

FLN Networker No. 198: November 25, 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

Central Appalachians: More than 60 people took part in the **Central Appalachians Fire Managers and Scientists (CAFMS)** and **Central Appalachians FLN** joint **fire history workshop and annual workshop** last month. Some highlights are in the attached Notes from the Field.

New Mexico: Members of the **FAC Learning Network** accomplished a **101-acre broadcast burn** in ponderosa pine forest across two private landownerships in western New Mexico in late October. **The Nature Conservancy, Forest Stewards Guild, Cottonwood Gulch Foundation, City of Santa Fe Fire Department** and **local volunteers** treated a **high priority area near the community** of Bluewater Lake. This is part of an **ongoing effort to expand the use of prescribed fire** across the state to promote and develop fire adapted communities. New Mexico **Senator Martin Heinrich** [briefly discussed](#) the importance of this project on a **public radio program for kids** (the burn is mentioned around minute 3 in the conversation).

Southern Blue Ridge: Earlier this month, **Peter Bates** (bates@email.wcu.edu) and his team presented two posters at the **Society of American Foresters convention** in Baton Rouge. The [poster](#) “**Changes in Forest Structure** Following Dormant Season Prescribed Burns in the Southern Appalachians” reports on a study based on **monitoring** that has been taking place in the **SBR FLN** for nearly a decade. The [poster](#) “**Hard Mast Production** Following Two Prescribed Burns in Western NC” reports on work done at the Cold Mountain Game Lands in the **Nantahala and Balsam Mountains FLN** landscape.

Southern Blue Ridge: More **recent news from landscapes** in the **SBR FLN**—and a link to the [poster](#) about the network presented at the **Association for Fire Ecology** conference last week—is in the attached *Notes from the Field*.

Washington: **Read** the [excellent blog post](#) “**Early Lessons** from the **Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network**.” It’s packed with good suggestions, and inspiration.

Washington: The **Yakima County Fire Adapted Community Coalition** has **launched its website** www.fireadaptedyakima.org. Among the things available through the site are the county’s Community Wildfire Protection Plan (**CWPP**) and a good page outlining what should be done **before, during and after** a wildfire. The coalition is part of the **Washington State Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network** (www.fireadaptedwashington.org).

Request for Input: LANDFIRE

LANDFIRE: LANDFIRE is reviewing its **BpS models and descriptions** in the first **complete update** since they were developed years ago. Because incorporating the knowledge and experience of experts in fields of vegetation and fire ecology is critical, LANDFIRE is requesting assistance on this important project. **Reviewers are needed to read and comment** on brief (4-10 page) Word documents of BpS models and descriptions. Visit www.landfirereview.org to learn more about the update, and to share what you know.

Articles & Reports: Fire Departments / Backyards & Beyond / Waldo Fire Case Study

Fire Departments: The [NFPA report](#) "**Wildland/Urban Interface: Fire Department Wildfire Preparedness and Readiness Capabilities**," by **Hylton Haynes** (hhaynes@nfpa.org) and colleagues, "describes how some fire departments are **addressing the wildfire peril** and **making the transition to becoming better prepared** and ready to control and mitigate a wildfire incident in their communities."

Backyards & Beyond: Slides from many of the **presentations** at the Wildland Fire Education conference held in Myrtle Beach last month are now [available online](#). They include several by **FAC Net presenters**, including "**Collaboration** Creates Successful Firewise® Communities" (**Justice Jones, Mike Davis, Frank Riley** and others) and "**Best Practices** for Maintaining & Growing a Fire Adapted Community Program" (**Melody Walters** and **Pam Wilson**).

Waldo Fire Case Study: The [report](#) "A Case Study of a Community Affected by the Waldo Fire—**Event Timeline and Defensive Actions**," a joint effort of the **National Institute of Standards and Technology, Forest Service** and the **Joint Fire Science Program**, was released this month. It focuses on reconstructing the fire timeline, defensive actions taken early in the course of the fire, data assessments, and documenting issues related to **WUI mitigation strategies** and **first responder tactics** and safety. It presents 13 **recommendations** aimed at improving the fire resilience of WUI communities. For an overview, a [news article](#) in the Colorado Springs *Gazette* discusses the report. (For those in Colorado, NIST is hosting a [discussion about the report](#) on December 3.)

Resources: Insurance / Evacuating Pets / Global Fire

Insurance: **North Carolina State University Extension Forestry** has updated its [one-page handout](#) on prescribed fire **liability coverage for landowners** in the Southeast. It includes a list of **companies** that they found that offer insurance, **rate ranges**, and important **items to consider** when looking for insurance.

Evacuating Pets: The **NFPA Take Action** ("Teens for Wildfire Safe Communities") site has some [advice](#) and a **checklist** for preparing an **evacuation kit** for household pets.

Global Fire: As part of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the **United Nations** Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is helping to coordinate the **Global Wildland Fire Network**. With goals similar to the JFSP Fire Science Exchange Network, the [global network](#) includes **15 regional networks** covering all the (flammable) continents.

Social Media: AFE Conference

AFE Conference: If you missed **last week's conference** (or just want to relive it), **Marjie Brown** (wildfirewriter@gmail.com) has captured much of the **social media traffic** about it in a [storify.com](#) assemblage... familiar faces, some good sound bites, an occasional chuckle.

In the News: Book Talk

Book Talk: *National Geographic* has an [interview](#) with **Stephen Pyne**—author, most recently, of *Between Two Fires*—on the "roots of the U.S. wildfire crisis" and where we are now.

Jobs: Veterans / Fire Modules / Stewardship Interns

Veterans: The **Forest Service Region 8** is seeking up to **20 veterans** to receive **training and fill temporary positions** in the Southern Region. Details are available in the attached Vets in Fire flyer; applications are due by **November 27**.

Fire Modules: **Wildland Restoration International** will be fielding three four-person **Appalachian fire modules** and a two-person squad in the winter through spring of 2016, and are seeking **three module leaders, three assistant leaders** and **eight FFT2** crew members to staff them. Information is available on the [WRI employment page](#); applications are due by **November 30**.

Stewardship Interns: The **Aldo Leopold Foundation** is seeking [stewardship interns](#) for the coming year. The foundation's property serves as an **outdoor classroom**, where Interns are actively involved in **all aspects of management**, including **prescribed fire**. Applications are due by **December 31**.

Webinars

**December 1
new listing**

Oak, Fire, and Global Change: What Might the Future Hold?

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

James Vose will speak in this Southern Fire Exchange offering.

Information: <http://www.oakfirescience.com/research-publications-1/2015/8/27/oak-fire-and-global-change-what-might-the-future-hold>

**December 1
new listing**

Effects of Growing-Season Prescribed Burning on Vigor of the Noxious Weed *Sericea Lespedeza* (*Lespedeza cuneata*) in the Kansas Flint Hills

12:30 Pacific / 1:30 Mountain / 2:30 Central / 3:30 Eastern

KC Olson will deliver this Great Plains Fire Science Exchange offering.

Information: <http://www.gpfirescience.org/events-webinars-source/2015/10/1/webinar-effects-of-growing-season-prescribed-burning-on-vigor-of-the-noxious-weed-sericea-lespedeza-lespedeza-cuneata-in-the-kansas-flint-hills>

December 3

Establishing a National Methodology for Operational Mixing Height Determination

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern (1.5 hours)

Matthew Fearon and Robyn Heffernan will be the presenters on this Southern Fire Exchange offering.

Register: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/sfe-webinar-establishing-a-national-methodology-for-operational-mixing-height-determination-tickets-19407759130>

December 8

Juniper Encroachment as a Public Health Issue

12:30 Pacific / 1:30 Mountain / 2:30 Central / 3:30 Eastern

Estelle Levetin will talk pollen in this Great Plains Fire Science Exchange webinar.

Information: <http://www.gpfirescience.org/events-webinars-source/2015/12/8/webinar-juniper-encroachment-as-a-public-health-issue>

FLN and FAC Net Workshops & Field Tours

**December 2-3
updated**

FireScape Mendocino / Corning, CA

Information: full details are in the attached flyer (registration **deadline is today**)

December 3

Georgia Blue Ridge FLN / Ellijay, GA

The third meeting of this SBR FLN landscape will be held at the Emergency Ops Center. An agenda will be available soon.

Information: **Malcolm Hodges** (mhodes@tnc.org)

**May 17-19, 2016
new listing**

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Johnson City, TN

Save the date for the 11th workshop of the SBR FLN, with "insightful programming, engaging discussions, and one of our famous field trips."

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

- March 14-24, 2016** **Loup River Valley Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Ord, NE**
new listing This TREX will integrate a diverse group of fire practitioners, including university students; municipal, state, federal and contract firefighters; other natural resource managers; scientists and researchers for training and burning on private properties in Valley County. Applications are due by January 15.
Information: see the attached flyer and application form

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- various dates** **Prescribed Fire Training Workshops / various locations, NE**
new listing Pheasants Forever and partners are offering a dozen prescribed fire workshops—basic and advanced topics—for landowners. The workshops are being offering in numerous locations across the state between January 20 and May 25.
Information: see the attached flyer
- January 13, 20, 27** **Behave Plus 5.0.5/ Online**
new listing This training, offered by the Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savanna Fire Science Consortium and taught by Ray Guse (Smoked Goose Consulting), will be held as a series of interactive webinars; a fourth session will be added if needed. Sessions will start at noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern. Registration will close at **50 participants or December 9**, whichever comes first.
Information: <http://www.tposfirescience.org/e-news/behave-plus-training-registration-open.html>
- January 19-27** **Crew Boss Academy / Wekiwa Springs State Park, FL**
deadline The Nature Conservancy is offering this 10-day academy, which includes the NWCG courses I-200, L-280, S-215, S-230 and S-231. Nominations are due by **December 1**.
Information: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/CrewBossAcademy/Pages/crew-boss-academy.aspx>
- February 8-12** **Learning from Unintended Outcomes / Tucson, AZ**
This workshop will illustrate concepts, technologies and methods to actively engage the Facilitated Learning Analysis (FLA) and Coordinated Response Protocol (CRP) processes. (See also the April offering at the Forest Service, Region 2 Office.)
Information: see flyer attached to [Networker #196](#)
- February 23-25** **Sagebrush Ecosystem Conservation: All Lands, All Hands / Salt Lake City, UT**
This conference will share the latest information on the conservation, restoration and maintenance of resilient sagebrush ecosystems. An online streaming version of the conference will be available.
Information: <http://www.sagebrushconference2016.org/>
- March 8-10** **IAFC Wildland Urban Interface Conference / Reno, NV**
new listing Information: <http://www.iafc.org/micrositeWUI/homeWUI.cfm?ItemNumber=7987>

- 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.” * held concurrently in Portland and Melbourne, Australia.
 Information: <http://www.firebehaviorandfuelsconference.com/>
- April 25-29** **Learning from Unintended Outcomes / Golden, CO**
 [see February 8-12 listing]
- July 17-20**
new listing **North American Prairie Conference—From Cemetery Prairies to National Tallgrass Prairies / Normal, IL**
 Illinois State University is hosting this conference, with presentations on prairie ecology, restoration, management and some innovative ideas on working lands.
 Information: <http://nap2016.illinoisstate.edu/>

Send News, Links & Comments

- Lynn Decker** – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is out November 13-27.
Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in the office.
Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is in the office.
Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is out November 23-27.
Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Corning, CA November 30-December 4.
Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is out December 4.
Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is in the office.

Note: November 26 and 27 are Conservancy holidays.

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—NM: <http://kunm.org/post/trains-underpants-and-our-senator#stream/0>
- News from the Field—SBR—Forest structure: <http://www.conservationsgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/SBR-Poster-ForestStructure2015.aspx>
- Mast production: <http://www.conservationsgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/SBR-Poster-HardMast2015.aspx>
- Articles & Reports—Fire departments: <http://www.nfpa.org/research/reports-and-statistics/outdoor-fires/wildland-urban-interface>
- Articles & Reports—Backyards & Beyond: <http://www.nfpa.org/training/conferences/backyards-and-beyond/education-sessions>
- Articles & Reports—Waldo Fire case study: <http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/TechnicalNotes/NIST.TN.1910.pdf>
- Story in *Gazette*: <http://gazette.com/researchers-who-studied-waldo-canyon-fire-say-new-firefighting-approach-needed/article/1562943>
- Discussion: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/waldo-canyon-the-nist-report-tickets-19717473494>
- Resources—Insurance: <https://research.cnr.ncsu.edu/blogs/southeast-fire-update/files/2015/09/Prescribed-Fire-Liability-Insurance-Options-2015-2016.pdf>
- Resources—Evacuating pets: <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/takeaction/household-pets>
- Resources—Global fire: <http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/GlobalNetworks/globalNet.html>
- Social Media—AFE conference: <https://storify.com/sciencefire/6th-international-fire-ecology-and-management-cong>
- In the News—Book talk: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/11/151122-wildfire-forest-service-firefighting-history-pyrene-climate-ngbooktalk/>
- Jobs—Fire modules: <http://wildlandrestoration.org/employment>
- Jobs—Stewardship interns: <http://www.aldoleopold.org/Programs/internship.shtml>

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

Central Appalachians FLN & Central Appalachians Fire Managers and Scientists

Joint Fire History Workshop / Annual Workshop

Blacksburg, Virginia
October 20-22, 2015

The Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists (CAFMS) partnered with the Central Appalachians Fire Learning Network (FLN) to hold a joint workshop and annual workshop near Blacksburg, Virginia. More than 60 participants from twenty different agencies participated in the three-day event.

CAFMS coordinated a fire history workshop during the first two days, which brought together many of the pioneers of Central Appalachians dendrochronological, soil and peat charcoal, witness tree and other techniques used to develop our understanding of the historic fire regimes of the Central Appalachians. It was a rare opportunity to interact and learn from researchers whose work and publications influence management decisions across the region. A field trip allowed participants to visit some of the original sites (including actual trees) studied by Dr. Charles Lafon and Dr. Henry Grissino-Mayer, enjoy a soil charcoal demonstration by Dr. Sally Horn, and discuss future research needs and prescribed fire objectives at a burn unit on the Jefferson National Forest. One of the central questions was about fire seasonality and the potential to use recently fire scarred trees that come with exact burn dates to obtain more precise reads from the dendrochronological record.

The FLN hosted the third day of the gathering, with presentations focused on collaborative success stories, new technological tools, northern long-eared bats, and fire effects monitoring. Marek Smith kicked things off with an overview of ten years of accomplishments for the Central Appalachians FLN followed by a testimonial from Tyler Urgo of how the FLN has benefitted the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Steve Spangler, from the network's newest partner, New River-Highlands RC&D Council, closed out the day by addressing the protection of woodland homes from wildfire.



The annual FLN Partnership Award was presented to Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) for their tenacity and commitment to building fire management capacity within their agency, collaborative planning and implementation across organizational boundaries.

Photo: Laurel Schablein/TNC

For more information about the workshop, contact:

Laurel Schablein
lschablein@tnc.org

Far left: Dr. Henry Grissino-Mayer (University of Tennessee) discusses dendrochronological sampling methods showcasing trees from original studies in the Central Appalachians.

Photo: Laurel Schablein/TNC

Left: Margit Bucher (TNC) and Dr. Sally Horn (University of Tennessee) demonstrate soil charcoal sampling.

Photo: Marek Smith/TNC

The FLN is part of the *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together (PERFACT)* cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior. For more on PERFACT, contact Lynn Decker at ldecker@tnc.org or (801) 320-0524.



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Workshop presentations are available at <http://www.appalachianfire.org/events-webinars-1/2015/10/20/fire-history-in-the-appalachians-and-central-appalachian-fire-learning-network-meeting>



Fire Learning Network Notes from the Field

Updates from the Southern Blue Ridge FLN

A Brief Round-up of News

November 2015

The **Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment** landscape is working on building partner capacity, offering basic fire training courses to state parks and wildlife agencies in North Carolina and South Carolina. S-130 and S-190 will be offered at Clemson University December 2-4 under the leadership of Tom Dooley (TNC-SC) and Helen Mohr (Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists).

The landscape team partners have also prepared fire lines for the first burn across the North Carolina-South Carolina state line in spring 2016. The burn is part of 2,800 acres of burning planned in the Jocassee Gorges.

The **Northern Escarpment** team members from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Blue Ridge Parkway and North Carolina State Parks have established fire lines in preparation for that landscape's first collaborative burn at Air Bellows Gap in late

winter/spring 2016; the planned burn is 432 acres.

The **New River Headwaters** team completed an 89-acre burn on TNC lands at Bluff Mountain with leadership from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, The Nature Conservancy, North Carolina State Parks, U.S. Forest Service, and the North Carolina Forest Service and its B.R.I.D.G.E. program.

The **Georgia Blue Ridge Escarpment** team is beginning review of a just-completed draft map of ecological zones that will inform their burn and restoration priorities.

A new **agreement to share resources** on prescribed burns between TNC and the National Park Service's Southeast Region was recently finalized and signed. The agreement grew from Katherine Medlock's work with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in the Unaka / Great Smoky Mountains landscape. Park Service staff saw an opportunity to find collaborators across the region as the National Park Service moves towards fire management zones. This agreement has been shared with TNC fire managers.

Findings from research on SBR FLN monitoring plots were shared through a poster by Dr. Peter Bates and his team at the Society of American Foresters conference in Baton Rouge. Data from the plots are also being used to inform models predicting smoke dispersal.

Beth Buchanan and Margit Bucher **represented the SBR FLN** at the Association for Fire Ecology Conference in San Antonio, Texas. There they networked with fellow

FLN members and shared a poster about the regional network. There were also three posters and a presentation on the fire effects monitoring efforts across the landscape that are ongoing with FLN partners. Another presentation and poster highlighted monitoring and collaboration in the SBR's sister network, the Central Appalachians FLN.

Upcoming Workshops

Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment Landscape

December 16 (10:00-2:00)
Gorges State Park, NC
Information: Kristen Austin
kaustin@tnc.org

SBR FLN Regional Workshop

May 16-18, 2016
Johnson City, TN

This workshop will be hosted by the Unaka-Great Smoky Mts. landscape/Cherokee NF. Key topics will include updates from the eight landscape teams, reviewing what we can learn from monitoring plots and spatial data about fire effects, how we can scale up restoration, and the effectiveness of our added burn capacity this winter/spring.

For more about the SBR FLN:

Margit Bucher
mbucher@tnc.org

Beth Buchanan
bbuchanan@fs.fed.us



Poster presented at the Association for Fire Ecology Conference, November 2015. The center box says, if not "it all," at least a lot about the FLN: "It's all about the people!"

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/Poster-SBR-FLN-AFE-2015.aspx>

The FLN is part of the *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together (PERFACT)* cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior. For more on PERFACT, contact Lynn Decker at ldecker@tnc.org or (801) 320-0524.



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Opportunities for Veterans

Earn While You Learn Wildland Fire Suppression
Potential for Permanent Forest Service Careers

Female Veterans are Encouraged to Apply



Qualification Requirements:

- 18 years or older
- Physically fit
- Positive attitude
- Interested in outdoor work
- Honorable military discharge
- Meet eligibility requirements for VRA appointment

SALARY: GS-03: \$12.19

Up to twenty veterans may be selected utilizing the Veteran Recruitment Authority (VRA) to fill temporary positions at various locations in the Southern Region. Selectees must pass the work capacity test administered during the first week of employment and successfully complete a two-week basic firefighter training course on the Ocala National Forest during the first two weeks of employment. Passing the work capacity test is a condition of continued employment. Selectees must provide their own transportation to and from duty station.

Selectees must be available to work January 25, 2016 through April 1, 2016 or longer.

Duties of the position:

- Under close supervision, receive on-the-job training in prescribed fire, wildland fire suppression, and prevention
- Assist with fuel management and fire suppression such as fireline construction and backfiring
- Move dirt, chop brush, or fell small trees to build fireline using hand tools
- Patrol fireline to locate and extinguish sparks, flare-ups, and hot spot fire
- Perform other resource management activities as assigned

For more information contact:

Deidre Smith, Equal Opportunity Specialist
Phone: 334-421-8414
Fax: 334-647-1627
Email: dwsmith@fs.fed.us

How to apply: Mail/email resume and **DD-214 copy 4** (must provide copy 4 of DD-214)

Mail: USDA Forest Service
Attn: Deidre Smith, Equal Opportunity Specialist
1720 Peachtree, Suite 862S
Atlanta, GA 30309-2405

Email: dwsmith@fs.fed.us

Resume/DD-214 must be received by COB November 27, 2015

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FireScape Mendocino Workshop 7

We need people...

... With local community perspectives
... Who enjoy outdoor recreation (camping, hunting, hiking, OHV, etc.)
... With perspectives on living with wildfires
... Who manage land - whether it's a ranch, timberlands or their backyard
... With thoughts about community and landscape planning
... With enthusiasm and an interest in the future of our local landscapes

All meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to participate. If you know someone who might be interested in this, please pass along this invitation.

Location & Dates:

**Wednesday, Dec 2nd &
Thursday, Dec 3rd**

Corning Grange Hall
20945 Corning Rd.
Corning, CA 96021
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 pm

A Foundation for Working Together on the Landscape

Please join us in Corning for the seventh in a series of workshops for FireScape Mendocino **Wednesday, December 2nd and Thursday, December 3rd, 2015** from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

FireScape is a voluntary collaborative of residents, agencies and organizations working to shape the future of our fire-prone landscape in and near the Mendocino National Forest. Taking the next step in this collaborative effort, our goals will be:

- Hear from participants about ongoing work related to our shared values and continue refining FireScape Mendocino strategies.
- Explore potential areas of work near Paskenta and what might be involved in working at a watershed scale.
- Discuss the summer's fires and the effectiveness of some readiness efforts.
- Learn about large-scale fire planning and risk assessment, and discuss its possible utility for fire planning.

During this two-day event, participants will work in both small and large groups, indoors and outdoors. Guided by the best practices of the North America Fire Learning Network, our collaboration is designed to enable people with diverse perspectives to find zones of agreement where we can achieve tangible results in our communities and the surrounding landscape. For more information, check out our blog at mendocinofirescape.blogspot.com. You can find directions to the Corning Grange Hall there or at <https://goo.gl/D1srZW>

Prior workshop attendance is NOT required - Please come if you are interested! Lunch will be provided both days.

There will be a field trip on Wednesday, lasting much of the day and participants should be prepared for weather conditions in the field. Vehicles will be provided for the day and you should plan on riding in one of the provided vehicles. The trip will be fairly accessible, but may involve walking short distances off roads on gentle slopes.

In order to make sure we have food and materials for everyone, we ask that you register by Wednesday November 25th. To register, or for more information, please contact Marilyn Perham at 530-897-6370 ext. 200 or by email at mperham@tnc.org

Thank you and we look forward to your participation in this collaborative effort.



Training Announcement

Prescribed Fire Training Exchange

Loup River Valley Nebraska, March 14-March 24, 2016

Objectives: Conduct a series of burns in Valley County Nebraska, provide experiential learning opportunities to participants, opportunities to work in trainee & qualified positions, learn about local fire ecology and fire management from scientists and managers. By conducting a series of controlled burns on private property, participants will practice technical firefighting skills like ignitions, holding, briefings, monitoring, engine operations and more.

Target Group: This training is designed to integrate a diverse group of fire practitioners, including university students, municipal, state, federal and contract firefighters, as well as other natural resource managers, scientists and researchers.

Tuition: There is no tuition for this event, but participants will be expected to pay for part of their meals and lodging. Organizing partners are arranging for the possibility of group meals and lodging to minimize costs to participants. Currently we estimate \$50/day/person for food and lodging.

Description: Organized as an incident, and using the Incident Command System, participants will serve in qualified and trainee firefighting positions on a prescribed fire team. Participants will assist with preparation, scouting, igniting, holding, mop-up and patrol on numerous prescribed fires in the region. We will also complete pre- and post-fire monitoring, train with equipment and practice fireline leadership skills.

Requirements:

1. All participants must be current and qualified or have completed NWCG courses I-100, S-130, S-190 and FEMA IS-700. These courses can be offered to participants who need them.
2. Participants must complete an arduous pack test before arrival in Nebraska. Use of the moderate pack test is acceptable if coming as a TNC volunteer and serving in a RXCM position.
3. Participants must have insurance (e.g., workers' comp, health or travel insurance) to cover any injury they receive during event.
4. Participants must bring fireline-approved boots (all-leather workboots, 8 inches tall, with non-slip soles and no steel toe). Participants should come with all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment including: Next Generation Fire Shelter, hard hat, nomex clothing, all leather gloves, eye protection and canteens for drinking water. If you do not have all the PPE please let us know, for an additional \$50 we can provide you with a complete set.

Meals & lodging: Meals and lodging will be organized by host agencies Pheasants Forever and The Nature Conservancy. A local hotel and restaurants will be contracted with for group rates to reduce the cost to each participant. Each participant or their home unit will be expected to pay for meals and lodging at these reduced rates.

Arrival and departure: Participants should arrive in Ord, NE on Sunday March 13, 2016. Although we encourage you to stay for the full 13-day assignment, we understand your time constraints and are happy to host you for the dates you are available (6 day minimum).

Registration: Complete the registration form and submit to Ben Wheeler (Ben.Wheeler@nebraska.gov) by Friday, January 15, 2016.



This training is hosted by the Fire Learning Network, Pheasants Forever, and The Nature Conservancy Nebraska Chapter

The Fire Learning Network is a cooperative program of the Forest Service, Department of the Interior agencies and The Nature Conservancy with a fourteen-year track record of helping to restore our nation's forests and grasslands and making communities safer from fire.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

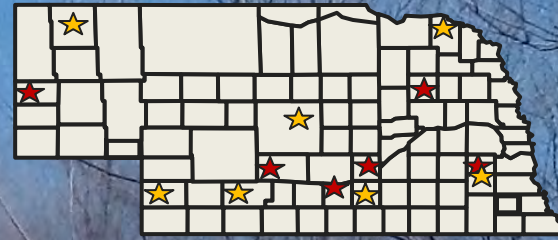
PRESCRIBED FIRE TRAINING EXCHANGE REGISTRATION LOUP RIVER—3/14-3/26/2016

I. PARTICIPANT INFORMATION		
Full name (for course certificate):		
Organization and position:		
Work address (street, city, state, zip/postal code, country):		
Work phone:	Cell phone:	Email:
II. QUALIFICATIONS:		
Qualified positions:		
Trainee positions:		
Can you contribute equipment? If so, please explain.		
III. IN CASE OF EMERGENCY:		
Name:		Phone number(s):
Relationship (family, supervisor, friend, other):		
IV. MEDICAL INFORMATION AND DIET		
Do you have any allergies, medical problems or other conditions that could affect your ability to conduct prescribed fire or take part in other field exercises? If so, please describe below (continue on reverse if needed).		
Are you vegetarian? Do you have any food allergies or other dietary restrictions?		
V. DATES YOU PLAN TO ATTEND		
VI: COURSE EXPECTATIONS		
Briefly describe your expectations for the training. What do you expect to learn, to bring to the course, and to experience? How will this benefit your workplace, organization, and career?		
VII: SUPERVISOR INFORMATION		
Name:		Phone:
Job title:		



Prescribed Fire Training Workshops

A series of workshops will be held around the state to provide guidance and instruction for completing safe and effective prescribed fires. These workshops are for landowners, resource professionals, volunteer fire departments and others interested in burning. No prior burn experience is necessary to participate.



Basic Workshops

DATE	LOCATION	TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS	TIME
January 20th 2016	Scottsbluff	Prescribed Fire Basics — Learn why, when and how to plan and complete a safe and effective prescribed fire.	North Platte NRD 100547 Airport Rd • Scottsbluff	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM MST
January 21st 2016	Gothenburg	Prescribed Fire Basics — Learn why, when and how to plan and complete a safe and effective prescribed fire.	Monsanto Water Utilization LC 76268 NE-47 • Gothenburg	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST
January 27th 2016	Grand Island	Prescribed Fire Basics — Learn why, when and how to plan and complete a safe and effective prescribed fire.	Hall County UNL Extension 3180 US-34 • Grand Island	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST
January 28th 2016	Lincoln	Prescribed Fire Basics — Learn why, when and how to plan and complete a safe and effective prescribed fire.	Lancaster County UNL Extension 444 Cherry Creek Road • Lincoln	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST
February 9th 2016	Norfolk	Prescribed Fire Basics — Learn why, when and how to plan and complete a safe and effective prescribed fire.	Life Long Learning Center—Northeast Community College 801 E. Benjamin Ave • Norfolk	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST
March 1st 2016	Gibbon	Prescribed Fire Basics — Learn why, when and how to plan and complete a safe and effective prescribed fire.	Rowe Sanctuary 44450 Elm Island Road • Gibbon	9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CST

Advanced Topics

January 26th 2016	Curtis	Mop-up, Ignitions, and Making Decisions Under Pressure — Learn best practices for mop-up, proper techniques for ignitions and decision making skills as a leader on your fire crew.	Curtis Cattle Company 223 Center Ave • Curtis	6:30 PM - 9:00 PM CST
February 23rd 2016	Hartington	Burn Plan Writing — Learn how to write a sound and effective burn plan for your Conservation Reserve Program acres.	Hartington City Auditorium 101 North Broadway • Hartington	5:00 PM - 8:00 PM CST
February 24th 2016	Imperial	How to use Prescribed Burning for CRP Mid-Contract Management — Learn how to utilize the prescribed burning option for your Conservation Reserve Program mid contract management requirements.	Mid-Plains Community College 1324 Broadway St. • Imperial	5:30 PM - 8:30 PM MST
February 25th 2016	Lincoln	Burn Plan Writing — Learn how to write a sound and effective burn plan for your Conservation Reserve Program acres.	Lancaster County UNL Extension 444 Cherry Creek Road • Lincoln	6:00 PM - 8:00 PM CST
March 3rd 2016	Hastings	Fire Weather — Understand and predict fire behavior based on weather. Use tools to determine a good burn day. Presented by National Weather Service Meteorologists.	Headstart 123 N. Marian Road • Hastings	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM CST
May 24th 2016	Oconto	Fire Pump and Engine Design — Learn engine design and performance from pumps to tank capacity to hoses and nozzles. We encourage anyone who has already built their own engine to come and share there experience.	Pressey Wildlife Management Area Shooting Range	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM CDT
May 25th 2016	Chadron	Responding to Wildfire — Wildfires can start from many places such as outdoor barbeques, railway tracks, discarded cigarettes, etc. Attend this workshop and learn how to keep an escaped fire small.	Country Kitchen 1250 West 10th Street • Chadron	5:30 PM - 7:30 PM MDT

Registration fee of \$10 includes meal and training materials. Visit www.NebraskaPF.com or call 308-850-8395 for more information and to register.

