

# FLN Networker No. 309: December 29, 2020

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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).

## News from the Field

**California:** An **eight-weekend training program** from **Fire Forward**, which is working to increase prescribed fire capacity in the Bay Area, is featured in a [YouTube video](#) from Insider News. The training draws heavily on the knowledge of **Amah Mutsun** partners. For more about Fire Forward, contact **Sasha Berleman** ([sasha.berleman@egret.org](mailto:sasha.berleman@egret.org)).

**California:** *National Geographic* visited Happy Camp after this fall's **Slater Fire** burned through it. Conversations with **Margo Robbins**, **Leaf Hillman**, **Elizabeth Azzuz**, **Bill Tripp**, **Frank Lake**, **Lenya Quinn-Davidson** and others are reflected in the [article](#) "'There's Good Fire and Bad Fire.' An **Indigenous Practice May Be Key** to Preventing Wildfires."

**Georgia:** More than 40 partners in the **Georgia Blue Ridge Mountains FLN** landscape—including the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Chattahoochee NF, Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D Council, Georgia DNR, Georgia Forestry Commission, Georgia Forest Watch, National Weather Service, Southern Research Station Athens Fire Lab, The Nature Conservancy and the Wildland Fire Leadership Council—**met virtually** earlier this month. The half-day agenda included presentations on a **butterfly count** (and its connection to fire) and **eastern turkeybeard**, and updates on **prescribed fire plans**, **private landowner engagement**, and **FAC Net** activities in the landscape. For more, contact **Mike Davis** ([mike.a.davis@usda.gov](mailto:mike.a.davis@usda.gov)).

**North Carolina:** Congratulations to the **Southern Blue Ridge call-when-needed crew program**, which assisted on its **100<sup>th</sup> burn** early in this year's season. See the Resources section for lessons learned and more about this model.

**Texas:** The **Austin Fire Department** was instrumental in the development and adoption of the City of Austin's **new WUI code**. The department's Wildfire Division provides a good introduction for residents in its [December newsletter](#).

**Washington:** The *Daily Record* [article](#) "Forest Management Collaborative Looks to History in Approach to Wildfire Management on Landscape" highlights the work of the **Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group** and the **Tapash Sustainable Forest Collaborative**. The groups are working on **complementary projects** in the Taneum watershed to restore the resiliency of interconnected **forest and riparian areas**. For more, contact **Reese Lolley** ([rlolley@tnc.org](mailto:rlolley@tnc.org)).

## Funding: Mitigation

**Mitigation:** **Coalitions & Collaboratives, Inc.** has announced their spring 2021 round of funding through its **Action, Implementation and Mitigation grant program**. The request for proposals and pre-application are available on the [COCO website](#), and a webinar about the opportunity will take place on January 13 ([register](#)).

## Resources: As-Needed Crew / Hot Topics

**As-Needed Crew:** Since 2015, **The Nature Conservancy** in North Carolina has been **hiring a seasonal call-when-needed crew** to support partner burning in the **Southern Blue Ridge FLN**. To date, the crews have supported almost 20 government partners on nearly 120 burns covering close to 45,000 acres. Adam Warwick ([awarwick@tnc.org](mailto:awarwick@tnc.org)) has now collected some **lessons learned and best practices** in a comprehensive [primer](#) about the model.

**Hot Topics:** The **Northern Rockies Fire Science Network** has a [collection of webpages](#) that have links to **diverse resources**—events, briefs, reports, syntheses, videos, etc.—related to a topic. Among the subjects covered are ecological effects of severe fire, organizational learning, post-fire debris flows, public perspectives of fire management, and more.

## Articles & Reports: Community-Based Forestry / WUI Residents / Wildfire & Drought

**Community-Based Forestry:** The *Forest Policy and Economics* [article](#) “Community-Based Forestry on Federal Lands in the Western United States: A Synthesis and Call for Renewed Research” defines and summarized the **state of research** on this topic, and proposes **areas for future work** (including gathering learning from efforts like **FAC Net**). It also includes an **extensive list of references**.

**WUI Residents:** Several **FAC Net** members are among the coauthors of the [report](#) “**Living With Wildfire in Ashland, Oregon: 2020 Data Report**,” from a project of the Wildfire Research ([WiRē](#)) Team and the Ashland Fire Department. About 2,100 households were surveyed “to better understand wildfire risk and the residents whose decisions and actions shape the community landscape.” The results showed both an **encouraging level of understanding** of the wildfire situation, and **opportunities for programmatic growth**. For more, contact **Chris Chambers** ([chris.chambers@ashland.or.us](mailto:chris.chambers@ashland.or.us)) or **Katie Gibble** ([katie.gibble@ashland.or.us](mailto:katie.gibble@ashland.or.us)).

**Wildfire & Drought:** The authors of the [article](#) “**Managed Wildfire, Drought, and Overstory Survival: A Case Study in the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas**” found that, even in less than ideal conditions, wildfire can be **beneficial for restoration**. For more, contact **Gabriel De Jong** ([gabriel.dejong@tnc.org](mailto:gabriel.dejong@tnc.org)).

## Jobs: Project Coordinator / Fire Effects Monitor / Cooperative Extension / Rx Specialist / Fire & Fuels Tech / Wildland Module / Rx Crew

**Project Coordinator:** The **Longleaf Alliance** is seeking a coordinator for the **Georgia Sentinel Landscape Pilot Project**. Details are in the [job announcement](#); applications are due by **January 4**.

**Fire Effects Monitor:** The **National Park Service** is seeking **Biological Science Technicians** at the Ozark National Scenic Riverways. These seasonal positions include benefits and the opportunity to qualify as a wildland firefighter. Details are on [usajobs.gov](https://usajobs.gov) ([announcement number MW-1544-OZAR-21-10966600-DE](#)); applications are due by **January 11**.

**Cooperative Extension:** The **University of Nevada, Reno** is recruiting a **Living With Fire Special Projects Manager**, a full-time administrative faculty position with cooperative extension. Details are on the university’s jobs page ([listing R0123175](#)); applications are due by **January 15**.

**Rx Specialist:** The **Watershed Research and Training Center** is seeking a **Prescribed Fire Operations Specialist**. The position will serve in a **leadership role** on private land burns that WRTC leads, and involve work with the **Trinity Integrated Fire Management Partnership** and **TREX** events. See the attached outreach notice for details; applications are due by **January 15**.

**Fire & Fuels Tech:** The **Highlands Fire District** is accepting applications for seasonal **Fire and Fuels Technician** on the **Bear Jaw Fire and Fuels Crew**. Details and links to the job announcement and application are on the district's [employment page](#); applications are due by **January 21**.

**Wildland Module:** The **Grand Lake Fire Protection District** is seeking an **Assistant Lead Wildland Firefighter** ([ENGB](#)) and two **Wildland Firefighters** ([FFT2](#)) for a seasonal wildland fire/mitigation crew.

**Rx Crew:** The **Forest Stewards Guild** Fire Management Program is hiring a **Senior Firefighter** ([details](#)) and an **Operations Specialist** ([details](#)) for its **Gravitas Peak Prescribed Fire Module** based in Loveland, Colorado, and dedicated to increasing the use of prescribed fire.

## Webinars

**January 21, 2021**

### **Fire and Climate Change**

9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern (1.5 hours)

This is the third in the “Fueling Discussions” series of panel discussions hosted by the USFS Northern Research Station and members of the JFSP Fire Science Exchange Network. There is an opportunity to submit questions for the panel on the registration form.

Details: <https://apfire.wixsite.com/fuelingcollaboration/fire-and-climate-change>

**January 27**  
**new listing**

### **Co-Managing Wildfire Risk Across Boundaries (CoMFRT)**

9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern

Mo Essen and Dan Williams will be the presenters on this webinar from the RMRS Science You Can Use series.

Details: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/node/16400>

**February 17**  
**new listing**

### **Dirt Goes Downhill: Are We Making Better Post-Wildfire Erosion Control Treatment Decisions?**

9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern

Pete Robichaud will be the presenter on this webinar from the RMRS Science You Can Use series.

Details: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/events/dirt-goes-downhill-are-we-making-better-post-wildfire-erosion-control-treatment>

**February 17**

### **Lessons Learned From 12 Years of SBR FLN Fire Response Monitoring**

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

Peter Bates, Adam Coates and Don Hagan will be the presenters on this webinar hosted by the Southern Blue Ridge FLN. A calendar invitation is attached.

Join meeting: <https://tnc.zoom.us/j/92419760724>

**February 18**

### **Timber Management and Prescribed Fire**

9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern (1.5 hours)

This is the final installment of the “Fueling Discussions” series of panel discussions hosted by the USFS Northern Research Station and members of the JFSP Fire Science Exchange Network. There is an opportunity to submit questions for the panel on the registration form.

Details: <https://apfire.wixsite.com/fuelingcollaboration/fire-and-timber-management>

## Network Workshops & Field Tours

**January 13, 2021**     **Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment Landscape / online**  
**new listing**             Save the date for the (virtual) meeting of this landscape team (10:00-11:30 EST).

## Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TRES)

This spring TRES coaches and coordinators are **adapting** to local standards and expectations regarding **COVID-safe practices** to offer **cooperative burns** with training opportunities; these events are coordinating local resources and limiting integration of personnel from afar. If you are interested in taking part in a cooperative burn in your area, reach out to **Jeremy Bailey** ([jeremy\\_bailey@tnc.org](mailto:jeremy_bailey@tnc.org)) who may be able to connect you with a burn near you.

**Oct. 25-Nov. 5, 2021** **Southern Blue Ridge TRES / North Carolina, South Carolina**  
**new listing**             Save the date—details will be posted at <https://apfire.wixsite.com/sbtrtex>.

## Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- Feb. 1-Apr. 1, 2021**     **Mitigation Best Practices / online**  
This Coalitions and Collaboratives course will use readings, writing, assignments and virtual events to help participants increase mitigation program effectiveness. Details & registration: <https://co-co.org/programs/mitigation-best-practices-training/>
- February 24-25**  
**new listing**             **PODs Collaborative Fire Planning Workshop**  
Save the date for this workshop hosted by Wildfire Risk Management Science team for fuels planners, FMOs, line officers, management planners, community collaboratives, scientists, state and local fire and fuel managers and consultants. Information: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/groups/wildfire-risk-management-science-team/workshop2021>
- May 24-27**                 **16th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit & 6th Human Dimensions of Wildland Fire Conference / online**  
Information: <https://firesafety-humandimensions2021.com/>
- October 4-8**               **4th National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop / Asheville, NC**  
Information: <https://www.iawfonline.org/event/4th-annual-national-cohesive-wildland-fire-management-strategy-workshop/>
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## Send News, Links & Comments

**Emily Hohman** – [emily.hohman@tnc.org](mailto:emily.hohman@tnc.org) – Emily 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 the office.

**Marek Smith** – [marek\\_smith@tnc.org](mailto:marek_smith@tnc.org) – Marek is in the office.

**Mary Huffman** – [mhuffman@tnc.org](mailto:mhuffman@tnc.org) – Mary is in the office.

**Wendy Fulks** – [wfulks@tnc.org](mailto:wfulks@tnc.org) – Wendy is out January 15.

**Liz Rank** (editor) – [lrnk@tnc.org](mailto:lrnk@tnc.org) – Liz is out January 7 and 15.

In addition, the Conservancy is closed December 30-31 and January 1 and 18 are holidays.

## Full Links

News from the Field—CA—Fire Forward: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l2AuyOQEm7A&feature=youtu.be>

News from the Field—CA—Happy Camp: <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/2020/12/good-fire-bad-fire-indigenous-practice-may-key-preventing-wildfires/>

News from the Field—TX: <https://mailchi.mp/52c33a015e2a/austins-wildland-urban-interface-code-4676205>

News from the Field—WA: [https://www.dailyrecordnews.com/news/forest-management-collaborative-looks-to-history-in-approach-to-wildfire-management-on-landscape/article\\_f4acae1f-aefb-572e-9c9d-2dcb1e8ecfe5.html](https://www.dailyrecordnews.com/news/forest-management-collaborative-looks-to-history-in-approach-to-wildfire-management-on-landscape/article_f4acae1f-aefb-572e-9c9d-2dcb1e8ecfe5.html)

Resources—As-needed crew: <https://tnc.app.box.com/s/o4wg6j8m0re81xcdjw4a1tfru1ct64ew>

Resources—Hot topics: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/hot-topics>

Articles & Reports—Community-based forestry: [https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw\\_2020\\_davis001.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw_2020_davis001.pdf)

Articles & Reports—WUI residents: [https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs\\_series/rmrs/rn/rmrs\\_rn088.pdf](https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_series/rmrs/rn/rmrs_rn088.pdf)

Articles & Reports—Wildfire & drought: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/treesearch/pubs/61651>

FLN Webinars—Information about upcoming FLN webinars and recordings of previous ones is at:

<http://conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/webinars.aspx>

TREX—The latest application information for upcoming TREX is always listed at:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Pages/Upcoming-Training-Exchanges.aspx>

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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# The Watershed Research and Training Center

PO Box 356 98 Clinic Avenue Hayfork, CA 96041  
Office (530) 628-4206 Fax (530) 706-5418 [www.thewatershedcenter.com](http://www.thewatershedcenter.com)

## Job Outreach - Prescribed Fire Operations Specialist

The Watershed Research and Training Center (WRTC) is seeking a **Prescribed Fire Operations Specialist** to continue the development and management of our innovative work in cooperative prescribed fire planning, capacity building, and implementation in Trinity County, California. Major responsibilities will include burn planning, risk management, coordinating training opportunities, working with WRTC's fuels crew on burn unit preparations, leading cooperative burns, and fostering partnerships.

The successful candidate will be challenged to design and implement cooperative prescribed fire projects that foster resilient ecosystems, optimize local workforce development and landowner benefits, and protect communities from wildfire. Expect opportunities to advance your career, build professional skills and networks, and contribute to important community and conservation outcomes in the world-renowned Klamath Mountains bioregion, across Northern California, and beyond.

**Required Qualifications:** The applicant must have a minimum of 5 years wildland and prescribed fire experience, minimally qualified as Firefighter Type 1. Must be physically fit, and able to pass the arduous work capacity test. The applicant must be able to demonstrate leadership experience.

**Desired qualifications and skills:** The applicant will preferably be qualified at the Single Resource Boss level. If not already qualified, the successful candidate will be put on a developmental track toward becoming a skilled and experienced CARX and/or RXB2 burn boss. Aspiring individuals will be supported in advancing their professional qualifications with funding support for training and individualized personal development. A degree in a relevant natural resources management field would be beneficial.

**Current fire management program activities and responsibilities:** This position will operate under supervision of the Co-Directors of Fire Management. At the state level, WRTC serves as a major leader in prescribed fire policy reform, participates actively in the Governor's Forest Management Task Force and Prescribed Fire Workgroup, and leads a cooperative prescribed fire capacity-building initiative known as Cal-TREX. Within Northern California, WRTC serves as the fiscal agent for the Northern California Prescribed Fire Council and sponsors a range of networking, trainings, and workshops. In Northwest California, WRTC is working with local partners on an "all hands/all lands" burn initiative to share resources across the region. At the local level, WRTC fosters, develops, and leads a cooperative prescribed fire program on private lands in Trinity County, California, with over 3,000 acres currently under burn plans. This position will serve in leadership roles at the local level, with some spill-over into the regional and statewide initiatives.

The [Trinity Integrated Fire Management Partnership](#) is a Trinity County-wide initiative to expand the use of prescribed fire on both public and private lands through diversified workforce development, strategic burn planning, public engagement, and cooperative burn implementation. Major partners include WRTC, Trinity County Resource Conservation District, US Forest Service, CAL FIRE, several volunteer fire departments, private contractors, and private landowners. The position will be expected to host and lead the Trinity Integrated Fire Management Partnership, and expand into new areas throughout Trinity County. Work is currently focused in and around the Hayfork Valley and Weaver Basin, and there are exciting opportunities for cooperative burning in Mad River, Ruth Lake, Lewiston, Big Bar and Burnt Ranch.

The successful candidate will meet with landowners, scout properties, develop burn plans, apply for permits, work with WRTC's fuels crew on burn unit preparations, and coordinate burn implementation during available windows. Coordination of burns involves securing applicable permits, arranging for workforce and equipment needs, and leading burn-day logistics with support from the Co-Directors of Fire Management. This position will serve in a leadership role on private land burns that WRTC leads. The position will also be expected to plan cross-boundary burns, and to serve in a supporting role on cooperative burns on federal lands.

This successful candidate will work with the Co-Directors of Fire Management to establish and maintain an effective and reputable training program, focused on empowering and increasing the skillsets of under-represented prescribed fire practitioners throughout the western United States. The successful candidate will serve as a lead instructor and cadre member for a variety of NWCG courses and live fire training events. The successful candidate will also be responsible for helping with local and non-local [Prescribed Fire Training Exchange \(TREX\) events](#). These TREX events range from classic TREX events (10-14 day events operated as Type III incidents), to short cooperative trainings (1-3 days events), to sustained capacity-building technical support (burn planning, basic training, leadership of small cooperative training burns, prescribed burn association development, etc.).

#### **Other Considerations:**

- The position will be required to become a California State Qualified Burn Boss (CARX), once the certification is available (anticipated for Spring 2021).
- This position will be responsible for working with the Co-Directors of Fire Management in fire program evaluation and strategic planning over time to ensure the effectiveness of our investments and to contribute to adaptive management.
- This position will be responsible for contributing to funding proposals to partner agencies and foundations to help secure future funding support for the program and position, with support from the Co-Directors of Fire Management and the Grants Specialist.
- This position will require written reporting in support of grant compliance, and some preparation of popular articles and social media posts in support of public engagement and communications priorities.
- WRTC, and the fire management program, are dedicated to working on the advancement of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice issues. The successful candidate, with support and training, will be expected to be a leader of culture change.

**About the organization:** The Watershed Research and Training Center is a national leader in advancing the practice of land stewardship through integrating fire and fuels management, forestry, and community development. WRTC focuses on building local workforce capacity, innovative partnerships, and mobilizing communities to take leadership in the management of their natural resources. Learn more at: [www.thewatershedcenter.com](http://www.thewatershedcenter.com). The Watershed Research and Training Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Wages and benefits:** This is a full-time, salary-exempt, position. Annual salary ranges from \$55,000 to \$60,000 based upon qualifications and experience. Our benefits package includes health, dental, vision and employer retirement contribution.

**To apply:** Please submit a cover letter and resume to Miller Bailey at [firemanagement@thewatershedcenter.com](mailto:firemanagement@thewatershedcenter.com) by **January 15<sup>th</sup> 2021**. For more information, please email or call Miller at 619-358-3903.