

Promoting Ecosystem Resiliency and Fire Adapted Communities Together

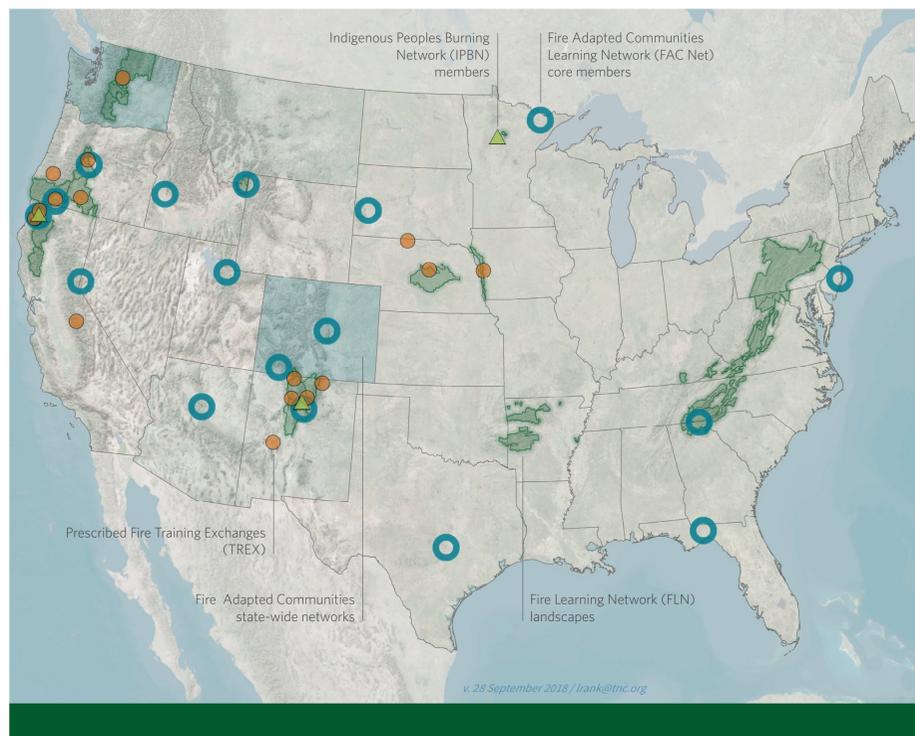


PERFACT is addressing the country's wildfire problems head-on with a flexible approach that is constantly evolving in response to emerging issues and partner priorities. Millions of acres of land are at risk—from increased size and severity of wildfire impacts, or from habitat conversion and biodiversity decline due to inappropriate exclusion of fire. Thousands of communities are also at risk. There is widespread, urgent need for preparation and mitigation—proactive tactics from prescribed burning and managing wildfires for resource benefit, to collaboratively developing community plans and creating defensible space.

For years, PERFACT partners have led the way in making progress on the three inter-connected goals now embodied in the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy:

- ▶ Resilient landscapes,
- ▶ Fire adapted communities, and
- ▶ Safe and effective wildfire response

From coast to coast, PERFACT supports landscapes and communities that are advancing planning, implementation and adaptive management that move people and places toward these goals.



PERFACT Strategies

Under the PERFACT agreement, people work together to increase the capacity and social capital needed to make ecosystems and communities more resilient to wildfire. PERFACT supports effective learning networks, as well as training, capacity-building and targeted collaborative projects on the ground.



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The **Fire Learning Network (FLN)** engages dozens of multi-stakeholder partnerships in a process that accelerates the restoration of landscapes that depend on fire to sustain both natural and human communities. Through highly effective collaboration, the ecological and social values of the landscapes can be maintained, and the consequences of undesired wildfire can be reduced.



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The **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (FAC Net)** has a similar role, but works from the human communities outward. Members are spreading better ways of living with wildfire—ways that recognize the role of fire in our ecosystems, provide alternatives to costly fire suppression, and reduce risk for residents and firefighters. This includes embracing resiliency concepts and taking action before, during and after wildfires.



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Photo: USFS

The **Indigenous Peoples Burning Network (IPBN)** brings together Native American people working to revitalize traditional fire cultures in a contemporary context. Their work includes connecting elders and youth to prepare the next generation of cultural fire practitioners, controlled burning to bring back native foods and fiber, and empowering agencies to embrace tribal perspectives.



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Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TRES) and cooperative burning events provide experiential training that builds robust local capacity for fire management and offers professional fire practitioners a more holistic perspective—while implementing treatments that support community and landscape objectives. The TRES Coaches Network is dramatically expanding the reach of this strategy by mentoring and linking those moving into leadership roles.

PERFACT strategies are flexible, adapting as needed to changing circumstances. Staff and network members actively work to identify challenges and seek opportunities to meet them. From developing tools for collaboration in fire planning to helping communities and businesses plan ahead for post-fire recovery, the networks and partnerships are leaders in the field, making landscapes and communities more resilient.

Our multi-faceted approach helps diverse stakeholders—agencies, organizations and residents—build trust and understanding, and work together to improve their capacity to safely co-exist with fire. Training and co-learning opportunities offered by PERFACT support collective action, helping professionals and communities alike build the capacity and relationships to meet their shared goals.



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Linking members into national networks—and forging connections among the networks—provides an effective means to share and access innovations and lessons learned. The personal connections across networks and across the country also spark new ideas and new solutions for living with fire.

164

FLN landscapes in **40** states have, since 2002, engaged nearly **1,500** partners and leveraged more than **\$80 million** toward effective restoration and maintenance of healthy forests & grasslands

75

TRES and cooperative burn projects have provided **2,700** training opportunities & treated **107,000** acres with good fire

28

states are touched by FAC Net, with its **17** core members, **5** statewide networks and **144** affiliate members from coast to coast

LEARN MORE

FLN resources are posted at:
www.conservationgateway.org/fln
 FAC Network blogs and more are at:
<https://fireadaptednetwork.org/>
 TRES information is at:
<http://nature.ly/trainingexchanges>



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Who We Are

PERFACT is led by staff from The Nature Conservancy's North America Fire Initiative, who partner with the Watershed Research and Training Center to facilitate the FAC Learning Network and other components. Design and co-management of our portfolio is supported by staff from University of California Cooperative Extension, the Conservancy's Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Team and the USDA Forest Service's Landscapes and Partnerships Program. PERFACT also partners with numerous other programs, including many projects in the Forest Service's Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP).

Partners in individual landscape and community efforts span a full range of affiliations, including federal, state, local and tribal agencies; businesses; non-profit organizations; universities; private land-owners; and engaged residents. Interests are equally varied, and this diversity helps build strong, resilient networks.

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