

FLN Networker No. 281: May 15, 2019

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 or contact Marek Smith.

News from the Field

Colorado: **FAC Net** affiliate members **Einar Jensen** (South Metro Fire) and **Jim Webster** (Wildfire Partners) were among those featured in a **30-minute TV news feature** about Colorado's **wildland-urban interface** last week. They emphasize the fact that Colorado's **ecosystems exist because of fire**, and that residents, must therefore **find ways to adapt**. (For even more, see the full 16-minute [panel interview](#), where the Einar and Jim discuss topics ranging from residents' attitudes toward government and their perception of risk, to misconceptions about home mitigation, and the importance of planning for evacuation and recovery.)

Colorado / New Mexico: **Coalitions and Collaboratives Inc.** has announced the six recipients of the second round of their **Action, Implementation and Mitigation Partnership awards**. Two **FAC Net** member organizations—**Wildfire Adapted Partnership** and the **Forest Stewards Guild**—are among the recipients. These awards will allow Wildfire Adapted Partnership to meet the expected increase in demand for its **structure risk assessments** and **defensible space projects**, and will provide support for the Forest Stewards Guild's **Gravitas Peak Fire Module**. For more about the AIM-P program and the recipients' projects, see the attached press release.

Idaho: The **Island Park Sustainable Fire Community** was recently **featured as a case study** by the **Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively project**. The [post](#) "Leveraging Norms for Wildfire Preparedness" looks at how IPSFC is addressing its challenges—including numerous part-year residents—by reducing barriers to preparedness action for seasonal residents, and through events that integrate the **norm of wildfire preparedness** into the greater community.

New Mexico: With support from **FAC Net** and others, the **Forest Stewards Guild** and **Fire Adapted New Mexico** launched a **HEPA filter loan program** last year as **part of a larger effort** to help northern New Mexico residents cope with inevitable smoke from prescribed burns and wildfires. This year partners in the area are **getting the word out** about the loan program and other resources through public information officers and [press releases](#). For more information, visit FACNM.org/smoke or contact **Eytan Krasilovsky** (eytan@forestguild.org).

Oregon: Partners from the **FLN** and **FAC Net** hosted a **public tour of a prescribed burn** earlier this month. Among the participants in the tour was the new editor from a local paper, who captured the key messages well in the [story](#) "Why the Forest Must Burn." (For more detail, see the [brochure](#) developed for the tour.) This tour was part of a **broad multi-partner public outreach campaign** in central Oregon; for more from the campaign, see the Videos section below.

Oregon / Washington: **Ryan Haugo** (rhaugo@tnc.org) and **Kerry Metlen** (kmetlen@tnc.org) are among the co-authors of the [article](#) "The Missing Fire: **Quantifying Human Exclusion of Wildfire** in Pacific Northwest Forests, USA." The team quantified **expected versus observed fire activity** for the roughly **50 million acres** of forested land in **Oregon and Washington**, finding that between 1984 and 2015, large wildfires burned about 8 percent of the total forested area—an **order of magnitude less** than would be expected under historical fire regimes. "Popular perceptions that too much fire has burned in Pacific Northwest forests, particularly during record wildfire events in 2014 and 2015, are

unfounded from an ecological perspective based on burned area alone but supported when stratifying by fire severity.” And while fire is critical to these forests, “fire severity outside of the range of adaptation neither restores nor maintains; rather, it serves to further reduce landscape resilience.” (**Highlights** from this research are on the Conservancy’s [website](#).)

Southern Blue Ridge: The outreach team from last fall’s **Southern Blue Ridge TREX** has produced some nice summaries and stories from the event, including a **by-the-numbers fact sheet**, a [storymap](#) (with embedded videos of a **SimTable training**, a **drip-torch-eye’s view** of firing ops, and **participants sharing their stories**) and a [video](#) narrated by **Tom Dooley** (tdooley@tnc.org). For more, contact **Kristen Austin** (kaustin@tnc.org).

WTREX: The **Southern Fire Exchange** produced a **highlights video** from the **Women in Fire TREX** held at Tall Timbers Research Station earlier this spring.

Opportunities: Cohesive Strategy Working Groups / PPE Pants

Cohesive Strategy Working Groups: The **Western Regional Strategy Committee Group** is launching three work groups to address significant issues across the West. They have [put out a call](#) for people who would like to **be a part** of the **Post Fire Impacts** Working Group, **Improving Wildfire Response** Working Group or **Increasing the Use of Prescribed Fire** Working Group.

PPE Pants: The **Forest Service** National Technology and Development Program (NTDP) is conducting a **product review of pants design** for the firefighter pant specification it administers. Check out the [questionnaire](#), which focuses on the **fit and function** of the three models primarily worn by firefighters.

Resources: Fire Weather / Environmental Assessment / Defensible Space

Fire Weather: You can explore the **Hot-Dry-Windy Index** (HDW) tool and its forecasts at <https://www.hdwindex.org/>. (But please note the disclaimer that the “products on this website are still in active development and should not be considered operational.”)

Environmental Assessment: The **Cherokee National Forest South Zone Collaborative Group** recently finalized a set of **recommendations and sideboards** to be used in developing a programmatic environmental assessment for restoration activities. In addition to drafting a set of recommendations, the group captured their [lessons learned](#) in **working as a collaborative** on the project. For more, contact **Katherine Medlock** (kmedlock@tnc.org).

Defensible Space: The **Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety** recently **exposed a duplex** to a shower of **embers** in its South Carolina [research facility](#) to test—and demonstrate—the effectiveness of defensible space and **fire-resistant materials**, which were used one on side of the building. The [NPR story](#) “Step 1: Build A House. Step 2: Set It On Fire” takes a good in-depth look at the results.

Articles & Reports: Resilience / Using Science / Values Mapping / Overlooked Forest Type / Forests & Carbon

Resilience: The [article](#) “**Integrating Subjective and Objective Dimensions of Resilience** in Fire-Prone Landscapes” examines the concept of “**resilience**”—which **differs between ecology and many social sciences**—using managing for the resilience of social-ecological systems to wildfire as an example.

Using Science: The [article](#) “Use of Science and Modeling by Practitioners in **Landscape-Scale Management Decisions**” is based on **survey of about 200 Forest Service managers**. Among other things, the authors found that managers more often accessed with science through research publications than direct engagement with scientists, and that they believed science should weigh more heavily in decision-making in cases of low public consensus than high.

Values Mapping: The brief [article](#) “**Is Recreation a Landscape Value?: Exploring Underlying Values in Landscape Values Mapping**” suggests that a **clearer picture may emerge** when “**recreation**” is **not included**. Recreation may encompass several (possibly conflicting) values, and “it is far easier to identify a behavior or set of activities than it is to elicit the values influencing that behavior.... Those without recreation as an option in the typology were forced to have a more complicated conception of the benefits and values that are derived from the places they referenced on the maps.”

Overlooked Forest Type: The authors of the [article](#) “Recalling **Open Old Growth Forests** in the **Southeastern Mixed Forest Province** of the United States” used about 81,000 historical tree records to look at southeastern forests in the 1800s. They conclude that “ecologists and foresters generally have overlooked an ecologically important ecosystem”—open old growth forests—“and thus have **not interpreted adequately** the **full range of forest diversity**.”

Forests & Carbon: The [publication](#) “**Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Removals** from Forest Land and Urban Trees in the **United States, 1990-2017**” gives a brief overview of fluxes of GHG for U.S. forests over the last three decades. Later updates will report a state-by-state basis (and the information is currently available by request).

Videos: Quick Rx Intro / Inside a Fire / CMAT

Quick Rx Intro: The **Deschutes Collaborative Forest Project** has released a top-notch **set of four videos** that introduce aspects of safe controlled burning for forest restoration and community protection. While clearly set in central Oregon, the concepts presented are completely **transferable to other landscapes**—prepping for a burn ([1:08](#)), key personnel and what they do ([1:52](#)), conducting the burn ([2:19](#)) and mop-up ([0:46](#)). The videos will play at **local theaters** and shared through **social media**. For more about this project, contact **Ed Keith** (ed.keith@deschutes.org).

Inside a Fire: A [brief video](#) captures a **prescribed fire creeping** through a patch of the **Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest** in Georgia.

CMAT: A new [video](#) from the **National Interagency Fire Center** gives a quick introduction to **Community Mitigation Assistance Teams**, and how they assist agencies, community residents and leaders to identify mitigation opportunities before, during and after wildfires. (For a deeper dive, see the [CMAT homepage](#).)

Jobs: FMO / Burn Crew Member / CFLRP Coordinator / Program Ass't.

FMO: The **Los Alamos National Lab** Emergency Preparedness Group is seeking a **fire management officer** to be responsible for the development, implementation and maintenance of the **lab's wildland fire program**. Details are on the LANL job site ([vacancy IRC73023](#)). Apply as soon as possible—may close as soon as **May 15**.

Burn Crew Member: **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **stewardship technician/burn crew member** based in Prairie Coteau, SD. The position will **start immediately** and run through July 31. Details are on the Conservancy's careers page ([job ID 47155](#); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#)); applications are due by **May 19**.

CFLRP Coordinator: The **Grandfather Ranger District** on the Pisgah National Forest is recruiting a natural resource specialist (**project manager**) to lead its Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (**CFLRP**) **project**. This position plays a key role on the high-functioning, collaborative team working in the **Central Escarpment landscape** of the **Southern Blue Ridge FLN**. Details are in the attached outreach notice; responses are due by **May 31**.

Program Assistant: The **West Region Wildfire Council** is seeking a **seasonal program assistant** to support its **community wildfire risk reduction, adaptation and preparedness** programs. The position is based in Montrose, Colorado. For details, see the [WRWC employment page](#).

Webinars

May 22
new listing

Do Trends in Climate Influence the Increase in High-Severity Wildfire in the Southwestern U.S. from 1984 to 2015?

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

Stephanie Mueller (Northern Arizona University) will be the presenter for this Southwestern Fire Science Consortium webinar.

Register: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/c888e7cbf3a9a84a8c34be5db4a05ad8>

May 29

Hot Burns, Cold Burns, and Everything In Between: Exploring Prescribed Burning's Impacts on Forest Structure in the Appalachians

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

In this **FLN** webinar, Jean Lorber will give a short presentation about new fire monitoring results; this will be followed by case studies of individual burn units, presented by the folks that burned them, to showcase a range of fire intensities and talk about why the units burned the way they did. Join the webinar:

<https://tnc.webex.com/tnc/j.php?MTID=mbf07c315242f99eb3ef9259be168998d>

(or use the attached file HotBurnsColdBurns-29May19 to add it to your calendar)

May 30
new listing

Fire History Paradigms in North America—Controversy and Consensus

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

Kevin Robertson will be the presenter on this Southern Fire Exchange webinar.

Register: https://ufl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_T5k4eyg4QAaX0nRz1Stuig

June 4
new listing

Assessing Wildland Firefighter Sleep and Fatigue While on Fire Assignment

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

This assessment of nine firefighters yielded some surprising results.

Register: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/event/assessing-wildland-firefighter-sleep-and-fatigue-while-fire-assignment>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

May 14-16

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Athens, TN

Partners are meeting for the 14th annual workshop of this regional network.

September 11-12
new listing

Central Appalachians & Potomac Headwaters Workshop / McHenry, MD

Save the date for the joint workshop of the Central Apps regional FLN and Potomac Headwaters landscape; they will meet at Garrett College.

November 4-8

Annual FLN Leaders-TREX Coaches-IPBN Workshop / Russellville, AR

FLN network leads, TREX coaches and IPBN leads will meet at this joint national workshop.

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX)

- May 13-24** **Ashland Prescribed Fire Training Exchange** (This TREX is in progress.)
- October 14-27**
new listing **Intercambio y Entrenamiento en Quemadas Prescritas en Español / Santa Fe, NM**
For details about the Spanish-Language TREX, see the [announcement](#) on the Conservation Gateway Upcoming TREX page. Applications are due by **May 24**.

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- June 2-5** **North American Prairie Conference / Houston, TX**
Information: <http://www.northamericanprairie.org/>
- June 4-5** **Oregon Prescribed Fire Council Annual Meeting / Lakeview, OR**
Topics will include cross-boundary fuels treatments and the newly revised smoke management rules. Info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2046390858992771/>
- June 6** **North Georgia Prescribed Fire Council / Jasper, GA**
Workshop page: <http://www.garxfire.com/events.htm>
- June 10-13**
new listing **Annual National Indian Timber Symposium / Fort Lauderdale, FL**
Hosted by the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the Intertribal Timber Council, the 43rd annual gathering will look at "500 Years of Change."
Details: <https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?id=5871>
- July 16-18**
new listing **Longleaf Academy: Longleaf 101 / Brooksville, FL**
Register: <https://longleafalliance.org/events/longleaf-academy-longleaf-101-18>
- July 23-25**
deadline **Fire in Eastern Oak Forests Conference / State College, PA**
"Laying out a Restoration Road Map" is the theme of this conference organized by the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium and Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists, in partnership with the Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council. The **early registration deadline** is **May 15**. Information: <https://web.cvent.com/event/657273e9-143b-48ba-bcaf-0f04177312d5/summary>
- August 21-23** **Transforming Approaches to Forests and Forestry through Traditional and Local Knowledges Conference / Vancouver, BC, Canada**
Information: <http://tek.forestry.ubc.ca/>
- October 1-3** **5th Biennial Shortleaf Pine Conference / Van Buren, MO**
Information: <http://www.shortleafpine.net/shortleaf-pine-initiative/conferences>
- October 21-24** **3rd Annual Cohesive Strategy Workshop / Plymouth, MA**
The call for workshop sessions and presentation proposals is open (through July 1).
Information: https://www.iawfonline.org/event/2019_cohesive_strategy_workshop/
- October 21-Nov. 4** **Hart Prairie Preserve Workshop on Ecological Burning / Flagstaff, AZ**
This WEB will provide participants with the knowledge and training required to develop and implement prescribed burn plans with a focus on setting ecological objectives, and enhance the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to use fire in wildland ecosystems in a safe, professional and responsible manner.
Information: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Documents/WEB-2019-HartPrairie-Announce.pdf>

Nov. 18-22

Cultivating Pyrodiversity: The 8th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Tucson, AZ

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

Send News, Links & Comments

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

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in northern NM May 16-27; Hart Prairie, AZ May 28-30; Luera Mountains, NM June 1-8.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Athens, TN May 13-16.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Sun River, OR May 13-17; out May 30-June 9.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is out May 30.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out May 17.

Note: May 27 is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

News from the Field—CO—News feature: <https://www.9news.com/article/news/local/wildfire/recipes-for-disaster-29-million-coloradans-now-live-in-wildfire-danger-zones/73-7e434b40-b0dd-424b-93a3-7b67a3bb7290>

Full interview: <https://www.9news.com/video/news/local/wildfire/panel-wildfire-experts-talk-about-what-you-can-do-to-reduce-your-risk/73-0687d683-345b-4b48-a16f-f720b12b4277?jwsourc=cl>

News from the Field—ID: <http://www.engaginglandowners.org/resources/case-study-leveraging-norms-wildfire-preparedness>

News from the Field—NM: <https://nmfireinfo.com/2019/05/14/update-sfnf-looking-at-this-week-for-prescribed-burn-on-rowe-mesa/>

News from the Field—OR—Newspaper story: <https://nuggetnews.com/Content/Current-News/Current-News/Article/Why-the-forest-must-burn/5/5/28196>

Brochure: <https://www.flipsnack.com/boldampersand/central-oregon-fire-adapted-forests-booklet/full-view.html>

News from the Field—OR/WA—Article: <https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/ecs2.2702>

Highlights: <http://www.washingtonnature.org/fieldnotes/the-missing-fire-new-study-shows-more-of-the-right-kind-of-fire-will-make-our-forests-healthier-and-reduce-risk>

News from the Field—SBR—By the numbers: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Documents/SBR-TREX-2018-ByTheNumbers.pdf>

Storymap: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=aa9d8c33d691444694c9b4579eeab449>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-1FAOnPcqAY&feature=youtu.be>

News from the Field—WTREX: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ex1UI5YORhg&feature=youtu.be>

Opportunities—CS working groups: <https://wildfireinthewest.blogspot.com/2019/03/three-new-cohesive-strategy-working.html>

Opportunities—PPE pants: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-eb-2019-02.pdf>

Resources—Environmental assessment: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/SBR-CNFSZCG-PEA-LessonsLearned.aspx>

Resources—Defensible space: <https://www.npr.org/2019/04/02/704854496/step-1-build-a-house-step-2-set-it-on-fire>

Articles & Reports—Resilience: <https://academic.oup.com/bioscience/article/69/5/379/5487219>

Articles & Reports—Using science: <https://academic.oup.com/jof/article/117/3/267/5482149>

Articles & Reports—Values mapping: https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw_2019_Biedenweg001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Overlooked forest type: http://www.appalachianfire.org/top-30-1/2019/5/8/recalling-open-old-growth-forests-in-the-southeastern-mixed-forest-province-of-the-united-states?rq=recallin&fbclid=IwAR0pEyam1MrDjiPaZQ_8BF9GSzmz-hRhI00-h2QFXuX_fAheOFx8dGwlcEbc

Articles & Reports—Forests & carbon: https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/ru/ru_fs178.pdf

Videos—Quick Rx intro: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLHMEymkVHh85ECC6b2Tnah3d4toKsOK6H>

Videos—Inside a fire: <https://t.co/OayLwf0NAw?amp=1>

Videos—CMAT: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i3Q_imJMZLQ

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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News Release

May 9, 2019

Contact:

Jonathan Bruno, Chief Operations Officer
719-433-6775. jonathan@cuso.ws

Action, Implementation and Mitigation Grants Awarded *Mentoring and Capacity Building for Local Organizations*

Lake George, CO - Coalitions and Collaboratives Inc. (COCO), has announced six recipients of their Action, Implementation, and Mitigation Partnership (AIM-P) award. In this second round of the program, a combined \$217,000 will be awarded to six organizations, through funding generously provided by the U.S. Forest Service. Competition this round was high, with 28 organizations seeking a combined total of just over \$1 million dollars.

The competitive awards are geared towards helping organizations increase the scale and pace of wildfire mitigation activities by enhancing their capacity in some way - either through the addition of personnel, the purchase of equipment, wildfire reduction planning efforts, or funding a key wildfire-risk reduction project.

The Round 2 recipients are:

- **Blackfoot Challenge**, Ovando, MT -- Blackfoot will increase their capacity for essential prescribed fire cooperative burning in northern Montana. Funding and technical assistance will help the organization develop cross-boundary prescribed fire maintenance projects near high risk Wildland-Urban Interface communities.
- **Forest Stewards Guild**, Santa Fe, NM -- Will increase capacity through the development of a prescribed fire group, the Gravitas Peak Fire Module, which will work in Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona as well as other states to support training and implementation of prescribed fire in high-risk areas. Their first projects are slated for Angel Fire, NM and Colorado Springs, CO. The program trains underprivileged youth, providing them with meaningful and impactful work that will prepare them for future careers in fire and mitigation.
- **Klamath Watershed Partnership**, Klamath Falls, OR -- In a partnership with local fire departments, Oregon Division of Forestry and residents, the Partnership will purchase a piece of forestry equipment, available to all partners, that will increase acreage treatment from one acre a day to over six acres of reduced risk a day. Mentorship will help them create the

lease agreements, develop maintenance plans and increase resident involvement.

- **Mt. Adams Resource Stewards**, Glenwood, WA -- With AIM-P support, MARS will be able to hire a Resources Crew Lead to support the implementation of a partnership project on federal and private lands and purchase essential fuels, forestry and safety equipment. COCO has supported Mt. Adams Resource Stewards with guidance in the creation of their crew.
- **Saws & Slaws**, Boulder, CO -- This grassroots, volunteer-powered organization will use their funding to increase their effectiveness and impact by hiring their first-ever, part-time Program Coordinator. Their model, people working to protect their homes, is one they hope to share across the country. Their activities include creating defensible space and providing firewood to low income residents.
- **Wildfire Adapted Partnership**, Durango, CO -- AIM funding will allow the organization to continue their cost-share program to implement defensible space projects in high-risk WUI areas. In addition, the organization will increase their capacity to complete structure risk assessments, which are proven to lead residents to take action and harden their structures. The demand for assessments is expected to increase after last year's 53,000-acre 416 Fire.

The second prong of the AIM program, which separates it from other opportunities currently available, is its plan to provide guidance and mentorship, as needed.

“COCO is connected to many wildfire mitigation professionals through the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network,” said Jon Bruno, Chief Operating Officer for COCO. “Our plan is to connect recipients to some of these professionals through a mitigation mentorship program.” This mentorship will be available from project/program design throughout the life of the project.

COCO will be offering another round of AIM funding in fall 2019. More information on the AIM Partnership Program can be found at: <https://co-co.org/programs/aim-partnership/>.

About Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc - COCO is a non-profit organization, formed to foster on-the-ground conservation efforts to protect and restore natural resources and local communities. COCO is committed to supporting collaborative conservation organizations to produce positive impacts through stakeholder-driven efforts.

#



Outreach Notice

USDA Forest Service • Southern Region



NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Grandfather Ranger District Nebo, NC

Natural Resource Specialist (Project Manager)
GS-0401-11

**(Full Time – Term Position)
Respond by May 31, 2019**

The National Forests in North Carolina is recruiting a Natural Resource Specialist stationed in Nebo, North Carolina. This is a 40-hour per week *term* position. Term positions provide for 1 year of employment with potential for 1-year extensions up, depending upon performance and availability of funding. Funding for this program is anticipated for the two years. Please respond prior to May 31, 2019.

Major Duties

In 2012, the Grandfather Ranger District on the Pisgah National Forest began a project under the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLR). The Grandfather Restoration Project met the program's eight-year goal of treating 40,000 acres in 2017, with two years to spare. This funding has been extended and is anticipated for two more years. Project priorities are to restore fire-adapted vegetation; improve wildlife habitat through silvicultural treatment; treat non-native invasive species in high priority areas; to protect hemlocks from the hemlock woolly adelgid; and to benefit water quality and aquatic ecology.

This position has responsibilities for leading high priority, special projects with complex and numerous resource and protection considerations. A primary focus will be providing program management, facilitation, and internal and external communication for the Grandfather Ranger District's CFLR Project. The incumbent will be responsible for coordinating with a wide range of cooperators and partners to find and achieve common goals and accomplishments. This District has strong culture of working with federal, State and NGO partners to meet restoration objectives and enhance our communities. We are looking for an individual serve this culture of collaboration with strong communication and leadership abilities. Candidates are asked to reflect on their communication skills and abilities to maintain and develop new partnerships.

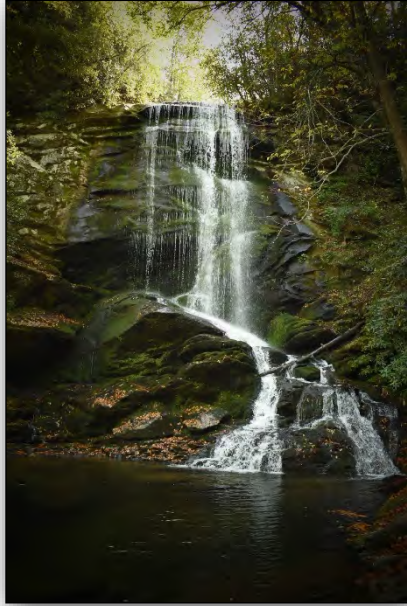
The duties are primarily in an office setting with periodic field work in support of resource analysis and implementation of management activities.

Outreach Response

To express your interest in this position please submit a resume to Nick Larson, District Ranger for the Grandfather Ranger District, at nicholaslarson@fs.fed.us or (828) 652-2144. Likewise, contact Nick Larson if you have any questions about the position, CFLR project, or area.

NATIONAL FORESTS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Grandfather Ranger District



The Grandfather Ranger District is part of the Pisgah National Forest and consists of approximately 195,000 acres across 5 counties. The District stretches from the McDowell/Buncombe County line just east of Asheville to US 321 between Lenoir and Blowing Rock. The Blue Ridge Parkway forms the northern boundary of the District and separates it from the Appalachian Ranger District.

Of interest on the District are the 12,000 acre Linville Gorge Wilderness; the Wilson Creek Wild and Scenic River and two wilderness study areas (Lost Cove and Harper Creek). There is also an extensive trail system that includes the Brown Mountain Off-Highway Vehicle Area.

The Grandfather Ranger District office is located beside Interstate 40 near Nebo, NC. Nebo is located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains with easy access to the mountainous sections of Western North Carolina. The northern and western part of the district is in mountainous terrain while the eastern and southern areas are mostly in the foothills. Elevations range from 900 to 5,665 feet above sea level. The District is predominately south facing, as such, has an active fire management program and prevalence of fire adapted forests.

A wide variety of recreational opportunities are provided locally, including: backpacking, fishing, hunting, cycling, mountain biking, rock climbing, and bird watching.

For more information about communities in the area visit:
<http://mcdowellgov.com/>
<http://www.co.burke.nc.us/>
<http://www.caldwellcountync.org/>

For more information about the National Forests in North Carolina visit our website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/nfsnc>

