

FLN Networker No. 327: January 12, 2022

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

Arizona: The **Flagstaff TREX** made the 2021 Environmental **Year in Review** [list](#) compiled by Flagstaff's newspaper, the *Arizona Daily Sun*. For more, see the [Notes from the Field](#) from this TREX.

California: The **Butte County Cal-TREX** kicked off with a **training weekend in November**, and is continuing as an **on-call burn team** through the end of February. To date, 109 participants have worked on 13 burns, completing 364 acres of prescribed fire on private and Forest Service land.

North Carolina: Partners in the **High Country FLN** landscape (SBR FLN) are hosting a **learn-and-burn event for private landowners** at New River State Park on February 11 ([register](#)). Event organizers are planning on a one-acre demonstration burn, but may tackle the entire 18-acre unit if weather and staff capacity permit. In addition to the burn, Charlie Faire (Ruffed Grouse Society), coordinator of the **newly funded Southern Blue Ridge Prescribed Burn Association**, will meet with participants to build interest in private lands burning. For more from this landscape, contact **Jonathan Hartsell** (hartselljonathan@gmail.com).

Oregon: **Katie Sauerbrey** (katie.sauerbrey@tnc.org) talks about the **Bootleg Fire** and restoration work at **Sycan Marsh** in the New York Times [article](#) "This Vast Wildfire Lab Is Helping Foresters Prepare for a Hotter Planet."

Input Requested: Alaska BpS

Alaska BpS: The **LANDFIRE** team needs your help to **review and improve** LANDFIRE [BpS models and descriptions](#). No modeling experience is needed—reviewers will be asked to contribute their feedback by editing a simple Word document. The next work session will be **January 13** ([register](#)). Direct questions to **Kori Blankenship** (kblankenship@tnc.org).

Resources: Geysering / Wildfire 101 Videos / Burnout / Emergency Guides for Residents

Geysering: The **NWCG Equipment Technology Committee** released an **equipment advisory** last week. The brief [document](#) describes two conditions under which **fuel containers** can geysers, and actions that can reduce this risk.

Wildfire 101 Videos: The **Northwest Fire Science Consortium** has partnered with the **University of Oregon Center for Science Communication** to create a set of three **one-minute videos** that introduce **key wildfire concepts** (the [fire triangle](#) and [red flag weather](#)) and tips for dealing with [smoke](#). The videos mention the Northwest, but are otherwise widely applicable.

Burnout: For those starting the new year feeling less than fresh, the **FAC Net** [blog post](#) "It's Not Just You: Burnout and Stress in the Practitioner Community" may be useful. It has **firsthand accounts** from practitioners in the Fire Networks, and closes with links to some **resources for recharging**.

Emergency Guides for Residents: The **British Columbia** government has an easy-to-use set of **emergency planning guides**. These include a household **fill-in-the-blank** plan, and supporting plans for special situations (e.g., apartments, seniors, pets).

Last week, **Colorado State University Extension** has published an updated “**After the Disaster Guidebook**” for **Boulder County**, as well as a **template that can be adapted** to other locales. The guides have checklists and resources for residents in the immediate aftermath of wildfire.

The **Tahoe Fire Adapted Communities Network** has created the **brochure “Prepare Now for Wildfires: A Guide for Lake Tahoe Long-Term Renters,”** which addresses a group often overlooked in preparation guidelines for homeowners. You can read about the process for developing this guide in the FAC Net **blog post** “Renters and Wildfire Preparedness: Engaging Focus Groups to Co-Create a Useful Community Guide,” by **Amanda Milici** (amilici@tahoercd.org).

Articles & Reports: Woody Encroachment / Soil Carbon / Adaptive Management / Boundaries / Treatment Planning / Psychological Safety

Woody Encroachment: “Reducing Woody Encroachment in Grasslands: A Guide for **Understanding Risk and Vulnerability**” provides a **scientific foundation for managing rangeland systems** that are vulnerable to woody encroachment. The **guide** uses eastern redcedar as a featured example, but its principles are widely applicable across native grasslands that are being encroached upon by both native and nonnative woodland vegetation.

Soil Carbon: The *Nature Geoscience* **article** “**Fire Effects** on the Persistence of **Soil Organic Matter** and Long-Term Carbon Storage” has been **summarized** on *ScienceDaily*. The authors argue that using fire to promote soil organic matter stability may be an important **nature-based climate solution**.

Adaptive Management: The *Ecology and Society* **article** “Capturing Practitioners’ ‘How-to’ Knowledge in the Form of **Recommendations for More Effective Planning of Collaborative Adaptive Management** Projects” is based on interviews with practitioners from ten projects. Themes that emerged are discussed, and the authors concluded that “the most important take-away for practitioners ... is that there is real **value in taking time up front** to reach out to communities and work on **building trust**.”

Boundaries: The high-level JFSP project **report** “Exploring **Boundary Spanning Features**” addresses **several types of boundaries**—land ownership, functional, organizational and conceptual—that can complicate fire management. “Boundary spanning features are **concepts, objects, settings, and organizations** that may help **bridge disconnects and differences** between actors by creating more opportunities for them to understand each other, share resources and responsibilities, and work together.”

Treatment Planning: The **paper** “Planning for Future Fire: Scenario Analysis of an **Accelerated Fuel Reduction Plan** for the Western United States” by Alan Ager and colleagues lays out a method for planning fuel treatments based on the **goal of reducing building exposure** from wildfires on national forests.

Psychological Safety: Much of the **December issue** of *Fire Management Today* is devoted to the Forest Service’s **broadening of its focus on safety** to include psychological and emotional safety. A variety of voices shares their understanding of psychological safety and its benefits—or necessity—and several discuss the intersectionality of psychological safety and diversity/inclusion in the fire management world.

In the News: Facing Fire / Suburban Fire / Longleaf Beer

Facing Fire: In the [essay](#) “This Isn’t the California I Married,” Elizabeth Weil lays out the fire situation in California—and some of the **shifts needed** in our thinking about **fire, the present and the future**.

Suburban Fire: The *New York Magazine* [article](#) “The Return of the Urban Firestorm—**What Happened in Colorado** Was Something Much Scariest Than a Wildfire” is a wide-ranging interview with climate scientist **Daniel Swain**, speaking just after the Marshall Fire in Colorado. It covers the interplay of **climate and weather**, the nexus of **wildland fire and urban conflagration**, and the inevitability of **risk**. See also the FAC Net [blog post](#) “The WUI is Dead. Long Live the WUI,” by **Ed Keith**, published earlier in December. “The WUI may work, albeit imperfectly, as a concept, but it’s **not meant to be a geographical place**.”

Longleaf Beer: In **Longleaf India Pale Ale**, a brewer in Virginia didn’t just give a nod to an important local species in the beer’s name—it’s **brewed with branches and needles** from the trees. Read about this brew in a [post](#) “A Thirst for Longleaf” on **The Nature Conservancy’s** website or the *Garden & Gun* [story](#) “A New Beer in Virginia Is a Literal Taste of Longleaf Pine.”

Jobs: Ecologist / Researcher / Forest Health / Project Director / Research Field Crew / Fire Program Manager / The Ember Alliance

Ecologist: The Oregon chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **forest ecologist** to work with numerous partners to guide planning, implementation and monitoring of fire-adapted forest restoration activities across Central Oregon. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 50805](#)); applications are due by **January 31**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Researcher: The **University of California, Berkeley** is hiring an **assistant/associate specialist in fire ecology/fire science**. Details are on the university’s recruitment site ([Job #JPF03294](#)); the next review date is **January 18** and the final review date is **February 4**.

Forest Health: The New Mexico chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **forest and watershed health manager** to develop, administer and advance the goals of forest and watershed health in New Mexico, including the **Rio Grande Water Fund**. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 50822](#)); applications are due by **February 7**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Project Director: The Arizona chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **forest project director** to oversee implementation of the Conservancy’s Future Forest Project with the U.S. Forest Service in northern Arizona. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 49683](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Research Field Crew: The **University of Washington** is seeking a **field crew lead** and a couple of **field crew members** to **collect and process data** for scientific research conducted by the Fire and Environmental Research Applications Team. Details are on the university’s jobs site—crew lead (req. [#200150](#)) and crew members ([req. #200149](#)).

Fire Program Manager: The North Carolina chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **Sandhills stewardship and fire program manager** to lead work in the **longleaf pine** savanna and associated communities in the Sandhills. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 50781](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

The Ember Alliance: This NGO based in Loveland, Colorado, has numerous openings, including **fuels squad** members, an **assistant FMO** and **support staff**. See their [Join Our Team](#) page for details.

Webinars

Jan. 18-March 15
new listing

Lookout: Envisioning Futures with Wildfire

6:00 pm Pacific / 7:00 pm Mountain / 8:00 pm Central / 9:00 pm Eastern

This weekly lecture series hosted by Oregon State University features a wide range of speakers (including Margo Robbins on January 18).

Details & registration: <https://liberalarts.oregonstate.edu/feature-story/lookout-envisioning-futures-wildfire>

January 19

Residents' Perspectives on Colorado's 2020 Cameron Peak Fire

9:30 Pacific / 10:30 Mountain / 11:30 Central / 12:30 Eastern (1.5 hrs)

Social science researchers at Colorado State University and the USDA Rocky Mountain Research Station, interviewed more than 50 people in communities directly impacted by the Cameron Peak Fire to understand their experiences.

Details & registration: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Dy76-hjrQlaoCFDjLD9eQ

January 19

Postfire Landscape Management in Frequent-Fire Conifer Forests of the Southwestern U.S.

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

Jens T. Stevens will be the presenter for this webinar from the Southwest Fire Science Consortium.

Details & registration: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsd-2rrT8sHdyQTqUdPkaUVFJCU1RfxSIN>

January 20

Fueling Collaboration: Smoke Is Not Just Smoke

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

This series of interactive panel discussions, hosted by six JFSP consortia and the Northern and Southern Research Stations, is designed to connect fire managers and researchers. Each discussion will be built on questions from the registered attendees. Details & registration: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/>

February 17

Fueling Collaboration: Fire & the Wildland Urban Interface in the Eastern U.S.

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

This series of interactive panel discussions, hosted by six JFSP consortia and the Northern and Southern Research Stations, is designed to connect fire managers and researchers. Each discussion will be built on questions from the registered attendees. Details & registration: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/>

March 17

Fueling Collaboration: Thinking Beyond Fuel Reduction

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

This series of interactive panel discussions, hosted by six JFSP consortia and the Northern and Southern Research Stations, is designed to connect fire managers and researchers. Each discussion will be built on questions from the registered attendees. Details & registration: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

May 24-27, 2022

Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Dillard, GA

The SBR FLN and CAFMS will hold a joint workshop that looks back over the five years since the fires of 2016.

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

Oct. 22–February 28 **Butte County Cal-TREX / Chico, CA**

After two training weekends, this TREX is acting as an on-call prescribed fire crew.

February 6-12 **deadline**

Cultural Fire Management Council-Yurok TREX / Weitchpec, CA

These are the target dates for the spring CFMC-Yurok TREX; if the window shifts, participants will need to be able to mobilize on 72-hours' notice.

See the [announcement](#) for details; [applications](#) are due by **January 12**.

March 20-April 2 **new listing**

Loup TREX / Loup River Valley, NE

See the [announcement](#) for details; [applications](#) are due by **February 25**.

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

January 27 + **new listing**

Biochar in the Woods: Learn How to Use Biochar for Forest Resilience / online + Chico and Paradise, CA

The U.S. Biochar Initiative is hosting a full-day seminar and field days (Feb. 1-3).

Details & registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/biochar-in-the-woods-learn-how-to-use-biochar-for-forest-resilience-tickets-207366166787>

February 3 **new listing**

Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council Meeting / online

Register: <https://paprescribedfire.org/ppfc-2022-annual-meeting>

February 22-23 **new listing**

Virginia Prescribed Fire Council Meeting / online

Register: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeY1yqZ7YI5BTZtcYBdvNmN62c3jnbfnRfjT17MizGgBSf4g/viewform>

March 3-5 **new listing**

Women Woodland Owners Virtual Conference / online

The Forest Stewards Guild is hosting a workshop for women forest stewards from across the country, with sessions Thursday and Friday evenings and Saturday mid-day. Details & registration: <https://www.womenowningwoodlands.net/event/women-woodland-owners-virtual-conference>

March 8-10

Cross-Boundary Landscape Restoration Workshop / Ft. Collins, CO

Information: <https://sweri.eri.nau.edu/cross-boundary-landscape-restoration-workshop/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Emily Hohman – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is out January 31.

Heather Montanye – Heather has retired.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in the office.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in the field January 14.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Hoopa, CA January 25-28.

Miranda Flora – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in the office.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is out January 13-25.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out January 13, 20, 27.

Note: In addition to those dates, January 17 is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

News from the Field—AZ: https://azdailysun.com/news/local/environmental-year-in-review-fires-flooding-and-forest-restoration-in-flagstaff/article_00fb3361-bb64-5e0f-97f7-8542e19e5cdd.html#tracking-source=home-top-story

News from the Field—NC: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-river-state-park-wagoner-access-learn-and-burn-event-tickets-239461474717>

News from the Field—OR: <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/05/climate/fire-forest-management-bootleg-oregon.html>

Resources—Geysering: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-ea-22-02.pdf>

Resources—Wildfire 101 videos—Fire triangle: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Mmjl8zWmL8>

Red flag weather: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jPL_ADu2clk

Smoke: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7yuNGAJzgbA>

Resources—Emergency guides for residents—Planning: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/preparedbc/make-your-plan>

Post-disaster guide: [https://mcusercontent.com/2263fe298f4df255d22b80097/files/4983e335-11fc-14e1-6600-b5f8f3a8af52/After the Disaster Guidebook TEMPLATE V3.pdf?mc_cid=1c7a87a5d1&mc_eid=06d744032b](https://mcusercontent.com/2263fe298f4df255d22b80097/files/4983e335-11fc-14e1-6600-b5f8f3a8af52/After%20the%20Disaster%20Guidebook%20TEMPLATE%20V3.pdf?mc_cid=1c7a87a5d1&mc_eid=06d744032b)

Renters' guide: <https://simplebooklet.com/aguideforlaketahoelongtermrenters#page=1>

Blog post: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/renters-and-wildfire-preparedness/>

Resources—Burnout: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/burnout-and-stress-in-the-practitioner-community/>

Articles & Reports—Woody encroachment: <https://naldc.nal.usda.gov/download/7548409/PDF>

Articles & Reports—Soil carbon—Article: <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41561-021-00867-1>

Summary: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/12/211223113102.htm>

Articles & Reports—Adaptive management: <https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol26/iss4/art24/>

Articles & Reports—Boundaries: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/2a58e04588e643238dffa24cab21778a>

Articles & Reports—Treatment planning: https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_journals/2021/rmrs_2021_ager_a001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Psychological safety: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/fire-management-today/FS-Pubs-FMT-79-4.pdf>

In the News—Facing fire: <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/03/magazine/california-wildfires.html>

In the News—Suburban fire—Article: <https://nymag.com/intelligencer/2022/01/colorado-saw-the-return-of-the-urban-firestorm.html>

Blog post: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/project-firehawk-the-wui-is-dead/>

In the News—Longleaf beer—TNC website: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/virginia/stories-in-virginia/oktoberforest-in-virginia/>

Garden & Gun: <https://gardenandgun.com/articles/a-new-beer-in-virginia-is-a-literal-taste-of-longleaf-pine/>

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>

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