

FLN Networker No. 194: September 30, 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

TREX: The [article](#) “**Enhancing Adaptive Capacity** for Restoring Fire-Dependent Ecosystems: The Fire Learning Network’s Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges” by **Andrew Spencer**, **Courtney Schulz** and **Chad Hoffman** appears in the latest issue of the journal *Ecology and Society*. The study addressed the questions:

- What are the professional and institutional **barriers fire professionals observe** in their careers in fire management, **how does the TREX address these barriers**, and does it contribute to **increasing workforce capacity** in this area?
- Is the TREX, as part of the FLN, serving as a **bridging organization** and contributing to the **adaptive capacity** of fire management institutions in the United States?

They found that although people come to TREX with a wide range of backgrounds and expectations, **satisfaction is high**, and **remarkably uniform**. This they attribute to the **flexibility** (within a structured framework) and the focus on individual needs that are part of TREX.

The authors conclude that “**TREX is a key aspect of the FLN’s work as a bridging organization**,” and that the strategy is **contributing incremental steps in advancing innovation** in the field. They note that “incremental change is **significant**. Successful transformations for improving adaptive capacity often begin with informal networks, led by key individuals, that improve knowledge transfer and promote innovation by **servicing as incubators** of new ideas and approaches.”

Arkansas: The Arkansas Prescribed Fire Council—with its numerous FLN partners—held a prescribed fire school last week. Media and VIPs were invited to see the burn and learn about the benefits of prescribed fire; there was [good coverage](#) of the event in *Arkansas Online*.

California: Although wildfires are still burning in nearby counties, the **Klamath River TREX** was able to get **started as planned this week**—thanks to some much-needed **rain**, and to **CAL FIRE**, who came out to scout the units, **assess local conditions**, and issue the needed permits. The cadre met all day Monday to work out the last details, the rest of the participants arrived on Tuesday, and in the evening they hosted a salmon **dinner for the community** to get to **meet the crew** and **learn about the work** before they start burning.

The **scale of this TREX is ambitious**: organizers have burn plans covering more than 1,000 acres to work with and are planning for **simultaneous burning** in three fire-prone communities. As with last year, expect regular updates on the **Mid Klamath Watershed Council’s** [Facebook page](#).

Also see **Lenya Quinn-Davidson’s** [FAC Net blog](#), “Prescribed Fire Barriers—Widespread Challenges with Regional Flavors?,” about the **need for the prescribed burning** that the **NorCal TREX**, scheduled to begin later this month, has planned.

Idaho: The **Island Park Sustainable Fire Community** has done a preliminary number crunch for their summer **2015 slash pickup days**, and it looks like **940 cubic yards** of slash was cut and hauled this year. (In other units, that’s about 313 pickup-truck-loads.) For more about the work in Island Park, contact **Les Fadness** (ipsustainablefire@gmail.com).

New Mexico: The **Spanish-Language TRES** began last week on the **Santa Fe National Forest**, and is **running through October 5**. Participants started by getting to know the area, the equipment and their fellow participants, and then completed treatments in the Los Griegos prescribed burn area, on the Jemez Ranger District **near the community of Sierra Los Pinos** and the Crossroads unit on the Española RD near **Truchas**. On Sunday, they shifted to a unit in the **city of Santa Fe's watershed**, burning a 60-foot blackline around the unit. Burning the interior of the **844-acre unit**—which included aerial ignitions—took place on Monday, and was reported in Tuesday's paper as an "**ounce of prevention**." For photos, see the [event's Facebook page](#) or the Santa Fe National Forest's [Facebook page](#), which has some photos captioned to explain the how and why of prescribed burning.

New Mexico: In addition to the TRES, **cooperative burns with training** opportunities are being offered this fall by partners in **Fire Adapted NM Learning Network**. These include **broadcast burning** for ponderosa pine forest restoration and **pile burning** on private land **in the Glorieta-La Cueva WUI**. For more information, see the [website](#) of this **FAC Net member**, or contact **Eytan Krasilovsky** (eytan@forestguild.org).

Nevada: The recently-updated **Lake Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plan** (CWPP) was highlighted in the latest [Western Cohesive Fire Strategy Newsletter](#). The CWPP—collaboratively developed by the 18 member organizations of the **Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team**—is centered on **goals** that directly line up with those of the **Cohesive Strategy**: create fire-adapted communities, restore and maintain fire-resilient landscapes, and provide effective and efficient wildfire response. For more, see the [blog post](#) on the Tahoe *Living with Fire* site, or contact **Forest Schafer** (fschafer@nltfpd.net).

Oregon: A number of communities in **Deschutes County** are among those that will benefit from **\$3 million FEMA grant** to three central Oregon counties. The funding will support **fuels reduction** and **defensible space** work. More information is in the [article on KTVZ](#) (in which **FAC Net member Ed Keith** (ed.keith@deschutes.org) is quoted.)

Virginia: Over the past seven years, 8,500 acres have been treated with prescribed fire within the 18,000-acre **Warm Springs Mountain** Restoration Project area. The **Central Appalachians FLN** has just produced a [brief report](#) on its **fifth season of monitoring avian response** in this Allegheny Highlands landscape. Three species not found on previous surveys were detected this year—the eastern screech owl, wild turkey and yellow-bellied sapsucker.

Funding: NFF

NFF: The **National Forest Foundation** has a couple of **grant programs** of interest: The **Matching Awards** program (for “on-the-ground conservation and restoration projects that improve forest health and outdoor experiences”) has a deadline of **January 14**. For California, Oregon and Washington projects, the **Community Capacity and Land Stewardship** program (“increasing the capacity of organizations implementing large scale restoration projects”) has an application deadline of **November 19**. Details are on the [NFF website](#).

Resources & Reports: Communication / TNC Burning / How-To Blog

Communication: The *Southern Fire Exchange* has a [fact sheet summarizing](#) the outcomes of the **July summit**, “Putting Fire to Work for Working Forests and Landscapes: Best Practices for Communication and Delivery of Prescribed Fire Messaging.” Most of the **seven best practices** they came up with are pretty intuitive—but good to have them concisely stated. And there's one that may often be overlooked in communications strategies: the importance of using **peer-to-peer** channels.

TNC Burning: A [brief report](#) on **Conservancy fire efforts** for the year ending in June 2015 is available on the Conservation Gateway. Highlights include a **17% increase in prescribed fire** acres over the previous year—and **1.2 million acres** of burning in northern **Australia**.

How-To Blog: The **NFPA** has a new “**Firewise How-To**” [blog](#) on its site, with the first posts about how homeowners can better manage landscaping within their home ignition zone during droughts.

Video: Wildfire 101

Wildfire 101: The Minute Earth [video](#) “How **Fighting Wildfires Makes Them Worse**” explains just that in a **zippy three minutes**.

Jobs: Burn Crew Members / Wildland Fire Module

Burn Crew Members: The **Conservancy's** Missouri chapter is looking for a couple crew members **starting October 12**, for a six-week season. For details, see the Conservancy's careers page ([job ID 43399](#)) and apply by October 9.

Wildland Fire Module: The **Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation** of Oregon are seeking an **assistant superintendent** for their module. This individual will “provide professional advice and guidance in the development of **prescribed fire**, hazardous **fuels reduction**, **fire use** (planned and un-planned) implementation, and fire **suppression**.” For more information, see the attached job description; applications are due by **October 9**.

Webinars

October 13
new listing

Prescribed Fire and Bats

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

In this Oak Woodlands consortium webinar, Dr. Joy O'Keefe will discuss the potential indirect and direct effects of prescribed fire on bats, with a focus on threatened and endangered forest-dwelling bats, and including how fire may affect different bat species by season.

Information: <http://www.oakfirescience.com/events-webinars-source/2015/10/13/prescribed-fire-and-bats>

October 14
new listing

Identifying Resilient Terrestrial Landscapes in the Pacific Northwest

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

Steve Buttrick and Ken Popper will discuss a Nature Conservancy approach that aims to identify key areas for conservation based on stable land characteristics that increase diversity and resilience, and will not change in a changing climate.

Information: <http://nrfirescience.org/event/identifying-resilient-terrestrial-landscapes-pacific-northwest-0>

October 23

Compositional and Structural Changes over Time with Different Fire Regimes in Linville Gorge, NC

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

In this **Southern Blue Ridge FLN** webinar (originally scheduled for August 18), **Cassandra Pallai** will discuss research conducted in Linville Gorge based on resampling plots originally put in during 1992 for her Master's project at Duke University. The plots have been resampled (by Waldrop and others) periodically and give a nice sampling of different fire regimes in Linville. Plots within the Table Rock Fire footprint were recently sampled, and Pallai combined those results

with the original sampling and Waldrop's resampling to study compositional and structural changes over time with different fire regimes. ([Add to your calendar.](#))
Join the webinar: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=mceba28b7c21b57ed9ec7d7f00d791e11>

FLN and FAC Net Workshops & Field Tours

October 20-22

Central Appalachians FLN / Pembroke, VA

This will be a combined offering of the Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists (fire history workshop) and Central Appalachians FLN (annual workshop). There will be presentations from the region's leading fire history researchers on the first day, followed by a full-day field trip to research sites and recently-burned units, and an FLN working meeting on the third day. A more detailed agenda will be available soon.

Information (including registration link): <http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/compass/2015/09/14/fire-history-in-the-appalachians-october-20-22/>

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

Sept. 15-Oct. 5

Spanish-Language Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / northern NM

In and around the Santa Fe NF; participants from U.S. and several other countries.

Sept. 29-Oct. 11

Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / northern CA

Along the Klamath River; providing experience and training on planning and implement controlled burns to protect communities from wildfires and prepare for managing wildfires for resource benefits. (application deadline has passed)

**October 12-18
deadline**

Yurok Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / northern CA

This TREX will provide prescribed fire training opportunities to local and regional fire practitioners while also supporting cultural resource management.

Applications are due by **September 30**.

Information: see the attached flyer

Oct. 20-Nov. 1

NorCal Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / northern CA

Forests and grasslands; international and U.S. fire practitioners will build their experience in prescribed fire practices, fire effects and other conservation efforts. (application deadline has passed)

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

through October 31 **Art Exhibit: Fires of Change / Flagstaff, AZ**

This JFSP and NEA funded art exhibition features works created by 11 artists who took part in a week-long Fire Science Boot Camp last September.

Information: <http://flagartscouncil.org/2015/03/fires-change-exhibition/>

October 1-2

Fire History and Fire Ecology in Yellowstone / Gardiner, MT

This field tour, hosted by the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network, is intended "to put fire ecology research in the context of real-life limitations and situations that influence decision making and planning."

Information: <http://nrfirescience.org/event/fire-history-and-fire-ecology-yellowstone-field-tour>

- October 20-21** **Fire History in the Appalachians / Pembroke, VA**
See the listing for the Central Appalachians in the FLN Workshops section.
- October 22-24** **Backyards & Beyond: Wildland Fire Education Conference / Myrtle Beach, SC**
Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/training/backyards-and-beyond>
- October 28-29** **Restoring the West 2015: Restoration and Fire in the Interior West / Logan, UT**
Information: <http://www.restoringthewest.org/>
- November 3-5** **Natural Areas Conference / Little Rock, AR**
“Conservation through Collaboration” is the theme of this conference, co-sponsored by the Arkansas Natural Heritage Association, The Nature Conservancy and others.
Information: <http://www.naturalareasconference.org/>
- November 4-6** **November Capstone Conference / Stockton University (Galloway), NJ**
new listing
This North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange workshop will feature talks and field trip opportunities highlighting fire science in coastal pine barrens ecosystems. The call for posters is open through October 30.
Information: <http://www.firesciencenorthatlantic.org/events-webinars-source/2015/11/4/save-the-date-november-capstone-workshop-stockton-nj>
- November 12-13** **Oak Woodland Ecology and Management Symposium / Eureka, CA**
Information: <http://cehumboldt.ucanr.edu/files/218366.pdf>
- November 16-20** **AFE Fire Ecology & Management Congress / San Antonio, TX**
Additional offerings with this conference include an Rx310 course and several field tours, including one to Aransas NWR.
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>
- December 8-9** **Introduction to State-and-Transition Simulation Modeling of Landscape Vegetation Dynamics / Durham, NC**
The TNC LANDFIRE team is sponsoring this two-day training using ST-Sim software, including modeling concepts, creating simple models of vegetation change, running the models and interpreting the results.
Information: <http://wiki.syncrosim.com/index.php?title=Courses>
- January 11-15** **RX510—Advanced Fire Effects / Tucson, AZ**
Nominations for this National Advanced Fire & Resource Institute (NAFRI) course are due by October 23.
Information: http://www.nationalfiretraining.net/schedule/detail/na_RX510_01-11-2016_5075
- April 11-15** **5th International Fire Behavior + Fuels Conference / Portland, OR***
The theme of this IAWF conference is “Wicked Problems, New Solutions: Our Fire, Our Problem.”
*The conference will be held concurrently in Portland and in Melbourne, Australia.
Information: <http://www.firebehaviorandfuelsconference.com/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is out October 3-9.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is out September 28-30.

Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is out October 5-16.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is northern California September 27-October 12.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is out September 29-30.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is out October 2.

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

Note: October 12 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—TREX: <http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol20/iss3/art38/>

News from the Field—AR: <http://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2015/sep/24/fire-school-class-burns-forest-to-save/>

News from the Field—CA—MKWC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Mid-Klamath-Watershed-Council-107985815891032/timeline/>

NorCal TREX blog: <http://facnetwork.org/prescribed-fire-barriers-widespread-challenges-with-regional-flavors/>

News from the Field—NM—Newspaper: <http://www.abqjournal.com/650797/news/ounce-of-prevention-for-santa-fe-region.html>

TREX Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/406307646246950/>

SFNF Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/santafeNF/>

News from the Field—NM—FAC Net: <http://www.fireadaptednewmexico.org/index.php/fac-nm-news/events/item/61-expanding-the-use-of-prescribed-fire-in-the-wui>

News from the Field—NV—Cohesive Strategy newsletter: <http://wildfireinthewest.blogspot.com/2015/08/cwpp-incorporates-goals-of-cohesive.html>

Blog post: <http://tahoe.livingwithfire.info/blog/updated-lake-tahoe-basin-cwpp-to-be-presented-at-lake-tahoe-summit/>

News from the Field—OR: <http://m.ktvz.com/news/fema-3-million-grant-to-cut-fire-risks-near-co-homes/35560884>

News from the Field—VA: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearning/Network/Products/Pages/Avian-Monitoring-Allegheny-Highlands-2015.aspx>

Resources & Reports—Communication: http://www.southernfireexchange.org/SFE_Publications/factsheets/2015-3.pdf

Resources & Reports--TNC burning: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/FireManagementResources/NatureConservancyPrescribedFireStatistics/Pages/TNC-Fire-Numbers-2015.aspx>

Resources & Reports—How-to blog: <http://wildfire.blog.nfpa.org/firewise-how-to/>

Video—Wildfire 101: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NX1xnWPSiKg&feature=youtu.be>

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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**Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon
PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT JOB ADVERTISING REQUEST**

CHECK ONE: New Position Replacement
 State Funded Federal Funded

JOB TITLE: Wildland Fire Module- Assistant Superintendent POSITION # _____
Contact Person for Information Dorian Soliz Telephone 541-553-1146
Department Fire Management Branch Forestry
CLOSING DATE: October 9, 2015 JOB STARTING DATE: November 16, 2015

SUMMARY OR BRIEF JOB DESCRIPTION & QUALIFICATIONS:

WarmSprings Agency Fire Management Program is seeking an individual to provide professional advice and guidance in the development of prescribed fire, hazardous fuels reduction, fire use (planned and un-planned) implementation, and fire suppression as part of a Wildland Fire Module. Travel is required 50% or greater, of time. May be required to live in backcountry camps for extended periods of time. Work may require travel by light fixed-wing or rotor-wing aircraft. Driving and security clearance/background investigations are required.

Duties: Assist with developing local fire management plans for contingency, prescribed burning, wildland fire use (for resource benefit) and smoke management, and fuels management. Provide technical and administrative supervision to a Wildland Fire Module, which consists of 7 to 8 crewmembers. Provide for Module/crew safety and welfare, and implement a training program in compliance with applicable requirements. Implement prescribed fire/fuels reduction projects. Gather and evaluate data to predict prescribed fire behavior and effects including fuels moisture inventories and fuel loading data for the unit. Provide technical assistance as well as on-the-ground advice and assistance to field offices in fuels and fire management, fire rehabilitation, or vegetation manipulation; develop plans for prescribed fire and wildfire; coordinating the use of fire for fuel hazard reduction, maintenance of fuel breaks, forage composition, rangeland improvements, wildlife habitat improvements, watershed enhancement, and site preparation for seeding or reforestation.

The incumbent must meet the following NWCG Incident Management Qualifications: qualified and current as an ICT5, or any one of the following Single Resource Boss positions: Crew Boss (CRWB), Engine Boss (ENGB), Firing Boss (FIRB), or Heavy Equipment Boss (HEQB).

This is a Drug Testing position. Must be able to obtain and maintain a valid Oregon driver's license. Once selected for this position, incumbent will be required to serve a 6-month probationary period. Driving and security clearance/background investigations are required.

The interviews may be conducted on a pass/fail basis or may be scored. The job specific questions relate to the following knowledge, skills and abilities required to do the work of this position: Knowledge of fire program management, fire use management, fuels management and fire management operations, concepts and principles; knowledge of technological advances in fire ecology and effects, ecosystem management and fuels management; skill in implementing the techniques, policies and practices of fire suppression; knowledge of land management policies, procedures and regulatory requirements; knowledge of supervisory techniques and practices and the ability to apply this knowledge in order to supervise a Wildland Fire Module.

Work Hours: 0800 AM/PM -to- 1630 Weekends? Varies Out of Area? Yes
Employment Classification: Full-Time On-Call Seasonal Part-time
Temporary/Term _____ Salary Range: (min) GS-7 \$18.96/hr. (Max) GS-8 \$21.00/hr.

Application can be found here: http://www.warmsprings.com/warmsprings/Job_Opportunities/