

***** Training Announcement *****

**Prescribed Fire Training Exchange
Niobrara River Valley Nebraska, March 23- April 7, 2018**

Objectives: To conduct a series of controlled burns on The Nature Conservancy's Niobrara Valley Preserve to provide experiential learning opportunities to participants.

Target Group: This training is designed to integrate a diverse group of fire practitioners, including: private landowners, volunteer fire departments, university students, municipal, state, federal and contract firefighters, as well as other natural resource managers, scientists and researchers.

Description: The training is organized as an incident, using the Incident Command System. Participants will serve in qualified and trainee firefighting positions on a burn team and will assist with preparing, scouting, briefing, igniting, holding, mop-up, and patrol on numerous controlled burns in the area. We will also complete pre- and post-fire monitoring, train with various equipment, practice fireline leadership skills, and learn about local fire ecology and management.

There will be field trips to areas burned in recent fires and presentations from local ranchers and other community members, scientists, land managers and fire practitioners. Participants will also present briefings about the fire regimes in their home region and discuss management challenges and opportunities there.

Requirements:

1. All participants must be current and qualified NWCG wildland firefighters (FFT2 minimum).
2. Participants must have completed an arduous pack test within one year of dates they plan to attend. Pack tests must be completed prior to arriving at the training. Use of the moderate pack test is acceptable, although not encouraged, if coming as a TNC volunteer and serving in a prescribed fire crew member (RXCM) position.
3. Participants must have personal or employer provided medical insurance.
4. Participants should come with all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment including: a Next Generation Fire Shelter, a hard hat, Nomex clothing, all leather gloves, eye protection and canteens. If you are unable to provide your own PPE, we will provide you with a complete set (excluding boots - see below)
5. Participants must bring fireline-approved boots (all-leather work boots, 8 inches tall, with non-slip soles and no steel toe).

Meals & Travel: All meals, ground transportation and lodging will be provided during the training. Participants are responsible for their own travel to and from the Niobrara Valley Preserve near Ainsworth, Nebraska. Participants should **arrive at the Preserve on Saturday March 24th.**

College credit available: The University of Idaho offers 3 upper-division forestry credits in conjunction with TREX. See the [flyer](#) for details.

Registration: To apply, please complete the [application form](#) & submit to **Amanda Hefner** (amanda.hefner@tnc.org) **no later than January 25, 2018.**



See the Niobrara TREX 2017 storymap: <http://arcg.is/2qYcJ9l>