

Wisdom from the Field

Principles and Best Practices of The Fire Learning Network



Tip 1

Today's fire problems are so complex that no single person or party can solve them.



Tip 2

Collaboration is built on the premise that for complex problems, people working together from different perspectives will arrive at better solutions, faster.



Tip 3

Collaboration is not intuitive. It requires new skills and practices that don't always come naturally.



Tip 4

Make a fierce commitment to
openness, transparency, inclusiveness.



Tip 5

Everyone's ideas are considered equally, regardless of affiliation or job title.



Everyone has something to share, everyone has something to learn.

Tip 6

Look for nuggets in old, new and novel ideas.



Tip 7

Focus on Zones of Agreement.
There is so much to do. Dig there.



Tip 8

People make choices based on a handful of deeply rooted values. These are personal and unlikely to change.



Tip 9

Three common perspectives in fire problem-solving often lead people to different ideas:

1. Nature is here to serve people.
2. Nature should be saved for its own sake.
3. People have a role in maintaining the physical and spiritual balance of nature.

Assume good intent and know that all three are likely at play.

Tip 10

Facts are different from values. Facts change as we learn more. Sharing and questioning facts helps us learn more rapidly.



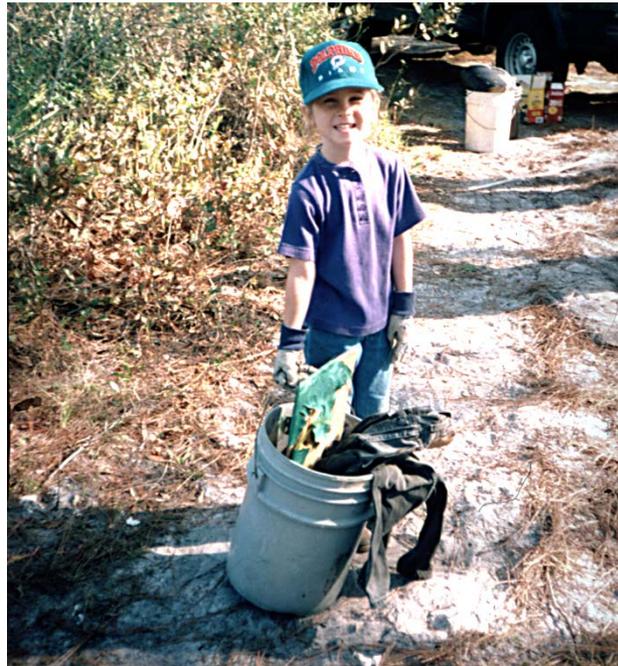
Tip 11

Work in an open forum, then volunteer to contribute what you can, within your home procedures.



Tip 12

Collaboration is built on trust.
Trust is built upon a clean series
of honorable acts.



Tip 13

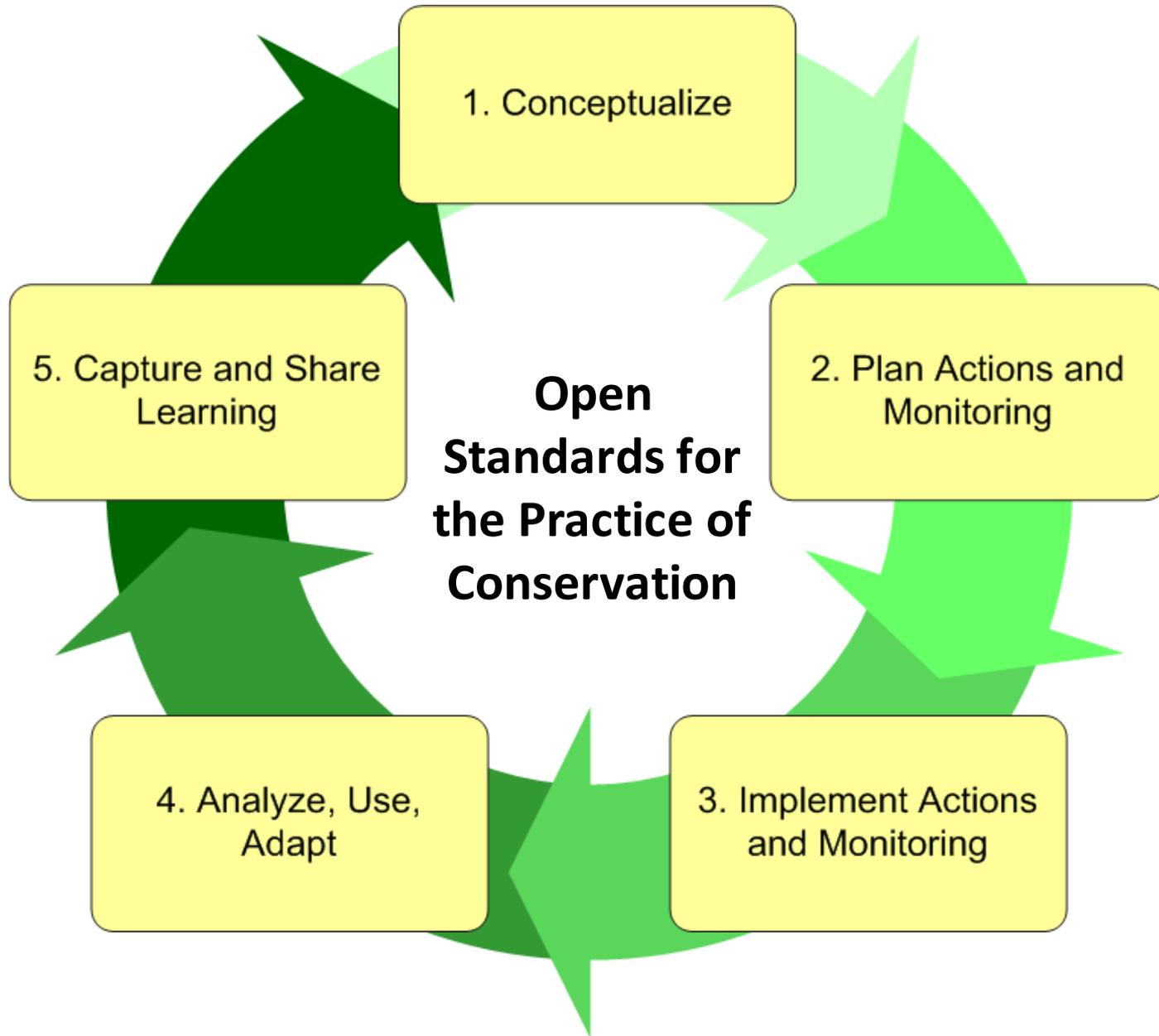
Sometimes you have to go slow to go fast.

Be patient with one another and the collaborative path.



Commonly Used Ground Rules

- Maintain an open, transparent, inclusive process
- Everyone participates and advocates.
- Be an active listener and learner.
- Assume people hear you the first time. . . . Don't dominate.
- Give honest feedback . . . with a kind delivery.
- Create a boss-free atmosphere.
- Cell phones off, no side conversations.
- If more work is needed, a homework team will finalize a proposal and bring it back to the group.
- Use good humor to keep things light.



1. Conceptualize

- Define initial team
- Define scope, vision, targets
- Identify critical threats
- Complete situation analysis

5. Capture Learn

- Document
- Share learning
- Create learning environment

2. Plans and ing

- Develop monitoring plan
- Develop operational plan

4. Analyze, Use, Adapt

- Prepare data for analysis
- Analyze results
- Adapt strategic plan

3. Implement Actions and Monitoring

- Develop work plan and timeline
- Develop and refine budget
- Implement plans

1. Conceptualize

- Define initial team
- Define scope, vision, targets
- Identify critical threats
- Complete situation analysis

2. Plan Actions and Monitoring

- Develop goals, strategies, assumptions, and objectives
- Develop monitoring plan
- Develop operational plan

3. Implement Actions and Monitoring

- Develop work plan and timeline
- Develop and refine budget
- Implement plans

4. Analyze, Use, Adapt

- Prepare data for analysis
- Analyze results
- Adapt strategic plan

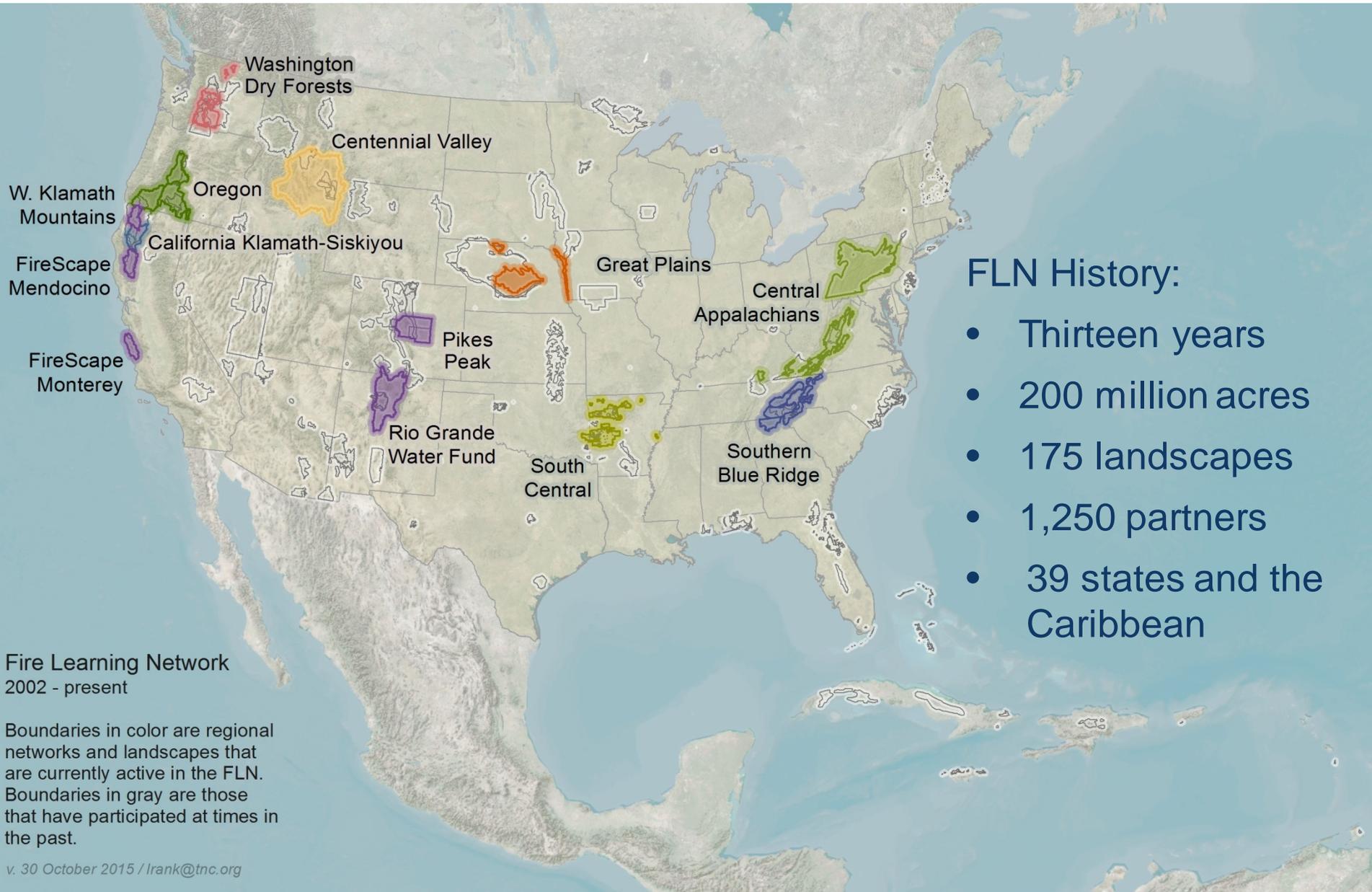
5. Capture and Share Learning

- Document learning
- Share learning
- Create learning environment

About Us

The Fire Learning Network (FLN) is a cooperative program of the Forest Service, the Department of the Interior agencies—Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service—and The Nature Conservancy. The partnership has a 13-year track record of helping to restore our nation's forests and grasslands and to make human communities safer from wildfire.

Where We are Currently Working



FLN History:

- Thirteen years
- 200 million acres
- 175 landscapes
- 1,250 partners
- 39 states and the Caribbean

Fire Learning Network
2002 - present

Boundaries in color are regional networks and landscapes that are currently active in the FLN. Boundaries in gray are those that have participated at times in the past.

Our Staff



Lynn Decker
Director
ldecker@tnc.org



Jeremy Bailey
Associate Director Fire Training
jeremy_bailey@tnc.org



Wendy Fulks, Associate Director
Fire Adapted Communities
wfulks@tnc.org



Heather Montanye
Operations Manager
hmontanye@tnc.org



Mary Huffman
Associate Director Fire Science and Planning
mhuffman@tnc.org



Guy Duffner
Conservation Assoc. for Planning & Training
gduffner@tnc.org



Liz Rank
Conservation Information Manager
lrank@tnc.org

The FLN is supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

For more information, contact Lynn Decker at ldecker@tnc.org or (801) 320-0524.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.