

FLN Networker No. 183: April 29, 2015

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 **Watershed Research and Training Center** has been getting some more Scaling-up to Promote Ecosystem Resiliency (**SPER**) burning done this month—see the attached *Notes from the Field* about the **Big Creek Burn** in Hayfork's **municipal watershed**.

Colorado: **Pike's Peak FLN partners met** last week to discuss potential spring and fall prescribed **burn projects** and to continue developing an FLN factsheet, website and other **outreach materials**. The group is hoping to work together on a small prescribed burn in ponderosa pine this spring if timing and weather conditions allow. For more information, contact **Paige Lewis** (paige.lewis@tnc.org).

New Mexico: This FLN recently hosted a workshop **initiating a Burned Area Learning Network** in the Southwest. The workshop—"Planning for the Next Big One: Managing the Postfire Environment in a Time of Change"—brought together 60 managers, scientists and community representatives working to study, mitigate and recover after severe burns to **share knowledge and consider next steps** for collaborators. The postfire environment is complex ecologically and socially, and the range of participants reflected this. Experts in hydrology, geology, climate change, fire ecology, tree regeneration and BAER treatments shared scientific studies, and managers and community representatives (including FAC Learning Network members) highlighted the **need for better, faster and clearer information** for members of the public at risk of post fire flooding and landslides. All agreed that much more could be done to prepare both land managers and communities for **large fire impacts and postfire impacts**. Such prefire planning to support postfire actions will be explored by partners over the next year. For more information, contact **Anne Bradley** (abradley@tnc.org).

North Carolina: The **Blue Gravel Fire**, in a remote area near the **Linville Gorge Wilderness**, allowed for a **successful management strategy** that included both containment and management for resource benefit, rather than full suppression. After initial attack operations proved unsuccessful, Forest Service responders **assessed values at risk** in the area as well as **risk to firefighters**. Due to previous fires in the Linville Gorge area, the district staff has a strong understanding of resources at risk in the area, and determined that risks to firefighters constructing line in difficult terrain made it advantageous to fall back to containment lines established on previous wildfires. **Within established fire lines**, the fire was allowed to **grow slowly, reducing forest fuels** that could contribute to severe fires in the future and providing opportunity for new vegetation to grow that will **benefit wildlife**. Low, backing fires moved through fire-adapted shortleaf pine restoration areas, which are managed as part of the **Grandfather Restoration Project** (a CFLRP project). The **multi-agency response** to this wildfire included the U.S. Forest Service, North Carolina Forest Service and Wildlife Resources Commission, The Nature Conservancy and local volunteer fire departments.

Washington: There was an [article](#) about the **Tapash Forest Restoration Collaborative CFLRP** project in the *Yakima Herald* last week. According to **James Schroeder**, director of the Conservancy's Eastern Washington Forests Program, "In the Tapash landscape, what we are seeing now is **bigger projects** with **shorter planning** and **more support**. I think over the next five years we'll see even more."

Washington: Yesterday the Yakima County Commissioners **signed** the **Yakima Community Wildfire Protection Plan** (CWPP) and issued a proclamation for May 2, National Fire Preparedness Day. Just over a **year ago**, the **Washington Dry Forests FLN** hosted the “Working Together: Collaboration for Fire Adapted Communities” workshop in Yakima Valley, which **focused and re-energized** wildfire preparedness efforts there. For more, see the [article](#) in the *Yakima Herald* (published just before the plan was ok'd), or contact **Reese Lolley** (rlolley@tnc.org).

Resources: Farm Bill 101 / Bats / Good Graphics

Farm Bill 101: The **North American Bird Conservancy** and numerous partners have put together the “2014 **Farm Bill Guide to Fish and Wildlife Conservation**.” The [guide](#) is “an introduction for fish and wildlife conservation providers ... to give them a tool to better understand the Farm Bill and how its programs can help landowners conserve fish and wildlife habitat.”

Bats: Effective May 4, the **northern long-eared bat** [will be listed](#) as **threatened** under the Endangered Species Act.

Good Graphics: If you're sharing information visually—through **graphs or charts**—it's almost always better to **avoid default settings** in your program. Check out this [data visualization checklist](#) for some **guidelines** to make graphics noticeable, inviting and clear.

Articles & Reports: Burn Severity / Development Mitigation / Tree Owners

Burn Severity: Authors of the [article](#) “Vegetation, Topography and Daily Weather Influenced Burn Severity in Central Idaho and Western Montana Forests” analyzed 42 large fires. While noting that **weather and climate** have a strong influence on **fire extent**, they concluded that “**vegetation and topography** were more important influences on **burn severity**...”

Development Mitigation: The **Conservancy's** Development by Design Program has released the [document](#) “Achieving Conservation and Development: **10 Principles** for Applying the **Mitigation Hierarchy**.” Some of the principles—such as landscape basis, stakeholder engagement practices, and other—may well be useful in other less-than-optimal conservation contexts.

Tree Owners: The **Forest Service** [report](#) “**Who Owns America's Trees**, Woods and Forest?” has a summary of results from private owners surveyed from 2011 to 2013. The results (which can also be explored on the [survey website](#) and with a custom **table maker tool**) include **why** people own forest land, **how they use it**, what **concerns** they have, and other information.

Videos: Wildfire Preparedness Day / Skunk Fire

Wildfire Preparedness Day: For a little **last-minute outreach** about Wildfire Preparedness Day—coming this **Saturday, May 2**—check out the NFWA [animated video](#).

Skunk Fire: The [video](#) “**San Carlos Apache: Building a Culture of Fire**” looks at how a **decade of work** at reintroducing fire affected management of the 2014 fire season, including the 73,000-acre Skunk Fire.

In the News: CFLRP

CFLRP: The *Idaho Statesman* recently ran a [story](#) based on an interview with **Forest Service Chief Tom Tidwell** about the **Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program** and other work. According to the story, “Tidwell said he **envisions the collaborative model** approved by Congress in 2009 used to manage the Forest Service's **entire 193 million acres** of forests and grasslands.”

Jobs: Stewardship Assistant / Forestry Tech (Fuels) / Engine Captain

Stewardship Assistant: The Nature Conservancy's **North Carolina** chapter is seeking someone to assist with **preserve management** (including prescribed fire) and provide support for the Bog Learning Network and the **Grandfather CFLRP** project. Full information is available on nature.org (job ID 43079); applications are due by **May 4**.

Forestry Tech (Fuels): The **Colville National Forest** is conducting **outreach** for wildland fire management positions that will have an **emphasis on prescribed fire**. Details are in the attached flyer; if interested, the outreach form is due by **May 11**.

Forestry Tech (Fuels): The **Cherokee National Forest** (a partner in the **Southern Blue Ridge FLN**) will soon be filling two **district/zone fuels technician positions**. Details are in the attached flyer; applications are due by **May 11**.

Engine Captain: The **Cherokee National Forest** will also be filling two **supervisory fire engine operator positions**; duties are expected to include some monitoring and prescribed fire as well as suppression. Details are in the attached flyer; applications are due by **May 11**.

Webinar

April 29
new listing

A GIS Approach to Assessing Population Vulnerability to Smoke in the Southeastern U.S.

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

This webinar is part of the Social Vulnerability Webinar Series, hosted by the USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station and the University of Montana..

Information: <http://www.fs.fed.us/rmrs/webinar-series/social-vulnerability/smoke-vulnerability/>

May 12
new listing

The Southwest Fire Season: 2014 Overview and 2015 Outlook

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

Zander Evans (The Forest Guild) and Chuck Maxwell (Predictive Services) will present this Southwest Fire Science Consortium offering.

Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-southwest-fire-season-2014-overview-and-2015-outlook-registration-16353771571>

FLN and FAC LN Workshops & Field Tours

May 12-14

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Morganton, NC

The 10th annual regional workshop of the SBR FLN is fully booked.

June 1-4

National FLN Workshop / Santa Fe, NM

Leaders will meet with their counterparts in the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network and help shape the FLN's upcoming work. The FLN will meet from Monday evening through 5:00 Thursday.

June 1-5

National FAC Learning Network Workshop / Santa Fe, NM

Leaders will meet with their counterparts in the Fire Learning Network, share learning, and help plan the network's upcoming structure and work. The FAC network will meet from Monday evening through Friday noon.

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

May 11-20

East River TREX—Session II / eastern SD

This TREX is supported by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, SD Wildland Fire Division, TNC and other partners to improve wildlife habitat and range conditions, reduce the possibility of damaging wildfires and provide training and learning opportunities. (The application deadline has passed.)

May 14-21

Central Oregon Ecological Fire Training Exchange / Bend, OR

This **Northwest FLN** TREX, aimed at prescribed fire partners in the state, will focus on the ecological, social, communications, monitoring and operational dimensions of planning and implementing ecologically-based prescribed fire for restoration goals. (The application deadline has passed.)

**Sept. 15-Oct. 5
deadline**

Spanish-Language TREX / northern NM

This training exchange will be held in and around the Santa Fe National Forest, and will bring together participants from several countries and across the U.S. Applications are due by **May 8**.

Information: flyer and application form are attached to [FLN Networker No. 180](#)

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

May 2

International Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

Various events will be taking place..

Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/wildfirepreparednessday>

May 5-7

11th Symposium on Fire and Forest Meteorology / Minneapolis, MN

The American Meteorological Society is hosting this conference.

Information: <http://www.ametsoc.org/MEET/fainst/201511fireforest.html>

May 27-29

5th Fire in Eastern Oak Forests Conference / Tuscaloosa, AL

Information: <http://easternfire.as.ua.edu>

June 7-12

Fire Ecology Institute for Educators / Durango, CO

Information: see July workshop, below; the registration deadline is May 22

June 17

new listing

Seeding Rate Study / Lamar, MO

Participants on this field tour will visit a study site assessing differences in amount of seed used in prairie reconstruction. Register by May 25.

Information: <http://blogs.missouristate.edu/qpfirescience/2015/04/26/seeding-rate-study-field-trip/>

July 6-12

Fire Ecology Institute for Educators / Florissant, CO

This workshop for grade 3-12 educators has sponsors and presenters, including the Colorado State Forest Service, Coalition for the Upper South Platte, The Nature Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Research Station and others. The registration deadline is June 19.

Information: scroll through the listings at <http://coloradopl.org/workshops/>

**July 13-17
deadline**

RX-310: Introduction to Fire Effects / State College, PA

This course, offered by the **Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council**, will be geared specifically toward Pennsylvania ecosystems, but is open to both Pennsylvania burn practitioners and others. Nominations are due by **April 30**.

Information: announcement and nomination form are attached to [Networker #180](#)

July 28-29
new listing

Best Practices for Communication and Delivery of Prescribed Fire Messaging / Tall Timbers Research Station, FL

This course is aimed at increasing the use of prescribed burning in fire maintained ecosystems on private lands through more effective, coordinated communications.

Information: <http://www.ncsu-feop.org/RxFire/communications/>

September 24-26

Colorado Wildland Fire Conference: Creating Fire Adapted Communities / Snowmass Village, CO

The conference theme will be “Fire adapted communities—who owns the risk?”

Information: <http://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>

October 22-24

Backyards & Beyond: Wildland Fire Education Conference / Myrtle Beach, SC

Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/training/backyards-and-beyond>

November 16-20

AFE Fire Ecology & Management Congress / San Antonio, TX

The call for proposals (oral & poster presentations, workshops, attached meetings) is now open; **proposals for workshops** are due **May 1**.

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

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is at SBR FLN May 11-15.

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

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is out May 1, at SBR FLN May 11-15.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Happy Camp, CA April 26-30.

Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is out May 7-8.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in Happy Camp, CA April 27-30.

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

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—WA—Yakima CWPP: <http://www.yakimaherald.com/news/yhr/tuesday/3119826-8/yakima-county-expected-to-ok-wildfire-protection-plan>

Resources—Farm Bill 101: <http://amjv.org/index.php/2014farmbillfieldguide>

Resources—Bats: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/mammals/nlba/>

Resources—Good graphics: http://annkemery.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/DataVizChecklist_May2014.pdf

Articles & Reports—Burn severity: <http://www.esajournals.org/doi/pdf/10.1890/ES14-00213.1>

Articles & Reports--Development mitigation: <http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/urgentissues/smart-development/applying-the-mitigation-hierarchy.pdf>

Articles & Reports—Tree owners: http://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/inf/nrs_inf_31_15-NWOS-whoowns.pdf

Survey website: <http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos/>

Videos—Wildfire Preparedness Day: <http://wildfire.blog.nfpa.org/2015/03/share-new-whiteboard-animation-video-and-generate-prepday-involvement.html>

Videos—Skunk Fire: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ivY4Bg5MoUg&feature=youtu.be&noredirect=1>

In the News--CFLRP: http://www.idahostatesman.com/2015/04/24/3768339_forest-service-chief-makes-collaboration.html?rh=1

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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Fire Learning Network Notes from the Field

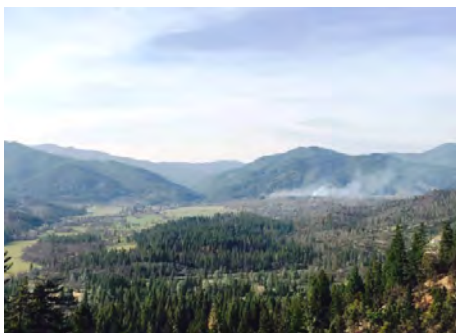
Big Creek Prescribed Burn

Hayfork, California
April, 2015

The Watershed Center—in partnership with the Weaverville Fire Department and Firestorm—recently completed 70 acres of prescribed burning in the Big Creek Watershed in Hayfork. The team of 19 executed a successful burn on private lands, accomplishing fire restoration in an area vital to the community.

The burn was part of the Big Creek Burn Plan, a community wildfire plan with an all-lands focus. It spans 1,237 acres, and has been in progress since 2012. Partners in the project include CALFIRE, the Watershed Center, the Bureau of Land Management, the Hayfork Waterworks District and various private landowners.

The Plan’s vision is an integrated approach that provides a cohesive prescribed burning effort, maximizing benefit to the community while building local partnerships and promoting a culture of prescribed fire. This project has been a significant success for fire adaptation and preparedness in the community because it involves burn programs on private and public lands.



The Big Creek Burn—seen here from a distance—was one of several burns in the Big Creek Burn Plan supported by Scaling-up to Promote Ecosystem Resiliency.

All photos: WRTC/Piper McDaniel

Big Creek is the municipal watershed for the community Hayfork, so the recently-completed burn will provide a multitude of benefits including increased fire protection for the landowner, development of a fuel break for the community, and protection of an essential source of community water. It will also replenish the landscape and improve watershed health and resilience. Says burn manager Dave Jaramillo from the Watershed Center, “It’s not that common to have multi-agency landowner burn plans. What’s interesting about it is that it’s an all lands approach—the effort doesn’t stop with property lines, so we’re all supporting each other.”

Organizing landscape management with a multitude of partners is complicated, but it offers a benefits as well. “It’s about building relationships,” Jaramillo says, “We’re all in this together.”



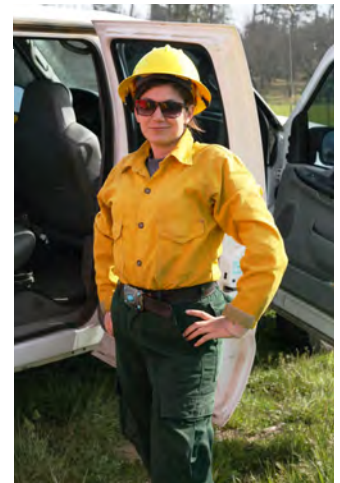
The Fire Learning Network and Scaling-up to Promoted Ecosystem Resiliency (SPER) are part of *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together (PERFACT)*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

Participating Organizations

Firestorm Wildland Fire
Suppression, Inc.
Watershed Research & Training
Center
Weaverville Volunteer Fire
Department
with the Forest Service as a
contingency resource

Success, like this burn, takes the community another step closer to a resilient forest, and links partners and community members alike. “It’s all part of a larger vision,” Jaramillo says. “This is a multi-landowner burn plan that goes over jurisdictional boundaries and everyone is in support of it.”

Below, from left: Jim Wills of Firestorm leading the crew on pre-burn scouting of the Big Creek site; Watershed Center staff member Marie Buell, ready to get things done.



For more information on PERFACT, contact Lynn Decker idecker@tnc.org or (801) 320-0524.



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v. 28 Apr 15 / Piper McDaniel

colville NATIONAL FOREST

Outreach Notice

**GS-0462-06, District/Zone Forestry Technician(Fuels)
GS-0462-07, District/Zone Forestry Technician
Three Rivers Ranger District
Newport and Sullivan Lake Ranger Districts
Republic Ranger District
Colville National Forest**

Outreach Response Date is May 11th, 2015

Vacancy Announcement #

**Merit 15- FIREOCR- 462D-FUEL- 6/7G
Demo 15- FIREOCR- 462D-FUEL- 6/7DP**



for the greatest good

The Colville National Forest will soon be filling 3 District Fuels Technician (DFTEC) position one each at the following locations: Three Rivers Ranger District in Kettle Falls, WA, Republic Ranger District in Republic, WA, and Newport Sullivan Lake Ranger District in either Newport, WA or Metaline Falls, WA. The districts have diverse and dynamic programs in fire and fuels management. The Colville National Forest is known for being at the cutting edge of innovation in its community partnerships and collaboration, which leads to some unique challenges and opportunities in managing resources.

The Colville National Forest is looking for individuals interested in collaboration, building relationships, and embarking on new ways of doing business. If you enjoy innovation and teamwork, this may be the place for you!

Interested individuals should complete the attached outreach response form. This ensures that you will receive notification when the vacancy announcement is posted on www.usajobs.com.

About the Positions

The positions are three- GS-0462-06/07 Forestry Technicians (Fuels), permanent seasonal 18/8 full-time positions. The positions will be supervised by either the AFMO or the Fuels Specialist and the duty locations will be in Kettle Falls, WA, Republic, WA and Newport, WA or Metaline Falls, WA.

WORK CAPACITY TEST (WCT) for Wildland Firefighters: This position participates in wildland firefighting activities. Based on the type of work performed, TAKING and PASSING the WCT at the ARDUOUS level is a "condition of employment." The Arduous fitness (Pack) Test consists of a three (3) mile hike, within forty-five (45) minutes, while carrying a forty-five (45) pound pack.

FIREFIGHTER RETIREMENT COVERAGE: This is a secondary firefighter position under 5 USC 8336(c) (CSRS) and 8412(d) (FERS). Ninety (90) days prior wildland firefighting experience is required. This position is identified as an FS-FPM position and the minimum NWCG Qualifications are FFT1 (currency required) with ICT5 (currency required).

Interested individuals should complete the attached outreach response form and respond by May 8th. You can access these Open Continuous Roster (OCR) positions and apply on the links below.

Merit 15- FIREOCR- 462DFUEL- 6/7G at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/382034000>

Demo 15- FIREOCR- 462DFUEL- 6/7DP at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/382033900>

May 15th is the last date to apply for this position.

Major Duties

This is a standard wildland fire management position in the USDA Forest Service. The incumbent serves in a key fire management position in a field fire management organization as a prescribed fire/fuels technician, and reports to either the Assistant Fire Management Officer or Fuels Specialist for fuels management assignments.

Introductory Statement:

This position is categorized as a District/Zone Fuels Technician (DFTEC) position in the Forest Service Fire Program Management (FS-FPM) Standard and Guide as designated by the Washington Office Fire and Aviation Management. The FS-FPM minimum qualification standards (MQS) for this position include fire qualifications of: FFT1 (currency required) and ICT5 (currency required).

Primary responsibilities of the position are preparing and implementing prescribed fire plans, fire effects monitoring plans, manual and mechanical hazardous fuels treatments, and smoke and wildland fire use monitoring plans. The incumbent integrates prescribed fire/fuels management, smoke management, fuels modification principles and procedures, fire effects knowledge, and knowledge of scientific data collection and analysis principles into a comprehensive prescribed fire/fuels management program for a unit(s).

Planning 40%

Assists in resolving problem situations encountered when performing a wide variety of non-standard fire planning assignments. Conducts routine project assessments which determine the presence or absence of hazardous wildland fuels. Information on fuel conditions and predictions of fire behavior are collected through a variety of methods, including field surveys, computer modeling, and specific literature searches.

Reviews project plans and makes recommendations on appropriate levels of monitoring. Provides basic assistance in establishing study plots to assess fire and fire suppression impacts on the ecosystem. Participates in the development and refinement of plot characteristics, frequency of visits, subjects to be measured, and data storage and analysis techniques.

Participates in drafting prescribed fire/fuels management plans following the interagency template. This involves reviewing fuel treatment alternatives and may include preparing segments of a plan to support objectives of the fire management program.

Updates and uses a database to model and analyze fire behavior and fire effects observation data. Ensures data quality. Ensures proper data storage and archival procedures are followed.

Operations and Safety 60%

Serves on prescribed fire and fuels projects in positions for which qualified. Provides routine technical guidance on fire protection and prevention issues. Technically administers routine aspects of the prescribed fire/fuels plan.

During the implementation of prescribed fire plans, fuels projects, and wildland fire use plans, assists in monitoring fire behavior, evaluating fire effects, identifying potential problems and making basic recommendations.

Assists in conducting field reconnaissance of prescribed fire/fuels treatment units, summarizes field findings and makes basic recommendations on appropriate prescriptive criteria for meeting program objectives.

Conducts routine inspections of contract fuels reduction work. Functions as a contract representative for small contracts.

Provides for training needs to support prescribed fire and fuels management programs.

Participates in wildland fire and safety training in the techniques, practices, and methods of fire suppression and in the safe, efficient operation and use of tools, equipment, and vehicles used in fire suppression activities.

Supports wildland fire suppression activities.

For questions about these positions, please contact:

Three Rivers Ranger District – Kettle Falls, WA

Jimmy Corvino Fuels Specialist 509-738-7731 or Shane Robson FMO 509-738-7730
jecorvino@fs.fed.us srobson@fs.fed.us \

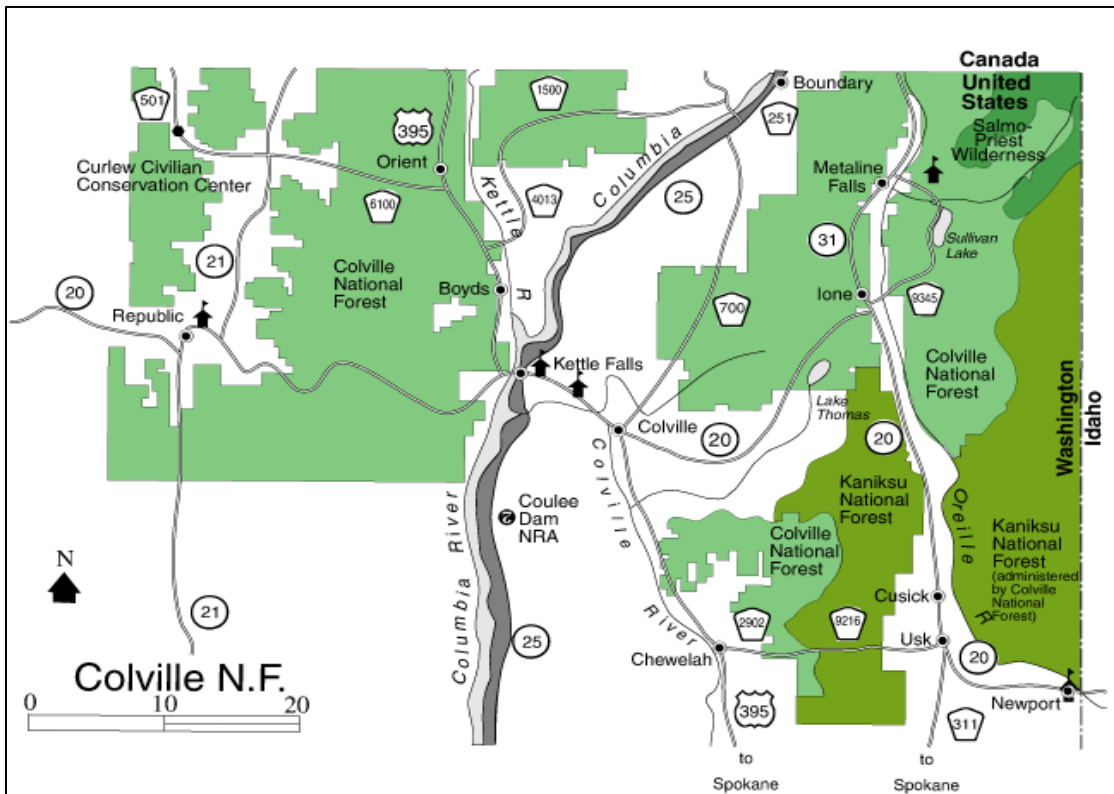
Newport/Sullivan Lake Ranger District – Newport, WA or Metaline Falls, WA

Mike Ortner Fuels Specialist 509-447-7343 or Kent Contreras FMO 509-447-7317
mortner@fs.fed.us kcontreras@fs.fed.us

Republic Ranger District – Republic, WA

Reed Heckly FMO 509-775-7451
rheckly@fs.fed.us

About the Colville National Forest



Tucked into the northeastern corner of Washington State and nestled at the foot of the northern Rocky Mountains, the Colville National Forest is an exquisite landscape of forested mountains, clear mountain streams, and fertile valleys. The 1.1 million acre forest was shaped over 10,000 years ago by Ice Age glaciers that carved three major valleys: the Columbia, Sanpoil-Curlew, and Pend Oreille River valleys. The mountains and valleys that comprise the lush northeast corner of Washington roll like waves on the high seas. Three waves of mountains run from north to south, separated by troughs of beautiful valleys. These ranges, the Okanogan, Kettle River and Selkirk are considered the eastern edge of the Okanogan highlands and the foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

The Forest has four districts supervised by three District Rangers: Three Rivers Ranger District located in Kettle Falls, Newport and Sullivan Lake Ranger Districts and the Republic Ranger District. Each unit tends to have distinctly different zones, each with its unique climate, topography, and vegetation. Each district office is located in one of the major river drainages: the Sanpoil-Curlew River Valleys, the Kettle-Colville-Columbia River Valleys, and the Pend Oreille River Valley. The Forest also provides services to the Curlew Job Corps Center located 30 miles north of Republic.

Forest topography is varied, ranging from rounded mountain slopes at low elevations to high peaks and basins above 7,300 feet in elevation. Primary access is through approximately 4,400 miles of roads and 518 miles of trails. Ecology is highly diverse ranging from ponderosa pine and Douglas fir on drier sites to western red cedar, western hemlock, western white pine and a variety of deciduous species on wetter sites. The Forest also has a significant expanse of lodgepole pine and the famously beautiful western

larch. Wildlife includes a tremendous variety including whitetail and mule deer, elk, moose, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and black bear. Rare sightings are also possible of the threatened grizzly, Canada lynx, and endangered woodland caribou. Another amazing sight is the large number of bald eagles that winter along the major rivers and nest in the vicinity.

Our lakes, rivers, and streams offer an abundance of German brown trout, rainbow trout, eastern brook trout, westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, mountain whitefish, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, burbot, Kokanee salmon, and yellow perch. We have groomed cross-country and snowmobile trails, many miles of backcountry non-motorized trails, over a hundred miles of single track motorcycle trails, a growing network of ATV routes, as well as opportunities for rock climbing, mountaineering, swimming, watersports, bird watching, and opportunities to find solitude in the Salmo-Priest Wilderness or several other roadless areas. No matter what your recreational interests are, you'll probably find an opportunity to explore them further on the beautiful Colville National Forest!

About the City of Colville and the Surrounding Area

Kettle Falls, WA

Kettle Falls is a city in Stevens County, Washington named for the nearby Kettle Falls on the Columbia River, an ancient and important fishing site for Native Americans. The population of the city is about 1,600 with amenities for basic needs. The nearby town of Colville, WA (ten miles away) is the county seat for Stevens county and has a population of about 5,000. Spokane, WA is approximately 80 miles south of Kettle Falls. For more information on the City of Kettle Falls, please click on the link below.

<http://www.kettle-falls.com/>

Republic, WA

The Republic Ranger District is approximately 240,000 acres in size lying along the western boundary of the Forest. During the summer, the District employs 13 PFT, 9 PSE, and 25 TEMP employees. The District responds to 20-30 initial attack fires a season. The District has an active fuels program, treating approximately 2,000 acres annually of natural and activity fuels by prescribed burning and mechanical methods. Fire Management works closely with neighboring Washington State DNR resources and two rural fire districts.

Republic, Washington is a city with an early 1900s look and a heritage based in the mining and logging industries. Founded by gold prospectors, and originally named Eureka Gulch, Republic had a population of 1,073 in 2010. Noted for its fossils, natural beauty and recreational possibilities, it is nestled in a valley between Wauconda and Sherman Passes at the intersection of Washington State Routes 20 and 21 in the north central part of the state.

Specific information about the Republic community and surrounding area can be found on the following websites:

City Visitors Bureau www.republicwa.org

Chamber of Commerce <http://www.republicchamber.org/index.html>

Ferry County <http://www.ferry-county.com/index.html>

Wikipedia Info [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic, Washington](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic,_Washington)

Real Estate <http://www.zillow.com/republic-wa/>

[http://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-search/Republic WA](http://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-search/Republic_WA)

There is limited government housing that is currently occupied. However, housing is available in the community of Republic and surrounding areas.

Newport, WA and Metaline Falls, WA

The district is bordered to the north by British Columbia, Canada; to the east by the Idaho Panhandle National Forest; and to the west by the Three Rivers Ranger District. Elevations within the districts range from 1,725' at the north end of the Pend Oreille River to 7,318' at Gypsy Peak in the Salmo-Priest Wilderness.

The Sullivan Lake District office is located on the north shores of Sullivan Lake (NE corner of Washington State). The nearest communities are Metaline Falls (pop. 260), nine miles west, Metaline (pop. 170), 10 miles west, and Ione (pop. 500), 15 miles southwest. These are full service communities with schools, libraries, medical clinic, grocery stores, movie theatre, and a performing arts theater.

The town of Newport (pop. 2,000) is located in the south end of Pend Oreille County and is the county seat. This is also a full service community with schools, libraries, hospital, grocery stores, movie theatre, a performing arts theater and a Community College.

Spokane (pop. 200,000) is one hour south of Newport and 1.5 hours south of Ione. It is the regional hub for air travel, shopping and specialized health services.

Recreation includes camping, hiking, mountain biking, boating, fishing, hunting, golfing, snowmobiling and Nordic and downhill skiing.

OUTREACH RESPONSE FORM

Please respond by 05/11/2015.

If you are interested in applying for this position and want to receive updates of the position's status, please complete the attached outreach form and send electronically to tsampson@fs.fed.us or mail to:

Three Rivers RD
Jimmy Corvino
255 W. 11th
Kettle Falls WA, 99141

Newport/Sullivan Lake RD
Kent Contreras/Mike Ortner
315 N. Warren
Newport, WA 99156

Republic RD
Reed Heckly
650 East Delaware Ave.
Republic, WA 99166

I am interested in the following position:

Position Title/Series/Grade: Forestry Technician/0462/GS-06/07

Location: Region 6, Colville National Forest, Colville, WA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

If current federal employee:

Current title/series/grade: _____

Current agency and location: _____

Type of Appointment:

Permanent _____ Term _____ Temporary _____

If not a current permanent employee are you eligible for appointment under any of the following special authorities?

- Persons with Disabilities _____
- Former Peace Corps Volunteer _____
- Public Lands Corps Program _____
- Pathways Internship Program _____
- Recent Graduates Program _____
- Veterans Recruitment Act _____
- Disabled Veteran (30% Compensable) _____
- Veterans Employment Opportunities Act of 1988 _____

How did you hear about this outreach? _____



Outreach Notice

**Cherokee National Forest
Ocoee/Hiwassee Ranger District
Unaka Ranger District
District/Zone Forestry Technician (Fuels Technician)
Greeneville, Tennessee
Benton, Tennessee**

The Cherokee National Forest will soon be filling two GS-0462-6/7 District/Zone Forestry Technician (Fuels Technician) positions. These positions are Permanent Seasonal (18/8) positions with duty stations of Greeneville, Tennessee and Benton, Tennessee. This notification is being circulated to inform interested applicants of this opportunity.

Interested applicants are encouraged to contact:

North Zone FMO Guy Street at 423-743-4044 or email gstreet@fs.fed.us

Unaka District FMO Greg Salansky at 423-638-8741 or email gregsalansky@fs.fed.us

South Zone FMO Steve Carlson at 423-338-3303 or email sbcarlson@fs.fed.us

Ocoee District FMO Yvonne Ledford at 423-338-3312 or email yledford@fs.fed.us

This position is currently advertised through an "Open and Continuous Recruitment" announcement in USA Jobs and can be found at this link: <https://www.usajobs.gov/> then enter the following specific announcement number/ OCR and search.

15-FIREOCR-462DFUEL-67G

When applying for this position, applicants must select **Benton, Tennessee** and/or **Greeneville, Tennessee** as the preferred location(s). Applications must be submitted by **May 11, 2015** to be considered.

Position Information

This is a covered secondary position description under the special retirement provisions of 5 USC 8336(c) for the Civil Service Retirement System and of 5 USC 8412(d) for the Federal Employees Retirement System. Ninety (90) days of experience as a primary/rigorous wildland firefighter or equivalent experience outside federal employment is a basic qualification requirement for this position. All applicants are required to meet minimum FS-FPM standards for District Fuels Technician, which are qualifications as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5). Please review the key requirements of this position to determine your eligibility.

WORK CAPACITY TEST (WCT) for Wildland Firefighters: This position participates in wildland firefighting activities. This is an arduous position, and taking and PASSING the WCT at the ARDUOUS level is a “condition of employment”.

Major Duties / Position Summary

This is a permanent seasonal (PSE) position, with a guaranteed tour of 18 pay periods (36 weeks). Employees frequently work in excess of their minimum tour, provided the employee and the Forest Service are in mutual agreement regarding the number of additional pay periods.

The primary responsibilities of this position are preparing and implementing prescribed fire plans, fire effects monitoring plans, manual and mechanical hazardous fuels treatments, and smoke and wildland fire use monitoring plans. The position participates in wildland fire suppression activities. The position also participates in wildland and safety training in techniques, practices, and methods of fire suppression. The position will also assist in accomplishing the Forest’s ecosystem restoration projects and assist in supporting other program areas.

About the Region

The Southern Area Coordination Center in Atlanta, Georgia provides administrative oversight and support to thirty five National Forests and two National Grasslands. There are thirteen states (KY, VA, NC, TN, AK, OK, TX, LA, MS, AL, GA & FL) within the Southern Area as well as Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Twelve State Coordination Centers are located in Region 8.

About the Forest

The Cherokee National Forest is located in East Tennessee, extending from Chattanooga to Bristol. The Forest covers approximately 650,000 acres and lies along the state’s border with North Carolina. The Cherokee is comprised of four ranger districts, two located south of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and two north of the park. The Watauga and Unaka Ranger Districts are located north of the park, in the northeast corner of Tennessee. The Ocoee and Tellico Ranger Districts are located south of the park, in the southeast corner of the state. The Forest lies entirely within the Southern Appalachian Mountains with elevations ranging from approximately 1200’ to over 5000’. For more forest information you can visit the following website:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/Cherokee/>

Community Information

The Nolichucky/Unaka District is located in Greeneville, TN and administers approximately 175,000 acres in five counties – Cocke, Greene, Washington, Carter, and Unicoi. The climate consists of four very distinct, very mild seasons, which allow residents and visitors to take advantage of limitless outdoor recreational opportunities available. The average annual temperature is 55 degrees with 11 inches of snowfall and an average of 42 inches of rainfall. There are two hospitals in Greene County, Laughlin Memorial Hospital with 140 beds and Takoma Adventist Hospital with 115 beds. There

are more than 75 doctors and 20 dentists practicing in the area. In 2000 the average price of a single family 3-4 bedroom home was \$97,362. And monthly rental of a 2-3 bedroom apartment averaged \$375. Greeneville is located approximately 12 miles east of I-81 and within 75 miles of I-40, I-75, and I-26. The Tri-City Regional Airport serves Greeneville just 40 miles away near Bristol and by McGhee Tyson Airport 70 miles away in Knoxville.

The Ocoee/Hiwassee Ranger District is located in Benton, Tennessee, county seat of Polk County. It is tucked into the Appalachian Mountains in the southeastern corner of Tennessee. It is blessed with 3 beautiful and distinctly different rivers. The Hiwassee, on the northern border, is one of the south's premier trout fisheries, the Conasauga, on the southern border, is home to 60+ species of fish and rivals an ocean reef for snorkeling opportunities. Located in the center of the county is the Ocoee River, a world class rafting/kayaking venue which hosted the 1996 Olympic Canoe/Kayak competition. This area also boasts 50 plus miles of World Class mountain bike trails and many miles of hiking trails which often lead to water falls or offer a glimpse of the abundant wildflowers in spring or fall colors that rival New England. Summers are temperate, and winters are generally mild with very small snow fall amounts. Winter sports are only a few hours away in nearby Gatlinburg, gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains. The area has countless opportunities and location for housing. Choose to live anywhere from rural Polk County to cities such as Cleveland or Chattanooga. Because of this, housing costs can range from cheap to fairly expensive. Average housing in the area for a 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is around \$150,000 with rentals for around \$600-800/month. Community Colleges and four year programs are found throughout the area. Depending on where you choose to live, a community college like Cleveland State, or SEC powerhouse like University of Tennessee Knoxville, can be close by.

There are many recreation opportunities in the surrounding area – day and longer hiking; driving for pleasure; camping; lake boating and fishing; whitewater rafting, kayaking, and canoeing; and hunting.

Tennessee is a great state to live in with no state income tax, low cost of living, and a lot of things to see and do. Eastern Tennessee has four seasons; the climate is moderate with hot summers and cool winters.



**OUTREACH AND
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST
WATAUGA AND TELlico RANGER DISTRICTS
(UNICOI, TN AND TELlico PLAINS, TN)**

SUPERVISORY FIRE ENGINE OPERATOR (ENGINE CAPTAIN) GS-462-6/7

The Cherokee National Forest is filling **two** Supervisory Fire Engine Operator GS-462-6/7 positions. One position will be located in Unicoi, Tennessee and the other will be located in Tellico Plains, Tennessee. These positions will be filled using an Open Continuous Recruitment (OCR). Interested applicants should access the vacancy announcements in USA Jobs. To apply click the following link: <https://www.usajob.gov/> and then enter the following specific announcement number / OCR and search.

15-FIREOCR-462SFEOM-67DP

15-FIREOCR-462SFEOM-67G

When applying for the position, applicants must select **Unicoi or Tellico Plains, Tennessee** as the preferred location. Applications must be submitted by **May 11th, 2015** to be considered. A referral list will be issued to the selecting official on or soon after **May 11th, 2015**.

Position Overview and Major Duties

This is a permanent-seasonal (PSE) position with a guaranteed tour of 18 pay periods (36 weeks). Employees frequently work in excess of their minimum tour, provided the employee and the Forest Service are in mutual agreement regarding the number of additional pay periods.

The primary purpose of this position is to perform wildland firefighting work and to supervise crews performing such work. These may be engine crews, hand crews, and/or prescribed fire crews. These crews perform work directly related to wildland fire suppression and control activities including suppression, preparedness, prevention, monitoring, hazardous fuels reduction, and prescribed burning. Individual is responsible for maintenance of specialized equipment used to respond to wildland urban interface/intermix situations and ensures the engine is kept in a full state of readiness for emergency fire dispatch. Individual may be required to be a fully qualified chain saw operator.

Individual will also perform duties in other fuels related or ecosystem restoration projects. Directs and performs prescribed fire operations including preparation, ignition, monitoring,

holding, and mop up. Monitors fire behavior, fire effects, and fire weather on prescribed fires and wildland fire use. May use specialized firing equipment (e.g. fuses, drip torches, flares, and terra torch).

Individuals will be expected to perform additional duties which will include support of other program areas (timber, recreation, wildlife and others) to accomplish project goals and annual program of work priorities.

FIREFIGHTER RETIREMENT COVERAGE: This is a primary/rigorous firefighter position under the provisions of 5 USC 8336(c) (CSRS) and 8412(d) (FERS). Previous wildland fire suppression experience is required. The applicant must be qualified as an Engine Boss (ENGB) and Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5) and have completed S211 *Portable Pumps and Water Use*, in order to be considered for this position.

WORK CAPACITY TEST (WCT) for Wildland Firefighters: This position participates in wildland firefighting activities. This is an arduous position, and taking and PASSING the WCT at the ARDUOUS level is a "condition of employment".

DRUG TESTING: This is a Testing Designated Position (TDP). Selectee must submit to a urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use prior to appointment and random testing thereafter. Final appointment and continued employment is conditional on negative results for illegal drug use. This announcement constitutes 30 days advance notice.

The Forest: The Cherokee is Tennessee's only National Forest and is located in 10 east Tennessee counties from Chattanooga to Bristol. The Forest has approximately 650,000 acres and lies along the state's border with North Carolina. The Cherokee has four ranger districts, two south of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and two north of the Park. There is also Job Corp Center located in the northern part of the Forest. The Forest lies entirely within the Southern Appalachian Mountains with elevations ranging from approximately 1200' to over 5000'.

The Forest's lands were acquired under the Weeks Act of 1911. The Weeks Act authorized the federal government to purchase "forested, cut-over, or denuded lands within the watersheds of navigable streams". Most of what is now known as the Cherokee National Forest was acquired under this Act in the 1920's and 30's; however, the Forest is still acquiring land from willing sellers.

The Forest is now internationally known for its scenic beauty and abundant outdoor recreation opportunities. The Forest has 30 developed campgrounds and as many picnic areas, over 700 miles of trails including portions of the Appalachian and Benton MacKaye Trails, seven whitewater rivers, two scenic byways, and the Ocoee Whitewater Center. The Whitewater Center was the site of the 1996 Olympic Canoe and Kayak Slalom Competition. Check out the [Forest's web site](#) for additional information.

The Watauga Ranger District is the northernmost district and administers approximately 167,000 acres in four counties – Carter, Johnson, Sullivan, and Unicoi. There are two TVA lakes located on the district, South Holston Lake near Bristol, TN and Watauga Lake near Elizabethton, TN. Both lakes are used year round for recreation activities such as boating, swimming and fishing. There are sixteen developed recreation sites, including Little Oak

Recreation Area and Jacobs Creek Recreation Area on South Holston Lake, and Carden's Bluff Campground on the Watauga Lake. There are approximately 175 miles of single and multiple use non-motorized trails, including 69 miles of the Appalachian Trail. An active and enthusiastic trail volunteer community helps maintain the majority of the trail system. The District Office is located in Unicoi, TN about 10 miles south of Johnson City, TN with a work center in Hampton, TN. The District Office is co-located with zone lands, engineering, planning and law enforcement organizations, which enhances inter-unit communication and collaboration.

The Tellico Ranger District has approximately 150,000 acres within a 217,000 acre boundary. Approximately 23,800 acres are wilderness (Citico Creek, Bald River Gorge, and a portion of the Joyce Kilmer/Slickrock) and another 10,900 are recommended as wilderness.

The [Cherohala Skyway](#) is a national scenic by-way crossing the District and connecting Tellico Plains and Robbinsville, NC. The Skyway is a very popular scenic drive and attracts motorcycle riders and car clubs from around the country.

The Tellico Ranger Station is located five miles east of Tellico Plains, TN. It was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in 1935 and is managed as a historic site. The Unicoi Turnpike/Trail of Tears crosses the District and is anchored by Fort Armistead, a US Army outpost associated with the 1830's removal of the Cherokee to Oklahoma.

Wild turkey, grouse, deer, bear, and wild boar provide hunting opportunities. A portion of the District is managed as a black bear reserve where management activities are intended to optimize bear habitat. Bear reserves are closed to wild boar hunting with dogs and to bear hunting.

For additional information about these vacancies, please contact:

Guy Street, North Zone FMO by email gstreet@fs.fed.us or by phone 423-743-4044.

Mitch Ketron, Watauga District FMO by email mitchellketron@fs.fed.us or by phone 423-743-4042

Keith Kelley, Watauga District Ranger by email kpkelley@fs.fed.us or by phone 423-735-1501