

# FLN Networker No. 205: March 2, 2016

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*The FLN Networker is a publication of the Fire Learning Network—a partnership of the USDA Forest Service, agencies of the Department of the Interior and The Nature Conservancy—intended to foster communication within the network and among its friends. Submit comments, information to share, and subscription requests to Liz Rank.*

For more about the FLN, visit [www.conservationgateway.org/fln](http://www.conservationgateway.org/fln) or contact Lynn Decker.

## News from the Field

**California:** Highlights from the second Interaction Institute for Social Change **Facilitative Leadership workshop** held on an FLN landscape—**FireScape Mendocino**, in this case—are in the attached *Notes from the Field*. For more on this workshop, contact **Guy Duffner** ([gduffner@tnc.org](mailto:gduffner@tnc.org)).

**New Jersey:** At a **preparedness workshop** last week, the **New Jersey Fire Safety Council** partnered with **Ready, Set, Go!** to provide perspective on where RSG!, Firewise and CWPPs relate to resiliency and the **fire adapted communities goal** of the **Cohesive Strategy**. Seventy-four people from 34 fire departments were in attendance, and **many heard for the first time** about how fire adapted communities work has influenced wildfire preparedness policy in the state and how RSG! fits into building municipal resiliency. Workshop coordinator **John Cowie** (RSG!) said that **RSG! signups exceeded expectations**, with 32 of the 34 departments that attended signing up. For more about the state's FAC Net efforts, contact **Bill Brash** ([forester82@aol.com](mailto:forester82@aol.com)).

**Oregon:** **Jefferson Public Radio** ran a **story** last week about **helicopter logging** that's taking place as part of the work in the City of Ashland's watershed. The helicopter got the headline, but folks from the **Lomakatsi Restoration Project** got **some good messages** into the story. For more on the Ashland project, contact **Chris Chambers** ([chamberc@ashland.or.us](mailto:chamberc@ashland.or.us)).

**National:** Highlights from the **semi-annual report** covering **FLN, FAC Net, TREX and SPER** work for **July through December** of last year are [now available](#) on the Conservation Gateway. **Many thanks** to the dozens of people who provided the information for the report—and to the hundreds of network members and partners in the field who got an impressive amount of work done together. Contact **Liz Rank** ([lrnk@tnc.org](mailto:lrnk@tnc.org)) for a full resolution version or sub-sections of the report.

## Resources & Reports: Firewise Design / Water & Private Lands

**Firewise Design:** The **National Fire Protection Association** and Green Builder Media have [released a new "e-book,"](#) *Design with Fire in Mind: Three Steps to a Safer New Home*. The eight-page guide covers **landscaping, building** and **maintenance** (with links to more information).

**Water & Private Lands:** A recent **American Forest Foundation** [report](#) takes a look at a familiar issue, but through a slightly different lens. According to *Western Water Threatened by Wildfire: It's Not Just a Public Lands Issue*, more than **40 percent** of the land that supplies water to the West is **in private ownership**. Recommendations to help landowners improve management include collaboration, learning, and support for on-the-ground action.

## Articles: Smoke Models / Mapping Exposure / Stupid Mistakes

**Smoke Models:** The **North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange** has released a [research brief](#) on smoke models, based on the 2013 paper "**Modeling Smoke Transport** from Wildland Fires: A **Review**" (Goodrick and colleagues).

**Mapping Exposure:** The upshot of the [article](#) “Exploring How **Alternative Mapping Approaches** Influence Fire Risk Assessment and Human Community Exposure to Wildfire” is that what may seem to be **minor technical details** about data inputs can **matter a good deal**. (If you’re basing community wildfire risk assessments on community boundaries (polygons), read this article.)

**Stupid Mistakes:** Thanks to **Blane Heumann**—TNC fire safety—for sharing this [short piece](#) from *Scientific American*, “The **Psychology of the Breathtakingly Stupid Mistake**.” Worth a quick read (and a little reflection) before picking up that drip torch ... or computer mouse, for that matter.

## Jobs: Rx Fire Team / Crew Supervisor / Fire Ecologist / VISTA

**Rx Fire Team:** The **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** is hiring one **Natural Resource Specialist** (job number [2016-01869W](#)) and three **Natural Resource Workers** (job number [2016-01865W](#)) as a lead and members of a prescribed fire team based in Omak-Okanogan. Applications for these positions are due by **March 2**.

**Crew Supervisor:** The **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** is hiring a **Forest Crew Supervisor** to assist its Prescribed Fire Team Leader on fire management statewide. Details are on the state careers website (job number [2016-02232W](#)); applications are due by **March 13**.

**Fire Ecologist:** The **Mendocino National Forest** is conducting outreach for a **Fire Ecologist** position. Details and an outreach form are available on the Forest Service [outreach site](#); replies are due by **March 14**.

**VISTA:** The **Chama Peak Land Alliance** is conducting outreach to determine interest in a **VISTA volunteer** in this **northern New Mexico** landscape. Details are in the attached flyer.

## Webinars

**March 9**  
**new listing**

### **Restoring Fire-Prone Inland Pacific Landscapes: Seven Core Principles and Applying Principles of Landscape Restoration within the Eastern Cascades**

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern (1.25 hours)

Ryan Haugo and Paul Hessburg will be the presenters for this Northern Rockies Fire Science webinar.

Information: <http://nrfirescience.org/event/restoring-fire-prone-inland-pacific-landscapes-seven-core-principles-applying-principles>

**March 16**  
**new listing**

### **Persistence and Fire Regimes of Oak Shrubfields Suggest Increasing Dominance with Climate Change**

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

Chris Guiterman will be the presenter in this Southwest Fire Science Exchange webinar. His work in the Jemez Mountains suggests that “recently burned areas now dominated by oak will persist for at least the next 100 years.”

Information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/persistence-fire-regimes-of-oak-shrubfields-suggest-increasing-dominance-with-climate-change-registration-22172478480>

**April 24**  
**new listing**

### **Demystifying LANDFIRE’s Biophysical Settings Descriptions and Models in the Great Plains of the U.S.**

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

Information: <https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/LANDFIRE/Pages/KoriGreatPlains.aspx>

## FLN and FAC Net Workshops & Field Tours

- March 1-3**      **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership / Orleans, CA**  
WKRP will continue its work implementing integrated fire management projects in three geographic areas, including advancing collaborative approaches to NEPA.
- March 8**  
**new listing**      **Shortleaf Pine-Bluestem & Oak Woodlands CFLRP / Russellville, AR**  
Partners in these two CFLRP projects will meet to share updates about their partnerships and project implementation, and to discuss other overlapping conservation partnerships in the Ouachita and Arkansas Ozarks.  
Information: **McRee Anderson** ([wanderson@tnc.org](mailto:wanderson@tnc.org))
- March 16**  
**new listing**      **Pikes Peak FLN / Colorado Springs, CO**  
Information: **Jason Lawhon** ([jlawhon@tnc.org](mailto:jlawhon@tnc.org))
- March 23**      **Island Park Sustainable Fire Community/ TBD, ID**  
The IPSFC will meet to discuss successes and lessons learned from the past year, plan work for the coming summer season and make annual updates to their strategic plan in continued pursuit of a strong social, ecological, and sustainable forest community in southeast Idaho.
- March 24-25**  
**updated**      **Northern California Prescribed Fire Council / Middletown, CA**  
Speakers at this workshop include CAL FIRE Region Chief Scott Upton, research ecologists Eric Knapp (USFS Pacific SW Research Station) and Phil van Mantgem (USGS), Jeremy Bailey (FLN), Jan van Wagendonk (Yosemite NP), and many other local and regional experts. Participants will also spend a day in the field discussing areas impacted by the Valley Fire and visiting private lands that have been managed with prescribed fire for decades.  
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northern-ca-rx-fire-council-spring-meeting-tickets-22176020073>  
Lodging: Rooms at the Twin Pine Casino are being held at the government rate (\$89); call (707) 987-0297 to reserve (mention the council). Another option is the [Eagle and Rose Hotel](#), a few minutes down the road ((707) 987-7330).
- April 6-7**      **FireScape Mendocino / TBD, CA**  
At the eighth FireScape Mendocino workshop, the group will continue its collaborative efforts to create a resilient landscape that provides sustainable habitats for people and animals while supporting the social and economic needs of communities in and around the Mendocino NF.
- April 25-29**      **National FLN-FAC Net Workshop / Jacksonville, FL**  
Leads from the two networks, along with key national partners, will meet to exchange information, strengthen the ties between the networks and plan the coming year's work.
- May 17-19**  
**updated**      **Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Johnson City, TN**  
This workshop will be held in the Great Smoky and Unaka Mountains Landscape, with a field tour of project areas in the Cherokee National Forest.  
Information & registration: <http://sbrfln2016.weebly.com/>
- November 2-3**      **Central Appalachians FLN / Wintergreen Resort, VA**  
Save the date and stay tuned.

## FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

- March 14-26**      **Loup River Valley Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Ord, NE**  
The application deadline for this TREX has passed.
- March 19-27**      **Niobrara Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Ainsworth, NE**  
The application deadline for this TREX has passed.
- April 3-8**      **Yurok TREX / Weitchpec, CA**  
Local partners will mobilize resources and conduct training as weather conditions allow during this window.
- April 25-May 6**      **Central Oregon Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Bend, OR**  
The application deadline for this TREX has passed.
- May 9-21**      **Ashland Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Ashland, OR**  
The application deadline for this TREX has passed.

## Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- March 8-10**      **IAFC Wildland Urban Interface Conference / Reno, NV**  
Information: <http://www.iafc.org/micrositeWUI/homeWUI.cfm?ItemNumber=7987>
- March 14-16**      **9th Annual EPA Sponsored Smoke Management Meeting / Airway Heights, WA**  
This meeting will “bring together burners both public and private, air quality regulators, researchers and others to discuss smoke management and air quality protection in the Pacific Northwest.”  
Information: see the invitation attached to [FLN Networker #201](#)
- March 16-17**      **5th Annual Washington Prescribed Fire Conference / Airway Heights, WA**  
**registration open**  
Practitioners will discuss the year in prescribed fire, priorities moving forward, training exchanges, smoke management and more.  
A block of rooms is reserved at the North Quest Resort & Casino for the night of March 16. To get the government rate, call them at (877) 871-6772 by **March 2** and mention the WPFC Conference.  
Information: <http://waprescribedfire.org/Conferences.php>
- March 22-23**      **Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone / Sacramento, CA**  
**April 14-15**      **Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone / Phoenix, AZ**  
**April 22-23**      **Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone / Oklahoma City, OK**  
**May 5-6**      **Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone / Portland, OR**  
**May 20-21**      **Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone / Spokane, WA**  
**new listing**  
This seminar is offered by the Department of Homeland Security/FEMA for local fire departments (including VFDs); state fire employees are also eligible if space permits. Travel scholarships are available.  
Information: [http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/wildfire-safety-training-and-conferences/assessing-wildfire-hazards-in-the-home-ignition-zone-courses?order\\_src=C365](http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/wildfire-safety-training-and-conferences/assessing-wildfire-hazards-in-the-home-ignition-zone-courses?order_src=C365)
- March 31-April 2**      **New Mexico Wildland Urban Interface Summit / Silver City, NM**  
The theme of this statewide conference is “Re-energize Community Fire Response.”  
Information: <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1784598>

- April 1-2**  
**new listing**      **Arizona Wildland-Urban Interface & Firewise Summit / Phoenix, AZ**  
Information: <https://azsf.az.gov/arizona-wildland-urban-interface-firewise-summit>
- April 6-7**  
**new listing**      **FFI-Lite Software Training / online**  
FEAT/FIREMON Integrated (FFI) is an interagency-supported plot-level monitoring software tool designed to assist managers with collection, storage, and analysis of ecological information. Info: <http://nrfirescience.org/event/ffi-lite-software-training>
- April 11-15**  
**updated**      **5<sup>th</sup> International Fire Behavior + Fuels Conference / Portland, OR**  
The theme of this IAWF conference is “Wicked Problems, New Solutions: Our Fire, Our Problem.” The Northern Rockies Fire Science Consortium is offering a limited number of **travel grants** to this conference (<http://nrfirescience.org/nrfsn-travel-grant-application>).  
Information: <http://www.firebehaviorandfuelsconference.com/>
- April 26-28**      **Collaborative Restoration Workshop: Working Toward Resilient Landscapes and Communities / Denver, CO**  
(FLN and FAC Net leads—note that this workshop coincides with the annual workshop FAC Net/FLN workshop.) To take a pre-workshop survey and get on the contact list for this National Forest Foundation workshop, go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CollaborativeRestorationWorkshop>
- May 2-13**      **East River South Dakota Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (1 of 2)**  
The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, South Dakota Wildland Fire Division, National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy will be hosting this training, conducting burns in mixed grass prairies around the Sand Lake and Waubay NWRs. (See also the May 16-27 listing.) The announcement and application form are attached to [FLN Networker #204](#). Applications are due by March 28.
- May 2-3**      **Wildfire Habitat Restoration on Private Lands—Field Tours / northern AR**  
The Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium will host two one-day field tours as part of this joint offering. Tours will cover the pine-bluestem restoration on the Ouachita NF and glade and fire management at City Rock Bluff.  
Information & registration for one or both of these two days: <http://www.oakfirescience.com/events-webinars-source/arkansasfiretour>
- May 4-5**      **Wildfire Habitat Restoration on Private Lands—Part II / Batesville, AR**  
The second two days of this conference will be hosted by the Arkansas Private Land Partnership. Both days will include field tours or demonstrations and indoor presentations. Information and registration for one or both of these two days: <http://www.uaex.edu/environment-nature/wildlife/conferences/>
- May 7**      **Wildfire Community Preparedness Day / Everytown, USA**  
Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/national-wildfire-community-preparedness-day>
- May 16-27**      **East River South Dakota Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (2 of 2)**  
The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, South Dakota Wildland Fire Division, National Park Service and The Nature Conservancy will be hosting this training, conducting burns in mixed grass prairies around the Sand Lake and Waubay NWRs. (See also the May 2-13 listing.) The announcement and application form are attached to [FLN Networker #204](#). Applications are due by March 28.

July 17-20

**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/>

November 14-17  
updated

**International Smoke Symposium / Long Beach, CA**

The IAWF and the NWCG SmoC (smoke committee) will be hosting this in-person / virtual symposium. The call for presentations is now open; submissions are due by May 16.

Information: <http://www.iawfonline.org/2016SmokeSymposium/>

Nov. 28–Dec. 2

**Southwest Association for Fire Ecology Conference / Tucson, AZ**

Save the date for “Beyond Hazardous Fuels: Managing Fire for Social, Economic and Ecological Benefits,” hosted by AFE and the Southwest Fire Science Consortium.

## Send News, Links & Comments

**Lynn Decker** – [ldecker@tnc.org](mailto:ldecker@tnc.org) – Lynn is in the office.

**Guy Duffner** – [gduffner@tnc.org](mailto:gduffner@tnc.org) – Guy is in the office.

**Heather Montanye** – [hmontanye@tnc.org](mailto:hmontanye@tnc.org) – Heather is in the office.

**Jeremy Bailey** – [jeremy\\_bailey@tnc.org](mailto:jeremy_bailey@tnc.org) – Jeremy is in Taos, NM March 6-8.

**Mary Huffman** – [mhuffman@tnc.org](mailto:mhuffman@tnc.org) – Mary is in Orleans/Salmon River, CA February 29-March 4.

**Wendy Fulks** – [wfulks@tnc.org](mailto:wfulks@tnc.org) – Wendy is in Reno, NV March 8-10.

**Liz Rank** (editor) – [lrnk@tnc.org](mailto: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—National report: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/Pages/PERFACT-Report-Jan-2016.aspx>

News from the Field—Oregon: <http://ijpr.org/post/w-hats-helicopter#stream/0>

Resources & Reports—Firewise design: <http://www.nfpa.org/press-room/news-releases/2016/nfpa-and-green-builder-media-release-ebook-on-designing-homes-with-wildfire-mitigation-in-mind>

Resources & Reports—Water and private lands:

[https://www.forestfoundation.org/stuff/contentmgr/files/1/3d98bbe1b03a0bdf4c726534d438b0ab/misc/final\\_fire\\_report.pdf](https://www.forestfoundation.org/stuff/contentmgr/files/1/3d98bbe1b03a0bdf4c726534d438b0ab/misc/final_fire_report.pdf)

Articles—Smoke models: <https://gallery.mailchimp.com/891fd049b58040013b11c0032/files/Jan2016researchbrief.pdf>

Articles--Mapping exposure: [http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs\\_journals/2015/rmrs\\_2015\\_scott\\_j001.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_journals/2015/rmrs_2015_scott_j001.pdf)

Articles--Stupid mistakes: <http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-psychology-of-the-breathtakingly-stupid-mistake/>

Jobs—Rx fire lead: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/jobs/1360955/natural-resource-specialist-1-01869w>

Crew members: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/jobs/1360878/natural-resource-worker-2-01865w>

Jobs—Crew supervisor: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/washington/jobs/1369100/forest-crew-supervisor-2-02232w>

Jobs--Fire ecologist: <https://fsoutreach.gdcii.com/?id=7854E945E87A43DF85DEB533D367B43B>

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

## Facilitative Leadership for Social Change Workshop

FireScope Mendocino /  
Mendocino National Forest Leadership Team

February 2-4, 2016  
Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge—Willows, CA

**Sixteen participants** from FireScope Mendocino, the Mendocino National Forest Leadership Team and The Nature Conservancy recently completed a “Facilitative Leadership for Social Change” workshop conducted by the Interaction Institute for Social Change (IISC). Based on the success of—and the continued, thorough use of tools from—the initial Facilitative Leadership workshop hosted for the Western Klamath Restoration Partnership in the spring of 2015, the FLN brought workshop facilitator Curtis Ogden, Senior Associate with IISC, back for round two. The results were just as enthusiastically embraced in Willows as they were in Happy Camp.

**Through modeling and practicing and teaching** effective tools and skills of collaboration, IISC works to build capacity of people to collaborate to achieve increased social impact. The purpose of the IISC Facilitative Leadership workshop is

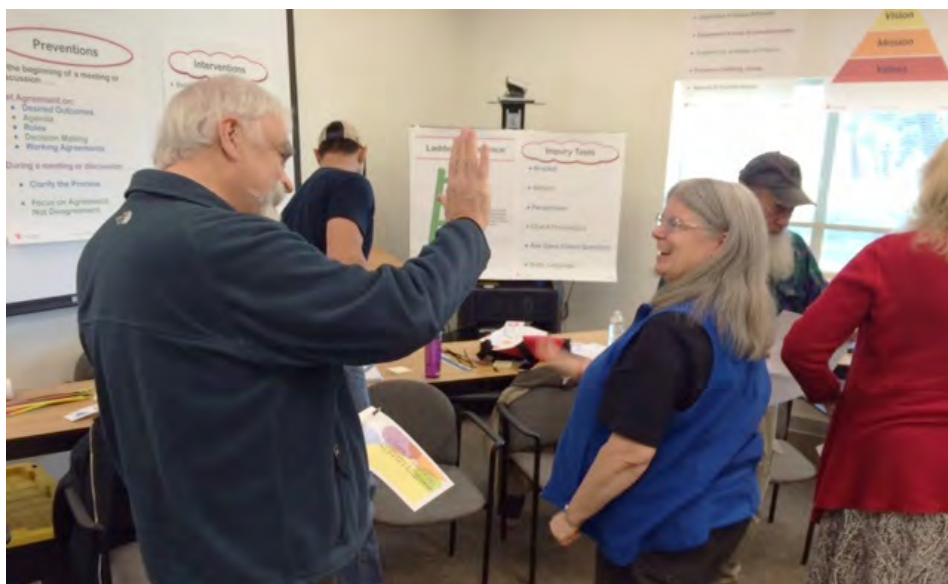
to discover—and practice—the tools and skills necessary “for engaging the creativity, experience, wisdom and commitment” of those with whom we work. In other words, as FireScope Mendocino Core Team member Chad Roberts reflected, “the workshop helps to provide practical, achievable processes that can be adapted or implemented by organizations to achieve their goals, whatever those may be. The workshop provides tools to till the garden.”

**Although all the material** presented received acclaim, two pieces stood out as being particularly timely and applicable for the workshop participants: Tools for Reaching Agreement and Key Elements for Planning Your Meetings. For example, the “open, narrow, close” framework was taught as an efficient way to help amass and elucidate (open) ideas and information, organize and assess (narrow) the assembled

**“It was the most useful workshop I’ve attended in my career—which has spanned five decades.”**

material, then bring the group to agreement (close) on the most relevant options. Then, working to maximize the effectiveness of planning and conducting meetings, the group learned about the five key components of an effective meeting agenda: purpose, desired outcome statement, stakeholder analysis, involvement in decision making, and meeting roles. To this end, one workshop participant said, “In these two days of training is the solution to 80 percent of what’s wrong in the way we do meetings!”

**As FireScope Mendocino** forges ahead with its vision to help create a resilient landscape that provides sustainable habitats for people and animals while supporting the social and economic needs of communities in and around the Mendocino National Forest, these leadership tools will undoubtedly become useful in the group’s collaborative interactions.



Two members of the FireScope Mendocino Core Team—private and Forest Service—exchange smiles and a high five on graduating from the workshop. Photo: TNC/Guy Duffner

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



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## SAN JUAN – CHAMA CONSERVATION LEGACY VISTA VOLUNTEER *REQUEST FOR INTERESTED CANDIDATES*

POSTED: February 17, 2016

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**Opportunity:** The Chama Peak Land Alliance (CPLA) and Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) are requesting that interested individuals respond to this inquiry for a Conservation Legacy VISTA Volunteer position currently under development and to be based in Chama, NM. The position would be for 1 to 2 years and is part of a 3-year position that would begin in the summer of 2016. A draft description of the position is below. If you are interested in such a position, please contact Monique DiGiorgio, Chama Peak Land Alliance Executive Director, at [chamapeak@gmail.com](mailto:chamapeak@gmail.com) with a resume and short description of your interest. *Note: While this position is not yet committed, we are determining if there is an adequate pool of local candidates that can fill this position in order to finalize our application and secure funding.*

**VISTA Volunteer Summary:** The San Juan – Chama VISTA Volunteer will work under the supervision of BOR and CPLA to address upland forest threats to the San Juan – Chama Diversion Project that provides a substantial amount of water to the Middle Rio Grande Basin. The VISTA Volunteer will work to: 1) Assess the condition of the headwater forests in the San Juan – Chama and the impact of current forest treatments (thinning, prescribed fire) to reduce the potential for a catastrophic wildfire outside the natural range of variation, 2) Based on these findings, make recommendations on future investments to protect this critical water supply, 3) Conduct community outreach to educate stakeholders on the important role that the San Juan – Chama project plays for downstream users and incorporate community input into findings, and 4) Alleviate poverty in northern Rio Arriba County and surrounding communities through workforce development opportunities, regenerative agriculture, and the development of a natural resource based economy in this rural region.

**What is a VISTA?** VISTAs write grants, recruit and train volunteers, interpret data, foster and nurture partnerships, coordinate fundraisers, plan festivals, develop educational curricula, create outdoor classrooms, present at professional conferences and more. DOI/VISTAs develop sustainable programming that utilizes public lands to benefit impoverished communities through job-skills training, internships, environmental STEM education for youth, youth corps development, food systems development, nutritional education, community based economic development, and other measurable and effective anti-poverty interventions. The DOI/VISTA program aims to address the root causes of poverty and protect America's natural resources, heritage, and tribal cultures. DOI/VISTA seeks to create the next generation of environmental stewards by increasing volunteerism and community involvement in public lands, and expanding awareness of the value of public lands to underserved communities.

### **DRAFT DETAILED JOB DESCRIPTION**

#### **Organizational Capacity Building**

The VISTA Volunteer will strengthen and support the organizations in the San Juan – Chama Watershed by: 1) Expanding community partnerships in the San Juan – Chama Watershed Partnership, 2) Securing long-term resources for restoration and staff capacity, 3) Coordinating training for participants as determined by local needs. Our hope is that the VISTA will create systems and resources that will remain long after the 3-year period ends.



### **Professional Development**

The VISTA Volunteer will connect the organization and community to professional development opportunities such as board development, fundraising and communications, and community outreach and organizing.

### **Environmental Stewardship**

The San Juan – Chama VISTA Volunteer will focus on environmental stewardship in the region by improving at-risk ecosystems through wildfire reduction implementation around strategic San Juan – Chama Diversion Project lands in a low-income community. The Volunteer will:

- Work with the Village of Chama and other partners to recruit low-income populations in partnerships and community decision-making for environmental stewardship projects around forest health to improve forest resiliency, thereby improving drinking water for downstream communities.
- Developing and securing funding for a Workforce Development Program that serves low income populations in education, skill-building, and job creation in the forestry and environmental stewardship sector.
- Focus on youth development and provide leadership development and job training skills to at-risk youth through conservation activities such as forest restoration, water quality monitoring, and riparian restoration.

### **Healthy Futures**

The San Juan – Chama VISTA Volunteer will assist with food security in the region to help low-income families and individuals gain access to healthy food and improve their diets by developing a regenerative agriculture program in northern New Mexico that may include:

- Development of Farmer’s markets and agricultural related cooperatives
- Technical support for agricultural and food security projects
- Market development and production
- Farm to School partnership development
- Foodsheds regional planning and food security
- Business, financial planning and marketing
- Agro- and Eco-Tourism
- Small-scale household gardens

### **Economic Development**

The San Juan – Chama VISTA Volunteer will provide economic development opportunities through:

- Workforce Development opportunities in the forestry and conservation sector through educational opportunities, skill building, and coaching.
- Fostering on-the-ground forest, riparian, and agriculturally related restoration projects that bring funds and conservation into the region.
- Work with the Jicarilla Apache Nation on economic development opportunities.

**Stipend and Resources:** The VISTA Volunteer will be provided with a \$20,000/year stipend. Housing, office space, and a vehicle will be provided by the Bureau of Reclamation, Chama Field Office located in the town of Chama, just south of the Edward Sargent Wildlife Area.

**Qualifications:** Individuals must reside locally in the region, have excellent communication skills, and have an interest in organizational development, poverty alleviation, and conservation. VISTA Volunteers are government employees and must have a valid U.S. driver’s license. The position is based in Chama, New Mexico.