

FLN Networker No. 190: August 5, 2015

The FLN Networker is a publication of the Fire Learning Network—a partnership of the USDA Forest Service, Department of the Interior (BIA, BLM, National Park Service, US Fish & Wildlife Service) and The Nature Conservancy—intended to foster communication within the network and among its friends. Submit comments, links and subscription requests to Liz Rank.

For more about the FLN, visit www.conservationgateway.org/fln or contact Lynn Decker.

News from the Field

National: The narrative part of our **semi-annual report** for the first half of 2015 is now available on the [Conservation Gateway](#). It includes the executive summary, a PERFACT overview, and sections on the FLN, FAC Net and TREX, as well as a graphic on the evolution of TREX and the final report for SPER II. For individual full-resolution sections to use as handouts, contact **Liz Rank** (lrank@tnc.org). As always, a big thank you to all who contributed to this great body of work.

California: The July **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership** workshop focused on **collaboratively developing prescription options** for fuels treatments in both overgrown pine plantations and natural forest stands. The group first looked at the mountainside in question and discussed the overall strategy of using roadside and ridgetop treatments to enable landscape-scale fires to burn in the future. The next day, participants worked in small groups to complete a **tree marking exercise** along a roadway, flagging trees to leave or remove. Assisting the group was fire researcher **Carl Skinner**, who remarked, “It was amazing how **much agreement** there was among the different groups about **what they wanted the forest to look like**, but how much **variety** there was in their ideas about **how to get there**.” He noted that **diversity in treatments** is valuable especially when uncertainties like the impacts of drought and climate change are involved. For more information, contact **Mary Huffman** (mhuffman@tnc.org).

California: With the fire season getting lively, the [Salmon River & Orleans Complexities group](#) on Facebook is also active again. The group has **almost 1,600 members**, and has become a **community space for questions and information** about wildfires around the Klamath and Trinity Rivers.

The local FLN/FAC Net fire report, from **Michelle Medley-Daniel**: “The [Fork Complex](#) includes all of the **fires right around Hayfork**. The [South Complex](#) includes the fires around Hyampom (where we’ve done some of our **SPER work**). There are also fires to the southwest around Ruth Lake (in southern Trinity) and to the northwest around Denny (between us and the **Mid-Klamath folks**). And that’s just in our general vicinity! Certainly unprecedented. We are learning a lot, of course, and the timing of our CWPP update—slated for this fall—will hopefully be a good way to capture that learning and the interest of citizens.”

South of that, the **Rocky Fire** has jumped Highway 20 and is burning in the **FireScape Mendocino** landscape. CAL FIRE has [incident information](#) for this fire.

North Carolina: According to a Forest Service [update](#), the **Bald Knob Fire (Pisgah NF)** is “**moving naturally across the terrain** in an area where damage from southern pine beetle created high levels of fuels. This area is **adjacent to multiple prescribed burn areas** that have recently been treated as part of the **Grandfather Restoration Project** which will limit the fire’s ability to spread rapidly.” A module experienced in managing fires for multiple objectives is implementing a **confine and contain strategy** on the fire.

North Carolina: In September there will be a **new interpretive trail** in the **Pisgah NF**. FLN partners—**TNC, USDA Forest Service** and the **Consortium for Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists**—are developing materials that will focus on the **role and history of fire** on the landscape, the basics of

ecological succession, and **restoration efforts** in the region. These will include wayside signs, large kiosks and an audio tour (available on CD and downloadable podcast). **Jenifer Bunty** (jenifer.bunty@tnc.org) and **Adam Warwick** (awarwick@tnc.org) are using **#goodfire** to launch a campaign announcing the trail and encouraging discussion of the role of fire in this area.

Oregon: As part of the **Wildland Fire Leadership Council** (WFLC) **meeting** held in Ashland last week, partners in the **Ashland Forest Resiliency** project hosted a **field tour** of the city's municipal watershed. According to an [article](#) in the *Ashland Daily Tidings*, **Kris Sarri** of the **Department of Interior** found "a **very impressive level of community engagement** among stakeholders" in the Ashland work. In addition to the local FLN and FAC Net efforts highlighted in the tour, afternoon **panel sessions** featured the work of **regional Washington and California FAC networks**. A **poster session** hosted by the **FLN and FAC Net** also displayed the posters from the networks' June workshop, and drew about 75 people.

In the course of this [meeting](#), WFLC members discussed **areas of focus for the next 18 months**. These include promoting **cross-boundary collaboratives**; working on **smoke and air quality** issues; addressing **environmental compliance** issues; **engaging communities** in Cohesive Strategy behaviors; and developing and implementing a **robust communications strategy** to support the identified objectives.

Oregon: In Bend, there was some nice coverage of a **public tour** to the site of a major fire 25 years ago and a minor one more recently that **highlighted the value of treatments**. **FAC Net** members **Alison Green** and **Ed Keith** were quoted in a [newspaper article](#) ("Shevlin Fire Field Trip Offers Lessons: People Who Live near where Fire Burned Learn Why It Stayed Small"). But perhaps a local resident said it best: "Avoiding a wildfire that destroys homes takes a combination of thinning like the projects highlighted during the walk and people keeping brush from becoming overgrown on their own property." A brief story about this **Project Wildfire** tour also ran on the local [KTVZ](#).

Washington: **Leavenworth** was one of the communities highlighted in the "**success stories**" section of the [report](#) on this year's **National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day** on the **National Fire Protection Association** website. The [write-up](#) mentions the "go kit" project and other activities led there by the **Chumstick Wildfire Stewardship Coalition**.

Resources: Property Assessment Quick Guides / WUI Map & Data / Media Toolbox / Climate Tools

Property Assessment Quick Guides: The **FAC Net** has published its [second set of quick guides](#) based on the **learning of the network** and its members. This set focuses on using property assessments to promote fire adapted communities. The three **two-page guides** include an **overview** as well as guides covering **data and tools** and **training**, each with links to more resources.

WUI Map & Data: The **Forest Service** [publication](#) *The 2010 Wildland-Urban Interface of the Conterminous United States* and its **maps, statistics and underlying data** are now available. WUI makes up 9.9% of the area and includes about a third of the houses in the conterminous states.

Media Toolbox: [Resource Media](#) has a set of **communication tools for nonprofits** that seem to cover just about everything from building a message to making good infographics to using social media and search engine optimization.

Climate Tools: The USDA Climate Hubs site has a new [Climate Hubs Tool Shed](#) with links to a variety of resources "for the climate, agriculture and forestry sectors. The tools range from **specialized calculators** to **maps, models** and **datasets** estimating a variety of outputs (e.g., crop production, greenhouse gas flux, and species distribution)."

Article: Local Ecological Knowledge

Local Ecological Knowledge: The [article](#) “Local Ecological Knowledge and Fire Management: What Does the Public Understand?” recently appeared in the *Journal of Forestry*.

In the News: Pyne on the Three R’s

Pyne: In an [article](#) on Slate.com, “The New Approach to Fighting Wildfires,” **Stephen Pyne** talks about three approaches to wildfire: **resistance, restoration and resilience**.

Jobs: Water Fund Director / Regional Coordinator / Director of Conservation

Water Fund Director: The **Nature Conservancy’s** New Mexico chapter is seeking a director for the **Rio Grande Water Fund**. Details are available on the TNC careers page ([position ID # 43294](#)); applications are due by **August 9**.

Regional Coordinator: The **National Association of State Foresters** is hiring a coordinator (one-year term) to implement the **National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy** in the **Southeastern Region**. See the [announcement](#) for details; applications are due by **August 20**.

Director of Conservation: The **Nature Conservancy’s** Colorado chapter is hiring a deputy director / director of conservation. Details are available on the TNC careers page ([position ID # 43389](#)); applications are due by **September 20**.

Webinars

August 6
new listing

A Method for Building Trust and Collaboration in Addressing Climate Change Impacts: Part 1—Working with Cooperators

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

The [Climate Learning Network](#) has announced its first webinar series. Dates and topics of the first four webinars are at <https://climatesciencelearningnetwork.wordpress.com/2015/07/23/climate-learning-network-to-launch-webinar-series/>

August 18

Compositional and Structural Changes over Time with Different Fire Regimes in Linville Gorge, NC

noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern

In this **Southern Blue Ridge FLN** webinar, **Cassandra Pallai** will discuss research conducted in Linville Gorge based on resampling plots originally put in during 1992 for her Master’s project at Duke University. The plots have been resampled (by Waldrop and others) periodically and give a nice sampling of different fire regimes in Linville. Plots within the Table Rock Fire footprint were recently sampled, and Pallai combined those results with the original sampling and Waldrop’s resampling to study compositional and structural changes over time with different fire regimes. ([Add to your calendar](#).)

Join the webinar: <https://nethope.webex.com/nethope/j.php?MTID=m62d49eb623f92bc2c4019d26003c1a66>

August 26
new listing

Climate Change and Fire in the Southwest

noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern

Larissa Yocom (Northern Arizona University) will be the presenter on this Southwest Fire Science Consortium webinar. Information: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-change-and-fire-in-the-southwest-registration-17882799936>

FLN and FAC LN Workshops & Field Tours

September 14

Pike's Peak FLN Field Tour / CO

Save the date for this field visit to the Sourdough and North Slope prescribed burn project sites.

Information: Paige Lewis (paige_lewis@tnc.org)

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges

Sept. 15-Oct. 5

Spanish-Language TREX / northern NM

This training exchange will be held in and around the Santa Fe National Forest, and will bring together participants from several countries and across the U.S. (The application deadline has passed.)

**Sept. 29-Oct. 11
deadline**

Klamath River TREX / northern CA

This TREX will provide communities along the Klamath River with experience and training on how to plan and implement controlled burns, protect communities from wildfires, and prepare for managing wildfires for resource benefits. It is designed to integrate a diverse group of fire practitioners with varying degrees of knowledge and experience. Applications are due by **August 17**.

Information: details are in the announcement on the application page (<http://trexregistration.weebly.com/klamath-river-trex.html>); applications should be submitted through the online system

**Oct. 20-Nov. 1
deadline**

NorCal TREX / northern CA

At this TREX a diverse group of international and domestic fire practitioners will work together to share and build their experience in prescribed fire practices, fire effects, and other conservation efforts affecting forests and grasslands in northwestern California. Prescribed fire and wildfire personnel and other natural resource managers involved in fire and ecosystem management, including federal, state, tribal, non-governmental and private practitioners are encouraged to apply. Applications are due by **August 17**.

Information: details are in the announcement on the application page (<http://trexregistration.weebly.com/norcal-trex.html>); applications should be submitted through the online system

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

**August 18-19
new listing**

Large Juniper Burn Training / Sonora, TX

The Great Plains Fire Science Exchange and partners are hosting this two-day workshop, with one classroom day followed by burning (weather permitting).

Information: <http://www.gpfirescience.org/events-webinars-source/2015/7/31/large-juniper-burn-training>

August 19

Firing Operations and Initial Attack in Grassland Habitats / WA

Joint Base Lewis McChord, the Center for Natural Lands Management and the Washington Prescribed Fire council will be hosting training opportunities targeted for firefighters working on firing boss task books or wishing to increase their experience with initial attack on grassland fires. Anyone who is NWCG qualified and current is welcome. Note: *dates are tentative*.

Information: see flyer attached to [FLN Networker No. 188](#)

- August 26-27** **Patch Burn Grazing Meeting / Pratt, KS**
Information: <http://blogs.missouristate.edu/gpfirescience/2015/04/28/call-for-abstracts-2015-patch-burn-grazing-meeting/>
- September 16** **Firing Operations and Initial Attack in Grassland Habitats / WA**
See August 19 listing. Note: *dates are tentative*.
- September 24-26** **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference: Creating Fire Adapted Communities / Snowmass Village, CO**
The conference theme will be “Fire adapted communities—who owns the risk?”
FAC Net liaison Molly Mowery will be among the keynote speakers at this conference.
Information: <http://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
- October 22-24** **Backyards & Beyond: Wildland Fire Education Conference / Myrtle Beach, SC**
Information: <http://www.nfpa.org/training/backyards-and-beyond>
- October 27-28** **Climate Adaptation for Conservation—Training & Coaching / Memphis, TN**
new listing
The Wildlife Conservation Society is offering this two-day workshop (ideally for project teams of 2-4 people). Applications are due by August 24.
Information: https://gallery.mailchimp.com/39a0cc0894768df6b3230129f/files/TrainingFlyer_OctoberWCS_Final_II_1_.pdf
- November 16-20** **AFE Fire Ecology & Management Congress / San Antonio, TX**
Additional offerings with this conference include an Rx310 course and several field tours, including one to Aransas NWR. Note: deadlines for oral and poster presentations have been extended (to August 14 and September 1, respectively).
Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>

Send News, Links & Comments

Lynn Decker – ldecker@tnc.org – Lynn is out August 12, August 14-17; in Boise August 18-20.

Guy Duffner – gduffner@tnc.org – Guy is in the office.

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

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

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in the office.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in Salida, CO August 5-6; out August 7-10.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is in the office.

To stop receiving the FLN Networker, please reply to this message and include your request in the body of the message.

Full Links

News from the Field—Semi-annual report: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/Pages/PERFACT-Report-Jul-2015.aspx>

News from the Field—California: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/537554202959342/> \

News from the Field—North Carolina (fire): <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/alerts-notice/?cid=stelprd3848221>

News from the Field—Oregon-- Article: <http://www.dailytidings.com/article/20150731/NEWS/150739946>

Meeting: <http://wildfireinthewest.blogspot.com/2015/08/wflc-meets-in-ashland-for-local.html>

News from the Field—Oregon—Newspaper story on tour: <http://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/3392881-151/shevlin-fire-field-trip-offers-lessons?referrer=fbblob#>

KTVZ: <http://www.ktvz.com/news/residents-tour-shevlin-fire-area/34520194#.VcGIBY-O9VY.twitter>

News from the Field—Washington: <http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/outdoors/wildland-fires/national-wildfire-community-preparedness-day>

Resources—Property assessment quick guides: <http://facnetwork.org/resources/network-quick-guides/>

Resources—WUI map & data: <http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/48642>

Resources—Media toolbox: <http://www.resource-media.org/toolbox/>

Article—Local ecological knowledge:

<http://www.nwfirescience.org/sites/default/files/publications/LocalEcologicalKnowledge.pdf>

Jobs--Regional coordinator: <http://www.southernforests.org/new-and-noteworthy/national-association-of-state-foresters-seeks-regional-coordinator-for-national-cohesive-wildland-fire-management-strategy>

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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