

FLN Networker No. 310: January 20, 2021

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.

News from the Field

Idaho: The **Idaho Prescribed Fire Council** rung in the new year by unanimously **approving bylaws and electing the first slate of officers** to help lead the organization. The organization is **open to anyone** who has an interest in **promoting or understanding the use of prescribed fire** in Idaho, including private landowners; federal, state and private land managers; tribes; air quality regulators; policy makers and involved residents. The bylaws lay out a series of objectives that will support the mission of promoting “the safe and effective use of prescribed fire for **healthy forests and rangelands, wildlife, and fire resilient communities** across Idaho.” For more, visit the Council’s [website](#) or contact co-chair **Matthew Ward** (mward@tnc.org).

Oregon: Buttes to Basins: Central Oregon All Lands Forest Resiliency Project has been selected for funding as a **2021 Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Project**. The project, in Deschutes and Jefferson counties, will complement existing work of TREX and The Nature Conservancy. For more, see the [project summary](#) or [story map](#), or contact **Ed Keith** (ed.keith@deschutes.org).

Western U.S.: **Senator Ron Wyden, Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Elizabeth Azuzz and Marko Bey** were the panelists on “**Good Fire: Reinstating a Natural Process in Dry Forest Ecosystems**,” the [second seminar](#) in the **Earth, Water, Fire series** supported by the Wyss Foundation.

TREX: To safely go forward with the **Plumas County Cal-TREX** during the pandemic, it was converted to a **locally based event** that took place over **several weekends**. TREX coach **Erin Banwell** (firemanagement@thewatershedcenter.com) has gathered some of the changes that were needed, and some of the challenges and opportunities presented, in a [Notes from the Field](#), so that others can benefit from the organizing team’s **lessons learned**.

Feedback Requested: Training Needs

Training Needs: A group of eight partners in the **South** is conducting a [survey](#) to determine training needs (both **NWCG and non-NWCG**) in the region. Fire practitioners, private landowners, prescribed fire councils and other stakeholders are encouraged to participate.

Funding: Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day: The eighth annual [Wildfire Community Preparedness Day](#) be held Saturday, May 1, with a focus on what residents can do now to help protect their personal property from wildfire. Support from State Farm will once again enable **NFPA** to provide **\$500 awards** to **150 community projects** across the country to complete **wildfire risk reduction** work on that date. Project [applications](#) are due by **February 26**.

Resources: LANDFIRE / Nature Journaling / Outreach Infographic / Chestnuts

LANDFIRE: Starting this month, the **LANDFIRE** team will be hosting informal “**office hours**” at 1:00 pm Eastern on the **last Thursday of the month**. The team will offer a brief presentation, followed by time to dig into topics or questions you bring. [Details](#) are on the Conservation Gateway.

Nature Journaling: In the **FAC Net** [blog post](#) “A Practice in Purpose: Using Nature Journaling Practices to Help Create Fire Adapted Communities,” **Miriam Morrill** shares a practice that can “benefit your **cognition and observation skills** but also help to **visually represent your relationship to nature and fire** and help to foster fire adaptation.” She has hosted journaling sessions at the 2019 Klamath River TREX and the Washington Fire Adapted Communities conference last month.

Outreach Infographic: The **Colorado Forest Restoration Institute**, with **Southern Rockies Fire Science Network** and other partners, has produced a multi-page [infographic](#) intended for public outreach. It illustrates **how fire behaved historically** in **six vegetation types**—and how it might be **different today**.

Chestnuts: The **Southern Research Station** is offering “[An Introduction to the American Chestnut](#),” an **interactive online course** developed by **Stacy Clark** (stacy.l.clark@usda.gov). CFE credit is available through the Society of American Foresters.

Articles & Reports: Governance / Duff / Burn Severity / Behavioral Science / Cultural Burning

Governance: **Ashland Forest All-Lands Restoration** and **Middle Klamath River Communities** projects were two of the three Joint Chiefs’ projects highlighted as **case studies** in the [article](#) “**Polycentric Systems for Wildfire Governance** in the Western United States.” The authors suggest that all-lands management “**systems can be strengthened** when: bottom-up and top-down processes and incentives for establishing them converge; actors within the system coordinate effectively; policies enable flexibility and adaptiveness for how systems function in different places; multiple actors at multiple scales are able to supplement one another’s capacity; and legal and policy mechanisms facilitate efficient transfer of funding and resources between actors in the system to accomplish work.”

Duff: A [new issue](#) of *Success Stories* from the **Southern Fire Exchange** reports on research on the role of burning duff on **mature tree mortality in longleaf pine** savannas treated with prescribed fire.

Burn Severity: Authors of the [article](#) “An Improved Approach for **Selecting and Validating Burn Severity Indices** in Forested Landscapes” cross-validated remote sensing data with field data in a study area in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. They “provide convincing **evidence for the use of CBI** [Composite Burn Index] as a field-based index over WCBI [weighted CBI], and provide a cross-validated method for calculating burn severity in this vegetation type that can be used by managers and researchers.”

Behavioral Science: The [report](#) “Developing **Behavioral and Evidence-Based Programs** for Wildfire Risk Mitigation” describes how researchers worked with the wildfire nonprofit **West Regional Wildfire Council** in a “partnership aimed at **understanding and encouraging wildfire mitigation** on private property.”

Cultural Burning: **What is cultural burning**, and why is it a **subset of proactive fire management**? In the [essay](#) “Reading the Landscape for Fire,” **Dr. Don Hankins** frames cultural burning as both a **practice and a worldview**, and explains how it contributes to fire management today. Don describes how as a Miwko? (Plains Miwok) person he understands cultural burning and applies it, in California and with Aboriginal partners in Australia. He discusses his spiritual and cultural relationship to fire while providing **context in mainstream fire ecology**, including, for example, the eco-cultural indicators for burning chaparral that deliver moderate fire behavior instead of explosive fire.

Podcasts: The Fire Story / Friends of Fire / Natural Resources University

The Fire Story: The Center for Science Communication Research at the **University of Oregon** has launched “The Fire Story,” a [podcast](#) intended “to provide established and emerging communication professionals and the public with a more **nuanced understanding of wildfire’s multiple dimensions** through the lens of **recent wildland fires in Oregon.**”

Friends of Fire: The **Southern Fire Exchange** [podcast](#) “Friends of Fire” covers topics relevant to **ecosystems in the southeastern U.S.**, including, most recently, a two-part look at wild turkeys and prescribed fire.

Natural Resources University: This [podcast network](#) is focused on delivering science-based natural resource management information, delivered by a **team of researchers and extension specialists**. There are four interwoven “universities,” focusing on **deer, fire, ponds and habitat**.

Jobs: Rx Fire Technician / Communications / Stewardship & Outreach

Rx Fire Technician: **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **seasonal prescribed fire technician** to be based at the Niobrara Valley Preserve this spring. See the Conservancy’s careers page ([Job ID 49253](#)) for details; applications are due by **January 22**. (Current employees, apply through [PeopleSoft](#).)

Communications: **Wallowa Resources** is seeking a part-time communications manager responsible for a **social media strategy** and **coordinating discussion events** for the **documentary film** “The West Is Burning.” Details are on their [jobs page](#); applications are due by **January 30**.

Stewardship & Outreach: **The Nature Conservancy** and **Okanogan Land Trust** are recruiting for a **temporary Stewardship and Outreach Specialist**, based in Okanogan, WA. This opportunity is being administered through **Student Conservation Association (SCA)** and is **AmeriCorps eligible** (not mandatory). Anticipated employment is April 5-September 19. [Details](#) are in the SCA position listings.

Webinars

recording available **Prescribed Burn Associations: Different Models for Different Places**
new listing

A recording of the December 10 webinar hosted by the Western Region of the Wildland Fire Leadership Council, University of California Cooperative Extension, Coalition of Prescribed Fire Councils and the **FLN** is on the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Strategy’s YouTube channel.

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wzfb5kVmqMk&feature=youtu.be>

January 21

Fire and Climate Change

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

Panelists in this webinar hosted by members of the JFSP Fire Science Exchange Network will address questions such as “Can we use climate predictions to plan future fire management and research?” and “How are we adapting now?”

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

January 27

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>

- January 23**
new listing **Pile Building Workshop / Red Feather Lakes, CO**
This workshop for landowners on the Front Range (and beyond) is hosted by the Gravitas Peak Wildland Fire Module and partners.
Details & registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pile-building-workshop-tickets-136827030331>
- February 3**
new listing **Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council Annual Meeting / online**
This virtual gathering will include a keynote from Craig Harper, concurrent sessions on a variety of topics, and a panel discussion on “Burning Outside the Box.”
Details & registration: <https://paprescribedfire.org/annual-meeting>
- February 24-25** **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>
- March 10**
new listing **Washington Prescribed Fire Council Annual Meeting / online**
Save the date for this virtual meeting, which will begin at 1:00 pm. Visit <http://waprescribedfire.org/> and scroll down to subscribe to the council’s newsletter.
- May 1**
new listing **Wildfire Community Preparedness Day / everywhere**
Information: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/National-Wildfire-Community-Preparedness-Day>
- May 24-27** **16th International Wildland Fire Safety Summit & 6th Human Dimensions of Wildland Fire Conference / online**
Information: <https://firesafety-humandimensions2021.com/>
- September 21-23**
new listing **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference: Resilient Colorado: Moving Forward in Evolving Wildfire Landscapes / Grand Junction, CO**
Presentation proposals are being accepted through March 5 ([submission form](#)).
- 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/>

Send News, Links & Comments

- Emily Hohman** – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is in the office.
- Heather Montanye** – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is in the office.
- Jeremy Bailey** – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in Santa Fe, NM January 18-24.
- Marek Smith** – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in the office.
- Mary Huffman** – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in the office.
- Wendy Fulks** – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in the office.
- Liz Rank** (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out January 21, February 4 and 11.

Full Links

News from the Field—ID: <https://www.frames.gov/idahoprescribedfirecouncil/home>

News from the Field—OR—Project summary:

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/programs/initiatives/?cid=nrcseprd1724221>

Story map: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/d6376006a3114de4be3de7840964476e>

News from the Field—The West: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fLBdQaJ6IU&feature=youtu.be>

News from the Field—TREX:

<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/USFLNPublications/Pages/Notes-PlumasCalTREX-2020.aspx>

Feedback Requested—Training needs: https://ncsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eetrbNRn5EA4Z8N

Funding—Preparedness Day: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/National-Wildfire-Community-Preparedness-Day>

Resources—Nature journaling: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/nature-journaling-practices-to-help-create-fire-adapted-communities/>

Resources—LANDFIRE:

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

Resources—Fire behavior: https://cfri.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2021/01/FireEd-Infographic-Web_Print-1.pdf

Resources—Chestnuts: <https://srs.fs.usda.gov/products/courses/#chestnut>

Articles & Reports—Governance: https://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw_2019_kelly001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Duff: https://southernfireexchange.org/wp-content/uploads/SFRC_DuffFireScienceSuccessStoryFS.pdf

Articles & Reports—Burn severity: https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2020/nrs_2020_gallagher_001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Behavioral science: https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_journals/2020/rmrs_2020_byerly_h001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Cultural burning: <https://baynature.org/article/reading-the-landscape-for-fire/>

Podcasts—The Fire Story: <https://scr.uoregon.edu/the-fire-story/>

Podcasts—Friends of Fire: <https://open.spotify.com/show/2tZoEqZvMgFWeESupb4IxV>

Podcasts—Natural Resources University: <https://naturalresourcesuniversity.libsyn.com/>

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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Karuk Department of Natural Resources
Fire and Fuels Management

Contact DNR Training with
any questions:

dnrtraining@karuk.us

2021 Training Schedule

The Karuk Tribe invites all tribes, interested members of the public, and non-governmental organizations in the North Coast region to participate in **ONLINE AND FIELD** training as part of the Tribe's Regional Forest & Fire Capacity demonstration project, "Burning Across Boundaries". This project is intended to support collaborative planning that can enable tribes and partners throughout the North Coast region to work together in utilizing prescribed fire as a tool for achieving long term forest and ecosystem health.

January:

19th-22nd – S-212 Power Saws (Field Day Required)

February:

8th-12th – Basic 32 Wildland Fire Training (Field Day Required)

15th-18th RT-130 Wildland Fire Refresher (Field Day Required)

19th – Pack test (Field Day Required)

23rd-24th – S-219 Firing Operations (Field Day Required)

25th-26th – Fireline Cultural Specialist (CULS)

March:

16th-18th – L-280 Fireline leadership (Field Day Required)

29th-30th – S-230/S-231: Crew Boss/Engine Boss (Field Day Required)

May:

17th-18th – S-211 Portable Pumps (Field Day Required)

19th – S-131/S-133 Firefighter Type 1 / Look up look down

20th-21st – S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior

June:

8th-9th – S-200 Initial Attack Incident Commander

22nd-23rd – S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland Urban Interface (Field Day Required)

28th-29th – BL-300 Fire Vehicle Driver Orientation Training (Field Day Required)

First-Aid CPR – TBD

GIS/GPS Training – TBD

REGISTER TODAY: <https://forms.gle/jmh7mj98HsFgBcj26>

These classes are designed to provide up-to-date fireline safety information to all new firefighters required to complete this training per the PMS 310-1, Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide and FS5901.17. These classes are sponsored and hosted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and are part of a demonstration project funded with California Climate Investments funds granted by the California Natural Resources Agency, Department of Conservation to the North Coast Resource Partnership.



2021 Course Descriptions

Instructor approval is required prior to enrollment.

Fireline Cultural Specialist (CULS)

This course is intended for personnel who wish to serve as a Cultural Specialist or Heritage Consultant on fire incidents; it is not intended for those who serve just on fire crews. Those who have taken the Cultural Monitor (*Heavy Equipment*) class are strongly encouraged to attend this class.

RT-130: Wildland Fire Refresher <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/rt-130>

Annual Fireline Safety Refresher Training will provide up to date Fireline safety information to employees holding Incident Command System (ICS) qualifications. The four core components of the Refresher are: entrapment avoidance; current Issues; fire shelter; other hazards and safety issues.

S-260/261: Interagency Incident Business Management <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-260>

This course meets the general training needs of all positions for which an understanding of interagency incident business management is required. It provides basic policy and direction for incident business management.

Basic 32: Wildland Fire Training

This is an entry-level course that provides basic training in wildland fire suppression. Subject coverage Includes: wildland fire behavior, skills of wildland fire suppression, practice with common fireline hand tools, and working safely in wildland fire environments.

S-290: Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-290>

This course is designed to prepare prospective fireline supervisors to undertake safe and effective fire management operations. It is the second in a series that serves to develop fire behavior prediction knowledge and skills.

S-131: Advanced Fire Fighter/Squad Boss/ICT5 <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-131>

S-131, *Firefighter Type 1*, is designed to meet the training needs of the Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) and/or Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5). Topics include operational leadership, communications, LCES, and tactical decision-making.

S-133: Look Up, Look Down, Look All Around!

This course is for Incident Commander Type 5 (ICT5) and Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1) personnel to identify environmental factors and indicators of hazardous fire conditions; it will also cover how to use these indicators when implementing the Risk Management Process.

S-212: Power saws for Fireline <https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/training-courses/s-212>

This is an instructor-led course intended to be presented at the local level. The course lessons provide introduction to the function, maintenance and use of internal combustion engine powered chainsaws, and their tactical wildland fire application. Field exercises support entry level training for firefighters with little or no previous experience in operating a chainsaw, providing hands-on cutting experience in surroundings similar to Fireline situations.

