FLN Networker No. 335: June 29, 2022

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.

News from the Field

California: North State Public Radio recently ran the <u>series</u> "Fire Returned: Meet the **People Restoring Butte County With Fire**." The first installment, "Neighbors Helping Neighbors," focuses on the **Butte County PBA**, and in "Fire is for Everyone," Erin Banwell (<u>firemanagement@thewatershedcenter.com</u>) talks about the **TREX**, PBAs and the widespread need for fire.

California: **Frank Lake**, **Margo Robbins** and photographer **Kiliii Yüyan** spoke about **cultural fire** in the Klamath Basin on a <u>recent episode</u> of a National Geographic **podcast**, "This Indigenous Practice Fights Fire With Fire." (If you subscribe, see also the **cover story** in the magazine this month.)

California: The Cultural Fire Management Council, Karuk Tribe and Mid Klamath Watershed Council have been burning at Tishaniik this week. Check out the photos on the CFMC Facebook page.

New Mexico: Jeremy Bailey was a member of the review team that produced the report "Gallinas-Las Dispensas Prescribed Fire Declared Wildfire Review," which is now available on the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center. As Chief Randy Moore noted in the foreword, "Climate change is leading to conditions on the ground we have never encountered.... Fires are outpacing our models and, as the final report notes, we need to better understand how megadrought and climate change are affecting our actions on the ground. We must learn from this event and ensure our decision-making processes, tools, and procedures reflect these changed conditions."

Oregon: The **Rogue Valley Prescribed Burn Association** is the **first PBA in Oregon**. In addition to giving local participants hands-on experience with fire, PBA organizers are planning workshops across the state to **spread the concept and approach**. For more, see the latest *Notes from the Field*.

Spain: TREX organizers are **seeking bilingual (Spanish/English) FIRB-qualified personnel** to serve as evaluators in an event this fall. See the TREX section below for details.

WTREX: There's a new Facebook page for <u>Women-in-Fire TREX</u>. Follow along for pictures (including from the WTREX held in Virginia this spring) and announcements (including for the **Indigenous** Women-in-Fire TREX coming up this fall).

Resources: BKR Radios / Rx Planning, Chainsaw Ops / Hurricanes & Rx / LANDFIRE / Working With USFS / Insurance

BKR Radios: The NWCG Equipment Technology Committee alerts users to "check the firmware version of your radio. Do not use **BKR5000 radios** with a firmware version other than 5.8.58. Failure to **update the firmware** may cause the radio to lock-up." See the <u>equipment advisory</u> for details, including how to check the firmware version in a radio.

Rx Planning, Chainsaw Ops: NWCG has released an updated "Standards for Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation" (PMS 484), replacing the July 2017 edition. The "Standards for Wildland Fire Chainsaw Operations" (PMS 212) document was also updated earlier this month, replacing the August 2021 version.

Hurricanes & Rx: The University of Florida extension <u>fact sheet</u> "Hurricane and Tropical Storm Impacts on Prescribed Fire and Wildfire Management Practices" concisely outlines potential impacts on **fuels and fire behavior**, **smoke** and a wide range of fireline **hazards**.

LANDFIRE: The **USGS** has released a new <u>fact sheet</u>, "LANDFIRE **Data and Applications**." It gives an overview of the kinds of data available, along with some examples of its use.

Working With USFS: The Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition has released a new resource for collaborative groups and other agency partners, "Forest Service Project Planning to Implementation." The <u>guide</u> helps users "understand the full 'lifecycle' of a Forest Service project and develop a better sense for how and when to productively engage with various aspects of the agency's work."

Insurance: Daniel Godwin (daniel@emberalliance.org) has written a good overview of insurance issues in the blog post "Prescribed Fire Liability Insurance: Unavailable, Unaffordable and Vital." He will also speak with Amanda Monthei on an upcoming episode of the Life with Fire podcast.

Articles & Reports: WUI / Integrated Management / Forest Carbon / Rx Smoke / Night Fire

WUI: **FEMA** released the <u>report</u> "Wildland Urban Interface: A Look at Issues and Resolutions" earlier this month. Intended for **officials**, **policymakers and response agencies**, the report **identifies 33 challenges** in 13 key issue areas—from firefighter safety and landscape resiliency to socioeconomic impact and data use and modeling—and provides **dozens of concrete recommendations**.

Integrated Management: A large group of authors from the Science for Nature and People Partnership (SNAPP) has published the article "Wildfire, Smoke Exposure, Human Health, and Environmental Justice Need to Be Integrated into Forest Restoration and Management." They address the conundrum faced, specifically in the western U.S., by those in the forest management and public health fields: while all forest fire smoke is bad, not all forest fire is bad (and, indeed, some is necessary).

Forest Carbon: The authors of the article "The Policy and Ecology of Forest-Based Climate Mitigation: Challenges, Needs and Opportunities" note that their "review highlights the sobering complexity and uncertainty surrounding forest carbon dynamics, along with the need to improve carbon accounting." They close with a note that "it is important to be cognizant of fundamental tradeoffs in forest ecosystem functioning, and between climate regulation vs. other ecosystem services provided by forests, to avoid perverse outcomes." This latter point is fleshed out some in the commentary article "Carbon Conundrums: Do United States' Current Carbon Market Baselines Represent an Undesirable Ecological Threshold?"

Rx Smoke: Earlier this month, the **American Lung Association** and PSE Healthy Energy released the report, "**Can Prescribed Fires Mitigate Health Harm?**" Key among its conclusions is this one: "Prescribed fire is a key fire management strategy that provides ecosystem benefits and can be used to mitigate the negative air quality, health, and safety impacts of large-scale wildfires."

Night Fire: The latest USFS Science You Can Use <u>brief</u> "**Nighttime Fire Activity Is on the Rise** in the United States: Posing Greater Risks to Firefighters and Communities" is based on a study of 18 years of satellite data.

In the News: Preparedness & Home Insurance

Preparedness & Home Insurance: *Bloomberg* reports on a new **home preparedness standard** from the **Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety** in the <u>article</u> "Lower Your Home's Fire Risk (and Insurance) With These Steps."

Jobs

Fire Director: The Washington chapter of The Nature Conservancy is seeking a collaborative fire director, a position that "establishes TNC as a major conservation partner within the fire management community and leads in defining conservation priorities and long-term conservation strategies." Details are on the Conservancy's careers page (job ID 51740); applications are due by July 25. Current employees should apply through PeopleSoft.

As-Needed Crew: The Maryland chapter of The Nature Conservancy is seeking a Potomac Headwaters as-needed burn crew member to support FLN partner burns for the October 2022-May 2023 season. Details are on the Conservancy's careers page (job ID 51627); current employees should apply through PeopleSoft.

Extension Associate: North Carolina State University is hiring an extension associate prescribed fire & fire science to assist with its Southeast Regional Partnership for Planning and Sustainability (SERPAS) and Southern Fire Exchange work. Details are on the university's jobs page (posting number G19181EP).

Fire Restoration: The Ecostudies Institute is hiring fire restoration technicians and fire restoration specialists, with crews to be based in Olympia and in the Willamette Valley. Details are on the organization's Work With Us page.

Forestry: The Mid Klamath Watershed Council is looking for a forestry program director to join its leadership team. Details are in the job description posted on the MKWC website.

Webinars

recording available Introducing the North American Fire-Scar Network

The recording of this June 8 webinar hosted by the JFSP Fire Science Exchange

Network is now available: https://vimeo.com/718766541

June 29 Leveraging LANDFIRE Data to Map Sagebrush Species in Support of Risk

Assessment in the Great Basin

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

LANDFIRE office hours are held the last Wednesday of each month. Matt Reeves

will be the speaker this month, followed by LANDFIRE Q&A time. Register: https://tnc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlocumupzMpEtN63X--

Or1r6CJei683Bp5E

June 29 Seeing the Forest for the Queers: LGBTQIA+ Community-Building Space in new listing

Forestry and Natural Resources

4:00 Pacific / 5:00 Mountain / 6:00 Central / 7:00 pm Eastern (1.5 hrs) This Forest Stewards Guild event is intended to create a safe space for community and empowerment for professionals and students in forestry and

natural resources who identify with the LGBTQIA+ community.

Register: https://foreststewardsguild.org/event/seeing-the-forest-for-the-queers-

lgbtgia-community-building-space-in-forestry-and-natural-resources/

July 6 FlamMap 6.2

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

Chuck McHugh will be the presenter on this Northern Rockies Fire Science

Network webinar.

Details & registration: https://www.nrfirescience.org/event/flammap-62

July 13 An Indigenous Framework to Guide Research & Restoration in Fire-

Adapted Landscapes

9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern

Marianne Ignace and Sarah Dickson-Hoyle will be the presenters on this webinar

from the Society for Ecological Restoration. Details & registration: https://www.ser.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1626669&group=

July 21 Western Drought and Heat

new listing 9:00 Pacific / 10:00 Mountain / 11:00 Central / noon Eastern (2 hrs)

This NOAA webinar will provide the latest information on current drought, heat, fire conditions and forecasts, and serious impacts for the western Plains (Southwest, California, the Pacific Northwest, the Missouri River Basin and

Alaska). Details & registration:

https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6615149460110187023

July 21 Southern Plains Drought and Heat

new listing noon Pacific / 1:00 Mountain / 2:00 Central / 3:00 Eastern (1.75 hrs)

This NOAA webinar will provide the latest information on current drought, heat, fire conditions and forecasts, and serious impacts for the southern Plains (New

Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas). Details & registration: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8386589136294574347

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

September 19-30 Maine Prescribed Fire Training Exchange

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

Sept. 25-Oct. 8 Niobrara Valley Preserve Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Johnstown, NE

Prior fire experience is not required. For those with NWCG taskbooks, the trainee positions most applicable at this TREX include prescribed fire crewmember, FFT2,

FEMO, FFT1, FIRB, ENGB and RXB2.

Details: see the announcement; applications are due by July 25

Sept. 26-Oct. 7 new listing

Indigenous Women-in-Fire Klamath Prescribed Fire Training Exchange

(WTREX-Klamath) / Karuk Ancestral Territory, CA

Participants of all genders and backgrounds are welcome at this WTREX-Klamath, which will have a focus on Indigenous women and cultural burning.

Details: see the announcement; applications are due by July 15

Oct. 29-Nov. 12 new listing

Andalucía Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Spain

Junta de Andalucía and The Nature Conservancy are partnering on this training exchange. The planning team is **currently recruiting eight firing boss-qualified personnel** who are Spanish/English bilingual to attend as evaluators. Prescribed fire managers in Andalucía have recently begun using position task books to support prescribed fire training and qualifications and a focus of this training exchange will be on the firing boss position. Qualified personnel from all agencies and organizations, as well as unaffiliated individuals, are welcome. Travel expenses will be covered by the project; wages will be the responsibility of participants' home units. If you are available and interested, and if you have discussed it with your family and supervisor and have general support, please complete the short survey at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/

1FAlpQLSeKmK7W4ntLjjXJDquWawSKcQwilpI-FPGdJzx8fQO7cQzjJg/viewform

Oct. 31-Nov. 13

Flagstaff Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ

deadline

The Flagstaff Fire Department and Summit Fire & Medical are hosting this training for a diverse group of fire personnel from city, county and other agencies,

departments, and NGOs.

Details: see the announcement; applications are due by July 15

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

July 6 Know Your Fuels, Know Your Fire / Pocatello, ID

new listing Heather Heward will teach this full-day course hosted by the Idaho Prescribed Fire

Council and Idaho Firewise.

Information: https://www.frames.gov/idahoprescribedfirecouncil/home

October 4-7

deadline

Fire Ecology Across Boundaries: Connecting Science and Management /

Florence, Italy & online

The call for proposals has been extended to June 30.

Information: https://fireacrossboundaries.org/

October 25-28 14th Biennial Longleaf Conference: Rekindling Our Connections /

Wilmington, NC

Information: https://www.longleafconference.com/

December 6-8 7th Fire in Eastern Oak Forests Conference / online

Save the date for this workshop co-hosted by the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire

Consortium and Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers & Scientists. Information: https://oakfirescience.com/events/7th-fire-in-eastern-oak-forests-

conference/

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Send News, Links & Comments

Autumn Bjugstad – autumn.bjugstad@tnc.org – Autumn is in the office.

Emily Hohman – emily:hohman@tnc.org – Emily is out July 1; in Minnesota July 11-14; out July 15.

James Miller - james.miller@tnc.org - James is in the office.

Jeremy Bailey - jeremy bailey@tnc.org - Jeremy is out July 1-6.

Laurel Kays – <u>laurel.kays@tnc.org</u> – Laurel is in the office.

Lemaine Peo – <u>lemaine.peo@tnc.org</u> – Lemaine is in the office.

Marek Smith – marek smith@tnc.org – Marek is in the office.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Weitchpec, CA June 27-July 1; in Minnesota, July 11-14.

Miranda Flora – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in the office.

Liz Rank (editor) – <u>Irank@tnc.org</u> – Liz is out Thursdays.

Note: July 4 is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

News from the Field—CA—PBAs: https://www.mynspr.org/firereturned

News from the Field--CA—Indigenous fire: https://www.nationalgeographic.com/podcasts/article/episode-22-this-indigenous-practice-fights-fire-with-fire

News from the Field--CA--Tishanik burn:

https://www.facebook.com/CulturalFire/posts/pfbid0NgCRwWtSRodfoqzNMCwjVkcsBZ7PeyqKyJ8ipegsZoEKwpmgUcNDaYMYocCbZD53l

News from the Field—NM: https://www.wildfirelessons.net/orphans/viewincident?DocumentKey=d219eb95-0650-4869-825d-c0da07ee4639

News from the Field—OR:

http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/USFLNPublications/Documents/178 NotesFromTheField-OR-RVPBA-2022.pdf

News from the Field—WTREX: https://www.facebook.com/WomensTREX/

Resources—BKR radios: https://www.nwcq.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-ea-22-05.pdf

Resources— Rx Planning, Chainsaw Ops—Rx planning: https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/484

Chainsaws: https://www.nwcg.gov/publications/212

Resources—Hurricanes & Rx: https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FR/FR452/FR452-Deba50x617.pdf

Resources—LANDFIRE: https://pubs.er.usgs.gov/publication/fs20223034

Resources—Working With USFS:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/562e839ee4b0332955e8143d/t/62b264569282122e704aabcd/1655858271691/Planning+to+Implementation FINAL LR.pdf

Resources—Insurance: https://emberalliance.org/2022/06/28/prescribed-fire-liability-insurance-unavailable-unaffordable-and-vital/

Articles & Reports—WUI: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/wui-issues-resolutions-report.pdf

Articles & Reports—Integrated management—SNAPP: https://snappartnership.net/teams/wildfires-and-human-health/ Article: https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s40572-022-00355-7

Articles & Reports—Forest carbon—Policy & ecology: https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2022/nrs 2022 giebink 001.pdf

Carbon baselines: https://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/jrnl/2022/nrs 2022 damato 001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Rx smoke: https://www.lung.org/getmedia/fd7ff728-56d9-4b33-82eb-abd06f01bc3b/pse_wildfire-and-prescribed-fire-brief_final.pdf

Articles & Reports—Night fire: https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/sites/default/files/documents/SYCU-in5-NighttimeFireActivityIsOnTheRise-June2022.pdf

In the News—Preparedness & home insurance: https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-06-22/how-to-lower-home-insurance-premiums-and-wildfire-risks

FLN Webinars—Information about upcoming FLN webinars and recordings of previous ones is at:

http://conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/webinars.aspx

TREX—The latest application information for upcoming TREX is always listed at:

 $\frac{http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Pages/Upcoming-Training-Exchanges.aspx$

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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