

FLN Networker No. 289: October 30, 2019

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 or contact Marek Smith.

News from the Field

California: “The **Quiet, Intentional Fires** of Northern California” is a lovely [article](#) in *Wired* by photographer **Kiliii Yüyan**, who took part in the **Yurok TREX** this fall.

California/Nevada: Inspired by the excellent Eastern Washington Forest Health Strategic Plan [summary](#), which provided compelling and understandable information with style, the **Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team** recently published the **Lake Tahoe Basin Forest Action Plan**. With maps, graphs and tables, [the document](#) briefly lays out the challenges, and the solutions and investments planned for **WUI treatments, powerline corridors, forest restoration** and **technology innovation**. For more on the Tahoe plan, contact **Forest Schafer** (forest.schafer@tahoe.ca.gov).

New Mexico: The [AP story](#) “Fire-Ravaged Forests Get Help From **Pine Cone Collectors**” talks about a multi-partner **post-fire restoration** effort in the ponderosa pine forests in the northern part of the state. For more, contact **Collin Haffey** (collin.haffey@tnc.org).

Wyoming: “We’re going to do this together or sink together,” is what FAC **neighborhood ambassador** Bob Weiss tells neighbors in conversations at the local post office. Bob got involved in wildfire mitigation shortly after purchasing a home near the top of a narrow, winding, unpaved lane in a heavily forested area of Teton County. (Thanks to Bob, residents recently widened their road.)

A desire to learn how to find and support folks like Bob brought **23 FAC practitioners** to an early October training hosted by the **Teton Area Wildfire Protection Coalition** ([TAWPC](#)), sponsored by **FAC Net** and led by **Ashley Downing** (adowning@wildfireadapted.org) and **Rebecca Samulski** (fireadaptedco@gmail.com). Participants left the training with plans to better **recruit, train and retain volunteers** who can **mobilize their neighbors** to prepare for wildfire, and Rebecca and Ashley will provide follow-up coaching and technical support to help get [neighborhood ambassador programs](#) implemented in their communities.

FAC Net: This network’s development has been guided by ongoing member feedback, reflection and adaptive management from the start. Over the last few years, the network has conducted a more **rigorous self-evaluation**, incorporating **social network analysis**, anonymous **member feedback** and **ripple effects mapping**. **Michelle Medley-Daniel** (michelle@thewatershedcenter.com) describes the process and shares some results in the [blog post](#) “FAC Net is Changing Fire Adaptation Work: Highlights from our Evaluation.”

FAC Net: Following a series of learning conversations hosted by **Bruce Goldstein** over the last year, **FAC Net** director **Michelle Medley-Daniel** recently traveled with a **cohort of netweavers** to present at the International Transformations [conference](#) in Santiago, Chile. The group shared insights and stories about how their **networks are catalyzing and shaping change** in a range of fields, from sustainable food systems to equitable elimination of greenhouse gas emissions to new approaches to living with fire. [Notes](#) from conversations at this conference were captured in vibrant graphic form.

Nominations: Wildfire Mitigation Awards

Wildfire Mitigation Awards: The International Association of Fire Chiefs, National Association of State Foresters, National Fire Protection Association and USDA Forest Service are now **accepting nominations** for the 2020 Wildfire Mitigation Awards. [Review the criteria](#) for this prestigious award, and submit any nomination you may have by **November 15**.

Resources & Articles: Structure Mitigation / Transporting Fuel / Interface vs. Intermix

Structure Mitigation: **NFPA** and Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (**IBHS**) have a [series of fact sheets](#) based on IBHS research on **preventing structure ignition** from wildfires. The [latest issue](#) covers the noncombustible zone within 5 feet of a house. Nine other fact sheets provide **research findings and recommendations** related to attic vents, decks, roofing materials, skylights and more.

Transporting Fuel: A newly revised version of the “**NWCG Standards** for Transporting Fuel” ([PMS 442](#)) is now available. It establishes standards for the ground transportation of gasoline, mixed gas, drip torch fuel and diesel. The revision includes **major updates to military-style plastic jerricans**; attention to **fuel geysering** is also highlighted.

Interface vs. Intermix: The authors of the [paper](#) “High Wildfire Damage in Interface Communities in California” examined **building loss to wildfire** in urban, rural and two types of WUI areas, intermix and interface. They found that half of the buildings lost to fire were in interface portions of the WUI—areas **near wildlands but themselves low in natural fuels**, which has significant implications for mitigation. “These fires are fueled by the homes themselves, landscaping, and other **man-made fuels** that are seldom included in the fire models that are used to predict these fires,” according to lead author **Anu Kramer**. (Key findings from this work are also in a Forest Service [media release](#).)

Jobs: Fire Ecologists / Burn Crews / Diversity Crew Lead / Communications / Rx Fire Specialist / FAC Coordinator / Forester / Rx Fire & Fuels Specialist / Network Executive Coordinator

Fire Ecologist: The **Washington State Department of Natural Resources** is seeking a **forest health fire ecologist** to help implement the state’s **20-Year Forest Health Plan** goals. Details are on the state’s careers page ([job number 2019-10-7796-10104](#)); applications are due by **October 31**.

Burn Crew: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a seasonal **crew manager** and **crew members** for the **Georgia Southern Blue Ridge Fire Management Crew**. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([crew manager job ID 48073](#); [crew members job ID 48077](#)); applications are due by **October 31**. Current employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([crew manager](#); [crew members](#)).

Diversity Crew Lead: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a seasonal **diversity burn crew team leader** to direct a four-person crew (three interns with one mentor) to help build their prescribed fire and stewardship skills; the work supports the Stewardship Training for Environmental Progress (STEP) program managed by the **Longleaf Pine Whole System** program. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 48104](#)); applications are due by **November 1**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Communications: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a part-time **communications lead** for the **LANDFIRE** program. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 48167](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#)). Applications are due by **November 7**.

Rx Fire Specialist: The **Nature Conservancy** is seeking a part-time, seasonal **Southern Blue Ridge prescribed fire specialist** to support SBR FLN partners in their burning. Duties may include writing burn plans, designing burn units, ArcGIS mapping, leading burns and serving as firing boss. The position also has supervisory responsibility. Details are on the Conservancy's careers page ([job ID 48122](#); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#)). Applications are due by **November 7**.

FAC Coordinator: **Deschutes County** is seeking a **fire adapted communities coordinator** to facilitate its community wildfire resilience work by managing a county-wide wildfire preparedness program in cooperation with the Project Wildfire steering committee. Details are on the Deschutes County careers page ([job number 2019-00143](#)); applications are due by **November 14**.

Forester: The **Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation** is seeking a forester (preferably with **basic wildland/prescribed fire qualifications** who is willing to expand them over time) to coordinate a multi-year thinning and prescribed fire project. Details are on [ctuir.org](#); applications are due by **November 15**.

Fire Ecologist: The **USGS Southwest Biological Science Center** is hiring a **fire ecology post doc** to apply fuels mapping methods and fire modeling to understand current and future fire behavior in grasslands, savannas and dry forests of the Southwest. Details are on [usajobs.gov](#) ([control number 549801000](#)); applications are due by **November 15**.

Burn Crew: The **Nature Conservancy** is hiring a **crew manager** and **four crew members** for the **Allegheny Highlands Burn Crew**, based in Hot Springs, Virginia. Details are on the Conservancy's careers page ([crew manager job ID 48172](#); [crew members job ID 48173](#)); applications are due by **November 25**. Current employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([crew manager](#); [crew members](#)).

Rx Fire & Fuels Specialist: The **Karuk Tribe** is hiring a prescribed fire and fuels specialist to support its mission of **restoring cultural and natural fire** to the landscape. Details are in the [vacancy announcement](#).

Network Executive Coordinator: The **Nevada Department of Natural Resources** is seeking a **conservation staff specialist** to coordinate the **Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities**. Details are on the NVAPPS jobs site ([announcement number 38713](#)); the position is open until recruitment needs are met.

Webinars

November 4
new listing

New Product Release: LANDFIRE Remap in California

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

Jim Smith and Kori Blankenship will be the presenters on this California Fire Science Consortium webinar.

Information: <http://www.cafiresci.org/events-webinars-source/category/landfire-remap-ca>

November 13
new listing

Geospatial Conservation at The Nature Conservancy

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

Zach Ferdaña will provide snapshots of some of TNC's geospatial work and some of the ways this technology supports conservation in this Conservation Biology Institute webinar.

Register: <https://consbio.org/newsroom/events/scgis-webinar-geospatial-conservation-nature-conservancy>

- November 13** **Assessment of Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Arizona and the Western U.S.**
 11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern
 Melanie Colavito will be the presenter on this Southwest Fire Consortium webinar.
 Register: <http://www.swfireconsortium.org/2019/06/02/september-4-2019-assessment-of-community-wildfire-protection-plans-in-arizona-and-the-western-u-s/>
- November 19** **Rivercane: A Culturally & Ecologically Significant Plant in the Appalachians**
corrected link 10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern (1.5 hours)
 David Cozzo will introduce the cultural and ecological importance of rivercane and Adam Griffith will speak on restoration projects in western North Carolina in this Southern Blue Ridge FLN webinar.
 Details: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/SBR-webinar.aspx>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

- November 4-8** **Annual FLN Leaders-TREX Coaches-IPBN Workshop / Mountain View, AR**
 FLN leads, TREX coaches and IPBN leads will meet at a joint national workshop.
- November 13** **Southern Blue Ridge Escarpment Landscape / Pickens, SC**
updated Landscape partners will meet at Table Rock State Park.
 Information: Kristen Austin (kaustin@tnc.org)
- May 19-21, 2020** **Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Dillard, GA**
 Save the date for this regional workshop hosted by the Balsam-Nantahala landscape.

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX)

- November 1-21*** **Cal-TREX Butte / Butte County, CA**
 This Cal-TREX will mobilize for a one-week event within the three-week window. The application deadline has passed.
- March 30-April 10** **Women-in-Fire TREX (WTREX) / Southeastern VA**
new listing Participants of all genders and ethnic and racial backgrounds will explore the growing role of women in fire management, while conducting prescribed fire operations designed to advance their formal qualifications in wildland fire management and enhance their understanding of fire ecology and effects, communications and outreach, prescribed fire policy and planning, and more. Details and a link to the registration form are in the [announcement](#).
- April 27-May 8** **Central Oregon TREX / Central OR**
new listing [Save the date](#), and watch for details and application materials in January.
- April 27-May 8** **Ashland TREX / Southwestern OR**
new listing [Save the date](#), and watch for details and application materials in January.

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- November 18-22** **Cultivating Pyrodiversity: The 8th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Tucson, AZ**
 Information: <http://afefirecongress.org/>

- January 11-17, 2020** **Southern Area Engine Academy / Barberville, FL**
new listing Nominations are due by December 6.
Information: <https://mailchi.mp/6b1bbc5d3520/southern-area-engine-academy-january-11-17-2020-in-florida>
- February 25-26** **Mitigation Best Practices / Boise, ID**
February 27-28 **Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) / Boise, ID**
new listing Coalitions & Collaboratives (COCO) and the U.S. Forest Service are co-hosting this Wildfire Mitigation Academy at the National Interagency Fire Center. The first session is for current or future mitigation specialists, and the CMAT session is intended for potential CMAT trainees and team members.
Information: <https://co-co.org/get-involved/events/>
- April 15-16** **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Grand Junction, CO**
Fire Adapted Colorado is presenting this conference focused on “Discover Your Role: Reducing Wildland Fire Risk.”
Information: <https://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
- April 20-24** **3rd International Smoke Symposium / Raleigh, NC and Davis, CA**
Presented by International Association of Wildland Fire in partnership with NWCG Smoke Committee and the UC-Davis Air Quality Research Center, the symposium will have based in Raleigh, with a [satellite location at UC-Davis](#).
Information: <https://www.iawfonline.org/event/3rd-international-smoke-symposium/>

Send News, Links & Comments

- Emily Hohman** – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is at Hart Prairie, AZ October 21-November 2; in Mountain View, AR November 4-8.
- Heather Montanye** – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is in Mountain View, AR November 4-8.
- Jeremy Bailey** – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is at Hart Prairie, AZ October 21-November 2; in Mountain View, AR November 4-8.
- Marek Smith** – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Columbia, SC October 29-30; in Mountain View, AR November 4-8.
- Mary Huffman** – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Mountain View, AR November 4-8; in Tucson, AZ November 12-15; in Silver Lake, OR November 18-22.
- Wendy Fulks** – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in Mountain View, AR November 4-8; in Tucson, AZ November 18-22.
- Liz Rank** (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out November 1, 8.

Note: November 11 is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

News from the Field—CA: <https://www.wired.com/story/the-quiet-intentional-fires-northern-california/>

News from the Field—CA/NV—WA plan: https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/rp_forest_health_20_year_strategic_plan.pdf

Tahoe Basin plan: <https://tahoe.livingwithfire.info/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/TFFT-Lake-Tahoe-Basin-Forest-Action-Plan-2019.pdf>

News from the Field—NM: <https://www.apnews.com/6ae9a5a853a140e3a568541e640bb9e1>

News from the Field—WY—TAWPC: <https://westernwyfac.org/>

Neighborhood ambassador program: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/enhancing-fire-adaptation-through-active-volunteers-the-neighborhood-ambassador-approach/>

News from the Field—FAC Net—Evaluation: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/fac-net-is-changing-fire-adaptation-highlights-from-our-evaluation/>

News from the Field—FAC Net—Conference: <https://www.transformations2019.org/en/>

Notes: <http://netweavernetwork.org/share-ideas/>

Nominations—Wildfire Mitigation Awards: <https://www.stateforesters.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Wildfire-Mitigation-Award-2020-Criteria.pdf>

Resources & Articles—Structure mitigation: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA/Firewise-USA-Resources/Research-Fact-Sheet-Series>

Resources & Articles —Transporting fuel: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/publications/pms442.pdf>

Resources & Articles—Interface vs. intermix—Article: <https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/58348>

Media release: <https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/news/release/wui-interface-intermix>

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>

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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