

FLN Networker No. 144: October 30, 2013

The FLN Networker is a publication of the Fire Learning Network—a partnership of the USDA Forest Service, Department of the Interior (BIA, BLM, National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service) and The Nature Conservancy—intended to foster communication within the network and among its friends. Submit comments, links and subscription requests to Liz Rank.

For more about the FLN, visit www.conservationgateway.org/fln or contact Lynn Decker.

News from the Field

California: The **Northern California Prescribed Fire Council** is posting **prescribed fire training exchange** updates, photos and video on its [Facebook page](#). More than 30 people are taking part in the training, with burning in **Redwood National Park** and near the communities of Orleans, Hayfork and Whiskeytown.

Media coverage of the event so far has included a **three-minute segment** on the [local NBC news](#).

Iowa: In the **Loess Hills FLN**, the Pottawattamie County Conservation Board and The Nature Conservancy offered an **online S130/S190** fire course followed by a **field day and work capacity test** on October 12. In spite of the federal furlough, which prevented many registrants from attending, **22 participants** from three states completed their pack tests and took part in the field day, which included **live fire exercises**. For more information, contact Kyle Lapham (klapham@tnc.org).

New Mexico: One more from the **international training exchange** in northern New Mexico a few weeks ago—in this brief TNC [video](#), **Jeremy Bailey** (jeremy_bailey@tnc.org) talks about **the why and how of prescribed fire** in the neighborhood of the Las Conchas Fire.

Virginia: Numerous **FLN partners**—including The Nature Conservancy, Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Park Service and the Virginia departments of Conservation & Recreation and Inland Fisheries—will be hosting that **state's first prescribed fire training exchange** next spring. For details, see the **listing in the Trainings section**, below.

National: The **FLN** is **one of three case studies** examined by **Bruce Goldstein, Anne Taufen Wessells, Raul Lejano** and **William Butler** in the **research article** “Narrating Resilience: Transforming Urban Systems through Collaborative Storytelling,” published in *Urban Studies* ([abstract](#)).

Funding Opportunities: JFSP Deadline Extended

JFSP: The deadline for Joint Fire Science Program **2014 research funding** opportunities has been extended to **December 11**. See the [announcements](#) for complete details. Areas of interest for the **primary funding opportunity** include **fuels treatment effectiveness** across landscapes; **influence of past wildfires** on wildfire behaviour, effects and management; and compatibility of fire and fuel treatments with **bats**, among others. The two areas of interest in the **social sciences** are **fire adapted communities** and **risk perception**. There is also a **Graduate Research Innovation Award** opportunity for graduate students in the fields of wildland fire and related human dimensions and ecological sciences.

While You Were Out: Forest Restoration Guide / NEPA / Archives

The *FLN Networker* was sent out **during the federal furlough**, but many readers may have missed it due to mailbox overflow. Below are a couple of important items from those two issues. Back issues are always available on the Conservation Gateway—direct links to the last two issues: [FLN Networker #142](#) (October 2) and [FLN Networker #143](#) (October 16).

Forest Restoration Guide: *Restoration of Dry Forests in Eastern Oregon: A Field Guide* has been published with support from the **Northwest FLN** and several other partners. This thorough and practical **200-page guide** covers principles of restoring dry forests, landscape planning and stand prescriptions for restoration, field implementation, and other considerations. It is **posted as a pdf** on Conservation Gateway (shortcut: <http://nature.ly/dryforests>) and is also available in **print form**. Contact **Mark Stern** (mstern@tnc.org) or **Karen Gleason** (kgleason@tnc.org) for more information.

NEPA: Hot off the presses from the National Forest Foundation is “A Roadmap for **Collaboration Before, During and After the NEPA Process**,” written by **Annie Schmidt** (a key partner in the Leavenworth, Washington, FAC Net community). The document, which is [available in several formats](#), is packed with resources, as well as guidance for **dealing with common challenges** along the way.

Reports & Articles: Policy Recommendations / Intermountain West Forests / Grassland Restoration

Policy Recommendations: In a [brief article](#) (“**Managing Forests and Fire in Changing Climates**”) in *Science*, seven well known wildland fire scientists lay out a set of fire policy recommendations and strategies. “Trends and projections of climate and fire responses suggest that new strategies to mitigate and adapt to increased fire are needed to sustain forest landscapes. Identifying and implementing appropriate responses will not be easy because the complexity of local-to-regional dynamics makes **uniform, simple, or unchanging policy and management ineffective.**”

Intermountain West Forests: The **Ecological Restoration Institute** (ERI) has published two new instalments in its series of **working papers** in Intermountain West **frequent-fire forest** management:

- “[Fuel Treatment Longevity](#)” covers both **factors affecting treatment longevity**—from treatment design to fuel accumulation to climate—and means of **assessing** it.
- “[Southwestern Mixed-Conifer Forests: Evaluating Reference Conditions to Guide Ecological Restoration Treatments](#)” ... is one of those papers with a self-explanatory title.

Also useful: both contain a list of the **26 previous papers** in the series.

Grassland Restoration: The **Great Plains Fire Science Exchange** has released the [research summary](#) “**Manage Woody Plants in Grasslands Using Thresholds**,” based on work by Dirac Twidwell and colleagues on using **ecological and fire models** together.

Resources: Climate & Wildfire / Community Preparedness / LANDFIRE / Social Media & Incident Command

Climate Change & Wildfire: The **Union of Concerned Scientists** has a brief (and dramatic) three-panel [infographic](#) on the effects of **climate change** is having on **western wildfires**.

Community Preparedness: The **National Fire Protection Association** has announced the first national **Wildfire Community Preparedness Day**, to be held on **May 3, 2014**. Its [web page](#) now has links to a list of potential projects and some other resources; more information will be posted as the day draws nearer.

LANDFIRE: There’s a new set of “[Science Spotlight](#)” **videos** on the LANDFIRE YouTube channel. In the first, LANDFIRE ecologist **Randy Swaty** (rswaty@tnc.org) gives an overview of currently available data and tools. This introduction is followed by two case studies: a presentation by **Ryan Haugo** (rhaugo@tnc.org) on using LANDFIRE to **assess forest restoration needs**, and **Louis Provencher** (lprovencher@tnc.org) on a method for planning **cost-effective restoration** of large landscapes.

Social Media & IC: The firefighternation.com [article](#) “**How Social Media Is Changing Incident Command**” is subtitled, “Large incidents require fire departments to have a **proactive, quick social media presence.**” It has a pretty good list of considerations for getting started, and suggestions for effectively using Twitter (the method it suggests if you’re going to use just one social media platform).

Blog: “Competent but Cold”

Competent but Cold: If you are a scientist (or at least look like one) and are involved with public communication (or should be), Bob Lalasz’s [latest blog](#), “Competent but Cold’: New Research on **Why Scientists Don’t Connect with People,**” is worth a read.

Jobs: Executive Dir. / Spatial Analyst / Biologist-Rx Fire Manager / Burn Crews (various positions)

Executive Director: The **Southeast Alaska Conservation Council** is seeking an executive director to protect key wild lands in the **Tongass National Forest**. For details, see <http://seacc.org/tongass-news/seacc-seeks-executive-director>; applications are due by **November 7**.

Spatial Analyst: The **Conservancy’s** Washington chapter is hiring a spatial analyst for its **science team**. For details, see the [careers page](#) (job ID # **41535**); applications are due by **November 8**.

Biologist-Rx Fire Manager: The **Arkansas Game & Fish Commission** (a partner in the South Central FLN) is hiring a **burn boss**-qualified prescribed fire manager in its **wildlife management division**. For more information, see the attached flyer or visit <https://www.ark.org/arstatejobs/index.php> (position # 22095883); applications are due by **November 14**.

Burn Crews: Several **Conservancy** chapters are hiring prescribed fire practitioners. Details for all positions can be found on the [careers page](#).

- Texas is hiring a **seasonal burn crew member**, to be based at the **Refugio-Goliad Prairie**. See job ID 41557; apply by **October 31**.
- There are several positions based in Georgia, including a **burn boss**, **burn crew managers**, and **burn crew members**. See job ID’s 41579, 51480, 41581, 41582, 41583; apply by **November 8** or **November 15**, depending on position.
- The North Carolina chapter is also seeking a **prescribed fire crew technician** (job ID# 41572); apply by **November 13**.

Webinars

**October 31
updated**

Techniques, Planning, and Precautions in Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas

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

This is part of a series of webinars on prescribed fire hosted by the Southern Fire Exchange, North Carolina State University Extension Forestry, and Southeast Regional Partnership.

Information: <http://www.forestrywebinars.net/webinars/prescribed-fire-techniques-planning-and-precautions-in-oklahoma-arkansas-and-texas>

**November 6
updated**

Planning Large Scale Burns

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

The last of a series of webinars on prescribed fire hosted by the Southern Fire Exchange, NC State University Extension Forestry & SE Regional Partnership.

Information: <http://www.forestrywebinars.net/webinars/planning-large-scale-burns>

November 12
updated

Fire Legacy's Role in Current & Future Fire Management in the Southwest

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

Forest Service fire ecologist Tessa Nicolet will present this Southwest Fire Science Consortium webinar.

Information: details and registration are at <http://swfireconsortium.org/events/>

November 21
new listing

The Role of Fire in Shortgrass Rangelands

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

This webinar will be co-hosted by the Southwest Fire Science Consortium, Great Plains Fire Science Exchange and Southern Rockies Fire Science Consortium.

Information: details will be available soon at <http://swfireconsortium.org/events/>

FLN Workshops

November 6-7

FireScope Mendocino / Stonyford, CA

This new FLN landscape will be hosting its first planning workshop, and is putting out a call for all interested stakeholders.

Information: See the flyer attached to [Networker issue #143](#), or contact **Marilyn Perham** (mperham@tnc.org)

November 20
new date

Parashant Partnership / St. George, UT

This workshop, originally scheduled for October 15-18, will be rescheduled to allow furloughed federal partners to attend. The date for a one-day workshop on the Uinkaret Mountains Vegetation Management Plan will be set soon.

Information: **Eli Lauren-Bernstein** (eli.bernstein@nau.edu)

December 3
new date

Georgia Blue Ridge Mountains Landscape / Blairsville, GA

The inaugural workshop (originally set for October 22) of this new landscape will include introductions to fire adapted communities, fire ecology and lessons learned from the FLN as a diverse partnership comes together in north Georgia.

Information: **Malcolm Hodges** (mhodges@tnc.org) or **Jim Wentworth** (jwentworth@fs.fed.us)

December 4

Southern Blue Ridge FLN Leads Workshop / Asheville, NC

Information: **Margit Bucher** (mbucher@tnc.org) or **Beth Buchanan**

(bbuchanan@fs.fed.us)

December 5-6

Northern California Prescribed Fire Council / Redding, CA

Save the date for this fall meeting, which will focus on prescribed fire and oak woodlands, wildlife and habitat. As usual, there will be a full-day meeting with research and management presentations, an evening social with good food and drink, and a field tour guided by local land managers and scientists.

Information: Details will be available soon at <http://www.norcalrxfirecouncil.org/> .

Training, Conferences & Workshops

November 5-6

Southern Sierra Prescribed Fire Council / Clovis, CA

The inaugural meeting of this prescribed fire council will include discussions of fire management, air quality, fire research and outreach in support of the council's mission of working collaboratively "to promote, protect, conserve, and expand the responsible use of prescribed fire and cultural fire in the southern

Sierra Nevada's fire-adapted landscapes and fire-dependent landscapes, and to promote public understanding and acceptance on the ecological and cultural importance of burning.”

Information: <http://www.sosierrapfc.org/calendar-of-events>

November 14

Complex Prescribed Burning for Scrub Jays / Ocala NF, FL

The Northeast Florida Scrub Working Group is presenting this one-day workshop, which includes a demonstration burn.

Information: see the agenda attached to [Networker issue #143](#); RSVP to Parker Titus (ptitus@tnc.org)

November 14-16

Backyards & Beyond: Wildland Fire Education / Salt Lake City, UT

This National Fire Protection Association conference will bring together wildfire experts, Firewise community representatives, community planners, civic leaders, homeowners, insurance professionals, landscape architects and others for a chance to network and share best-practices.

Info: <http://www.firewise.org/courses-and-training/backyards-and-beyond.aspx>

November 15

Professional Development Workshop / Ft. Collins, CO

The Society of American Foresters is sponsoring this workshop for early-career professionals and students.

Information: see the flyer attached to [Networker issue #143](#), then [register online](#)

November 16

Living with Fire in Northern New Mexico / Santa Fe, NM

This free public Southwest Fire Consortium workshop will feature presentations and the opportunity to interact with regional scientists and land managers in breakout sessions and one-on-one.

Information: <http://livingwithfire.eventbrite.com/>, or contact Eytan Krasilovsky (eytan@forestguild.org)

**Jan 13-17, 2014
deadline**

Rx510 – Advanced Fire Effects / Tucson, AZ

The National Advanced Fire & Resource Institute (NAFRI) is offering this course; nominations are due (through GATRs) by **November 1**.

Information: http://www.nafri.gov/pages/description_rx510.htm

Feb 8-13, 2014

Society for Range Management: 67th Annual Meeting, Technical Training & Trade Show / Orlando, FL

The theme for the meeting, “From Dusty Trails to Waning Wetlands,” will bring drought and water management to the fore. The technical sessions, workshops and symposia will cover a wide range of topics, from wildlife to fire ecology.

Information: <http://rangelands.org/orlando2014/>

**Feb 20-22, 2014
deadline**

Fire Ecology of the Northeast: Restoring Native and Cultural Ecosystems / New Haven, CT

The call for papers is open (through **October 31**) for this workshop hosted by the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy.

Information: <http://www.talltimbers.org/YALEworkshop/>

Feb 25-27, 2014

Fostering Resilience in Southwestern Ecosystems: A Problem-Solving Workshop / Tucson, AZ

This JFSP workshop will help develop answers to pressing questions such as

“How can managers build resilience when ecosystems are undergoing rapid change?” and “What are our options when megafires removes huge swaths of forests not adapted to this disturbance?”

Info: <http://swfireconsortium.org/Fire%20and%20Resiliency%20Ecology%20Workshop/>

March 31-April 11
new listing

Virginia Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / VA

This training exchange, hosted by the Central Appalachians FLN and partners, will be held in the mountains and coastal plain of Virginia. Nomination forms are due by **December 31**.

Information: see the attached announcement and nomination form

April 8-10, 2014

Oregon Prescribed Fire Council / Bend, OR

The first meeting of this new prescribed fire council will be held in conjunction with the Central Oregon Fire Science Symposium at OSU. Rx310 Fire Effects will be offered that week as well.

Information: oregonrxfirecouncil@gmail.com

May 19-23, 2014

Large Wildland Fires: Social, Political & Ecological Effects / Missoula, MT

The call for workshops and special sessions for this conference co-hosted by the Association for Fire Ecology and the International association of Wildland Fire is now open. Early bird registration is open.

Information: <http://largefireconference.org/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is in the office.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in California October 18-November 7.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in California November 5-7.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in California October 20-30, November 4-7.

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

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

Note: November 11 is a Conservancy holiday.

To stop receiving the FLN Networker, please reply to this message and include your request in the body of the message.

Full Links

News from the Field—CA—Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Northern-California-Prescribed-Fire-Council/148412501854321>

NBC news segment: <http://kiem-tv.com/video/fire-training-attracts-firefighters-north-coast-around-world>

News from the Field—NM: <https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/Pages/NM-Training-Exchange-video-2013.aspx>

News from the Field—National FLN: <http://usj.sagepub.com/content/early/2013/10/08/0042098013505653>

While You Were Out—FLN Networker archive: <https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/FLNNetworker/Pages/fln-networker.aspx>

NEPA roadmap: <http://www.nationalforests.org/conserve/learning/collaboration-and-nepa>

Reports & Articles—Policy recommendations: http://gallery.mailchimp.com/5f6de7b069a57255f980944b4/files/ScienceVol342Stephens.pdf?utm_source=Joint+Fire+Science+Program+List&utm_campaign=e3e9cfa70d-AAAS+Policy+Forum&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_078058a287-e3e9cfa70d-243860101

Reports & Articles—Intermountain West forests—Treatment longevity:

http://gallery.mailchimp.com/35f64585b7351c71937d858e9/files/FINAL_27_ERI_Working_Papers_WEB.pdf

SW mixed-conifer forests:

http://gallery.mailchimp.com/35f64585b7351c71937d858e9/files/FINAL_28_ERI_Working_Papers_WEB.pdf

Reports & Articles—Grassland restoration:

<http://blogs.missouristate.edu/gpfiroscience/files/2013/10/GPETwidwellThresholds2013-23.pdf>

Resources—Infographic: http://www.ucsusa.org/global_warming/science_and_impacts/impacts/infographic-wildfires-climate-change.html

Resources—Community preparedness: <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/national-wildfire-community-preparedness-day>

Resources—LANDFIRE: <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLwRbAc4x5n97OEcSE3rIIDYdALq40yF4T>

Resources—Social media & IC: <http://www.firefighternation.com/article/technology/how-social-media-changing-incident-command>

Blog—Competent but Cold: <http://blog.nature.org/science/2013/10/25/competent-cold-science-communication-susan-fiske-scientist/>

Jobs—TNC careers page: https://careers.nature.org/psp/P91HTNC_APP/APPLICANT/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM.HRS_CE.GBL

Webinars—FS series: <http://www.fs.fed.us/research/docs/landscape-science/webinar-series.pdf>

Training, Conferences & Workshops—Professional development (Nov 15): https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1-nbcN0OgkVqYZUzvFSwuTwscRojvmU_fuoivRKpDOI/viewform



The Fire Learning Network is supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency through Collaboration: Landscapes, Learning and Restoration*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

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Fred Spiegel, Ph.D., Ex-Officio
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville

October 14, 2013

JOB VACANCY
AGFC BIOLOGIST SPECIALIST (Prescribed Fire Manager)
POSITION NO. 22095883
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

SALARY:

(Grade C121) \$39,199 annually.

MINIMUM EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

The formal education equivalent of a bachelor's degree in biology, zoology, botany, or a related field; plus two years of experience in wildlife management or a related field. Additional requirements determined by the agency for recruiting purposes require review and approval by the Office of Personnel Management. Other job related education and/or experience may be substituted for all or part of these basic requirements, except for certification or licensure requirements, upon approval of the qualifications review committee.

PREFERRED MINIMUM EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE:

The prescribed fire manager must be qualified as a National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) certified Prescribed Fire Burn Boss Type 2 (RXB2). Required experience and training for RXB2 includes Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior (S-390), satisfactory performance as an Ignition Specialist 2, satisfactory performance as an Incident Commander Type 4, satisfactory position performance as an RXB2. Required training and experience includes: Prescribed Fire Burn Boss (RX-300), Leadership and organizational Development (S-381), Introduction to Fire Effects (RX-310), and Prescribed Fire Plan Preparation (RX341).

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS:

Knowledge of the principles of biology, ecology, and related environmental sciences. Knowledge of game and fish management programs including propagation, cultivation, and harvesting techniques. Knowledge of game and fish management laboratory and field survey equipment, techniques, and procedures. Knowledge of supervisory practices and procedures. Ability to plan, organize, and oversee the work of subordinates. Ability to make public presentations. Ability to plan work unit objectives and operational activities and assign and direct the work of subordinate supervisors. Ability to conduct scientific game and fish surveys and studies, analyze and evaluate collected data, and prepare written narrative reports of findings. Ability to direct, coordinate, and maintain wildlife management programs.

PREFERRED KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS:

Knowledge of prescribed fire, preferably in the fuel models of the Boston Mountain and Ozark Highlands. Ability to assume role of Prescribed Fire Burn Boss and initiate position activities at the appropriate time. Influence, guide, and direct assigned personnel to accomplish objectives and desired outcomes in a rapidly changing high-risk environment. Identify, analyze, and apply relevant situational information and evaluate actions to complete assignments safely and meet identified objectives in a rapidly changing high-risk environment. The ability to establish, maintain and promote effective working relationships with and among various private, state and federal agency personnel. Proficient with a variety of computer software applications including Microsoft Office. Working experience using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) preferred. The ability to work independently and prioritize a varied workload. Possess effective organizational skills, written

and verbal communication skills, including public speaking skills, are essential to successful performance of duties.

POSITION LOCATION:

Russellville or Calico Rock Regional Office

CLASS SUMMARY:

The (AGFC) Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Specialist is responsible for supervising a wildlife management program. This position is governed by state and federal laws and agency/institution policy.

SPECIAL JOB DIMENSIONS:

Frequent field work with exposure to inclement weather is required. Occasional exposure to hunters and dangerous animals may be required. Some statewide travel is necessary. A copy of the Incident Qualification and Certification System (IQCS) Master Record (or equivalent training document) which contains documented proof of certification or attainment RXB2 requirement must be attached to your application.

TYPICAL FUNCTIONS:

Plans and conducts various biological surveys to investigate population, habitat, and ecology of game and fish species and conducts studies of game and fish propagation, cultivation, and harvest. Analyzes and evaluates survey and sampling data and writes reports describing the results of the data and makes recommendations on game and fish populations. Directs the development of various wildlife management areas or fish propagation and cultivation and treatment plans based on district management plans. Assists supervisor with districts' annual budgetary projections, prepares various reports and purchase orders, requisitions for equipment, supplies, and parts, and prepares monthly activity reports. Makes presentations to civic groups, schools and clubs, and conducts public meetings to explain new and/or proposed rules and regulations and/or to hear complaints about wildlife management. Writes articles for news releases on game and fish activities in district. Assists supervisor in the development of game and fish management plans and proposals to expand or improve management areas. Performs other duties as assigned.

JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The prescribed fire manager is responsible for implementing and coordinating assigned prescribed fire activities in the Boston Mountains and Ozark Highlands Ecoregion and serves in a key fire management position in a field fire management organization as a prescribed fire manger. This position has program responsibility for prescribed fire, fuels management and smoke management. This position will provide professional advice and assistance to meet resource management objectives with prescribed fire and/or multiple objective wildland fires.

Job duties for this position include: developing and/or reviewing fire management plans to achieve resource management objectives; preparing long- and/or short-range plans, such as those for prevention, detection, pre-suppression, suppression, prescribed fire coordination and implementation, and/or fuels management efforts; monitor all prescribed fire operations and ensure that all operations are conducted in a safe manner and in accordance with approved plan(s) and established standards and guidelines; act as a coordinator/liaison between the burn organization(s)/partner agencies including both state and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations; obtain/interpret weather information, coordinate required/qualified personnel and equipment; oversee the ignition, holding and monitoring operations; and supervise assigned personnel. This position will develop an equipment requirement list and purchase and prepare equipment. The prescribed fire manager will coordinate training schedules/opportunities and train regional personnel. Performs other duties as assigned.

All applicants subjected to a criminal background check.

Applicants may apply online at www.arstatejobs.com. Applications must include complete work history and references. Applications will be accepted via online, US mail or fax (501-223-6444) and must be received by **4:30 p.m. on November 14, 2013.**

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Attn: Human Resources Division
2 Natural Resources Drive
Little Rock, AR 72205

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Virginia Prescribed Fire Training Exchange, March 31-April 11, 2014 TRES Information and Nomination Form

WHAT: The Nature Conservancy through the Fire Learning Network, and its numerous Virginia partners (including US FS, FWS, NPS, and VA DCR, DGIF) will be hosting a Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TRES) for the positions of RXB2, FIRB, ENGB, FFT1 and FEMO and other positions as needed. Trainees will be working with experienced firefighters from federal, state, county, private and non-government organizations and agencies.

WHERE/WHEN: This training event will be held in the mountains and coastal plain of Virginia, From March 31-April 11, 2014.

TUITION: \$250 (does not include meals or travel expenses during event.)



WHAT TO EXPECT: We will complete moderate complexity burns in pine savannah, grasslands, and Appalachian hardwood forests. Goals for burning generally include restoring and maintaining a mosaic of plant and forest communities. The prescribed fire sites vary widely, from flat and small, to large and mountainous. Fuels also vary and will include hardwood and pine forest litter, grasslands, shrubs, and wetlands. We will be on the road, working with a wide variety of partners, and will travel between western Virginia and eastern Virginia depending on weather and fuel conditions. In most cases, we will attempt to have local housing available (state parks, agency quarters, etc.) On occasion and if necessary, we will camp on site or lodge in local hotels.

In the past five years these trainings have proven to be very effective at providing participants with numerous days of prescribed fire experience and competency evaluations in position task books. Knowledge will be gained not only through fireline experience, but also from presentations, field trips and personal interactions covering a broad range of ecological and socio-economic topics. Non-burn days will be occupied by projects (directly related to prescribed fire), field trips, and travel. The first operational period will include orientation to equipment and exercises designed to build crew cohesion. We intend to build a crew of about 15-20 that we can split or combine as necessary to meet local host and training objectives.

Burn boss trainees are expected to arrive a day early to tour units and prepare Incident Action Plans. Approved NWCG burn plans and maps will be provided to RXB2 and FIRB trainees in advance of their arrival.



WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU: You will be both a trainee and a trainer, rotating between these roles throughout the assignment. You will be in a dynamic environment that will change frequently as dictated by weather and other factors. You are expected to remain flexible, tolerant, patient and respectful of others.

S130/190, I-100, IS-700, and a Work Capacity Test are required to participate in the TRES. These need to be completed prior to March 31. The mandatory field day associated with S130/190 can be provided if there is a need. Please contact the coordinator with questions.

We also depend on participants to provide equipment to accomplish the burning. If you can bring equipment such as a Type 6 engine, UTV with sprayer or pick-up truck with drip torches and torch mix containers, or extra radios we encourage you to do so.

LOGISTICS: Costs incurred during the assignment, including travel and salary, are the responsibility of the participant or their home unit. Additional information regarding travel methods, specific locations, accommodations, meals, etc. will be provided to you once you have registered for the training.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING: Full PPE (including fire shelter), programmable radio, current qualification card, position task books, travel coffee mug, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, tent and personal items such as sunscreen, cold weather layers (e.g. *Nomex* overcoat, cotton long underwear). In order to remain flexible, come prepared to camp. In the event you need a particular piece of equipment, notify the coordinator so arrangements can be made to outfit you accordingly.



WHAT HAVE PREVIOUS PARTICIPANTS SAID?

“It was hands on! There are not a lot of prescribed fire courses that are offered where you actually get to burn as much as we did and be as fully involved in the process. The group dynamic was also different as there were individuals from a variety of countries and organizations which I believe made it a more valuable experience.

I would recommend this course to all individuals interested in fire that have not had hands on experience, as well as to anyone wishing to pursue accreditation as Firing boss or Burn boss.” – British Columbia Forest Service participant

“Typically we are used to working with the same group of people, but this exchange brought a whole new dynamic to prescribed fire in the sense that not only were we working with people from other states, but also with people who have different outlooks on fire usage. Many of

the people I worked with had fire suppression experience but had done very little prescribed fire. It is interesting that we can learn new techniques and outlooks from the other participants. This training exchange helps you look outside the box and stay on your toes.” – Iowa Soil and Water Conservation District participant

“The training exchange has allowed me to work on my RXB2 taskbook in topography, fuels, and terrain that I often don’t encounter on a day to day basis. This experience has allowed me to further my knowledge in the implementation/operations of prescribed fire and has made me a better land steward and firefighter.” Department of Defense participant

“The training and experience I acquired at the training exchange greatly built upon my previous training and experience from both prescribed fire and wildfire assignments, particularly in the areas of fire behavior and incident management. I also gleaned more information in the realms of ecology and fire ecology, which is an area in which I have no formal education and always find interesting and informative.”

– Key Peninsula Fire Department participant

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Virginia Prescribed Fire Training Exchange, March 31-April 11, 2014 Nomination Form

Part I TRAINING NOMINATION

Course Number n/a	Course Name VA Training Exchange	PRIORITY ____ of ____
IQCS Session Number n/a	Course Location Virginia	Course Date(s) March 31, April 11, 2014
Course Tuition (if required) \$250	Course Coordinator Name (First Last) Sam Lindblom, TNC; Sami Schinnell, USFS	Course Coordinator Phone Number Lindblom: 434-987-0712 Schinnell: 540-705-6159
Course Coordinator E-Mail slindblom@tnc.org slschinnell@fs.fed.us	Course Coordinator FAX Number	Date Submitted
Employee's IQCS ID Number:		
Nominee's Name (First MI Last)		
Working Job Title		E-Mail
Agency Name		Fax
Home Unit	Nominee's Mailing Address (if different)	
Street	Street	
City	State	City State
Zip	Telephone	Zip Telephone
List training completed and dates pertinent to this course:		

List your past qualifications pertinent to this course:

Nominee's Signature: (I will notify the Unit Training Representative if I am unable to attend.)

Supervisor contact information (Supervisor must certify the nominee meets the prerequisites, or if not met will put the reasons for attending the course in Remarks.)

Remarks:

Submit completed form via email to:

slindblom@tnc.org and slschinnell@fs.fed.us