire,” looks at a ranch that had been restored to **support prairie, grass-fed cattle, and carbon**, and its **resilience after wildfire**.

Jobs

Restoration Manager: The **Nature Conservancy** is hiring an **Allegheny Highlands restoration manager** to work with partners in the **Central Appalachians FLN** to implement restoration of fire-adapted oak- and pine-dominated forests in **Virginia and West Virginia** with prescribed fire. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 53779](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#). Applications are due by **August 27**.

Module: The **USAF Wildland Fire Branch**, Colorado State University is hiring an **assistant module lead** (ICT4) and a **wildland firefighter** (FFT2) for the **Avon Park Wildland Support Module** in Avon Park, Florida. Details are on the university's jobs site (assistant lead: [128473](#), crew member [128472](#)), and applications for both are due by **August 28**.

Module Lead: The **North America Fire program** of **The Nature Conservancy** is recruiting a **prescribed fire module leader** (FFT1). The position is based in northern Idaho and will support TNC and USFS prescribed fire work, including moderate travel nationwide in support of various federal, state and partner projects. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 53851](#)) and applications are due by **August 29**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Course Developer: **Tall Timbers** is hiring a **prescribed fire course developer** to work with multiple fire practitioners to create fire courses, in both hybrid and in-person formats. See Tall Timbers [employment page](#) for details; applications are due by **August 31**.

Program Director: **The Ember Alliance** is hiring a **director of resilient communities and ecosystems**. See the [post on smartrecruiters.com](#) for details. Interviews will begin **September 1**.

Steward & Outreach: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a **Virginia pinelands land steward and outreach coordinator** (ENGB, FIRB or equivalent) to be stationed at the Piney Grove Preserve. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 53824](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#). Applications are due by **September 4**.

Wildfire Resilience: The **National Forest Foundation** is filling two wildfire-related positions: A **wildfire resilience program coordinator** will support the implementation of cross-boundary fire risk reduction projects in the Western U.S. ([details](#)). A **wildfire resilience program manager** will play a lead role in the development of a cohesive suite of cross-boundary wildfire resilience activities ([details](#)). Applications for both positions are due by **September 4**.

Fire Specialist: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a **coastal prescribed fire specialist** to play an important role in directing fire operations and growing partnerships to expand prescribed fire in coastal **South Carolina**. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 53884](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#). Applications are due by **September 11**.

Squad Leads: **Audubon Canyon Ranch** is recruiting two **prescribed fire squad leads** for its **Fire Forward** program. Details are on the ACR website, [egret.org](#); applications are due by **September 14**.

Community Forester: The **Bitter Root RC&D** in western Montana is seeking a half-time **lead community forester**. Details are on the [council's website](#); applications are due by **September 15**.

Burn Crew: The Nature Conservancy in North Carolina is filling several positions in a seasonal **Coastal Plain Burn Crew**, including **three crew manager** positions ([job ID 53878](#)) and **seven crew member** positions ([job ID 53877](#)). Current employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([crew manager](#); [crew member](#)).

Americorps: The **Southwest Fire Science Consortium** and the Arizona Wildfire Initiative at the **Northern Arizona University** School of Forestry seek to hire **up to eight** Americorps **Environmental Literacy Corp members** to support science communication, public outreach, public education and student success on the topic of wildland fire. See the [flyer](#) for details.

This partnership is also looking for **researchers, graduate students and subject matter experts** to lead the authorship of individual **science synthesis papers** on wildfire topics important to the Southwest. See the [flyer](#) for details.

Comms: Fire Safe Santa Cruz County is hiring a **communications coordinator** for its Communications, Outreach and Education Program. Details are on [indeed.com](https://www.indeed.com).

Training Center: Luna Community College in Las Vegas, NM is seeking a **Wildfire Resiliency Training Center director**, to be responsible for the development, leadership and management of the center, including budgets, grant reporting, personnel, program evaluation and program development. See the [posting](#) on communitycollegejobs.com for details.

Fire Management: The Nature Conservancy is seeking an **assistant director of fire management** to oversee **wildland fire management safety** with a particular initial focus on the **Great Plains and the Western United States**, assist with safety reviews and training, and support reporting and fire qualifications for U.S. business units. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 53816](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Webinars

August 24
new listing

Fires of Unusual Size: Does It Mean What You Think It Means?

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

Research meteorologist Brian Potter will be the presenter on this webinar from the Pacific Northwest Research Station ([details](#)).

September 26
new listing

Extreme Disturbances and Climate Change: Threats to the Southeast

5:00 am Pacific / 6:00 Mountain / 7:00 Central / 8:00 Eastern (4 hrs)

The South Central Climate Adaptation Science Center, Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center and U.S. Forest Service are hosting this virtual workshop for land managers, emergency response, policy makers and practitioners ([register](#)).

September 27

LANDFIRE Office Hours

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

Kim Ernstrom, Wendy Detwiler and Bre Schueller will speak on “A Picture Is Worth a Thousand Words: How IFTDSS Is Changing the Look of Fuels Planning,” and LANDFIRE experts will be on hand for user questions ([register](#)).

September 27

Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment Overview and Technical Discussion

noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern

This webinar will provide an overview of the 2022 update to the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment ([CO-WRA](#)), and allow time for discussion ([register](#)).

October 25

LANDFIRE Office Hours

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

Robert Ziel and Jennifer Schmidt will speak on “Wildfire Exposure Assessment for Three Boreal Communities in Alaska,” and LANDFIRE experts will be on hand to provide clarity and context to user questions ([register](#)).

Network Workshops & Field Tours

October 23-27

Fire Learning Network Workshop / Blackfoot Valley, MT

FLN leads from across the country will meet for this annual workshop.

November 2-4

Indigenous Peoples Burning Network Workshop / Santa Fe, NM

IPBN leads from across the country will meet for this annual workshop.

January 23-24, 2024
new listing

Central Appalachians FLN Workshop / TBD, WV

Save the date for this workshop for Central Apps FLN members and partners.

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

- September 24-30 deadline** **Yurok-CFMC Cultural Burn Training Exchange (Session 1) / Weitchpec, CA**
This TREX is open to all prescribed fire and wildfire personnel with at least FFT2 qualifications (or all courses for FFT2 completed). See the [announcement](#) for details; [applications](#) are due September 10. Please apply for only one session.
- Sept. 25-Oct. 8** **Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Orleans, CA**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- October 2-8 deadline** **Yurok-CFMC Cultural Burn Training Exchange (Session 2) / Weitchpec, CA**
This TREX is open to all prescribed fire and wildfire personnel with at least FFT2 qualifications (or all courses for FFT2 completed). See the [announcement](#) for details; [applications](#) are due September 10. Please apply for only one session.
- October 2-13** **Selkirk Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Loon Lake, WA**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- October 7-22** **Intercambio y Entrenamiento en Quemadas Prescritas en Español / Hayfork, CA**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- October 8-14** **Karuk Indigenous Women+ Training / Karuk ancestral territory (CA)**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- October 9-20** **Columbia Gorge Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Glenwood, WA**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- October 16-20 deadline** **Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Saskatoon, Saskatchewan**
Prior prescribed fire experience is not required for this TREX—see the [announcement](#) for prerequisites. Applications are due by September 1.
- Oct. 30-Nov. 10** **Southern Blue Ridge Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Pickens, SC**
The deadline for this TREX has passed.
- November 11-18** **Santa Barbara Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Santa Ynez Valley, CA**
[Save the date](#) for this TREX. Applications will be available in the next few days; check the [Upcoming TREX](#) page for updates.
- Nov. 25-Dec. 9** **Mexico TREX (Intercambio de Experiencias y Entrenamiento en Quemadas Prescritas en México) / Ixtlán de Juárez, Oaxaca**
The first TREX in Mexico will be hosted by CONAFOR; the deadline has passed.

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

- August 29-31** **Northeast–Midwest Regional Prescribed Fire Science and Management Workshop / Madison, WI**
This workshop sponsored by Northeast Regional Strategy Committee will draw wildland fire partners from a 20-state region. See the [website](#) for details.
- Sept. 1-Oct. 6 new listing** **Hybrid Synchronous-Asynchronous Prescribed Fire Training for Extension Professionals / online**
This training offered by several extension agencies in the Southeast consists of weekly self-paced modules and live virtual meetings. See the [flyer](#) for details.
- September 6-7** **Patch Burn Grazing Meeting / Auburn, KS**
[Registration](#) is open; contact Lori Bammerlin (bammerlin@ksu.edu) for more.

- September 6-8**
new listing **Longleaf 101 / Aberdeen, NC**
See the Longleaf Alliance website for [details](#). Course is approved for SAF credits.
- September 19-21** **SyncroSim 2023 / Fort Collins, CO**
SyncroSim is a free software platform for running and analyzing geospatial forecasting models. See the [website](#) for details.
- September 25-27**
new listing **Forest Carbon Management in Central Appalachia / Morgantown, WV**
Details are at <https://forestcarbon.wvu.edu/home>.
- October 24-26**
new listing **California Wildfire Conference / Simi Valley, CA**
Registration is open for this event for a diverse community of wildfire practitioners to focus on understanding, preventing and recovering from wildfires ([details](#)).
- October 25-28** **Society of American Foresters National Convention / Sacramento, CA**
Details are at <https://eforester.org/safconvention2023>.
- November 6-10**
updated **6th National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop / Santa Fe, NM**
Registration is open; see <http://cohesivestrategyworkshop.org/> for details.
- Nov. 20-Dec. 18**
updated **RX-310—Introduction to Fire Effects / online**
This course is offered by the University of Idaho as a combination of self-paced study and live virtual sessions ([details](#)).
- Nov. 27-Dec. 1**
new listing **S-290—Intermediate Fire Behavior / online**
This course is offered by the University of Idaho as a combination of self-paced study and live virtual sessions ([details](#)).
- December 4-8**
deadline **10th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Monterey, CA**
Abstracts for proposed poster presentations are due August 25; registration is open. See the [website](#) for details.
- January-May 2024** **National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center (NIPFTC) 20-Day Sessions / Tallahassee, FL**
PFTC Mixed Module and Fire Leadership for Women 20-day sessions are accepting applications through October 15. See the [website](#) for details.
- Jan. 22-Feb. 21**
new listing **RX-300—Prescribed Fire Burn Boss / online**
This course is offered by the University of Idaho and Tall Timbers, with a combination of pre-course work, self-paced study and live virtual sessions ([details](#)).
- April 15-17** **After the Flames / Estes Park, CO**
Save the date for this post-fire recovery conference hosted by Coalitions & Collaboratives. Proposals for presentations are being accepted through December 15. See the [website](#) for details.

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Send News, Links & Comments

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

Autumn Bjugstad – autumn.bjugstad@tnc.org – Autumn is in Austin, TX August 21-25.

Emily Hohman – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is out August 19-September 4.

James Miller – james.miller@tnc.org – James is in the office.

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

Laurel Kays – laurel.kays@tnc.org – Laurel is in the office.

Lemaine Peo – lemaine.peo@tnc.org – Lemaine is out September 4-8.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Austin, TX August 21-25; out September 4-15.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Austin, TX August 21-25; out September 1.

Miranda Flora – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in the office.

Note: September 4 is a Conservancy holiday.

Links

FLN Networker—an archive of back issues is kept at:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/FLNNetworker/Pages/fln-networker.aspx>

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

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

Notes from the Field—an index to all Notes is at:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/USFLNPublications/Pages/Index-FLN-Notes-from-the-Field.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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